



Artillery OCS News August 4, 2023

Greetings From Fort Sill:

We will attempt to get this newsletter to those on our email list who are not getting it by sending them a link by means of an alternate email from us.

Website Update:

We now have a functioning website for graduates and friends of the Artillery Officer Candidate School. It is a work in progress and I am learning as I build it. I encourage you to check it out. There is already an enormous amount of information available, with more to come.

Our website address is: <https://artilleryocshistory.org/index.html>

You can also Google or search for "artillery OCS history" or "artillery OCS" to find it. We are pleased to have a link to our website on the Army OCS Alumni website, if you manage to find it buried within their website.

We are trying to include and bring up to date most of what was on the previous website. Our website has a Navigation Page that you can look at to see what we have available and the footer on each page has quick links to the pages. Our aim is a simple design without a lot of distractions.

Heritage Center Project:

We will be referring to the building being constructed at Fort Sill as the **Artillery Officer Candidate School Heritage Hall**. It is part of the Heritage Center Project that includes the building and contents. The building includes the display cases and other items that make the facility functional. **The OCS memorabilia and artifacts are not part of the building.**

Yesterday, Penny and I met with Gordon Blaker, the Museum Curator on August 3rd to discuss our progress and go over our action plan. We are making good progress but there is a lot to do.

We have space in one of the Cavalry Barracks on the NW corner of the Old Post Quadrangle (OPQ) to store the items that will become part of our displays. While we haul things over there we will create a list of everything to facilitate an orderly transfer to the Museum system.

The good thing is that it makes more room in our storage facility to help us find buried things we want to put on display.

We have the Fallen Comrades memorial display (M16 w/ bayonet, boots and helmet) Centerpiece and other components ready to go and will soon mount our WW II fallen display panel (56" x 64") and Korean War Panel on Ultra

Boards. I ordered nameplates for 8 additional KIA we found recently to finish out the Vietnam Memorial Board.

We have all four "official" pictures for our MOH display framed up and our version of the bios and citations proofread and ready for printing. The bios and citations will be combined with a second unique picture of each MOH recipient to round out the display.

The Hall of Valor centerpiece is a large panel ready for mounting that includes a picture of each DSC recipient with class # and date of action. Other items will be on display to highlight the valor awards received by OCS graduates.

We have the guidon from Class 1-41 that will be re-framed. Sadly, it was glued to cloth-covered Masonite, which is acidic. We have a hand-carved wooden FA School crest from Class 4-73 in particularly good shape to highlight the end.

The next thing is a 3-foot by 3-foot sign to hang inside the east entry door on the wall when you walk in and the same sign on the west side for individuals entering from the South wing of the Museum. Gordon says four photos and no more than 200 words explaining our history. Not easy!!! It will be the first thing a person sees upon entry.

In the meantime, we are going through thousands of pictures to pick out ones we would like to see made part of the displays and hanging in open spaces along the walls. Then we narrow them down repeatedly. Again, Not easy!

Other displays to be created from items in storage include but are not limited to:

Barracks (Candidate Cubicle with bunk, footlocker, uniforms hanging, desk and chair)

This area will be enclosed with 8 feet high plex and aluminum kick plate.

Jark Display

4-Star Display

Daily Life of a Candidate - (items)

OCS Silver

OCS Guidons

POW Compound - "Xing Loi"

History of OCS with many pictures

We have built these for the displays. Everything else will go on the walls.

three Exhibit cases 40 inches deep and 96 inches long (32 inch base)

1 Standard uniform case (2 uniforms)

1 case with base and plex top for the Fallen Comrades (rifle, bayonet, helmet, boots)

1 case with base and plex top Jark display (Rock, leather scrapbook, Gold Boot award from 1951)

Since November 1, 2019, more than 797 alumni and friends have contributed \$694,937 toward our goal of \$785,000 in contributions. We have achieved 88.5 % of 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. Let's work together and do it as a tribute to our departed Brothers.

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.

Click on the link below to see how you can support our efforts:
[Supporting the Artillery OCS Alumni](#)

If you would like to donate by credit card there is a PayPal link on the Support
Us page.

Thanks for your continuing support,

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