



**The Association**  
**8th Battalion 4th Field Artillery**  
**The Big Guns of the DMZ**  
**July 30, 2013**



**The President Speaks**

A big hello to all my 8th Battalion 4th FA Brothers.

I truly hope all has been going well since our last reunion! It is hard for me to believe that it has been over a year since we last met in Lawton.

A great time was had by all the members that attended. It seems that each reunion is always better than the one before and the 2012 reunion and Lawton was no exception!

A special thanks to Joe Talley, Bill Kindt and everyone else from the area that made the reunion the big success that it was. I always enjoy going back to Lawton and visiting Ft. Sill. Bill and Joe always assure that we have a great time in Lawton and on our visits to Ft. Sill, seeing and doing things that normal civilians are not able to see and do and have a meal that is much better than the ones I remember from my time at Ft. Sill 40 years ago.

I have asked Joe and to include a brief report on the 2012 reunion so that all those that did not attend will have an idea of what they are missing when they do not attend our reunions Mark your calendars as our next reunion will be held August 7 -10, 2014.

See Brian O'Neill's article on page two for a few more details. I am sure that Brian and his committee will do whatever is necessary to make the 2014 reunion even better than the 2012 reunion.

Ron Grammel continues to work on getting us our donation tax free status so donations to our organization can be tax dutiable. Ron is working on our association becoming a 501© (19) in the eyes of the IRS; to us simple folks we will be a "Wartime Veterans Organization." Ron is hard at work filling out IRS forms and developing the financial information that the IRS requires. I asked Ron not to use the words "Tea Party" or "Patriot" in our title so most likely we will be able to have our donation tax free status by the start of our 2014 reunion. Thanks and keep at it Ron!

I have to give another big thank you to Joe Talley as he has volunteered to put out this newsletter that you are reading. Enclosed are dues statements to remind you that have not kept up with your dues that it is time to pay them.

Thank you Charlie White for doing the book work on this and also for keeping our web site up to date If you have not been on the web sites in a while, please take time I am sure that you will find them enjoyable and informative. I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in 2014.

Gene "Gofer" Ghio

**They Will be missed**

Listed below is the list of 8/4th men who have died since the "Taps" section was last reported in an 8/4th newsletter

Howard Lee Buchley  
A 67 68 Died 2011

Henry C. Coomes  
A 67-68 Died 201 1

Howard M. Diamond  
H 70-71 Died 2011

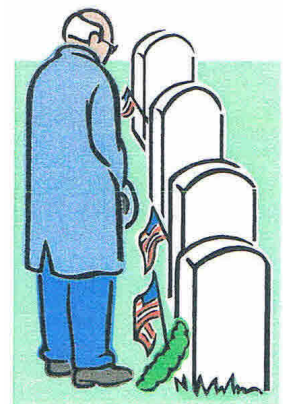
Darrell R. Emme  
C 70-71 Died 2011

Richard L. Sahr  
C 70-71 Died 2011

Joseph K. Simmons  
A 68-69 Died 2011

Curley James Bordelon  
H 67-68 Died 2013

Joe Sinagra  
C 69-70 Died in 2013



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**2014 Reunion  
Brian M. O'Neill**

Philadelphia is called the city of brotherly love. Not sure why. It can be argued that those of us in the Association love or don't love each other. Space but there's no doubt that we are in fact brothers. Our shared experiences make it so. Every two years we gather at a reunion to tell stories, drink beer, have a great time and renew our brotherly bonds. The next time we will do this is August 2014. The exact dates are August 7 through August 10. The host hotel is the Clarion in Essington, Pennsylvania. This hotel which was undergoing a major renovation when I checked it out last month is ideally suited for the type of event that we have. The staff is friendly and cooperative and really welcoming us. Philadelphia can rightly lay claim to the title "birthplace of our nation." There is Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, Constitution Walk and many attractions in Philadelphia and we will be sure to hit them all. Your reunion committee, Carl Lanier, Jerry Mazur, John Macomb and I, will be meeting with the hotel staff again later this month. Will work out the details and be able to provide you more information by early August. Check the website, or if you do not have access to our website, call Brian O'Neill at (973) 7295586 or SKYPE(973) 729-5586 FREE At that time we should also have information about tours and other events that will happen during the reunion. So, mark your calendars. Reserve Aug 7 - 10, 2014 and, as we used to say on the radio 'standby' for more information as we get it.

**Reunion at  
Lawton/Fort Sill  
2012  
Joe L. Talley**

Thanks to Bill Kindt and his expertise with the command at Fort Sill and his many contacts in the Lawton area the Battalion was ask to be the honor Battalion at the rededication ceremony of Memorial Park at Fort Sill. It was a moving experience as the commanding general spoke and made note of our 27 American Flags which were waving to the assembly.

Under the leadership of CSM Poindexter and three of his First Sergeants and the troops of the 2nd Bn 4th FA assisted Association in rededicating our own Memorial to the men who lost their life while serving with us.

In addition the battalion got to see some of the ongoing activities at Fort Sill. A tour of the barrack, the training simulator, as well as dining with the troops were highlights of one morning.

There was also a parade through the city honoring Armed Forces Day and Bill got us front row padded seats and water for the viewing of the parade. Our own General Smith was provided a jeep and was honored as one of the parade's co-chairman.

The Friday night meal around the pool was well received. As this gave us time to chat with old(?) friends. The food was delicious the fellowship was even better.

Transportation is always expensive and sometimes unpredictable: but again Bill pulled the right strings and got

drivers for three days. With their help our expenses were greatly reduced.

The reunion was in May and of course it was hot, but that's only a small problem for Bill. He made the sun go behind the clouds and a cool breeze welcomed us with most of outside activities. There were a few hiccups with door prizes but that is when "Hurricane" is at his best. He used his expert diplomacy to smooth feathers, and I suppose everyone was happy. Overall I think (and hope) everyone had a great time, if not, please register your complaints with the other complainers. I look forward to our time in Philadelphia as I know Brian has his "game" hat on and will have all the details worked out and the 2014 reunion will be the best one ever.

Joe L. Talley

**Financial Report  
Charlie Adams**

The original and still the Association Treasurer reports that we are still in the black.

Bank Balance:

12/31/2012 \$32,648.53  
06/30/ 2013 \$32,366..08

I am sure he will have a more detailed treasurer's report for us at the next reunion. Maybe we will have our non-profit status approved by then.

**Food For Thought**

There is never enough time at our business meetings to accomplish everything.

Maybe a steering committee of 3-5 people could be appointed by the Board of Trustees. If so, this small group could meet in the off-year of our reunions to discuss any issues that any member would like to propose. They then could brief the Board of Trustee before placing it before the whole body.

Do we want to enhance the Memorial? Lights, bricks and small plants have been mentioned in the past, or do we want to leave it simple but beautiful as it is.?

Do we want to try to establish committees again? If so, these could include -

Membership  
Publicity  
Reunions  
Finance  
Ladies involvement

Do we not want the Battalion to live on with our children and grandchildren?

If so, this will never happen unless we cause this dream to become reality.

A Little More Food After much discussion at the last reunion, the Association decided that the reunion sites would be moved from place to place to make it fair for those who have to travel.

The 2012 reunion was in Lawton/Fort Sill

The 2014 reunion is scheduled Phuladelphia, PA.

The 2016 reunion will be west of the Mississippi.

The 2020 reunion will be in the SE part of the nation.

And of course all the plans can change if the association members want to start all over. There will be lots of complaint about this newsletter, and each should be addressed to the president.

He will then pass these complaints on to the next person who volunteers to do the January letter.

The January letter will include the registration forms, schedule of events, and the cost to attend.

Joe L. Talley