

2016 OCS at FORT KNOX REUNION



August 18—21, 2016
Sheraton Gunter Hotel
San Antonio, TX

OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

The second OCS @ Ft Knox reunion was held at the historic Sheraton Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, TX August 18-21, 2016. Seventy (70) OCS graduates plus forty-three (43) spouses or guests attended the event.

The activities began mid-morning when the registration desk and hospitality room opened. Hugh Preacher was the first graduate to register. The remainder of the morning and afternoon graduates and guests arrived and made the hospitality room the meeting point, until "Rally-time." Eighty-One (81) people attended the reception.

At 4:00 PM rooms were set aside so individual classes met privately for a few minutes. This was an important part of the reunion in that it allowed former classmates to get reacquainted and make dinner plans.

Later, at 5:00 PM the welcome reception began with Dan Leifel welcoming everyone and introducing Doug Burmester who also welcomed everyone and gave a brief update on the OCS @ Ft Know project. Following those brief remarks light hors d'oeuvres were served and the cash bar opened. After the reception guests had dinner on their own, some in the hotel – others at a local restaurant.

Friday morning a private breakfast buffet was served for the group. Then at 9:30 AM 38 graduates and guests boarded a bus for a tour of the Alamo and Ft Sam Houston. First stop was to see

an IMAX film "The Price of Freedom" which recreates the heroism of the 189 Texans, Tejanos, and settlers who defended the Alamo fort for 13 days against the army of General Santa Anna. Although the Alamo fell and the defenders were all slain, the memory of the battle coined the rallying cry, "Remember the Alamo" which gained support for Texas' fight for independence from Mexico. This docu-drama recreates battle scenes and dramatic incidents involving such famous men as Davy Crockett, William Barrett Travis, James Bowie, Juan Seguin and General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. It was the perfect prelude to a visit to the Alamo. The self-guided tour allowed everyone at his/her own pace to walk the historic paths. Due to renovations some areas of the Alamo were closed to visitors, but regardless, one could get the "feel" of history, just knowing you were standing where history was made!



Sheraton Gunter Hotel

Hugh Preacher was the First to Register



From the Alamo we were off to Fort Sam Houston (now part of Joint Base San Antonio), currently the home of Military Medicine. Fort Sam Houston was established in 1845 when the Post at San Antonio was established in the Alamo City. The Army established a garrison and regional headquarters in rented buildings and a Quartermaster supply depot in the Alamo. After the Civil War, the Army began to move out of the city onto land donated by the City of San Antonio. The post evolved into the "Home of Army Medicine" after World War II and into the "Home of Military

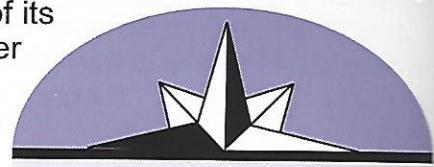
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Medicine" with the establishment of the Medical Education and Training Campus in 2010, United States Northern Command, which until 2004, it was designated as the United States Fifth Army, and United States Army South is the Army's service component command of United States Southern Command whose area of responsibility includes 31 countries and 15 areas of special sovereignty in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Many of America's finest military personnel have served at Fort Sam Houston. The post is proud of its historic role and the many initiatives to retain the historic character of the post while serving as a modern, model Joint Base for the future. A visit to the Ft Sam Houston Museum was a learning experience for everyone. The Fort Sam Houston Museum collects, interprets, preserves and displays materials related to the history of Fort Sam Houston, Texas and of the United States Army in the San Antonio area from 1845 to the present. This includes the military units and organizations stationed there, the significant events which occurred there, the distinguished soldiers who served there and the influence of Fort Sam Houston on the Army and the Nation. The Museum promotes stewardship of the 900 historic structures on this National Historic Landmark site. Another Ft Sam Houston landmark is the Quadrangle, One of the most unusual places in San Antonio. It is the oldest building at Fort Sam Houston. Inside the fortress deer, ducks, rabbits, and other small animals run free, as do the thousands of children who visit there every year. How did the headquarters for one of the world's most powerful armies become a petting zoo? Nobody seems to know.

After the Ft Sam Houston visit a shopping/browsing and lunch stop was made in the Pearl District, once home of the Pearl Brewery – a Texas staple for many years. One of the more popular lunch spots was the Boiler House Texas Grill and Wine garden featuring their pulled pork BBQ with their own secret blend of green chilli and spices. Delicious!!! From there it was back to the hotel for a bit of relaxation and chatter before the dinner buffet.

At 6:00 PM the social hour began with a cash bar followed at 7:00 PM by a two entrée dinner buffet. After dinner several of the ladies spoke on life while her husband was in OCS. First Paula Leifel read a letter from Mrs Hoffman. Mrs Barbara Liptak talked about being a wife during OCS. Tom Player and his wife spoke together, talked about getting engaged (actually more of a skit than an "talk"). Martha Ryan, wife of Dave, started off saying she met Dave in 1967. Then she went on to tell about her first husband who died in a Mohawk plane shot down in Vietnam. She actually went back to Laos to the village where he was shot down, with the help of the villagers found the crash site and buried their grandkids hair locks where cockpit was found. It was a very interesting evening.

Saturday opened with breakfast in a private room. Beginning at 0815 hours, three separate tours departed the Sheraton. First tour was to the LBJ Ranch and National Park. Twenty-four people went on this tour. Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park is a United States National Historical Park in central Texas about 50 miles west of Austin in the Texas Hill Country. The park protects the birthplace, home, ranch, and final resting place of Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President of the United States. During Johnson's administration, the LBJ Ranch was known as the



Some of the locals welcoming everyone

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"Texas White House" because the President spent approximately twenty percent of his time in office there.

Second tour was "The Missions" tour which 12 people went on. This tour tells the story of European expansion in the new world as well as Spaniards and Indians living in harmony.

The third tour was to Fredericksburg, home of the National Museum of the Pacific War and the Nimitz Museum. Twenty-Nine people went on this tour. The guide provided a lot of interesting facts as the group traveled through the Texas Hill country. This area is the second largest wine area after Napa Valley in California. Wild mustang grapes from Texas are cross bred with French grapes to make sturdier vines in France. The motor coach also made a quick trip through Luckenbach, so all the participants can now say they have been to Luckenbach!

The town of Fredericksburg is truly a site to see! One will notice right away how wide the streets are—designed that way from the beginning so that cattlemen could turn a full team of oxen around in the road. The German settlers who came to Fredericksburg were given farm land, and also a plot in town for their "Sunday" house.

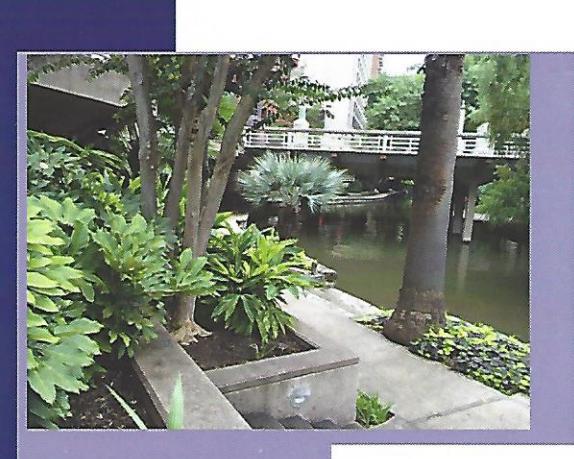
All tours returned to the hotel in time for a little relaxation before the banquet ~ the highlight of the reunion.

The after dinner program, emceed by Dan Liefel, began with a salute to ladies who served, the significance of the missing man table and an update of Charlie Titus. Elda Titus was thanked for making the silver bar favors at each place setting.

Dan then introduced Doug Burmester, who gave an update on the "OCS Project" giving credit to those who helped with the project. Other speakers for the evening included Gerry Mellon,

Berny Schiff, Walter Todd and Walter Orth. Lots of information was shared, and a good evening was had by all.

The 2016 reunion came to a close with breakfast on Sunday morning. Many hugs and handshakes were shared, and everyone is looking forward to the next reunion in Washington, DC—Oct 12-15, 2017

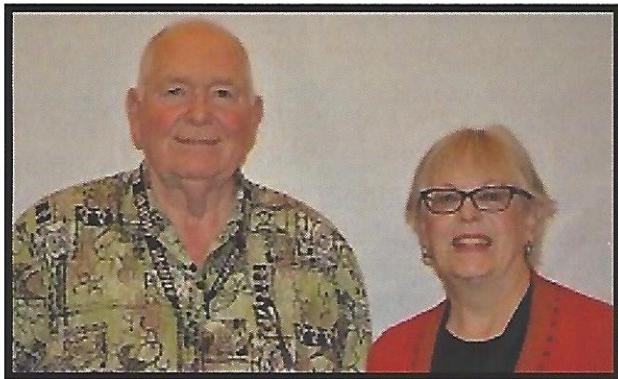


River Walk

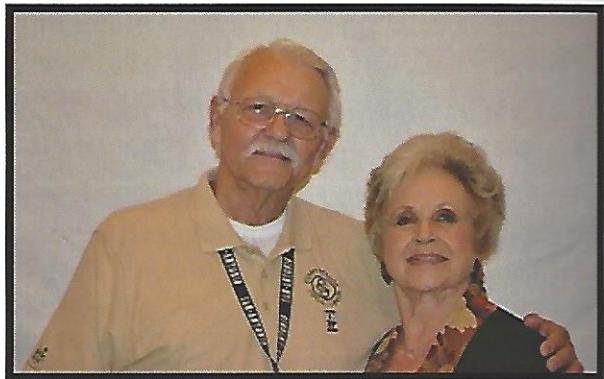


Time for 2016 Good byes

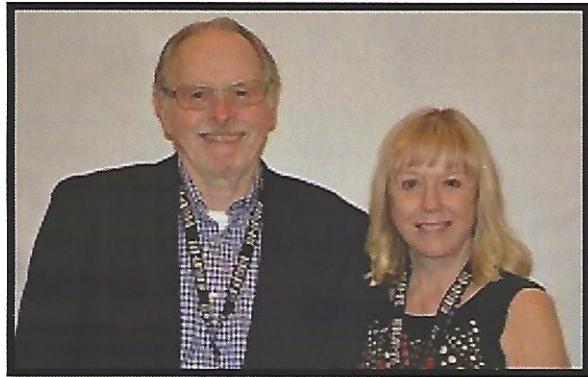
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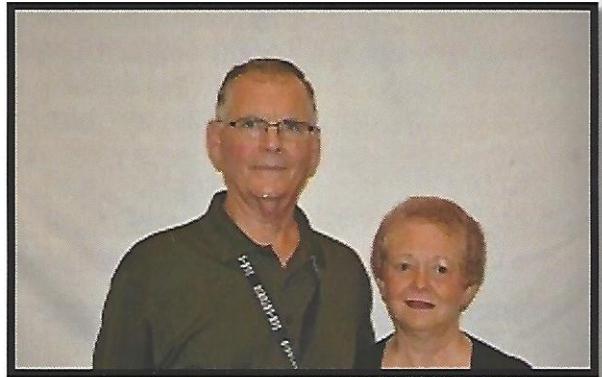
Sperry, William (9-66) & Kitty



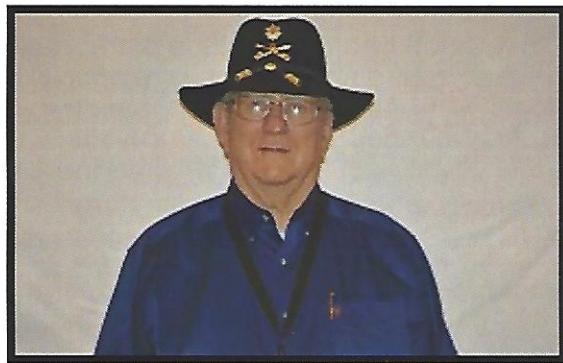
Tarby, Jr., Michael (9-66) & Mary Ann



Daniel, Jack (18-66) & Margaret



Player, Thomas (18-66) & Rachela



Zoeller, James (18-66)

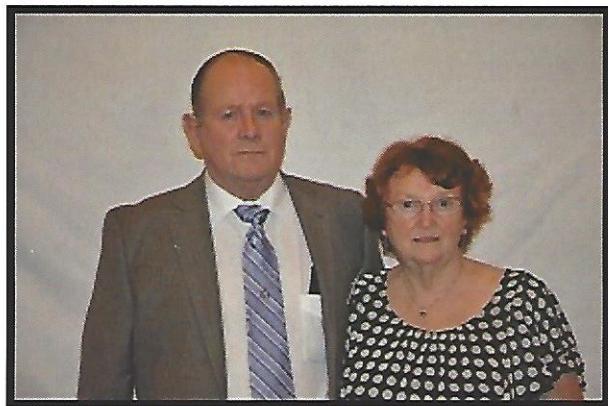


Schiff, Berny (19-66) & Sarah

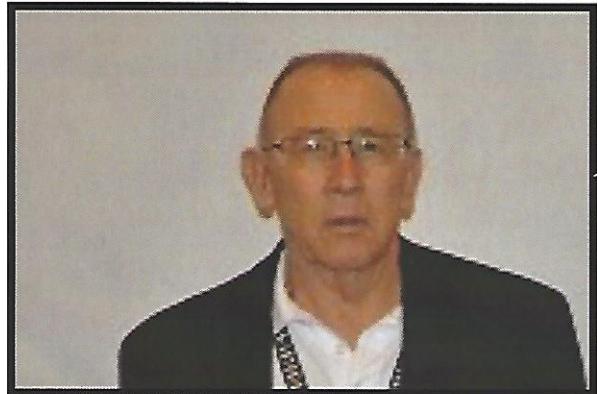
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Graham, Richard (22-66) & Helga



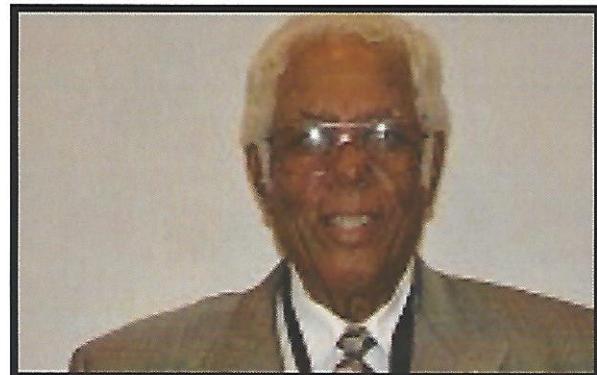
Ploog, Hans (22-66) & Donna



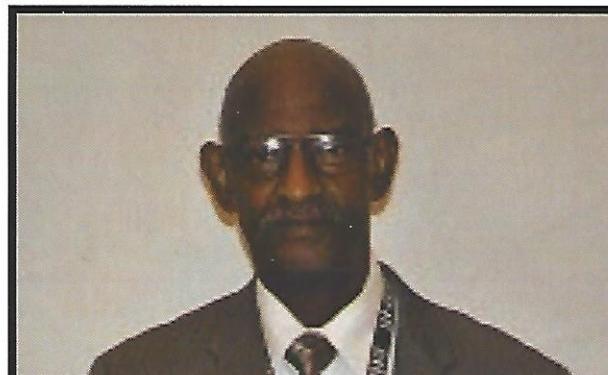
Ronningen, Jerome (22-66)



Horn, Paul (26-66) & Heather

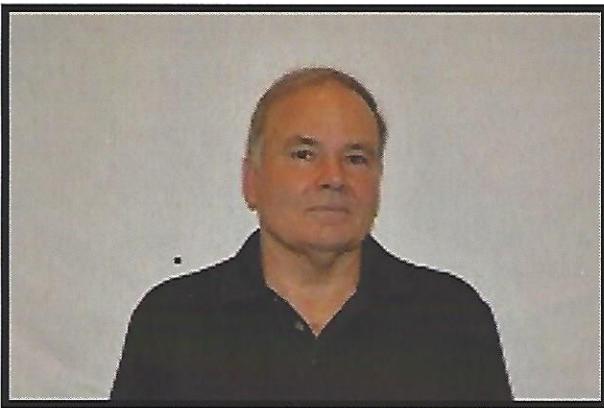


Fennell, Alton (1-67)

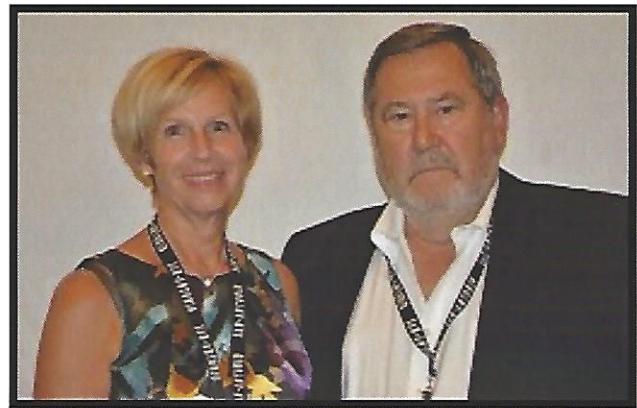


Johnson, Jerome (1-67)

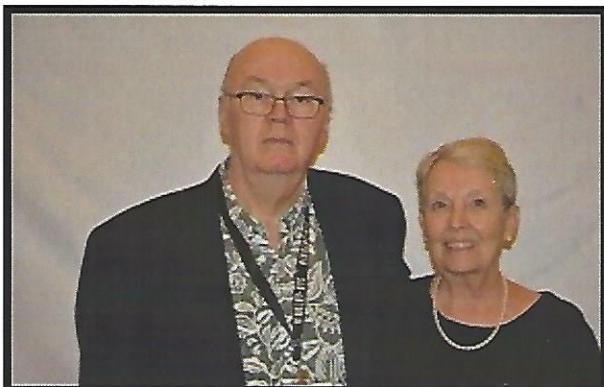
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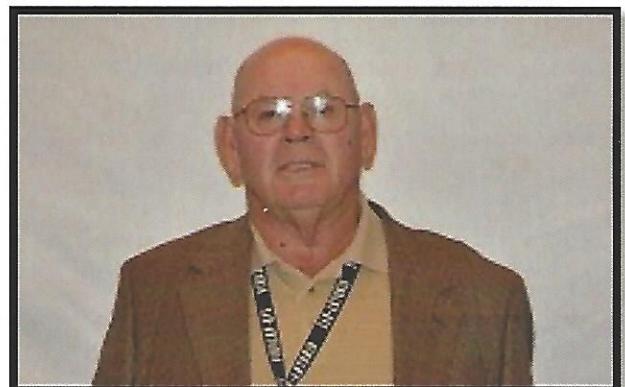
Poeff, John (2-67)



Sharp, Terry (2-67), Gwen Stafford



Snodgrass, Frederick (2-67) & Patricia

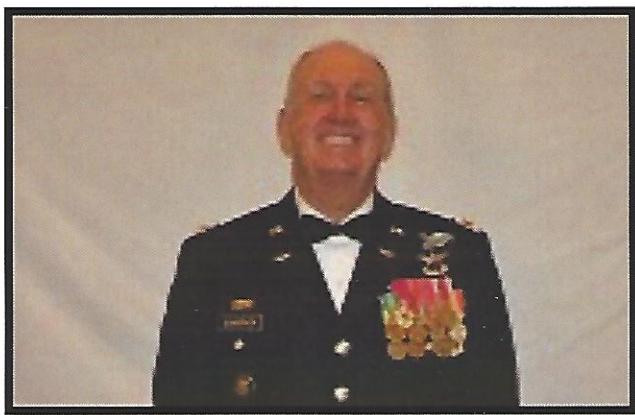


Vaught, Dewey (2-67)

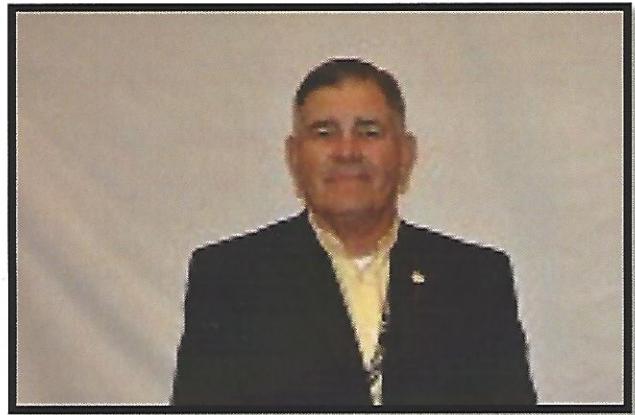


Bishop, Grover (6-67) & Shirley

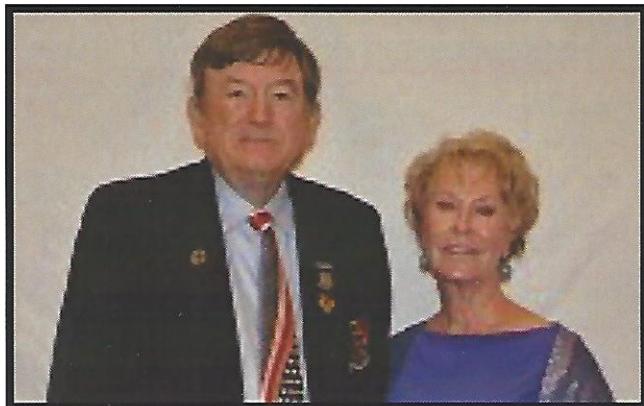
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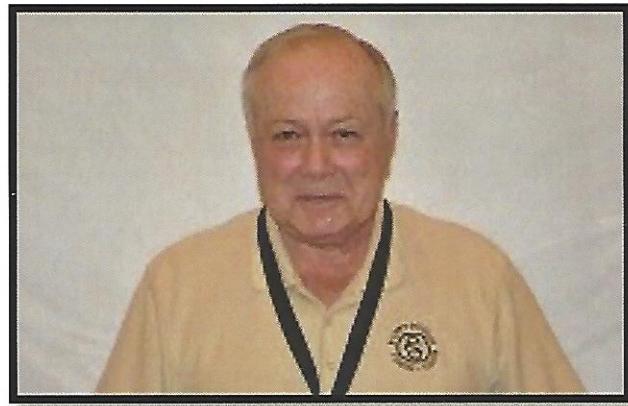
Goodrich, Roger (6-67)



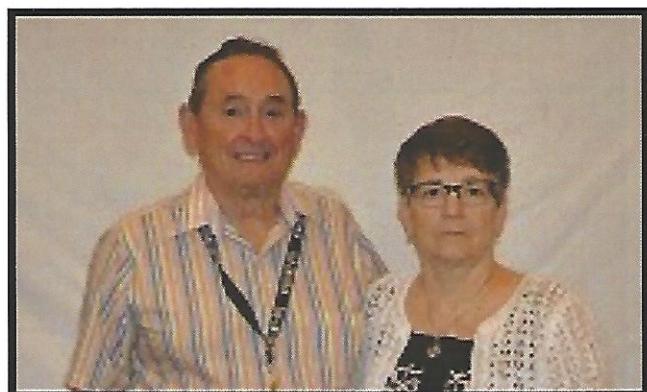
Richardson, Gerald (6-67)



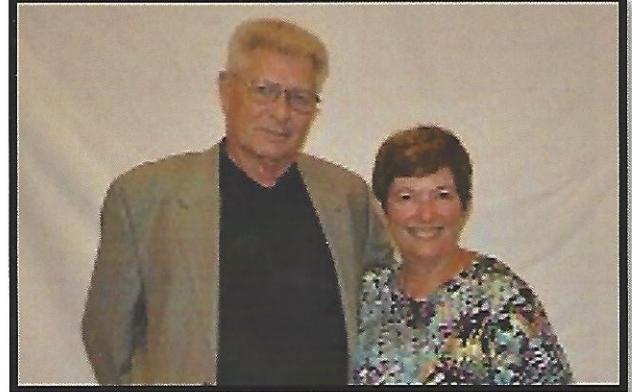
Sawyer, John (6-67) & Sara



Christensen, Leo (10-67)

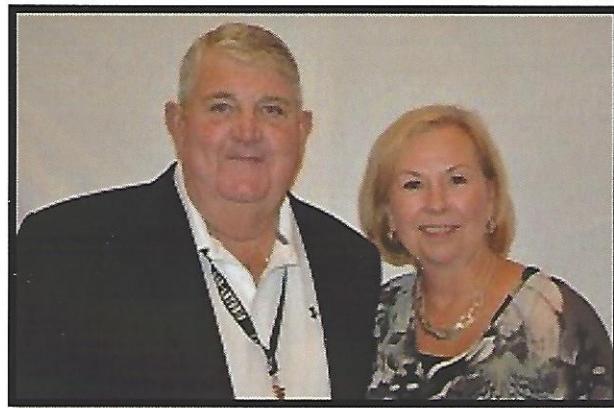


Fields, Randall (13-67) & Joan

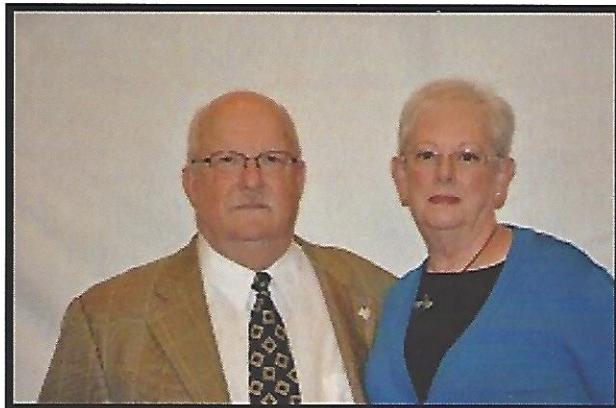


Flaten, Gary (13-67) & Shirley

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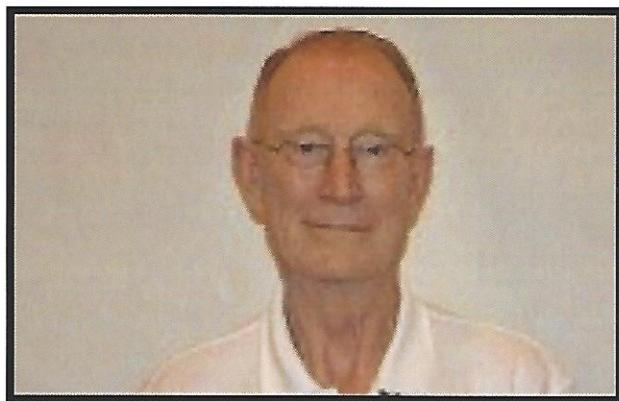
Ratchford, Ray (16-67) &
Nancy Hubert



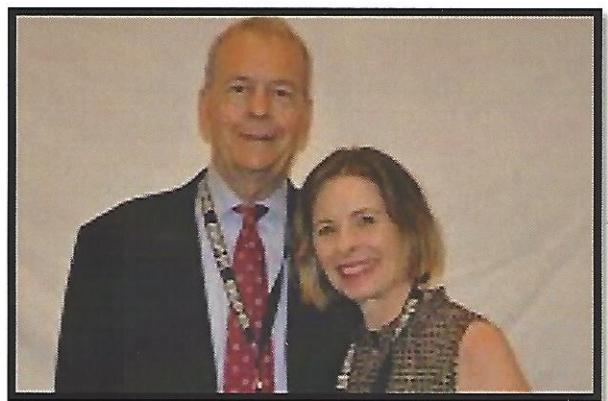
Moreland, Stephen (18-67) & Brenda



Alford, Huie (21-67)

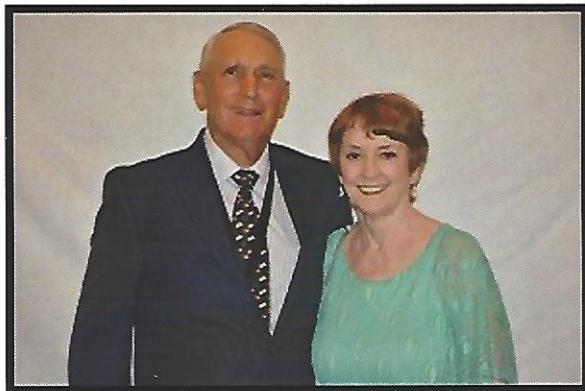


Brittain, William (21-67)

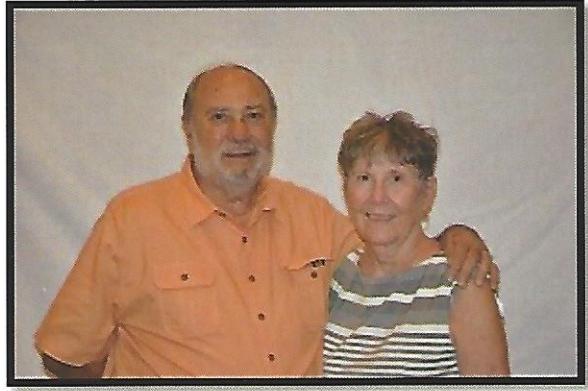


Douglass, Robert (21-67) & Lorraine

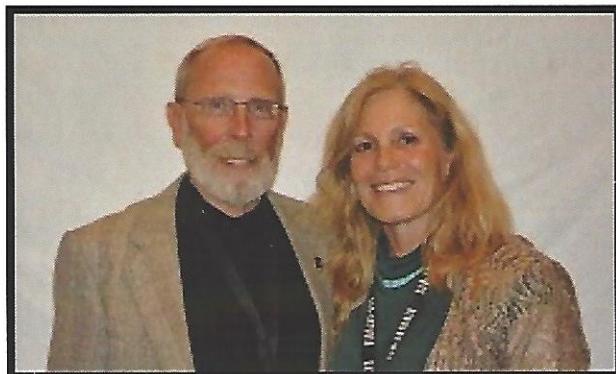
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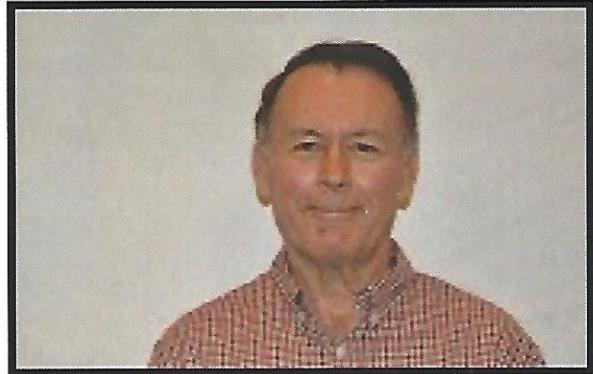
Leer, Jason (13-67) & Patricia



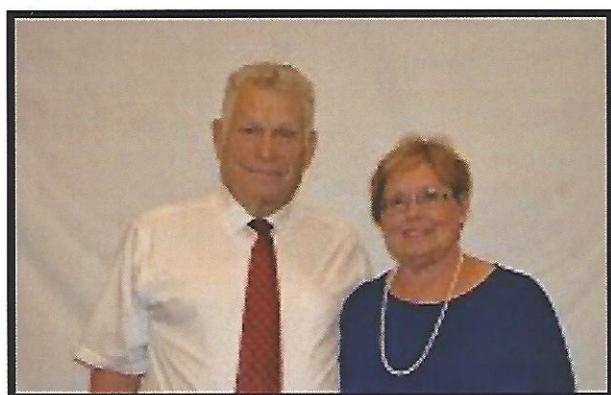
Liptak, John (13-67) & Barbara



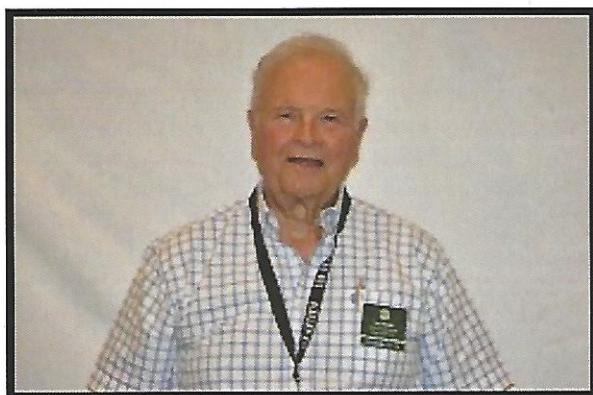
Kirkpatrick, Wayne (14-67) & Mary



Axelsen, Max (16-67)

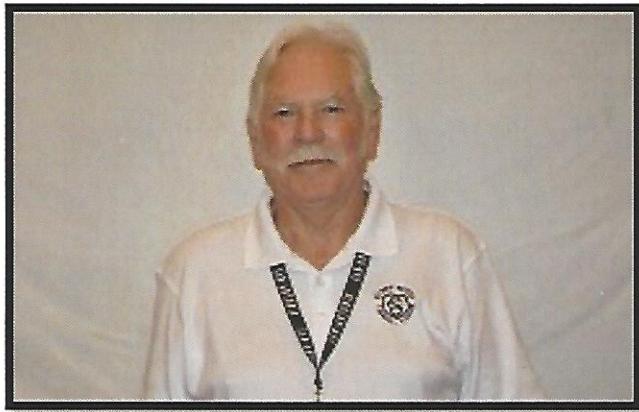


Gutowski, David (16-67) & Judy

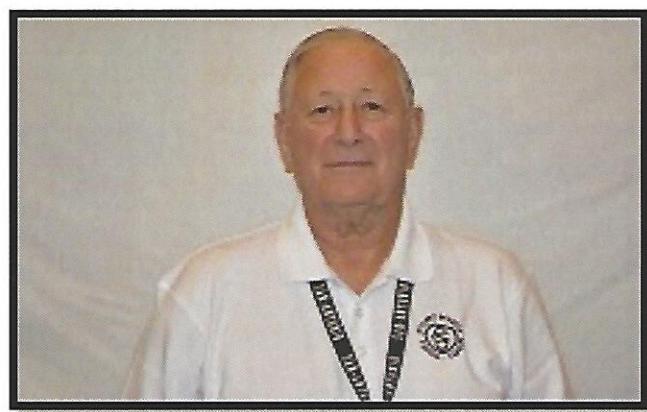


Neese, James (16-67)

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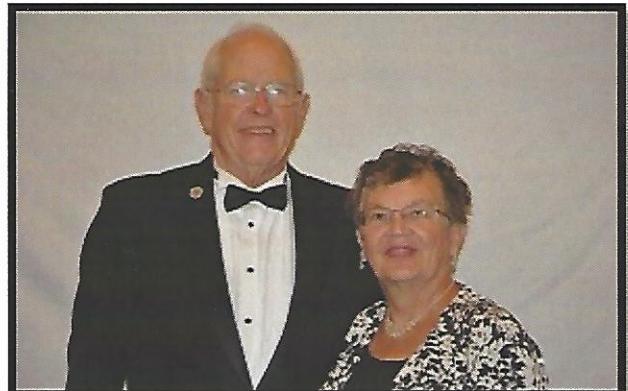
Ensign, Will (21-67)



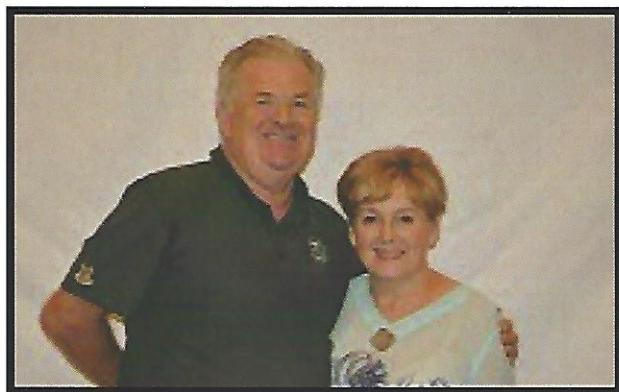
Satterfield, Kenneth (21-67)



Darsie III, Burns (22-67) & Linda



Leifel, Danny (23-67) & Paula

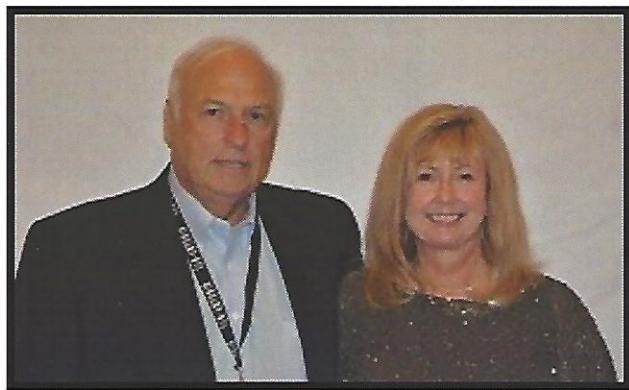


Ryan, David (23-67) & Martha

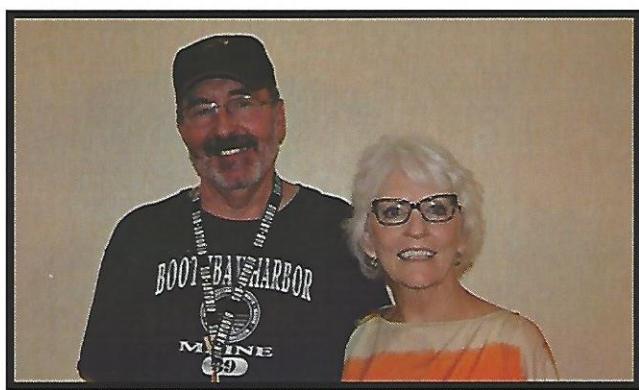


Moore, John (25-67) & Becky

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Mellen, Gerald (27-67) & Jeanne



Overstreet, Lee (27-67) & Kathy Jo



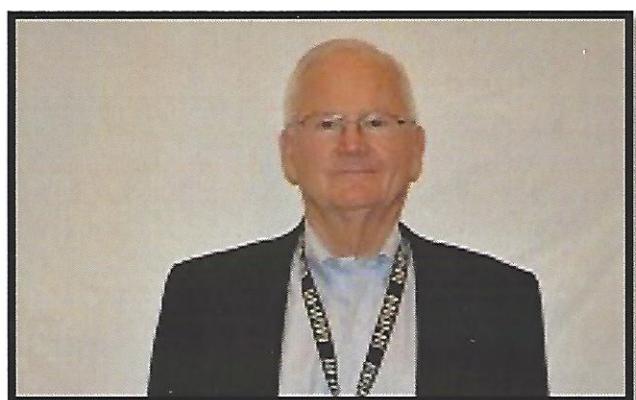
Preacher, Hugh (27-67)



Sebastian, Richard (27-67) & Mary

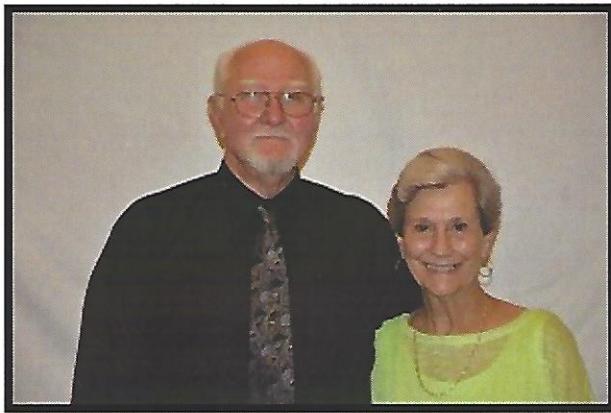


Read, David (28-67) & Allona

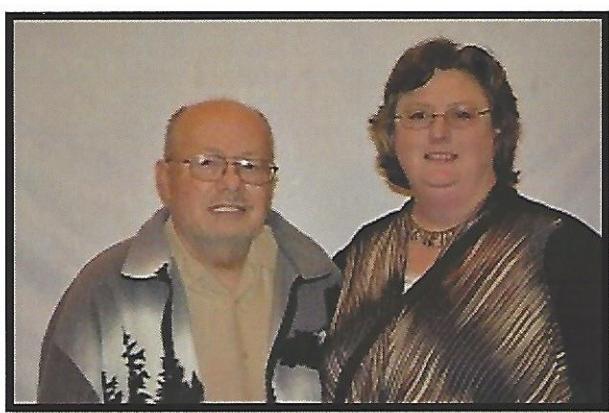


Tackett, James (28-67)

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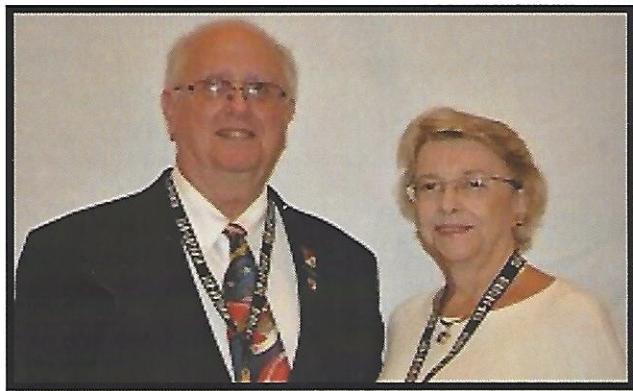
Van Orden, Fred (28-67) & Mary



Voce, Patrick (28-67) & Judy



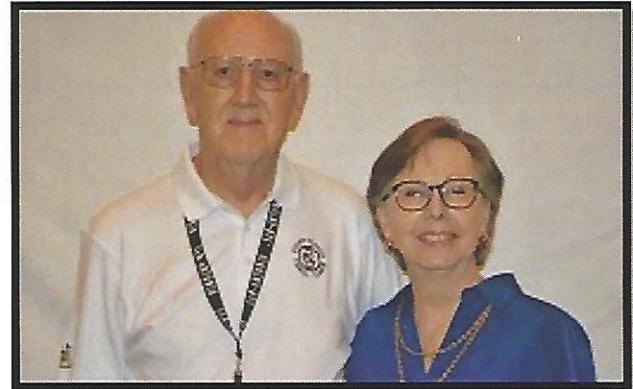
Walther, Phillip (28-67) & Karen



Emory, Morris (29-67) & Brigitte



Todd, Walter (31-67) & Jennifer

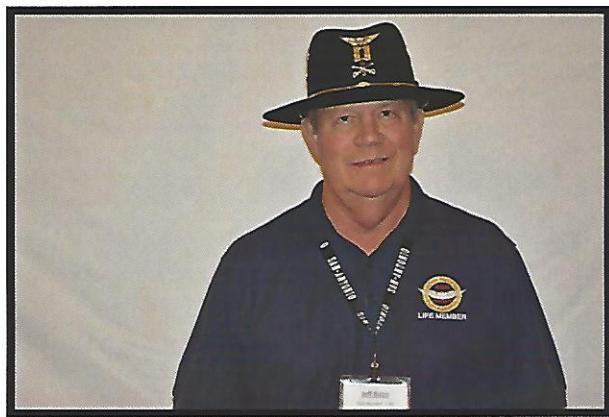


Burmester, Doug (1-68) & Sandy

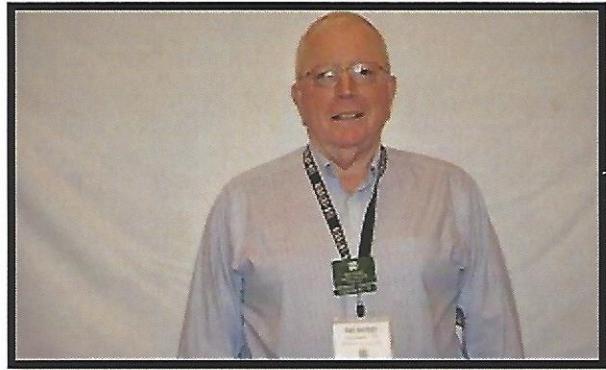
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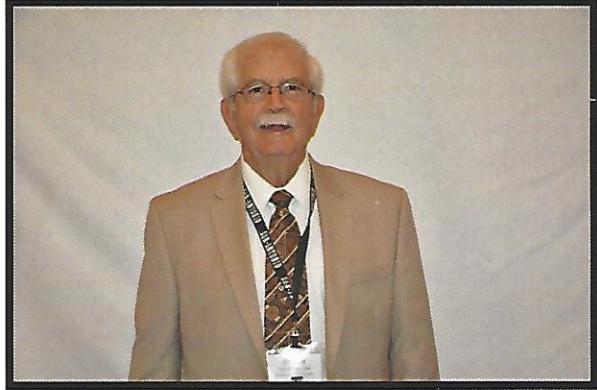
Costello, Michael (1-68) & Yvonne



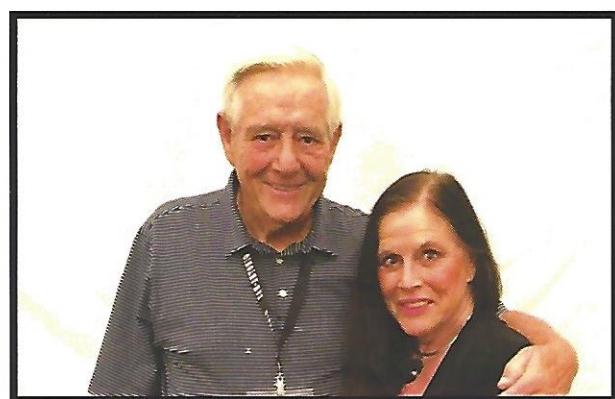
Babb, Jeffrey (2-68)



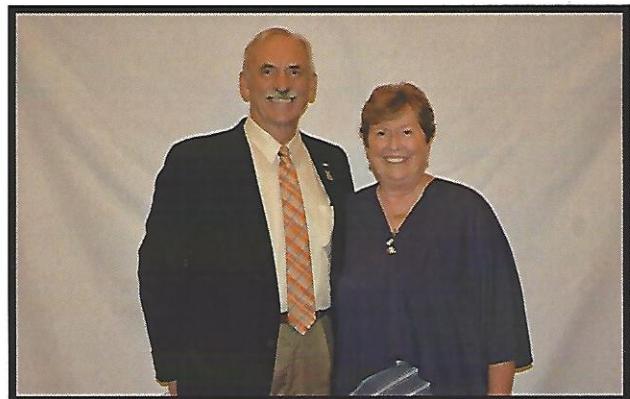
Gunton, Kenneth (2-68)



Long, Joseph (2-68)

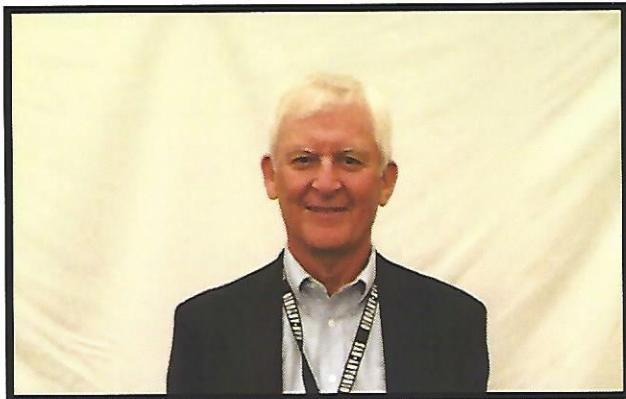


Morgan, Joseph (2-68) & Hiltrud

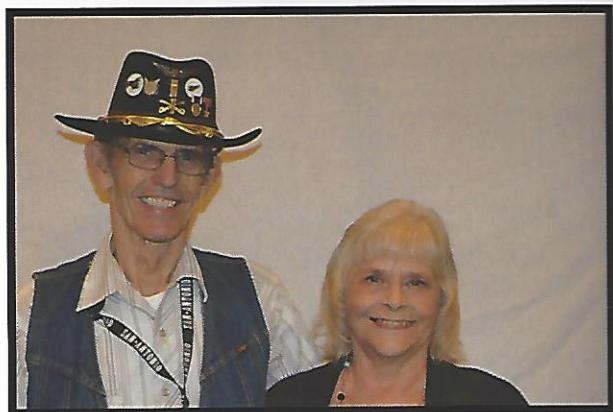


Russell, John (2-68)

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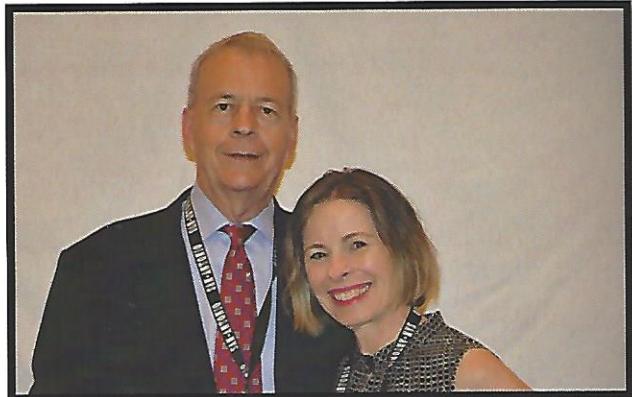
Sells, Michael (2-68)



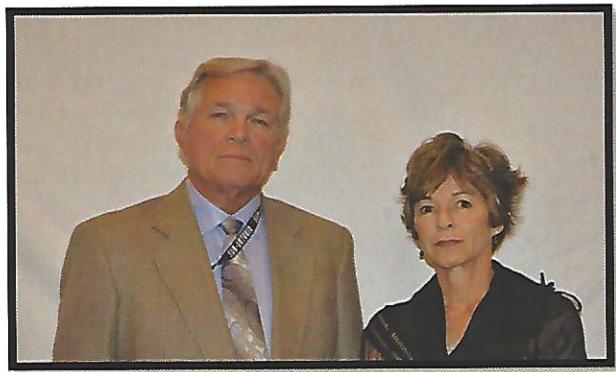
Stutzman, Charles (2-68) & Beverly



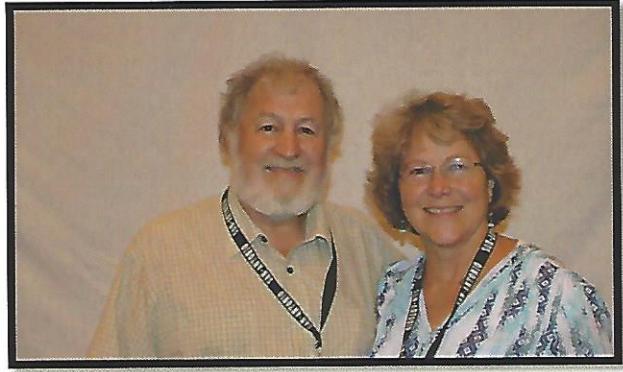
Gruetzemacher III, Edward (3-68) & M. Jean



James, Douglas (3-68) & Susan

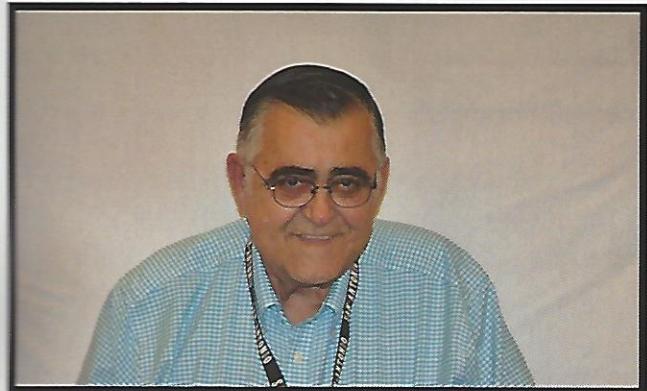


Norris, Warren (3-68) & Jane

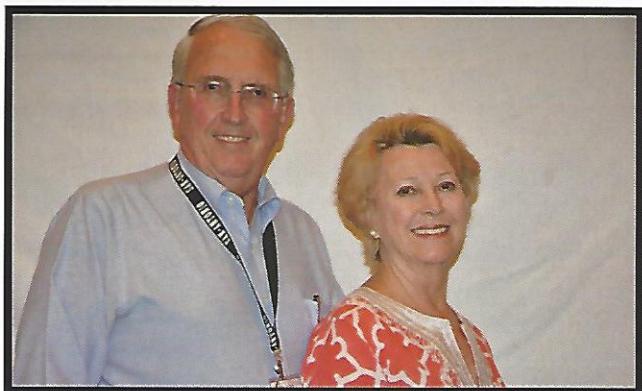


Reagles, Steve (5-68) & Patti

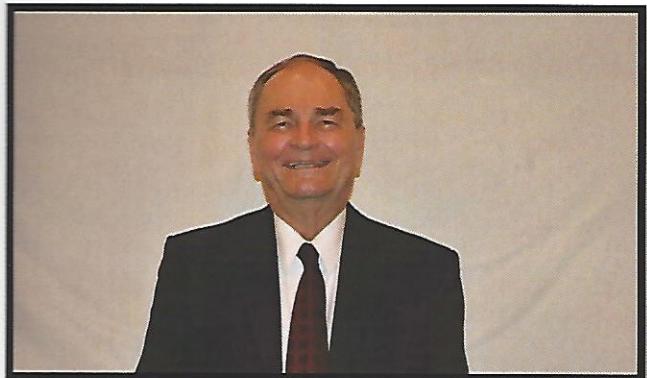
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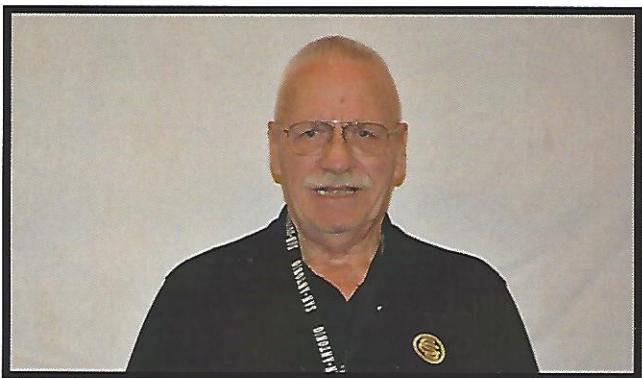
Hiltebrant, TAC Officer George



Orth, Jr., TAC Officer Walter & Bobbie



Rozga, TAC Officer Anthony

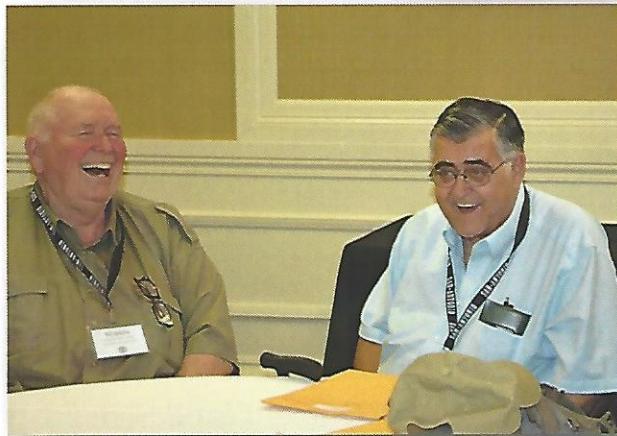


Whittle, TAC Officer Claude

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Thursday, August 18

Registration and Welcome Reception



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Thursday, August 18

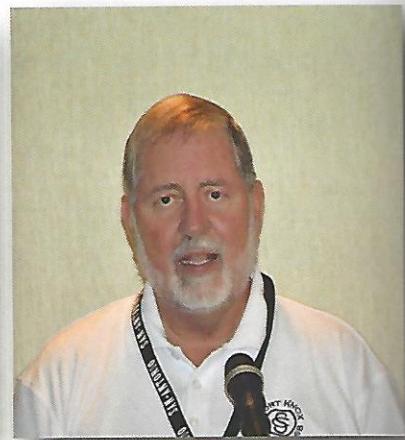
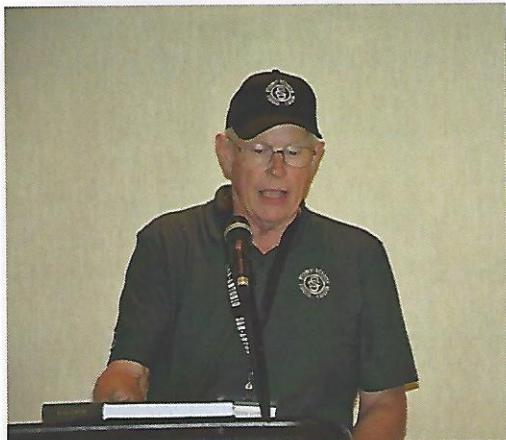
Registration and Welcome Reception



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Thursday, August 18

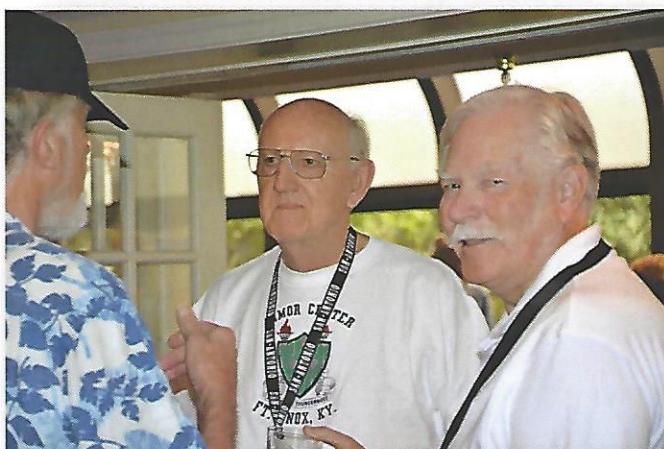
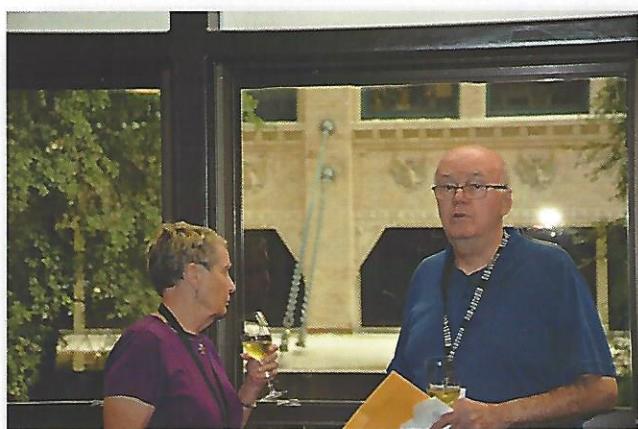
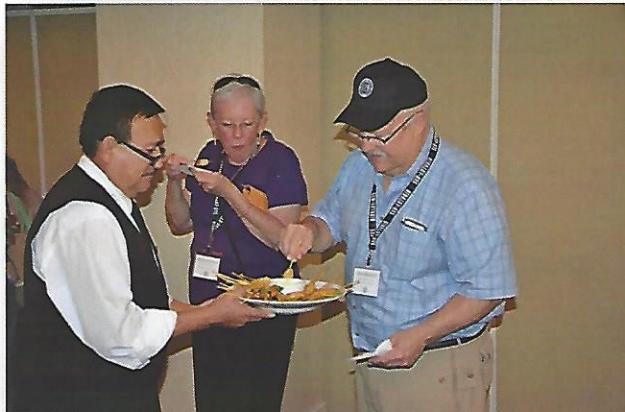
Registration and Welcome Reception



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Thursday, August 18

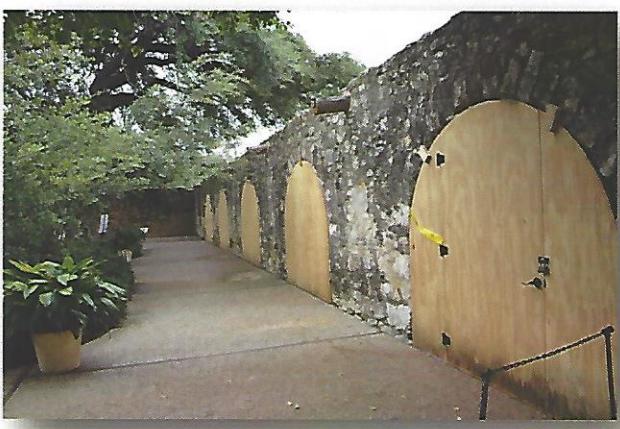
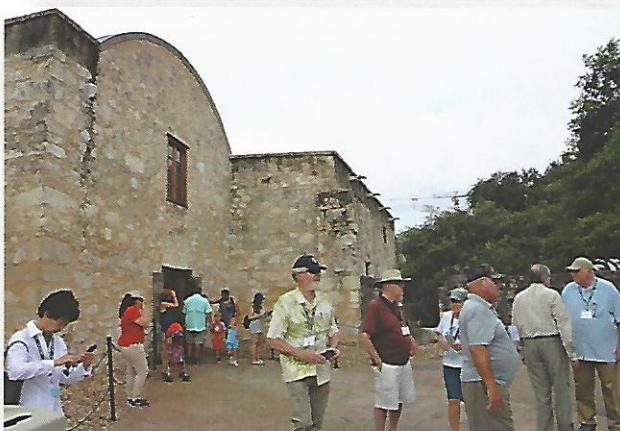
Registration and Welcome Reception



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Friday, August 19

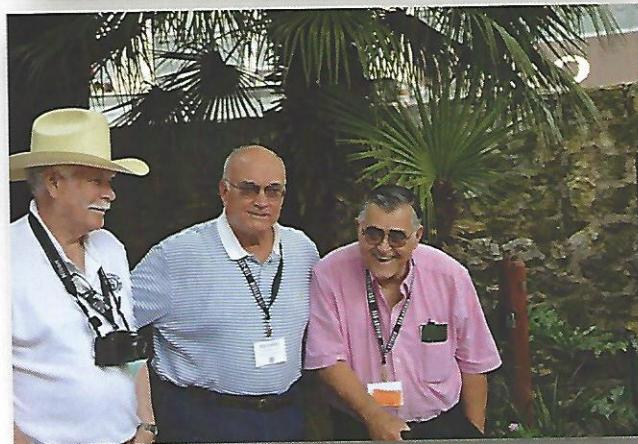
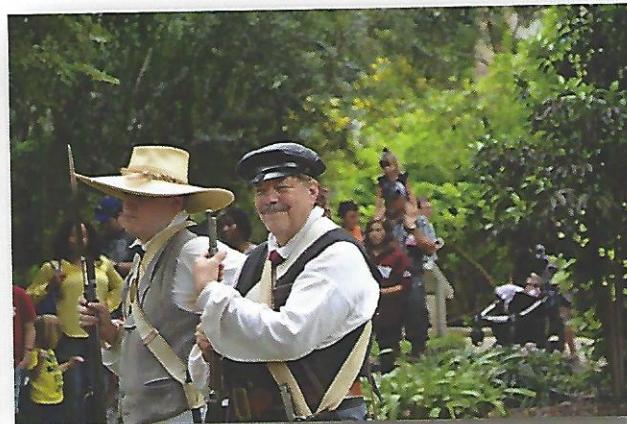
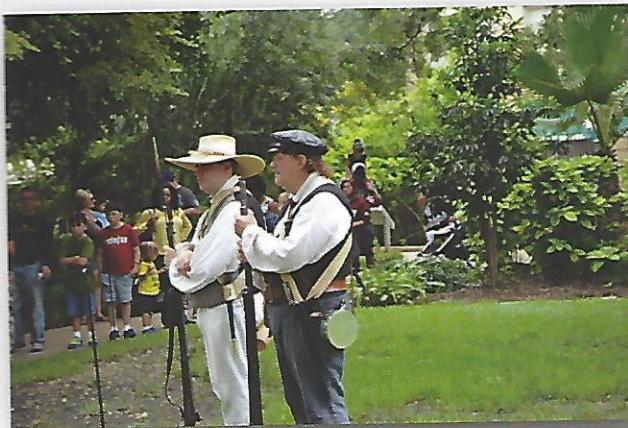
THE ALAMO, FORT SAM HOUSTON



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Friday, August 19

THE ALAMO, FORT SAM HOUSTON, THE PEARL DISTRICT



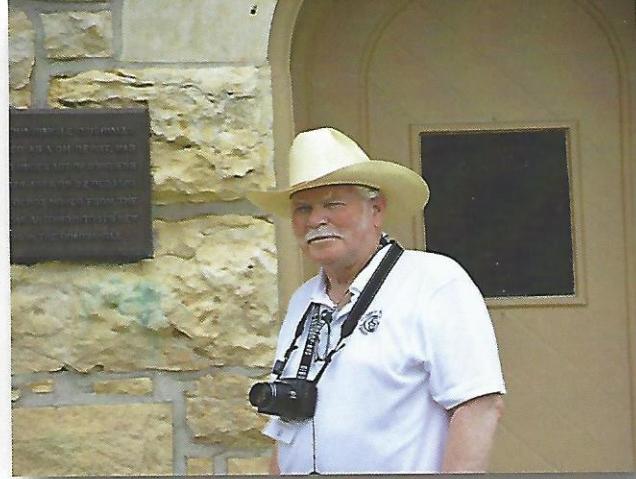
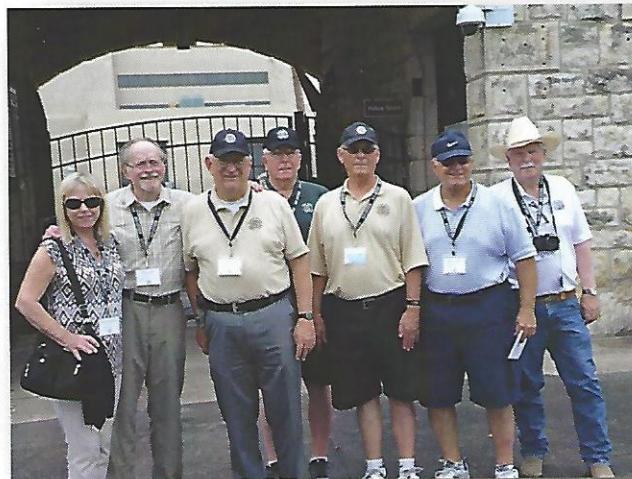
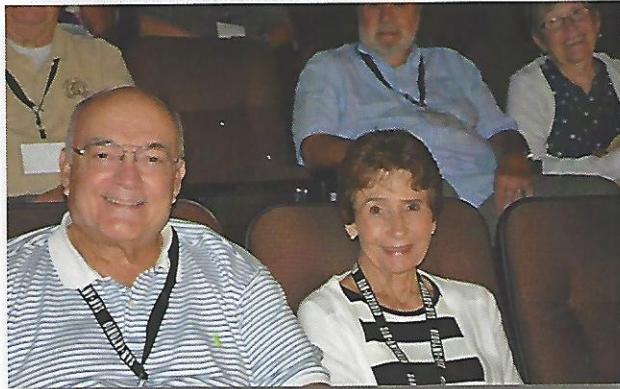
Will Ensign, Berny Schiff, George Hiltebrant



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Friday, August 19

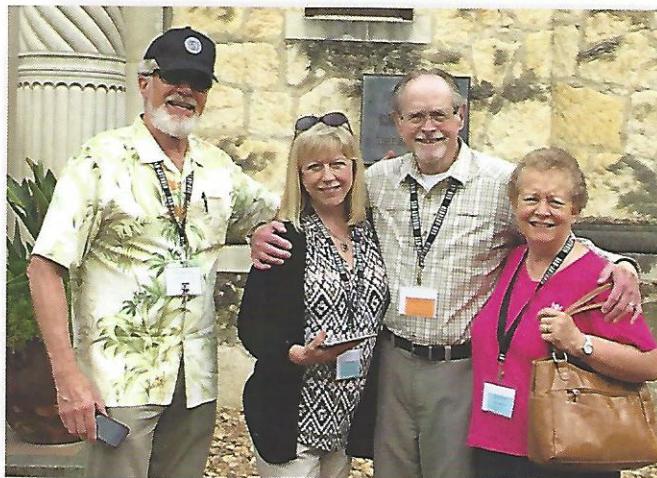
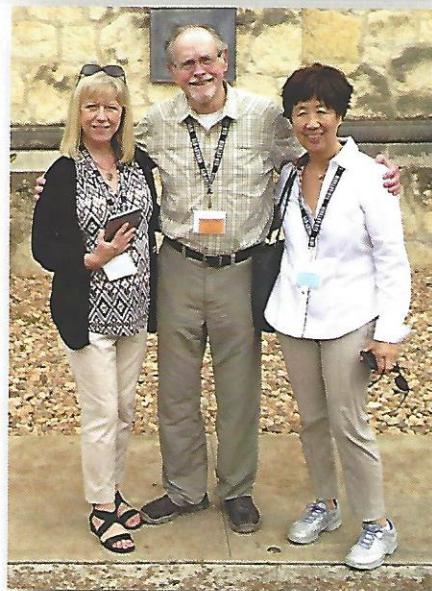
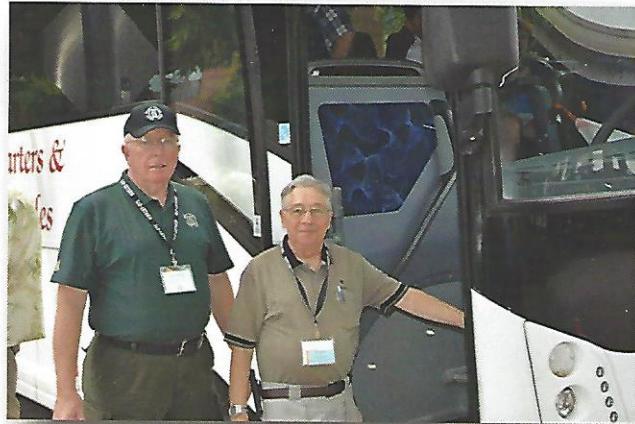
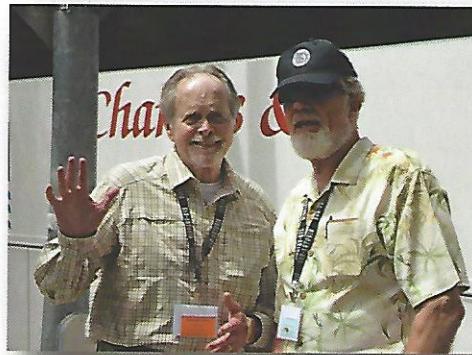
THE ALAMO, FORT SAM HOUSTON, THE PEARL DISTRICT



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Friday, August 19

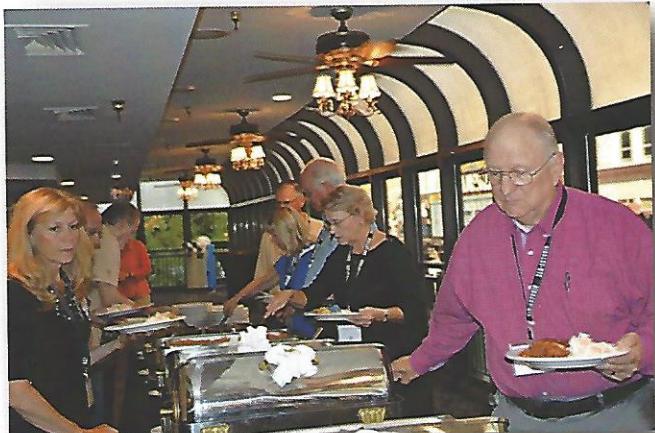
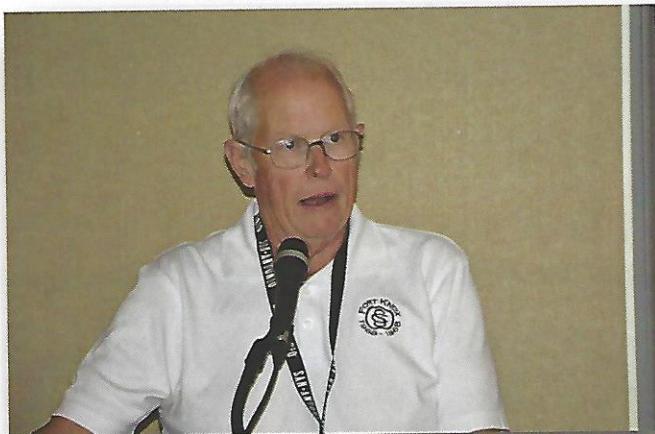
THE ALAMO, FORT SAM HOUSTON, THE PEARL DISTRICT



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Friday, August 19

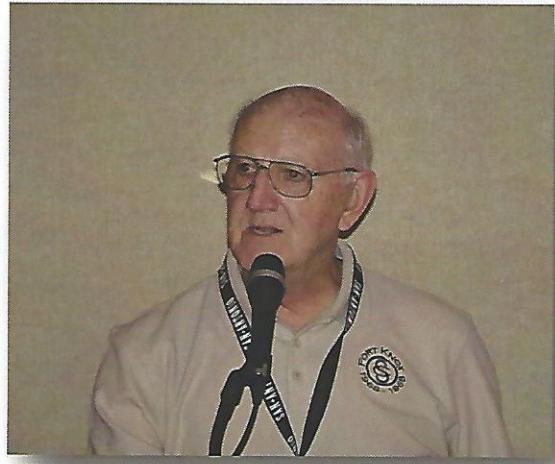
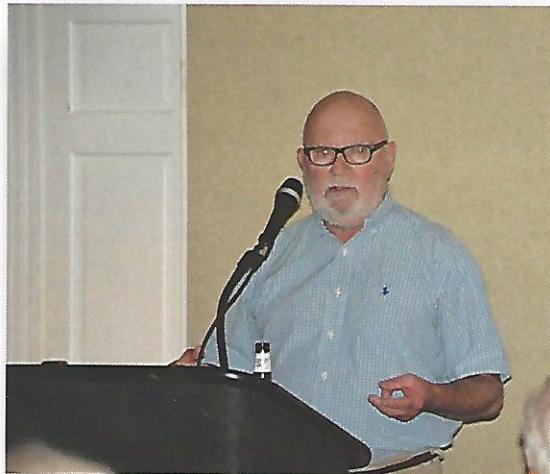
BUFFET DINNER



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Friday, August 19

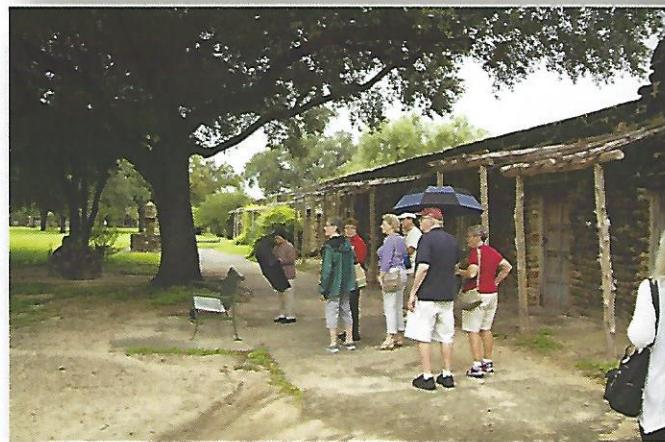
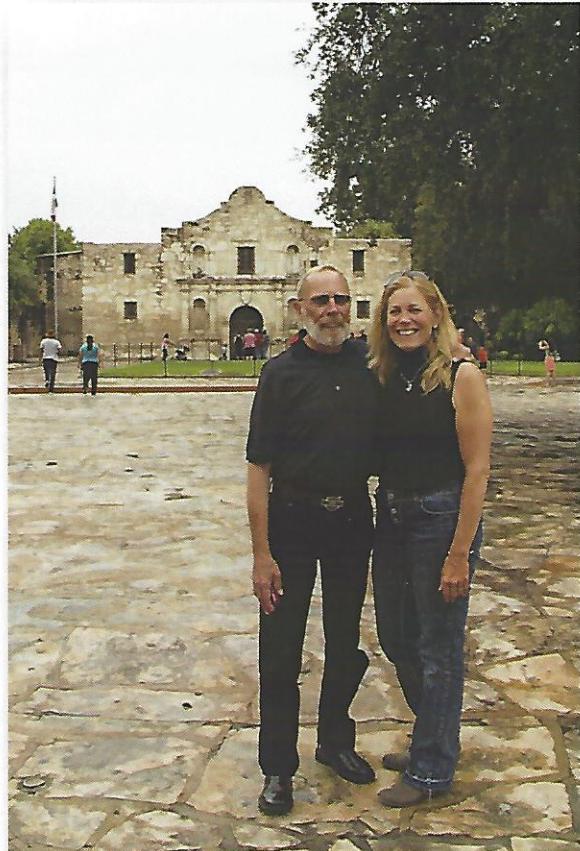
BUFFET DINNER



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

The Missions Tour



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

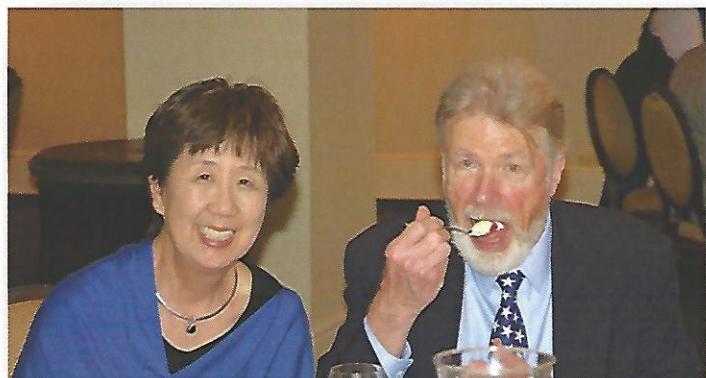
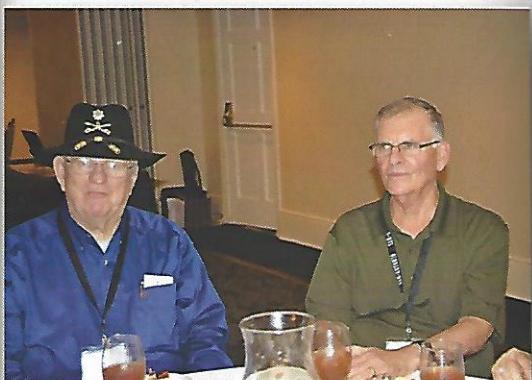
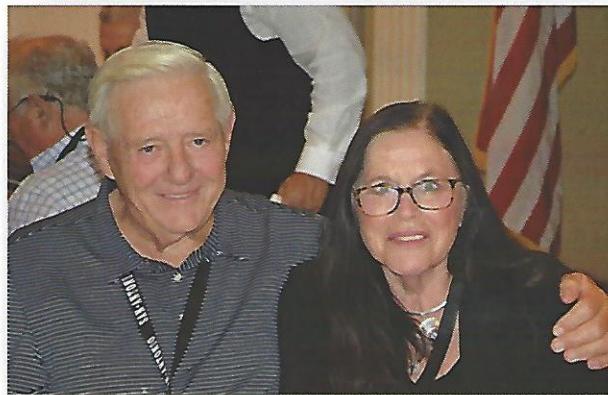
Fredericksburg and Texas Hill Country and the National Museum of the Pacific War



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

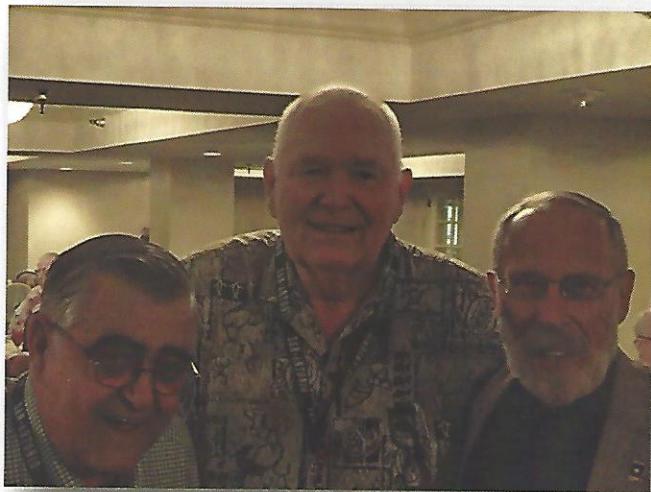
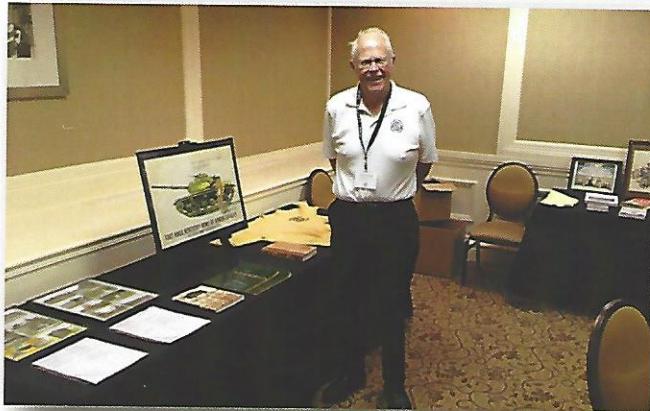
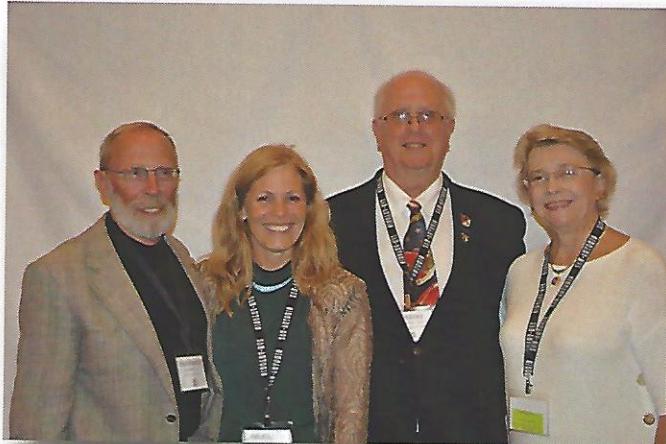
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

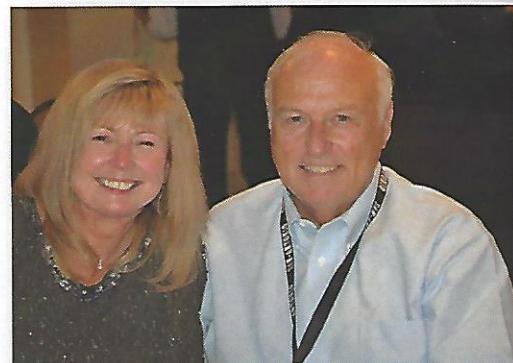
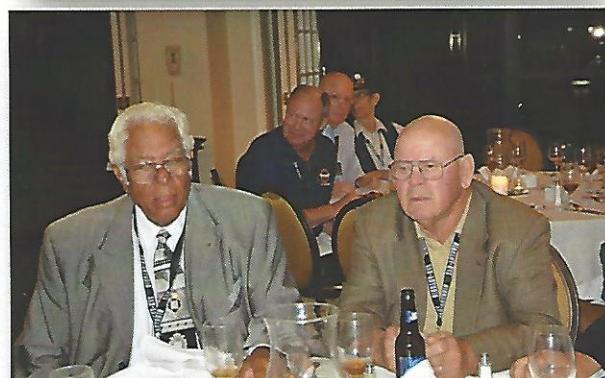
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

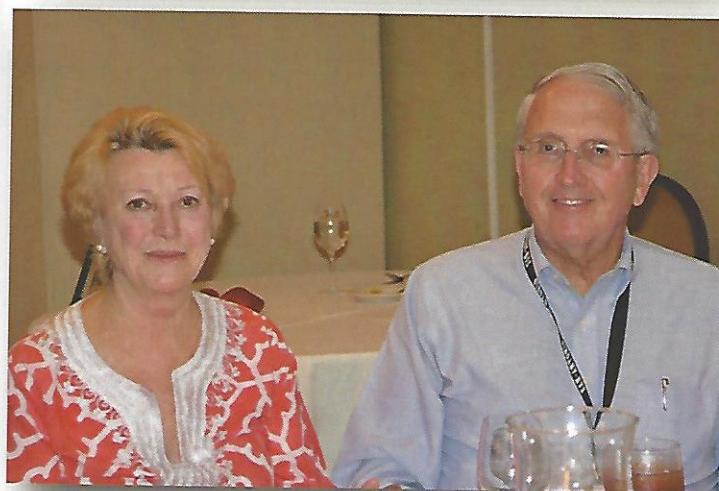
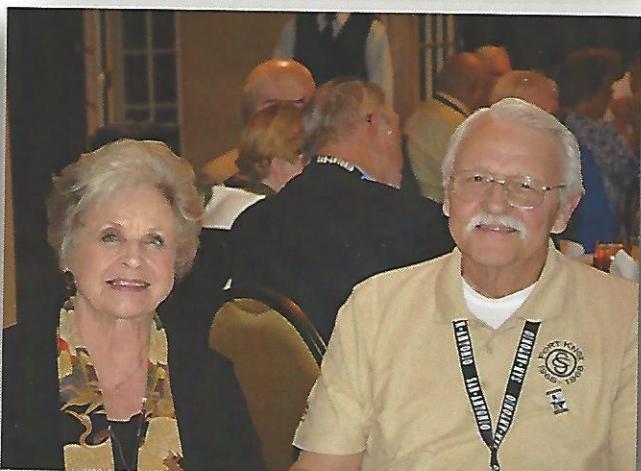
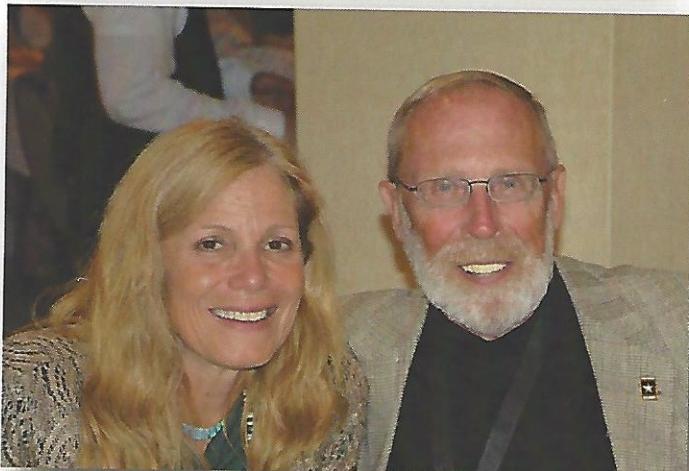
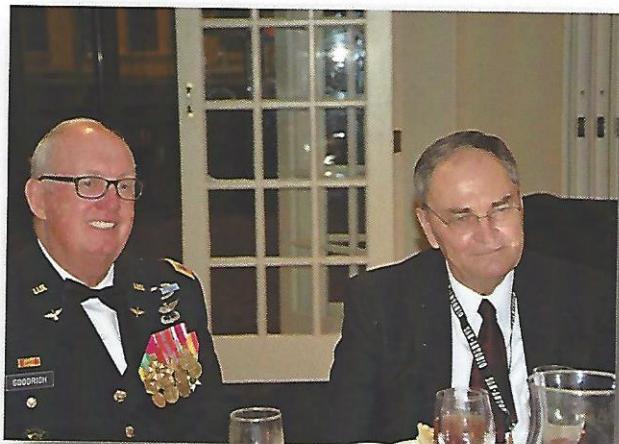
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

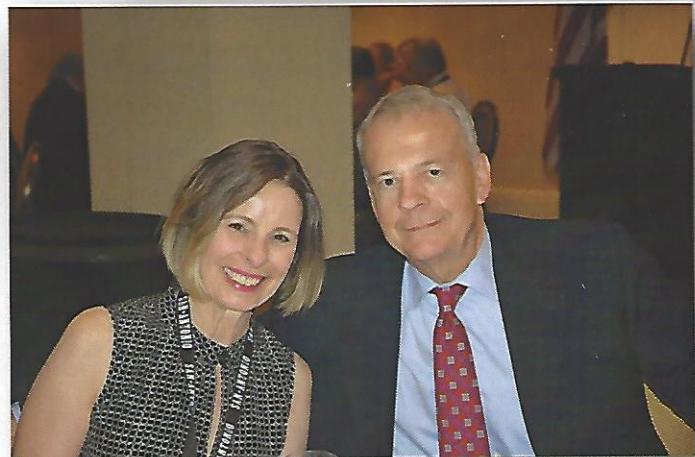
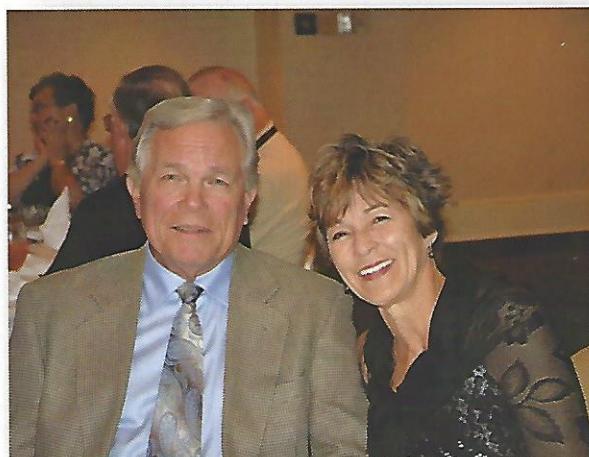
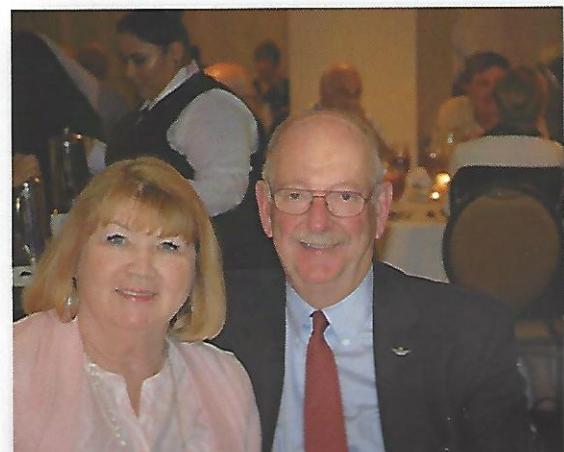
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

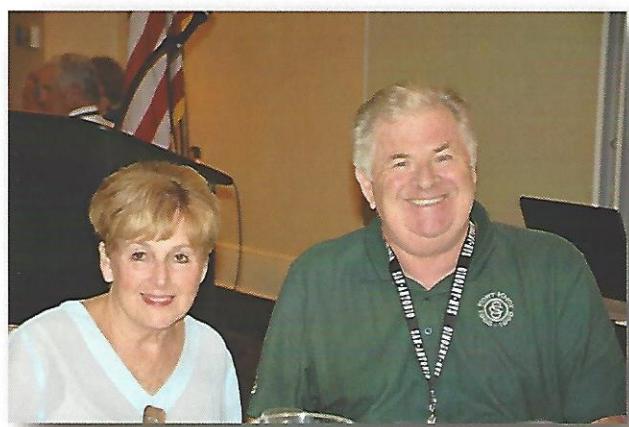
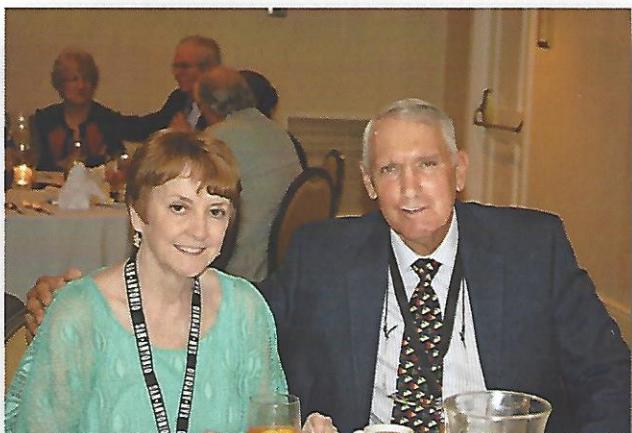
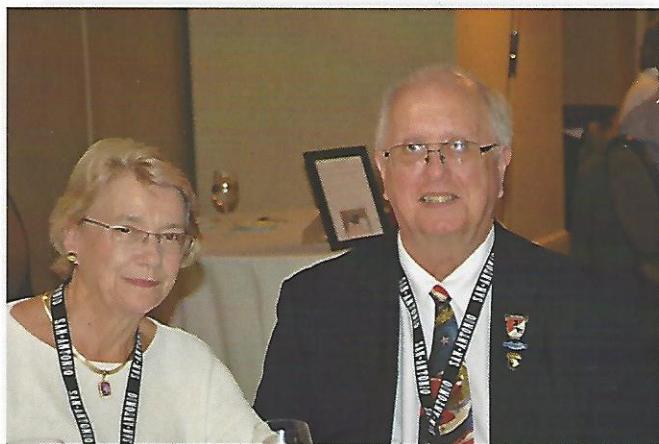
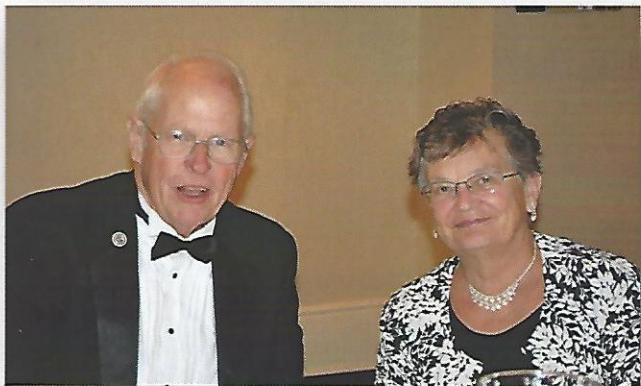
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

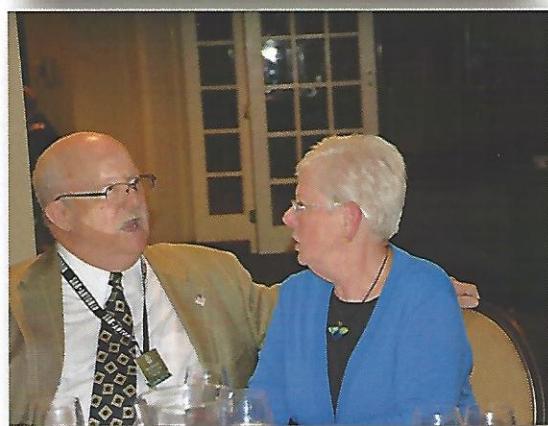
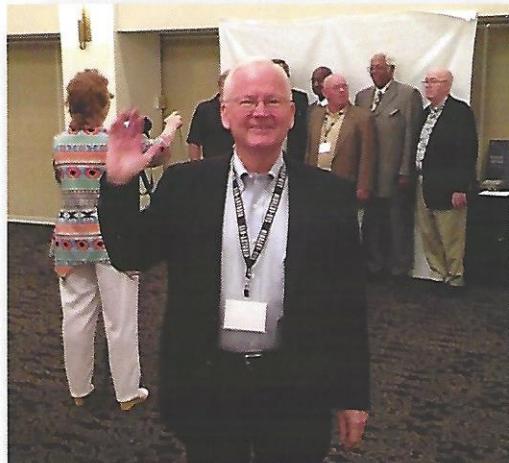
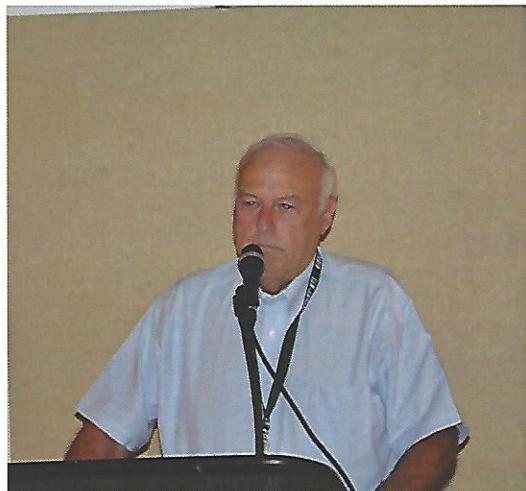
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

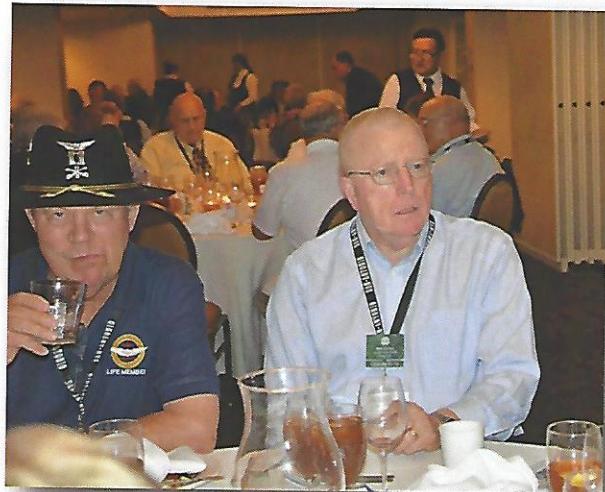
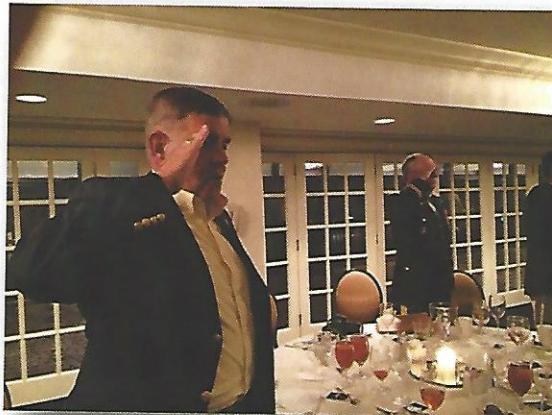
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Saturday, August 20

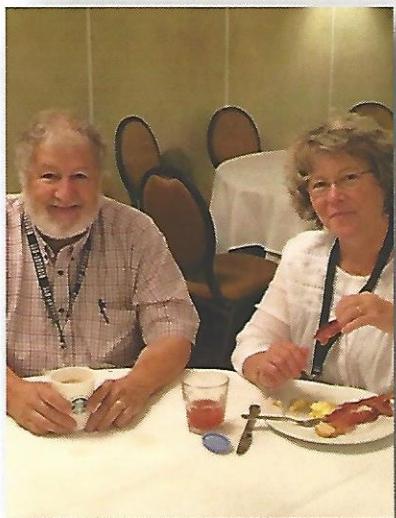
OCS at FORT KNOX BANQUET



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Sunday, August 21, 2016

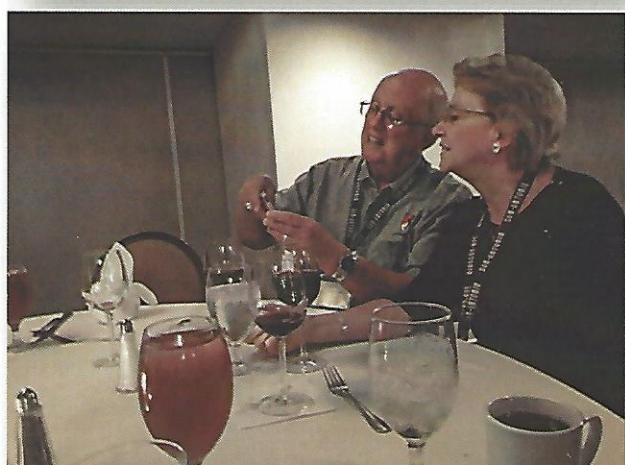
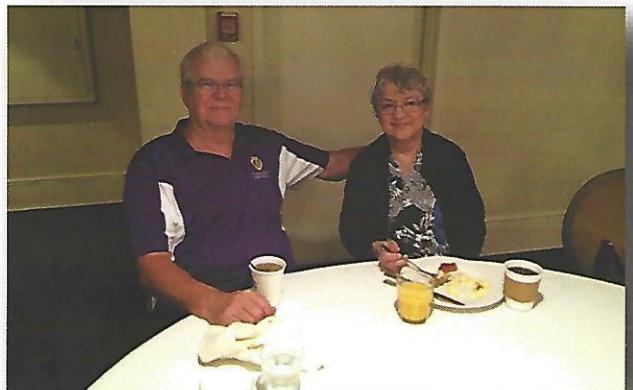
GOOD BYE BREAKFAST



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Sunday, August 21, 2016

GOOD BYE BREAKFAST



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Sunday, August 21, 2016

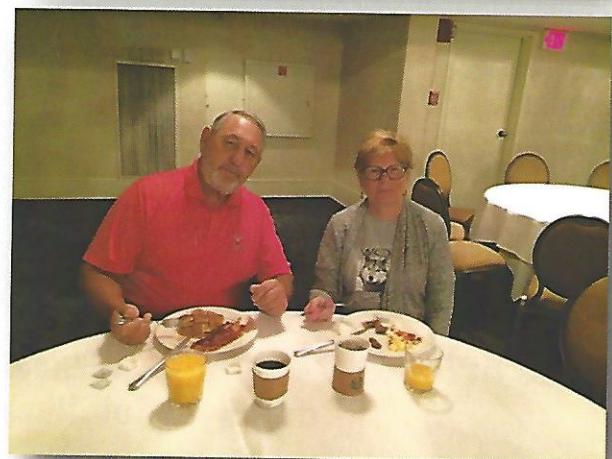
GOOD BYE BREAKFAST



OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Sunday, August 21, 2016

GOOD BYE BREAKFAST

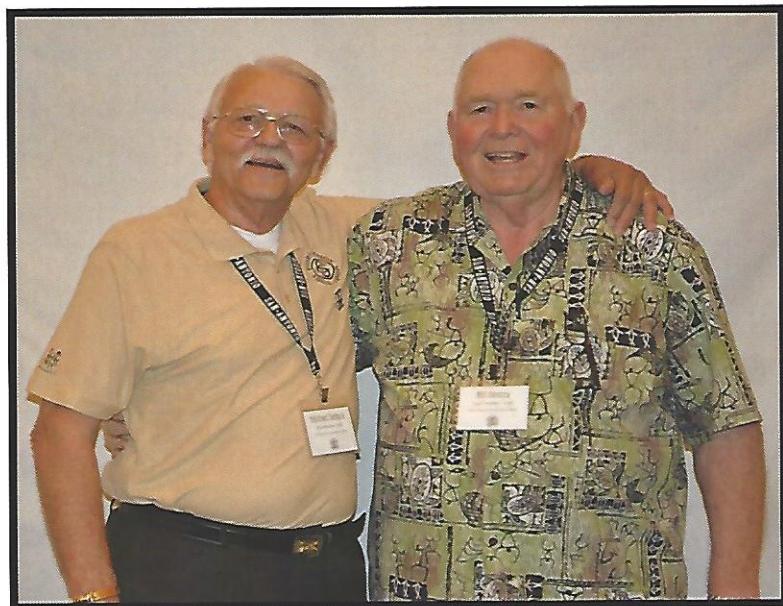


OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Class Pictures



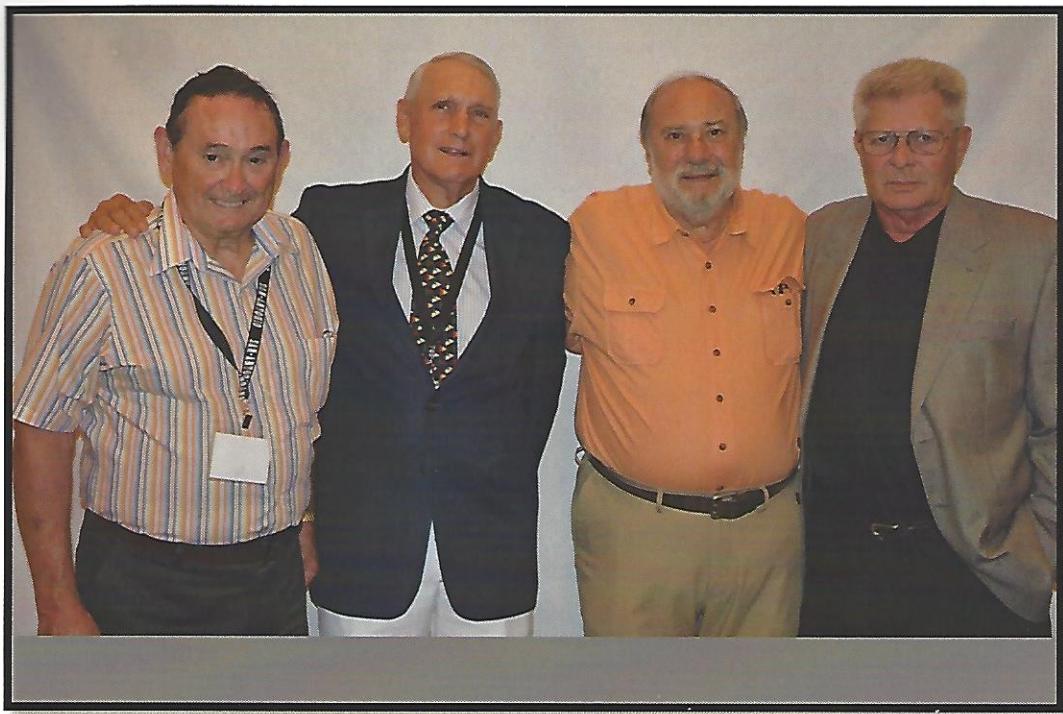
Class of 67-28 Fred Van Orden, Walter Orth, Jr. Phillip Walther, Patrick
Voce, David Read, James Tackett



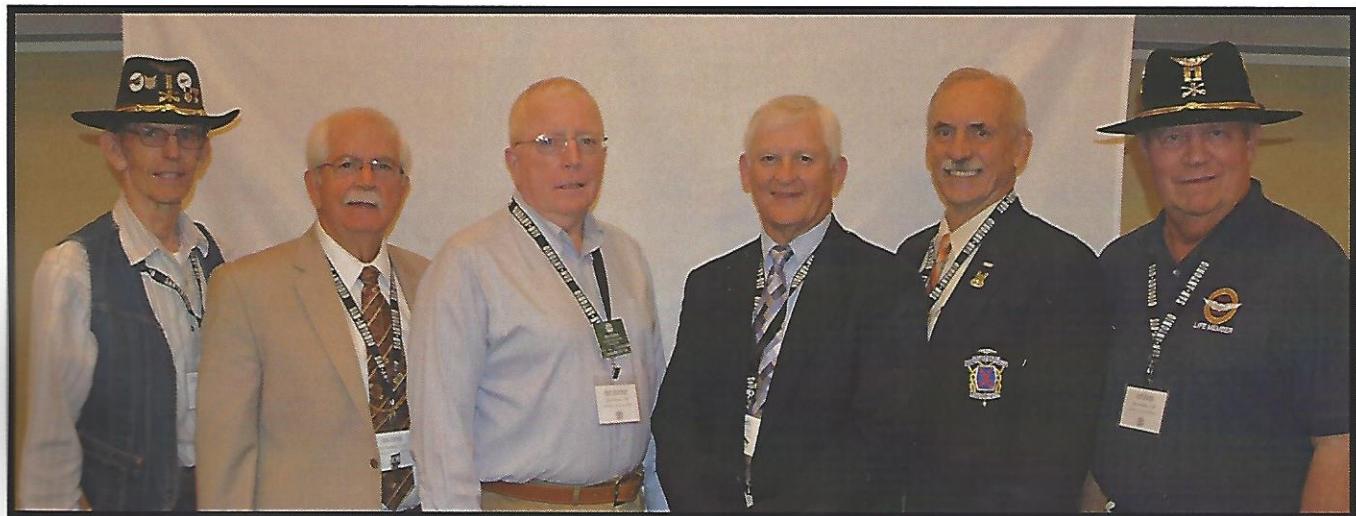
Class of 66-09 Michael Tarby, Jr., William Sperry

OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Class Pictures



Class of 67-13 Randall Fields, Jason Leer, John Liptak, Gary Flaten



**Class of 68-02 Charles Stutzman, Joseph Long, Kenneth Gunton ,
Michael Sells, John Russell, Jeffrey Babb**

OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Class Pictures



Classes of 67-01 & 67-02 John Peeff (02), Terry Sharp (02), Jerome Johnson (01), Dewey Vaught (02), Alton Fennell (01), Frederick Snodgrass (02)

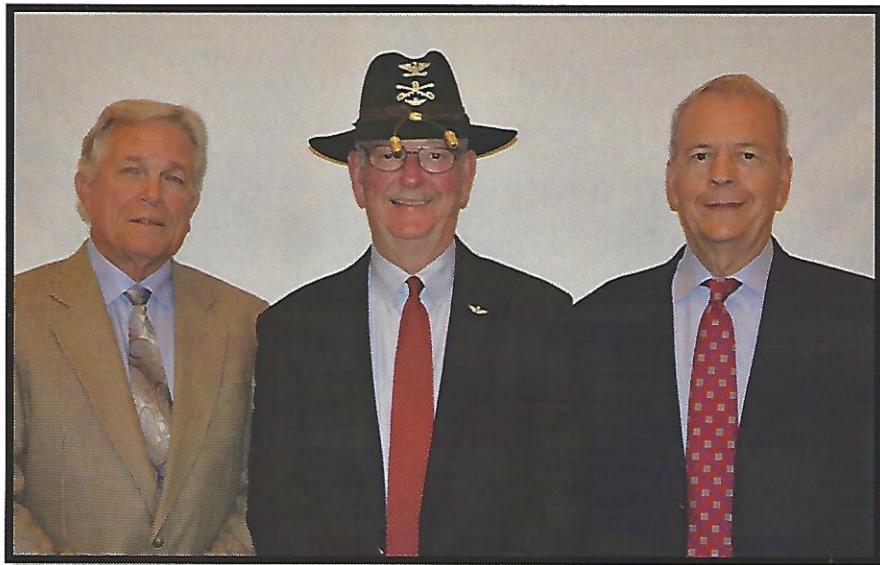


Class of 66-18

Thomas Player, James Zoeller, Jack Daniel

OCS at FORT KNOX 2016 REUNION

Class Pictures



Class of 68-03 Warren Norris, Edward Gruetzemacher, III; Douglas James



Class of 66-22

**Jerome Ronningen, Hans Ploog,
Richard Graham**



Class of 68-01

Michael Costello, Doug Burmester



PREMIER REUNION SERVICES, LLC
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HICKORY NC 28603
828.256.6008