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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



## MCoE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

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**DATE:** May 6, 2013

## **MEDIA RELEASE: Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame to recognize 47 inductees**

**FORT BENNING, Ga.** – Forty-seven individuals will be recognized for their service contributions as Army officers and inducted into the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame at 3 p.m., May 10 in Marshall Auditorium, McGinnis-Wickam Hall. The Maneuver Center of Excellence's Chief of Staff, Col. Robert E. Choppa, along with recently retired Col. Emmett M. Schaille, former Director of the Directorate of Training and Doctrine here, are among those who will be inducted during the ceremony.

The U.S. Army OCS Hall of Fame was established in 1958 to honor Infantry officer graduates of the OCS Program who distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuits. In 2002 the Hall of Fame was opened to all graduates of OCS from across the U.S. Army regardless of branch. Selection and induction into the Hall of Fame is considered a distinguished honor.

Since 1958 there have been more than 2,000 inductees. Inductees must be commissioned from any active component U.S. Army OCS program and must have accomplished one of the following qualifying criteria to be selected for induction: awarded the Medal of Honor; attained the rank of colonel while serving on active duty or in the U.S. Army Reserve; elected or appointed to an office of prominence in national or state government; achieved national or state recognition for outstanding service to the nation and earned an exceptional wartime service record.

### **The 2013 Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame inductees are:**

Maj. Gen. John H. Bailey II  
Maj. Gen. Bennet S. Sacolick  
Brig. Gen. Clayton Hutmacher  
Retired Col. John A. Carpenter  
Col. Marcus Cherry  
Col. Robert E. Choppa  
Col. Thomas R. Drew  
Col. Terence M. Dorn  
Col. William J. Clark  
Retired Col. Henry Earl Harper  
Col. Reppard S. Jordan  
Col. Richard G. Jung  
Col. Richard A. Kilburn  
Retired Col. Joseph Stanley Kimmitt  
Retired Col. Thomas O. Logue  
Col. Jack C. Mason  
Col. 1 Larry Nick Monje  
Col. Richard Michael Monnard  
Retired Col. Henry J. Nachtsheim, III  
Retired Col. Stephen P. Passero  
Retired Col. James Palsha  
Col. Jay R. Popejoy  
Col. Christopher E. Queen

Col. Mark A. Rado  
Col. Terrence W. Reeves  
Col. Janet E. Riley  
Retired Col. William G. Roscher  
Retired Col. Emmett M. Schaille  
Col. John F. Schrader  
Col. Thomas C. Slade  
Retired Col. Larry Stovall  
Retired Col. Earl L. Umbarger (posthumously)  
Col. Robert P. Wade  
Retired Col. Robert Walker  
Retired Lt. Col. Geoffrey S. Corn  
Retired Col. Hugh L. Mills  
Retired Lt. Col. Joseph Drew  
Retired Lt. Col. Peter F. Verga  
Retired Maj. John J. Duffy  
Retired Maj. James T. Taylor  
Retired Maj. Jerry Willard  
Retired Capt. William L. Albracht  
Retired Capt. Bruce James Bowen  
Retired Capt. Robert J. Holley  
Capt. David J. Kriskovich (posthumously)  
Former 1st Lt. Michael L. Durkee  
Former 1st Lt. David L. Phillips

## **Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame History**

Omar Bradley established Officer Candidate School soon after he took command of Fort Benning in 1941, though the idea had been proposed three years earlier. Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall described the new course as a means “to provide additional officer personnel, to offer a fair opportunity to the man in the ranks, and most important of all, to utilize a rare opportunity for securing outstanding leaders.”

Young men, many with little or no formal education or military experience, were turned into junior officers in just 13 weeks. Early graduates of the program were referred to as “ninety-day wonders.” Officer Candidate School graduated 280,000 officers during World War II.

The Army has operated OCS continuously since 1941, though it was not always located at Fort Benning. From 1947-1951, OCS was conducted at Fort Riley, Kan., as part of the Ground General School.

A shortage of officers during the Korean War resulted in the reestablishment of OCS at Fort Benning and several other Army installations. Since OCS for female candidates at Fort McClellan, Ala., was merged with OCS at Fort Benning in 1976, the Fort Benning school has been the Army’s only OCS. In 1946, Walter Benning, a grand nephew of Gen. Henry Lewis Benning, which the installation is named after, became the sixth member of his family to receive a commission at OCS. In 2000, Col. Rose Walker became the first woman inducted into the OCS Hall of Fame.

**Media pick up time is 2:00 p.m. May 10 at the Fort Benning Road gate. Media interested attending the event must call the Public Affairs Office at 706-545-8970/270-312-7800.**

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