Together We Are Getting It Done
The Artillery Officer Candidate School
Heritage Center

Preserving Our Legacy

Artillery Officer Candidate School
Fort Sill, Oklahoma
July 10, 1941 to July 7, 1973

You are a big part of a significant chapter in America's history. With your help, our stories will be told.

You will be proud of the result.
The Heritage Center will recognize the history, culture, and significant contributions of Artillery OCS to our nation. OCS was likely a turning point in your life. Your support will help ensure our story is known and our legacy preserved. Funding for the Heritage Center will come from graduates and cadre of the Fort Sill Artillery Officer Candidate School and others interested in preserving this amazing part of America's storied military history.

Your support is crucial to our effort to make the Heritage Center a reality. If you have not already done so, a donation of $250 or more will help us achieve our mission. A contribution in any amount is welcomed and very much appreciated. When the construction is complete, the building and contents will become part of the U.S. Army Artillery Museum.

The Heritage Center is a joint project of the Alumni Chapter, the Artillery Museum, and Fort Sill. The 40' x 80' addition to the Artillery Museum South Gallery will be a theater/classroom with wall space dedicated to the OCS story: the history, culture, and traditions of Artillery OCS; our heroes; our fallen comrades; and our distinguished graduates. There will be display cases, uniform displays, storyboards, videos, photos, and dioramas. There will be interactive kiosks for the Hall of Fame, class rosters, pictures, and historical items. A 40' X 65' courtyard will grace the entrance.

The Heritage Center will help the Artillery Museum fulfill its mission, and will significantly increase our exposure to the public. It will be secure and open during regular Museum hours.

The Artillery OCS Heritage Center Capital Campaign goal was to raise $500,000 for the Heritage Center:

Building Addition: $410,000
Audio Visual and Furniture: $50,000
Courtyard: $40,000
Great News!!!!

We hit the $500,000 mark - and we need to keep it going:

As of June 6, 2020 we have $521,277 on hand as follows:

$347,946 in new contributions received since November 1, 2019. $173,331 in CDs and cash designated for the Heritage Center.

A huge Thank You to 589 individuals who have already helped us with financial support to the Heritage Center project. If you made a donation and it arrived in our mailbox or PayPal account by June 6, 2020 your name is on our master list of contributors.

Please check our growing list of donors in alphabetical order. If your name is not there and you have contributed, please contact us immediately. We will get it straightened out and explain the criteria for being recognized for donating to the Heritage Center.

We need to keep the contributions coming in since there will be many additional expenses associated with the construction of the new facility and the creation and maintenance of displays, kiosks for our Hall of Fame, historical documents and class photos, and a new and improved website. Additions to the courtyard, such as a diorama of the Robinson Barracks area and maps and diagrams on pedestals, will add to our costs. We also anticipate adding several plaques with various words and phrases associated with the culture of OCS with explanations to enhance the walkway.
We are currently preparing the complete gift package offer to the U.S. Army. The design details will soon be worked out with the Fort Sill Directorate of Public Works (DPW). A gift of this nature will receive a lot of extra scrutiny throughout the approval process, so we want to make sure it is done right from the start. We originally made our primary focus the building addition, audiovisual, and furniture. Now we are including the courtyard and other anticipated enhancements since we have the funding in hand based on the budget estimates from CDBL, Inc. our contractor. We hope to get the approval of the entire package in one step.

Once we get final approval of the gift from the appropriate authority (Secretary of the Army or Installation Management Command), Fort Sill DPW/Corps of Engineers will issue a construction license. DPW will then work with our contractor, CDBL, Inc. to see the project through to completion. The contractor is working on the construction plans and drawings for the gift packet at this time.

We have been distracted from the Heritage Center to some extent, by the Artillery OCS Memorial. We inherited responsibility for that from the Friends of Fort Sill on October 24, 2019 and have been getting it back on track with the contractor, DPW, and the Fort Sill Memorialization Board.
We are fortunate to have Frank Siltman on our project team. He is Fort Sill Director of Museums and Military History and the Western Region Director of Museums, U.S. Army Center of Military History.

Artillery Museum Director/Curator Gordon Blaker is working with our team on the exhibits, display cases, interactive kiosk content, OCS history storyboards, and audiovisual presentations. To ensure that everything is in order, we are working with the Fort Sill Museum Facility Operations Specialist and the Fort Sill Directorate of Public Works (DPW).

If you have not already contributed, we hope you will seriously consider a generous donation to the Artillery Officer Candidate School Heritage Center. Each of us benefited from our own individual OCS Experience. We have a chance to share the history of that remarkable school with the public and Preserve the Legacy of OCS at Fort Sill. Thanks for being part of that history, and thanks for your support.

The best way to help us is a tax-deductible contribution to the Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter. Donations of any amount are welcome and much appreciated. No amount is too small. Giving what you can to this worthwhile project makes you a team player and helps preserve our legacy. Every contributor becomes an honorary lifetime member of the Artillery Officer Candidate School Heritage Society. The Heritage Society is a new independent 501c3 organization created on October 9, 2019, to perpetuate the legacy of the Artillery OCS. There are no membership dues.

Contributors to the Artillery OCS Heritage Center at the following levels will be prominently recognized:

The "Commander in Chief" level ($25,000 or more) provides an opportunity to help preserve our legacy by contributing at the highest level. Those donors will be recognized on a plaque displayed inside the entrance to the Heritage Center.

The "Five-Star" Level ($10,000 or more) goes a long way in helping us preserve the legacy, and those donors will also be acknowledged on a plaque inside the entrance.

The following levels of recognition contribute significantly to our project and will be acknowledged on a wall inside the Heritage Center:

Four-Star: $5,000
Three-Star: $2,500
Two-Star: $1,000
One-Star: $500
Our campaign to raise money for the project does not have an ending date. If you choose to make more than one contribution during the campaign, the cumulative amount contributed will be used to determine your recognition level. Contributions "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" graduates will shown at the appropriate recognition level.

Individual Classes may wish to pool their contributions to receive special recognition at the Three Star Level or above. Some graduates have made contributions and encouraged classmates and other alumni to contribute to this very worthwhile project. I encourage you to do the same.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call or email:  admin@artilleryocsalumni.com

Sincerely,
Randy C. Dunham (Class 10-69)
Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter Secretary

Click here for a list of those individuals who will be recognized on the plaques inside the Heritage Center for contributions of $500 or more: https://www.artilleryocsalumni.com/heritage/specialrecognition.pdf

Click here for a list of all contributors in alphabetical order: https://www.artilleryocsalumni.com/heritage/donorsalpha.pdf

Click here for a list of all contributors in class order: https://www.artilleryocsalumni.com/heritage/donorsclass.pdf

(Please tear off and send the donation form below with your check)
Thank You for your Generous Donation to the Artillery OCS Heritage Center. The Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter is an IRS 501 (C) 3 charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible. EIN # 74-3052514. Please make your check payable to "Artillery OCS Alumni" Mail to PO Box 33612, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

Name__________________________________________ Class # and Year _______ - _______

Address__________________________________________

City __________________________

State___________ ZIP_____________________

Phone______________________________

Email_________________________________@_____________________

Please find enclosed donation for $_________________________

We accept contributions to the Heritage Center Project by credit card through our PayPal link halfway down on the right side on the front page of the Artillery OCS Alumni website: https://www.artilleryocsalumni.com