

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

196th LIGHT INFANTRY

**Vietnam
1966 - 1972**

**Hawaii
1998 -**



**Reunion 2003
Branson, MO**

BRIGADE

©

Number 24

December 2002

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.

Section 5. Honorary Presidents. The Honorary Presidency of the Association may be tendered after election by the membership.

ON THE COVER: A reminder that the 2003 reunion will be held in Branson, MO. The design shown will be available as an official 196th reunion T-shirt during the reunion, and by mail after the reunion. The design replaces the shirt with the Vietnam map, which has been popular for many years.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Time is truly flying. It's hard to believe that we are just a few months away from another reunion. It really seems like they are getting closer together.

I know for sure that there a number of our brothers out there who have decided that enough time has passed since our Southeast Asian Adventure. I get calls, cards, letters, and emails almost daily from former Chargers or family members of former Chargers looking for information and old buddies.

Some are trying to put the pieces of their life puzzles together. Some are trying to reconstruct memories that have been long suppressed. Some are trying to make sense of their experience. But all know that they can't do it alone.

I want to thank our Editor, Ken McKenzie, for the excellent job he has done on our new website at www.196th.org. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and has led to many new members and lots of new additions to our mailing list. Good job, Ken!!! If you have internet access, all it takes is a visit to www.196th.org and a click on our guestbook to see that there are a lot of folks who believe that the time has come to deal with their past and reconnect with their brothers.

We all need to help these folks come back through the wire. When they pop smoke let's acknowledge them and welcome them back. With everyone's help, these searchers can hopefully find the information or the peace and understanding that they seek and need.

The website has been a huge success in terms of getting information out and providing a forum for the exchange of memories, ideas and information. Unfortunately there have been postings by posers, wannabes, and some just plain stupid folks who are impressed with their own abilities to infiltrate and aggravate. I must give credit where credit is due to the legitimate users of our website that did not take the bait and respond to any of the ignorant and inappropriate postings on the guestbook. They did exactly what they should have done by ignoring the posting and contacting Ken or myself to get it removed. Thanks for using good common sense and not encouraging these hackers. I'm proud of the way you guys handled it.

Being a rookie President you and I both know that I will be making mistakes, some bigger than others. I thank you in advance for your patience, consideration and counsel as I settle into this role. I can't do it without you.

I apologize for Ken & I not getting out a midyear newsletter this year. All of us are volunteers, who like you, have families, jobs and responsibilities. Sometimes life has a way of dictating just how much can get accomplished despite your best intentions. We will try to do better next year. You can beat us up about it in Branson.....

In the meantime keep in touch with each other. Don't hesitate to contact that old buddy. Continue to care for your brothers as we once did in combat. We needed each other then and we still need each other now.....

Warren Neill

"We few, we happy few, we Band of Brothers; For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

2003 REUNION PLANNING

From: Warren Neill, President

First I want to thank our VP, Roy Dolgos, and his reunion committee, for the fine job done in researching possible reunion sites for 2003.

Roy and I recently returned from a working weekend to Branson where we met with representatives and toured the facilities and activities we were considering for the reunion.

The following is the latest – **All except the hotel is subject to change!**

You can begin making your individual room reservations at the Branson Radisson **now** by calling 1-888-566-5290. Reunion room rate is \$69.00 plus tax. The reunion rate will be honored 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion dates.

Be sure to tell them you are with the **196th Light Infantry Brigade Reunion!**

If you are reserving multiple rooms, please do everyone a favor and do not reserve more rooms than you have solid commitments for and have the individuals place those rooms in their names as soon as possible. If this is not done it will cause our block's reserved total to be inflated and cause us to reserve an additional block of rooms for which we will be charged if they are not used.

We have negotiated substantially reduced rates for 196th members to some of the areas best attractions for vets and their families. Tickets to these and one terrific, special show will be offered on the registration forms, which you should receive in February 2003.

The attractions and the shows are:

Mike Radford's "Remember When" Show – Branson's most unique show! Set in "Grandma's Attic" you can rediscover the kid in you, and laugh til you cry. You will hear old radio plays and see film tributes to Roy Rogers, Burma Shave and Howdy Doody, too! Mike is a Vietnam Era vet and takes us on a nostalgia tour of the 40's, 50's & 60's. The salute to veterans involves all vets in the audience and is a rip roaring, red, white & blue tribute to those who fought for our freedoms. Tickets will be sold for a special performance for the members of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade on Saturday morning, Aug 2nd. Adults \$16. Kids under 12 – Free.

Ride the Ducks! – The DUKW military amphibious vehicle was built with the blessings of Generals Patton and Eisenhower. It was the vehicle of choice for the landings in Sicily and Normandy in WWII. Today these refurbished and updated Ducks are an 80-minute sightseeing experience. A Coast Guard certified captain will give you a guided tour of the Branson sights. You will then drive through an extensive military vehicle display on your way to the top of Baird Mountain, for a panoramic view of the Ozark's most beautiful lake and mountain vista. Then it's down to Table Rock lake for a lake splash-down and a 20 minute waterborne cruise before heading back to town by way of working fish hatchery and a tour of Table Rock Dam. Big Fun!! Tickets are for anytime during the reunion. Adults \$12.50. Kids 4-12 \$7.45.

American Presidential Museum – Features life size replicas of the Oval Office and the Presidential Quarters of Air Force One. You'll also see lots of Presidential memorabilia from Kennedy, Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Nixon, Reagan and Lincoln. You'll be amazed by

REUNION

the historically authentic Presidential items, First Ladies gowns and much more. Tickets are for anytime during the reunion. Adults \$6.75. Kids 6-12 \$5.50, 5 & under – Free.

Veterans Memorial Museum – The museum is composed of five great halls covering the five main wars and other conflicts fought during the 20th Century. Circulation and viewing starts in the WWI hall and progresses through WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and more. Each hall features dramatic and thought provoking exhibits. Sculptures, murals, historical artifacts, objects d' art, and thousands of authentic memorabilia honor all branches of the service, major battlefronts, campaigns, industrial defense, and more. Large American flags surround the museum and a full-size WW II P-51 Mustang Fighter Plane stands 30 feet high in front of the building. The hallmark of the Veterans Memorial Museum is a stunning 70-foot long bronze sculpture consisting of 50 life-size soldiers running up a beach. A veteran from each of the 50 states was used as models for the life-size figures. The fifteen-ton bronze is the largest war memorial bronze in the world. The center great hall of the museum contains walls that list over 400,000 names of the men and women killed during WW II. This is the only place in the world where all of these names are displayed. A complete list of those killed in Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and other conflicts of the 20th Century are also displayed.

Along with multitudes of bronze statues, there are special combat murals, vintage posters and photographs. Many of the exhibits have been compiled by veterans and their families and include these veterans' personal stories. From the jungles of Vietnam to the deserts of the Persian Gulf, from the memories of decorated combat veterans to the men and women who served on the home front, every aspect of our nations' valiant fight for freedom has been honored. Tickets are for anytime during the reunion. Adults \$6.50. Kids 6-12 \$4.50, 5 & under – Free.

You can get information about other shows and events available in the Branson area by going to www.branson.com.

We suggest and request that you schedule your personal, self-directed show and attraction choices during the day, and plan to spend most of the evenings meeting and socializing with your fellow Chargers.

The tentative schedule is as follows –

Thursday, 31 July Registration	1200-1900
Self Directed Activities/Tours/Shows All Day	
Hospitality Room	1200-2400
Friday, 1 August Registration	1200-1900
Self Directed Activities/Tours/Shows All Day	
Hospitality Room	1200-2400
Saturday, 2 August Membership Meeting	0800-0900
“Remember When” Show	1000-1200
Memorial Ceremony	1330-1400
Self Directed Activities/Tours/Shows	1400-1800
Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)	1800-1900
Dinner w/ Guest Speaker(s)	1900-2100
Music & Dancing w/DJ “Doc” Mosher	2100-??
Sunday, 3 August All Faith Sunday Service w/Chaplain	0800-0830

Check Out

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.

Klinesmith, Allen, Age 51, "D", 1/46 in 1971, Rich Mosher writes, "I was saddened last week by the death of a friend of mine and a former 196er, Allen Klinesmith. He worked at the VA in North Chicago, IL; was only a couple of years away from retirement; was only 51 years old; suffered a heart attack while on his way to work. Allen was in D Co, 1/46 in 1971, and was on Firebase Maryann. I tried several times to get him to attend one of our reunions, but he always said: "Can't this year . . . maybe next one." Maybe you should print his comment about ". . . maybe the next one". This might inspire someone to attend who also has been putting it off. He lived in Winthrop Harbor, IL.

Garman, Charles (Chuck), 19 Sept 02, Pat Turner writes, "Charles was with the D, 2/1 Recon Platoon from 65-67. Chuck suffered a heart attack. He was a good soldier and a good man."

McHenry, David P., Born 2 Aug 1942, David served with E, 3/21 in 1967-68. He lived in Albuquerque, NM and was a Life Member of the 196th Association.

Following two from Vance Van Wieren:

Henning, Dan, (Go-Go), May 2001, Dan was in 3rd Platoon, D 4/31 and lived in Springhill, LA.

Antone, Joe, October 2001, Joe was a full blooded American Indian, who was in the 2nd Platoon, D, 4/31 from 1968-1969. He lived in Tucson, AZ.

Rice, William C., 28 Sept 2001, 54 years old, William served with the 8th Support Battalion, where he was a medic. He started with the Brigade at Ft. Devens and went to Tay Ninh in the advanced party. He died from a heart attack. William was a V.P. For a lobster company in Rhode Island. He originally came from Barrington, RI, but after the service settled in Saunderstown, RI. He had three children, two boys and a daughter. He was a Master Sergeant with the Lions Club of RI. He is also survived by his wife Valarie.

LOOKING FOR

156th Sig Plt, I was a member of the 156th Signal Plt, 196th LIB from Aug 1966 till the brigade went north in 1967. I am trying to locate members who were with me during Attleboro, Cedar Falls and the Junction City Exercises. Email Huachua@elberton.net

Roger C Craft, 2424 Anderson Hwy, Elberton, GA 30635 (706)283 8627

B, 3/21 POT Squad, Hoping to hear from Wolfman, Poncho, Jim from Jersey, Lt. Sykes or anyone else. Call Steve "Killer" Kochick, 15301 2nd St E Apt 8, Madeira Beach, FL 33708, (727) 394-9017

Schrader, Nathan I, I'm searching for Nathan. I served with C, 4/31 in 1970, wounded in action 11/24/70 and he served in the same time frame with me. Thanks,

Bob McFarlin, 22962 Rd G-2, Cortez, CO 81321, bobm@fone.net

LOOKING FOR (cont.)

Weston, Wendell, I am a 1st cousin to SP4 Wendell Weston who was a 63b20 with the 196th LIB. He died on May 12th, 1969 in the Quang Nam province. I am trying to find out any and all information about the area, the situation, or anyone that might have known him. I was 9 years old when he died and I was at his mother's house when the Chaplain showed up. Because of this it has forever altered my life. I just want to know. I am a 22 year Veteran of the Air Force/now Air National Guard. The older I get the more meaning his life and death are taking on in my mind. Please, anyone with any information contact me at this e-address.

Thank you all for what you've done, what you've lived with, and for what you all mean to me!

MSG Sherwood V. Brown Jr. SNWORBSU@aol.com

Simms, Floyd, Thanks for the list you sent, so far I have made contact with two from B Company. First time I have talked to anyone in 35 years, it was great. Now we have to find Floyd Simms, then all four medics will be back together. Anyone knowing him, please contact me.

Don O'Brien, 1st Platoon, B, 2/1 unclledon930@yahoo.com

Yost, Harold, Hi Ken, I am sending this email for my husband, Frank Murphy. He said you would remember him if I mentioned the Hospitality Room. Anyway he wanted to know if you could help him find a friend. All he knows is his name is Harold Yost from Newark, N.J. and the year he was with him was 1966-1967.

He has not heard from him in years and wanted your help if possible. Frank does not use the computer so I will be the go-between. Thanks,

Pat Murphy, pmurphy@dnb.com

Schmid & Schmit, Attached is a photo of myself (in the center) with two buddies. I would appreciate it if anyone has any information on either of the other two. The one on the right is Philip Schmit, and he lived in the Coney Island area of New York. The spelling of his last name might be Schmitt or Schmidt.

I can't remember the first name of Schmid, on the left in the shirt, but the spelling of his name is correct because I can read it from his nametag.

The photo was taken in Chu Lai, and we were in Company B, 3/21, in 1967.

Thanks,
Peter J. Savoca
3718 W Citrus Trace
Davie, FL 33328
954-475-9011



Schmid

Peter Savoca

Philip Schmit

17Apr70-Southern Cross Vol. 3 No. 13 **196th Infantry Brigade Adopted by Kalamazoo**

LZ HAWK HILL - The 196th Inf. Bde. of the Americal Division has a new stateside home. The people of Kalamazoo, Michigan have officially adopted the "Chargers" largely as a result of the efforts of a native son-Mr. Jim Stowell, the brigade's Red Cross representative.

INFO NEEDED ON NUI CHOM AND HEIP DUC BATTLES

I'm putting together a couple of annotated maps of the Nui Chom battle (Nov '68) and the Heip Duc (Death Valley) Aug'69 battle. I have the account of Nui Chom from Sgt. George Hawkins & Sgt. Glenwood Harvey, but there's some gaps of what B&C Companies did and where everyone went after the battle. I also need to know where "A" went after they reached the ridgeline (I'm guessing left or West). If anyone can remember how this battle went, contact me. I'm trying to make this map/story as accurate as possible....I'm getting the Death Valley story from the book "Death Valley-the Summer Offensive" by Keith Nolan. I need to know where (map wise) each company was during this battle and especially exactly where "D" was. Hopefully you officers, NCO's and RTO's can help me with this project because it "will" be a good one...

Also, anyone that's interested in these maps/storyline, send me a note and I'll keep it on file to send you when they're finished.

Robert Shrake,

SGT/SSGT 1st Plt C-4/31
3191 Hampton Ridge Way
Snellville, GA 30078
E-mail: rshrake@bellsouth.net

Mr. Stowell, a retired U.S. Army major, is hardly a newcomer to Vietnam having served two prior tours while in the service.

In September, just prior to his leaving for Vietnam, Stowell and Mr. Mike Coffey discussed the idea of a project to help U.S. soldiers in Vietnam, especially those serving in the field. This was the beginning of the 196th. Bde.'s adoption.

Stowell first encountered the Red Cross' logistical problem when he reported to his new duty station in Chu Lai. The Red Cross girls there, the "donut dollies," reported a lack of supplies. When asked what they needed, they answered: anything and everything.

From Chu Lai, Stowell was further assigned to the 196th located at LZ Hawk Hill seven miles north of Tam Ky. Upon arrival, Stowell immediately encountered the same problems. On his first trips to the troops in the field, Stowell found he simply didn't have enough goods to meet the needs of the men. Informing his brother of the situation, the idea they had discussed in September began taking shape.

From Hawk Hill, Stowell went looking for items the troops could use, extending his search from Chu Lai to Da Nang. He knew the troop reduction would leave extra Red cross ditty bags filled with many useful items. At the 95th Evac. Hospital in Da Nang, he found what he'd been looking for; enough ditty bags to completely fill his office. He later "appropri-

(Cont. On Page 9)

196th Adopted by Kalamazoo (cont.)

ated” 500 more goodie-filled bags from Chu Lai. Still, he needed more items. “There is never too much,” explained Stowell, “I can’t say I had so much I didn’t know what to do with it; I just had a temporary storage problem.”

In Kalamazoo, the original idea was turning into a community project. Stowell’s brother, also a Vietnam veteran, had introduced the idea to the Kalamazoo chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The idea rapidly took hold and word of it went around town. A community project supporting men in Vietnam was editorially endorsed by the local newspaper and the city council. Finally, the United Veteran’s Council of Kalamazoo, led by chairman Chairs Armenis, Michigan’s 1969 Veteran of the Year, decided to sponsor the campaign. The people of Kalamazoo had officially adopted the 196th Inf. Bde.

Today, Stowell’s tiny horse-shoe-shaped office is a maze of shelves filled with anything and everything. Boxes began arriving from Kalamazoo the first of March, containing items had reported the troops needed—washcloths, soap dishes, combs, pens, paper, cans of peanuts, current magazines, even greeting cards. “It grew out of an idea and a need,” said Stowell. Fingering a keychain complete with a thunderbird medallion, Stowell explained, “I can use anything anybody’s got to give. If anyone wants to do something to help, they should be able to do their thing, and I’m here to see it gets done.”

He goes to the field twice a week and hopes to go more frequently. He now has a clerk, SP4 Joseph Rizzo (Watertown, Mass.), trained to help with the paperwork, which should allow him more time to visit the men in the field. Stowell has also enlisted the aid of the brigade chaplains.

When they journey to the field, he sends a duffle bag of goods with them.

Stowell is a family man and doesn’t anticipate a fourth tour. His wife and five children ranging in ages from 12-9, live in Spring Lake, N.C., near Ft. Bragg where he was last stationed.

Stowell’s work with the Red Cross is not confined to supplying the troops from his “country” store of goods. He handles an excess of 300 cases a month concerning, health, welfare, disrupted communications home, and emergency messages. He offers counseling on anything, assists commanders on morale of the troops, and advises them of general problems the men have.

When Stowell leaves Vietnam in October, it won’t mean a severing of Kalamazoo’s ties with the 196th. The town’s 95,000 people have pledged their support of the unit. They intend to continue that support until the “Chargers” return home.

SAVING VETERAN’S STORIES

We have memorials, books and movies honoring our veterans, but we haven’t had a place to preserve their stories. Now we do: the Library of Congress’ new Veterans History Project, co-sponsored by the AARP. The project already has collected oral histories on audio and video, letters, photos and journals from veterans of World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf war. For more information, visit:

www.loc.gov/vets

Or call:

1-800-315-8300

Remembering Goodbody

By: George J. Hawkins

The first time I met Goodbody was on a high, mist-shrouded mountaintop in Hiep Duc Valley, Vietnam, southwest to Da Nang. A small Landing Zone (LZ) had been slashed in a level spot near the top of the mountain. The chopper I was on circled the yellow smoke marking the LZ, then swooped down over some thick bamboo and hovered noisily a few feet off the ground while I jumped off. I crouched low beneath the whirling chopper blade as I hurried off to the side of the LZ where two-stubble bearded grunts sat reading paperbacks. I dropped my pack and stood there feeling awkward as I looked around watching the chopper being unloaded and listening to the high-pitched whine of the engine.

Putting their books away, the two grunts motioned for me to join them at the edge of the LZ. When the chopper finally took off, we shook hands and introduced ourselves. The tall lanky guy with black curly hair and a mud-covered helmet told me his name was "Spider." His buddy, with a thick drooping handlebar moustache introduced himself as "Goodbody."

Later that day when I was assigned to their squad, I learned that "Goodbody" was his nickname and no one ever called him by his real name.

As we sat talking in the tall, green elephant grass, I noticed that Goodbody was reading Eric Hoffer's, *The True Believer*. I finished the book a short time before arriving in country, so we launched into a discussion that evolved into an exchange of opinions on subjects ranging from literature to beer. I also learned that Goodbody had graduated from college, like myself, not long before being drafted into the Army. Although, he majored in History and Political Science, he had developed a passion for literature, so when he graduated he had more credits in English than in his major. This also was my academic history.

In the months that followed we became squad members and close friends. Whenever we stopped, whether for a smoke break or to dig a foxhole for a night logger position or heat up a can of C rations, we would talk about books, women, and what we planned to do when we got back to the "world." That was our escape, our way of blotting out the terrible reality we were caught up in. Once, I gave Goodbody a book of Irish short stories, a tattered, old paperback I'd bought in Seattle shortly before our battalion was sent to Vietnam. A few of James Joyce's stories were included in the anthology. We both agreed that "Araby" was one of his best. It seemed that we always agreed. One of the few things we disagreed about was the cryptic passage by William Butler Yeats at the beginning of the short story anthology. We never could come to terms with the Yeats passage:

"Cast a cold eye
on life, on death.
Horseman, pass by!"
-W.B. Yeats

Goodbody believed the horseman was a symbol of death, no feelings or emotions were involved –the horseman simply collected his bounty. I thought Yeats was telling us

Remembering Goodbody (cont.)

to live life and not concern ourselves with death. As time passed, we came closer to a more agreeable interpretation, but we were never completely satisfied. The true meaning was difficult, if not impossible, to put into words. He was especially fond of Eugene O'Neill's gripping play, *Long Day's Journey Into Night*. When he got out of the Nam and out of the Army he planned to do some writing.

We got separated after spending five months in the same squad, but occasionally we'd run into each other on a fire support bases. It was always a great handshaking meeting, like seeing a brother for the first time in many years. We always managed to trade paperbacks, scrounge up a few beers and have a talk.

Once we met north of Hue, just after Goodbody had been through some hairy action there. He told me his company was making contact with NVA regulars every day. I gave him a copy of Robert Frost poems I'd been carrying in my pack for a month. He showed me a cigarette lighter he bought in Thailand while on R&R. It had the Yeats passage inscribed on it. I pulled my new lighter from my fatigues with the same passage. We laughed and drank our warm beer. He told me his company was going back into Que Son Valley, an NVA stronghold. Goodbody had been through hell there before and never wanted to return. When we parted, he put the book of poems in the leg pocket of his jungle fatigues and slipped his lighter into a jacket pocket along with his cigarettes.

He was walking point on Hill 205. It was a dark, moonless night. NVA were on top of the hill waiting. Goodbody walked into a thousand muzzle flashes. Tracers were flying in all directions. It was chaos. It was instant death for many fine soldiers. They had to leave Goodbody on the hill for a night and a day.

Two days after the firefight, I got on a chopper on Hill 445. It was transporting two dead soldiers back to graves registration in Da Nang. Both bodies were wrapped in muddy, bloodstained ponchos. There was a thick stench in the chopper even though plenty of air rushed in the open sides. Halfway back to graves registration the wind blew part of a poncho off the face of one of the dead men. It was Goodbody. I turned away and stared down at the blurred green-and-brown checkerboard patterns of the rice paddies. All I could think of was the Yeats passage – "Horseman, pass by!"



George Hawkins served with 4/31 in 1968. He was drafted shortly after graduation from the University of Nevada (Reno) in 1967. He also served as a combat photographer and journalist before being honorably discharged as a sergeant (E-5) in 1969.

George describes himself as "a gypsy and wanderer" who has written three unpublished novels.

3/21 INF. REACTIVATION

In true Bore Brother Bore tradition the 3/21 was reactivated on Friday Afternoon 5 April 2002 at Fort Lewis, Washington as part of the 1st BDE (Light Fighters), 25th Infantry Division (Light).

For elder Gimlets the highlight of the ceremony was the return of the Battalion Colors, hanging the Battle Campaign and Decoration Streamers. Gimlets from WW II, Korea, and Vietnam were in attendance to represent their respective Third Battalion Twenty-first Infantry units and years thereof. Each Gimlet proudly carried streamers to the parade field to be hung on the Battalion guidon by the BN CSM Forest; the guidon was held by the BN CO, LTC Hyneman, during this part of the ceremony.

Many former Gimlets showed up for this auspicious event. Some brought family members, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Master Sergeant Jack Oglesby S-2 1968-69 (USA Retired) represented HHC from the Vietnam era. CW2 Bill Doyle (USA Retired) appropriately carried the last streamer to the parade field. He helped stand the 3/21 down in Vietnam and was on the last bird, last lift out of Da Nang in 1972.

The new Command and Staff dearly want to continue the rich history of the 3/21. They are looking for memorabilia from the past for the Regimental Room at Battalion Headquarters. The Battalion Commander, LTC Heyneman, and the Brigade Commander, COL Harry Scott, are both traditionalist who believe in keeping with the past to build a strong 3/21 of the future. Colonel Scott's philosophy is to bring back to active Army roles those units that are rich with military history, and he was a driving force in having the 3/21 reactivated as he had done with previous commands: 4/31 Polar Bears.

There was a proposal presented to LTC Heyneman at reactivation ceremonies to honor PFC Danny Shea, the 3/21 1969 Medal of Honor recipient, memory in some way. Suggestions included naming the troop medical clinic after him. Another suggestion was to name the Battalion's Regimental Room in his honor. Whatever the outcome the Commander has directed that both past and present Gimlets have a say in decisions concerning all matters of Battalion and Regimental Lineage.

LTC Hyneman is a strong believer in the Gimlet Brotherhood. He believes that a major motivation for new Gimlets is to have full knowledge of the Battalion and Regimental Lineage. That is why he wanted as many former Gimlets as possible to attend the two day reactivation event last week.

There was talk, while we were up at Fort Lewis, of the possibility of a 21st Regimental reunion in the near future at Fort Lewis. I hope this will come to fruition before LTC Hyneman's command is up in two years. Let the informal 21st Infantry Regiment Association know how you feel about this idea. Contact us at:

Gimletmail321@aol.com

Keep an eye on the Gimlet websites for more news about the 3/21 Gimlets.

<http://www.lewis.army.mil/321in/>

<http://www.gimletinn.com>

[Http://www.gimlet321.com](http://www.gimlet321.com)

Ron Mitchell



MAIL CALL

MEMORIES

My name is John Newbolt. I served with HHC, the 196th, from September, 1965 through February, 1967. I think it's just terrific that someone has taken the time to webitize information about the 196th. I stumbled on to the site accidentally while researching info about Operation Attleboro. Seeing the double headed match on the site's home page immediately stirred my spirit and evoked some not-so-fond memories from the past.

One memory in particular suddenly came to mind. Shortly before my tour ended, I witnessed a helicopter crash and the needless death of a friend, SSgt Tom Shea, on the helipad just outside the perimeter of the BTOC. As if it wasn't enough for us to have heard and seen so many of our comrades-in-arms either die or be wounded, in combat. It just didn't make any sense.

I am interested in hearing more information about members of the 196th who were serving in Vietnam at the same time I was.

Once again, thanks to all involved in perpetuating the 196th's memory.

John Newbolt

jwnewbolt@hotmail.com

196th WEB SITE

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

www.196th.org

DONUT DOLLYS

I served with the American Red Cross in South Vietnam from July '68 - August '69. My last 6 ½ months were spent with the Americal Division - traveling throughout a three brigade AOs as well as within the Chu Lai Base Camp. These months were the most meaningful ones of my tour as an ARC "Donut Dolly"

For anyone who might be interested, 627 women served as "Donut Dollys" from 1965-72. We have our own website at: **www.donutdolly.com**

There are several Americal photos included in the scrapbook section.

Welcome home!

"Larry" Young Hines

YESTERDAY AND TODAY



CW5 Jose Negron-Cruz and CW3(P) Theresa R. Ferguson meet at a workshop in February 2002. Jose served with the 196th in Vietnam, and Theresa is the Property Book Officer with the current 196th. Both wear the 196th shoulder patch.

MAIL CALL (cont.)

2/1 LOCATION IN 1968

I was in-country from Nov 21, '67 to Nov 21, '68 with Charlie Company 8th Support based in Chu Lai as an MC Captain. I served under Major McDonald and was in all the FSBs. Center with the Artillery Battalion and at Hill 35, which was battalion LZ in early '68.

In the last newsletter, Bob Simpson, SGM (Ret), inquired as to where the 2/1 FSB was in early '68. The location was in the Que Son Valley at an LZ 36 clicks west of Hill 35 and 20 clicks north of LZ West. It had a large monolith with the 2/1 logo painted in black and white. The village was to the northeast.

The Brigade Commander at the time was Colonel Nelson. After TET in Feb '68, the entire battalion moved to Camp Evans and later returned to Baldy in late May '68.

I have lots of 35mm slides and photos of all battalions including 3/21, 2/1, and all the LZs where I served as Lancet 16.

I hope this information is useful to SGM Simpson.

Keep it up guys,

Angel R. Jimenez

M.D. P.A., F. A. C. S.

VIETNAM RELIEF

Check out two programs run by a former 196er.

Prof. Kenneth J. Herrmann, Jr. Served with 4/31 in 1968 and '69. He currently runs a program to help those in need in the Danang area.

www.danangquangnamfund.org

www.studyabroad.com/suny/brockport/vietnam.html

kherrman@rochester.rr.com

A, 3/82 Arty

Hello my name is Steve Miller. I was in the Army from Sept 1965, until July 1967. To Sgt. Stewart I was a 6 ft tall hillbilly that could not keep in step with the rest of the battery. When I returned home to the hills of West Va. I moved to Parkersburg, WV and went to work in a textile mill spinning yarn for clothing. After seven years working there the plant shut down. I went to work in a glass factory, worked two weeks, hated the job so I left there and went to work at an aluminum and steel dump body building company. This coming August I will have 28 years in at Benson International. The first 16 years were on a forklift, and part time truck driver. Since 1990 I have been full time truck driver for the company. Right now I am currently working in the shop due to a blackout from low blood sugar. In August 2001 I found out thru the VA that I am a diabetic.

I talk to Jr Adams on occasion but would like to hear from anyone that I was in A btry 3/82 with.

My e-mailaddress is:

Oct.1943@aol.com

Thanks would like to hear from anyone.

Steve Miller

ORIGINAL

Joined the 196th at Ft. Devens in 1965 at the time when we had about six officers and 15 enlisted. Served with the 4/31 until March 1967 and then HQ 196th until departure in August 1965.

Sidney Field

Ashland, OR

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, Lustrium, 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.

Lustrium 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.

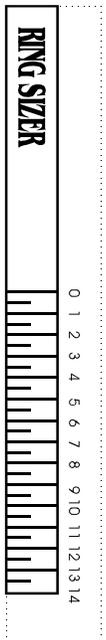
Jostens warrants the ring to be free from defects of material and workmanship for the life of the ring. Any ring not meeting these standards will be replaced if necessary, with an identical ring without charge.

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
HC 65, Box 401
Rome, IN 47574

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Tel. Number _____

196th ORDER FORM

- White Lustum.....\$165.00
- Quesira.....\$209.00
- 10 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$320.00
- 14 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$405.00
- 18 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$510.00
- 10 Karat White Gold.....\$330.00
- 14 Karat White Gold.....\$415.00
- 18 Karat White Gold.....\$520.00

Engraving (inside ring)
 (3) Initials _____ (FREE)
 Full Name (or other) _____ add \$14.00
 21 LETTERS & SPACES

- Stones Smooth Facet
- Garnet (Jan) White Spinel (Apr)
 - Amethyst (Feb) Spinel (May)
 - Aquamarine (Mar) Alexandrite (Jun)
 - Ruby (Jul) Peridot (Aug)
 - Fire Blue (Sept) Blue Zircon (Dec)
 - Rose Zircon (Oct) Black Onyx
 - Topaz (Nov) Mother of Pearl
- Encrusting on Stones (available on smooth stones only).....add \$14.00

Sub Total	
5% IN. State Tax	
Shipping	
Total	4.50

ALL BIRTHSTONES ARE SIMULATED
 INDIANA Sales Tax Must Be Added
 Order Must Have Finger Size
 Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Ken McKenzie, Editor, 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 3,200 names on our mailing list so maybe we can help you find that long lost buddy.

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 will also be able to reduce mailing costs as a tax exempt organization.

SOME REQUESTS NOT INCLUDED

Due to the limited space in this issue, several requests for information, or looking for someone, did not get included in this issue. We will try to get them in the next issue which should go out in Feb-Mar.

When requesting a notice to be put in the newsletter, please write it out as you would like it to appear. Please send it by e-mail, if possible, to the Editor.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I want to first apologize for the lateness of the newsletter, its smaller size, and lack of color photos. I was able to retire in April of this year, and I thought that with retirement would come plenty of leisure time. I was immediately asked by a friend to do some consulting work... and there went the leisure time. We will put out at least one more mailing before the reunion, so continue to send in your stories and photos.

I had the opportunity to attend a memorial and dedication of a plaque recently. The plaque was in honor of three soldiers from a small town in New Jersey who were killed in Vietnam. The plaque was the result of efforts by an ex-Marine who noticed that the town didn't have a visible tribute to the fallen from Vietnam on its war memorial. So after almost 36 years, a suitable plaque was installed. The 196th was well represented by almost 20 former members, who remembered our brother, Mike Macarell, C, 4/31 KIA 11/13/66. It was wonderful that the town recognized Mike and the others, even after all this time, and it was great to see friends and fellow 196ers turn out to remember him.

We won't ever forget, and we'll try not to let others forget their sacrifice.

Ken McKenzie, Editor

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! Your renewal means that the next *new* membership we get will be the extra resource we badly need, not just a replacement for someone irreplaceable — 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

Fill out and return form with your remittance to:

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

Dues are \$20.00 for the year.

I would like (number):

_____ Additional Bumper Stickers @ \$2.00 ea.

_____ Additional Decals @ \$2.00 ea.

Lifetime Membership: \$196.00

Not included with membership package:

_____ Lapel Pin @ \$3.50 ea. T-Shirt @ \$12 each, (number of each size ordered) ____XXL, ____XL, ____L, ____M

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: _____

I cannot join at this time, but please add my name to the mailing list. Address Change

Membership Renewal New Member Life Member \$_____ Donation

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

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HONORARY OFFICERS

Honorary President & Life Member: COL (Ret) Francis Conaty

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

CHAPLAIN

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Rev. David H. Lovelace as Brigade Chaplain for the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association effective immediately.

NEWS LETTER

Editor: Ken McKenzie

4185 Collins Road
Rochester, MI 48306
(248) 651-9027
E-mail address: Editor@196th.org

Ch. Lovelace was chaplain of 4/31 from September 1968 – September 1969.

He has been out of the military since 1970 and served pastorates in the East Tennessee area ever since. He is currently the Associate Pastor of Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church in Johnson City, Tennessee. He also serves veterans in the local VA Hospital.

Ch. Lovelace will be retiring from full time ministry in June of 2004 and looks forward to serving our Brigade once again.

His office phone is: 423-461-8070 and email is: Pastor2@munsey.org .

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
Association**

Warren Neill, President
PO Box 434 Cicero, Indiana 46034

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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