



THE HARD CHARGER

JANUARY 2020

Greetings, HARD CHARGERS! I hope this note finds you all well and surviving the cold weather. We are still waiting for our first snow at Fort Sill, although the temperatures at night are in the 20's and 30's. The afternoons have been sunny with some highs in the 50's and 60's. We know colder weather is coming.

Future Officers: It is hard to believe that I am about to complete my fourth and final year as President. I hope that several of you are ready to assume some of the leadership roles as we change several of our officer positions during this reunion. We will need to elect a new president and two new vice-presidents this year. The remaining board positions are for four-year terms and therefore the incumbents will remain in place.

Sports: After a great season, I was very disappointed with Ohio State's loss to Clemson in the semi-finals. At least my wife Marilyn's LSU Tigers won the National Championship. I don't think this is my year for basketball, so how long until Spring Training begins?

Activities: I am still attending meetings for several organizations, but I am also doing a lot more caregiving than I ever anticipated. Marilyn has a complex tear of her posterior left meniscus and cannot put any weight on her left leg. She is scheduled for complete knee replacement surgery on 25 February, and that date cannot come soon enough!

Reunion Plans: I'd like to briefly fill you in on the Reunion Plans.

2020: The 1/30 FA change of command is scheduled for 12 June, so the reunion will be the



DON'T FORGET

TO CHECK THE WEB SITE

www.hardchargers.com

week of 8 to 12 June. Dan Mitchell has signed the contract with the Homewood Suites in Lawton. They are letting us have the 2019 per diem rate of \$94, even though rates have increased for this year. Dan, Rob Roshell, Marilyn and I met with the Coliseum manager and have made arrangements for our banquet to be at Lawton Fairgrounds. Dan and Rob continue to do great work. All of the details and costs are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. I look forward to the business meeting when we elect new officers and decide on a location for our 2021 reunion.

2021: At the business meeting in Cleveland, we decided on three potential sites for the 2021 reunion - Kansas City, New Orleans or San Antonio. John Hoetker attended a reunion in New Orleans and Bill Bilo attended one in San Antonio. They have a wealth of information already and we may consider hiring an event planner to work on this reunion. We expect to have a spirited discussion of our options at the June business meeting!

God Bless You!

HARD CHARGERS!

Ted Janosko

I'd hate to see their "indirect" link...

For those with nothing better to do than to endure frustration, the following is the website contact for the Homewood Suites in Lawton. The online booking link is as follows:

(one continuous line, no spaces)

[https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/hw/reservation/book.htm?
inputModule=HOTEL&cityhocn=LAWTNHW&spec_plan=
CHW30f&arrival=20200607&departure=20200612&cid=
OM.WW.HILTONLINK.EN.DirectLink&fromid=HILTONLINKDIRECT](https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/hw/reservation/book.htm?inputModule=HOTEL&cityhocn=LAWTNHW&spec_plan=CHW30f&arrival=20200607&departure=20200612&cid=OM.WW.HILTONLINK.EN.DirectLink&fromid=HILTONLINKDIRECT)

Or, like me, you can turn to your rotary dial phone and call (580) 357-9800, ask for reservations, and tell them you are a HARD CHARGER!



The Editor

30th Field Artillery Regiment Association Reunion

Lawton, OK

8 to 13 June, 2020

Homewood Suites

(580) 357-9800

Our reunion home during the 27th annual reunion will once again be the Homewood Suites in Lawton, located at 415 SE Interstate Drive. The hotel features free Wi-Fi, a complimentary buffet breakfast, and a complimentary dining experience with beer and wine during the reunion period. Be sure to get the reunion rate by identifying yourself as a reunion attendee! See the preceding article if you wish to use the group booking link to register...

Monday, 8 June

Arrival date for the early birds. No planned activities today. The day will be available to you as you wish. Use it to get your Fort Sill pass (still required if you do not have appropriate military ID. See the note on the Fort Sill form 118.)

Tuesday, 9 June

Welcome and check in. The hospitality suite will open in the afternoon, and you will have the chance to renew old friendships, enjoy a cold one, and check out the QM store. The annual pin will be available, as will your polo shirt if you ordered one! As always, enjoy the Regiment's history through the scrapbooks and other memorabilia. At approximately 1700, an ice breaker with our current troops and perhaps other dignitaries is planned.

Wednesday, 10 June

The annual General Meeting will be held in the Regimental Room in Snow Hall, and will be followed by the Memorial Service. There will be simultaneous activity for the ladies during the business meeting. Transportation from the hotel will be provided. Lunch will be served in the Regimental room, for which there will be a modest charge. The afternoon events have yet to be confirmed, but hopefully will involve a lot of artillery stuff!

Thursday, 11 June

A trip to the Medicine Park Aquarium, the Medicine Park area for shopping and lunch, and the Wichita Mountains Visitor Center is planned. Lunch will be on your own in Medicine Park. There will be a charge for the entrance fee at the Aquarium and for the transportation that will be provided. The day will conclude with a late afternoon reception at the Janosko home for all attendees.

Friday, 12 June

The Change of Command Ceremony will take place with the reception to follow. Transportation will be furnished from the hotel. The afternoon will be on your own until 1700, when transportation will also be available to the banquet site. The banquet will commence at 1800, and will be followed by the WORLD FAMOUS AUCTION! Don't forget to bring items for that notorious activity!!

Saturday, 13 June

CSMO!

30th Field Artillery Regiment's 27th Annual Reunion

8 to 13 June, 2020

Registration Form

Homewood Suites 415

SE Interstate Drive Lawton, OK 73501

Name (s) _____

Please list names of all attending for name tags

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

TEL # _____ E Mail if applicable _____

I will contact the Homewood Suites at 1 580 357 9800 to make my room reservations and will identify myself as part of the 30th FARA Reunion. The standard roommate is \$94.00 per night. The room rate includes a complimentary hot breakfast and dinner buffet.

I am enclosing a check to cover the following choices and expenses:

Registration fee (\$20.00 per family) not required if only attending the banquet _____

Annual Banquet (\$20.00 per person, \$12.50 for those under twelve) _____

Snow Hall lunch (\$15.00 person) _____

Excursion bus and Aquarium entry (\$25.00 per person) _____

Voluntary Contribution to aid less fortunate HARD CHARGER _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Make your check payable to the "30th FAR Association, and mail this form and your check to:

John Dynes

Treasurer, 30th FARA

2848 Crooked Wash Drive

Loveland, CO 80538

(If you have 2020 dues to pay, send your check for \$15.00 to the same address!!)

Fort Sill Passes, Fort Sill form 118a

If you do not have valid military ID, or other credentials approved by the DoD, you will need to obtain and complete Fort Sill form 118a to gain access to the post. Although in my experience, getting this authorization never takes very long, you may be able to save time by completing the form in advance. It can quickly be downloaded from your computer by entering "Fort Sill Form 118a" and upon arrival, taking the completed form to the visitor's center on Sheridan Road.

Fort Sill's Role in the Red River War, 1874 to 1875

At Fort Sill, however, the enrollment descended into chaos. Not only Kicking Bird's peaceful Kiowa followers registered but so did many of Lone Wolf's war faction and many Comanches known to be raiders. As the Wichita and confederated tribes gathered to draw rations, the infantry captain at the agency sensed trouble and sent a courier to warn the (commander) at Fort Sill. With four cavalry troops, (the latter) hurried to the Wichita agency on August 22 and commanded the Indians to lay down their arms and surrender. That exploded into a battle that lasted two days and ended with hardly any casualties in a stampede of Kiowas and Comanches, peace party adherents and militants alike.

Whatever their true sentiments, the Indians themselves had drawn the line from the military point of view; those who remained near the agencies were non-combatants, while those who had hurried westward were the enemy. And of course those already out were also the enemy. Altogether, Sheridan was campaigning against about eighteen hundred Cheyennes, two thousand Comanches, and a thousand Kiowas, mounting a fighting force of some twelve hundred warriors.

General Sheridan's strategy was simple: Launch as many columns as could be assembled to converge from different directions toward the haunts of the enemy on the upper Washita and Red Rivers. Three columns left from Fort Sill....



Although virtually bloodless, the Red River War ended for all time warfare between the United States and the Indian Tribes of the Southern Plains. Two catalysts produced this outcome.

First, General Sheridan's strategy of convergence sent enough separate commands into the field to keep the Indians constantly on the run, constantly fearful of attack, and ultimately so demoralized that the reservation seemed preferable to fugitive life on storm-swept plains crawling with soldiers.

Second, the government somewhat arbitrarily selected "ring leaders" and men "guilty of crime" for removal from their people. Nearly all the prominent chiefs fell into this category. On April 28, 1875, seventy-four shackled tribesmen embarked on a long journey by wagon and rail to imprisonment at Fort Marion, Florida...

Extracted from The Quarterly Journal of Military History, Autumn, 2007

COMMA'S COMMENTS

REUNION 2020: Hello to HARD CHARGERS everywhere! Your Quartermaster is working on a reunion pin for our upcoming reunion and, in a few weeks, will begin working on the Saint Barbara and Molly Pitcher awards. If we contact you regarding the awards, please provide the requested information as soon as possible. We will handle all of your information as being sensitive and will never share any of it with anyone not in the chain that leads to the approval of the awards.

OOPS! In my twenty-year Army career, I was witness to, or heard about, several events that ended up in an OOPS! moment. Here are two of those including where the "Comma" came from, that were real OOPS!

Fort Benning 1971 - I was assigned to the 1st Squad, A Battery, 2/10th FA, 197 Light Infantry Brigade. A Battery was the Honor Guard Battery for Fort Benning. One of our additional duties beside normal school support was that every morning and every afternoon, we fired a blank round from two Pack 75 howitzers for reveille and retreat. The SOP for this detail included: *Number #3: Open breech and verify that the tube is clear by physically looking down it. Number #5: Place blank canister in tube and close/seal breech.* (No need to go any further.) Came one Friday morning and we are in formation. At 0600 hours, our chief of smoke, SFC Charles Hurst, calls us to attention and gives us the command to present arms. We hear the boom of the gun, followed by the sound of breaking glass, a loud thud, and more breaking glass. As soon as the music ended, Smoke gave the order for the squad leaders to take command and yelled, "First squad with me!" Over the hill we ran toward brigade HQ and stopped dead in our tracks. Kelly Hill chapel, which was less than 100 feet in front of the pack-75, had one of its stained glass windows broken. When we looked on the opposite side, another window was broken. Somehow a wooden croquet ball had been launched out of one of the tubes that morning...at least the ball was red! The SOP instruction 3 had apparently been overlooked...

Also at Fort Benning in 1971 - I got my military driving license on a Tuesday and drove for the first real time the next morning. We had a 21 gun salute on main post that morning and school support off of Red Cloud Road after that. I drove from Kelly Hill to Main Post to the range. On the way to the range, there was a very loud sound coming from the back of the vehicle. I stopped, and SSG Archie Jones and I checked the back of the M-35 deuce and a half. We could find nothing amiss. I restarted the truck and headed out. Just before turning off Red Cloud Road for the range, the clanking noise started again. SSG Jones yelled to make the turn and I did. Inasmuch as I was turning onto a rutted, red dirt road, I may have been going a little too fast. I looked in the rear view mirror and saw the M101A-1 105 howitzer that I was pulling flip on its side. As we all know, this cannot happen because the towing hook will turn 360 degrees, so how did I manage to flip an artillery piece? It turned out that the guys in the rear of the truck had dropped a rammer staff down over the rear bumpers, thus the clanking noise, and when I turned onto the range road, the rammer staff slipped further and jammed the towing hook. The gun went flying. After that, SSG

Jones started calling me "COMMA" Causey!

That's your Quartermaster's two bits and it is worth everything that all paid for it!

Charles"COMMA" Causey, OUT!

The Shirt for the Next Century of Service

The commemorative shirt for the 2020 reunion will be green in color and once again feature embroidered work on the left chest and both sleeves. You may obtain it in advance of the reunion for a shipping fee or pick it up at Fort Sill at no charge. The shirts will be available in late May for home delivery. Mike is also making caps available. Please make your shirt/cap order payment to Mike directly as indicated - do not include your payment with your payment for the Reunion Activities!!



Choose your size and # for each ___SM ___M ___LG ___XL ___XXL \$30.00 each

_____ 3X and larger \$32.00 each

Total Shirts _____

Baseball style cap (available for \$13.00 each) # _____

For delivery in advance of reunion - \$7.35 for entire order (please provide delivery address)

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Send payment by check or money order to

Mike Thomas, 1668 Route 9, South Glens Falls, NY 12083

2848 Crooked Wash Drive

Loveland, CO 80538

NEXT ISSUE March 2020

SUBMISSIONS WELCOME ANYTIME

jdynes5@comcast.net or Address Above