



## 8th Battalion 4th Field Artillery Association

<http://www.8th-4th-arty.com>

News from the Battalion  
December 1, 2011



### NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

8-4 Members and Friends,

**Our 2012 Reunion is ONLY 6 months away. Since we are rededicating our memorial - as ALL the memorials have been moved to a place near the Arty Museum - I would like to see as many as there were, reunion attendees, at the FIRST dedication. (I'd LIKE to see MORE, but we're all getting older and some have trouble traveling.) I want to remind you that check-in time, at the Best Western on E. Gore Blvd., is May 17 and checkout time is May 20, 2012. The OFFICIAL time for the reunion is May 17 - May 19 (Our banquet will be on Saturday, May 19), but MOST attendees will sleep-over and leave on the 20th. An itinerary is enclosed should you have questions, Joe Talley and Bill Kindt are our Reunion Co-Chairmen and will be happy to try to answer them. Again - I'm looking forward to seeing you.**

**Gerald Mazur (IGOR), President 8-4 Artillery Association**

### REMINDER

**This is just another reminder, I have called a business meeting of all the Trustees on Wednesday night, May 16, 2012.**

**I encourage every trustee to be there; however if you are not able to make this reunion and have some input for new or old business let me know. The same goes for the general membership - we want to hear your voice. GM**

### DOOR PRIZES

**Because we are operating on a shoe string budget, the door prizes that we have been accustomed will certainly be curtailed.**

## **THE REUNION COMMITTEE**

**We would like to welcome you to the Lawton/Fort Sill area for our 2012 reunion. We have tried hard to keep the cost low and get the best bang for our bucks. As you are well aware the transportation always kills us, but we have negotiated with the local city buses and have secured four buses. We have included the cost of the busses in the registration fee, and will give you a complete accounting at the business meeting on Saturday afternoon.**

**We are trying to make this reunion self supporting and not have to use any of the association money. We may have to borrow some money from the association for "seed" money as some vendors want their money up front.**

**We are somewhat concerned about "special needs," if you have any, please contact us and we will make every effort to accommodate those needs.**

**Enclosed you will find a schedule of events. Please remember these plans are not set in stone. We have been told by Fort Sill that their participation in the armed force day parade may have to be scaled back. Budget cuts are really being looked at.**

**Enclosed you will also find a registration form. We would certainly appreciate your prompt attention to this so we can start getting a head count.**

**A reminder - If your finances are running a little low, please come on to the reunion. Arrangements have been made to cover your registration expense of \$120.00. All you need to do is give Bill Kindt a call (580) 357-8782 and the conversation will be kept in complete confidence.**

**Bill Kindt (580) 357-8782 Joe Talley (580) 536-0365**

### **PLANS FOR THE 2014 REUNION**

**In order for everyone to have input and to have their voices heard. At the reunion table, as well as throughout the reunion each person will have an opportunity to vote for an area east of the Mississippi River for our 2014 reunion. The eastern half of the United States will be divided into quarters. The area receiving the most votes decides the area. A specific place in the area will have to be decided on at a later date.**

**This is keeping with the idea that we should move the reunion, in order that the travel required can be shared by all.**

**2006 Reunion was in Lawton area, 2008 Reunion was in Washington DC. 2010 Reunion was in Colorado Springs. 2012 Reunion in the Lawton area. 2014 Reunion will be East of the Miss. 2016 Reunion will be West of the Miss. 2018 Reunion will be in Lawton area.**

**Of course this is not set in stone, we can change our minds if we want too.**

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**The reunion committee received a E Mail that the association might need to form some committees, in order that we become more visible and have more in common than just a reunion every two years. Suggestion included**

**Finance Committee**

**Membership committee**

**Reunion Committee**

**Long and short range planning committee**

**Publicity committee (newsletter) Memorial committee**

**As well as any others that the members might think are needed**

**There should be some discussion about this matter at the Trustee meeting on Wednesday night as well as the general membership meeting on Saturday. Any action taken could come from the Board of trustees that are elected at the reunion.**

## **NOMINATIONS FOR TRUSTEE**

**At the registration table, as well as throughout the reunion you will have an opportunity to nominate yourself or any other person to be placed on the ballot for Association Trustee. The only requirement is that each nominee must be a member of the association in good standing with their dues paid.**

**The names of the nominees as well as the names of the current Trustee will be prepared and voting will take place on Friday. The votes will be counted (by three volunteer ladies) and the new Trustee introduced at the noon meal on Saturday. This new board will meet at 1330, to elect their president, secretary and treasure and prepare for the general business meeting at 1400 Saturday afternoon.**

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**Public Law No: 110-181 (Sec. 594) "Allows members and veterans who are present but not in uniform during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the flag to render the military salute." This also includes the playing of Taps and any other times that may be appropriate.**

## **DRESS**

**Appropriate dress when we visit the troops and our memorial at Fort Sill, will certainly be appreciated.**

The banquet on Saturday evening as well as all other activities the dress will be informal. There will be a little walking so please bring your walking shoes.

## REUNION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### May 16, 2012 (Day of registration):

There will be a business meeting of the trustees. The president will announce the time and place and that will be available at the registration table.

### May 17, 2012, 0900:

We have scheduled events at Fort Sill, lunch in the dining facility, and then return to the hotel to freshen up for one of 2:00 PM tours. One guided tour of Fort Sill and the other a Guided tour of the new National Cemetery, Medicine Park, and the Wildlife Refuge. Both of these tours will be conducted the following day so you can make both tours if you so desire. Our dinner will be at 6:00 PM and will be a BBQ, western style around the pool so bring your jeans boots, and hat.

### May 18, 2012, 0900:

We will once again go to Fort Sill, where we will rededicate our memorial, as it has been relocated to another site. Afterward we will have a guided tour of the museum, and the guns that are displayed, and then on to the Fort Sill Post Exchange where we will eat in the food court (Dutch treat) and give you a chance to shop in the Exchange. Return to the motel, freshen up and then go on the 2:00 PM other tour. Our evening meal will be a fish fry dinner at the Polo Club

### May 19, 2012, 0900:

We will attend the armed force day parade, go to a local cafeteria for lunch and then back to the hotel for our 2:00 PM business meeting. While we are in the meeting the ladies will have some free time to do their own thing. The banquet will be that evening at 6:00 PM.

### May 20, 2012:

We will say our goodbyes over breakfast on Sunday morning.

Gentlemen, this is a general idea, times, events and locations may change.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

We have rooms reserved at the Best Western Motel and Convention Center. The cost is \$87.63 (includes tax) per night and includes a buffet breakfasts for registered guest. Each person will be required to make their own reservations, please call 1.800.359.0020. Please mention the battalion

**when you call to insure the low room rates.**

**Our registration table will be set up on the second floor next to our hospitality room.**

**The registration will cover all other expenses with the exception of the noon meal on Friday.**

### **REUNION VIDEO**

**At the 2006 reunion we hired a lady to make a movie of the reunion, which included the dedication of the memorial at Fort Sill. These DVD's are still available and we can get copies made if anyone is interested. Let Bill or Joe know and they will have them at the reunion for you, the cost will be 5-6 dollars.**

### **BATTALION BOOKS**

**In 2004 the battalion published a hard back book. The book was well received and we sold them for \$50.00 a piece. I talk to the printer in OKC and he said he could print more copies, and the copies would cost the same. However he also said that he could only reproduce copies in lots of 25. If we hear from 25 people who might want a book we will order them and have them at the reunion. Please let us know ASAP.**

### **THE MEMORIAL**

**There has been some discussion about upgrading our memorial. It was mentioned at the last reunion, that maybe we could purchase engraved bricks to out line the walk, or maybe place some solar panel LED lights. Is it time to resurrect this idea or postpone it for another two years or so?**

## Registration Form:

Here is the registration form for the Reunion, the activities start at 0900 on May 17, 2012 and we suggest that if you are staying in the hotel you arrive sometime on May 16. The Hotel is the **BEST WESTERN HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER**, to register please call **1.800.359.0020**. The Reunion registration table and hospitality room will be open on the second floor at 1400 hours on this date.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Battery \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Country \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Other Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Total number attending times \$120.00 equals \_\_\_\_\_

The cost for the reunion is \$120.00 per person. This cost includes all meals (except the hamburger at the food court in the Post Exchange) on Friday. The cost of the reunion as well as money collected will be reported at the business meeting on Saturday afternoon.

The hotel accommodations will have to be made by each individual as we cannot anticipate individual needs (beds, towels etc).

Please mail your registration form and remittance, payable to Bill Kindt as soon as possible as we did to make some financial commitments for food, buses etc.

*Bill Kindt 2302 NW Ivanhoe Place Lawton. Oklahoma 73505*