

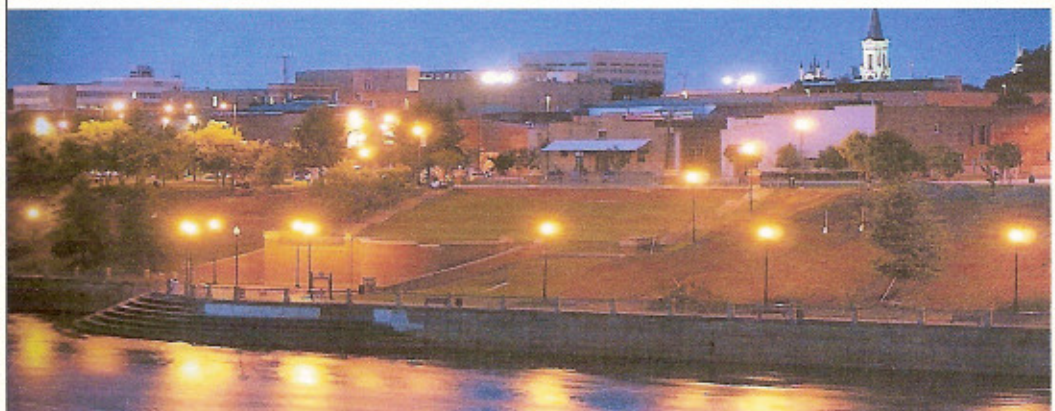


# THE OCS ALUMNI BRIEFER

Summer 2008

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(Top) Remodeled DoubleTree Hotel. Our Reunion Hotel (Middle) The New National Infantry Museum, Open March 2009, Site of Visit and Formal Dinner (Bottom) River Walk, Columbus, GA

### The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association

110 Enterprise Ct. Suite A  
Columbus, GA 31904  
(706) 221-8720

[www.ocsalumni.com](http://www.ocsalumni.com) (Website)  
[www.army.ocsalumni.com](http://www.army.ocsalumni.com)

## 11TH BIENNIAL OCS REUNION FT. BENNING/COLUMBUS GA. April 23 - 26, 2009



# IT'S REUNION TIME!!

**APRIL 23 - 26, 2009**

**FT. BENNING/COLUMBUS, GA**

The United States Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association is gathering together for its 11th Biennial OCS Reunion in April of next year. We will be celebrating and commemorating over 68 years of OCS history. Ft. Benning, GA is home to the only active OCS in the U.S. Army.. This will be a exciting and unique reunion for our associa-

tion. It will be a reunion of many firsts.

**HOTEL** - The hotel for the reunion has been selected and approved by the TUSAOCSAA Board of Directors. The Columbus Airport Hotel is a large, 177 room hotel located at 5351 Sidney Simons Blvd. in Columbus, GA. It is undergoing extensive renovations at this time. The modernization will make it like new. It includes new furniture, fresh paint (inside and out), new TV's, and new beds. Some of the meeting areas are being reconfigured to be more functional. A Houllihan's is being added on to the hotel. Upon completion of these renovations the hotel will become a DoubleTree Hotel. We will be one of the first organizations of our size to use this new hotel.

The group rate for this great DoubleTree Hotel is \$115 per night, plus tax. The other hotels big enough to handle a group of our size wanted from \$125 to \$140 a night. There are provisions for you to have an extended stay from three days before and after the reunion at the same group rate. **(See the Hotel Registration Information Sheet elsewhere in the Briefer. An additional telephone number for reservations is 706-327-6868)**

**EVENTS** - All major events have been planned and final "tweaking" is taking place. On **Thursday, April 23, 2009**, after registering, enjoy reestablishing old friendships in the hospitality areas. That evening there will be a social hour before we step into the DoubleTree brand new ballroom for a scrumptious Southern Dinner Buffet. The buffet includes Herb Baked Chicken, Meatloaf and even Fried Catfish, with an ample supply of delicious salads, sides and desserts.

On **Friday, April 24, 2009**, we will board comfortable busses and travel a short distance to the brand new Fort Benning Infantry Museum. and Soldier Center at Patriot Park. The museum will have had its grand opening on March 20, 2009. Our organization will be one of the first that will make the museum a reunion destination. It is already being promoted as one of the premier attractions in Georgia. The museum has one of the most significant collections of military relics in existence.. The 190,000 sq. ft. facility is a \$91 Million Dollar project located in the 200 acre Patriot Park. The Park includes an authentic World War II Company Street, a memorial walk of honor and a seven acre parade field for Infantry School graduations. The Soldier Center features a 3D I-MAX Theatre, a themed café, gift shop and simulator attractions.

**Lunch** is at the legendary Ft. Benning Officer's Club (now called the Benning Club). There will be several options after lunch. 1) Return to the museum and complete the tour (there is so much to see and do). and then return to the hotel. 2) Visit the OCS Battalion area for tour of barracks, Wigle Hall OCS Hall of Fame, and receive a briefing and then return to hotel. 3) Choice of returning directly to hotel. without returning to the museum or the OCS Area. Some classes may have mini-reunion activities. Hospitality rooms will be open. Or, you may just want to kick back and relax after a full day of activity and wait for social hour (cash bar) before dinner.

Look forward to an outstanding buffet that evening. It will be a BBQ blast with Pulled Pork, Texas Beef Brisket, and Quartered BBQ Chicken. There will be plenty of coleslaw, salads, beans, and other veggies and of course dessert, This is absolutely my favorite meal; of the reunion.. What a day! And if that's not enough, there will probably be some of us closing up the hospitality rooms.

On **Saturday, April 25, 2009**, after breakfast on your own there will be a short membership meeting to take care of matters impacting the Association.. From 1100 to 1700 is free time. Some classes may be having mini-reunion activities going on or off premises. Hospitality rooms will be open. Tours of local attractions will be available. We will board transportation at 1700 to go to the new National Infantry Museum for our Military Formal Dinner activities.

There will be a social hour and then a fabulous plated dinner of Herb Crusted Tenderloin and Vegetable Jardinière Stuffed Steamed Chicken, Salad, Dessert, Beverage and Rolls.

Traditional dinning-in toasting and ceremonial activities will take place during the evening. Expect a distinguished, dynamic speaker to top off the evening's program. Best of all, the part I enjoy immensely, fellowship with young men and women who are going through the OCS Program. Our guests for the evening are the OCS Battalion Commander and his wife, the OCS Color Guard, and some young men and woman who are going through the OCS Program. We'll have time to exchange war stories with young troops, many of whom, have already served in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. I have been told that the candidates really enjoy receiving wisdom from us old (or experienced) guys.

I cannot imagine any better surroundings for our final evening. We will be surrounded by over two centuries of Army tradition and esprit, and we as graduates of Officer Candidate Schools are a part of that grand tradition. Hooaaahhh! The Museum will have had its grand opening on March 20, where military dignitaries from all over the USA will visit. But we are the first organization to use the new museum for an activity of this nature (in fact so new that at press time of this newsletter, that the Museum Board of Directors is still trying to determine the event facilities fee for our type organization. NOTE: This will be a time when we want the entire OCS Alumni Association to be together. So, there will be no separate class mini-reunion activities planned during the social hour and Military Formal Dinner on Saturday evening. The function will end in the late evening so book your room to include Saturday night. Apparel for men is Dress Blues, or other formal Mess Uniform, Tuxedo, or Dark Suit.. Ladies may wear Long or Short Formal, Cocktail Dress or Suit.

On **Sunday, April 26, 2009** after breakfast on your own say goodbye to your classmates and new friends. Breakfast will be available at the on premise Houllihan's or there are many restaurants that are in the near vicinity of the DoubleTree Hotel. This is check out and departure time. or you may even want to stay a couple extra days and visit attractions in the Columbus area. You can do that up to three more days at the special group rate.

**REUNION REGISTRATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS** - On pages 5 & 6 of this briefer you will find instructions on making reservations at the DoubleTree Hotel, and the registration form for the reunion with the costs for the meals and activities. They will also be available on our new website at [www.ocsalumni.com](http://www.ocsalumni.com) to download and send to our office with check or with credit card information.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

### CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS: OFFICERS:

**LTC (Ret) Alvin (Al) W. Cartwright, 9-56 President**  
alvicki@comcast.net  
**LTC (Ret) Earle L. Denton, 12-52 V.P. (Administration)**  
earle.l.denton@saic.com  
**COL (Ret) DeLloyd (De) Voorhees Jr., 34-69**  
V.P. (Operations) De.voorhees2@gmail.com  
**MAJ (Ret) John L Dufresne Jr. 3-79 Treasurer**  
dufresne@abraxis.com  
**M.W. Menser, 1-71 Secretary**  
menserm.omegatrainig.com

### DIRECTORS:

**COL (Ret) Dorn Backman 44-67, dbaclman@sc.rr.com**  
**COL (Ret) Raymond W. Kauffman 4-64**  
Kauffmanr@omegatrainig.com  
**DR. Milton M. McPherson, 16-52**  
mmcpheon@troycable.com  
**COL (Ret) Francis C. (Chick) Vossen, 2-57**  
nessov@comcast.net

### OFFICE:

**MS. Kathy Malaney P.T. Office Manager**  
army.ocsalumni.com

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

We thank you for your generous and kind gifts in support of the OCS Alumni Association.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#### NEW MEMBERS 1 YR

1LT Ian Erickson, Class 3-03  
 1LT Marcus Green, Class 9-06  
 MR. Terrell W. Macy, Class 64-67  
 CPT Theron R. Mazingo, Class 19-52  
 MR. Frances O'Day, Class 67-3  
 MAJ (Ret) Chris Robbins, Class 16-70  
 MAJ (Ret) Donald Wagner, Class 53-53  
 CPT Elton Widger III, Class 9-66

#### NEW MEMBERS, 3YR.

LTC (Ret) Leo A. Ardizzone, 14th OC-55  
 MR. Michael Bowers, Class 5-83  
 2LT James Carrigan, Class 501-08  
 MR. Peter Delaney, Class 11-70  
 MR. David Dirks, Class 521-68

#### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

MAJ (Ret) Lawrence D. Bowen, Class 4-61  
 MR. Samuel Coleman, Class 9-56  
 MR. Tim Ganahl, Class 7-65  
 COL (Ret) Donald G. Hall, Class 4-61  
 COL (Ret) Henry Jezek, Class OCRC 1-66  
 CPT Marvin W. Neumann, Class 543-46  
 LTC (Ret) Frank Orrlevitch, Class 7-65  
 COL (Ret) James Rose, Class 18-52  
 MR. John Soderberg, Class 6-64  
 1LT Wayne P. Yetter, Class 509-68

#### 1YR RENEWAL MEMBERS

MAJ (Ret) Henry P. Applegate, Class 2-57  
 COL (Ret) Paul E. Cullinane, Jr. Class 508-68  
 MR. Roger S. DeVore, Class OCRC 2-62  
 MR. Donald B. Northcutt, Class 2-76  
 COL (Ret) Robert W. Patterson, Class 2-47  
 MR. Fred S. Thurston, Class 14A-52

#### 3YR RENEWAL MEMBERS

MR. Troy T. Kirby, Class 97-01  
 MAJ (Ret) Jack A. Marshall, Class 3-41

#### UPGRADE TO LIFE

LTC (Ret) Stephen Coakley, Class 7-63  
 MR. Noel W. Folsom, Class 5-57

#### SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

LTC (Ret) Stephen Coakley Class 7-63  
 Thank you LTC Coakley, for your very generous donation to our scholarship fund.

#### TAPS

If you are aware of a classmate who has passed away, please let us know so we can recognize them and offer our condolences. Write to TUSAOCSSAA, 110 Enterprise Ct. Suite A, Columbus, GA 31904, or email us at [army.ocsalumni.com](mailto:army.ocsalumni.com)

**It is with a deep sense of loss that we offer our prayers and condolences to the families and friends of our comrades who have answered the final muster.**

MR. Vernon C. Dube, Class 29-52  
 MR. John M. Greinwald, Class 2-57  
**(As reported in the OCS Class newsletter. The Memoir, September 2008 Issue).**  
 MAJ (Ret) Mike Klimaszewski, Class 2-60  
 LTC (Ret) Ira L. Laney, Class 2-51  
**(A note was received from his widow Jeanette saying that LTC Laney was interred at The Arlington National Cemetery on January 15., 2008 with full military honors).**  
 COL (Ret) Robert B. Nett, Medal of Honor Winner  
**(See article on COL. Nett elsewhere in this issue).**  
 LTC (Ret) William J. Trunkes, Class 3-58  
 LTC (Ret) Tomas Bonilla-Acevedo, Class 2-57

#### **Accessing the Online Membership Data Base on [www.ocsalumni.com](http://www.ocsalumni.com)**

**USERID** = Your E-Mail Address  
**PASSWORD** = your member number  
**EXAMPLE:**

USERID = joesmith@aol.com  
 PASSWORD = 1234

The *OCS Alumni Briefer* is published by The United States Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association, Inc., 110 Enterprise Ct., Suite A, Columbus, GA 31904.

**STANDARDS, NO COMPROMISE!**

**HOTEL SELECTED FOR 2009 OCS ALUMNI REUNION**  
**APRIL 23 TO 26, 2009**  
**COLUMBUS AIRPORT HOTEL (SOON TO BE A DOUBLE TREE)**



5351 Sidney Simons Blvd. Columbus, GA 31904 (706)327-6868 (Primary #)  
 (706)243-0538 or (706)243-0539 (Alternate #'s)

**The Columbus Airport Hotel** is a large (177 rooms) hotel located within one mile of the Columbus Metropolitan Airport and next to Interstate 185. The OCS Alumni Association has projected that we will fill 150 of those rooms for our reunion. A complete renovation of the facilities is nearing completion and includes new furniture, rugs, TV's, fresh paint, beds etc.. Additionally, a new restaurant (Houllihans) is being opened up.

**The Columbus Airport Hotel** is one of the few hotels in Columbus that can handle a large group (we estimate 300 at our reunion) for the Reception Buffet on Thursday night and the Southern Barbeque on Friday night in a brand new ballroom. The management is flexible and can configure some of the larger areas into smaller areas for OCS classes that may want to spend some time together, The hotel has a large hospitality room on the first floor and a smaller room on the second floor. Parking is complementary.



**The Columbus Airport Hotel** is the perfect location for TUSAOCSAA's 11th Biennial Reunion. It is close to the Airport for those flying in and right off Interstate 185 for those driving. It is a short distance to Ft. Benning, Friday's feature event is a trip to the brand new Infantry Museum, a \$91 million dollar, 180,000 sq. ft. facility, chock full of military items, artifacts, weapons etc. Best of all, we are one of the first organizations to have our Formal Military Dinner in the main hall of this outstanding facility on Saturday night.

.....

**MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR YOUR HOTEL ROOMS. THIS IS AN INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY. DO IT NOW SO YOU CAN SELECT THE TYPE ROOM YOU WANT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE START GETTING A ROOM COUNT. THIS REUNION WILL BE THE BEST EVER!!**

**TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: CALL THE COLUMBUS AIRPORT HOTEL AT (706)327-6868, or (706)243-0538 OR (706)243-0539. TELL THEM THAT YOU ARE PART OF THE TUSAOCSAA 2009 AND THE GROUP CODE IS R00749. THE GROUP RATE FOR THIS GREAT DOUBLE TREE HOTEL IS \$115 PER NIGHT PLUS TAX. REMEMBER – DO IT NOW!! RESERVE YOUR ROOM FOR AT LEAST THE NIGHTS OF 04/23, 04/24, 04/25, 2009**

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**U.S. ARMY OCS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 10<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL REUNION**

23 – 26 APRIL, 2009

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 30 MARCH, 2009**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ OCS CLASS & YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST(S) \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Address, City, State & Zip Code)

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENTS**

REGISTRATION \$37 per person x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday April 23, 2009, 1300-1800 at Columbus Airport DoubleTree

WELCOME RECEPTION & BUFFET \$30 per person x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday April 23, 2009, 1800-2100 at Columbus Airport DoubleTree  
(A mouthwatering Southern Dinner Buffet)

LUNCHEON \$12 per person x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday April 24, 2009, 1215-1345 at Fort Benning Officers Club  
Menu Choice(s) (# of each): Trio Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Club Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_

BBQ BUFFET \$30 per person x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday April 24, 2009, 1900-2100 at Columbus Airport Doubletree  
(A Scrumptious Buffet including Pulled Pork, Beef Brisket, Quartered BBQ Chicken and BBQ Ribs)

OCS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FORMAL DINNER \$42 per person = \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday April 25, 2009, 1900-2200 at New National Infantry Museum  
(A Gourmet Meal With Herb Crusted Beef Tenderloin and Vegetable Jardinière Stuffed Steamed Chicken, Salad, Dessert, Beverages and Rolls. Price Includes Meals For Our Guests)

ALL MEAL PRICES INCLUDE A 20 TO 22% SERVICE CHARGE FEE TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My check is enclosed. (Payable to TUSAOCSAA. Address below)

Please charge my \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card/ \_\_\_\_\_ Visa

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature authorizing charge to card: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Registration Form to: **TUSAOCSAA**  
**110 Enterprise Ct. Suite A**  
**Columbus, GA 31904**

Note: Check our Website [www.ocsalumni.com](http://www.ocsalumni.com) to see if Credit Card Payment On Line is Available.

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS 008-08

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association sponsors the five graduation awards below.

The Distinguished Military Graduate and Jess Walls Award recipient is 2LT NATHANIEL K. SEBREN

The Distinguished Leadership and COL Robert B. Nett Leadership Award recipient is 2LT RICHARD C. GASPERINI

The Distinguished High Academic Award recipient: is 2LT RICHARD C. GASPERINI

The Distinguished Female Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT CORNELIUS D. BOYD

The Distinguished Male Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT NATHANIEL K. SEBREN

**Class 008-08 graduated July 31, 2008**

**Awards were funded by Members TUSAOCSSA**

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS 502-08

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association sponsors the five graduation awards below.

The Distinguished Military Graduate and Jess Walls Award recipient is 2LT JARROD D. FISHER

The Distinguished Leadership and COL Robert B. Nett Leadership Award recipient is 2LT JARROD D. FISHER

The Distinguished High Academic Award recipient: is 2LT MICHAEL PROKOS

The Distinguished Female Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT BETH GREEN

The Distinguished Male Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT CASEY HARREL

**Class 502-08 graduated September 11, 2008**

**Awards were funded by OCS Class 9-56**

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS 503-08

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association sponsors the five graduation awards below.

The Distinguished Military Graduate and Jess Walls Award recipient is 2LT BRYAN BEARD

The Distinguished Leadership and COL Robert B. Nett Leadership Award recipient is 2LT WILLIAM INGE

The Distinguished High Academic Award recipient is 2LT JAMES KENT

The Distinguished Female Physical Fitness Graduate is (There was no female award winner this class)

The Distinguished Male Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT MICHAEL FORTUNE

**Class 503-08 graduated October 2, 2008 Awards were funded by COL (Ret) Bill Hussong, OCS Class 3-64**

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS 310-08

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association sponsors the five graduation awards below.

The Distinguished Military Graduate and Jess Walls Award recipient is 2LT KWANSAH E. ACKAH

The Distinguished Leadership and COL Robert B. Nett Leadership Award recipient is 2LT DANIEL R. STOBER

The Distinguished High Academic Award recipient is 2LT ANDREW K. MCKAY

The Distinguished Female Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT SHELLYANN S. GAYLE

The Distinguished Male Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT KWANSAH E. ACKAH

**Class 301-08 graduated October 23, 2008**

**Awards were funded by Phillip M. Grass, OCS Class 18-49**

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS 307-08

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association sponsors the five graduation awards below.

The Distinguished Military Graduate and Jess Walls Award recipient is 2LT DANIEL FISHER

The Distinguished Leadership and COL Robert B. Nett Leadership Award recipient is 2LT DELEON RICH

The Distinguished High Academic Award recipient is 2LT JONATGHAN MURPHY

The Distinguished Female Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT JESSICA SWEENEY

The Distinguished Male Physical Fitness Graduate is 2LT MATTHEW WEBB

**Class 301-08 graduated July 10, 2008**

**Awards were funded by Members of TUSAOCSSA**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Al Cartwright, LTC (Retired)

### REUNION 2009- WORTH THE TRIP- WORTH THE COST WORTH THE MEMORIES

Information on the 11th Biennial OCS Reunion is laid out in this issue of the Briefer. Included on page 5 and 6 are an information sheet on our Reunion Hotel and the Reunion Registration Form.

**Hotel Reservations** - The hotel information sheet tells you how to contact the Columbus Airport DoubleTree and make your reservations for the reunion.. Other hotels in Columbus that could handle a group our size wanted \$125 and \$135 plus tax.. The DoubleTree will be like brand new when we arrive there. It is at a great location. Please notice the primary and alternate telephone numbers for reservations. We have also made arrangements for our group rate of \$115 plus tax for three days before and after the reunion, in case you want to extend your visit in the area.

**Reunion Registration** -The Reunion Registration Form is on page 6. You can use that form or there is one available to be downloaded from our Website at [www.ocsalumni.com](http://www.ocsalumni.com). The 2009 reunion costs per person have increased by \$23 over the 2007 costs. Meal costs are the culprit. Valley Catering Banquet Services is the sole provider of food for the all large group banquets at the DoubleTree, Marriott and the New Infantry Museum and four other hotels in the area. It has been tough negotiating with just one provider. But, I will have to admit that looking at the menus for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights makes my mouth water.

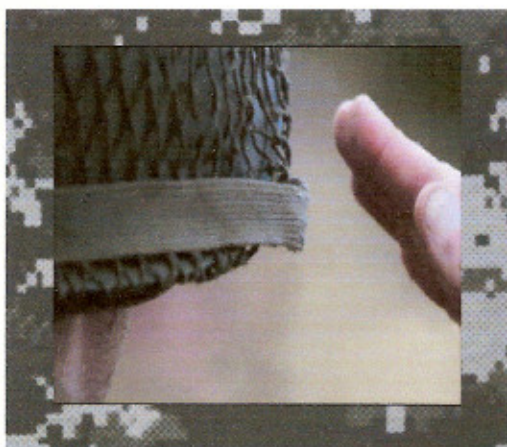
Incorporated into the food costs is providing enough funds so that the Association is able to invite some guests. Traditionally we have invited some OCS Candidates, normally one per table, to the Saturday night Military Formal Dinner. As the "old guys" we fellowship and talk (and feed) these outstanding young men and women and they can connect with candidates of the past, who have "been there, done that." We receive feedback after each reunion about how great a time our members have had with the young candidates, We also furnish the meals for the OCS Battalion Commander and spouse, our guest speaker and spouse, as well as the OCS Color Guard. This year there is a facility fee that we must pay to the New Infantry Museum for the use of their magnificent dining hall, surrounded by over two hundred years of military history and tradition. The New National Infantry Museum is the focal point of two of our major activities; our visit on Thursday and our Formal Dinner on Saturday night.

**Registration Fee** - I have received several questions on why we have a registration fee.. As at many reunions, registration fees is the source of funds that pays for costs associated with putting on a reunion. Our fee pays for our ground transportation (comfortable busses) that can move us as a group for two days. It will take six busses to move our anticipated 300 attendees to the activities. The fee also provides funds to stock the hospitality room . It provides funds for accommodations for the guest speaker and spouse. Additionally we pay a reunion organizer, as well as the printing costs associated with the reunion. We endeavor to control the costs of the reunion and we are happy if we can break even on the deal.

**May I encourage you to contact your OCS Classmates and tell them about the reunion. We only do this every two years. So take advantage before it's to late. I have cherished the time that I have been able to spend with my classmates of OCS Class 9-56, even if they are greyer, balder, and fatter then we started our journey to our gold bars.**

**An item of Interest-** As this newsletter goes to press, we received an email from MAJ (Ret) William Bird Mounsey who just heard about TUSAOCSAA and wants to join the association as a **Life Member. Now Hear This!!** He just had his **90th Birthday!! William was in class 1-41. Class One!!!!** He graduated on September 27, 1941. Our Office is trying to help him make contact with 14 other graduates of that class that we have information on. William also suggested that the Association should have a reduced rate for Life Membership for those over 85. Maybe he's right! Wouldn't it be great if he could attend the Reunion and post himself with the youngest candidate at the reunion?





## OCS WEBSITE NOW UP AND RUNNING WWW.OCSALUMNI.COM (FINALLY!!)

Not without pulling of hair and gnashing of teeth! If you have been following our reports on the website, you know that we have been struggling with this for three+ years. For a couple of years we tried to solicit help from our membership to update the site. With no one stepping forward we had to hire a Columbus company TracSoft to completely update our website. Our old website was hopelessly outdated and not well maintained. The Board agrees that rebuilding and maintaining our website is an absolute necessity if we are to increase our membership to our initial goal of 5,000. We have to have the visibility and be linked to other sites that veterans, retirees and active duty personnel will tap into. The new website has been on line for the past several weeks (not without glitches however).

Progress has been painstakingly slow as we work towards full user friendly operation. **Please bear with us until we get it completely operational.** There is very much detailed work and input that Kathy, our part time office manager, is having to do. **Some notable changes are:**

**Member Log In** - The old web site required your last name and your membership number was the password in order to get into the "Members Only" section. **The new site requires your email address and your member number is the password. This get you into the membership database to find old classmates, class coordinators, etc.** If you are having difficulty getting into the member's section call Kathy at 706-221-8720 or email her at [www.army.ocsalumni.com](http://www.army.ocsalumni.com). She will ensure that the email address you enter is the same as we have on file for you. They must match. There has been some members who had not updated their email address but the problem was resolved with Kathy. Some may not have an email address so contact Kathy and she will fix the problem. This change to an email based log-in has given us the most work. The good news is that the more current our files, the better we are able to serve you. **One of our short range goals is to be able to send you the briefer by email (in color). You will have the option to do this in the near future. This would save the Association a ton of money in postal costs. Currently you are able to come to the website and view the OCS Briefer on line at the News and Events tab (Newsletter). It is in PDF (Adobe) format so that you can download and print. Also the membership application form is available on the website to download and print. Also new under the News and Events tab, under Reunions is the Registration Form for the 2009 Reunion and the Reunion Hotel Reservation information. They can also be downloaded and printed.**

**Credit Card Payments On Line** - We had asked TracSoft for the capability of our members to be able to make credit card payments on line for membership actions, to pay for reunions, buy OCS Rings and any other stuff we have in our shop. etc/ They said they were receiving "Gateway Information" (whatever that means) and within a couple days we will have that capability.

## FOUR STUDENTS WIN TUSAOCSAA 2008 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

There were eight applicants for the 2008 OCS Alumni Association Scholarship Awards Program. All of the applicants were outstanding young men and women. They were very competitive and the decision was difficult. It was decided by the Board of Directors that four \$1,000 scholarships would be awarded for 2008. Here are the four winners of the 2008 Scholarship Awards:

**Congratulations to ANNELIESE KAREN CLARK**, of Centennial, CO.. She is the grand daughter of COL (Ret) George V. McCoy, Class 9-56. She is attending Colorado State University.

**Congratulations to RYAN PATRICK DISTEFANO**, of Windsor, CT. He is the grandson of Frederick C. Levene, Class 21-52. He is attending Boston College.

**Congratulations to KELLEIGH MARGERET COSENTINO**, of Gaithersburg, MD. She is the daughter of COL Guy T. Cosentino, Class 5-76. She is attending Georgetown University.

**Congratulations to AMANDA RENAE WILSON**, of Waynesboro, VA. She is the grand daughter of Jearald D. Allen, Class 5-52. She is attending James Madison University.



### COLONEL (RETIRED) ROBERT B. NETT JUNE 13, 1922 TO OCTOBER 19, 2008 MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER OCS GRADUATE

Colonel Robert Burton Nett, 86, of Columbus, Georgia, died on October 19, 2008, after a short illness. His Funeral Mass was celebrated at the Follow Me Chapel, at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

COL Nett began his military career in 1940 with the Connecticut National Guard. His unit was mobilized and as an enlisted man was sent to the Pacific area after Pearl Harbor. In 1942 he attended Infantry OCS at Ft. Benning and graduated in December 1942. After receiving extensive training in commando and jungle warfare he returned to the Pacific area in March 1944.

In December 1944 1LT Nett led his company as a part of an assault on a reinforced enemy position, using demolitions, flame throwers and hand to hand fighting against heavy machine guns and automatic weapons fire. During this hand to hand fighting 1LT Nett killed seven deeply entrenched Japanese with his rifle and bayonet. He was wounded three times during this action. For this remarkable courage and determination 1LT Nett was awarded the Distinguished Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military award for valor.

During his continued service after World War II, he served in Korea and the Republic of Vietnam. One of his assignments was as Battalion Commander of the Officer Candidate School. He concluded a very distinguished career in August 1973.

COL Nett's decorations include the Medal of Honor, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with "V" device and two oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, MSM, Air Medal and various other service and campaign medals. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge with star, Ranger Tab, Airborne Gliderman Badge, and the Air Assault Badge. He was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame in 1997 and into the OCS Hall of Fame in 1999.

COL Nett was a teacher in the Columbus, Georgia School System until 1987. Since then he has been heavily involved with the OCS Battalion as a mentor and talked to each class about leadership concepts. He will be sorely missed by the OCS Battalion and the United States Army OCS Alumni Association. He will be long remembered for his heroism, his willingness to step forward when America needed him, and his distinguished career.

# TASK FORCE 303

It is my honor and distinct privilege to announce that the following individuals, classes or organizations have joined the ranks of Task Force 303. They are dedicated to the recognition of the Most Distinguished Candidates of each graduating OCS Class.

## **INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIP**

(As of June 30, 2008)

**Phillip M. Grass, Class FR 18 - 49**  
**COL (Ret) William A. Hussong, Class 3 - 64**  
**Timothy Jackman, Class OCRC 3 - 63**  
**Edward Pellegrin, Class 12 - 52**  
**Charles Siragusa, Class 59 - 53**  
**Robert J. Trammell, Class 308 - 43 \***

(\*In the name of his Wife)

**Bruce Mahon, Class 12 - 52**

**Robert Uhl, Class 1 - 64**

(As of September 30, 2008)

**Pryor E. Dougherty**

**Michael Foster, Class xx-69**

**Lawrence E. Johnston Class 16-69**

**Bruce A. Mahon, Class 12-52\***

(\*In Memory of Larry Melson)

**Bruce A. Mahon, Class 12-52\***

(\*In memory of Ralph Zuicver)

**Ronald R. Sommer, Class 4-64**

**Benjamin Winslow, Class 11-67**

**Dr. Milton M. McPherson**

## **OCS CLASS SPONSORSHIP**

(As of June 30, 2008)

**The Blue Warriors OCS Class 12 - 52\***

(\*The Blue Warriors have committed to sponsor the awards to a graduating OCS class in December of each year).

**OCS Class 9 - 56 \*\***

(\*\*OCS Class 9-56 has committed to sponsor the awards to a graduating OCS Class in September of each year. A special donation was made recently in honor of Lamar J. Guthrie as a special thank you.

(As of September 30, 2008)

**OCS Class 2-57\*\*\***

(\*\*\*OCS Class 2-57 has committed to sponsor the awards to a graduating OCS Class in March of each year).

## **BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP**

(As of September 30, 2008)

**Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) has funded the awards for the Most Distinguished Candidates of graduating OCS Classes for an entire year.**

**PRESIDENT'S NOTE:** Jerrie Gove and her daughter Kim Joos, two very patriotic ladies from California, on a recent visit to the Officer Candidate Battalion, had the opportunity to talk to eight candidates who were preparing to start the program the next day. Mrs. Joos wrote that her and her mother were so impressed with the caliber and dedication of the candidates that they would like to contribute to the Award Fund on an annual basis. She says that leadership is such a gift to the nation that she would be honored to contribute her small part. If possible she would like to attend the graduation ceremony of the class they talked to.

**FINAL COMMENTS:** Thank you very much. This is a wonderful response to the TF 303 appeal in the last two OCS Briefers. These sponsors have taken the initiative. They have set the example for us all. Class 12-52, Class 9-56 and Class 2-57. have also set the example of what a Class Sponsorship can accomplish. I encourage other OCS classes to consider an ongoing awards sponsorship.

Because of your generosity the OCS Alumni Association will continue to be a part of honoring the Most Distinguished graduates from the OCS Program. This upholds a long standing tradition of OCS Alumni reaching across the decades to recognize outstanding leadership.

**REMEMBER THE OCS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS A NON-PROFIT, TAX-EXEMPT 501 (C) (19) VETERANS ORGANIZATION. YOUR DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**



The U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association, Inc.  
110 Enterprise Ct., Suite A  
Columbus, GA 31904

Non-Profit Org.  
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Columbus, GA 31908

**11TH BIENNIAL OCS REUNION  
APRIL 23 TO 26, 2009, COLUMBUS, GA  
SEE DETAILS INSIDE**

The OCS Alumni Association is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(19) veterans organization and is not an agency of the government. All correspondence and address changes should be sent to the address above.

**OCS Alumni Association Membership Application**

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ (Member # \_\_\_\_\_)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Duty Status: (Active) (Retired) (USAR) (ARNG) (Separated)

OCS Class #: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Location of OCS: \_\_\_\_\_

I apply for \_\_\_ **Regular** Membership (Army OCS Graduate), \_\_\_ **Associate** Membership (Non Army OCS Graduate).

Term: \_\_\_ 1 Year **\$20.00** \_\_\_ 3 Years **\$55.00** \_\_\_ Life (Check appropriate dues below.)  
 \_\_\_ **\$300.00** (Age 55 and under) \_\_\_ **\$200.00** (Age 56-65) \_\_\_ **\$150.00** (Age 66-75) \_\_\_ **\$100.00** (Age 76 and over)

I apply for \_\_\_ **Corporate** Membership \$1,000.00 per year, \_\_\_ **Honorary** Membership (Spouse of Deceased Army OCS Graduate; No Dues)

Graduate's Name & Class #: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Amount due: Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment (Mail To: TUSAOCSAA, Inc., 110 Enterprise Ct., Suite A, Columbus, GA 31904)

\_\_\_ Check (Payable To TUSAOCSAA) \_\_\_ Credit Card (Visa / MasterCard)

Card#: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Application available online at [www.OCSalumni.com](http://www.OCSalumni.com).