



# 196 Light Infantry Brigade Association



**196TH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE MEMORIAL MONUMENT  
WALK OF HONOR - NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM - FT BENNING, GEORGIA**

## 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: The proposed 196th Light Infantry Brigade Memorial. This statute will be a lasting remembrance of the 196th's members and our history. Fund-raising is now underway to build the full sized monument and place it in a permanent place of honor at the National Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, Georgia.

# 196th Light Infantry Brigade Memorial Monument Announced

## Your Financial Support Is Requested

Dear Members and Friends of the 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association:

Over 50 years have passed since the 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade arrived in Vietnam and began its service in the most dangerous and highly contested locations in Vietnam. Soldiers of the brigade served with honor, valor, and sacrifice. Many gave their final breath at the age of 19. They will always be remembered- especially by those who stood side-by-side with them during the darkest of hours.

During the business meeting of the 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association held in Louisville, Kentucky last year members voted to support the erection of a memorial monument at the Walk of Honor, National Infantry Museum, Ft. Benning, Georgia. The monument is a memorial to those who died during the war as well as to all former soldiers of the brigade. After a brief discussion association members approved the expenditure of \$30,000 in association funds towards the cost of the memorial monument.



A planning committee formed and set to work on a design that would be a fitting tribute to the valor and sacrifices made by the soldiers of the 196<sup>th</sup> during the Vietnam War. The proposed design consists of a bronze statue of two soldiers on the battlefield. One soldier is aiding a fellow soldier after a fierce encounter with the enemy. The fight is over and a soldier assists his wounded buddy- perhaps taking him to a waiting dustoff helicopter for evacuation to a hospital.

The theme of the statue is that of a soldier helping a fellow soldier. We all had this in common. None of would have made it very long in Vietnam without the care and assistance from our brothers. This brotherhood has followed us ever since and is part of who we are and who we will always be. We will never lose the closeness that we felt to one another during a very difficult time in our lives. This memorial monument statue captures that feeling and displays it for all to see and contemplate. It is a fitting and lasting tribute to the comradeship we share and it what we leave behind for others to see.

The artist is Sarah Hahn and she provides photos of a small model of the sculpture for our review. Ms. Hahn has proposed a turn-key installation of a statue that is seven feet tall. It will depict soldiers in correct Vietnam War uniforms, equipment, and gear. She has previous experience in U.S. Army soldier sculpting that is now on display at the National Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning. She is an accomplished artist and a master of detail. Her final rendering will be closely examined by the memorial monument committee to ensure that it is representative of soldiers of the 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade during the Vietnam War.

The memorial monument includes a bronze plaque or stone tablet with a brief text related to the 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade. The exact design plaque or tablet is under consideration at this time. The 196th shoulder patch, distinctive insignia, coat of arms, along with dates and places and units of assignment may be on the plaque or tablet. But the impact

## Memorial Monument (cont.)

of the memorial will come from the statue itself. There are many monuments at the Walk of Honor but few are statues. Statues tell a vivid story in a way that words on a plaque or stone wall cannot. The addition of this statue will stand out among many very fine memorial monuments that honor the service of infantry units in the time of war.

The estimated cost of a turn-key project is at \$90,000. This includes the artist fee, cost of bronzing the sculpture, transportation from the foundry to the National Infantry Museum, construction of a concrete slab, installation on the Walk of Honor, fees and permits, and all other costs. It also includes a \$2,000 fee already paid to the National Infantry Museum for a ten feet by ten feet plot for the display of the memorial monument.

The Americal Legacy Foundation has pledged a donation of \$10,000 towards the funding of the two-soldier statue. The only request that is made is that the Americal Division be named in the text on the plaque or tablet. A life-member of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Association pledged \$5,000 to fund the sculpture. With the \$30,000 committed from association funds a total of \$45,000 is currently pledged towards obtaining the sculpture.

The association requests your financial support of this effort. Other Vietnam War units have been successful in raising considerable funds for their memorial monuments at the Walk of Honor and other locations in the United States. It is now time for veterans of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade to once again answer the call to do what needs to be done. Almost all of us have already reached the age of 70 or will be there very soon. Many of us have been fortunate and find ourselves in our retirement years on sound financial footing but with a need to leave a legacy. This is an opportunity that may not come again.

The association is a war veterans organization with an IRS letter of determination as a 501c19 non-profit organization. As such, donations to the association can be deducted on the donors' federal tax returns. Funds will be maintained in an escrow account in the name of the association and only used for the stated purpose.

Similar funding campaigns show that a large part of the donations will be received within six weeks of receipt of the request. The committee hopes that funding derived from this request letter will be sufficient to cover the estimated costs. If not the committee may decide to continue raising funds or may decide to determine an alternate design. You are encouraged to not give until it hurts but give until it feels good. Time is slipping by very fast and action must begin soon to ensure a proper and fitting memorial to 196<sup>th</sup> LIB soldiers and veterans is completed.

Donations may be sent to David Eichorn, Treasurer. Dave is also the chairman of the memorial planning committee. A pre-addressed return envelope is included for your use. If you have any questions you may contact Dave by calling (740) 678-2001 or sending an email to: [de32435@frontier.com](mailto:de32435@frontier.com).

Donations should be made out to: **196th LIB Assn**, and sent to Dave by postal mail at:

Dave Eichhorn  
328 Deming Rd  
Fleming, OH 45729-5019

The memorial planning committee wishes to thank you in advance for your support of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade memorial monument. Your donations are **TAX DEDUCTIBLE**. Your support is deeply appreciated.



**PLEASE HELP US ACHIEVE THE NECESSARY \$45,000 REMAINDER TO  
FUND THIS LASTING LEGACY TO THE 196TH SOLDIERS**

ENVELOPE HERE

**Please consider a contribution that makes you feel good.**

**All donations are tax deductible**

**Checks should be made payable to : 196th LIB Assn**

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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

As of 31 December, 2018, the 196th accounts contain:

Checking: \$20,350

Savings: \$52,850

Edward Jones investment: \$70,450

Statue Memorial Fund: \$16,500

Total: \$160,150

This newsletter is anticipated to cost approximately \$13,000, and there will be some expenses for the reunion.

Dave Eichhorn, *Treasurer*

## Minutes of 2017 Business Meeting

### Minutes of 2017 Business Meeting 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade Association

Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel, Louisville, KY, 9 AM, Saturday, 29 July 2017

#### Meeting Called to Order by President David Eichhorn

Moment of Silence in memory of our recently departed Treasurer, Ken Wright

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation by Chaplain Ed Griffin

Greeting and Welcome to First Timers

Welcome Special Guests – LTG Wetzel, COL Berg, CSM Killingsworth, ADVA PNC's Gary Noller and Ron Ellis, Morton Dean and Jon Fish (ESPN Documentary on Rocky Bleier).

Jim McCloughan had to cancel. He went to DC to receive the Medal of Honor from President Trump.

Introduction of Officers

Reading of Minutes from 2015 Business Meeting held at Hilton Daytona Beach Resort, Daytona Beach, FL.

#### Motion to accept the Minutes as read/Seconded/Approved

Reading of the Treasurer's Report

Life Fund 67,506.94

Money Market Fund 60,919.44

Reunion Fund 2,290.49

Regular Checking Account	50,645.73
Total Worth as of 7/29/17	\$181,362.60

#### Motion to Accept the Treasurer's report as read /Seconded/Approved

Old Business

None

New Business

196<sup>th</sup> Association will be investigating the possibility of erecting a monument on the Memorial Walk of Honor at the National Infantry Museum, Ft Benning, GA. It is expected to cost approximately \$30,000.00. The site will cost \$2000.00. After some discussion a voice vote was held with no objections. Warren Neill will take the lead.

The question of where to locate the 196<sup>th</sup> Archives was raised. Ft Devens, MA was voted down. Texas Tech was one possibility mentioned. As he has the archives in his possession, Warren Neill will begin to look for other possibilities. Voice vote was held with no objections.

## **Minutes of 2017 Business Meeting (cont.)**

As Ken McKenzie, our Newsletter Editor and Webmaster has been asking for help for the last 6 years or so with no one stepping forward, the Membership was presented with the idea of farming out the newsletter to a commercial publishing house or perhaps publish our newsletter as a section of the ADVA Newsletter. Ken will get with Gary Noller, ADVA PNC and current Editor of the ADVA Journal to see what direction we should go. Voice vote was held with no objections.

The membership was given a presentation by Bill Stilwagen of Vietnam Battlefield Tours concerning conditions for tourists traveling to Vietnam and an upcoming opportunity for a return trip scheduled for 8-22 April 2018 with a customized itinerary to the places we actually served from (Tay Ninh area) to I Corps (Chu Lai to the DMZ).

A presentation by given by Johanna Walker from the Convention and Visitors Bureau of DuPage County, Illinois and Julie Schole from the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center Hotel about the facility, hospitality and area attractions available for us during the 2019 National Reunion. The reunion dates are 21-25 August 2019.

### **Elections**

A motion was made and seconded to elect Mike Timmerman as President and Don DeGain as VP. There being no other nominations or discussion a motion was made and seconded to close the nominations and elect the candidates by acclamation. So moved. All assembled voted their approval by a show of hands. Opposed – None.

### **Past President David Eichhorn assumed the responsibilities of Secretary/Treasurer. Ken McKenzie agreed to continue as Newsletter Editor and Webmaster**

#### **Announcements**

Immediate following the meeting a Memorial reading of the names of those who have left us since the last reunion will be presented by our Chaplain Ed Griffin

The Membership was then invited to remain after the Memorial for the first public screening of "American Medevac" a documentary about Charger Dustoff at Hawk Hill. The documentary will be presented by its maker Television News Professional Morton Dean. Mort will also be our Guest Speaker at this evening's Banquet.

Benediction by Chaplain Ed Griffin

### **Motion to Close/Seconded**

President Timmerman adjourned the meeting at 1000

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Eichhorn Secretary/Treasurer

# 2017 REUNION LOUISVILLE, KY







**2019 REUNION  
196TH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE  
ASSOCIATION**

**LOMBARD, ILLINOIS  
21 AUG - 25 AUG, 2019**



# 196th LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE ASSOCIATION REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION WITH THE WESTIN HOTEL FIRST. You may call them at (630) 719-8000 and be sure to reference the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB. Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. If a valid email address is provided, a receipt will be sent electronically. Otherwise, your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/196LIB2019](http://www.afr-reg.com/196LIB2019). Credit card transactions will be charged a 3.5% processing fee. **All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before July 24, 2019.** After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
**322 Madison Mews**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**  
**ATTN: 196<sup>th</sup> LIB**

<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	New <input type="checkbox"/> Revision/Addition <input type="checkbox"/>

<i><b>CUT-OFF DATE IS 7/24/19</b></i>	<b>Price Per</b>	<b># of People</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><u>TOURS</u></b>			
<i>Choose One:</i>			
<b>Thursday 8/22:</b> Cantigny Park & First Division Museum	\$ 42		\$
<b>Thursday, 8/22:</b> Chicago City Tour	\$ 50		\$
<b>Thursday, 8/22:</b> Medieval Times Dinner & Show	\$ 87		\$
<i>Choose One:</i>			
<b>Friday, 8/23:</b> Cantigny Park & First Division Museum	\$ 42		\$
<b>Friday, 8/23:</b> City Tour & Lunch Cruise	\$ 112		\$
<b><u>HOTEL EVENTS</u></b>			
<b>Saturday 8/24:</b> Banquet dinner <i>(please select your entrée below)</i>			
Braised Short Ribs	\$ 58		\$
Pan Roasted Chicken	\$ 43		\$
Vegetarian Option	\$ 43		\$
REGISTRATION FEE – Mandatory per person to cover administrative expenses	\$ 20		\$
<i>WANT TO PAY YOUR DUES?</i> Annual \$20, Lifetime \$196			\$
<b>Total Amount Payable to <u>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</u></b>			<b>\$</b>

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAMETAG

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS WITH UNIT 19\_\_\_\_ - 19\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, ST, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS?  YES  NO **(PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).**

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

## August 21-25, 2019

### Lombard, IL

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Wednesday, August 21

##### Early Bird Arrivals

1400 - 1900 Reunion Registration Open  
1200 - 0000 Hospitality Room opens

#### Thursday, August 22

0730 - 0830 Reunion Registration Open  
1200 - 0000 Hospitality Room open  
0900 - 1300 **Tour: Cantigny Park & First Division Museum**  
0830 - 1400 **Tour: Chicago City Tour**  
1300 - 1800 Reunion Registration Open  
1800 - 2300 **Tour: Medieval Times Dinner & Show**

#### Friday, August 23

0800 - 0930 Reunion Registration Open  
0900 - 1300 **Tour: Cantigny Park & First Division Museum**  
1000 - 1530 **Tour: City Tour & Spirit of Chicago Lunch Cruise**  
1200 - 0000 Hospitality Room open  
1400 - 1800 Reunion Registration open  
1700 - 1800 Banquet table reservation sheets returned to Registration Desk

#### Saturday, August 24

0900 - 1100 General Meeting  
1130 - 1230 Memorial Service  
1200 - 1700 Hospitality Room Open  
1300 - 1700 Group photos (more info provided at reunion)  
1700 - 1800 Cash Bar social hour  
1800 - 2100 Banquet dinner  
2100 - 0000 Music and Dancing

#### Sunday, August 25

0900 - 1000 Church Service  
Farewells and Departure

## TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

### **CANTIGNY PARK AND FIRST DIVISION MUSEUM**

*Thursday, Aug 22 or Friday, Aug 23*

Cantigny Park is the 500-acre former estate of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. The Park is home to The Robert R. McCormick Museum, a historic house museum interpreting the life and legacy of the Colonel. The mansion reveals the public and private sides of one of America's wealthiest and most philanthropic families, The First Division Museum is dedicated to the history of the Big Red One, the famed 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. Many exhibits are interactive and all of them provide fascinating insights about America's military, past and present. The Park also includes Cantigny Gardens, created in 1967 by renowned landscape architect Franz Lipp. Nearly 30 acres of formal gardens, theme plantings and statuary render exceptional beauty in all seasons.

**9:00am board bus, 1:00pm back at hotel**

**\$42/Person includes bus and escort.**

### **CHICAGO CITY TOUR**

*Thursday, Aug 22*

Chicago is a world class city of unsurpassed beauty. Located in the heart of the Midwest's Great Lakes region, Chicago sits on the banks of Lake Michigan, the fifth-largest body of fresh water in the world. Enjoy a guided tour that will encompass Museum Campus, (home to Adler Planetarium), Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium and Soldier Field. A stop will be made to take in the breathtaking beauty of the Chicago skyline. Enjoy the magnificent buildings of The Loop district as well as the Merchandise Mart. The tour takes you along the "Magnificent Mile", home to some of the world's renowned designers. Your guide will point out other significant points of interest such as, Buckingham Fountain, Millennium Park, The Art Institute of Chicago, and the Willis Tower. Enjoy lunch on your own at the Navy Pier, which offers a food court for a quick bite or restaurant dining. Restaurants include Joe's Be-Bop Café, Billy Goat Tavern, Capi's Italian Kitchen, and the famous Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. After lunch, enjoy the beautiful scenery and the boats as you browse in the many retail shops the Pier has to offer.

**8:30am board bus, 2:00pm back at hotel**

**\$50/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch is on your own.**

### **MEDIEVAL TIMES DINNER & SHOW**

*Thursday, Aug 22*

Medieval Times is one of Chicago's most unique dinner attractions. Feast on a medieval banquet while watching colorful equestrian drills. Then you will cheer for brave knights on horseback competing in daring medieval tournament games, jousting matches, and sword fights. Root for your knight with your cheering banner and hope he will be victorious! It's a show that you will not want to miss.

**6:30pm board bus, 10:00pm back at hotel**

**\$87/Person includes bus, escort, and dinner show.**

## CITY TOUR & SPIRIT OF CHICAGO LUNCH CRUISE

Friday, Aug 23

We'll start the day with a tour of Chicago. The tour takes you along the "Magnificent Mile", home to some of the world's renowned designers. Your guide will point out other significant points of interest such as Buckingham Fountain, Millennium Park, The Art Institute of Chicago, and the Willis Tower. Then we'll board The Spirit of Chicago for a memorable experience where guests will have fun from start to finish. Experience the most breathtaking skyline views from Lake Michigan, delicious food, and interactive entertainment along with a DJ. The lavish buffet will ensure no one leaves hungry! You'll see iconic landmarks like Grant Park, Soldier Field, Adler Planetarium, and the Shedd Aquarium. Not to mention cruising Lake Michigan, one of the most important of the Great Lakes.

**10:00am board bus, 3:30pm back at hotel**  
**\$112/Person includes bus, escort, and lunch cruise**

*Please plan to be at the bus boarding area (ballroom entrance) at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.  
Driver and Staff gratuities are not included in the tour price*

### **CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

The Westin Lombard Yorktown Center  
70 Yorktown Center  
Lombard, IL 60148  
1-630-719-8000  
Reference the 196th LIB



# US ARMY HONORS OBLIGATION TO RECOGNIZE SOLDIERS FOR THEIR VIETNAM SERVICE



25th Infantry Division Salute Battery fire canons during 196th Infantry Brigade Vietnam Veterans' Recognition Ceremony at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, on June 29, 2018.

The presentation was made during an official military ceremony, June 29, 2018, on historic Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. The 196th Inf. Bde. is still an active U.S. Army unit. Today the brigade assists reserve units in Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, Arizona and Saipan, as a Training Support Brigade and provides support to reserve Component Forces throughout the Pacific area.

(U.S. Army photo by Jonathan Steffen)

*Story and photos by Jonathan Steffen, 196th Infantry Brigade, Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Capability*

FORT SHAFER — Ten former members of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade were given a long overdue honor ceremony for their service during the Vietnam War. Although small in numbers, they represented a large number of Soldiers who served in the Southeast Asia conflict but were never given a proper military ceremony to present awards and medals.

“It’s never a wrong time to do something right,” said current 196th Infantry Brigade Commander Col. Robert Berg.

Complete with Soldiers on parade, a military band, and a Howitzer battery salute that thundered across historic Palm Circle June 29, 2018, these Vietnam Veterans of the famed “Charger Brigade” received due recognition for their dedication and loyalty.

“It was well worth the wait to have the brigade that you went to war with to recognize you years and years after that war was over,” said former combat medic Allen Hoe from Honolulu, Hawaii, who received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart at the ceremony.

All of the Soldiers honored performed exceptionally well in combat earning several commendations, but for one reason or another, some never received them. Many of those awards showed up on their military records or came in the mail, some long after their service was complete. Today, the Army fulfilled its traditional obligation to present these medals with an appropriate air of formality and fitting ceremony.



U.S. Army Col. Sean Berg, 196th Infantry Brigade commander, pins medals onto Allen Hoe during 196th Infantry Brigade Vietnam Veterans' Recognition Ceremony at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, on June 29, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by Jonathan Steffen)

“These awards presented here today are long overdue,” said Brig Gen. Peter Andrysiak, U.S. Army Pacific Chief of Staff. “Since the Vietnam War, the Army has honed and refined its own Army ethic; the shared beliefs that define our Army culture, and bind us together for one moral purpose.

## US ARMY HONORS OBLIGATION TO VIETNAM SOLDIERS (cont)

One part of that ethic is how we value people, our most precious resource. And so we are coming together, forty six long years later, to show our appreciation to these distinguish veterans.

“This is an honor to be at this ceremony because most of us Vietnam veterans when we came back that was it, no parade no awards,” said former infantryman Orlando Vazquez from Puerto Rico, who was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart medals.

This has been a long time coming,” said former cavalryman Larry Johnson of Honolulu, who was presented the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. “I’m glad I was here, in more ways than one. To be honored like I was here today was quite an honor.”

Today’s ceremony was even more significant as it marked the same date, forty six years ago, the unit redeployed from Vietnam. “When you returned home, there were no parades, yet still you persisted and kept the faith. And so you’re part of a proud military history and your sacrifices will not be forgotten. Your legacy has paved the way for the Army of today,” said Andrysiak.

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade was the first brigade size unit to deploy to Vietnam in July 1966, and it was the last brigade size element to leave the country some six years later. The 196th saw extensive combat during their time in country. The Soldiers participated in many of the wars’ significant battle campaigns and earned citations from both the U.S. and South Vietnamese governments. Six Soldiers of the brigade were awarded the nation’s highest award for valor, the Medal of Honor, while serving in Vietnam.

The 196th Infantry Brigade is still an active U.S. Army unit. Today the brigade assists reserve units in Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, Arizona, and Saipan, as a Training Support Brigade, providing support to Reserve Component Forces throughout the Pacific area. Since 2001, the 196th Infantry Brigade has trained nearly 10,000 Soldiers that deployed to support combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Horn of Africa, and the Southern Philippines.



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### Aloha and Mahalo 196 LIB Chargers

By: Allen "Doc" Hoe

June 29<sup>th</sup> marked a special day for a handful of Vietnam Veterans who wore the famed Charger Patch in combat. The day was remembered for its significance as the day of the redeployment of the last U.S. Army combat brigade to leave Vietnam.

The 196 Infantry Brigade’s current assignment with the United States Army Pacific Command at Fort Shafter Hawaii provides the training and support mission for the Indo-Pacific Command’s Army Reserve and National Guard Units in what is the largest AOR spanning 36 nations with more than half the globe and 7 of the world’s 10 largest Armies.

In acknowledgment of its proud combat legacy a special recognition and awards ceremony was hosted by the United States Army’s Pacific Command to say Mahalo (thank you) and Welcome Home to a number of Charger veterans who were able to attend.

Individual Awards and Honors long overdue, some never before received and forgotten, were presented in a special formation by the current Brigade Commander, COL Tom Berg. Charger 6 began his presentation with the words, “there is never a wrong time to do the right thing” with that a Silver Star, several Purple Heart and Bronze Stars, Army



## Aloha and Mahalo 196 LIB Chargers (cont)

Commendation, CIB and CMB awards were pinned following the traditional firing of the Salute Battery of cannons the Army Band and a native Hawaiian Warrior chant.

A special Memorial was presented to Sherry Jones of Graham, Texas, whose brother Danny Widner 2/1 Recon Platoon, is still MIA from the Mother's Day Battle of Kham Duc.

The schedule of events included a visit to the National Cemetery of the Pacific and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's new forensic skeletal laboratory located on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Johnie E. Webb, Jr., provided a comprehensive view of the history and current mission of the Agency as well as the opportunity to meet and talk with the specialist who have the sacred duty to recover and identify our Nation's fallen Heroes.



An extra special treat was the invitation by the Deputy Commander of the Indo-Pacific Command, LTG Brian Fenton, to take an exclusive tour of Pearl Harbor on the Admiral's launch to see the iconic memorials of the USS Arizona, the USS Missouri along with historic battle relics of December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941. The tour was unique in that the biannual military exercise, Rim-Pac was in full operation, thus Pearl Harbor was very busy with ships representing all of our Pacific Allies, it was quite an experience to cruise up alongside CVN 74, the carrier John C Stennis.

Lastly, the day was capped off by a special sunset luau event at the Pearl Harbor Marina where good food, beverages and war stories were shared by all. The opportunity was a once in a life experience which will long be remembered.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all my brothers of the 196th, I wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year.

I hope that you and your families had a happy and enjoyable holidays. With the New Year beginning we now look forward to our Reunion in Chicago this August. Amazing how time flies so fast. Most of us have now entered the fourth quarter of our lives. Fifty years have gone by and doesn't it just seem like yesterday. We have stayed close to each other through those years watching our families and our brothers families grow right in front of us. Dave Eichhorn and I were discussing the likelihood of 10 more reunions that would place us at 95 years old. Perhaps wishful thinking, but hey you never know, worst case scenario there's a great nursing home in Whitehall and they serve a great liquid lunch lol.

As you know I have been helping many of the guys with VA claims. Don't hesitate to call me at 201-206-7430 if you have any questions or want to put in a claim. Don't hesitate.

Getting back to the Reunion I would highly suggest that you take advantage of the trip to Cantigny Park and First Division Museum as well as the other events such as the Chicago City Tour and Cruise. While I visited Chicago last year, I took in the Medieval Times Dinner and Show. I believe you're going to really enjoy that one.

I can't wait to see all you guys and sit in the hospitality room reminiscing with our fantastic stories.

Until then be safe and I will see you in August.

*Michael Timmerman*

President



## 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.*

**Wendler, SGT Christopher G. (The Dog)**, Dec 8, 2017, served with F-Troop from 1967-69. He was command track driver for Capt. Davis, 3rd Platoon Squad Leader, and ran the rear area in Chu Lai before going home in March of 1969. He was from Waxahachie, TX and passed away at the VA Medical Center in Dallas.

**McDonald, Gerald F.**, Aug 28, 1944 - Feb 3, 2018, Jerry served with 2nd Platoon, Co B, 3/21 from 1967-1968. He was a LIFE MEMBER and resided in Half Moon Bay, CA.

**Lynch, COL Hugh J.**, Dec 21, 1922 - Nov 20, 2016, COL Lynch was the Battalion Commander of the 4/31 from Ft Devens to Vietnam, 1965-66. COL Lynch was born at Ft. Benning, the son of COL Charles Lynch. On April 19, 1944 he was commissioned a second lieutenant and landed with the 103rd Infantry Division in Marseilles, France in October 1944. He had a long and distinguished career, serving in Europe and eventually in the Military District of Washington, where he retired in October 1977. He held the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and two Legions of Merit.

**Brinkman, Art**, Dec 2018, Art served with B&D Companies, 3/21 from 1965-1967. Art was a LIFE MEMBER, and lived in Napoleon, OH.

**Gaffney, Kenneth**, May 2018 reported, Ken served with F-Troop, 17th Cav from 1965-1967, and lived in Hope, RI.

**Smith, Donald R. (Smitty)**, Mar 3, 2018, Smitty served with the 2nd Platoon, A, 2/1 from 1969-1970. He was 67 years old and lived in Eunice, LA and served for 20 years with the Eunice Police Department.

**Johnston, Wayne**, Jan 14, 1945 - Sept 4, 2018, Wayne was an original and served from 1965-1967 with Company A, 4/31. Wayne lived in Clarkesville, GA and passed away from Agent Orange related illness. He was a LIFE MEMBER.

**Krull, Arthur (Artie)**, Nov 15, 1945 - Jul 23, 2018, Artie was an original and served from 1965-1967 with Company A, 4/31. He lived in Beverly Hills, FL.

**Ernwood, Ted**, Jan 5, 2019, Ted served with D Battery, 3/82 Artillery in 1967-68 period. He was an FO and FDO. He had been in the Veteran's Home in Vineland, NJ, and will be interred in the Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Williamstown, NJ.

**Kemp, Mike**, May 9, 2018, served with 1st Platoon, Company A, 4/31 in 1966-1967. Mike was from Dysart, IA and was a LIFE MEMBER of the Association.

**Rosier, Henry P.**, Apr 25, 2013, Henry served with D Battery, 3/82 Artillery from 1968-1970. He was from Covington, LA.

**Lapalio, Anthony "Doc"**, Oct 6, 1945 - Oct 9, 2017, Doc served with both C and D Companies, 4/31 from 1968-1969. He was from Long Beach, CA.

**Carey, Michael**, Feb 18, 2018. Mike was an original and served in Company A, 4/31 from 1965 - 1967. He lived in Dubuque, IA.

**Wezalis, Richard**, Jun 2, 1945 - Jul 21, 2017. Dick was the 4th Platoon Mortar FO for the 3rd Platoon, Company C, 4/31. An original, he served from 1965 - 1967. Let it Ride Brother.

**Osborne, Larry**, Jun 27, 1949 - Feb 14, 2017. Larry served with 2nd Platoon, Company B, 3/21. He was from Clinton, TN.

**Brinkman, Arthur Henry**, Oct 30, 1945 - Dec 3, 2018. Arthur was an original and served with both Companies B and D, 3/21 from 1965 - 1967. He was from Napoleon, OH.

**Stephens, Lawrence D.**, Date Unknown, Larry served in Company B, 4/31 from 1968-1969. He was from Linden, MI.

**Gay, Francis H.**, Jun 28, 2018. He served in Company B, 4/31 from 1968-1969. Francis was a LIFE MEMBER of the Association.

**Hay, Russell**, Mar 27, 2018. He was from Eugene, OR

**Davis, William Lee**, Jan 23, 1948-Nov 16, 2016. Served with 2nd Plat A, 3/21, 1968-69. Bill was a LIFE MEMBER.

**Connolly, John F.**, Sept 25, 2018, Was the CO of Company B, 2/1, and served in the 196th from 1967-1969. Lived in Carlisle, PA.

**McCreight, David**, Apr 2, 1946 - Apr 11, 2108. Served with Company D, 4/31 from 1969-1970. From Kahului, HI.

## TAPS

**Gomez, Elfego**, Jul 1, 2018 at 87 years old. Served as 1st SGT of D, 4/31 and B, 2/1 from 1965-1967. He lived in Clorado Springs, CO.

**Carroll, MAJ Thomas**, Jan 20, 1943 - Jun 3, 2018. He was the 2nd Platoon Leader for HHC, 4/31 from 1967-1968. He was a LIFE MEMBER of the Association and lived in Waupaca, WI

**Wolfe, Spencer W.**, Mar 4, 2017, Served with C Battery, 3/82 Artillery from 1969-1970. From Grand Blanc, MI.

**Gaffney, Kenneth**, May 29, 2018. Served with F-Troop, 17th CAV from 1965-1967.

**Carrier, Ernie**, May 20, 2018. Served with Company C, 3/21 in 1969. He was from Bernice, LA.

**Thiel, Dudley**, date not reported. Served with F-Troop, 17th CAV in 1969. He was from Sidney, MT.

### **Brigadier General Edwin Lyle Kennedy, Sr. August 6, 1927 - January 11, 2017**

The Chargers of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade lost one of their former leaders and a "soldier's soldier" with the death of Brigadier General Edwin L. Kennedy, Sr.



BG Kennedy served his country for thirty years including serving in three wars: World War II (Navy), the Korean War (Army), and the Vietnam War (Army).

BG Kennedy attended West Point, the U.S. Military Academy, from 1946-1950. Upon graduation in 1950, he immediately was sent into combat in Korea with the 3rd Infantry Division.

His Vietnam service covered 15 months from July 1969 to October 1970. He first served as Executive Officer of the 196th L.I.B, then as the Americal Division G-3 Operations Officer, and finally as the Commanding Officer of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade.

"As an Infantryman myself, I like soldiers, and I like infantry soldiers best of all. There's no job in the Army better than a rifle platoon leader in combat. I don't think there's a higher calling anywhere than leading American young men into combat, and are entitled to the best you can give them. These men... gave me their best, and I was always grateful

for that." BG (Ret.) Edwin L. Kennedy, Sr. From "In the Shadow of Danger: Photographs of the Vietnam War 1970-71".

BG Kennedy is survived by two sons, David Kennedy and LTC (Ret.) Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr. His son says he always looked back in pride on his time there. He said his 196th soldiers were the best ever in his career. He enlisted his son after he returned from Vietnam and they served on active duty at the same time until he retired.



# 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 life-time warranty.

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

## JOSTENS FULL WARRANTY

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

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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.



SEND ORDERS TO:

**196th Light Infantry Brigade Association**  
**c/o Dave Eichhorn**  
**328 Deming Rd**  
**Fleming, OH 45729-5019**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel. Number \_\_\_\_\_

## 196th ORDER FORM

<input type="checkbox"/> White Lustrum.....\$189.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$664.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Karat White Gold.....\$664.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Questra.....\$259.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$989.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Karat White Gold.....\$989.00	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$1589.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Karat White Gold.....\$1589.00	
<b>Engraving (inside ring)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> (3) Initials _____ (FREE) <input type="checkbox"/> Full Name (or other) _____ add \$15.00 21 LETTERS & SPACES			
<b>Stones</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Smooth <input type="checkbox"/> 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)			
<b>Encrusting on Stones</b> (available on smooth stones only).....add \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Infantry <input type="checkbox"/> MP Crossed Pistols <input type="checkbox"/> Artillery <input type="checkbox"/> Crossed Bayonets			
Finger Size _____ Your correct ring size may be obtained at a jewelry store.		ALL BIRTHSTONES ARE SIMULATED Sales Tax <b>Must</b> Be Added Order Must Have Finger Size Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.	Sub Total _____ 7% State Sales Tax _____ Shipping (per ring) <b>5.95</b> Total _____

# 196th Merchandise Order Form

Prices shown include postage & handling.

**Description      Price      Quantity      Amt Due**

All weather 196<sup>th</sup> **Flag** (Durable/Double-sided) \$68.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$68.00 = \_\_\_\_

3 Flag **Desk Set** (US, 196<sup>th</sup>, POW/MIA) \$10.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Large **Tankard** \$20.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Patch **Coffee Mug** \$ 6.50 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 6.50 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Patch **Magnet** (4" x 6") \$ 6.50 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 6.50 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Patch **Wall Clock** \$ 7.50 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 7.50 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Patch **Engraved Tumbler** \$ 7.50 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 7.50 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB **Challenge Coin** \$ 7.50 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 7.50 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> **Patches – Full Color** \$ 4.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 4.00 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> **Brigade Crests** “Ahead of the Rest” \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 5.00 = \_\_\_\_

**Newly Authorized Uniform Item**

196<sup>th</sup> **CSIB Pin** (Combat Service ID Badge) \$15.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB **Outside Window/Bumper Sticker**      \$ 2.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 2.00 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Patch **Lapel Pin** \$ 3.00 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 3.00 = \_\_\_\_

196<sup>th</sup> LIB Canvas **Tote** \$ 7.50 \_\_\_\_ x \$ 7.50 = \_\_\_\_

**Classic (White) 196<sup>th</sup> LIB T-shirt**

5XL\_\_4XL\_\_3XL\_\_2XL\_\_XL\_\_L\_\_M\_\_\$15.00\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_

Order Total = \_\_\_\_

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

**Mail to:** 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Assn, Dave Eichhorn - Treasurer, 328 Deming Rd, Fleming, OH 45729-5019

**Follow-up** or questions about merchandise:  
 Quartermaster - Rich "Doc" Mosher, rpm196@hotmail.com, 847-922-6011:

(Suggestion: Make a copy of this page)

**196th  
CHALLENGE COIN**



## From The Editor

To Our Members,

I've never liked doing something unless I felt I could do it well. That's one of the reasons I volunteered to become the editor of the newsletter. When Bill Knight put out the newsletter in January 1987, it announced the second 196th national reunion in Cincinnati. At that time the newsletter was mimeographed (remember those days?) and bragged that we had surpassed 200 members.

I was working with a new laser printer (brand new technology at \$1600) and thought I could do a more professional looking print for Bill, so I volunteered to print "his" newsletter in nice sharp typeface. Little did I know that the job would be easily transferred, making it "my" newsletter. I've been doing the job as editor ever since.

Over the years I also took on the job of building and maintaining the website. Both of the jobs interested me and although it took time and effort I enjoyed doing them. As we approached 1500 members the job of putting the newsletter together and actually licking and applying the stamps started to get less attractive, but luckily newer methods arrived in time to print bulk mail stamps, and to sort and automatically mail the newsletters.

It's hard to admit that as I've gotten older it seems to take more time to do everything, and interruptions from health, family, and just everyday chores get in the way of completing the newsletter on time and in a manner that satisfies me. We now have over 6500 names in our database, and over 4500 newsletters are mailed.

I really am bothered that the newsletter doesn't go out twice a year, and in some cases only once in two years. The members deserve better and, but I've pleaded for someone else to take over the job, but no takers. I have had offers of help, but I can't really figure out how to work that. The Americal Division Association has turned the editing of their newsletter over to an outside source, and it is quite professionally produced, so I am planning on doing the same.

Starting with the next newsletter, any stories, letters, announcements, etc., will still be sent to me, but I will pass them unedited to a contracted editor to put in final form. I'll look over their final copy and then pass it to our printer for mailing.

The 196th Association will still maintain the member database and use it for the mailing, but not release it for any other purpose.

Once again I apologize for the delay in getting a newsletter to you, and I hope we can do better in the future.

*Ken McKenzie*, Editor

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## Dues Renewal Form

(other side)

Please include your old address also if you have moved.



## 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 Dave Eichhorn, Secretary, 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 6,000 names on our mailing list so maybe we can help you find that long lost buddy.

### Locating on the Web

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 Web Forum

The Web Forum has not worked in several years because the company that supplied the software went out of business and we are unable to revise the forum for the more modern servers our website runs on.

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

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
Dave Eichhorn  
328 Deming Rd  
Fleming, OH 45729-5019

### 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>	<b>Lifetime Membership: \$196.00</b>
I would like (number): _____ Additional Bumper Stickers @ \$2.00 ea.	_____ Additional Decals @ \$2.00 ea.
<b>Not included with membership package:</b>	
_____ Lapel Pin @ \$3.00 ea. T-Shirt @ \$15 each, (number of each size ordered) _____XXL, _____XL, _____L, _____M	
Name: _____	Telephone: _____
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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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**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. This includes your contributions to the 196th Memorial Statue. We are also able to reduce mailing costs as a tax exempt organization.**

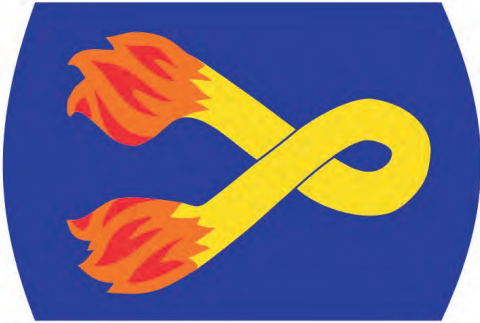
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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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

Dave Eichhorn, Secretary  
328 Deming Rd, Fleming, OH 45729-5019

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