



Artillery OCS Alumni News April 27, 2023

Greetings from Fort Sill,

Remembering Our Fallen:

We found another Fallen Comrade from World War II. **1LT Thurston H. Nolen Class 45-42** was KIA on August 2, 1945 serving with the 132nd Infantry Regiment, Americal Division on Cebo Island, the Philippines. He rests in the Manila American Cemetery. LT Nolen graduated from Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn) in August 1942, entered the Army on October 8th and graduated from OCS on December 31.

He was one of more than 20,000 wartime ROTC cadets who completed all or most of the ROTC course, then received their commissions by attending officer candidate school. 3,591 ROTC cadets completed Artillery OCS from September 1942 to May 1945 and 95 died in service during World War II. 75% of Artillery OCS graduates in 1944 were former ROTC cadets.

We have identified 937 Artillery OCS graduates who died during WW II, 69 in Korea and 322 in Vietnam. They will be prominently remembered in the Artillery OCS Heritage Center.

COL David B. Hannum, Jr Artillery Class 50-54 Honored:

The U.S. Army Garrison Japan headquarters building at Camp Zama, Japan was officially renamed The COL. David B. Hannum, Jr Garrison Headquarters Building during a ceremony on April 5th as a tribute to a former commander.

COL Hannum served as garrison commander from 1975 to 1976 when it was called USAG Honshu. He ended a 31-year career serving as the Fort Drum, NY Installation Commander from 1981-1984. He died in 2010 and was inducted into the Artillery OCS Hall of Fame in 2022.

www.army.mil/article/265492/usag_japan

Artillery OCS Website is Temporarily Off-Line:

We have not been able to update the website for the last six months. This is an unwelcome difficulty for us, and we are doing what we can to sort it out. In the meantime, the website is down. Your patience is appreciated.

Communication:

Maintaining communication with our alumni has been difficult. Many have updated or verified their email addresses with us, but our emails are not getting through. We are reaching less than half of our intended recipients. Many of them went 18 months without any updates from us. They had no idea about our progress (or lack thereof) or our urgent need for more funds.

On December 20, 2022 we reached out to everybody on our email list with an update on our progress and the need for additional funds. We followed up with letters to previous donors who were not receiving or opening our monthly emails. We mailed a hard copy 8-page newsletter to the rest of the alumni on our mailing list in mid-January.

Heritage Center Status:

Things did not go as planned with the project, and we did not deliver what was expected in a timely manner. I apologize for that. You don't need a list of excuses from me, so I ask again for your patience and continued support of the Heritage Center project.

Things are moving along, and with your help, we are determined to overcome whatever stands in the way. Here are some links to pictures and short videos of recent progress:

Link to view photos of the work in progress:

[Heritage Center Work in Progress](#)

Links for two short drive-by videos (no sound) of the construction site E-W and W-E:

[Heritage Center Building Phase Drive-by \(1\) 4-25-2023](#)

[Heritage Center Building Phase Drive-by \(2\) 4-25-2023](#)

Since December 20, 2022 we have received contributions from 305 alumni and friends. There have been 72 first-time contributors and 233 who made one or more previous contributions. We cannot Thank You enough for your support.

Since November 1, 2019 more than 780 alumni and friends have contributed \$656,417 toward our goal of \$785,000 in contributions. We have achieved 83.62 % of our goal. Pay requests and invoices are rolling in. I am confident that our alumni will continue with the generous financial support that we have been blessed with, and we will reach our goal.

If you have already contributed, please try to help us again - if you can. If you have not contributed, please consider doing so. We really need you to join this effort and become part of the Team.

The Legacy of the Artillery OCS at Fort Sill is being preserved with the financial support of less than 2 percent of our 49,000 graduates. The first candidates graduated in October 1941 and the last in July 1973. Our numbers have dwindled significantly over the years. Those of us who are still here are the ones who will make this happen. Let's work together and do it as a tribute to our departed Brothers.

The following links take you to Dropbox, where information about the Heritage Center Fundraising Progress, lists of contributors and special donor recognition lists are stored and updated.

You can view the files linked below, even if you do not have a Dropbox account or App.

Click Here for Heritage Center Information: [Heritage Center Info 4-24-23](#)

Click here to view the Alphabetical list of Donors: [Alpha List of Donors 4-24-23](#)

Click here to view the Class list order of Donors: [Class List of Donors 4-24-23](#)

Click here for the Special Recognition list:
[Special Recognition List of Donors \\$500 or More](#)

The Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter is an IRS 501(C)3 charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Tax ID: EIN # 74-3052514

You can send a check to:
Artillery OCS Alumni
PO Box 33612
Fort Sill, OK 73503

We also accept contributions by credit card through PayPal:
[Click Here to Contribute to Artillery OCS Alumni](#)

Thanks for your continuing support.

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