



**8th Battalion 4th
Artillery Association**

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



To: The Veterans of the 8th Battalion 4th Artillery

From: Gene Ghio, Reunion Chairman for 2010

Our 2010 reunion will be in Colorado Springs starting on Thursday, May 20, 2010 and ending with breakfast on Monday, May 24. The Best Western Academy Hotel will be our headquarters hotel. The Academy Hotel, as they like to be called, has given us a great rate of \$89 plus applied taxes per night, single or double occupancy, and a charge of only \$10 for each additional person per room for up to four guests per room. The Academy will give us the \$89 rate for anyone that registers up to three additional nights prior to the start of the reunion. So if you register for the reunion for Thursday through Sunday night, you could arrive as early as Monday, May 17 and enjoy the \$89 per night rate for your entire week's stay. Our hotel will give us the rate for reservations made before April 20. I have already registered for the week and as per their deal I have that great rate for all seven nights. Parking is free but there is a \$5 charge per person per shuttle ride from the airport. The \$89 rate includes a hot breakfast per paying guest per room per day. The hot breakfast will be like the one served in DC with eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, ham and other breakfast items. Those attendee not staying at the Academy Hotel may purchase their own breakfast at the same restaurant hotel guests will be having breakfast at a reasonable price.

If you have any special request let them know when you make your room reservation, especially if you are requesting a handicapped room. Please make your own reservation by calling the Academy Hotel on their reservation number (800) 766 8524 or call the front desk directly (719) 278 5770. Please be sure to tell them you are making your reservation under the 8th Battalion 4th Arty. Our reunion will start with registration at 4:00 pm on Thursday, May 20, and will end with the breakfast on Monday, May 24. Lots of activities have been planned. A highlight of the activities include: a day of festivities in Pueblo on Friday, with "Little Sister" Ava DeHerrera as our guide; a great "Colorado Mex" meal catered at the air plane museum is included. Ava's boss, Rod Slyhoff and the greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce has made a substantial donation to help cover some of the costs of our day of frolic in Pueblo. A special thanks to Ava and the Chamber. There are many things to do in Pueblo and I am sure that Ava has a great day planned for us.

Saturday we will board the buses and go on a Colorado Springs highlights tour and have our buffet dinner that evening.

Sunday we are on our own to visit in the hospitality room or tour the Colorado Springs area; we will have our business meeting starting at 4:00 pm, followed by our banquet. The banquet is our last “official” reunion event. Hotel guests will have breakfast coupons for Monday morning and the attendees not stay at the hotel can pay for the breakfast buffet.

Also, on Sunday morning, Gerald (Igor) Mazur is organizing a train ride to the top of Pikes Peak (impressive at 14,110 ft). The advertized cost is \$33.00 but he will be working on getting us a reduced group rate. If you would like to go to the top of Pike’s Peak on the train please check the yes box on the registration form but do not include the cost in the check you send in to register for the reunion.

There is so much to do in the Denver/Colorado Springs/Pueblo area we suggest that you come early and enjoy the area. Unfortunately, the hotel cannot guarantee the rate following the reunion, as that is the week of the Air Force Academy graduation. However, we have managed to get them to reserve 12 rooms for us for Monday night. Those rooms will go to the first 12 members to register and request a Monday night stay-over.

Our reunion will be a great opportunity to meet up with your family and friends. Our 2010 reunion will be very “family and friends” orientated and your relatives and friends will have a great time with all the activities Ava has planned for us. The activities will be enjoyable to all ages and all attendee whether they served in our military or not. Also, as you will see when you get there, the hotel has a great setup for our hospitality room, located near an outside smoking area and an inside swimming pool only a few feet away.

The cost of the reunion registration is \$140. Although this is a little more than our last reunion, we have one more day of activities. The cost includes reunion cap, the Friday “Colorado Mex” dinner, Saturday buffet dinner, Sunday banquet, two days of bus transportation, entrance fees to all the attractions we will be visiting and the snacks and refreshments that we will enjoy in the hospitality room. If would not include the cost of the train ride up Pike’s Peak, if you are going.

Please remember to bring items for the raffle and door prizes. Last year we had many very valuable prizes. Also those of you that have good memories please be prepared to tell stories that you may want to share with the group during the banquet.

We are looking for humorous stories to be told at the banquet. Got any? They could be either about some boneheaded thing you did while with the battalion or it could be a chance to drop the proverbial dime on one of your buddies. Send your story to Brian, our MC, at the address below. They will be keep confidential. You’ll get a chance to stand up at the banquet and tell the assembled folks the story. Hamming it up is not only allowed but

encouraged. There might even be a prize for the best one.

Send your stories to Brian at:

bmoneill@juno.com ; or

Brian O'Neill

45 Whippoorwill Lane

Sparta, NJ 07871

Please remember to bring items for the raffle and door prizes. Last year we had many very valuable prizes.

We are sure that as at all prior reunions a great time will be had by all! Looking forward to seeing all our 8th Bn 4th Arty brothers in Colorado Springs May 20 to May 24, 2010!

Carl Lanier Gene
8th 4th Arty President

(Gofer) Ghio
Reunion Chairman

[Next Page for Registration Information]

**8th Battalion 4th Artillery
By Daring Deeds
Instructions Reunion Registration Form**

The name of the member attending the reunion will be on the first line. If the member is attending the reunion alone he does not need to place his name in the group list below. All of the friends and family members attending the reunion need to be listed below. All names enter onto the registration form should be as you would like the name to appear on the name badge, as "Gene (Gofer) Ghio", not Eugene J. Ghio. Each attendee that is attending the banquet needs to choose whether they want the Chicken Marsala or the London Broil for their banquet entree.

For those attendees that cannot make the full four days of the reunion, options of attending the banquet for \$39, the buffet dinner for \$44, or the banquet and buffet for \$73 are available options. These non-full activity guests will get hats, lanyard name tags, goodie bags and access to the hospitality room with its refreshments and snacks. If you and your guests are going on the bus trips, the Colorado/Mex Friday night dinner in Pueblo, the banquet and buffet dinner you are "full activities" attendees and please check the full box before the name of these attendees. Those attending the banquet only please check the banquet box. Those attending the buffet dinner only please check the buffet box. Those attending the buffet and banquet please check both the banquet and buffet boxes.

So as Igor can plan and maybe get a group discount, we need to know if you would like to take the train to the top of Pike's Peak Sunday Morning , so if you are please check the box provided.

We need to have all members return their registration forms no LATER THAN APRIL 15, 2010. Please make all checks payable to: 8th Bn, 4th Arty Association.

Then Mail your Check to:

**8th Bn 4th Arty Association
C/O Bill Prichard
501 W. Bay Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202**

[Next Page for Registration Form]

Reunion Registration Form

Full() Banquet() Buffet ()

Name: _____

Banquet request: Chicken Marsala () London Broil ()

Address: _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Date: _____

Will you be staying at the Best Western Academy Hotel? Yes () No () Do not know yet ()

Would you be interested in a train ride to the top of Pike's Peak on Sunday morning? Yes () No ()

I am registering myself, member listed above, and the following guests; please print names as you would like it to appear on the name badge(s):

Full() Banquet() Buffet ()

Name: _____

Banquet request: Chicken Marsala () London Broil ()

Full() Banquet() Buffet ()

Name: _____

Banquet request: Chicken Marsala () London Broil ()

Full() Banquet() Buffet ()

Name: _____

Banquet request: Chicken Marsala () London Broil ()

Full() Banquet() Buffet ()

Name: _____

Banquet request: Chicken Marsala () London Broil ()

Cost per attendee is \$140.00. The cost includes; reunion cap, Friday dinner, Saturday buffet dinner, Sunday banquet, two days of bus transportation, entrance fees to attractions, snacks, and refreshments. The hotel registration includes a hot breakfast the morning after each night's stay per each room guest.

Number of full activity reunion attendee () @ \$140 each = \$ _____ .00

Number of banquet only attendee: () @ \$39 each = \$ _____ .00

Number of Buffet only attendee: () @ \$44 each = \$ _____ .00

Number of banquet and buffet attendee () @ \$73 each = \$ _____ .00

I am enclosing a total of: \$ _____ .00

Please make all checks payable to: 8th Bn, 4th Arty Association

Then Mail to:

8th Bn 4th Arty Association
C/O Bill Prichard
501 W. Bay Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202