# **Buffalo Soldiers Research Museum Newsletter**

**July 2012** 

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It is with pleasure that we share the details about the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> (Horse) Cavalry Anniversary Reunion. The information provided was taken from the Greater Southern Arizona Area Chapter's website. It is going to be an action-packed week of educational and social events.

George Hicks, III

George File

"It's such a pleasure to learn..." Dr. John Morton-Finney, WWI Buffalo Soldier

9th & 10 (Horse) Cavalry Association 146st Anniversary Reunion July 22 - 29, 2012 Tucson, AZ

The Greater Southern Arizona Area Chapter invites all Buffalo Soldiers to Tucson, AZ July 22-29, 2012 to celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> (Horse) Cavalry Association's 146<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion.

Arizona, one of the Buffalo Soldiers' frontier homes, had more than 20 encampments with Fort Huachuca as headquarters. African-American troopers based in Arizona were involved in the American Indian Wars, the Punitive Expedition, the Spanish-American War, and World War II. Even Henry O Flipper made an impact in Arizona after he left the Army. The legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers has deep roots in Arizona.

Arizona gets HOT in July, so bring a hat and pack lightweight clothes, sunglasses and a sweater for the air conditioning. The climate is also dry, so plan to drink a lot of water.

**Reunion registration** can be made by completing the form included in this newsletter. Mail the completed forms with your check to GSAAC, P.O. Box 1295, Green Valley, AZ 85622 or you can go to the GSAAC website, **http://www.azbuffalosoldiers.org**, and register using PayPal.

#### Hotel Information



Headquarters for the Buffalo Soldiers 146<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion will be the *Radisson Suites Tucson*, 6555 E. Speedway Blvd. from Sunday, July 22, 2012 to Sunday, July 29, 2012.

Room rates include a full breakfast buffet:

\$89.00 per day - double occupancy

\$99.00 per day - triple occupancy

\$109.00 per day - quad occupancy

Children under 18 stay free in the same room with their parents. The rate includes free self-parking. Check-in time is 3 pm and checkout time is 12 noon. Reservation can be made by calling 1-

800-333-3333 or (520) 721-7100 and ask for the National Buffalo Soldiers rate or visit their website <a href="http://www.radisson.com/buffalosoldierreunion2012">http://www.radisson.com/buffalosoldierreunion2012</a> to make your reservations.

For *transportation* between the Tucson airport and the Radisson Suites, arrangements can be made with the Arizona Stagecoach. Reservations can be made by calling (520) 889-1000 or on their website - www.azstagecoach.com. The cost is:

\$35.00 per person (one way) or \$64.00 per person (round trip) \$42.00 per person (one way) or \$78.00 per person (round trip)

#### **Event Schedule**

### Monday, July 23rd

11:00 am Hotel Check-In/National Committee Set-up

3:00 - 6:00 pm Registration: Catalina Foyer

6:00 pm Dinner (Dutch) 9:00 pm - until Hospitality Suite

# Tuesday, July 24th

3:00 pm Hotel Check-In

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Registration: Catalina Foyer

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Executive Board Meeting - Reddington 10:00 am - noon Vendors & Committee Set-up Room 101

Noon - 1:30 pm Lunch (Dutch) 6:00 pm Dinner (Dutch) 9:00 pm - until Hospitality Suite

# Wednesday, July 25th

3:00 pm Hotel Check-In

9:00 am - 7:00pm Registration: Catalina Foyer.

9:00 am - noon Chapter President's Meeting – Catalina 1

9:00 am - noon Ladies Auxiliary Board of Directors Meeting - Catalina 2

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm Lunch

2:00 - 5:00 pm Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - Catalina 2

3:00- 5:00 pm Oral History Recording (individual scheduling)

5:30 - 9:00 pm Western Bar-B-Q 9:00 pm - until Hospitality Suite

# Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup>

11:00 am - 7:00 pm Registration: Catalina Foyer

8:00 - 11:00 am General Membership Meeting: Association Members - Catalina

Noon - 1:30 pm Welcome Luncheon: Registered Participants 2:00 - 5:00 pm Oral History Recordings (individual scheduling)

4:30 - 5:45 pm Dinner (Dutch)

6:00 - 7:00 pm Old Fashion Religious Service – Catalina Ballroom

6:00 - 10:00 pm Ladies Night 9:00 pm - until Hospitality Suite

## Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Fort Huachuca Tour (Lunch Included) 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Tombstone Tour (Lunch Included)

11:00am - 4:00 pm Half Day Tours (Titan Museum or Pima Air Museum including lunch)

5:00 - 9:00 pm Welcome Reception 6:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner (Dutch) 9:00 pm - until Hospitality Room

## Saturday, July 28th

10:00 am - 2:00 pm Arizona Historical Society

9:00 am - 5:30 pm Free Time

5:30- 6:30 pm Reception (Cash Bar)

6:00 pm Banquet

9:00 pm - until Hospitality Room

Sunday, July 29th

8:00- 10:30 am Prayer Breakfast

#### **Tour Details**

### Ft. Huachuca Tour

The all day tour will be conducted by one of GSAAC's historians and will follow the Buffalo Soldier's history in Arizona. It will begin in Nogales, AZ where the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, with headquarters at Fort Huachuca, had a squadron-size cavalry camp. The camp is located a half a mile from the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry's Camp Stephen D. Little. The next stop will be Ft. Huachuca with lunch and a tour of the fort. The tour will consist of **Mule Barns** that were used as quarters for horses, wagon mules, and mules for the pack trains of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry. The **Post Cemetery** is where many graves of Buffalo Soldiers and dependents have been interred. The **Fort** 



**Huachuca Museum** displays exhibits depicting the history of the Buffalo Soldiers. The **Mountain View Colored Officers Club** which was part of the Triangular Division Camp or cantonment complex started before World War II and completed by June 1942. It was used by the African-American officers of the 92<sup>nd</sup> and 93<sup>rd</sup> Divisions.

**Brown Parade Field** originally known as "Brown Parade" is the original parade field and centerpiece of the Old Post. Troop formations and ceremonies were held here. The **10**<sup>th</sup> **Cavalry buildings** were completed in 1883, housed cavalry and infantry soldiers, including troops of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, and companies of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry.

"New" Barracks were completed between 1914 and 1916. They were occupied first by the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry and later by the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments until the completion of the "Million Dollar Barracks" and the cantonment barracks just prior to World War I. The Winans House which is an example of the adobe officer's quarters during the Buffalo Soldiers period. Rodney Hall which was headquarters for Captain George B. Rodney, who commanded Fort Huachuca and the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry during WW I. and the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Masonic Hall which was for enlisted members. It was started by George W. Prioleau, the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Chaplain and previous founder of the Masonic Lodge for the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. The building was completed in 1918.

**Alchesay Barracks** also known as the "Million Dollar Barracks" (the cost was about a million dollars) was originally intended as barracks for the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry and possibly housed the 192<sup>nd</sup> Service Command Unit troops during WWII. **Grierson Avenue** was named in honor of the first colonel of the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry, Benjamin H. Grierson, who commanded the regiment from 1866 to 1890.

Cost: \$55.00 - includes transportation and lunch.

#### Pima Air Museum/Bone Yard Tour

The tour will depart at 10:00 am. The first stop will be the **Pima Air & Space Museum**. This museum (PASM) features over 200 aircraft and has five large hangars totaling 100,000 square feet of exhibit

space. An original WWII barracks contains an extensive model collection, arranged chronologically, which shows virtually all U. S. military aircraft from pre-World War I to the present.

We will then take a one-hour tour to Davis Monthan Air Force Base and the **Aircraft Maintenance** and **Regeneration Center** (AMARC, A-mark) or "boneyard" where unused military aircraft are stored, restored and/or decommissioned. Information about how aircraft are rehabilitated and what happens to them if they can't be will be highlighted.

Cost: \$45.00 - includes transportation, entrance fees and lunch.

#### Titan Missile/Bobb Vann/Tubac Tour

The tour will depart at 10:00 am. The first stop will be the **Titan Missile Museum**. Missile site 571-7 at the Titan Missile Museum is the sole remaining Titan II Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) complex of the 54 that were "on alert" during the Cold War between 1963 and 1987. It was once a part of the 571<sup>st</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS), 390<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Wing (SMW), Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, and first came on alert on July 15, 1963.



The next stop will be Bobb Vann's art studio - where you will find original art that highlights the Buffalo Soldiers (pictured at left). We will have lunch and visit the shops in **Tubac**, **AZ**. Tubac was established in 1752 as a Spanish presidio (fort). Working artists' studios now surround the grounds which once served as the home for a Spanish military garrison. Tubac remembers its origins at the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park located in the village's Old Town, and no visit to Tubac is complete without a stop at the state park.

Cost: \$45.00 - includes transportation, entrance fees and lunch.

## Tombstone/Ft. Naco Tour - The Town Too Tough To Die

**Tombstone** is a city in Cochise County, Arizona, founded in 1879 by Ed Schieffelin in what was then Pima County, Arizona Territory. It was one of the last wide-open frontier boomtowns in the American Old West. From about 1877 to 1890, the town's mines produced \$40 to \$85 million in silver bullion, the largest productive silver district in Arizona. Its population grew from 100 to around 14,000 in less than 7 years. In 1881, it became the county seat of the new Cochise County.

Far distant from any other metropolitan city, by mid-1881 Tombstone boasted a bowling alley, four churches, an ice house, a school, two banks, three newspapers, and an ice cream parlor, alongside 110 saloons, 14 gambling halls, and numerous dancing halls and brothels. All of these were situated among and on top of a large number of dirty, hardscrabble mines. The residents attended operas presented by visiting acting troupes at the Schieffelin Hall opera house, while the miners and cowboys saw shows at the Bird Cage Theatre, "the wildest, wickedest night spot between Basin Street and the Barbary Coast."

Under the surface were tensions that grew into deadly conflict. Many of the cowboys were Confederate sympathizers and Democrats. The capitalists and townspeople were largely Republicans from the Northern states. The fast-growing city, only 30 miles from the U.S./Mexico border, was a wide-open market for beef stolen from ranchos in Sonora, Mexico by the outlaw cowboys. These men were a loosely organized band of friends and acquaintances who teamed up for various crimes and came to each other's aid. The Earp brothers—Virgil, Wyatt, Morgan and Warren Earp—arrived in December 1879 and the summer of 1880. All assumed roles as lawmen at one time or another which led to ongoing conflicts with Ike and Billy Clanton, Frank and Tom McLaury, and other cowboys. After

repeated threats against the Earps by the cowboys over many months, the conflict escalated into a confrontation that turned into a shoot-out, the now-famous Gunfight at the O.K. Corral.

In the mid-1880s, the silver mines penetrated the water table and despite significant investments in pumps, mining operations were unable to continue. Its economy today is based on tourism. The city's population dwindled to a low of about 800 in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century but has stabilized at about 1500 residents, according to 2006 Census Bureau estimates.

Fort Naco was one of the last forts built by the United States in continental territory and is the only remaining border fort out of several constructed during the Mexican Revolution. Soldiers of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry were first stationed in Naco in November 1910 and remained in the community due to continued fighting across the border, including the Battle of Naco in 1913 and the Siege of Naco in 1915 in Sonora. Subsequent to Pancho Villa's attack on Columbus, New Mexico in 1916, Naco was a staging area for American troops protecting the border. Camp Naco was constructed in 1917 as part of the Mexican Border Project. It was the headquarters of the 1<sup>st</sup> Arizona Infantry Regiment of the Arizona National Guard. As of 2010, the barracks still stand and have partially been restored.

Cost: \$55.00 - includes transportation and lunch

# For more information about the 146<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion in Tucson, contact:

Kevin McKoy, President, GSSAC <a href="mailto:2kmckoy@cox.net">2kmckoy@cox.net</a> (623) 261-7601

Les Morris, Treasurer bronzeagle@cox.net (520) 625-4745

Herman Warrior, Co-Chairman HWar123456@aol.com (520) 760-0946

# **Reunion Registration Form**

Please indicate if you were assign	ed to a Cava	alry or Infantry Regin	nent	
{ } 9 <sup>th</sup> Cavalry { } 10 <sup>th</sup> Cavalry { } 2 <sup>th</sup> { } Association Member { } Non-Me	• •	} 25 <sup>th</sup> Infantry { } WV	VII Survivor	
Name				
Address:				
City:	_ State:		_ Zip:	
Phone:		_ E-Mail:		
Name of Spouse or Guest(s)				

(Continue to next page)

#### Registration Cost

Association Member	\$45.00
Spouse/Guest of Member	\$40.00
Non-Association Member	\$50.00
Non-Association Member/Spouse/Guest	\$50.00

Total Number of Persons Registered \_\_\_\_\_ Total Registration Expenses \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Events Cost**

Welcome Luncheon \$35.00 Western Bar-B-Q \$45.00

Reunion Banquet

Prime Rib Dinner \$55.00 Salmon Florentine Dinner \$55.00

#### Tours

Half Day Tour - Titan/Bobb Vann/Tubac	\$45.00
Half Day Tour - Pima Air Museum/Bone Yard	\$45.00
Full Day Tour - Ft. Huachuca	\$50.00
Full Day Tour - Tombstone/Ft. Naco	\$50.00

Total Number of Persons Registered for Events\_\_\_\_\_ Total Event Expenses \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Submit registration information and payment to:

Greater Southern Arizona Area Chapter P.O. Box 1295 Green Valley, AZ 85622

For more information about the Buffalo Soldiers and other African American soldiers, contact

George Hicks, III ghicks9@indy.rr.com

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