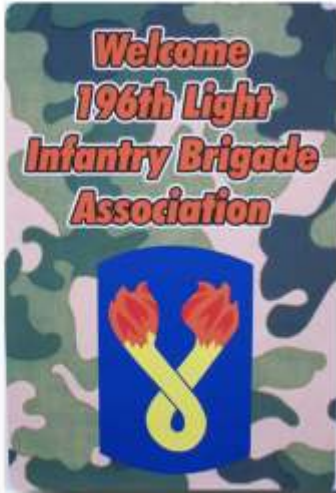




# 196 Light Infantry Brigade Association



## BY-LAWS

### Article I. Title

The Association shall be known as the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association.

### Article II. Aims and Objectives

*Section 1.* To preserve and foster the spirit of fellowship among former and possible future members of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, U.S. Army, and provide an organization through which they may unite in bonds of comradeship.

*Section 2.* To commemorate the memory of soldiers who gave their lives in the service of their country.

*Section 3.* To support a national military that will promote stability and peace throughout the world.

*Section 4.* To foster public understanding and support of the United States Army.

*Section 5.* To promote and perpetuate those Army and unit traditions that contribute to esprit de corps and superior performance of duty.

### Article III. Membership

*Section 1.* Membership in the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association shall be open to any soldier, active, retired or honorably discharged Veteran, who served or was attached to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade during its active service.

*Section 2.* Terms of Membership. Membership in the Association shall remain in force so long as the member maintains current status by payment of prescribed dues.

### Article IV. Officers

*Section 1.* Enumeration. The Officers of the Association shall be a President who shall be the Chief Executive Officer, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

*Section 2.* Duties. The Officers of the Association shall administer the affairs of the Association in accordance with the By-Laws.

*Section 3.* Terms and Election. The President and the Vice President shall be elected by the membership, as provided in these By-Laws. The terms of office of the President and Vice President shall be two (2) years, and they shall be eligible for reelection. The other officers shall be appointed by the President.

*Section 4.* Vacancies in Elective Offices. If the President vacates his office during his term, the Vice President shall succeed thereto.

ON THE COVER: Scenes from the 2007 Reunion. The active duty 196th sent representatives including a color guard. "Doc" Mosher and his drill team performed with flawless precision at the banquet. A great time was had by all!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



First, I must present the greetings of COL Conaty and his wife, Carol, to all Chargers. He was very sorry that he couldn't physically make it to a reunion for the first time, but wanted you all to know that he was certainly with us in spirit. He also asked me to express to you his deep appreciation for the cards and well wishes received from all the attendees at the banquet. We love you both. Stay well and we'll see you next time. Chargers All the Way, Sir!!

(Note: The COL has made good progress and is feeling pretty good again.)

Well, another reunion has come and gone. Another record turn out. 514 men attended this year's reunion. 900 banquet tickets were sold and we had an actual banquet attendance of 884. If the comments I received at the banquet and the emails, calls and notes I received after returning home are any indication, a good time was had by most. Congratulations to all involved in the planning, setup, execution and teardown of this year's reunion and a big thanks to Doc Mosher for another terrific, professional job as our DJ.

The officers and I would like to take credit for the steady increase but truth be known it is you, the members, who have done the lion's share of the work in turning out the troops. The website has been a terrific source but we know the numbers would just not be there without the efforts of all of you.

We would like to specifically thank the following members - Vance Van Wieren for his efforts in helping to get 4/31 Inf to show up in ever increasing numbers. This reunion 4/31 Inf had 171 men attend which represented 1/3 of the total attendees. 3/21 Inf had the next highest with 125 men. 2/1 Inf was third with 99 men. Ed Latini helped A Co, 4/31 lead the way in overall single unit attendance with 56 men, followed by Vance's D Co, 4/31 with 47 men. Bob Decker - for his efforts in getting the F Troopers out. F Troop had the third highest overall single unit total with 46 men. Zeke Zemke & Jim Pongonis - for helping to increase the number of attendees from 3/82 and Tom Bryant - for getting E Recon 3/21 to come out and celebrate the life of Ken Black. Ken had just become a Life Member of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn shortly before his death earlier this year.

We also want to thank all the unsung heroes who spend time online, on the phone or by mail to keep in contact with their buddies and get them to come out and join us at our reunions. Without all of you doing what you do we would not be enjoying the growth of the Association nor would we be enjoying the camaraderie we have had with the significant numbers of men, their families, and friends who make our reunions memorable events.

I apologize for not making some of these recognitions at the banquet but when I found out 20 minutes before we ate that my Keynote Speaker, whom I had confirmed some 18 months ago, was AWOL. I went into the damage control mode and had to figure out how best to get through the rest of the program and forgot. I guess I was worried for nothing because with the debut of Doc Mosher's 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Lawn Chair Drill Team, nobody even noticed it. I have since been in contact with the individual and he is truly sorry he could not make it. He asked me to pass on his sincerest apologies to the brave men of the 196th. His efforts to contact me were ineffective and I was as surprised as anyone that he wasn't there. 'Nuff said...

I want to thank F Troopers Bob Garst and Angus MacAulay for stepping forward and taking on the task of establishing a 196<sup>th</sup> Scholarship Fund. This is an initiative that has never gotten past the talking stage until now. I have received the drafts of the rules, forms, and bylaw changes needed to finally make this a reality. We hope to come out with a special mailing on this issue sometime next spring.

I want to, again, say "WELCOME HOME!!" to all of the first time attendees. All your brothers are glad you came and we hope you had a great time. I hope you enjoyed getting lei'd at the banquet. I know it was a high point for all of us. We also hope you pass the word to your buddies and bring them out with you when next we meet in Buffalo in 2009.

We had one on-site casualty this year, Maxine Campbell, wife of Pat Campbell, C 2/1, 65-67, took a spill on the stairs on Saturday morning and suffered a severe sprain which required EMT attention. I recently spoke with Pat and he assured me Maxine is doing fine and recovering well at home. Get well quick, Maxine, Buffalo is only 2 years away.....

We are beginning to look in earnest for some new blood to take the association forward. Please look for the article in this newsletter that sets out the duties and responsibilities of the elected and appointed officers of the association. If you believe you have the skills needed to accept the challenge please let me know and we will begin to put together a candidate list. Updates will be published in subsequent newsletters and on the website.

Finally, many questions have arisen on the many facets of reunion planning. Please look for the article in this newsletter that explains the whys and wherefores of reunion planning.

My officer's and I want to thank everyone for your vote of confidence in our leadership. We are proud and privileged to work for such a great group of soldiers and their families. We needed each other then and we need each other now.

Keep up the good work of finding and bringing our brothers back through the wire to once again join in the family that is the 196<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully, *Warren*

## TAPS

*We often are not notified of a members passing until we get a notice from the Post Office. If you have any information on the death of a 196th Brother, please send it to the Editor.*

**Mott, Danny Dwight**, date unknown, Served with C, 2/1 and C, 3/21(Task Force Gimlet). This information came from the Americal Association Newsletter, no other info is available.

**Powers, Paul**, Chuck Hitzemann writes: Paul Powers died a month ago (Sept). Powers was the FAC who supported 3/21 during the '67-68 era and was on station at Nhi Ha. He had been in poor health and was 85. I can't believe it. I think he had been an F-100 pilot before getting into a FAC seat. He was outstanding in his trade. (There are a lot of guys walking around today as a result of Paul Powers on station during the battle at Nhi Ha. *Warren*)

**Morris, Robert**, Sept 2005, Served with B, 8th Support and 196th AVN from 1967-1968.

**Hawk, Arthur**, August 2006, Served with HHC 1/46th from 1969-1970.

**Scotti, Michael J. Jr., MG (Ret)**, My father is a life member of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association who served with the Unit in the Republic of Vietnam from approximately June of 1967 through June of 1968. After several weeks of fighting various symptoms he was diagnosed with a late onset of leukemia this past August. Despite outstanding care from the men and women of Walter Reed Army Medical Center, my father passed away on September 12, 2007. Although my father didn't tell the family many details of his tours of duty in Vietnam, the bonds he formed there meant a lot to him. When I asked him about the politics of the war once, he said when your in a war zone the politics don't matter very much. We were just trying to accomplish our mission and keep each other alive in the process. He described the bonds of men in a combat unit as similar to that of the members of my college football team, except stronger due to the fact that the mission and consequences of failure were much more serious.

He had a correspondence file with many letters from the men of the 196th which he never threw away. Given that my Dad saved these letters and from his recent efforts to attend reunions, I know this Association meant a lot to him. Thanks to you and others who keep the Unit connected and the Association strong.

Michael "Doc" Scotti was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on December 6, 2007 at 10:45 a.m. (*See the accompanying article in this issue*)

**Russoman, Richard (Russ)**, Mar 18, 2007. Russ served with 4th Platoon, "B" Company, 2/1 from Fort Devens to Tay Ninh. He lived in Toms River, NJ and was a firefighter in Union Township, NJ for 25 years. He was a member of VFW Post 2433. He will be missed by family and friends.

**McGuire, George**, May 2006. Served with Company D, 2/1 1966-67. George had been sick for some time and was dealing with prostate cancer attributed to service in Vietnam. George was from Morgantown, WV. We were notified by his wife Judy.

**Beam, Darris (Butch)**, Mar 7, 2007. Served with 4th Platoon, Company D, 4/31 in 1966-67. Butch's wife, Becky Daugherty, wrote that he had a year long hard fight with cancer. He was from Grimes, IA.

Michaels, Richard (Richie), Mar 2007. Richie was a cook on LZ Center from 1968 to 1969.

**Gilbertson, Rodney**, Aug 10, 2007. Served in 3rd Platoon, Company D, 2/1 from 1967 thru 1968. He had planned to attend the KY reunion, but was too ill.

**Lewis, Jonathan**, May 25, 2007. Jon's wife Lorraine writes that he had registered for the reunion. Served in D, 4/31.

**Staffu, Harold**, May 16, 2007. Served in D, 4/31. Vance VanWieren writes that Harold and Jon Lewis were close friends and played music in the hall together at the San Antonio reunion. Harold had attended many reunions and will be missed.

*Vance also wrote of the passing of several other D, 4/31 members:*

**Grizzard, Joe**

**Harper, Barry**

**Hunt, Ken**

**Hickman, Dennis C.**, June 25, 2007. Served with 3rd Battalion 82nd Artillery. Both Dennis, and his twin brother Danny, were artillerymen assigned to different batteries supporting the 196th during its early Vietnam deployment. Dennis was 62, and from Naperville, IL.

**Black, Ken**, May 2007. Served with 3/21, Echo Recon, Assassins/Spectre. Sam Beck writes: "He was a brave soldier and a good friend. He was with us during our night of Hell on April 13, 1968 in the AK Valley. God bless this brave soldier."

**Lindenauer, Jon M. (Col - Chaplain)**, July 29, 2007. Jon was a Battalion Chaplain with the 196th in Vietnam during 1966-67. He was born in 1928 in New York City. A graduate of Lafayette College, he enlisted in the Army in 1951 and served in the Korean Conflict. Jon was a recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge, and probably one of the only chaplains to receive that award. He graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1957 and returned to active duty in 1960. After completing his active service he was rector of several churches and remained in the Army Reserve as the Command Chaplain of the West Coast until he retired in 1988 as Colonel.





## TAPS

**McEvoy, Andy.** Nov 27, 1944 - Jan 29, 2008. Andy served with "A" Battery, 3/82 Artillery from Sept 1965 to July 1967. Andy lived in Itasca, IL and was a Life Member of the Association. He attended many of the reunions and will be truly missed by his 196th brothers.

**Collins, Dennis (SGT-Major-RET)** Nov 1, 1932 - Feb 14, 2008. Platoon Sargent of 4th Platoon, Co "B", 2/1 from Ft Devens thru Vietnam. A Life Member of the Association, Dennis had attended several reunions. He was from Derby, Kansas.

"He was like a father to his platoon... he said he would bring us 4th platooners all home... and he did. May he rest in well deserved peace" (from W. Chojnowski)

**Yocum, Claude L.** Dec 31, 1922 - Mar 30, 2008. Claude was an original 196er. He served in two theaters of war and received two Bronze Stars and Army Commendation Award. He was a Master Mason with the Sparta Lodge. Claude lived in Springfield, MO. He is survived by three sons, six grandchildren and three great-grand children.

**Bradley, George S.** Feb 19, 2008. George served with D, 2/1 in 1967-68. Bill had been ill since his last month in Vietnam, His wife Joyce would appreciate our prayers.

**Battreal, Joe.** April 17, 1947 - May 25, 2008. Joe was part of Co. C 4/31 from 67-68. Residing most of his life in Anderson, IN, he was a member of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, was the head of the Arabian Basketball Club, and coached the Brentwood Little League and AAU Girls Basketball. He worked as a computer programmer for Muncie Power Products. Joe is survived by his fiancée, Katie Gernand, a daughter, son, and brother. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery, Anderson, IN.

**Cunningham, John R. (Bob),** July 8, 2008. A Tunnel Rat with the 196th, he served in the 196th during the Tet Offensive, where he was awarded the Bronze Star with V (Valor). He passed away at the Philadelphia VA Hospital of liver cancer.

**Hain, Randell (LT).** Served 1968-69. Randell was in A & C Companies, 3/21. (Pat Walker has additional info: pat196@gmail.com)

**Parsons, Franklin Wayne "Whitey",** June 19, 2007. Served in A Company, 2/1, 3rd Platoon, 1969-1970. He was 63 and lived in Compobello, SC.

**Chamberlain, Werner "Turk",** Dec 26, 1939 - Sept 27, 2008. Werner worked with Brigade S-1 in 1971. He was a retired Army Infantry Officer with over 50 years of government service. He is survived by a son, Lt. Col. Robert L. Chamberlain of West Point, NY; a daughter, Angela Dushane of Atlanta, GA; and two grandchildren. William Newton writes: "*I worked with Turk and our Commanders in the S-1 shop of the Brigade in 1971. Turk was meticulous, intense, and straight-shooting. He listened and responded well to 'Let's take a walk.' It was for both of us, oh so real. I'm not alone in wishing I had made contact with a buddy before it was too late. Feeling kinda less full right now.*"

**Schafer, Bruce E.,** Dec 11, 2008. Bruce served with B Company, 4/31, 2nd Platoon and was an original 196er in 1965. He was a retired policeman from Syracuse, New York, and had attended several 196th reunions. He was looking forward to attending the Buffalo reunion close to home. He died too soon from cancer. He will be missed .

### Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag

During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the Armed Forces and **veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute.** All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.

#### Conduct during playing — During rendition of the national anthem— Star-Spangled Banner

When the flag is displayed:

Individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note; members of the Armed Forces and **veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform;** and all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

When the flag is not displayed:

All present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

(By use of the word "may" it is optional, and at your choice, whether to salute or place your hand over your heart.

*The Commandant of the Marine Corp has told Marine veterans out of uniform not to render a military salute.)*



# MAIL CALL

## ANY WAY WE CAN

When Sergeant Shugg and I received our orders to return from Vietnam to the US, we were left to our own devices to get from the small Chu Lai airstrip to the international airport at Cam Rahn Bay.

Arriving at the Chu Lai airstrip late that afternoon, we were told to sack out in an old barracks over behind the airport because there would be no more flights in or out until the next day.

We took our gear and staked out a couple of bunks in the barracks, but we hadn't really given up on catching a flight that evening. We walked out to the flight line and sure enough, about dusk, an unscheduled C130 landed. As the pilot made his way toward the terminal I shouted to him "Sir, are you going on to Cam Rahn Bay tonight?" He replied that he was. "Do you have room for two guys and their duffel bags?" Obviously not accustomed to the hardships that Shugg and I had endured as Infantry soldiers over the past year, he replied "I guess so, but it might not be very comfortable. You might even have to sit on the floor".

Laughing as we raced back to pick up our gear, Shugg shouted over his shoulder one of the most memorable lines I had ever heard, "Sit on the floor? Hell, we'd sit on the wing! We're going home!"

Lee Gilkerson ("Little Al")  
3733 North Bank Rd.  
Millersport, OH 43046  
(614) 296-2870 [thegilker@earthlink.net](mailto:thegilker@earthlink.net)

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### B 3/21, 69-70

My dad, Kenneth Odell, served with B, 3/21 from 1969 thru 1970. He is positive he worked out of LZ Siberia and LZ West. He kept in touch with some of the guys after getting out, but when he moved, the wonderful Chicago postal service didn't do much in the way of forwarding his mail.

He would like to reconnect with anyone that knew him.

Thank you for all the help. Merry Christmas and God bless you and all the brave men and women that have served and are still serving this PROUD country of ours.

Dad's new address is:  
Kenneth Odell  
6609 Benich Ln.  
Plainfield, IL 60586

## 8th SUPPORT -NEEDS SUPPORT

I have subscribed to the 196th Association, and I was hoping that you could assist me in finding some of my Viet Nam comrades. I have been searching on my own for contacts, but have been un-successful in my attempts. I am looking for individuals that served with me in at Company A, 8th Support Battalion 196th Light Infantry Brigade. My MOS was (64A10 - Transportation).

I am hoping that these individuals, if found, could supply me with information that would assist me in my VA Claim. I have been looking for veterans that were involved in Convoy duties during the time I was in-country (July 15th thru December 15th, 1967).

I know it's a lot to ask, but I have to get this information, for again, it's a major part of my VA Claim.

I thank you in advance for any information that you can give me.

Your Brother,  
PFC Barry O'Neil  
EMail: [Barryhog@aol.com](mailto:Barryhog@aol.com) , Phone: 732-291-9270

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### COMING TO THE REUNION

Hello my name is Mike Pategas in Iowa. My Uncle Gus Carlson served with the 196th. I work at the VA Hospital in Iowa City, IA.

I sent the yearbook, a few stickers, and a t-shirt to my Uncle after I received it from you guys, and he loved it. I wrote him a nice letter to go with it. In this letter I told him I would accompany him to the reunion in Buffalo this summer, and that he would have no room for argument, even though if he started one he would most likely win it anyways.

When he got the stuff I bought for him he called me up, and the first thing he said was, "we're going". He is talking about it now and making plans for it already. He is excited. He may not remember all of the names he used to know, because he had a stroke some eight years ago or so.

He will let me know the names he does remember and I will get those to you. I am sure he resisted in going to the reunion for many of his own reasons, which others have shared with him as well. I am just glad that he responded to my nudge as he did, and I think by me offering to go with him that helped tremendously. Thanks for providing your time and energy with your group and I hope to meet you in Buffalo in July. I will look to the web site for information on the reunion.

*Mike Pategas*  
Wayland, IA

## AND I SWEAR IT REALLY HAPPENED...

Notes from the field..., by Warren Faulk, 408th Radio Research Det, 196th LIB

### 196 Cedar Falls ... Really

On Cedar Falls I pitched my tent under a tall tree in a little settlement called Trung Lap. I dozed off and promptly fell out of my cot. More like jumped I guess, scared out of my wits by a hidden .50 Caliber going off in the top of that tree.

The local RF/PF boys had the gun mounted about 50 feet up and were using it to convey messages to their troops who were deployed in the area. For darned sure it got my attention.

From that same vantage point and using my radios I "observed" two 196th platoons bump into each other in the brush and begin firing. Radio messages were coming in from both units describing the contact which was real enough ... bullets were flying, but there were apparently no enemy troops in the area.

Upon figuring it all out, somebody in a helicopter having contact with both platoons called a ceasefire. He then had both platoon leaders stand up and look at each other.

At the time I had just a sense of relief, not comedy relief, but the real kind where you are glad nobody was hurt and that the enemy had not penetrated that close to the forward headquarters area.

But now, all these decades later, can't you just visualize an episode of M.A.S.H. being developed around that incident?

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### 196 New Years Eve 1966

Dateline Tay Ninh

Just before dark a Huey with red, white and blue smoke streaming from its skids streaks over the base camp. This began to answer the question "What does one do to celebrate in such circumstances?" (Coming on the heels of an edict to conserve smoke grenades.)

Wasn't long before the guys in the bunkers began to pop off a round or two and soon the guys in the tents began to answer with their M-16s. Not to be outdone, our Filipino brothers cut loose in the dark on full automatic and tracers cross-laced the sky until midnight and beyond.

There was one non-lethal wound in the brigade headquarters area ... 5.56 ball in the butt ...thankfully that one not a tracer.

And PhilCAG drew ammunition next day having pretty much used up their basic loads.

Lord, what a war.

### 196 Huey Down

"C" Model Huey and "D" Model Dollies. So two young Huey pilots hustle up the guts to invite two of our Red Cross ladies for a ride ... in a Huey Gunship ... right in front of the Tay Ninh Tactical Operations Center.

They went scooting by, clipping the weeds with the skids, when they had a chance encounter with a very hard termite mound. The mound won and the ship did a half roll into the ground. Blade shattered sending pieces flying. Loud ripping noise, then silence.

Four occupants thankfully running to put some distance between themselves and the wreckage. Huey pretty much a write off I think. Wonder if those boys have finished making the payments yet.

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### 196 Nui Ba Den ... Bump On A Province

... some fellow went A.W.O.L. from the Tay Ninh bunker line and turned up a day or two later at the friendly encampment on top of the mountain. Scuttlebutt says he was crazy. I bet he was just bored. Intel guys supposedly debriefed him.

So much for the sides of the mountain being infested with VC. I know there were some but maybe not the legions that were speculated about.

Had my own little outing on Nui Ba Den. Flew up there as a passenger on a Huey to deliver some supplies to my Direction Finding team that was "imbedded" (Don't you love that term?) with the fellows on top.

We swung around the lee side of the Widow and popped out into a stiff wind crossing the pad. The Huey tilted over on its side and seemed about to fall off into the trees below. I hung on. Both pilots turned loose of the controls. We teetered there for awhile and the ship finally righted itself. I got out, made my deliveries and we dove back down to a very hard landing at Tay Ninh.

After that I was glad my application to flight school had been rejected. And when a year later the Army, having relaxed the vision requirements, sent ME a ticket to flight school I turned THEM down.

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*Editor's note: That guy was Paul Curren, C, 4/31, and he started from the rock-crusher. Got in a little trouble for it, but lucked out. If anyone knows his whereabouts today, there are a few of us that would like to find him. He was writing a journal that would be really interesting to read.*

*Believe me, there were VC on at least one side of that mountain.*

## MICHAEL J SCOTTI



Michael J. Scotti Jr., 68, a retired Army Major General who commanded all Army medical forces in Europe in the early 1990s and who oversaw the treatment and evacuation of soldiers during the Persian Gulf War, died of complications from leukemia Sept. 12 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He lived in Arlington County.

In 1990, shortly before the start of the Gulf War, Gen. Scotti became chief surgeon for the U.S. Army in Europe and commander of the 7th Medical Command in Germany. He took command of the Army's large health-care system in Europe just after the Berlin Wall fell and efforts were underway to decrease the number of troops in Europe.

For the next four years, his task was enormous. He developed, coordinated and executed the evacuation and medical treatment plans for wounded Gulf War soldiers.

He had done much of the planning for the buildup of medical units to Kuwait while serving as brigadier general in the late 1980s, said retired Army surgeon and Lt. Gen. Ronald Blanck. Gen. Scotti planned for and then coordinated much of the movement of the wounded from the Middle East through Central Europe. He also coordinated with Navy and Air Force medical officials.

"Mike was one of those people who was forward thinking," Blanck said. "He was a thinker, a strategist."

He later outlined medical plans for the drawdown of forces in Europe after the breakup of the Soviet Union and oversaw Army medical forces during conflicts in the former Yugoslavia.

Gen. Scotti, a physician who trained as an internist and in family practice, also is credited with helping to enhance primary-care medicine in the Army and focusing not just on individuals but on families as well. "He really promoted it," Blanck said, and "he did a lot to create the infrastructure for it."

Along the way, he also mentored a number of other doctors with careers in the Army. Gen. Scotti always focused on the highest-quality medicine and medical education, said Maj. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, commanding general of the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

"He was one of our visionary leaders in Army medicine," said Schoomaker, who worked under Gen. Scotti in the 1990s. "He was one of the people who helped chart a path for us that kept us engaged."

Gen. Scotti served more than 30 years as an officer, including a year in Vietnam as a battalion surgeon in active combat during 1967 and 1968. For his frontline duties, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

After retiring in 1996, he became vice president for medical education at the American Medical Association and later senior vice president for professional standards. While he was based in Chicago, his work focused on implementing AMA policies in medical education, ethics, research and clinical medicine.

Gen. Scotti, a third-generation Italian American, grew up in Queens, N.Y., where he was the first member of his family to graduate from high school. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Fordham University in 1960 and a medical degree cum laude from Georgetown University medical school in 1965.

He held a variety of clinical and administrative positions after completing a residency in internal medicine at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. He later received board certification in family medicine and advocated for the first family medicine training programs in the Army Medical Department. He served as chief of family medicine and director of the residency program at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Fort Gordon, Ga.

As the Soviet Union began to break into smaller, independent states, Gen. Scotti organized a humanitarian aid program that included giving several of the former Soviet bloc states surplus Army medical equipment. He also organized medical missions to Central European nations.

In later years, Dr. Scotti held several volunteer positions, including clinical professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, president of the Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces and as a member of the board of directors of the Army Distaff Foundation.

In 2005, he and several other retired military officers signed a letter to President Bush in support of legislation by Sen. John McCain (R.-Ariz.) to prohibit inhumane treatment of prisoners. He also advised McCain's office on aspects of the Guantanamo Bay prison facilities.

Gen. Scotti was a member and fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American Academy of Family Physicians and belonged to several other professional associations.

Besides the Bronze Star Medal, his Army decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Susan Faye



Michael J. Scotti (cont.)

Scotti of Arlington; three children, Michael Scotti of Naperville, Ill., Pamela Camblin of Eugene, Ore., and Jennifer Scotti of Arlington; a sister; and eight grandchildren

By *Yvonne Shinhoster Lamb*  
Washington Post Staff Writer  
Wednesday, October 3, 2007

*Dr. Scotti served as the Battalion Surgeon for 4/31, and as Commander of the Medical Company, C, 8th Support. The photo was taken at the 196th Reunion in Branson.*

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## SYDNEY WILLIAM KLEMMER

I'm a retired Air Force vet (Vietnam 1970-1971) from a small town in Minnesota. Recently going to the "Virtual Wall" I found that not one of the eight young men that died in Vietnam have anything about them, or a picture or anything other than their names.

I believe Sydney William Klemmer was with the 196th (he is on your site's KIA list), and I'm trying to contact anyone that knew Syd, or has a picture of him so that I can at least put something on the Wall for him and the seven others.

I've gotten some amazing information from people, pictures and stories etc, but very little on Sydney. I've been in contact with Ken McKenzie and he sent me information on what the various columns mean on your KIA pages, but again, I'm just trying to get something, anything to put up for Syd. If you can help I'd so appreciate it. I just can't fathom that not one of the eight has anything up there, and I'm determined to change that.

Thank you,

*Dave Wagner*  
E-8 USAF Ret.  
polarisdriver@juno.net

## JAMES "ED" RIMMER

One of my high school classmates was killed on 4 May 1970 while serving with HHC, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Reg, 196<sup>th</sup> LIB. Another of my classmates is in the process of establishing a memorial scholarship in his name at the high school from which we graduated in 1966. I've spent hours upon hours web browsing for information about what his unit was doing when he was killed, but the only thing I've gotten is a puzzle and eyestrain. I hope you can help us.

**Your comrade's name is: RIMMER, James E.; Date of Death: 4 May 1970; Cause of death: Multiple shell fragment wounds. He was a medic.**

His name is listed on the 196<sup>th</sup> Honor Roll. Your website lists his place of death as Tay Ninh, which is incorrect and may be Quang Tri. His government gravestone lists some of his awards, which include an ARCOM, 2 Bronze Stars, and a PH. He was only in-country a short time.

For all these years, members of our class had believed that Ed (he went by his middle name instead of James—his dad went by "Jim") died of gunshot wounds, and that the circumstances of his death were as follows: While accompanying a squad on a patrol that ran into an ambush, the point man went down and Ed made a dash for him even though the automatic weapons fire had not yet been suppressed. (It sounded to us almost like a suicide dash, which would have been consistent with Ed's personality.)

We had considered this information pretty reliable because another of our classmates, who was serving at that time in the Pentagon print shop, got his 1SG to make some phone calls to Ed's 1SG in Vietnam, who related the story told above.

So, we're hoping you provide us information about:

1. Where was HHC, 2/1/196, on 4 May 1970?

2. Do you know anybody in the 196<sup>th</sup> Association who may have been in HHC 2/1 in May 1970 whom we could contact to find out a first-hand account of what actually happened to Ed?

Larry Wisnosky  
Mount Morris, IL  
wisnosky@verizon.net

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## 196th WEB SITE

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association has its own Internet domain. Please visit the website at:

**www.196th.org**

You can also leave a message on the 196th Website Guestbook at: [www.196th.org](http://www.196th.org) to search for friends or information. Make sure you leave contact information such as an e-mail address, home address, or phone number. When leaving an e-mail address, use "at" instead of the @ sign to prevent spammers from getting your e-mail address.

## THE INEXACT SCIENCE OF REUNION PLANNING

There have been a few inquiries and even fewer complaints about the choices that have been made for the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn reunions. I will try to address these concerns by sharing with you the logic that is used for the selection of reunion sites.

In accordance with our stated by-laws, Article II Aims and Objectives (see inside front cover), we, the officers of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn, believe that reunions should in fact be reunions and that is our main focus. The whole reason we exist as an association is to foster brotherhood and camaraderie amongst the members and provide a place for us all to serve that purpose. We are not in the business of planning vacations for our members. The officers have consciously avoided Las Vegas because of the distractions that would potentially take away our members from the prime reason for the reunion.

First, we look for a place that has adequate, affordable facilities for lodging, hospitality, and banquets, that allow us to bring in our own beverages and snacks. Bringing our own beverages is a real problem with the liquor laws in some states. Second, we look for a site with some interesting memorial, historical, or sightseeing opportunities.

Once we decide on the site then we have to enter into negotiations with the hotels in the area, usually with the help of the local Convention & Visitors Bureaus (CVB). We first locate acceptable venues in terms of room availability, hospitality areas, and banquet facilities. At this point a site visit is conducted and all of the possibilities, to include area attractions, are reviewed on site. The possibilities are then discussed among the officers and a consensus is reached.

After a selection is made we enter into negotiations with the host hotel for the ability to bring our own beverages, if they tell us no, that is a deal breaker. The costs that would be incurred by our members to purchase their own beverages through the hotel's bars or lounges could get very expensive. We also don't want our members to have to go off site to drink and run the risk of DUI or worse. There is always room for a brother, who has had a bit too much to drink, to sleep it off at the host hotel and not expose himself to possible trouble.

If we get authorization to bring in our own beverages, then we begin negotiation of room rates, banquet costs and a number of other items associated with the care and feeding of our members during the reunion period and usually a few days before and after the actual reunion for members who wish to spend more time in the area. Usually a second visit is required for face to face fine tuning.

All of this takes place approximately 2 ½ to 3 years

ahead of the actual reunion date. This is absolutely necessary or the desired facilities will be booked. We generally enter into a contract over 2 years out.

As our attendance continues to climb our challenge is in finding larger venues, being more creative in how we put these reunions together, and continuing to hold the line on costs. With the negotiating skills we have gained and lessons we have learned from past reunions we have managed to hold the line on costs, so far. The economic reality is that we are not going to be able to keep the costs as contained as we had previously but we will certainly keep fighting to keep the reunions as affordable as possible.

OK, now that you have some idea of the mechanics of a planning a reunion let's take a look at how we decide where to go.

The choice of Gettysburg was made because of the obvious correlation between the Civil War battlefield and our combat connections. What better place for soldiers to meet than on a battlefield. We knew going in that the host hotel was probably going to be too small but the hospitality and banquet facilities would be perfect and we were allowed to bring in our own beverages. We knew that there were many backup hotels available in the area and we wouldn't be too spread out.

After Gettysburg we were seriously planning on going to Chicago. We could not get affordable prices for lodging, parking, banquets, etc., at facilities that could hold our numbers. So I made an executive decision to look at Branson, MO because of its reputation for being veteran friendly. We went to Branson for a site visit and they really wanted our business. The CVB and the hotel went out of their way to give us anything we needed at a price we could live with. All of the attractions we went to offered us deep discounts because we were veterans. The decision was easy.

I realized that we needed more input from the members on where they would like to hold future reunions. I used our database to do some research on where our members lived so I could come up with some suggestions and produced a flyer with a map on the back to give the members an opportunity to suggest places they wanted to go.

The flyer was placed in all of the packets at the 2005 Branson reunion. I felt that the folks who actually attend the reunions should be the ones to decide where we go next.

I got 167 responses with San Antonio being #1. So we went to San Antonio in 2007.

#2 was the Midwest with Ohio being the most requested. So we went to Cincinnati in 2007.

## Reunion Planning 101 (cont.)

#3 was the Northeast. Thus Buffalo/Niagara Falls in 2009.

We are going where the members wanted us to go based on the survey.

We've gotten numerous (more than 100) inquiries by regular mail, email, through the guestbook and at the reunions, since the survey, about when or if we are going to go West. Roughly 650 of the 5022 currently on our database live in the West. We get roughly 10% of the database total at each reunion, so we would need to have a big turnout from the rest of the country to make a West reunion work. We haven't gone West since Denver in 1993 where we had the lowest turnout of all our reunions. (less than 200 at the banquet).

With that in mind, we have decided to begin the process of looking at the West for 2011. We currently have a reunion planning service exploring possibilities for us in the Pacific Northwest, California and Arizona.

As I have previously stated our attendance continues to grow, with the help of a great bunch of recruiters, so we must be doing something right. The officers and I are always open to suggestions. All suggestions will be heard and considered but please don't feel as if you have been ignored if a decision is made which is counter to your wishes.

As your elected officers, Bill and I, can see the big picture and have the ultimate responsibility to make the decisions which will best benefit the majority. It's what you elected us to do and we are doing the best we know how.

I hope I have answered some of your questions and given you a little insight into some of what it takes to put together a reunion. I thank you for the privilege and honor to serve.

Warren



**196th Association President Warren Neill - Working hard.**

## **196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, July 28, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Warren Neill at 0900

Chaplain Ed Griffin opened the meeting in prayer

Warren Neill read the Minutes of the July, 2005 meeting – Minutes were approved

Ken Wright gave the Treasurer's Report – Report was approved

A special "Thank You" was voiced to President Warren Neill for all the work he has done on behalf of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Association

2009 Reunion information:

President Neill reported the 2009 Reunion will be held in Buffalo, NY. He reminded the members they will need passports if they wish to travel into Canada

Election of Officers: Greg K moved that all officers remain the same. Motion carried. (President Warren Neill; Vice-President Bill Knight) (President Neill appointed Ken Wright as Treasurer and Ed Zahn as Secretary)

Members are encouraged that if they open claims with the VA to not get discouraged – to continue to try to get the claim approved. Work with local Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America and Disabled American Veterans groups. Have an army buddy that witnessed your situation write a letter. Don't give up!!

Colonel Conaty – was not able to attend this year's reunion due to health problems. He sends his regrets and disappointment at not being able to be here with us – send him a card – he will really appreciate hearing from any of us

Doc Mosher reported he will have video tapes of this reunion's banquet available at \$25.00 each – contact Doc to place an order

Ken McKenzie asked for contributions for the Newsletter – photos, letters, articles – please! He stated he will update the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Association Newsletter regarding the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial Wall

Doug Moses sang the Scottish Ballad, *The Fields of Glory*

Chaplain Ed Griffin read the names of 196<sup>th</sup> LIB veterans who have died since the 2005 reunion. He then closed the meeting in prayer

Meeting was adjourned by President Neill

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ed Zahn, Secretary*



## LOOKING FOR

### ANYONE REMEMBERING JOHN WETZEL

I would like to contact anyone that remembers John Wetzel. John was a good friend of mine who was killed in a firefight at a VC basecamp on Feb28, 1967. John was a member of the 2nd Platoon, Company "C", 4/31.

During the firefight that took John's life, two others may have also been killed. Mike Myers from Detroit and John Barchak from Texas.

If there is anyone that remembers being with John, I would love to hear from you.

Thank you so much,  
Jerry Fulbright  
23906 Butternut Dr.  
Sturgis, MI 49091  
269-467-4223  
jerryfulbright@yahoo.com



John Wetzel

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### Prayers at the Vietnam Wall On the 40th Anniversary of the Battle at Nui Lon May 18, 2008

"Lord our God, you are always faithful and quick to show mercy. Our brothers Howard R. Crothers, Thomas K. Lyons, Michael J. Massey, Eusebio Solis, William Paul Townsend, Charles A. Cope, Richard L. Moss, Harold D. Peppers and Tim "Goodbody" Rizzardini along with our comrades in arms from C-2/1 were suddenly and violently taken from us. We pray today that you come swiftly to their aid and have mercy on them, and continue to provide comfort to their family and friends through Christ our Lord."

A group from A-4/31 met in May to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the battle of Nui Lon, May 18, 1968, and to remember all those lost in May 1968.

A short ceremony was conducted near the Wall on Sunday, placing a candle at the May 18th panel. Another ceremony was held at the Woman in Service memorial.





## Reminiscences of a Year in Vietnam

Stepping off that jet into the heat of South Viet Nam was a breath taking experience. The heat was almost unbearable.

I John A. Thomas arrived in Vietnam on September 7, 1966. I was attached to the 507<sup>th</sup> Replacement Company. They were just in the process of starting to build the Cam Rah Bay Reception Center. There was nothing there but sand when I got there. (To those who came after me this will mean something). There was heavy equipment leveling out the sand dunes. I was there till November 7, 1966, living in tents and helping pour the cement slabs for the buildings. Other crews would put up the buildings. I never did get to stay in a building while I was assigned there.

Six months later, when I went on my R&R to Bangkok, Thailand, it was a full fledge military compound, and a year later when coming home it was even bigger. It was almost unbelievable how much it had changed. Cam Rahn Bay was a secure area; we were not even issued rifles. My son Rusty Allan Thomas was born while I was on R&R March 21, 1967.

On November 7, 1966 I arrived in Tay Ninh as a replacement to the 196<sup>th</sup>, B Company, 2/1, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon 2<sup>nd</sup> squad. The first night there was spent hugging a sand bag wall during an enemy mortar attack, again without a rifle till next morning.

Thus began the living in constant fear for your life and staying alive. Being a replacement to the 196<sup>th</sup> meant someone had been killed or wounded to need a replacement for that individual. Those that were there were the originals that came over as a unit on the boat.

Being in an Infantry unit meant a lot of time out in the jungle looking for the enemy V.C., (Viet Cong). Fortunately after my joining the unit we never found any thing bad. We were always on search and destroy missions. This meant if we found it, we were to destroy it, property or man.

I've been shot at by snipers; seen dead Viet Cong that another unit had killed on their way through.

I was usually the point man, which means I was out front of whatever was behind me; looking for booby traps and chopping the way with a machete. It seemed like everything had a thorn on it.

On one occasion we were pinned down by a sniper and I jumped into a mine crater with a GI boot in it??? We sat there till the napalm came in. We were always out looking, sometimes for a month or so at a time, and when we were in our base camp it was night patrols or ambushes then back to the jungle.

On another occasion we had set up a Battalion perimeter in this French rubber plantation and I was writing a letter home to my wife, and the adhesive on the envelope didn't stick, so I stuck my bayonet into one of the rubber trees and got some rubber sap and sealed the letter.

There was another Battalion perimeter out in the jungle, and one night we were shot upon by a mechanized unit with 50 cal. Machine guns. I looked up and these big bright tracers were going overhead. I was lying on top of a V.C. bunker, and I was quick to get into it. I had checked it out for booby traps that day. The other unit did not know we were there, and we didn't know they were coming!!!!

Some time in all this, the whole Brigade moved to Chu Lai, and from what I was told later, became a part of the Americal Division... We were never instructed to change patches??? My Company was assigned to guard the perimeter of a Marine Missile Base...

Shortly after arriving in Chu Lai I was made acting-jack E5 squad leader. I had the responsibility of keeping a squad and myself alive; without the pay...

There was another Battalion perimeter, with the jungle to our front and dry rice patties to our rear with big deep bomb craters in them, and full of water (good for bathing or cooling off).

One night my squad was sent out on a roving patrol in the jungle. The jungle was hard enough to get through in the day time, let alone at night. To this day I can shut my eyes and see what I believed was a V.C. running the other way on the right side of me. No one else seemed to see him, or like me didn't say anything. Shortly after that sighting we came upon a deep bomb crater with a camp fire in it, and no one around. After checking things out we went back into the perimeter and made a report of our findings. The platoon sergeant was going to send us back as a roving patrol. I sat down and said I wasn't going back out there just to be ambushed, it was nuts. The sergeant went back into the command tent and had a talk with whomever and came back and said we could go back out as an outpost. I agreed to that and went back out. I could have been sent to the brig for that one, but it worked out.

On one particular outing we had just gotten off the chopper and started down a trail. We had been assigned a dog handler and dog, and they were out on point while I was bringing up rear guard. It was just a squad sized patrol. There was an explosion and the dog and handler were wounded or killed. To this day I don't know how bad the handler was. The rest of

cont-next page

the squad carried the handler out to the LZ, and I was left to carry out the dog. I don't know if I would have seen whatever they got into or not, but I often wonder???

On another outing we were on a Battalion move through the jungle. We were moving up a stream. My company, my platoon, and my squad was on point. We came upon a road where a Viet Cong had been camping out under a bridge. He took off when he heard us coming, out across the rice patties on the other side of the road. As we came out of the jungle each one of us open fire on him, and we all missed??? He was way out there and running fast. I did end up with his silk hammock that he left behind. I do believe there were some papers found, and we spent the rest of the afternoon looking for him.

We were always tree toping in the choppers, going out to the jungle or coming in to base camp...

I suppose I could come up with some more remembrance if I tried, but these are some of the high lights to give you an idea that it was not fun and games over there and these are some of the things that still haunt me today.

Today I know what our troops are going through, for ours was similar. We had suicide bombers to look out for also. We never knew what kid on a bicycle might have explosives in the tubing of the bike. It was not quite as common as today but it was there.

I was there in Viet Nam one year to the day, September 7, 1966 to September 7, 1967.

I refer to myself as being in a different breed as a Viet Nam veteran. To me this means, not getting close to any one not letting any one into your inner circle. In the Nam you did not want to get to know the guy in the foxhole with you that well, for the next time you turn around to say something to him, he may be dead. It's called self mental protection (It don't mean nothing). To avoid the mental anguish later, you just don't get that deeply involved.

There are guys now that I wish I had gotten to know better. So I could look them up today. But.....

John A. Thomas

15713 S. R. 16

Conesville, Ohio 43811-9709

740-502-6337

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### WHO WAS THE - LAST GUY?

I was a medic with the 1/46th in Da Nang toward the end of the war, and have long known the Brigade was the last combat unit to stand down and withdraw, that being in August 1972. Do you know, or does anyone know, who was the last grunt to get on that last plane home? I assume it was someone with the 3/21st, but beyond that and his significance as an historical footnote, his identity is a mystery to me.

Does the Association have any information, records, recollections on any of the guys on that flight?

All the best,

Winston Wood

winston.wood59@gmail.com

*(We did run a series of photos several years ago, showing the last combat patrol by Task Force Gimlet, and the last artillery round fired. Does anyone know who was the last 196er out of Vietnam? - Editor)*

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### WOUNDED ON LZ BALDY

The son of Johnnie Ince is looking for anyone who might have known him.

Johnnie was assigned to HHC 3/21 from Oct 68 - Jun 69. He was further attached to C & D 3/21 as a commo specialist. They are looking for information to support a VA claim for benefits from wounds inflicted by shrapnel in the lungs. All his medical records were lost or destroyed in Vietnam. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, but has no orders. There is nothing on his DD-214.

Johnnie was treated by 23rd Med on LZ Baldy and then medevaced to 91st Evac in Chu Lai.

If anyone can corroborate his account, please e-mail his son at: jonathanince@aol.com

Thanks,

Warren Neill, Pres



## Reunion Info Sheet

Some attractions in the Western New York area –

Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park - The largest inland park of its kind in the nation. All branches of the Armed Forces are represented in the park's exhibits. Tour the decks and hulls of a guided missile cruiser, destroyer and WWII submarine. Inspect uniforms and memorabilia in the museum and exhibits aboard the ships. See planes, a Huey, a tank, an APC and more. Within easy walking distance of the Adams Mark. [www.buffalonaivalpark.org](http://www.buffalonaivalpark.org).

Old Fort Niagara – Three hundred years of history, just minutes from the falls. The historic site of battles and sieges, trading and conquest, Old Fort Niagara is an exciting place where the past lives on. Preserved as it stood in the 1700's, when France and Britain controlled Niagara, the Fort's structures include the oldest building on the great lakes. Near Fort Niagara State Park and Beach on Lake Ontario, just 32 scenic miles north of the Adams Mark. [www.oldfortniagara.org](http://www.oldfortniagara.org).

Lockport, NY – Home to the Erie Canal Discovery Center, a multi-media interactive museum that will transport you to the 1820's and the early days of the Erie Canal. Check out the Lockport Locks and Erie Canal Cruises. This attraction was featured on the History Channel. Enjoy a unique narrated 2 hour cruise past many historic sites and five original locks. The cruise includes being raised and lowered 50 feet in the only double set of locks on the Erie Canal. Lockport is a pleasant 40 minute drive, to the north northeast, from the Adams Mark. [www.niagarahistory.org](http://www.niagarahistory.org). & [www.lockportlocks.com](http://www.lockportlocks.com).

And who would want to pass up –

Eden, NY – Home to the Kazoo Museum, Factory and Boutique, the only metal kazoo manufacturer in the world operating as a working factory and museum, with belt-driven machines that date back 100 years. Don't pass up the chance to make your own kazoo to share on Banquet night! Only 20 miles south of the Adams Mark.

Or

Jamestown, NY – Home to the Luci – Desi Museum which celebrates Jamestown's own Lucille Ball and her husband, Desi Arnaz. Just 90 minutes south of the Adams Mark. [www.luci-desi.com](http://www.luci-desi.com)

There are also many interesting sightseeing opportunities in Canada that you may want to take advantage of when you are this close to the border. Be adventurous!

What else do I need to say...**EXCEPT** – If you plan to enter Canada, for any reason, you will need a passport or passcard to cross into Canada and to allow you to return to the good old US of A.

**Information on how to obtain a passport or passcard are available at <http://travel.state.gov>.**

# SEE YOU IN BUFFALO!



## **Reunion 2009**

The 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association's 2007 reunion will be at the Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo, NY, Thur, 23 Jul – Sun, 26, Jul 2009. The Adams Mark is located on the Waterfront in downtown Buffalo. The direct reservation number is 1-800-444-2326. Tell them you are with the 196<sup>th</sup> Reunion to receive the special reunion rate of \$80.00 per night plus tax. If you plan to arrive early or stay over, the special rate will apply for 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion. Sorry, no airport shuttle.

You will find the Registration Form, information and tentative schedule in this newsletter.

**Please take time to read all the information before you fill out the form.**

**\*\*\*\* Make Hotel Reservations First. Place Confirmation Number on the Registration Form , then fill it out and send in with your check.\*\*\*\***

We have booked almost the whole hotel and have reserved 75 rooms in a back-up hotel less than 1 mile from the Adams Mark at \$99.00 per night, if necessary. The Adam's Mark is big enough to handle our room requirement at an affordable rate and has more than adequate hospitality, meeting and banquet space, so everything will be on one site again.

There will be two tours offered this year.

A "Totally **American** Tour" which will explore the sights and attractions of the American side of Niagara Falls. You **will not** need a passport or passcard as this tour will not cross into Canada.

A "Totally **Canadian** Tour" which will explore the sights and attractions of the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. You **will** need a passport or passcard to enter Canada and to return to the US from Canada.

Both tours will depart from the Adams Mark on Friday, 24 July at 0830 Sharp!

A Limited (First Come, First Served) Special Fishing Opportunity is being offered (not a reunion sponsored activity), See enclosed information and sign-up sheet.

Please also see the Reunion Info Sheet for description of other personal sight seeing opportunities in the Western New York area..

Our memorial this year will be held, on site, immediately following the business meeting.

***We suggest and request that you schedule your personal, self-directed sightseeing and attraction choices during the day and plan to spend most of the evenings meeting and socializing with your fellow Chargers in our huge hospitality room.***

Guess that about covers it. We are really looking forward to having a great time of fellowship and camaraderie in Buffalo We hope our reunions continue to grow and we hope to see you all there.

Warren Neill, President / Bill Knight, Vice President



WELCOME TO  
*Buffalo*  
*Niagara*

*196th*  
*Light Infantry*  
*Brigade*

2009 REUNION

Take a photo overlooking the Falls in  
**Niagara Reservation State Park**



Visit the country's largest inland floating history  
museum at the **Naval and Military Park**



Tour **Frank Lloyd Wright's** Darwin D. Martin  
House Complex and Graycliff

Try the hot, medium or mild  
chicken wings at the **Anchor Bar**



Take a walking tour and  
find out why **architecture**  
buffs love Buffalo



1-800-BUFFALO

[www.visitbuffaloniagara.com](http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com)



**196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association Reunion  
Jul 23 - 26, 2009 - Buffalo, NY**



**REGISTRATION FORM**

**\*\*\*\*\*Make Hotel Reservations First\*\*\*\*\*** Call the Adam's Mark direct at 1-800-444-2326. Tell them you are with the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Reunion to receive the special reunion rate of \$80 per night plus tax. If you plan to arrive early or stay over, the special rate will apply for 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion. Sorry, no airport shuttle.

Hotel Reservation Confirmation# \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Unit in 196th: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Service with 196th \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE:**

( Member & Primary Guest/Spouse Only)      Number of People : \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
(Registration fee helps defray costs of programs, speakers, gifts, name badges & welcome packets)

**MEMORY BOOK** – 2009 Reunion Memories      #Books \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
(Professional photos will be taken during the entire event to include individual and group shots)

**FRIDAY TOURS:**

**8:30am – 3:00pm**      **Totally AMERICAN Tour** -      NO PASSPORT REQUIRED  
#Seats \_\_\_\_\_ x \$65.00= \_\_\_\_\_

**8:30am – 3:00pm**      **Totally CANADIAN Tour** -      PASSPORT OR PASSCARD REQUIRED  
#Seats \_\_\_\_\_ x \$65.00= \_\_\_\_\_

For motorized wheelchair/scooter access please indicate here (   )

Please be aware that some attractions are not handicap accessible, however we will try our best to accommodate you.

**SATURDAY BANQUET:** 6:00pm – 9:00pm      Number of People: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE - Beef Prime Rib # \_\_\_\_\_ Stuffed Chicken Breast # \_\_\_\_\_ Baked Halibut # \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet with Special Guest Speaker. Dress is Business Casual. Cocktail Hour: 6:00pm – 7:00pm  
Music & Dancing with DJ “Doc” Mosher: 9:00pm – Midnight.

Membership current? No? Do it now! Annual - \$20.00 / Life - \$196.00      Dues enclosed = \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to:** 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Association      **TOTAL:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Registration Form with check to:** Warren Neill, PO Box 434, Cicero, IN 46034

**Registration Deadline – Friday, 12 June 2009**

**Any Questions Contact:** Warren Neill – 317-984-3853/email – [grunt196@comcast.net](mailto:grunt196@comcast.net)

## **SPECIAL FISHING OPPORTUNITY**

The members of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn have been afforded an opportunity to enjoy a day of trolling on Lake Ontario.

One of our members, Lee Samson, C 4/31, 67-68, happens to be a professional charter captain in the Western NY area and has offered his services to coordinate an all inclusive fishing experience as an alternative to the Niagara Falls Tours.

Lake Ontario is best noted for its world class salmon and trout fishing. The stretch of water from the mouth of the Niagara River east to the Point Breeze area, where the Oak Orchard River flows, offers some of the finest, most consistent lake and tributary fishing on the planet. Year round action is available for king salmon, coho salmon, lake trout, rainbow trout, brown trout and more.

Availability is limited and will be on a first come – first served basis.

**The price is \$150.00 per person.** The package will include transportation to and from the hotel, box lunch, refreshments, and all rods, reels, bait & tackle. All boats have enclosed heads (bathrooms), so ladies are welcome.

The outing will be on Friday, 24 July.

Pick up at the Adams Mark will be at 0630 with return to the hotel by 1400.

A one day fishing license is required and will cost \$15.00 per person. An opportunity to purchase licenses will be available on the day of the outing.

The charter boats can take groups from 4 to 6 persons to enable friends to fish together.

To make arrangements for fishing groups and any other questions about the outing please call Captain Lee Samson at 716-778-7310 or email – [captlsamson@hotmail.com](mailto:captlsamson@hotmail.com)

The 196<sup>th</sup> Association has agreed to collect the fee for this event along with the reunion registration and will make payment to the Charter Captains at the time of the outing.

Make checks payable to: **196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn**

The following personal info will be provided to the charter captains for planning purposes -

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info: Phone - \_\_\_\_\_ email - \_\_\_\_\_





Check out a free jam session on Sunday evenings at the **Colored Musicians Club**



Experience the best of comedy, drama and musicals in our vibrant **Theater District**



Stop and smell the flowers at the magnificent tri-domed crystal palace at the **Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens**



See the new sea lion and river otter exhibits at the **Buffalo Zoo**



Visit the world-class art collection at the **Albright-Knox Art Gallery**

Walk the battlements of the oldest buildings on the Great Lakes at **Old Fort Niagara**



**You'll love the nightlife:** Buffalo rocks with a club, bar or restaurant for every taste

Ride the **Maid of the Mist** and tour the **Cave of the Winds** for an up-close view of the Falls

Stop to shop in the antique stores, galleries, boutiques and bistros of the **Elmwood Village**



1-800-BUFFALO

[www.visitbuffaloniagara.com](http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com)





## Reunion Schedule

This year we would like to celebrate the unsung heroes in our Brigade family. We want to recognize the wives, girlfriends, significant others, children, grandchildren, other family and friends of our members. These support troops put up with quite a bit caring for us and sharing our lives. They are to be saluted for always being there for us. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. This year we will also be celebrating the 44th anniversary of the formation of our Brigade and the 24th anniversary of the founding of our Association.

Following is a list of events planned for the Buffalo reunion -

### Thursday –

1200-1900      Registration Open

All Day        Self Guided Attractions

1200-2400     Hospitality Room

1200-2100     Photos

### Friday –

0630-1400     Special Fishing Excursion - Not a reunion related function – Limited Availability

0830-1500     Niagara Falls Tours –  
**Totally American Tour - (No Passport Required)**  
**Totally Canadian Tour - (Passport or Passcard Required)**

All Day        Self Guided Attractions

1200-1900     Registration Open

1200-2400     Hospitality Room

1200-2100     Photos

### Saturday -

0900-1000     Membership Meeting

1000-1030     Memorial Service

1030-1500     Unit Photos

1200-1700     Hospitality Room

1800-1900     Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)

1900-2100     Banquet - with Very Special Guest Speaker. **Dress is Business Casual.**

2100-2400     Music & Dancing - DJ- Rich “Doc” Mosher.

### Sunday –

0900 – 1000    Chaplain Service

Prior to Noon   Check Out

**196th Light Infantry Brigade Association 2009 Reunion Tours**

**TOUR #1**

**Totally American Tour**

\*\*\*\*\*No Passport Required\*\*\*\*\*

Date:	Friday, 24 July 2009
Pick up Time:	<u>8:30 AM Sharp!</u>
Pick up Location:	Adams Mark Hotel
Tour Time:	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Lunch & Shopping (On your own) Fashion Outlet Mall	1:00 - 2:30 PM
Return Time:	<u>2:30 PM Sharp!</u>

Group must return by 3:00 PM

**Cost: \$65.00 per person Inclusive.**

You will view or visit the following sights while  
Touring in Niagara Falls, New York, USA:

Maid of the Mist Boat Tour  
NY State Observation Tower  
Cave of the Winds Trip  
Upper Niagara River & Rapids  
Goat Island  
Terrapin Point  
Prospect Point  
Luna Island  
Whirlpool State Park  
and Whirlpool Rapids  
Robert Moses Power Plant  
American Falls  
Bridal Veil Falls  
Horseshoe Falls

Both tours are operated by:



**TOUR #2**

**Totally Canadian Tour**

\*\*\*\*\*Passport Required\*\*\*\*\*

Date:	Friday, 24 July 2009
Pick up Time:	<u>8:30 AM Sharp!</u>
Pick up Location:	Adams Mark Hotel
Tour Time:	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Lunch & Shopping (On your own) Fashion Outlet Mall	1:00 - 2:30 PM
Return Time:	<u>2:30 PM Sharp!</u>

Group must return by 3:00 PM

**Cost: \$65.00 per person Inclusive.**

You will view or visit the following sights while  
Touring in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada::

Maid of the Mist Boat Tour- Minolta  
Tower View  
Upper Niagara River & Rapids  
Whirlpool Rapids  
View Goat Island  
Panoramic View of the Horseshoe Falls  
American and Bridal Veil Falls  
Table Rock House  
NY and Canadian Power Plants  
School of Horticulture  
Clifton Hill  
Queen Victoria Park  
Old Scow  
Niagara Parkway  
Toronto Power Plant -Water Control Dam  
Water Intakes for Power Plants  
The Whirlpool Gorge  
The Floral Clock

## **For Our Members Who Choose To Drive Their RV Or Camper**

Following is a list of RV Parks and Campgrounds within 40 miles of the Adams Mark Hotel at 120 Church St, Buffalo, NY 14202

**We have provided only facilities in NY state.**

**The list is provided for your convenience.**

**We have no agreements with these facilities.**

**You must make your own plans and reservations.**

Niagara Falls KOA  
2570 Grand Island Blvd  
Grand Island, NY 14072  
716-773-7583  
13 miles

Cinderella Motel & Campsite  
2797 Grand Island Blvd  
Grand Island, NY 14072  
716-773-2872  
13 miles

Sleepy Hollow Lake Resort  
Rt 33 & Rt 5, Siehl Road  
Akron, NY 14001  
716-542-4336  
26 miles

Point Breeze RV Resort  
9456 Lake Shore Rd  
Angola, NY 14006  
716-549-8917  
[www.wnybiz.com/pointbreeze](http://www.wnybiz.com/pointbreeze)  
27 miles

Colden Lakes Resort  
9504 Heath Rd  
Colden, NY 14033  
716-941-5530  
[www.coldenlakes.com](http://www.coldenlakes.com)  
28 miles

Beaver Meadow Family Campground  
1455 Beaver Meadow Rd  
Java Center, NY 14082  
585-457-3101  
[www.campingfriend.com/beavermeadowfamilycampground/](http://www.campingfriend.com/beavermeadowfamilycampground/)  
35 miles

Yogi Bear's Yellowstone Park  
5204 Youngers Rd  
North Java, NY 14113  
800-232-4039  
[www.wnyjellystone.com](http://www.wnyjellystone.com)  
40 miles

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
2007 Fort Mitchell Kentucky Reunion





196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
2007 Fort Mitchell Kentucky Reunion





## Colonel Jay George Commands the Active Duty 196th

On May 22, 2008, there was a change of command of the active 196th. COL Guthrie moved on to the 25th Infantry Division as Division Chief of Staff, and COL George took command of the 196th.



Colonel Jay George is a native of Spartanburg, South Carolina. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1986, where he received a Bachelors of Science degree. He has a Masters degree in Public Administration from Troy State University. He has attended the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses in Ft. Benning, Georgia and the Combined Arms Service Support School (CAS3) and Command and General Staff Course (CGSC) in Ft Leavenworth, Kansas. Additionally, he graduated from the Air Assault School, Airborne School, Ranger School, Pathfinder School, Jumpmaster School, Joint Firepower Control Course, Long Range Surveillance Leaders Course, and Military Free Fall School.

Colonel George began his career as a Mechanized Infantry Platoon Leader, Battalion S1, and Support Platoon Leader in the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion, 58<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 197<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (Separate) and then as the Aide-de-Camp to the Assistant Commandant of the Infantry School and Center in Ft Benning, Georgia. Next he served in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Ft Bragg, North Carolina as the Assistant Battalion S3 and Commander for C Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 504<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, then as Commander for the Long Range Surveillance Detachment, and finally as the Assistant Division G3 for Training. His next assignment was in the Total Army Personnel Command, Alexandria, Virginia as an Assignment Officer for Infantry Lieutenants and Captains, then as the Professional Services Branch Chief for the Combat Arms Division, and finally as the Assistant Command Manager. After attending CGSC at Ft Leavenworth, Kansas, he was assigned to the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Light) in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where he served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade as the Brigade S1, then as the Battalion S3 and Battalion XO for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. Next he served as the Director for Operations, J3 for Joint Task Force – Full Accounting, Pacific Command, Camp Smith, Hawaii. Next he was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Basic Combat Training Brigade, Ft Leonard Wood, Missouri as the Brigade XO, and then as the Commander for 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. Most recently he was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, Ft Hood, Texas, as the Deputy Brigade Commander. During the Brigade's tour in Iraq, COL George served as the Chief for the Police Transition Team for Diyala Province, and later as the Chief for the Military Transition Team for 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division. COL George assumed command of the 196<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, Fort Shafter, HI on 22 May 2008.

COL George's awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4<sup>th</sup> Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Commendation Medal (3<sup>rd</sup> Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Achievement Medal (3<sup>rd</sup> Oak Leaf Cluster), the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Expert Infantryman's Badge. Additionally, COL George's skill badges include the Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Air Assault Badge.

COL George and his wife Kysa have two children: Trey (16 years old) and Kyla (10 years old).

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### 1st BN and Support Battalion also Change Command



Left photo:  
Change of Command, 1st BN  
L to R: Outgoing: LTC Jeff Church;  
COL Guthrie; Incoming: LTC Nick Crosby.

Right photo:  
Change of Command, Support BN  
L to R: Outgoing: LTC Jim Gibson;  
COL Guthrie; Incoming: MAJ Larry Sharif; SGT Julkowski



## HHC (Provisional) 196th Infantry Brigade Activates

Dec 23, 2008

By: Ed Aber-Song, USARPAC Public Affairs

PILILAAU ARMY RECREATION CENTER, HAWAII — The 196th Infantry Brigade welcomed its newest company in an activation ceremony held here, Dec. 12. “Activating the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (Provisional) is one of the first steps to transform the unit to do a better job in the future,” said Col. James D. George, commander, 196th Infantry Brigade. The new HHC and HC commander is Capt. Sean Donovan; the 1st Sgt. is Michael W. Blankenship.

The new Headquarters and Headquarters company will be responsible for the day-to-day command/control, administrative and logistics support of brigade headquarters personnel; enabling the Brigade Commander and CSM to focus on the primary mission of providing training and support to reserve component units throughout US Army, Pacific.

In addition to activating the new company, the 196th Infantry Brigade added a streamer to it’s flag as it received an Army Superior Unit Award for outstanding meritorious service in support of the Global War on Terrorism from Jan 2004 to Apr 2007 ... and the unit’s professional, high-quality and responsive support to civilian authorities, reserve and active component units, according to the award orders.



Army Superior Award Streamer



Families of the 196th Brigade stand at attention during ceremonies activating the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (Provisional)

“It’s amazing, the number of accomplishments that earned the Superior Unit Award,” said George, “Our team of civilians, Reserve and Active Duty components, mobilized 24 RCU units, about 6,200 Soldiers, without any Class A, B, C accidents, added missions, trained an active duty unit, and provided training oversight to civil support teams as they responded throughout the Pacific area to weapons of mass destruction incidents. We’re a small brigade with a wide range of accomplishments.”

The 196th mission supports U.S. Pacific Command’s Defense Coordinating Officer and Element for operations requiring military support to civil authorities in Hawaii, nearby islands and American Samoa. 196th Infantry Brigade is a multi-component unit comprised of Active Duty Army personnel, Reserve and National Guard AGR Soldiers, and Reserve/National Guard Soldiers on COADOS tours with Battalions in Guam, Alaska, and Hawaiian Islands.



## Addressing a Legacy

Carl Sandburg concluded his poetic lament, “Grass”, with these lines:

I am the grass.  
Let me work.

As time passes and memory fades, recollection of incidents of war dim as those who lived through them pass on. Generations that follow may be unaware of the proximity of danger. What looks to be an interesting, shiny trinket may be a deadly explosive device. Many are not discovered until the errant foot of man or beast triggers them, adding to the casualty list of a conflict ended long ago. Whether in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, in former European colonies in Africa, or the Balkans these “hidden killers” lie in wait.

My last assignment in the State Department was in an office that has spent over a billion dollars to help alleviate the scourge of munitions used in more than 50 countries, including Vietnam, that still threaten lives every day. Many of them are antipersonnel landmines, but others range from hand grenades and artillery rounds to 500-pound bombs. They continue to kill, inflict grievous wounds, and render impossible the cultivation of fields.

Luckily, there is a community of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working diligently to change this reality. They combine educational efforts, demining expertise and technology, and programs to rehabilitate the survivors of explosive blasts (or relatives of those killed). The ultimate goal of these groups is to restore the capacity of hamlets, villages and societies to reduce and eliminate to the extent possible the toll from all explosive remnants of war (ERW).

A number of these groups have direct or indirect connections with Vietnam veterans or their families. For example, Veterans for America, founded as the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation by Marine Corps veteran Bobby Muller, has worked for years to promote surveys of mined areas and render assistance to affected communities, not just in Vietnam. Peace Trees Vietnam is the result of the dedication of Jerilyn Brusseau, whose brother was KIA in Vietnam. Other Vietnam vets have worked with these and other groups to help restore both land and communities.

The United Nations Association of the USA established a program entitled “Adopt-A-Minefield.” This unique effort has been instrumental in clearing hundreds of minefields. Along with a major Canadian landmine awareness organization, AAM sponsors the annual Night of a Thousand Dinners, which has evolved into a month-long series of events that take place between March 1 and April 4, the latter marked by the United Nations as the International Day for Landmine Awareness. It has raised millions for humanitarian mine action over the past seven years.

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State works, through a unique Public-Private Partnership Program, with many groups to support and oversee landmine and ERW clearance, raise awareness of the challenge among various constituencies in the United States, and promote the active participation of individuals and groups in doing something to alleviate the suffering caused by these explosive hazards that remain long after hostilities have ended.

Finding out more about these groups might be of interest to Vietnam vets who know from experience the costs of war and who would like to do something to help those most at risk. With “our war” now over for more than thirty years, the fact that it still creates casualties can be unsettling. There is much to be done and among the many groups working in the field (not all in Vietnam) are the following:

Clear Path International. Dorset, VT. [www.cpi.org](http://www.cpi.org)

United Nations Association of the USA. New York, NY. [www.landmines.org](http://www.landmines.org)

Peace Trees Vietnam. Bainbridge Island, WA. [www.peacetreesvietnam.org](http://www.peacetreesvietnam.org)



## Addressing a Legacy (cont)

Veterans for America. Washington, DC. [www.veteransforamerica.org](http://www.veteransforamerica.org)  
Catholic Relief Services. Baltimore, MD. [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)  
Global Care Unlimited. Tenafly, NJ. [www.globalcareunlimited.org](http://www.globalcareunlimited.org)  
Grapes for Humanity. Toronto, ON. [www.grapesforhumanity.com](http://www.grapesforhumanity.com)  
Landmine Survivors Network. Washington, DC. [www.landminesurvivors.org](http://www.landminesurvivors.org)  
Marshall Legacy Institute. Arlington, VA. [www.marshall-legacy.org](http://www.marshall-legacy.org)  
Mine Action Information Center at James Madison U. Harrisonburg, VA.  
<http://maic.jmu.edu>  
MAG (Mines Advisory Group). UK. [www.magclearmines.org](http://www.magclearmines.org)

This is a very small part of a lengthy list of organizations addressing the various components of landmine action. The full list of US Government partners (with descriptions of their work) is available at the State Department website: [www.state.gov/t/pm/wra](http://www.state.gov/t/pm/wra). The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in New York and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) in Switzerland also have extensive information on many aspects of international demining efforts, including additional organizations that help landmine victims around the world.

*David Rabadan*  
196th Veteran  
October 5, 2007

---

### SP4 Cazanias-Diaz

I am married to the niece of SP4 Cazanias-Diaz. My mother-in-law is his sister and the keeper of his posthumous Purple Heart. SP4 Cazanias-Diaz was a member of F Troop, 17th Cavalry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade.

Edwardo died 40 years ago and the family never knew much about the circumstances of his death. I've done a little bit of research and I suspect that he may have been killed by a command detonated 105mm artillery shell as the 196th moved towards the Saigon River at the start of Operation Cedar Falls on January 7, 1967. That is the date recorded on the Vietnam Wall Memorial. Your website lists his death as being January 1st, 1967.

I am hoping that you can help me locate members that may have served with him and that can confirm how he died. Any memories at all would be appreciated.

Edwardo's sister Marta is in her 60s and the proud mother of seven children including three boys who served in the USMC, two of them in Desert Storm. I married her youngest girl. While I never had an opportunity to serve my country (medically disqualified due to blindness in one eye) I have become quite an advocate for military veterans and their families.

Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated.  
Thank you for your service.

*Raul Mas*  
PO Box 145056  
Coral Gables, Florida 33114-5056  
(954) 315-9387 office; (305) 205-1600 cellular

---

### SP4 Brad Donald Chriss

Brad was the brother of my friend Nancy Green. She would like to talk to anyone that knew her brother.

I will be the point of contact for any information.  
Thank you,

*Alan Shirley*  
e-mail: [Alan.Shirley-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Alan.Shirley-1@ksc.nasa.gov)  
or: [ashirley@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ashirley@cfl.rr.com)

*Our records show that Brad was KIA on March 19, 1969 by hostile action in Quang Tin Province. He was in "A" Company, 2/1  
Editor*

---

### TRYING TO LOCATE

We have been trying to locate our old CO from the 175th Eng CO 65/67. His name was Capt. James Edward Thomas. His Wife at the time name was Carmen. We do know he was a graduate of Northeastern in Mass. I contacted the college but he has not been active with the alumni either.

Trying to search his name has been a problem also, as it is common. I was wondering if he may have turned up in your data base? Could you confirm? Thank you Ken for your help in advance,

Ron Titus in N.J.  
[barny@usa.net](mailto:barny@usa.net)

*(Sorry, not in our database, can anyone help? - Editor)*

## EDITOR'S NOTE

This newsletter has been a long time coming, and it's not because of the lack of material. I've had many people respond with stories and other interesting things to include. The truth of the matter is; I've just been too busy with a seemingly overwhelming number of personal issues, and haven't had the time necessary to complete the newsletter.

I keep remembering back to my Army days, when we were reminded by those wiser than ourselves, 'never volunteer for anything.'

I thought with retirement came endless days with nothing to do. Certainly I'd have more than enough time to put out the newsletter, maybe I'd even be able to get out four newsletters a year. Now it seems like I'll be lucky to get one newsletter out every four years.

For those of you that also get the Americal Newsletter, you've noticed the superb job being done on that publication. I regret not being able to match their expertise.

I've been publishing the newsletter pretty much single-handedly since June 1988. Bill Knight published the first several issues until I "volunteered". It's been fun and greatly rewarding, but as someone who's always thought that when you volunteer you should follow through, I am critical of my own ability to provide you with a quality newsletter in a timely manner.

So... I guess what I'm saying is; Is there anyone out there that could, and would, take over the editing and publishing of the newsletter? The Association can provide the hardware and software, and the membership usually provides the content. All it takes is a little of your time and expertise. Anyone volunteering should have the background and skills necessary and should have done something like this before.

This is not on-the-job-training. You must have some desktop publishing and graphic editing experience. Would you like to help out for a few years? I'll continue to assist when necessary.

If interested, send a brief outline of your experience and skills to:

Ken McKenzie, Editor  
PO Box 84  
Eaton, NH 03832.

If you have any questions, call me at: 603-447-8902.

Ken, Editor

## WAS 1/52nd PART OF THE 196th?

Thomas Cleve writes that he was with the 1/52 as part of the 196th from Sept 1971 until he went home in Feb 1972. He moved with the Brigade in December 1971 to DaNang when the Brigade separated from the Americal.

We have been unable to confirm that the 1/52 was actually attached to the 196th. The only book that lists it as part of the 196th also lists it as part of the 199th.

If anyone has orders or other evidence that the 1/52nd was part of, or attached to, the 196th, please send the information to the Editor.

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## 507th ENGINEER

Louis Colon needs confirmation for the VA that he was assigned to assist the 175th Engineers in building the Tay Ninh basecamp.

Louis was temporally assigned from around Sept 1966 until at least late Feb 1967. He recalls that one of his assignments was to install a lighting system along the base perimeter. During his time with the 196th, he helped wire tents for the 2/1 and PhilCAG.

Around October 30, 1966 he met a 2/1 Infantry guy who was killed several hours later by a sniper. (probably Henry Luciw). He also witnessed the aftermath of a jeep hitting a mine that killed Lt. Charles Guttilla on Feb 20, 1967.

During his time in Tay Ninh he pulled guard duty on the perimeter and at the ammo dump, and during that time the camp was mortared around Jan 30, 1967.

Louis has provided many photos that corroborate his accounts, but the VA requires letters backing him up, since there is no written evidence in his records that his unit was assigned to the 196th.

Anyone who can provide backup for his accounts, please contact:

Maria Colon  
6 Melissa Lane  
Washingtonville, NY 10992  
845-496-5573  
lcolon@hvc.rr.com

*(I have reviewed Louis' letters and photos, and I'm convinced he is truthful and accurate in his claims - Editor)*

# THE 196th RING

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association has worked with Jostens to create a Prestige Ring for Veterans of the 196th. This ring will only be available thru the 196th Association

## CHOICE OF QUALITY

Jostens offers you 4 distinct metal alloy categories: 10K, 14K, or 18K Yellow or White Gold, Lustrum, and Questra.

18K Gold is the ultimate prestige metal, enjoy its brilliance for a lifetime.

14K Gold is rich and elegant with a durability you'll appreciate.

10K Gold - our most popular quality and an excellent choice to commemorate your special years.

Lustrum is an affordable alternative if you want the bright qualities of white gold.

Questra gives your ring a priceless golden look and a brilliant surface that is so durable it carries Jostens exclusive lifetime warranty.

Whichever alloy you choose, each has outstanding durability and wearability characteristics - backed by Jostens reputation for quality.

## JOSTENS FULL WARRANTY

For The Lifetime Of The Ring

Every Jostens Military Ring is designed and crafted to exacting quality standards.

Jostens warrants the ring to be free from defects of material and workmanship for the life of the ring. Any ring not meeting these standards will be replaced if necessary, with an identical ring without charge.

In addition, Jostens Full Warranty provides these special benefits for the life of the ring without charge:

Resizing will be performed without charge.

Defective or broken simulated stones will be replaced without charge.

Refinishing will be performed without charge.



Send Orders To:

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
c/o Ken Wright  
8280 Hwy 66 E.  
Rome, IN 47574

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Number \_\_\_\_\_

## 196th ORDER FORM

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Lustrum.....\$150.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$384.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Karat White Gold.....\$392.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Questra.....\$190.00       | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$527.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Karat White Gold.....\$535.00 |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$699.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Karat White Gold.....\$706.00 |

Engraving (inside ring)

- (3) Initials \_\_\_\_\_ (FREE)
- Full Name (or other) \_\_\_\_\_ add \$15.00
- 21 LETTERS & SPACES

Stones  Smooth  Facet

- |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garnet (Jan)     | <input type="checkbox"/> White Spinel (Apr) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruby (Jul)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Rose Zircon (Oct) | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Onyx      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amethyst (Feb)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shamrock (May)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Peridot (Aug)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Topaz (Nov)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother of Pearl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquamarine (Mar) | <input type="checkbox"/> Alexandrite (Jun)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Blue (Sept) | <input type="checkbox"/> Blue Zircon (Dec) |  |

Encrusting on Stones (available on smooth stones only).....add \$15.00

- Infantry  MP Crossed Pistols  Artillery  Crossed Bayonets

Finger Size \_\_\_\_\_  
Your correct ring size may be obtained at a jewelry store.

ALL BIRTHSTONES ARE SIMULATED  
Sales Tax Must Be Added  
Order Must Have Finger Size

Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Sub Total	
7% State Sales Tax	
Shipping (per ring)	5.95
Total	

# 196<sup>th</sup> Merchandise

We have some items left from the last couple of reunions  
 Prices shown include postage & handling.

Description	Price	Quantity	Amt Due
All weather 196 <sup>th</sup> Flag Durable/Double-sided	\$67.00	_____ x	\$67.00 = _____
“The Second Year” Yearbook (8/66-7/67)	\$25.00	_____ x	\$25.00 = _____
3 Flag Desk Set (US, 196 <sup>th</sup> , POW/MIA)	\$15.00	_____ x	\$15.00 = _____
196 <sup>th</sup> LIB Challenge Coin	\$6.00	_____ x	\$6.00 = _____
196 <sup>th</sup> patches Full Color	\$3.00	_____ x	\$3.00 = _____
196 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Crests “Ahead of the Rest”	\$3.00	_____ x	\$3.00 = _____
196 <sup>th</sup> LIB Outside Window/Bumper Sticker	\$2.00	_____ x	\$2.00 = _____
Lapel Pins	\$3.00	_____ x	\$3.00 = _____
196 <sup>th</sup> LIB T-shirts	\$12.50		
3XL_____, 2XL_____, XL_____, L_____, M_____,x			\$12.50 = _____

Order Total = \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to : **196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn**  
 Mail to:

**196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn,**  
**Ken Wright, Treasurer,**  
**8280 Hwy 66E,**  
**Rome, IN 47574**

(Suggestion: Make a copy of this page)

**196<sup>th</sup>  
CHALLENGE COIN**





Active 196th Brigade  
Awarded the Army Superior Unit Award



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND  
200 STOVALL STREET  
ALEXANDRIA VA 22302-0470

3 November 2008

PERMANENT ORDERS 308-02

Headquarters, 196th Infantry Brigade

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Army Superior Unit Award  
Period of service: 1 January 2004 to 1 April 2007  
Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-6  
Reason: During the period of 1 January 2004 to 1 April 2007, Headquarters, 196th Infantry Brigade displayed outstanding meritorious service while in support of the Global War on Terrorism. The unit's successes and record of mission accomplishment serve as a testament to the professionalism and superior performance of each Soldier, Noncommissioned Officer, and Officer of the brigade. The unit's dedication and devotion to providing professional, high-quality, and responsive support to civilian authorities and reserve and active component units set a standard to be emulated Army-wide. Headquarters, 196th Infantry Brigade's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit and the United States Army.  
Format: 32C.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

  
MARION A. SALTERS  
LTC, MC  
Chief, Military Awards Branch

DISTRIBUTION:  
Commander, 196th Infantry Brigade, Bldg. 525th, Stop 104, Fort  
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## LOCATOR SERVICE

The 196th LIB Association will search its database, on request, to attempt to locate buddies you may want to find. Simply send a written or e-mail request to Warren Neill, President, stating the name if you know it. We can also do a search by unit and year. State the Company, Battalion, and year(s) to search. We will send you a print-out of up to ten names returned by the search. If the search returns more than ten names, we will just send you the names without addresses. Look over the list to see if you want to get in touch with anyone, and we will send you those addresses.

The purpose of not sending long lists of names and addresses is to protect the mailing list from possible commercial exploitation. We have spent a lot of time and effort building our member database and do not want it used indiscriminately.

We currently have over 4,000 names on our mailing list so maybe we can help you find that long lost buddy.

You can also leave a message on the 196th Website Guestbook at: [www.196th.org](http://www.196th.org) to search for friends or information. Make sure you leave contact information such as an e-mail address, home address, or phone number. When leaving an e-mail address, use "at" instead of the @ sign to prevent spammers from getting your e-mail address.

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## STORIES, REQUESTS, PHOTOS

Send your stories and requests in electronic form (.txt or MSWord .doc) and send photos in the highest resolution possible. If you send a story, please include your contact information and permission to print the story.

Send to: Ken McKenzie - Editor, at the address or e-mail on the inside back cover.

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### Fill out and return form with your remittance to:

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
Ken Wright, Treasurer  
8280 Hwy 66 E  
Rome, IN 47574

### MEMBERSHIP

Every year, unfortunately, we lose some of the members on whose support we have counted. We have always been able to increase the membership slightly in spite of that through enrollment of new members. But, while getting new members is extremely important to us, it is far more important that we retain your interest and good will. So please take a minute now to check your mailing label. If your dues have expired or you have never paid dues, fill out the renewal slip and send it back to us with your check. We really need you!

**You receive with your membership:**  
A membership card, one bumper sticker, and one window decal.

**CHECK YOUR  
MAILING LABEL  
FOR YOUR  
DUES EXPIRATION DATE**

<b>Dues are \$20.00 for the year.</b> I would like (number): _____ Additional Bumper Stickers @ \$2.00 ea. <b>Not included with membership package:</b> _____ Lapel Pin @ \$3.50 ea. T-Shirt @ \$12 each, (number of each size ordered) _____XXL, _____XL, _____L, _____M	<b>Lifetime Membership: \$196.00</b> _____ Additional Decals @ \$2.00 ea.
Name: _____ Telephone: _____	
Street: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
Dates served in the 196th: From: _____ To: _____	
Unit: Bat/Reg _____ Company or Battery _____ Platoon _____	
Service #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ E-mail: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> I cannot join at this time, but please add my name to the mailing list.	<input type="checkbox"/> Address Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member	\$ _____ Donation

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

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Honorary Life Member: MOH COL (Ret) Charles Murray, Jr.

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E-mail address: Editor196@196th.org

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**196th ASSOCIATION  
TAX EXEMPT STATUS**

**The 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association has received tax exempt status. This means that contributions are tax deductible on your income tax.**

**We are also able to reduce mailing costs as a tax exempt organization.**

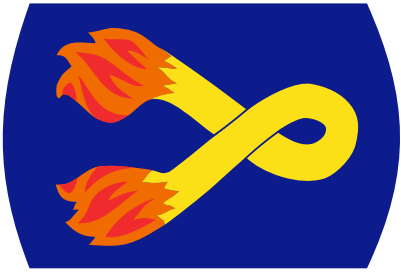
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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Please make sure you fill in the application completely. There are several similar names on our mailing list, so we need the old address as well as the new address if you move.

There is a spot on the application where you may designate an additional donation to the Association if you would like. Several of our members have asked to use this donation to pay someone's dues who may not be able to afford it. We have achieved tax-exempt status and contributions are now tax deductible on your income tax.

Our tax exempt status also allows us to take advantage of lower postal rates.



# 196th Light Infantry Brigade



## 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association

Warren Neill, President  
PO Box 434 Cicero, Indiana 46034

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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