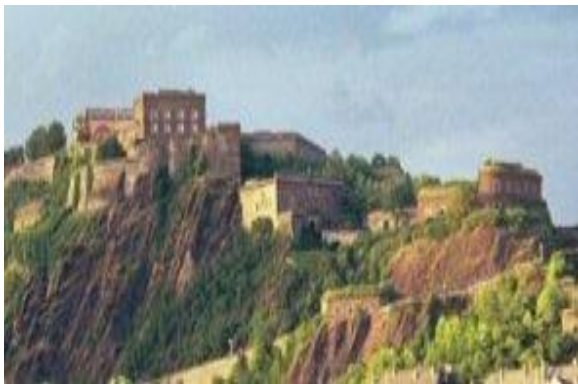


THE CASTLE NEWSLETTER



Issue 33

JUN 2019

From the Observation Post The President's View By Gil Bernabe

Our mid-year Newsletter is always fun to produce because we preview the Annual Reunion which is just around the corner and we get to hi-lite the current year's scholarship winners. Every Newsletter also includes an article by Tom Kurtz providing us a lesson on 17th Artillery history; and a Chaplain's Corner. Lately, Bill Dahlin has shared with the Association poems and other noteworthy items for publication. Tom also pays tribute to the 17th Artillerymen who died in combat.

For this issue, Tom Kurtz has written about the 17th Field Artillery Regiment occupying Ehrenbreitstein Fortress at the end of World War I. This story explains the historical importance of those who designed the Regiment Coat of Arms and Distinctive Unit Insignia.

Let's jump ahead to our 2019 Reunion at Lawton/Fort Sill and the events for our members.

The officers arrive at the Fairfield Inn and Suites in Lawton, OK, on Sunday – September 15, 2019 – and prepare for Monday's Annual Business Meeting. The main party of members arrives on Tuesday – September 17, 2019. Of course, you may arrive early and stay late.

Some of the highlights of the 2019 Reunion include: at our Welcome Social - a raffle where the winner receives a signed copy of General Tommy Frank's autobiography, *American Soldier*. The second winner will receive a General Franks museum coin. Everyone will have the opportunity to participate.

Wednesday morning, we start off with a visit to the Fort Sill Museum, have lunch at a Consolidated Dining Facility and in the afternoon, visit an artillery unit and see some current

artillery weapons. Hopefully, by Wednesday, everyone will have their Fort Sill approved Pass Card and will be allowed to enter Fort Sill with ease.

Everyone should carefully review the Addendum to the Newsletter where we explain Fort Sill's current requirements to have [unescorted access to Fort Sill](#). All members and spouses/guests MUST fill out Fort Sill Form 118a and MAIL it to Fort Sill Visitor Control Center – T6701 Sheridan Road, Fort Sill, OK 73503. Once a background check is completed on each applicant, an approved Fort Sill Pass Card will be issued. Gil Bernabe will pick up all the cards upon his arrival at Fort Sill.

On Wednesday evening, we will host a book signing where author Towana Spivey will discuss his book, "Silent Witness," which is a history of Fort Sill and the surrounding area. A book review describes the book: "Silent Witness - The Diary of a Historic Tree at Fort Sill" is both a narrative and graphic history of this very important frontier army post that was established in the Indian Territory in 1869 and continues as a major military training center today. What makes the history so unique is that it is presented from the perspective of a 250-year-old bur oak tree situated along the banks of the Medicine Bluffs Creek at Fort Sill. We are working on raising funds to provide everyone a copy of his book. If that is not possible, then we hope to obtain the books at a "reasonable price."

Thursday is our travel day, as we head West to the General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum, in Hobart, OK. You will be captivated by the many unique artifacts that this museum holds. You will see many military weapons; gifts from countless world leaders, gifts from famous singers, and a jersey from a professional NBA player. The September 11 Exhibit will intrigue you and capture your full attention. You will also be impressed with the details of General Franks'

Four-Star Leadership Program. Every summer 70 top high school students attend the Institutes Leadership program, free of charge, and have face-to-face experiences with inspirational leaders that are shaping our world.

On Friday, September 20, will have our Annual General Membership Meeting; followed by the always entertaining auction. As you know, the auction raises funds to support our scholarship program. Please remember to bring an item or two for the auction.

We will wrap up our 2019 Reunion with our Annual Banquet. we are working to have a Chuck Wagon Dinner on the grounds of The Museum of the Great Plains.

Of course, in between all these exciting events we will have plenty of time to socialize and enjoy each other's company. So...

Before you forget – find the Reunion Registration Form in this Newsletter, fill it out and mail it, along with your \$80.00 per person, to Dan Reeves. See you soon at our Headquarters at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Lawton, OK.

And, of course, hurry and make your hotel reservation – also - at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Lawton, OK.



**17th Artillery Regiment Association's
Twenty-First Annual Reunion
Lawton/Fort Sill, OK
September 17 to 21, 2019**

What we know for Sure.

When: The 2019 Annual Reunion will be held in Lawton/Fort Sill, OK, from Tuesday, September 17 to Friday, September 20, 2019. Check out on Saturday – September 21, 2019. The Board members will arrive on September 15 and 16 for the Annual Business meeting.

Where: Reunion Headquarters will be at the **Fairfield Inn & Suites, 201 SE 7th Street, Lawton, OK 73501.** Hotel reservations can be made by calling Marriott Reservations 1 (800) 321-2211 or 1-580-248-5500 using the group name “17th Artillery Association Reunion” and Group Code – AAK.

Room rates: \$89.00 per night plus tax. Room rates are from September 15 to September 21, 2019.
Link for reservations: **Book your group rate for 17th Artillery Reunion at Fairfield Inn and Suites**
(Right click, Open hyperlink)

The hotel rate for a king and double room is \$89.00. The king and double suite rate is \$94.00 per night plus tax. Reservations must be made by August 15, 2019, to receive the 17th Artillery room rate of \$89.00/\$94.00, respectfully.

Hotel deadline: Reservations made after August 15, 2018 will be accepted on a space and rate available basis only. Check-in time is 3:00 PM and check out time is 12:00 Noon. The hotel provides a complimentary daily breakfast; free high speed internet, and free parking. If you make a room reservation and have to cancel, the cancellation must be made prior to 3:00 PM on September 16, 2019 (1 day before your scheduled check-in), to avoid being charged. The hotel website is: <http://www.marriott.com/LAWFI>

Still in the planning phase: At this time, we estimate that the Reunion Registration Fee will be approximately \$80.00 per person. This fee will cover the Welcome Social, Hospitality Room refreshments, bus rental, the “Banquet Meal,” and one book raffle ticket.



Gil Bernabe & Jerry Cody establish Fairfield Inn & Suites Headquarters for the 2019 reunion Fort Sill





assignment was the beginning of a long and distinguished career that would take him from one world hot spot to another. With each assignment, he gained the knowledge and experience that prepared him for important leadership role that would earn him a unique honor in the annals of American history.

In June 2000, he was promoted to four star General and assigned as Commander-in-Chief, United States Central Command. It's in this position that the world knows Tommy Franks best. His assignment as Commander, U.S. Central Command, was the culmination of an almost four-decade military career during which he led American and coalition troops in two strategically unprecedented campaigns in two years – Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq.

General Franks' awards include five Distinguished Service Medals, four Legions of Merit, four Bronze Stars, and three Purple Hearts plus numerous foreign awards. On December 14, 2004, President George W. Bush awarded him the nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Who is General Tommy Franks?

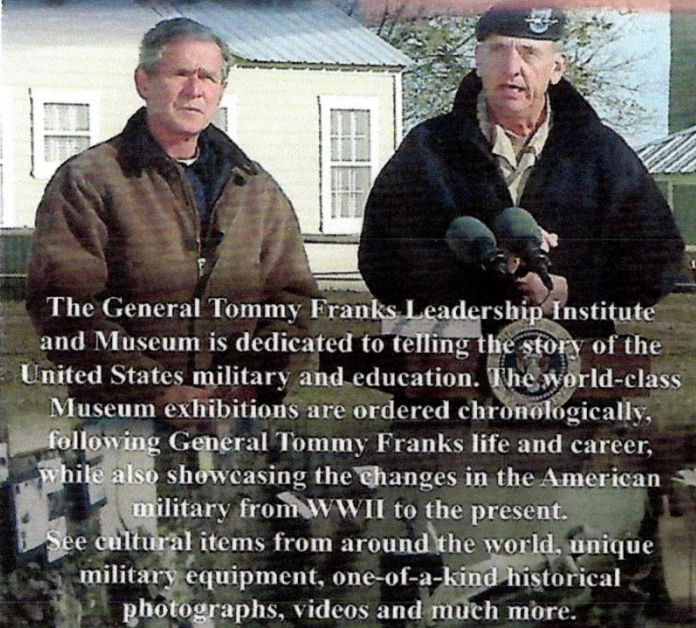
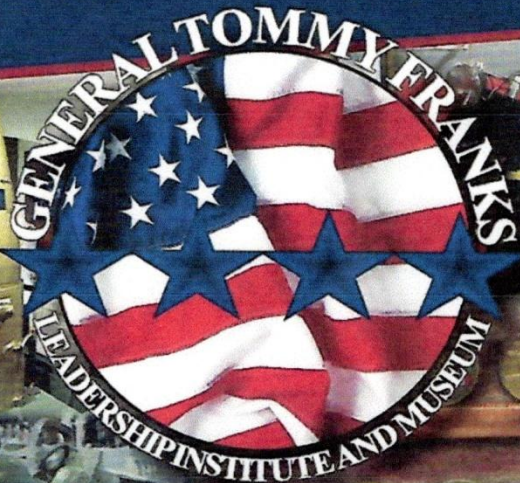
Editor's Note: As the members of the 17th Artillery Regiment Association prepared to visit the General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum at our 2019 Reunion, I thought it would be appropriate to share with you a little bit about who General Tommy Franks is. At the museum you will have the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of General Franks autobiography. The museum has been most generous and provided the Association a copy of General Frank's book and a museum coin for our book raffle. Tommy Franks was born in Wynnewood, Oklahoma; and grew up in Midland, Texas. He joined the United States Army, and after a brief stint as an enlisted soldier, he attended the Artillery Officer Candidate School. He graduated as a distinguished graduate from OCS and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant. After graduation, he was immediately sent to Vietnam.

His distinguished service in Vietnam earned him six Valor awards and three Purple Hearts. His Vietnam

Since his retirement in 2003, General Franks has traveled the world, speaking on leadership, character, and the value of Democracy. His autobiography, *American Soldier*, debuted as Number 1 on the New York Times Best Seller list in August 2004. General Franks and his wife, Cathryn Carley Franks, have one daughter, who is married to a military officer, and three grandchildren. The Franks live at their ranch in Roosevelt, Oklahoma, with longhorns, buffalo, Angus cattle, horses and their cat, Bailey. President George W. Bush calls General Franks "a down-to-earth, no nonsense guy." His troops call him "a Soldier's General."



TOMMYFRANKSMUSEUM.ORG



The General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum is dedicated to telling the story of the United States military and education. The world-class Museum exhibitions are ordered chronologically, following General Tommy Franks life and career, while also showcasing the changes in the American military from WWII to the present. See cultural items from around the world, unique military equipment, one-of-a-kind historical photographs, videos and much more.

LEADERSHIP. PATRIOTISM. SERVICE.

Hours of Operation
Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m.
Or by appointment. Closed most major holidays.
Proudly offering free admission.

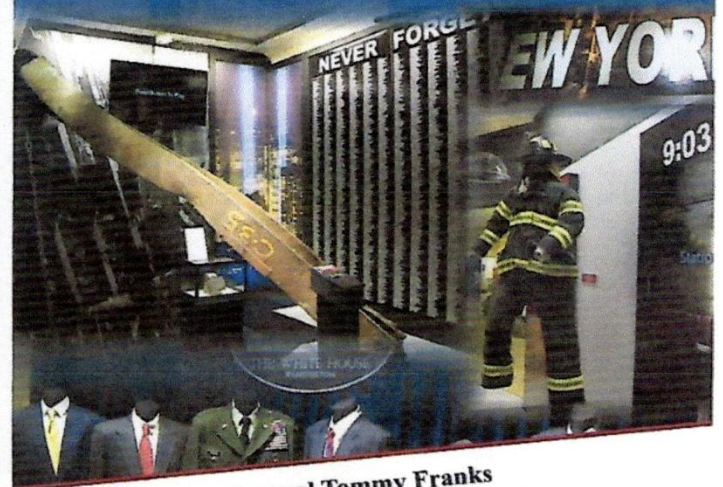
September NEVER FORGET EXHIBIT

PRESENTED BY THE GENERAL TOMMY FRANKS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM

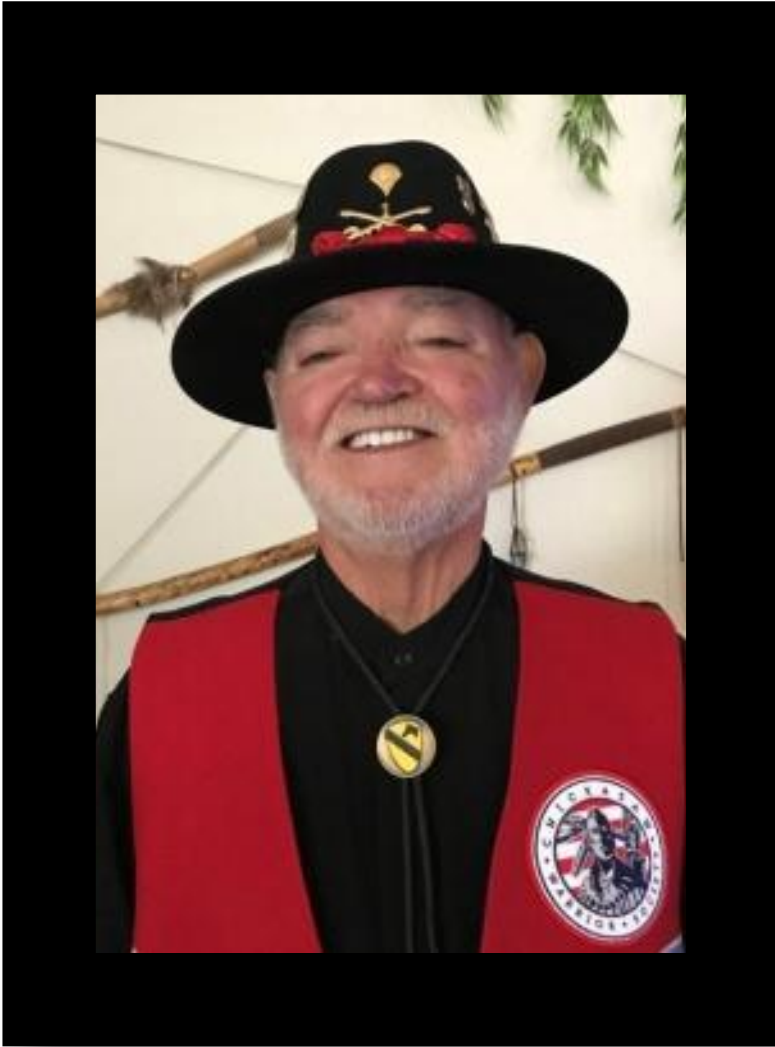
“9/11: Never Forget” is the newest permanent exhibit at the Museum, bringing an educational opportunity to all Americans with a view of the world before and after Sept. 11, 2001.

The exhibit features a 14-foot-long, 3,000-lb. steel I-beam from the World Trade Center as well as numerous multi-media displays, interactives and collections placing visitors in New York City on Sept. 11, 2001 starting at 8:30 a.m. Visitors travel a chronological timeline of the day, learning about the World Trade Center, the attack and heroic rescue efforts offered by so many.

Areas are dedicated to the Pentagon and Flight 93 as well as memorials honoring the nearly 3,000 men, women and children from 93 nations who perished, a reminder that we are all impacted when anyone is lost through a senseless act of terrorism.



General Tommy Franks
Leadership Institute and Museum
507 S. Main Street • PO Box 222
Hobart, Oklahoma 73651
TommyFranksMuseum.org | (580) 726-5900



Former Association President Passes September 28, 1943 –April 22, 2019

*James (Jim) H. Sanders passed from this life on April 22, 2019 in Norman,
Oklahoma.*

Jim was born in Norman to Jess and Frances Sanders on September 28, 1948. He grew up in Anadarko, Oklahoma, and graduated from Anadarko High School. After high school, Jim joined The United States Army.

After returning home, Jim started work in the telecommunications industry. Where he spent 31 years and 8 months working for Lucent Technologies.

Jim enjoyed making walking sticks and canes, playing pool, and he adored his OU Football. Jim was a very likable and friendly guy, he always had a smile on his face, and he loved spending time with his grandkids.

Left to cherish Jim's memory are his loving wife of 36 years Jean Sanders, his step-children Mike and Pat Fielden, and Kim Skaggs. His daughter-in-law, Dawn Sanders. His sister, Judy and her husband Ben Wise. His brother, Steve and his wife Sarah Sanders. As well as many beloved grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents, his son, Scott Sanders, and his much loved siblings.

SECRETARY REPORT

Jack Stroud

I would like to inform you of my intention to resign from my board position as your secretary due to the secretary's eyesight and bone cancer along with physical disabilities this will be YOUR last Newsletter from me my resignation will be effective immediately after this printing.

Unless there is someone who is able to pick up the office of Association Secretary and take over the secretary's position it will end after this edition. If it be known I have held every position in the Association with the exception of Treasurer. I would hope there is someone that would step in and take over this position at the reunion.

While serving as a board member in every position with the exception of Treasure in our Association, I have seen much growth in the Association and I am truly satisfied with the progress we have made. I feel that my contribution has met its limit and that it would be beneficial to the organization if I were to step down. In doing so, I will be able to spend more time with my further health issues which are many.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity as a none Artillery man but a Signal Corps Senior NCO to be part of such a strong and dedicated organization of real Artillery men. I look forward to seeing the continued success of our Association.



Our Donation to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF)

By the time some of the officers returned home, we remembered that during our General Membership Meeting, we forgot to make a motion for a donation to the Vietnam Veterans Fund. At the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall), the volunteers who helped us find names at The Wall were part of the VVMF. Gil Bernabe sent an email to all members who attended the 2018 Reunion and the General membership meeting and asked

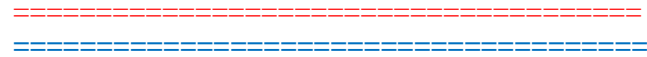
for their vote on our standard \$200.00 donation. Sixteen members returned their "YES Vote" – supporting the Association's \$200.00 donation to the VVMF. Five members did not return a vote.

Our Treasurer, Dan Reeves, has sent a donation in the amount of \$200.00 on behalf of eh 17th Artillery Regiment Association and sent a Thank You note for the support their volunteers provided to us when we were at The Wall on Saturday, November 10, 2018.

For your information, the Mission of the VVMF is provided below:

Mission

As the founders of The Wall, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund works to preserve the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, to promote healing and to educate about the impact of the Vietnam War. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial was initially conceived with one overriding purpose -- to bring long overdue honor and recognition to the men and women who served and sacrificed their lives in Vietnam. Today, the Memorial has transcended its role as a national symbol of reconciliation and stands as a living history lesson. The Memorial is unique in its ability to inspire exploration and reflection about this critical time in our nation's past, with a wiser eye toward the future. More than 400,000 items have been left at The Wall by visitors since its dedication in 1982.



17th Artillery Regiment Association Awards College Scholarship to Coke County High School Student

In May 2019, the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awarded college scholarships to four very deserving students, who included three granddaughters and a daughter of an active duty soldier. The four scholarships totaled \$5,500.00. Each scholarship winner received a monetary award, a Congratulations Letter, and a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Certificate of Achievement. Each year the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awards scholarship grants to children and grandchildren of veterans and current active duty soldiers who have served with this proud regiment. Applicants must meet the Association's eligibility requirements and are evaluated on academic achievement, community service, extra-curricular activities at school, an essay on a different annual topic, and a faculty member's Letter of Recommendation.

The 2019 first-place winner was Sarah Calfee, a 2019 graduate of Coke County High School, in Newport, TN. Throughout her four years of high school, Sarah studied to be the best that she could be by taking 11 honors courses, was very active school and community activities. Even with all those activities, she maintained a 4.24 GPA. She ranked in the top 4% of her class - 11th of 279 students. She graduated with her school's Honors, State Honors, and State Distinction.

A review of her extra-curricular activities demonstrates that she was always a hard worker and well organized. She dedicated herself to achieving outstanding grades in all her courses; and she also excelled in community service and sports. She played basketball for her high school team all four years and was selected as the Team captain; and also contributed her time to teaching youth basketball. She was very busy as a community volunteer with a food service program, Veteran's Day celebrations, and as a Sunday School assistant.

Her school counselor writes that "I have found Sarah to be a kind student. I believe that while she may exhibit a 'low-key' personality, she is dedicated, steadfast, and dependable in a way that most high school students are not. She would be a terrific candidate to select as the recipient of your organization's scholarship – one of whom you would ultimately be proud."

For her outstanding accomplishments, Sarah Calfee was honored at her high school's awards ceremony and received a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship award of \$2,000.00. Her connection to the 17th Artillery is through her grandfather, Buford Van Calfee, who served in Vietnam with the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery in 1969 and 1970.



17th Artillery veteran, Buford Calfee presents granddaughter Sarah Calfee with the 2019 First Place 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship.

17th Artillery Regiment Association Awards College Scholarship to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Student.

In May 2019, the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awarded college scholarships to four very deserving students, who included three granddaughters and a daughter of an active duty soldier. The four scholarships totaled \$5,500.00. Each scholarship winner received a monetary award, a Congratulations Letter, and a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Certificate of Achievement. Each year the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awards scholarship grants to children and grandchildren of veterans and current active duty soldiers who have served with this proud regiment. Applicants must meet the Association's eligibility requirements and are evaluated on academic achievement, community service, extra-curricular activities at school, an essay on a different annual topic, and a faulty member's Letter of Recommendation.

The 2019 Runner-Up Winner was Kayla Krieger, a 2019 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, in Alexandria, VA. Even before, Kayla opened a high school text book, she was already rated a top-student. Every year approximately, 3,000 students apply for admission into this very challenging magnet high school. Kayla was one of 425 students who earned entrance into TJ HS for her year group. Thomas Jefferson offers a very challenging academic program – concentrating on mathematics and sciences - that is taught at a much higher level and faster pace than any other high school in the USA. She graduated with a 4.145 GPA.

A review of her extra-curricular activities demonstrates that she was always a hard worker and well organized. She dedicated herself to achieving outstanding grades in all her courses; and she also excelled in community service, music, and athletics. She played on her school's soccer team, was selected as the Team captain; and earned a Varsity Letter. She was the Secretary of the Key Club and was selected to the National Honor Society. She also displayed unique initiative as the Founder of the Eco-Schools Leadership Initiative and a String Ensemble.

Her school counselor describes Kayla as “A high achiever...has a strong internal drive, an innate source of intensity, energy, and power that enables her to push hard to get things done...She is guided by core values like honesty and loyalty. Her conscientious drive for doing things right and strong moral compass combine to create the reputation of being utterly dependable.”

For her outstanding accomplishments, Kayla Krieger was honored at her high school's awards ceremony and received a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship award of \$1,500.00. Her connection to the 17th Artillery is through her Father, Mark Krieger, who was the Battalion Commander, of the 1st Battalion, 17th Artillery in Korea, in 2011 to 2013.



Former 17th Artillery Battalion Commander, LTC Mark Krieger, proudly presents Kayla Krieger, his daughter, with a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship.

17th Artillery Regiment Association Awards College Scholarship to Grove High School Student

In May 2019, the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awarded college scholarships to four very deserving students, who included three granddaughters and a daughter of an active duty soldier. The four scholarships totaled \$5,500.00. Each scholarship winner received a monetary award, a Congratulations Letter, and a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Certificate of Achievement. Each year the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awards scholarship grants to children and grand children of veterans and current active duty soldiers who have served with this proud regiment. Applicants must meet the Association's eligibility requirements and are evaluated on academic achievement, community service, extra-curricular activities at school, an essay on a different annual topic, and a faulty member's Letter of Recommendation.

One of the 2019 winners was Ashton Mae Hart, a 2019 graduate of Grove High School, in Grove, OK. Throughout her four years of high school, Ashton Mae studied to be the best that she could be by taking 3 Advanced Placement courses, worked part-time, and was very active in school and community activities. Even with all those activities, she maintained a 4.06 GPA. She ranked in the top 5% of her class - 10th of 184 students.

A review of her extra-curricular activities demonstrates that she was always a hard worker and well organized. She dedicated herself to achieving outstanding grades in all her courses; and she also contributed immensely to her school's music and band programs. She was a state qualifier on her school's Academic Team, selected to the National Honor Society, and received various high-level awards for her performance with the school band. Besides holding a summer job, she found time to be a summer counselor with her church's Vacation Bible School.

The school Director of Bands describes Ashton Mae as "a student who has clearly demonstrated upstanding qualities and outstanding achievements and leadership...Aston has become a student that I can count on to be a positive force in our ensemble as a consistent model of adult behavior to the surrounding students.

For her outstanding accomplishments, Ashton Mae was honored at her high school's awards ceremony and received a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship award of \$1,000.00. Her connection to the 17th Artillery is through her grandfather, Norman Barton, who served in Germany, with the 3d Howitzer Battalion, 17th Artillery in 1961 and 1962.



A proud grandfather and 17th Artillery veteran, Norman Barton, is happy to present his granddaughter, Ashton Mart, with a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship

17th Artillery Regiment Association Awards College Scholarship to University of North Dakota Student

In May 2019, the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awarded college scholarships to four very deserving students, who included three granddaughters and a daughter of an active duty soldier. The four scholarships totaled \$5,500.00. Each scholarship winner received a monetary award, a Congratulations Letter, and a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Certificate of Achievement. Each year the 17th Artillery Regiment Association awards scholarship grants to children and grandchildren of veterans and current active duty soldiers who have served with this proud regiment. Applicants must meet the Association's eligibility requirements and are evaluated on academic achievement, community service, extra-curricular activities at school, an essay on a different annual topic, and a faculty member's Letter of Recommendation.

One of the winners is Micah Erdmann, currently a Junior at the University of North Dakota, with a double major in Psychology and Forensic Science with a Pre-Med Minor. With a heavy load of science courses and volunteer work in the medical field, she still manages to earn a 3.51 GPA

Since Micah has graduated from high school, her activities outside the class are very different from other scholarship candidates. She was selected as a Peer Teacher for her Anatomy Laboratory because she previously achieved an outstanding grade in the course and lab work. In the lab work, she uses cadavers and assists students to name and understand certain structures and aspects of the human body. Previously, she volunteered with the local hospital, Altru, in the Emergency Department and Post Operational Procedures. Another volunteer project that she will work on, as an undergraduate in the UND Medical School, is a project on epilepsy.

Her Academic Advisor comments that "Micah ...demonstrates the qualities of a true leader. She has an enthusiastic, outgoing personality, and makes those around her feel at ease. During (a particular class) Micah and her fellow students worked in teams. When it was time for each group to present its findings, Micah often spoke on behalf of her team. I can easily see her presenting her research to a group of colleagues, or speaking with a patient about a delicate issue. Micah Erdmann has the academic and interpersonal skills that undoubtedly make her a worthwhile candidate for your scholarship. Above all, she has the drive to succeed."

For her outstanding accomplishments, Micah Erdman received a 17th Artillery Regiment Association Scholarship award of \$1,000.00. Her connection to the 17th Artillery is through her Grandfather, Edwin Ahonen, who served in Vietnam with the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery in 1970 and 1971.

17th Artillery veteran, Ed Ahonen, presents Micah Erdman, his granddaughter, with a 17th Artillery Regiment Association scholarship



Special Scholarship Awards Presented to 17th Artillery Scholarship Applicants

One item that is pending the approval of the Association's General Membership is the proposal and presentation of Special Scholarship Awards to four other deserving 17th Artillery family members. The final scholarship points were so close that Gil Bernabe, Chairman, 17th Artillery Scholarship Committee, proposed to the Association Board of Officers, that a Special Award be presented to four individuals. They are in alphabetical order: Jack B. Cody (Grandson of Jerry and Joanna Cody), Dylan P. Flowers (grandson of Richard and Phyllis Flowers), Michael Ricciardi (Grandson of Jack and Molly Stroud), and Zachary J. Sinnott (Grandson of Michael and Peggy Dages). For the Special 17th Artillery Award, each individual received a 17th Artillery Certificate of Achievement and a check for \$250.00.



17th Artillery Veteran, MSG (Retired) Jack Stroud, proudly presented his grandson Michael Ricciardi, with a 17th Artillery Certificate of Achievement and a check for \$250.00.

Great job by all of our members.



17th Artillery Veteran, Jerry Cody, presents his grandson, Jack Cody, with a 17th Artillery Certificate of Achievement and a check for \$250.00.

**100-Year-Old
17th Artillery Soldier
WWII Veteran - Hubert G. Edward
Speaks at Memorial Day Event**

Editor's Note: Mike Davino, Secretary Treasurer, Army Divisions Association alerted us to the fact that Hubert G. Edwards, a WWII 17th Artillery Veteran, was scheduled to speak at a Memorial Day Event at Harnett County, NC. After hearing Edward speak, Mike sent us the following lines on the speech: "I did make it to the Harnett County service and Hubert Edwards of the 17th Arty gave quite a speech, without notes, totally from memory as far as I can tell. Hubert took us through the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, and Southern France as well as a couple of other campaigns, and his encounter with GEN Eisenhower."



**By Tom Woerner - Of the Daily Record Staff,
Dunn, NC.**

Note: Printed with author's permission

Communities and residents throughout the county took time Thursday and Monday to remember and

honor soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the nation's wars.

The traditional countywide celebration of Memorial Day in Lillington drew a large crowd to the Veterans Memorial Park in front of the Harnett County courthouse Monday morning.

The group was welcomed by Harnett County Veterans Service Officer Amy S. Noel.

"Every year I do this and I try not to cry and that is my goal this year," Noel said. "We need to remember that freedom still costs something."

This year, the crowd was treated to a firsthand remembrance of the European campaigns of World War II. Hubert Edwards, now 100 years old, served as a supply sergeant during the war. He was actively involved in the invasion campaigns of North Africa and Italy as allies began to free Europe from Axis oppression. He served a total of 660 days and 37 months on the front lines with his fellow members of the 17th Field Artillery Battalions.

Edwards, who now lives in the Carolina Lakes subdivision in western Harnett County, told the crowd he had the unique experience of face-to-face meetings with both Allied commanders Gen. Dwight Eisenhower and Gen. George Patton.

He recalled a humorous conversation with Eisenhower, after the general declined the coffee the soldiers had just made.

"He asked me if I thought we were going to win the war," Edwards said. "I said, 'no sir' and you should have seen the look on his face. Then I told him, 'I don't think we are going to win; I know we are going to win.' He said that was the best answer he had gotten to that question."

Edwards reminded the crowd to remember the sacrifice of all those who served.

"I hope every one of you will pray to God to thank him for what you have because I have seen what our soldiers did to give it to us," Edwards said. "When you lay down in a comfortable bed thank God because I know what it is like not to have a bed and to sleep in a foxhole."

2019 Reunion Schedule – 17th Artillery Regiment Association - Lawton/Fort Sill Oklahoma

START DATE	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	Sun – Sep 15	Mon – Sep 16	Tues – Sep 17	Wed – Sep 18	Thurs – Sep 19	Fri – Sep 20	Sat – Sep 21
Headquarters							
Fairfield Inn & Suites 201 SE 7 th Street, Lawton, OK 73501	Association Officers Arrive		10:00 – 15:00 Welcome Members – Dan Plus Assistants	8:30 – Begin visit to Fort Sill – Travel by POV	Tour - General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute & Museum	9:00 – 11:00 – General Membership Meeting – Agenda - TBD	Breakfast Travel back home
	Gil Bernabe Picks up FS Pass Cards at VCC	1:00 – 4:00 pm - Annual Business Mtg	Free Time	9:00 – 11:00 Tour Ft Sill -Museum	8:30 am – Bus departs for Hobart, OK	11:00 – 1:30 Auction	
	Review Agenda for Annual Business Mtg		Tour Lawton & Fort Sill Area – self guided Tour	Lunch at Consolidated Dining Facility 1:00 – 4:00 Tour Artillery Units	9:45 – 10:00 am Welcome Brief - Tour of Museum 12:00 – 1:00 – Catered Lunch – by Kozy Diner - \$15.00	2:00 – 4:00 Banquet: Chuck Wagon Cookout at Museum of the Great Plains – 601 Ferris Ave, Lawton, OK (Pending)	
	And Reunion Itinerary	6:00 pm – Supper with Wives	5:00 – 7:00 pm Welcome Social – Hospitality Room – Catered	7:00 – 8:30 pm Visit and Book Signing - History of Fort Sill – by Towana Spivey, “Silent Witness”	1:30 – 2:30 – Gift Shop Time 2:30 -3:45 - - Travel to hotel	4:00 – Free Time	
					Free time	Free Time	

Area activities for Free Time: * close to hotel – Maps will be available at hotel

- a. *Museum of the Great Plains – 601 Ferris Ave, Lawton
- b. *Comanche National Museum & Cultural Center – 701 Ferris Ave, Lawton
- c. Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum, 435 Quanah Rd, Ft Sill
- d. *Comanche Nation Casino and Apache Casino – close to hotel
- e. Medicine Bluff

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Richard A. Smith-Chaplain

Temptations

I hope that everyone is doing well and getting ready for a great summer and reunion coming up. Cathy and I have been busy this summer watching both grandsons play baseball, awaiting another grandchild, and on a personal note celebrating another birthday yesterday. (Yep still holding at 49! Yeah right!)

I want to write about a subject that, I think I'm safe in saying this, everyone has. It's temptation. It comes in all sizes, shapes, and forms, rather it being that new car you want so badly, a new home you want, lust, wanting to do harm to someone that said or did something to you, trying to do something that you know is wrong, or spending money on something you don't need. I think you can get the picture.

When we say the Lord's Prayer, one of the things we ask for is to, "lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."(Matthew 6:13 and Luke 11:4) Jesus was taken to the desert for 40 days and tempted by Satan. God watched over Him and on the 40th day Jesus told Satan, "Away from me Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only!" (Matt. 4:10) The angels then attended to Him.

Discouragement is also a temptation. "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning it's shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb. 12:2) Materialism is a temptation. "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs." (Heb. 6:10). Gossip is a temptation. "Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking lies. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it." (Psalm 34 13-14) Lust is a temptation. "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed which is idolatry. (Col. 3:5)

I know that I've only hit on a few temptations that we face daily. I hope this opens your minds to the fact that time on this earth is only a probationary stage. We all have some 'fine tuning' to do while in this life. The afterlife is an eternity!

The following deaths have been reported to me since that last newsletter and I ask that you keep the family members in your thoughts and prayers. I have to start with a man that gave so much to his country as well as this association. I valued his friendship and his family's very much as we all probably did. I never, and probably won't, hear anyone speak anything negative about our past president 1) Jim Sanders (LM died Apr.22, 2019) 2) John and Nancy Melasecca's son Jeffrey lost his battle with cancer. 3) Brenda Reeves (April 3, 2019), wife of treasurer Dan Reeves passed away after battling ALS.

The following have been reported to me with sickness/distress

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1) Bill Beers- inflamed ulcer | 2) Mike Dages-Bone cancer |
| 3) Cuma Beers (wife of Bill) cancer | 4) Cecil LaGrande-COPD/breathing difficulty |
| 5) Bill Dahlin-leg ulcers | 6) Norm & Annette Jones health issues |
| 7) Tom Kurtz-caregiver | |

Please remember that cards, calls, emails, and prayers go a long way during troubled times!

I'd also like to thank Bill Dahlin for sharing his daily devotions! Please don't hesitate to call me or email me if you know of sickness, distress, or death of any member or family member.

God Bless, Richard (rsmith3024@nc.rr.com)
Richard A. Smith-Chaplain
17th Artillery Regiment Association

EHRENBREITSTEIN FORTRESS

By: Thomas R. Kurtz



The occupation of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, by the 17th Field Artillery Regiment, after the end of World War I was considered to be of historical importance to those who designed the Regimental Coat of Arms and Distinctive Unit Insignia, as the fortress is symbolized in the center of both, described as, a conventional castle of Ehrenbreitstein with ramp.



Coat of Arms (Originally approved March 25, 1920)

Distinctive Unit Insignia (Originally approved May 6, 1923)

Ehrenbreitstein Fortress is a on the mountain of the same name on the east bank of the Rhine River opposite the town of Koblenz (Spelled: Coblenz, before 1926) in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate. Even back before there was a German heartland to protect; this confluence was seen as a strategic spot. The earliest fortifications at the Deutsches Eck, or German corner, had been dated to around 1000 BC. A person by the name of Ehrenbert first built a castle at this location around 1000 AD. The current fortress was built as the backbone of the regional fortification system, Fortress Koblenz, by Prussia between 1817 and 1832 and guarded the middle Rhine region, an area that had been invaded by French troops repeatedly before. The English translation of the castle's name is: *"The Broad-Stone of Honor"*

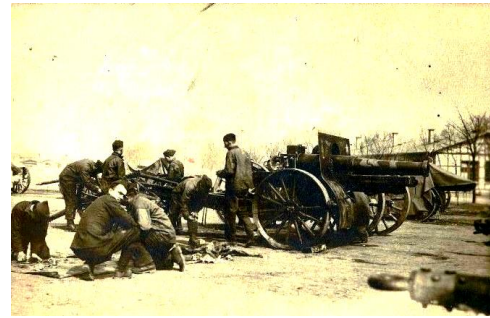
On November 7, 1918 the Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), General John J. Pershing, directed that the American 3rd Army be organized and on November 14 the American 3rd Army was designated as the Army of Occupation. The American 3rd Army of Occupation initially consisted of three corps, the III Corps with the 2d, 32d, and the 42d Divisions (US), IV Corps with 1st, 3rd and 4th Divisions (US), and on November 22, 1918 VII Corps was added with the 5th, 89th and 90th Divisions (US). The 5th Division was detached from VII Corps on the same day, November 22, with the duty of guarding the extended lines of communications of the Army. On December 9, 1918, the 1st Division was moved to III Corps and the 42d Division was placed under VII Corps. The 5th and 33rd Divisions (US) on December 13, 1918 were placed under the control of the American 2d Army, which were not under the control of the Army of Occupation.

On November 17, 1918, six days after the armistice on November 11, found the 17th Field Artillery Regiment at Beaumont, France with the 2d Division (US). From Beaumont the 2d Division (US) commenced their long cold and rainy march, in a European winter, on muddy roads with food being scarce. The regiment movement from France went through Belgium and Luxemburg. The American Occupation Force arrived at the German frontier on November 23, there the units rested until December 1, from there all of the Armies of the Occupation American, British, Belgium and French infantry divisions moved into Germany. The leading elements of the American 3rd Army reached the Rhine River on December 9. On the 13th the armies of occupation crossed the river, having been preceded, in some cases by advance elements the day before. The German Army evacuated the occupied countries they held during the war, after the armistice on November 11 and had moved east of the Rhine River; the allies still had to be on guard just-in-case hostiles broke out again.

The 17th Field Artillery Regiment arrived at Bendorf, Germany on December 16, 1918 near Koblenz, Germany. Here the regiment went into billets in a section of town assigned to them and was designated as a unit of occupation. At the village of Bendorf the regiment was motorized. The first motors and tractors began to arrive during the latter part of January 1919. It soon became necessary to teach the soldiers how to drive the "gas horses", feed them and keep them in prime condition. It was then the first motor school was started, and many a former lead, swing, or driver exchanged his grooming kit for an oil can and wrench; his bridle for a wheel of a new gas wagon. The first course, which lasted but a few weeks, was closely followed by a second.



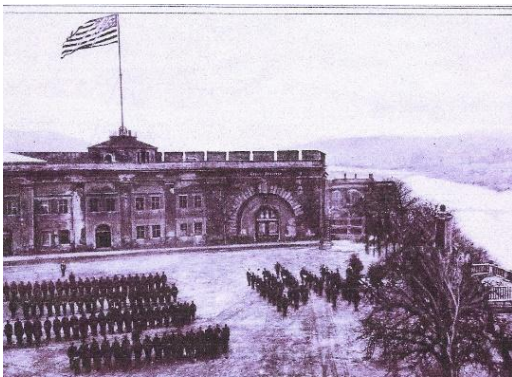
17th Field Artillery soldiers in formation, Bendorf, Germany 1919



Howitzer crew from Battery D, 17th Field Artillery Regiment cleaning their equipment of a French 155mm Schneider Howitzer at Bendorf, Germany, 1919 (Post Card Picture)

The connection between the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress and the 17th Field Artillery Regiment started on February 4, 1919, when the regiment motor from Bendorf to Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, arriving on February 5, 1919, taking over from Corps troops.

Here the regiment has the distinction and honor of raising the first American flag to be flown over the German fortress. Colonel E.W. McCable who was the commander of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress and the regiment had a big sign placed over the entrance of the fortress with the name of the regiment in big bold letters "17th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT".



Colonel E. W. McCable first raised the American Flag on George Washington Birthday(1919), the regimental band on the right of the formation.

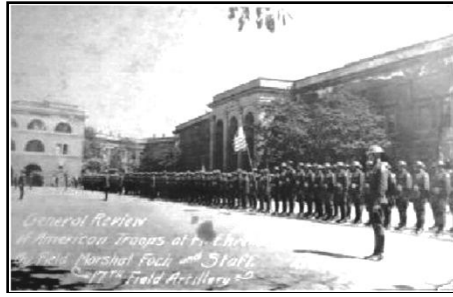


The American flag above the fortress (1919)



17th Field Artillery Regiment soldiers inside the fortress (1919)

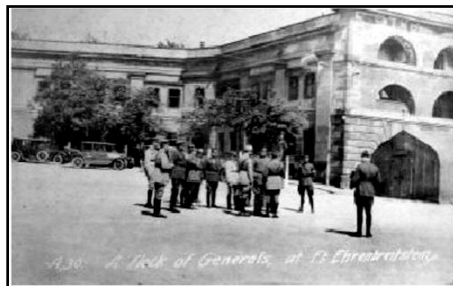
At this fortress the regiment was inspected and reviewed by Marshall Foch, Marshall Retain, General Robinson, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy: Josephus Daniels and many other high-ranking officers of the Allied Armies. General Pershing, Lieutenant General Liggett, Major General Hines and Admiral Benson also honored the regiment by informal visits.



17th Field Artillery Regiment on review by Field Marshall Foch and Staff at the fortress, 1919 (Post Card Picture)



17th Field Artillery Regiment passes in review for Field Marshall Foch and Staff, 1919(Post Card Picture)



Caption reads: A flock of Generals at Ehrenbreitstein (1919) (Post Card Picture)



A review for General John J. Pershing, by the 17th Field Artillery Regiment, the regiment's 155mm French Schneider Howitzers are being towed by Holt Tractors. (1919)

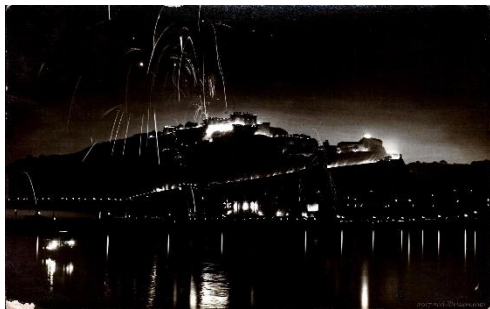
From almost daily maneuvers, maintenance of equipment, drilling, guard duty, patrolling, inspections, hosting VIPs and parades. There was even time for the regiment soldiers to take passes and explore the local city, villages and countryside. Regular leaves were granted to visit areas established at various summer and winter resorts in France, and in the occupied portion of Germany, and in addition arrangements were made so soldiers could visit other countries, such as Great Britain, Belgium and Italy. With all of these duties and activities the one big question remaining on the average soldier mind was, "When do we go home"?

The regiment also engaged in other activities, while stationed at the fortress. Horse shows were performed by each division and theatrical troupes were formed and some case toured other units. A vast school system was established by 3rd Army and classes were organized, with instruction given in practically every subject taught in public schools of the United States, as well as trade, business

and military subjects. An Education Corps Commission was formed to direct all lectures, schools and extension course in the A.E.F. Schools, which were formed at unit, division level, in a number of locations, even an "A.E.F. University". The men selected as instructors for the schools were competent educators with previous experience. In some classes, for officers, the instructors were conducted by privates from the ranks.

When the regiment moved to Ehrenbreitstein the motor school established itself in the former stables of the Germany artillery regiment at the east end of the fortress. The school was labeled "Corps Motor School", since its origin as the school of instruction for motor drivers of the Seventeenth Field Artillery. The school stood many critical inspections by many high officials. Major generals and brigadier generals came in flocks; French and English staff officers arrived in large numbers and found time to look over the greasy oil-stained motor parts. One of the most distinguished visitors was Mr. Davis, U. S. Ambassador to England. The motor school claims the title of being the most thoroughly inspected unit of the Army of Occupation. The head of the school: Captain H. J. Stebbins and Lieutenant Milspaugh greatly improve the school, at the fortress. New buildings were added and occupied. Drawings and tracings made, gasoline engines taken apart and mounted on exhibition stands, new motor parts were procured, and every known type of spark plug introduced into their lectures. The school grew to about a dozen buildings and had a quarter mile track for tryouts of the students and the machines. Vehicles for the school consisted of 95 Quad two-ton trucks, 70 Indian motorcycles, 16 Liberty trucks, 4 light Ford delivery trucks, 4 Harley-Davidson motorcycles with side cars and 4 without, and a large number of tractors for the firing batteries. End of the course examination was both practical and written. A thirty-foot square, with wooden side planks, were laid out, the student drove his truck into the square and attempted to turn around again and drive out again, without touching the boards. The test for the tractor men was somewhat similar.

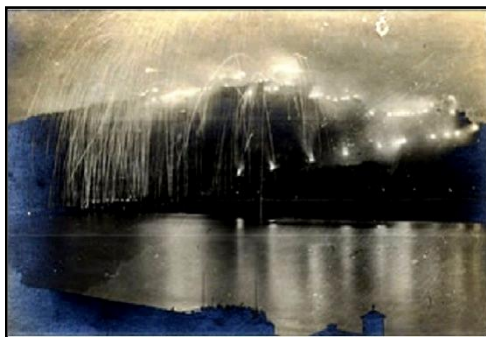
On July 4, 1919, the regiment fired a forty-eight-gun salute, from the fortress, one for each state in the union at noon, which echo up and down the Rhine and Moselle valleys. This was the first time that American artillery was fired from the fortress. The regiment celebrated that afternoon with sports activities and theatrical performances at night. The 17th put on an exhibition of fireworks, which surpassed anything dreamed by the Germans. The fireworks used consisted of colored rockets, parachute lights, and flares which were used at night as signals in warfare. Rockets abandoned by the Germans were used in this way.



Fireworks over Ehrenbreitstein Fortress July 4, 1919



Flares, rockets and pyrotechnics being fired from the top of the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, July 4, 191, as looking from the 3rd Army headquarters at Koblenz.



Bonfires lit up the road to Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, July 4, 1919



Soldiers of Headquarters, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment on holiday pass on the Pfaffendorf Bridge near Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, July 4, 1919 (Post Card Picture)



One of the 17th Field Artillery Regiment's French Schneider Howitzers 155mm at Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, (1919) (Post Card Picture)



Inside of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, fortress was designed to hold 1,200 soldiers (1919) (Post Card Picture)

After the Armistice, the General John J. Pershing started preparation for moving his forces back to the United States with the least possible delay. With the cessation of hostiles, practically every man of the 2,000,000 in the A.E.F. wanted to return to the United States at once, but with the limited number of ships available that was not possible. The units of the American Army of Occupation were relieved as fast as practicable during the summer of 1919. The American 3rd Army of Occupation was dissolved on July 2, 1919. The 17th Field Artillery Regiment departed the fortress on July 18, 1919 for the port at Brest, France and from there the regiment sailed on July 30, 1919 and arrived in New York City on August 4, 1919. After parading with the 2d Division in New York City, the emergency men were discharged during the month of August and the remaining men sent to Camp Travis, Texas along with all of the elements of the 2d Division.

After the American units of occupation had departed, it was planned and agreed to by President Wilson that the American representation, in the occupied territory, would be a small detachment numbering 6,800 men, which came into being and was known as the "American Forces in Germany" (AFG), which remained on the Rhine for three years.

Major General Henry Tureman Allen, Commander of American Forces in Germany (AFG), convinced of its historical value as a premier 19th-century fortress, prevented its intended destruction. The American Flag on Ehrenbreitstein Fortress was finally lowered on January 25, 1923, when the last of the American troops left by train. On January 28, 1923 the fortress was formally turned over and occupied by the French Army.



French soldiers at the fortress (1923)

During World War II, the fortress served as a place of safekeeping for archives and cultural objects, but also three German flak guns. Even though Koblenz was badly damaged, as most German cities, the fortress was relatively unharmed. The 4th Infantry Division raised the same American Flag on April 6, 1945, that last flew over the fortress on January 25, 1923 symbolizing the victorious return of the U.S. Army on German soil.



The 4th Infantry Division raising the same American Flag on April 6, 1945, that last flew over the fortress on January 25, 1923. (US Signal Corps Photo ETO-Hq-45-5000)

After World War II, the fortress was used by the French Army before it was handed over to the State of Rhineland-Palatinate. In 1947, the fortress served as the seat of government for the Rhineland-Palatinate, one of the German 16 states.

The fortress today now has multiple uses including a youth hostel, restaurant, museum, different expeditions and archive. In 1972 a memorial to the dead of the German army was started and was inaugurated in 2011.



Memorial to the German army dead



Today cable cars can be taken from the eastern side of Koblenz to the top of mountain



Night picture of the Fortress

**OPERATION EDURING
FREEDOM
Killed in Action (KIA)
2nd Battalion, 17th Field
Artillery Regiment
2nd Brigade Combat Team
2nd Infantry Division
2012**



**SEAN ROBERT JACOBS,
First Lieutenant**

Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division

Home Town: Reading, California

Age: 23 (Born in Lake Havasu City, Mohave County, Arizona, September 15, 1988)

Reason: Died of wounds suffered when he encountered an improvised explosive device (IED)

Date of Casualty: Died of Wounds (DOW)
July 26, 2012, Khakrez, Afghanistan

Buried: Section 11, Site 79, Northern California Veterans Cemetery, Shasta County, Igo, California



**JOHN ERIC HANSON,
Staff Sergeant**

(Posthumous promoted as indicated)
Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division

Home Town: Austin, Texas
Age: 41 (Born: May 19, 1971)

Date of Casualty: Died of Wounds (DOW)
July 26, 2012, Khakrez, Afghanistan

Reason: Died of wounds suffered when he encountered an improvised explosive device (IED)

Buried: Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township, Macomb County, Michigan

**17th Artillery Regiment Association's
Registration Form
2019 Reunion- September 17 – 21, 2019**

Please fill out the Registration Form below

The association's registration fee will cover Tuesday evening's Welcome Social, Hospitality Room refreshments, bus rental, and banquet.

Please make your check or money order payable to: 17th Artillery Regiment Association.

Mail to the Association's Treasurer: Dan Reeves
5235 Laguna Court
Byron, CA 94505

CUT OR TEAR AND MAIL THE FOLLOWING TO OUR TREASURER.
(With your check or money order to arrive NLT September 1, 2019)

Cut/tear here - - - - -

NAME: _____
(Please Print)

Battery: _____ Battalion _____ Dates Served (From _____ to _____)

Name (s) of Spouse, Relatives, and friends attending:

(Name tags will be printed from the names submitted)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Registration fee: \$80.00 per person - X- Number Attending _____ = \$ _____
(Number in your party)

Please donate toward the Hospitality Room Expenses: \$ _____

Check Total \$ _____

**To become a member, life member or to renew your membership with the
“17th Artillery Regiment Association”**

Complete the form below, and mail it with your check or money order (Payable to **17th Artillery Regiment Association**). **Mail to: Danny Reeves (Association Treasurer) 5235 Laguna Court, Byron, CA 94505**. Upon receipt of your 2019 dues or renewal, a membership card will be mailed to you. Life members will be mailed their numbered 17th Artillery Regiment Association Life Membership Coin. Members will be given the PASSWORD to access the on-line veteran’s roster located on the association’s web site. (www.17thartilleryregiment.org). The Password is changed January 1 each year and will be sent to you by U. S. Mail or email.

Join or renew now: 2019 Membership Dues is \$30.00 (January – December) (Annual dues \$30.00 per year)

Life membership fees: Through age 30---\$270.00 31-40---\$260.00 41-50---\$240.00 51-60---\$220.00
 61-70---\$190.00 71-80---\$150.00 81 plus---\$110.00

First Name: _____ **MI:** _____ **Last Name:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **FAX or Email:** _____

I served with the 17th Artillery --- From (yr.): _____ **to (yr.):** _____

Please check those that apply:

Battery or Batteries:

- 17th Field Artillery/Battalion/Group/Regiment (Prior to 1958) _____
- 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1958 – 2013) _____
- 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1958 – 2008) (2010 - Present) _____
- 3rd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1958 – 1995) (2007-2010) _____
- 4th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1959 – 1996) _____
- 5th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1959 – 1996) _____
- 6th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1959 – 1963) _____
- 7th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1960 – 1972) _____
- 8th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1967 – 1971) _____

NOTE: NEW MEMBERS - please enclose a copy of your DD Form 214 with your application (Mail a COPY, do not send the Original). If you have previously mailed a copy of your DD Form 214 to the association, there is no need to send another copy.

ACTIVE DUTY: Check here - if you are on active duty. You may not have a DD Form 214 yet.

Danny (Dan) L. Reeves - 5235 Laguna Court - Byron, CA 94505

Email address is: dreeves@cdedrill.com: Cell Phone: (925) 584-6209

Updated: January 1, 2019



17th Artillery Regiment Association Life Membership Coin Holders

Coin Number: Name of Coin Holder: Life Member as of:

001	Harold & Erma M. Brown Sr.	June 3, 2000
002	Thomas Vernor (Deceased)	January 9, 2001
003	Harold (Buck) M. Brown Jr.	June 6, 2001
004	Nolan Putman (Deceased)	September 9, 2001
005	Thomas R. Kurtz	November 20, 2001
006	Richard (Rich) Siebe	January 1, 2002
007	James H. Drennan	February 23, 2002
008	John J. Korsun JR. (Deceased)	April 8, 2002
009	Paul J. Barton	April 24, 2002
010	Leslie B. Scott (Deceased)	April 29, 2002
011	Robert R. Brooks II	May 7, 2002
012	James Moore (Deceased)	May 21, 2002
013	Edward (Ed) T. Hitchner	May 22, 2002
014	Thomas (Mike) M. Turner (Deceased)	June 24, 2002
015	Paul Fusco	August 2, 2002
016	Norman (Richard) R. Jones	August 4, 2002
017	Gary L. Bress	October 4, 2002
018	John C. Melasecca Jr.	November 15, 2002
019	Frank Zitzman	November 19, 2002
020	Bobby (Bob) A. West	January 8, 2003
021	Peter Coffin	January 17, 2003
022	Jerome L. Fritsche II (Deceased)	February 22, 2003
023	Walter (Jack) J. Larson (Deceased)	February 26, 2003
024	John (Jack) J. Picciolo	March 24, 2003
025	William J. Wright	April 4, 2003
026	C. Alex Brassert	June 4, 2003
027	Dietrich W. Neckien (Deceased)	April 27, 2003
028	Michael W. Mason	October 9, 2003
029	Michael (Mike) Burke	October 10, 2003
030	Eugene Johnson	November 14, 2003
031	Francis (Fran) C. Rash	November 28, 2003
032	Delmar D. Beard	December 2, 2003
033	Charles E. Morrison	December 14, 2003
034	Robert Gary Kohl	December 20, 2003
035	Michael Dages	January 15, 2004
036	Lonnie O. English (Deceased)	January 21, 2004
037	Webster Cole	March 15, 2004
038	Leonard T. Elzie	March 22, 2004
039	Richard P. Carmody	April 29, 2004
040	Jerry E. Pifer	May 15, 2004
041	Louis J. Mazzarella	May 17, 2004
042	Richard J. Flowers	May 22, 2004
043	James M. Sherrill	July 20, 2004
044	Wallace L. Bates	September 1, 2004
045	Richard A. Smith	September 14, 2004
046	George A. Schaefer (Deceased)	October 30, 2004
047	Charles Riley (Deceased)	November 5, 2004
048	Pete Schwarz	November 13, 2004
049	Robert M. Kinton (Deceased)	November 13, 2004
050	Robert L. Plata	November 13, 2004
051	Gilbert A. Bernabe	November 13, 2004
052	George Winton	November 19, 2004
053	Harry O. Amos	January 4, 2005
054	Stephen J. Lowery	January 14, 2005
055	Gerald F. Brown (Deceased)	January 28, 2005
056	Larry E. Miller (Deceased)	February 7, 2005

057	Raymond P. (DAK) Lais (Deceased)	March 26, 2005
058	Larry J. Davis	May 7, 2005
059	Leon Mc Kenzie Sr.	June 4, 2005
060	Leonard S. Spencer	July 29, 2005
061	Terry L. Wallace	August 9, 2005
062	Lyndle E. Claus	August 25, 2005
063	James R. (Dick) Graves (Deceased)	September 16, 2005
064	Daniel L. Lazenberry (Deceased)	September 24, 2005
065	Robert L. Hallahan	October 26, 2005
066	Bruce Latour	January 12, 2006
067	Wiley A. Jarrell	January 30, 2006
068	James H. Sanders	February 9, 2006
069	Raymond C. Gomez	February 28, 2006
070	Charles G. Ross	April 5, 2006
071	Neal P. Fouts	April 12, 2006
072	David S. Bickler	June 24, 2006
073	George W. Adkisson (Deceased)	August 7, 2006
074	Henry E. Griffendorf Jr.	August 17, 2006
075	Thomas C. Bast	September 21, 2006
076	Ketrick T. Mc Millin	December 3, 2006
077	John Ryan	December 16, 2006
078	James T. Caudill	February 7, 2007
079	David W. Gogel	April 8, 2007
080	Stephen J. Audett	June 26, 2007
081	Ronald W. Terry	September 10, 2007
082	Thomas W. Remley	November 18, 2007
083	Hollis B. Cahoon	December 7, 2007
084	Raymond J. Heuring	December 9, 2007
085	Paul M. Moser	January 17, 2008
086	Avery Hall	January 23, 2008
087	John J. Luxenburger Jr. (Deceased)	January 24, 2008
088	David P. Rush	February 21, 2008
089	Francis J. Roberts	April 14, 2008
090	Rod L. Guerrero (Deceased)	July 7, 2008
091	Thomas P. Ross	January 30, 2009
092	Birdeye L. Middleton	February 7, 2009
093	Rickie B. Simpkins	February 15, 2009
094	Robert E. Lax	March 2, 2009
095	Philip J. Brunwald	March 25, 2009
096	Larry Hightower	April 11, 2009
097	Albert (Bert) Ryan	August 9, 2009
098	Roy E. Korkalo	August 15, 2009
099	William P. Dahlin	October 19, 2009
100	Jackie Stroud	September 30, 2009
101	Donald L. Brooks	November 9, 2009
102	Jerry (Doc) Cody	November 9, 2009
103	Michael Klingeman	November 11, 2009
104	Charles Garner (Deceased)	November 11, 2009
105	Larry R. Werkheiser	December 18, 2009
106	William K. Beers Jr.	December 18, 2009
107	Dennis C. Smith	January 4, 2010
108	James M. Caiella	January 4, 2010
109	Paul V. Shepherd Sr.	January 11, 2010
110	Leonard A. Eason	February 13, 2010
111	Jeffrey S. Wilcox	April 26, 2010
112	Holice Barton Jr. (Deceased)	April 26, 2010
113	Robert H. Giselbach	August 9, 2010
114	William A. Selis	August 9, 2010
115	Ronald B. Hood	August 16, 2010
116	Jon M. Johnson	August 31, 2010
117	Todd R. Wasmund	November 12, 2009
118	Cecil P. LeGrand	September 9, 2010
119	Stephen D. Gerhardt	October 1, 2010
120	Larry W. Lovejoy	October 27, 2010
121	Buford Calfee	October 30, 2010
122	Carlos E. Esmurria	October 30, 2010

123	Richard Heydt	October 30,2010
124	Doyle Watters	November 27, 2010
125	Richard H. Sugg	November 27, 2010
126	Harrell (Lyn) Hartman	December 7, 2010
127	Marcel L. Simonet	January 3, 2011
128	Richard (Dick) Stanton (Deceased)	January 3, 2011
129	James M. Shernesky	January 10, 2011
130	John P. Clingan	February 13, 2011
131	Bruno A. Kalkowski (Deceased)	June 8, 2011
132	Jeffrey Carra	June 29, 2011
133	Dave Rowell	October 18, 2011
134	Gary M. Steen	December 17, 2011
135	Lawrence Moren Jr.	January 9, 2012
136	Curtis A. Collier	March 12, 2012
137	Mark P Krieger	May 18, 2012
138	Raul A. Garibay	June 18, 2012
139	Ralph W. Melcher	June 18, 2012
140	Francisco F. Garcia II	July 28, 2012
141	Gary B. Griffin	September 19, 2012
142	Larry L. Rice	September 26, 2012
143	James E. Will	October 25, 2012
144	Jack M Frizzell	December 1, 2012
145	Alan M. McIlvain (Deceased)	January 1, 2013
146	David L. Zell	February 1, 2013
147	Lonnie H. Jackson Jr.	February 7, 2013
148	Darwin L. McGladdery	February 12, 2013
149	Gail E. Fasse	February 14, 2013
150	Edwin J. Ahonen	February 19, 2013
151	William G. Montague	March 25, 2013
152	Edward E. Dingman	May 20, 2013
153	Daniel Reeves	July 16, 2013
154	James T. Yore	September 28, 2013
155	Michael H. Murphy	September 28, 2013
156	Richard C. Hoffman	January 24, 2014
157	William M. Simpson	January 27, 2014
158	Charles H. Seidman	February 8, 2014
159	Terry L. Earnst	February 8, 2014
160	Robert E. Highlands	May 12, 2014
161	Barry L. Matthews	June 24, 2014
162	Milton R. Holloway	July 10, 2014
163	James E. Kendall	July 10, 2014
164	Tom M. Jones	July 11, 2014
165	Mick D. Shanklin	August 16, 2014
166	Thornton W. Purvis	August 28, 2014
167	Ronda A. Henderson	September 26, 2014
168	John B. Bagley (Deceased)	November 28, 2014
169	Michael J. Hennessy	January 20, 2015
170	David P. Hull	February 2, 2015
171	Walter H. Ramsey	July 24, 2015
172	Henry J. Dudek	August 1, 2015
173	Donald L. Strong	August 21, 2015
174	Harry Fetsick	October 24, 2015
175	Willkie H. Gates	October 30, 2015
176	Kolin V Bernardoni	November 12, 2015
177	Steve Rumnock Jr. (Deceased)	May 15, 2016
178	Ronald J. Makinson	January 6, 2017
179	Norman L. Barton	March 22, 2017
180	Jack L. Lambert	June 20, 2017
181	Robert J. Brown	July 10, 2017
182	Phillip L. Smith	January 22, 2018
183	Elroy Thomas	March 1, 2018
184	Jeffrey W. Bernabe	November 8, 2018

24Deceased

Association Officers 2019

Gil Bernabe-----President
Dave Rowell-----1st Vice President
William Beers-----2d Vice President
Jack (TOJ) Stroud-----Secretary
Dan Reeves -----Treasurer
Richard Smith-----Chaplain
John (Jack) Picciolo ---Historian
Richard Flowers-----Quartermaster
Edward (Ed) Hitchner--Webmaster
Gil Bernabe-----Scholarship Chairman

This NewsLetter has been approved by the board of directors

Gil Bernabe
 Association President
www/17thartilleryregiment.org

You Can Receive "The Castle" By Email

To help defray the rising cost of postage and printing of the association's NewsLetter, please sign up to receive the "The Castle" by Email.

To receive the electronic NewsLetter, notify the association's secretary: Jack Stroud at: jack.stroud@roadrunner.com with **your current and correct Email addresses** and receive the NewsLetter much faster.

We will continue to mail the NewsLetter to anyone who does not have an internet connection.

You must be a **PAID UP MEMBER** to receive the NewsLetter.

ATTENTION NEWSLETTER RECIPEANTS

Be advised due to the secretary's eyesight and physical disabilities this will be YOUR last Newsletter from my office. Unless there is someone who is able pick up the office and take over the secretaries position it will end after this edition. I have held every position in the Association apart from Treasurer. I would hope there is someone to step in and take over this position at the reunion.

Jackie M. Stroud
2461 Meadow Ridge Drive
Wheelersburg, OH 45694-9073



Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) Task Force 1-17; A M109A6 Paladin Howitzer, 155mm, from Battery B, 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, in a fire mission, on April 30, 2003. The 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment a General Support Reinforcing (GSR) battalion from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, was attached to the 4th Infantry Division, at the time. in Direct Support (DS) of the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment

**17th ARTILLERY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
THE CASTLE**