



THE HARD CHARGER

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT - SEPTEMBER 2018

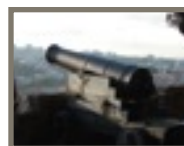
Greetings, HARD CHARGERS! On behalf of the Executive Board of the 30th FA Alumni Association, thank you for all you do, whether you are currently serving, a veteran or retiree, a family member, or a survivor of a HARD CHARGER. Thanks to all of you for protecting our nation and helping us celebrate 100 years of excellence.

I definitely feel as though Fall is here. Here in Southwest Oklahoma, we have seen the last of the 100 degree days and possibly the last of our 90 degree days. The Cleveland Indians have qualified for the playoffs, Ohio State beat Texas Christian University (TCU) in Dallas, and the Cleveland Browns won their first game in 635 days! It will be a great season! Now I just have to get to work cleaning up the yard and closing the pool.

Activities around Fort Sill are in full swing as we celebrated Patriot Day; Retiree Appreciation Days; Armed Service YMCA annual Y-Fry fund raiser; Oktoberfest; the Army-Oklahoma football game; Comanche County Veterans Council (CCVC) Wall of Honor Ceremony; and an Honor Tea for the Gold Star families and the Society of Military Widows. These are just some of the activities that Marilyn and I are organizing and/or busy being a participant. 1-30 FA also has commitments for the Army-OU game and they are getting ready for the battalion Organizational Day on 12 Oct at Lake Elmer Thomas Recreational Area (LETRA).

Thanks to so many for making our 100th birthday celebration our best reunion ever. I appreciate all those who were able to attend, but especially Dan Mitchell, Dan Gillotti, all the other Association officers, Rob Roshell, Frank Siltman, the active duty leaders and soldiers of 1-30, the Lawton Homewood Suites, the Tommy Franks Museum, and the Lawton-Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce. There are many more, but you get the idea!

DON'T FORGET TO



CHECK THE WEB SITE

www.hardcharger.com

It is difficult to believe that our 2018 reunion is in the rear view mirror and Dan Gillotti is busy planning our 2019 reunion in Cleveland, OH. Please save the dates **10 to 15 June 2019** as the Executive Board works through the details. There is a lot to do in Cleveland and surrounding area and I hope that many of you can attend to renew old friendships and enjoy the comraderie. Have a great Fall!

HARD CHARGERS!

Ted Janosko

Cleveland the Site for the 2019 Reunion

The Association will celebrate the second century of service of the 30th Field Artillery Regiment with a reunion in Cleveland, OH, in June, 2019. The tentative dates are the tenth to the fifteenth of the month. Dan Gillotti is masterminding the details of the event and will host the actual gathering.

For a location once known as “the mistake on the Lake” and suffering through lake pollution so bad that Lake Erie actually caught on fire, Cleveland has transformed itself dramatically as a vibrant community and an attractive place to visit.



(In reality, the fire was on the Cuyahoga River, which feeds into Lake Erie. Here fire fighting ships are shown battling the blaze, which developed as contaminants from industrial waste and so forth floating on the river ignited.)

The city rose to prominence through access to major waterways and the iron and steel industries, but while these still exist to some degree, the city has undergone an incredible transformation and change of direction to far more emphasis on healthcare, academics, and research, culminating in major hospital systems, universities and related businesses.

Dan is working on the hotel and meeting arrangements, and this information will be

available in the next newsletter. He has listed a number of potential reunion leisure time options, among which are the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Great Lakes Science Museum, the USS COD (a WWII submarine), the Horseshoe Casino, an Indians baseball game, a “road” trip to Canton to the NFL Hall of Fame, or a cruise on the (no longer on fire) Lake Erie. There are a number of other possibilities as well.

Temperatures in Northern Ohio in June are typically in the high 60’s and mid 70’s, so heat of the kind experienced at Fort Sill is unlikely. However, there can also be a lot more precipitation than we have normally found in Oklahoma. (But if memory serves, we have had our share of Oklahoma storm systems.)

So pack up your gear, including an umbrella, and plan to join the gathering in Cleveland next Spring. Let’s get our next 100 years off to a good start!

A “Little” bit of recognition following the Womens’ program at the 2018 reunion



Setting up for the Memorial Service in Snow Hall

use or copy this form to pay your dues

For those members who enroll as active members on a yearly basis, please complete this form and send it in with check as indicated. You can also take this opportunity to enroll as a lifetime member and end the annoyance of having to do this every year!

First name _____ MI _____ Last name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Phone (H) _____ W/M _____ Email _____

\$15.00 check enclosed for 2018 dues ()

or \$99.00 check enclosed for lifetime membership ()

Contribution (\$) enclosed to assist with Association expenses

Mail form and check to: John Dynes, Treasurer 30 FARA

5435 Cedar Valley Drive, Loveland, CO

Let's Take a Closer Look...

at some of the attractions and activities that we may have the opportunity to enjoy next year in Cleveland. While the choices have yet to be arranged, here is a taste of some of the options.

The WWII Submarine USS COD

Most people would expect to find a ship museum in one of the nation's large seaports or ship building cities - San Diego, Norfolk, or New York - and indeed there are major ship museums and memorials in those places. But Cleveland also has a US submarine of WWII vintage preserved as a museum ship, and one in far more authentic condition perhaps than many of its counterparts. This is the USS COD, a very successful underwater attack boat which carried out seven patrols in the Pacific in 1943, 1944 and 1945. The ship survived numerous depth charge attacks, a fire in the torpedo room with a torpedo already in the launch tube and won seven battle stars for her performance on patrols. The sub was decommissioned in 1954 and towed through the St Lawrence Seaway in 1959 to serve

as a training vessel, and later a group of Cleveland citizens formed a committee to save her as a museum. She was opened to the public in 1976.

Today, the COD is one of the finest restored submarines open to the public and is the only one that has not been chopped up and cut up for stairways and doors to accommodate visitors. Those checking out the ship must use the same ladders, hatches and other standard entrances used by the crew (so do your stretching exercises before boarding!).

The five inch deck gun can still be rotated and mock-fired. The engines, although not original to the COD, are of WWII manufacture and are fully operative. The sub has been used as a “stand in” for movies and documentaries when exterior and interior scenes were needed.



The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame recognizes and honors those individuals, from performers to back stage supporters and influential backers, who have played a role in the development of this music style. It was established on the shore of Lake Erie after a lengthy and not always amicable competition with a number of other cities, notably Memphis, Cincinnati, and New York.

The building was designed by noted architect I.M. Pei, who also designed the Kennedy Library and the Glass Pyramid at the Louvre in Paris. His concept was that of a tower with a glass pyramid protruding from it. The height of the tower had to be modified from a planned height of 200 feet to a “mere” 162 feet because of the landing patterns at the nearby Burke Lakefront Airport. Ground breaking took place in 1993 with notables such as Billy Joel, Pete Townshend and Chuck Berry present. More than 10,000 people attended



the dedication two years later, and an all-star concert featuring Aretha Franklin, Bruce Springsteen and many others was a highlight of the ceremonies.

New inductees have been selected since 1986, even before the buildings existed. However, the formal induction ceremony has been held in different venues, such as New York and Los Angeles, in addition to

Cleveland.

The exhibits are varied, from the origins of rock and roll in gospel and country music, among others, to the cities that have been key in the genre's development to obviously, the individual artists that popularized it. This museum presents a perspective on a music style that for the most part originated during our lifetimes and formed a never-to-be-forgotten part of our lives. If nothing else, nostalgia alone should draw us to this particular spot!

Cruising Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River

Just as was the case for the 2017 Reunion at Lake George, Lake Erie also presents an opportunity for an expedition on the water. Again as was true on Lake George, there are differently sized vessels that make the trips, with different itineraries as well as appearances. The GOOD TIME I is a former fishing boat that originally saw service in the Gulf of Mexico, but which now cruises Lake Erie. The GOODTIME III is a quadruple deck luxury ship capable of handling 1,000 passengers. Both vessels provide island-hopping tours, sunset cruises, and even special events outings (recently advertised were an Ohio State party cruise and a Cleveland Browns' Tailgating cruise).

These three examples of things to do in Cleveland just scratch the surface of what's available. As Dan and the Board make decisions about the schedule, I'm sure that they would be glad to get input from those planning to attend as to preferred destinations for next June. Please don't hesitate to voice your desires, and we'll see you in Cleveland!!

The Editor

The GOODTIME I docked at Kelly's Island



Reunion in Review 2018



Receiving the Molly Pitcher Award

“Overkill” at the Cake Cutting after the Banquet



Our “weapon of choice” in the Ft Sill Museum

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Next Issue - December 2018

Deadline for submissions - 5 December

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