



**8th Battalion 4th Field
Artillery Association**
<http://www.8th-4th-arty.com>

News from the Battalion
May 1, 2011



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Notes from the President - Gerald F. Mazur

In May of 2012, we'll be holding our bi-annual reunion at Ft. Sill. All of the monuments have been moved to a new location and Joe Talley has assured me that all is well. In addition to other events, we'll be holding an impromptu rededication of our monument. Please try to be there.

Joe Talley is our Reunion Chairman and any questions about lodging and exact dates of the reunion, should be directed to him.

Since the last reunion, more men have been found and have joined the association. As always, men have moved or passed-on. We would appreciate any information on the whereabouts of missing men.

We are looking forward to rekindling old friendships and starting new ones.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the reunion.

In the meantime, we encourage all of our veterans to join the association. As far as dues that are in arrears: If you are behind on dues, and catching up will present a hardship, start anew by contacting Charles White. Do not avoid us. We don't want to lose anyone.

Report on Reunion 2010 by Joe L. Talley

If you were unable to attend the last reunion in Colorado Springs, you missed a great time. The accommodations, food, entertainment, tours, and beautiful landscape coupled with the Colorado hospitality made it one of the best reunions that we had. The committee headed by Gene Ghio had the expertise of our own honorary member, "little sister" Ava DeHerrera to work out details on the ground as well get a large donation from the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce to offset some of our expenses. Our special thanks goes to Pueblo's great hospitality. Reunion activities included:

- A day of festivities in Pueblo on Friday, with “Little Sister” Ava DeHerrera as our guide;
- A great “Colorado Mex” meal catered at the airplane museum;
- The Saturday Colorado Springs highlight tour;
- The train ride to the top of Pikes Peak
- The Saturday night buffet; and
- The Sunday banquet.

Planning for Reunion 2012 by Joe L. Talley

Be sure to mark your calendars for Reunion 2012 to be held at Fort Sill/Lawton, Oklahoma on May 17, to May 20, 2012. More details and reunion registration forms will be mailed later this year or in early 2012. If you plan to attend the reunion and are not a member of the association or have not paid your dues by September 1, 2011, you may not receive any further mailings regarding Reunion 2012, unless you notify either Joe Talley or Bill Kindt of your intent to attend the reunion. However, current announcements will always be on our web site at <http://www.8th-4th-arty.com>

Plans for Reunion 2012 now are being made by Bill Kindt and Joe Talley who have agreed to act as co-chairmen for this event. They will be looking for volunteers to help them. If you have input to be considered, please contact either of the following: Bill Kindt 580-357-8782 or Joe Talley 580-536-0365

Our memorial that was erected in 2006 and dedicated in honor of our fallen comrades has been moved to the new site on Fort Sill along with all of the other monuments. It is now in a more desirable location near the museum. There will be a rededication ceremony sometime during Reunion 2012. As you may recall, the memorial was by designed Fred James, one of our own, and almost \$20,000 was donated by our men to make this happen.

There has been some discussion about improving on our memorial. We have honored and chiseled the names of all that we know were KIA. Now might be the time to look at honoring those that have died since the war. Bricks could be purchased using some of the association funds, and members might want to donate a brick to their wife who waited at home, or are a special family member or friend. To spend any funds from the association account would have to be approved by the Board of Trustees. However, that would be a jump start and might cause others to contribute. The task of getting the bricks to outline the memorial is quite easy, however raising the funds, creating a design, organizing the placement, and getting the approval could be a challenge. The Board of Trustees would like to have your input on this idea. Send your comments to Bill Kindt or Joe Talley who will compile and report back the results of the comments.

There has been some discussion about printing an updated edition or an addendum to our battalion book-which was printed in 2004. These discussions have not produced sufficient additional material to justify printing an updated edition or an addendum. However, this topic will again be discussed at the reunion. Also, to be discussed is whether to merely do a second printing. If you were not one of the ones that bought a book, please contact Charles White or Joe Talley, and if enough interest is generated, perhaps more can be printed and placed on sale at the reunion. If you should wonder what the book looks like, you can log onto the web site and click on “Catalog.”

At Reunion 2012 there will be a business meeting to elect men to serve on the Board of Trustees for the association. If you would like to serve or would like to nominate any person to serve on the board, please let your choices be known. There is always room for new blood so get involved. At the reunion there will be a ballot with current and all new nominees so each person will have a chance to vote on the candidates of their choice. If you know of an association member or if you would like to serve please contact Bill Kindt.

With the current turn down in the economy money is a little tight - but please do not let this stand in the way of you attending the reunion. There has been some money donated to cover the cost of lodging as well as registration fee for those that might need a little help. If you are in this category, just give Bill Kindt a call and he will take care of it in complete confidence, and no one will ever know the difference

*Treasurer's Report by Charles Adams
March 31, 2011*

Cash on hand as of April 12, 2010	\$23,770.45
Deposits made from 04/13/2010 to 03/31/2011 [Includes dues, reunion fees, and additional contributions]	<u>\$10,773.92</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$34,544.37</u>
Battalion Expenses:	
Charles White	-Best Western Hotel \$ 7,832.44
Millard Mack	-Snacks for Reunion \$ 331.92
Charles White	-Catalina Rest. \$ 30.00
Charles White	-Classic Catering \$ 498.00
Gene Ghio	-Reunion Expenses \$ 1,524.68
Charles Adams	-Collinsville Printing \$ 632.10
Joseph Bessix	-Reunion refund \$ 280.00
Roy Stringham	-Reunion refund \$ 280.00
Charles Adams	-Pueblo Vet Parade \$ 403.00
Charles Adams	-Harland Ck Order \$ 19.75
Subtotal Expenses	<u>\$11,831.89</u>
Balance on hand as of March 31, 2011	<u>\$22,712.48</u>

NOTE: Of the battalion's 873 living Vietnam veterans, 405 have joined the battalion at one time or another. However, out of this number, 96 have not paid any dues since 2008, and 143 have lifetime memberships or have prepaid for years after 2011. That leaves only pool of 166 men to pay current dues UNLESS more men decide to join the association or more start paying dues again. Because of lifetime memberships and prepaid dues for future years, a substantial portion of the balance on hand must be held for future years.

Taps - Our Men Who Have Died Since Our Last Publication by Charles White

<u>Name</u>	<u>Battery</u>	<u>Years</u>
Brown, Harry E.	C	70-71
Griffith Tommy S.	S	67-68
Hatcher Joseph	B	67-68
Holbert Jerry E.	H	67-68
Kyser Larry A.	C	70-71
Prindiville Brian M.	C	69-70
Simmons Joseph K.	A	68-69
Slaughter Dwight	C	70-71
Swartout Robert E.	H	68
White John D.	B	67-68

Association Board of Trustees and Officers

At the last meeting of the Association in Colorado Springs, Colorado in 2010, the following members were elected to the Board of Trustees of the association

Charles Adams
cadams4505@msn.com
(678) 947-6475

Carl Lanier
annierue@earthlink.net
(540) 483-0562

Keith Pollari
kmpollari@me.com
(651) 429-6925

Joe Brown
joebrown1942@yahoo.com
(951) 303-6164

Larry Martin
LLMartin@herffjones.com
(217) 398-5628

Bill Prichard
jwprichard@mppkj.com
(904) 356-1306

Gene Ghio
ruffdog@pacbell.net
(925) 376-7937

Gerald Mazur
igor@scaredofbees.com
(724) 339-7028

Joe Talley
joearta@swbell.net
(580) 536-0365

Bill Kindt
arkrkw1985@sbcglobal.net
(580) 357-8782

Brian O'Neill
bmoneill@juno.com
brian.oneill1@conus.army.mil
(973) 729-5586

Charles White
whitecgw@yahoo.com
(806) 622-0011

AND the following officers of the association were elected by the Board of Trustees:

Officers

Gerald F. Mazur
Joe Brown
Bill Prichard
Charles Adams

Office

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer