

## FOAA Membership & Benefits

### Membership

- Membership is open to anyone with a desire to assist CSUMB in the maintenance of the history and heritage of Fort Ord, while developing targeted scholarship funding for CSUMB students. Donations are, of course, tax deductible. FOAA is a non-profit organization within the CSUMB Foundation.
- Members have the opportunity to participate in various association committees, such as Scholarship, Membership, and Special Events. Please let us know on your application form if you have a particular interest.

### Benefits

Membership benefits of belonging to the Fort Ord Alumni Association include:

- Invitations to association-sponsored events
- Periodic FOAA newsletters (e-newsletter)
- CSUMB Bookstore 10% discount
- CSUMB sporting events - discount
- World Theater - discount

- Otter Sports Center gym - discount
- Recreational opportunities
- Support student scholarships
- Preserve legacy of Fort Ord

FOAA membership package includes:

- Welcome letter from FOAA Board
- Membership card
- List of benefits
- FOAA pin

Corporate and organizational membership benefits include acknowledgements in FOAA publications, at events and on the [CSUMB.EDU/foaa](http://CSUMB.EDU/foaa) website.

Members can share the positive feelings found in joining fellow alumni in advancing CSUMB, and we will be able to show our affiliation proudly by wearing a distinctive lapel pin.

To download a membership form, visit [CSUMB.EDU/foaa](http://CSUMB.EDU/foaa).



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California State University, Monterey Bay  
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# FRONT & CENTER

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Fred Lawson addresses guests during FOAA scholarship awards luncheon on Nov. 10, 2009.

## FOAA Achieves Scholarship Milestone

### Greetings from the Chair

by Donna D. Johnson, Chair, FOAA Board of Advisors

One hundred students helped. One hundred thousand dollars given. This was the milestone noted at our annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon in November, where twelve CSU Monterey Bay students were honored for the achievements that earned them scholarships for the 2009-2010 school year.

Generous donors contributed the \$100,000 over a period of 13 years. Some gifts honor the memory of a family member or friend who served at Fort Ord, some are annual gifts from members of FOAA and the Board of Advisors, and some are examples of the donor's belief that today's students, the custodians of our future, need a good education.

Named scholarships and the recipients are:

- General E.O.C. Ord Scholarship: Leslie Nelson
- General Joseph Stilwell Scholarship: Ivan Sarabia
- Platoon Sergeant James Rucker and Helen B. Rucker Scholarship: Jessica Parry
- General James E. Moore, Jr. and Joan P. Moore Scholarship: Adan Romero
- General William H. Gourley and Molly Q. Gourley Scholarships: David Bennion, Kellie Stutz, Alicia Leger
- Colonel Richard E. "Hank" Hendrickson Scholarship: Cherie Schwanke
- First Sergeant Willie B. Smith Scholarship: Bret Flowers
- Colonel Robert Furney and Mary Furney Scholarship: Lauren Walters
- FOAA Scholarship Honoring Lt. Colonel John McCutcheon and Colonel Ila Mettee- McCutcheon: Elizabeth Cavanaugh
- The Fort Ord Alumni Association 100th Scholarship: Reginald Joe Bennett

## A History of Fort Ord

Fort Ord was named for Major General Edward Ortho Cresap Ord, a mustachioed mathematical genius, rumored descendent King George IV and veteran of the Seminole, Indian and Civil Wars. Ord served as First Lieutenant at the Presidio of Monterey. The Fort occupies roughly 28,000 acres of prime California beachfront. Fort Ord has its roots in the First World War, when the Army purchased immense tracts of land across the nation, including the 15,000 acre Gigling Reservation that became Fort Ord in 1933. General "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell oversaw significant expansion of the Fort in August 1940. North and south, the cities of Marina and Seaside sprung up to meet the Fort's increasing housing and service needs.

In the post-war 1950s, Fort Ord was repurposed as facility to train new recruits for the Korean War. Training continued for the next three decades. (It was also the first racially integrated base in the nation). The Fort's importance increased dramatically during the long years of the Vietnam War when it became the chief training center in the nation.

The Fort's immense size called for extensive facilities and by 1963, the Fort was equipped with an 18-hole golf course, two movie theaters, a twelve-lane bowling alley (complete with military bowling leagues), a boxing ring, a sauna, a heated indoor pool, tennis courts and a thrift shop. In 1991 the BRAC Committee recommended that Fort Ord be shut down. In 1994, the Fort was officially closed.

— Foundling, Steven and Andy Warner, *Fort Ord: A Chapbook Adventure into the Ruins of the American Military-Industrial Complex*, Indrind Press, 2008.



The base at dusk in the 1950s.

image courtesy of fortording.net

## Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery

The goal of the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (CCVCF) is to establish a Veterans Cemetery on the former Fort Ord Army Base. The Master Plan has been completed and there is a proposed 178 acre site which includes ancillary facilities that could include a Fort Ord history museum. This cemetery will honor and provide a final resting place for veterans and their eligible family members who live in the Central Coast region.

The regional public support for this project is very important. FOAA is attending and supporting the activities of the Veterans Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). This group was established to provide guidance and community support. Currently this group is mobilizing veterans organizations and the general public.

Seventeenth district congressman Sam Farr and his office are now conducting a poll to determine if there is public support for a Phase I opening of the Cemetery as an interment of ashes only columbarium with in-ground burials to come later in Phase II.

There will be many future media news items and events to promote this cause, please give your support.

All vets deserve to have this cemetery.

— Ron Glaze

## Fort Ord and the History of Horse-Mounted and Horse-Drawn Warfare

Horse soldiering on Fort Ord began during the Civil War, which was the great epoch of mounted infantry, cavalry, and horse-drawn artillery and ended with World War II with the ascendance of modern mechanized warfare. Horses of the 76th Field Artillery and the 11th Cavalry were stalled 200 yards southwest of the hospital along what is now General Jim Moore Boulevard, between Inter-Garrison Road and Eighth Street, where the Marina Equestrian Center stands now. The facility's smithy, saddle, and stable-sergeant's office still stand today, along with twelve of the original twenty-one stables. It is the only one of twelve such facilities built in 1941-1942 that remains intact and still in use as an equestrian facility.

— David Anderson

### For More Information

Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation  
<http://www.ccvcf.com/>  
Veterans Cemetery Citizens' Advisory Committee  
<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/va/adhoc.htm>  
Congressman Sam Farr  
<http://www.farr.house.gov/>

## My Tour as Reception Commander, July 1972-1974

by Bob Furney

Upon my arrival at Fort Ord, I was assigned to the reception station, which had the responsibility of doing all of the administrative "in-processing" of new recruits and returning prior service personnel.

The flow of recruits was not steady. In the spring, when high school was out, it might take two weeks to have enough accessions to form a training company. On some days in the late fall, we might fill two or three training companies in one evening. To handle that very flexible input, I had six mess halls, 22 freezers and ran my own ration break down distributing food to the halls.

When recruits arrived, they were given an orientation to inform them of the general processing that would occur. During their orientation, the new recruits were offered a chance to get rid of any knives, drugs and other banned substances on a no-questions-asked basis. That drop box received many interesting items... guns, knives and, once, a brick of cocaine.

Next, they were sent to a supply room and issued a field jacket and a hat. The station was required to give each incoming soldier a meal so they were fed hamburgers, soup and the usual fast food from one of the six mess halls in the area. Then they were issued bedding and sent off to the barracks. They learned to set up a foot locker, how to make their bunks, clean the latrines, mop, wax and buff the floors, clean windows and be harassed on a continual basis by their drill sergeants.

Early the next morning, they were off to the barber shop where four of the fastest barbers in the world gave them a haircut — some considered it a skin job. About 60 feet away was a clinic where, with their shirts off, arms akimbo, they received the required seven shots. A few passed out.

The recruits were fitted for uniforms early in their processing — a waste, as some would be rejected and most would lose a great deal of weight, causing the uniforms to just hang on the soldiers. I asked all of the men and women to send in recommended changes if they saw Army Regulations or other things we were doing that were out of date or needed revising. Some of my E-4's submitted changes.



Occasionally an exuberant soldier came in and announced that he had changed the "green machine." It really made them feel important and they were.

One item bothered me: When recruits received their initial physical at the Entrance and Examining Station, the Army drew a blood sample, but didn't bother to type the blood. Instead, it was drawn again the very next day at the Reception Station. We sent a letter to Washington explaining that it cost about \$300,000 a year to draw blood a second time the very next day. We received a response from Washington saying that there might be an error so they wouldn't change the procedure.

Later, Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel Lieutenant General Harold K. Johnson visited Fort Ord. He made a tour of the Reception Station along with General Gard. As we were walking through the old World War II barracks, General Johnson asked if we were doing anything stupid. I mentioned the motor drivers test and then hit him with the blood drawing thing.

He asked, "Well, did you get a response?"

"Yes," I said and pulled out the letter rejecting our idea.

"Who signed that letter?" General Johnson asked.

"It is signed by Lieutenant General Harold K. Johnson," I said.

"Oh, that's you, isn't it?"

He grabbed that letter from me. ■

## See Fort Ord as It Was

Fort Ord Alumni Association has available three great DVDs.

- Formal Fort Ord Closing Ceremony
- Fort Ord from 1849-1994
- Fort Ord, A Place in History

The DVDs are available for a suggested donation to the Fort Ord Alumni Association: \$15.00 for an individual DVD, two for \$25.00 or all three for a donation of \$30.00. Add \$5.00 for shipping and handling to any order. Your donations are tax deductible. Supplies are limited, so act today. Send your check or money order to:

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