

*2018 ADVA National Reunion  
September 26-30  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

Headquarters Hotel- Wyndham Garden Oklahoma City Airport Hotel, 2101 South Meridian Ave., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73108. Make advance reservations by calling 405-685-4000. Special rate for ADVA reunion guests is \$79 per night plus 14% tax. Please indicate the group rate is requested. Make reservations in advance as the number of rooms at this rate is limited. Free airport shuttle. Free breakfast tickets for guests who stay at hotel and also register at the reunion. Rate is good three days prior to the reunion and three days after the reunion if available. Room must be reserved with cash or credit card for first night. Reservations must be cancelled in advance or room deposit for one night will not be refunded. Guests must pay hotel directly for lodging and incidentals. Reservations must be received by August 12 to qualify for reduced rate. After August 12 rates will be best available and on a space available basis. Back-up hotels for overflow are located nearby. There are several fine eating establishments within a few minutes of the headquarters hotel.

Oklahoma City should provide mild weather at the end of September but temperature may go either way so come prepared. Visitors with a few extra hours may want to include stops at the Oklahoma State Capitol complex about 30 minutes from the hotel. This includes the Capitol Building, the Oklahoma History Center, the Veterans Memorial, and other points of interest. Bricktown is a former warehouse district on the east side of downtown OKC and is now a favorite for specialty dining and shopping. Bricktown features a man-made canal that connects various sites along the way. Not too far away in Norman one may visit the University of Oklahoma with several fine museums to offer. Tinker Air Force Base is nearby for those wishing to visit a local military base. The Veterans Administration hospital is located in the medical center complex between downtown and the state capitol.

### **Oklahoma is OK!**

Oklahoma City is located in the center of the state of Oklahoma and the state of Oklahoma is located in the center of the United States. This location is advantageous to ADVA members who wish to travel to the annual reunion by all means of transportation. Oklahoma City, often referred to as OKC by outsiders or as "The City" by locals, is conveniently situated on three major interstate highways- I-35 from the Mexican border to the Canadian border, I-40 from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, and I-44 from Chicago to Los Angeles. It is also served by Will Rogers International Airport with access to major airlines including Alaska, Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest, United, ViaAir. The headquarters hotel is approximately five minutes from the OKC airport and is available by a free hotel shuttle. AMTRAK offers the Heartland Flyer on a dialy basis to and from Ft. Worth, Texas connecting with the Texas Eagle route from Chicago to Los Angeles via San Antonio.

### **REUNION TOURS — Thursday and Friday**

Thursday and Friday tours will begin at the hotel about 9:00 am and return about 4:00 pm. Times are tentative and subject to possible slight changes. Transportation will be chartered bus with a current advance reservation for 200 passengers each day. Get your reservations in early to insure a seat on the tours. Please indicate on your reservation form if you require mobility assistance on the bus tours.

The Thursday tour is scheduled for a 90 mile trip to Fort Sill, Oklahoma- home of Artillery. A stop will be made at the newly dedicated Americal memorial monument at Constitution Park. This is next to the Artillery Museum which will be at the same stop. Lunch will be at a Ft. Sill dining hall and is not included in the tour price. Please allow \$5-\$6 for a meal same as served to cadre and trainees at the dining facility. Discussions are currently undertaken to arrange a visit to a training site with ampossible live-fire demonstration included. More details on this will be available in the future.

The Friday tour is a city tour of major attractions of Oklahoma City. Included will be the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum at the site of the bombing that killed 168 Americans in April 19, 1995. It honors the victims, survivors, rescuers, and all who were affected by the bombing. The 45th Infantry Museum features a large collection of military vehicles and aircraft as well as a diverse selection of musuem artifacds related to the unit. The 45 ID was Oklahoma's national guard unit prior to the war. It served in Europe to include the fall of Germany and also served with honor in the Korean War. The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is a premier institution featuring Native American and Western art and artifacts along with a hall of fame dedicated to rodeo cowboys. Lunch will be included in the Friday tour.

### **Saturday Schedule**

Saturday morning will be devoted to meetings. The Executive Committee meets first and is followed by the General Membership meeting. The reunion will draw to an end with the Saturday banquet in the hotel. Arrangements are underway for special presentations and entertainment for banquet guests. More information on the banquet will be available in the next issue of the Americal Journal magazine and on americal.org website.

### **Reservations**

Please make reservations well in advance. Reservations and payment should be sent to **PNC Ron Ward, 280 Vance Rd., Protom, MO, 65733-6346**. Payment by check or money order is accepted. Please include an email address for future announcements regarding reservations. PNC Ron Ellis serves as Reunion Chairman again this year. Ron may be reached by email at re196thlib@aol.com or by cell phone at 903-738-9897. Reserve lodging directly with the hotel and specify the special ADVA reunion rate. Plan to have a great time in historic Oklahoma.