



# 173D AIRBORNE

*We are the 173d Airborne;*

*We are the soldiers of Liberty.*

*We are proud, courageous soldiers  
who fight to keep America free.*

*We are proud combat soldiers  
of Dignity.*

*Fight, fight, sky soldiers;*

*Stay proud, stay strong, stay true.*

*All the way, sky soldiers;*

*Stay red, white, and blue.*

*Airborne all the way.*

*by Cephus L. Bright  
HHC BDE  
69-79*

## 2017 Oklahoma Reunion Banquet



## 2017 Oklahoma Reunion

May 20, 2017

173d Airborne Brigade Association

Hosted by Oklahoma Chapter 18

## Banquet Schedule of Events

Time	Activity	Party
1700-1800	Cocktail Hour- Cash Bar	
1800-1830	Call to Order	Jerry Cooper, Master of Ceremonies
	Posting/Piping in the Colors	Color Guard/Pipes & Drums Band
	Pledge of Allegiance	
	Missing Man Table	Jerry Cooper, Master of Ceremonies
	Invocation	Joe Marquez, Association Chaplain
<b>Toasts:</b>		
<b>To the United States of America</b>		
	Response: <b>"To the United States of America"</b>	
<b>To our Commander-in-Chief</b>		
	Response: <b>"To the President"</b>	
<b>To the United States Army</b>		
	Response: <b>"To the Army"</b>	
<b>To the 173d Airborne Brigade</b>		
	Response: <b>"To the Herd"</b>	
<b>To our Fellow Soldiers deployed around the world engaged in the War against Tyranny and Terrorism</b>		
	Response: <b>"To our Comrades"</b>	
<b>To our Allies</b>		
	Response: <b>"To our Allies"</b>	
<b>To our Fallen Comrades</b>		
	Response: <b>"To our Fallen"</b>	
<b>To our Lovely Ladies</b>		
	Response: <b>"To our Lovely Ladies"</b>	Designated Chapter 18 members
1830- 1930	Dinner	
1930-2100	Entertainment	Donut Dollies
	Presentation of Awards	Terry Aubrey, Association Vice President
	Introduction of the Guest Speaker	Jerry Cooper, Master of Ceremonies
	Guest Speaker	COL William B Ostlund
	Raffle Ticket Drawings	Terry Aubrey, Association Vice President
	Association President Remarks	Association President
	Recognition of Reunion Team Members	Jerry Cooper, Master of Ceremonies
	Recognition of Medal of Honor Recipients	Jerry Cooper, Master of Ceremonies
	Closing Remarks	Jerry Cooper, Master of Ceremonies
	Benediction	Joe Marquez, Association Chaplain
	Retiring of the Colors	Color Guard/Pipes & Drums Band

## Bio of Guest Speaker COL William L Ostlund



Enlisting in the Army in 1983, Colonel Ostlund served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers and was stationed at Hunter Army Airfield through 1987. As a Staff Sergeant he transitioned to the Nebraska National Guard's Long Range Surveillance Detachment and simultaneously enrolled at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and joined their ROTC program.

Colonel Ostlund was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate in the Infantry and re-entered the active Army in 1990. He served as a Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 187<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment – 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault). This tour included service in OPERATION DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. He was then assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment where he again served as a Platoon Leader and a Company Executive Officer. Colonel Ostlund commanded B Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry (mechanized) in the Republic of Korea and then attended graduate school at The Fletcher School, Tufts University prior to being assigned as an Associate Professor in the United States Military Academy's Department of Social Sciences where he taught American Politics and International Security Studies.

Colonel Ostlund was subsequently stationed in Vicenza, Italy where he served as the Southern European Task Force's Chief of Operations, Operations Officer – 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Airborne) 508<sup>th</sup> Infantry, and Operations Officer – 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade; this assignment included service in the BALKANS and the combat parachute jump into OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. He then served in the U.S. Strategic Command's Plans and Policy Division as the Chief, European Support Section and Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction Planner. Colonel Ostlund returned to Italy to command 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airborne), 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment – The ROCK – of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Combat Team. While in command of The ROCK, he deployed his unit for 15 months to Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. Upon return, Colonel Ostlund served as the Deputy Commander of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. From this position, he deployed to Afghanistan several times for a total of 15 months and twice served as the Commander for a Joint Inter-Agency Special Operations Counterterrorism Task Force. Colonel Ostlund next completed a Senior Service College Fellowship at The Fletcher School prior to commanding 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. The BCT formed Combined Task Force DUKE and deployed for nine months in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. COL Ostlund next served as the Executive Officer to the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command. Currently, COL Ostlund serves as the Director, Commander's Action Group in CENTCOM.

Colonel Ostlund holds a Bachelor degree in Political Science from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a Master of Arts in International Relations from The Fletcher School. His military education includes the Command and General Staff Officers Course, Joint and Combined Warfighting School, and he served as a Senior Service College Fellow at Tufts University.

Colonel Ostlund has been deemed a Distinguished Member of the 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment and the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. He authored "Tactical Leader Lessons Learned in Afghanistan", published in Military Review (July/August 2009), "Irregular Warfare: Counterterrorism Forces in Support of Counterinsurgency Operations", published by the Institute of Land Warfare (September 2012), and "Conventional Force and Special Operation Forces: Interoperability and Interdependence" published by the Institute of Land Warfare (October 2014). He is married and he has three sons.