

# 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association



## 2001 REUNION GETTYSBURG

Number 22

Sept 2000

## **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 2001 Reunion of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association will take place July 26th thru July 29th, 2001. The location will be the historic battleground at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Over 51,000 soldiers were killed, wounded or captured in the three day battle, making it the bloodiest battle of the Civil War. It was also a major turning point in the war. Historians have referred to the Battle of Gettysburg as the "High Water Mark of the Confederacy."

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello To All,

Have you made your room reservations yet? Called all your buddies yet? Why not?? By the time you read this, you will have less than six months to get it done!!!

I have always had a huge fascination with the Civil War. So, Gettysburg is the big cherry on top of the ice cream sundae of life for me. I have read numerous books on the subject. Different battles and places, Presidents (Lincoln and Davis), Generals (Lee and Grant) and of course, the grunts.

This summer Dianne and I visited three battlesites on weekend trips. Ft. Donelson on the Cumberland River in Northern Tennessee, Parkers Crossroads in middle Tennessee and Shilo, located on the Tennessee-Mississippi border.

Although some are intrigued by the logistics of the two Armies, the attacks and counter attacks or the mistakes that historians claim were made; my love and interest is in reading about the Grunts. Just like you and I were. What they wore, not all had uniforms, what they carried, smooth bores, squirrel rifles, shotguns. The diaries they kept, (Hell of a day to fight) the letters they wrote home (all is well, see you soon)

As my wife and I toured Shilo it was 96 degrees and humid. "It's hot" she said. Not as hot as the Michelin rubber plantation, I replied. It started to rain heavily; I have been there too!! I just wanted to walk where they walked, to stand where they stood. You could almost smell the fragrance in the "Peach Orchard" and hear the buzz in the "Hornest Nest."

Join us in Gettysburg, we will walk past Cemetery Ridge and Little Round Top. If we are lucky we might hear a whisper of "Old Abe" say "Four score and seven years ago."

See you there,  
Bill

Until then, have a great Veterans Day and Happy Holidays to all.  
*Bill Knight, President*



"A few of us went to Gettysburg...some of us came back...and if you weren't there you could never understand."

*Veteran of the Battle of Gettysburg*



## **Gettysburg 2001**

### **196th Light Infantry Brigade Association Reunion**

“Rest”! Remember that command? Well that’s exactly what we have in mind for our 2001 reunion.

We plan on stacking arms and engaging in some R & R & R (Rest & Recreation & Remembrance) in Gettysburg, PA from Thursday, 26 July to Sunday, 29 July, 2001.

Your “Gettysburg Address” for the reunion will be the Eisenhower Inn & Conference Center. It’s located 1.5 miles from the Gettysburg National Battlefield, site of one of the largest and most decisive battles of the Civil War, 3 miles from the Gettysburg National Cemetery, site of Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address and 4 miles from quaint, historic, downtown Gettysburg.

We are anticipating a good turnout and have reserved the entire facility for the period of the reunion. This is a full service conference facility with 203 beautifully appointed rooms spread over two floors. The conference center offers an indoor atrium complete with pool, hot tub and nearby sauna. Also available in the indoor atrium area are a gazebo, fountain, plenty of seating and a deli. There is also a second, open air landscaped atrium with nice paths and plenty of seating as well. There is a restaurant and a lounge on site and plenty of free parking. There is a 14 acre lake on-site where you may fish to your hearts content. It is a private lake so no fishing license is required for guests. It is stocked with large & small mouth bass, brook, brown & rainbow trout, and the ever present crappie. Next door is an indoor/outdoor recreation facility with something for the whole family (go karts, mini golf, electronic games of all kinds, batting cages, kiddie slides and rides, etc.). We are working with local tour operators for guided battlefield tours with licensed guides that make history come alive. We are looking at a golf scramble for Friday morning and we have already signed up a highly respected, world renowned guest speaker for our Saturday evening banquet.

In the process of researching Gettysburg as a reunion site we found that some of our regiments fought in the Battle of Gettysburg. The research continues with Wayne Motts, a licensed guide and battlefield historian. The plan is to visit the actual sites during the reunion, and walk the same ground where our forerunners fought and died. We also plan to hold a memorial ceremony in the National Cemetery at the graveside of SP4 Gary W. Runk, C Co., 2/1st Inf, 196th LIB, a Gettysburg resident, who was KIA on 5 Jan 68. Gary’s brother, Larry, is a member of the Gettysburg Police Department.

Please make your hotel reservations early as we expect a good turnout. To make reservations you must call the conference center direct at 1-800-776-8349. Tell them that

you are with the 196th Reunion to receive the special reunion rate of \$89 per night plus 6% PA sales tax. If you plan to arrive early or stay over, the special rate will apply for all nights of your stay.

The tentative schedule is:

Thursday, 26 July

Registration	Lobby	1030 - 1900
Hospitality Room	Grant/McClelland Rm	1200 - 2400

Friday, 27 July

Registration	Lobby	1200 - 1900
Golf Scramble	TBD	0800 - 1200
Tours depart	Lobby	0930
Tours depart	Lobby	1230
Hospitality Room	Grant/McClelland Rm	1200 - 2400

Saturday, 28 July

Membership Meeting	Longstreet Rm	0900 - 1000
Memorial Ceremony	Gettysburg Nat. Cem.	1200 - 1300
Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)	Longstreet/Sheridan Rm	1800 - 1900
Dinner w/Guest Speaker	Longstreet/Sheridan Rm	1900 - 2100
Music & Dancing	“Doc” Mosher	2100 - ????

Sunday, 29 July

Check-out	Lobby	
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\*Registration forms (and tour/golf signups) will be in a special reunion mailing. If you any questions please contact Warren Neill at (317) 984-3853 or e-mail neill@indy.net or any officer.

**CALL THE HOTEL TODAY AND MAKE YOUR  
RESERVATIONS. 1-800-776-8349  
ROOMS ARE EXPECTED TO GO QUICKLY.**

*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.*

**Pruitt Sr., Dennis Lee** 12 Nov 1945 - 23 Feb 2000. Dennis served in Company "C", 4/31 from 1965 -1967. He served a second tour in Vietnam with the 1st Infantry. Dennis was a well known figure at all the 196th reunions, and was a Life Member of the Association. Dennis is survived by his wife Beechie, son Dennis Jr., daughter Nellie Hamilton, three brothers and four sisters. Dennis also left, for now, many others who were his brothers-in-arms. Let it Ride Dennis.

**Blake, Kenneth**, Died in 1999. Kenneth is survived by his wife Patricia, who has asked to be an Auxiliary Member.

**Malloy, James D. "Bo"**, 23 Dec 1944 - 9 Jul 2000. Jim was drafted into 3rd Platoon, Company C, 4/31 in 1965 and was transfered to Company B, 8th Support soon after Basic. He served there from 1965-1967. Jim was a Life Member of the Association and attended many of the reunions. Jim will be missed by all.

**Vendola, Rich**, March 1999, Served with Co "B", 3/21, 1967-68. His brother Doug writes that Rich was riding his motorcycle at the time. "He was proud of his service and the 196th. Rich received several awards including the Purple Heart. He was given a twenty-one gun salute. Some of the members may remember him, he would like that." *Doug Vendola 1st Cav 2/7 V.N. 69-70.*

**Boettoher, Kenneth**, 22 Sept 1946 - 16 May 1998, Ken served in 2nd Platoon, Co "D", 4/31 from 1968-69. A member in good standing of the 196th Association. A note from his wife, Janice, says, "He was very happy to have found the 196th Association. The last 5 years he's really been into reading and watching anything he could on Vietnam."

**Kopp, Michael**, Died 21 June 1998. "Michael died from a heart attack brought on by severe alcoholism. He never left Vietnam and now he is with his fallen friends."

**Olszewski, Robert (Bob)**, Died 21 Sept 1996. Served with Co "A", 4/31, from Feb 1970-Jan 1971. (See a note from Karen Olszewski on page 5)

**Bryan, Paul**, Died 8 Dec 1999, Served with Headquarters 196th 1967-70.

**Sterrett, Elmer L.**, No additional information.

**Turpin, Billy Joe**, 21 Dec 1935 - 21 Dec 1997. A platoon Sgt with Co "D", 3/21 and Co "A" 2/1 from 1966 - 1967, and went with the Brigade from Ft. Devens to Vietnam. He only found out about the Association in 1997 and attended the Washington reunion where he met some old friends. He talked about attending St. Louis in '99, but passed away from cancer. His wife Ethel says that she wishes he had known about the Association sooner.

**Summers Jr., COL Harry G.**, 6 May 1932 - 14 Nov 1999. COL Summers served as a squad leader with the 21st Inf, 24th Inf. Division during the Korean War. He was an Honorary Colonel of the 3/21 Infantry. COL Summers served two tours in Vietnam and later returned to Vietnam with the Four Party Joint Military Team investigating POW-MIAs. He wrote several books and was the Editor of Vietnam Magazine

## LOOKING FOR

**McClelland, Kenneth**, I would like to find out any information about my father. He was in from the summer of '66 to the summer of '67 when he was wounded. According to my Mom he was in the 3/82 Arty in Chu Lai. He died 21 years ago when I was only seven and I would like to find out about his time in the military. I can't find him, but I thought I might find someone who knew him, or at least served in the unit and could tell me a little about the conditions and things they did while there to give me an idea. Any info will help me fill in some things I always wanted to know. *Edward McClelland*, 319 E.Howard, Girard, KS 66743.

**Tagliapetrie, Ronald (or Tagliapetra)**, I am trying to find Ron because the day before I left Vietnam he told me he was putting me in for a commendation. Well, to this day I haven't heard a thing. We served at Chu Lai, HHC 3/21 in '67. I left country on 12 Nov 1967. At the time he was a 2nd Lt. And I believe he was commissioned in the Signal Corp. *Robert W. Serocke*, 617 W 21st. St., Holland, MI 49423 [raber@iserv.net](mailto:raber@iserv.net)

**McEuen, Ron**, Co "C", 4/31, I am trying to locate anyone who was with my friend Ron on the day he was KIA, 25 May 1968. The unit was under the command of Cpt. John R. Wolf and suffered four KIA that day. Does anyone remember that action and the new Shake n Bake who was killed that day named McEuen? Please call collect: *Laurance See* (310) 457-4697

**Michaud, Cpl. Benton (Ben)**, KIA 10 Jan 1968, Phu Binh, Quang Tin Province, Co "D" 3/21. I'm looking for anyone that may have served with my father-in-law. Thanks, *Tracie Michaud*, E-mail: [pebbles23@home.com](mailto:pebbles23@home.com)

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## A-102 TIEN PHUOC SPECIAL FORCES CAMP

Your unit fought in support of my A-Team when we were almost overrun the morning of 23 Feb 1969. The Americal had a 155 Arty Btry (Commanded by Cpt. Fontenot) in my camp, and that is what saved my men and I. BG Clements and MG Gettys sent in their units to help defend the camp from being overrun. We learned later that 3 NVA Divisions had moved through trying to cut the country in half. Anyone having an account of this battle please contact: John Cleckner (Commander of A-102) at: [usasf@thegrid.net](mailto:usasf@thegrid.net)

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## LOOKING TO HELP OTHERS

My name is Karen Olszewski, my husband's name was Robert (Bob) Olszewski. He served with the 196th LIB, 4th/31st, A co. from Feb. '70-Jan.'71. He was wounded June 1, 1970 and was told he would be awarded the Purple Heart but never was. He couldn't remember the medic's name.

Bob died September 21, 1996 from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, directly caused by his exposure to Agent Orange. I have helped form a group called AOWAC, Agent Orange Widows Awareness Coalition. I would like very much to get in contact with the men he served with to make sure they are aware of the risk they could be facing. Robert got sick suddenly and died four months later at the age of forty-seven.

I am trying to figure out which badges, patches, etc. would go with Robert's medals, along with trying to find the medic who witnessed his wounding so I can verify his qualification for the Purple Heart he never received. Thank you for your help.

*Karen Olszewski*, 1398 Grand Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 Tel: 562-498-2668

## 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.

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### 196th WEB PAGE

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association has a WEB page on the internet courtesy of the ADVA, Service Tech., and Greg Noller. Visit us at:

<http://www.americal.org/196/>

### 196th ASSOCIATION TAX EXEMPT STATUS

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

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

## COMBAT TRACKER TEAMS

After all of these years, the Combat Tracker Teams are reuniting. In doing so, we have found two Teams who were "provisionally attached" to the 196th, and subsequently were attached officially to the 4th Inf. Div. Please see our website:

[Http://www.combattrackerteam.org](http://www.combattrackerteam.org)

for Team members and photos of Trackers working with the 196th. Since we now have the documentation, it is our hope that all of the Affiliated units will place the Tracker teams in their place within the Orders of Battle.

Combat Tracker Teams #3 & #10 of the 64th Infantry Platoon Combat Trackers.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sue - Webmistress/Site Historian

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### NEW BEGINNING DATE FOR THE VIETNAM WAR

On Memorial Day 1999, history was changed, the history of Vietnam is rewritten. On this day our government added TSGT Richard B. Fitzgibbon's name to the Wall, making him a Vietnam Veteran TSGT Richard B. Fitzgibbon was killed in Vietnam on June 6th 1956. Our Government has changed the dates of involvement from

1959 - 1975 to 1955 - 1975

*From: Dick Del Rossi Co "C" 2/1*

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### F-TROOP VET DEDICATES WEB SITE

Robert Decker has created a web site dedicated to F-Troop, 17th Cav, 196th.

[www.usit.com/rrd1/vn.htm](http://www.usit.com/rrd1/vn.htm)

## WATCHFIRES

A nationwide commemorative event being held the night of November 1 to salute in particular those who died in the Vietnam War. The event is called “Watchfires”, and it is purely a grassroots effort begun by VVets and their friends and families a couple of years ago.

The purpose of Watchfires is severalfold: to not only salute our dead of the War, but to also acknowledge the living power they still have to touch us in so many ways. Their examples of courage, honor and sacrifice set a standard for those who survived them, and our memories of them add strength and depth to our lives. Watchfires also serves to acknowledge the powerful spiritual event that the Vietnam War was. Whatever one’s personal spiritual beliefs may be, Vietnam touched that in some way, and touched this Nation where it lived, as well.

“Watchfires” go way back in history. Watchfires have been lit to establish a perimeter in military times, as a beacon for stragglers and the lost, and to guide ships to the home-ward shore. The connection of this idea to the above Vietnam commemoration was to establish one night a year on which to light a fire — a bonfire if one can do that where one is, or a fire in an outdoor grill, or in a fireplace, or even just a candle if that is all that is workable.

The night selected for this purpose is November 1st (annually). November 1, in both ancient and some modern calendars (for example, the Catholic Church calendar), is the evening following All Saints Day. In ancient times, it was believed that the souls of the departed on that night were enabled to come close to us the living, that the “veil between” was the thinnest then. In ancient practice, people lit bonfires to “light the way” so that the spirits of their passed-on friends and family would know they were being welcomed. And the burning of the fire signaled a time of communion, an acknowledgment of gifts given and received between the dead and the living.

If you wish to participate, fires are to be lit at 9:00 PM in your time zone the night of November 1, and to burn if possible for an hour, so that the fires blossom like a “wave” from East to West across the continent and, as the recognition of this event grows, it is hoped eventually around the world. It is suggested, but not required, that Watchfires participants use the time for personal reflection about the War, for prayer if so inclined, or for simply honoring the goodness of those friendships with the loyalty of memory.

*Tonight the Watchfires have been lit  
From coast to coast,  
Their embers flit against the night  
And call the Host who wander far.  
It has been said Our Dead are they,  
The many or the few who may  
Still linger near, not passing on  
To Paradise but waiting here.  
We whom Vietnam has known  
Still listen for Their voices and  
Would like to think we aren't alone;  
We see Them in the Wall of stone.  
And They were here with us tonight,  
By twos and threes and squads they came*

*To warm Their hands around the flame  
And watch the drifting smoke take flight.  
Their boots are cracked and dusty  
But Their faces hold no fear, and  
They stand as at a campfire  
Trading jokes and smokes and beer.  
And you could hear Them, if you listened  
Just beyond the snap of sparks,  
Above the beating of your heart,  
Their voices in the windy dark...  
“Brothers” They said, “You do not walk  
Alone. Did you not know?  
Together then,  
Together now...Until we All go Home.”*

## COLD WAR RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

In accordance with section 1084 of the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding Cold War Recognition Certificates to all members of the armed forces and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States during the Cold War era, from Sept. 2, 1945, to Dec. 26, 1991.

Qualified military and civilian personnel can now access the Internet address <http://coldwar.army.mil/default.htm> to obtain information on how to receive a Cold War Recognition Certificate signed by Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen. The certificate will be provided to all members of the armed forces and qualified federal government employees who faithfully served the United States during the Cold War era, from Sept. 2, 1945 to Dec. 26, 1991, according to officials. Cohen approved issuance of the certificate in accordance with section 1084 of the 1998 National Defense Authorization Act.

Above Cohen's signature, the certificate bears the inscription: "In recognition of your service during the period of the Cold War (2 September 1945 - 26 December 1991) in promoting peace and stability for this Nation, the people of this Nation are forever grateful."

At the end of World War II in 1945, the United States and the Soviet Union, formerly allies, became rivals for political and military influence throughout the world. This struggle erupted in several flash points over the years, to include the Korean War (1950-53), the Hungarian Revolution (1956), the Berlin Crisis (1961), the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962), and the Vietnam Conflict (1964-1975).

The Soviet Union attempted to keep up with a massive American arms build-up during the 1980s. Soviet efforts to match the Americans, combined with a draining war in Afghanistan, would prove to "break the bank." Cracks appeared in Soviet hegemony or influence, what former President Ronald Reagan called "the Evil Empire." The Berlin Wall fell in 1989, effectively lifting the "Iron Curtain" that the Soviets erected 28 years earlier to separate Eastern and Western Europe.

In 1991, the Soviet Union ceased to exist, ending the Cold War and Communist political control of the Russian people, which began in 1918.

### Acceptable documents for proof of service.

Any official government or military document with recipient's name, Social Security Number/Military Service Number/Foreign Service Number and date of service is acceptable.

You may send or FAX a letter and documentation to the following address. Only send copies of documents, they will not be returned. A sample letter appears on the next page. It may take as long as six months to receive your certificate,

CDR, PERSCOM  
COLD WAR RECOGNITION, HOFFMAN II  
ATTN: TAPC-CWRS, 3N45  
200 STOVALL STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22332-0473

FAX: 1-800-723-9262

# COLD WAR RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE & SAMPLE LETTER

Please send me a Cold War Recognition Certificate for my service to the United States government during the authorized period of September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991.

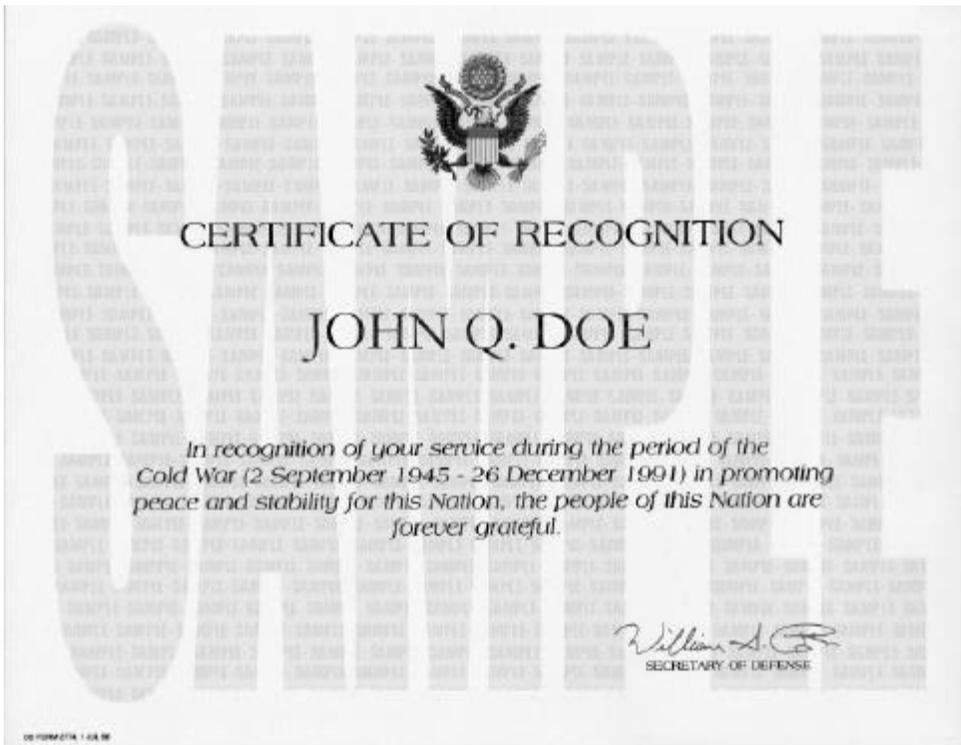
Enclosed is a copy of source document with my Social Security Number/Military Service Number/Foreign Service Number, which verifies my service during the Cold War Era. I understand that the enclosed copy of source document will not be returned.

Please mail my Cold War Recognition Certificate to the following address:

John Doe  
P.O. Box 000  
Pleasantville, Virginia 00000

Submission of this request confirms my faithful service to the nation during the Cold War Era. If my service was in the Armed Forces, I further certify that my discharge was honorable or general under honorable conditions.

Sincerely,



## BOOK RESEARCH

I am researching a book that deals with the casualties of a single day in the Vietnam War- Aug 26, 1969- that will hopefully tell the personal stories of those KIA (there were 38). Based on my research, it would appear that the majority of the casualties were connected with the NVA offensive in Quang Nam/Quang Tin provinces that involved units of the Americal Div and the 1st Marines.

In reviewing your website, I note that 7 individuals on my CACCF database were in the 196th:

**CANNITO, DENNIS JOHN  
HETZEL, NORMAN RALPH  
NELSON, DONALD ERVIN  
TAYLOR, KENNETH WAYNE**

**CRAIG, MERLIN JOSEPH,  
HOWELL, WILLIAM GLENN  
ROBERTSON, MARSHALL EUGENE**

I hope to initially piece together whatever SITRA's or other unit logs or reports I can locate to provide combat details before expanding to try and collect personal data from other sources, i.e. other vets, surviving family members, etc. I would welcome any input you might have concerning records that might be available through your organization, or any other suggestions on sources. Thanks.

Dan Mahon, Maj, USAF (Ret) e-mail: DRMahon@aol.com

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## DOGTAG RETURNED

Congratulations on your website I just visited.

Here's a story you might like to hear about. On October 98 my mother went to Vietnam and during her trip she got a dog tag from a former Colonel of the Vietcong. She

didn't pay for it but the man said that he was sorry to get rid of it as it was a sort of war token or "trophy" as he said.

The tag had the name "David D. Elsbernd" on it. He belonged to your brigade and was killed on Sept. 9 1969. I got in touch with David's brother who lives in Colorado and sent him the tag. He couldn't believe that after 30 years this small piece of metal, so important for his family, was being sent back to him.

In return, he sent me a book called "Shadow of Death", written in 1993 by Paul Hughes, who also belonged to 196th LIB and was David's friend. Paul saw David's death and furthermore he was hit by the same rocket that killed David. Eventually I got in touch with Paul and told him the story.

I hope some day I can visit David's family in the US. They sent me his pho-

graph. This story was published in Crosby's local newspaper in North Dakota, where he was born.

What's so incredible about this story is that the name of the soldier was David (the same as me), and he was killed only 19 days before I was born. That's why I'm so keen on this story, but also because David's brother told me that David had decided to volunteer for war instead of going to a University. Every American should be proud of people like David, don't you think so?.

My family left the US in 1971 and came to live to Spain. I haven't been back to the US since then and I hope to do so soon, even if it's just to see David's grave. Yours sincerely,

*David Benitez.*

dbenitez72@LatinMail.com

## LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

My name Frankie Herkner. I am the daughter of Jerry (Gerald D.) Smith, former United States Army Veteran, who fought in the Vietnam War. My father



William (Bill) Olson      Jerry Smith



Jerry Smith      William (Bill) Olson

served in the Army with Co "C" 4/31, 196th Light Infantry Brigade from 1967 until about July 3 of 1968. He was born May 19, 1947, in Ashley Michigan. He currently resides in Merrill, Michigan.

The reason I am writing is that my Dad would like to find an old friend. His name is William Olson (possibly Olsen) he would be about my fathers age and was in the same infantry. Can you help me locate him or lead me in the right direction? (My dad tells me that he recalls William (Bill) saying he lived in Newark, New Jersey during the war)

Any information you can supply to me would be greatly appreciated. My father is a wonderful man and I am very proud of what he did for our country. I can only begin to imagine what you all went through over there and I would like to do something to help my father get in touch with someone that went through what he did. He still has a hard time...sometimes. He gets sad and sometimes angry at what went on. But most of all he tells me stories, his memories, that memorize me. I could listen to him for hours talk about his life "over there." He tells stories of the death of his friends, the people, the bugs, the animals, what he ate, what he drank, how he got jungle rot, how he got hepatitis, how he was in the hospital for getting shrapnel in his body, the smell, the sounds of choppers landed over top of him, the bullets fling by him and the ping, ping noise they made, how he changed his socks 2 times while he was over there, how he only got 2 hot meals to eat, because he was in too hot of a danger zone for a chopper to land and of course the pictures and the drawings of the HELL he went through! I'm 24 years old sir, and I couldn't imagine being there. My father was 19!

Again, this is a proud man, a decent man, a good father and husband. Please help me to find his friend William Olson! I would more then greatly appreciate it!

Thank you!, Frankie J. Herkner-Smith E-MAIL: FSmith4955@aol.com  
Jerry Smith, 4135 North Mason Rd., Merrill, MI 48637

## 196th SERGEANT RETURNS TO HELP VILLAGE

State University of New York at Brockport Professor Ken Herrmann, an advisor with the 196th during the 1960s, has established a study-abroad concept called the SUNY Brockport Vietnam Project. A report on this project appeared in the last newsletter. As part of the project's Community Service activities, students traveled to Hai Van leprosy village, near Da Nang, to bring food and school supplies.



Hai Van Leprosy Village, located near the Hai Van Pass north of Da Nang, is a terribly isolated community with many needs. It is set in a beautiful area, but its residents are unable to leave. It may appear to be paradise, but life here is anything but that.

### *Can you get there from here?*

Early in the morning, we load our van with dried noodles and notebooks and stop by the local Friendship Union, a branch of the Communist Party, to pick up representatives who will come with us to the village. Then we head

north on under-reconstruction Highway One toward the Hai Van Pass, and stop to pick up representatives of the local district. After we drive part of the way up to the pass, the hard part of the trip begins.

### *On the rails.*

We leave our van by a cafe at a curve in the grade, and descend on foot down a very steep hill through thick jungle. We soon reach the national rail line, which we travel sideways on for a while before plunging back.

The views as we descend are terrific; the village is on the shore of a large bay opposite the city of Da Nang. However, the hike makes us realize one of the villagers' problems; if they wish to go anywhere they must hike on this path or pay fees far beyond their means to rent a boat to the road.



Finally we make it to the beach, and hike for another kilometer across it. We soon come to another obstacle; this isn't the easiest trip! This time we must cross a muddy stream by taking our shoes off. Fortunately there aren't any leeches in the stream. As I walk through the village barefoot and covered with mud from the stream, some villagers kindly wash off my feet with a hose they're using to do their laundry, which makes the rest of the trip much easier.

### *Meeting the village*

At the village's central building, we are greeted by the village chief, various representatives, and the usual statue of HO Chi Minh. Uncle Ho looks a bit out of place to me anywhere but cushy conference rooms, but the village couldn't be without a statue! We leave our presents of dried noodles and notebooks on a nearby table. The villagers are very kind, and cut open coconuts, which are plentiful here, for us to drink.



We learn a bit about the village. It was founded during the American War by a Baptist priest from the United States.

Lepers are placed here because of the isolated location and the general public's misunderstanding of leprosy. Contrary to the belief of many, it is extremely difficult to contract leprosy; repeated direct contact with the sores of a leper is necessary for the disease to be transmitted. As a result, the children of the lepers can avoid getting the disease. But their parents have difficulty making a living; eighty of the nearly three hundred lepers receive the equivalent of about twenty-five cents per day from the government. Many go out to sea in small basket-boats to fish, but make little money that way; there is little they can do here.

### *The clinic.*



We get a tour of the village from its chief. First we visit the clinic where the lepers are treated, much of which is closed today, as many of the lepers do not wish to have their disfigurements seen by visitors to the village. It has gotten some support from abroad, most notably from the East Meets West foundation, which built a new wing to house more patients. However, the clinic remains woefully underfunded. The staff of three people has only the most basic medical training, and a government medical team that is supposed

to be sent every year has not been to the village in two years.

The clinic remains woefully underfunded.... it does not have adequate bandages and cotton to help treat the lepers, so the wounds of many fester without treatment.

Down a long path which winds through the woods, across the stream (on a bridge this time!), and past rice paddies, we find the village education system. Two small buildings, an elementary school and a secondary school, lie on either side of a courtyard. In the courtyard, an NGO (non-governmental organization) from abroad had promised to build

a playground a year ago, but so far nothing has happened. The villagers feel that they have been promised many things, but most of those promises have not been kept. As Professor Herrmann remarks after talking with the villagers, “Many people come here, but none of them ever come back.”

### *The children*

Although the lepers’ children do not have leprosy, their lives are still harshly impacted by the disease. For much of their upbringing they are isolated in their village, but when they reach high-school age, those who will attend high-school must go to Da Nang to do so. Once they have made the trip, they are shunned by their classmates, and nobody will allow a leper’s child to stay in their home, so the children must sleep in a church. The villagers hope it will be possible to build a dormitory so that their children will have a place to stay when they go to high school. However, such a project will be very expensive; raising the money will be difficult.



### *Getting home*

Getting back is just as difficult as getting here was, but now we understand what a difficulty it is for the villagers. One of the high school students hikes up the hill with us so that she can get back to Da Nang for school. She is very well-dressed and polite; there is absolutely nothing wrong with her, but when she reaches her school she will suffer because of where she is from. We are quite disheartened by this, but hope the situation improves in the future as the public becomes more enlightened about leprosy. The children must be helped or they may be left in their village for life, a curse almost as bad as leprosy itself.

Additional information can be viewed on the website:

<http://www.liffiton.com/vietnam/2000/index.php3>



## 196th MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER REMEMBERED BY 2/1 INF

Came across your 196th Light Infantry Brigade website today. I am currently the Battalion Executive Officer for 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry.

I am fairly certain that 2-1 IN, 4-31 IN, and 1-6 IN are the only infantry units from the 196th task organization that are still active infantry combat units in the army. You can find our website at

[Http://www.wainwright.army.mil/1bde/Unit%20Pages/21/index.html](http://www.wainwright.army.mil/1bde/Unit%20Pages/21/index.html).

We would be interested in being included on your mailing list for future use in the event of any reunions or other activities our unit might be able to engage in. Specifically I am curious to know if you have any knowledge of a potential "Honorary Colonel of the Regiment" from our units participation in Vietnam.

Finally, I thought you might like to know that we have recently constructed a high quality live fire range here in our Yukon Training Area on Fort Wainwright and we are working on plans to have a dedication ceremony next spring. Right now, we intend to name it McMahan Range, in light of the attached Medal of Honor citation. It provided us a very high quality training opportunity in trench and bunker clearance techniques at the platoon level and will serve units in Alaska for some time to come. It sits out among the grizzly bears and mountains and is in a beautiful location.

My hope is that somewhere in your rolls you might possibly have an address for his family or any soldiers that it would be appropriate for us to invite to the dedication.

I appreciate any assistance. Thanks,

MAJ Kevin Brown XO, 2nd Bn, 1st Inf Regt

COLD STEEL! 172d Inf Bde (Sep)

Fort Wainwright, AK

DSN 317-353-2495 COMM 907-353-2495



### McMAHON, THOMAS J.

Rank and organization: Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, Company A, 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. place and date: Quang Tin province, Republic of Vietnam, 19 March 1969. Entered service at: Portland, Maine. Born: 24 June 1948, Washington, D.C.

**Citation:** For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sp4c. McMahan distinguished himself while serving as medical aid man with Company A. When the lead elements of his company came under heavy fire from well-fortified enemy positions, 3 soldiers fell seriously wounded. Sp4c. McMahan, with complete disregard for his safety, left his covered position and ran through intense enemy fire to the side of 1 of the wounded, administered first aid and then carried him to safety. He returned through the hail of fire to the side of a second wounded man. Although painfully wounded by an exploding mortar round while returning the wounded man to a secure position, Sp4c. McMahan refused medical attention and heroically ran back through the heavy enemy fire toward his remaining wounded comrade. He fell mortally wounded before he could rescue the last man. Sp4c. McMahan's undaunted concern for the welfare of his comrades at the cost of his life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

## WEBSITE ANSWERS SOME QUESTIONS

*The following e-mail exchange took place between your newsletter Editor and someone looking for information after visiting our website.*

Ken,

I was drafted with and went through basic at Fort Polk with Nelson F. Pulsifer, Jr. He was killed 11-14-66 while serving with Co C 4/31 INF/196 INF BDE. I'm wondering if there is any way for me to find out about his family, and/or the circumstances of his death. I visited his grave yesterday at Fort Rosecrans, as I do every Memorial Day, and decided to act on the thoughts I have every year.

Thanks for any help you can give me.

Sincerely, *JimTwyford*



**Artillery pounds the slopes of Nui Ba Den, Tay Ninh, to cover the withdrawal of 3rd Platoon, Co C, 4/31, ambushed 13 Nov 1966. Photo by: Ed Pascht**

Jim,

Talk about a shock. I was with Pulsifer when he was killed. Although I was not next to him, I was less than 100 feet away. I knew him well and remember him often.

We were in Company C, 4/31, 196th. I was in 3rd Platoon and Nelson was in 2nd I think. We had all gone through basic as a unit and most of us in the company knew each other. Nelson had met his brother in California when the troop ship we were on docked at San Diego on our way from Boston through the Panama Canal to Vietnam.

My platoon had been ambushed at the base of Nui Ba Den (Black Virgin Mountain) on Friday, November 13, 1966. We had two killed and three wounded and had to leave the KIAs in order to extract ourselves. We lead the battalion back the following day to retrieve to KIAs and the rest of C Company followed us.

## WEBSITE ANSWERS SOME QUESTIONS (cont.)

The mountain was pounded by artillery, airstrikes and direct fire from tanks, 106 jeeps and 8" tracked guns. We reached the base of the mountain and began receiving heavy fire from the slopes despite the prep fire. Nelson was with several other members of our platoon who recovered the bodies from the day before, but as they prepared to move back with the bodies they came under heavy fire. Nelson was with a good friend of mine, trying to wait out the worst of the fire when he was hit. My buddy carried him out. Nelson was the only one killed that day, although there were some close calls and minor injuries.

We found out later that several large units had suffered similar casualties in the past trying to assault that section of the mountain. The VC were well dug in and the tank gunners told us that there was a trap door, like the rear of an armored personnel carrier, set in the side of the mountain. They watched a VC come out and light a cigarette and sent a shell in behind him when he walked back inside.

Nelson is on the same panel of the VV Memorial with the others from my platoon who died, Michael Macarell and Ed Piantkowski.

The 196th Association has held memorials at the Wall and the members of C Company always remember Nelson and the others.

I visited the California Memorial about 20 years ago and took a rubbing of his name at that time.

I don't know anything about his family except he had a brother in the San Diego area.

Best and regards,

*Ken McKenzie*, Editor-196th Light Infantry Brigade Association



Ken - Your reply is kinda in the "beyond my wildest dreams" category. Thank you very much for answering questions I've had since the day I saw his name in Stars and Stripes. I served with the 176th Inf Bde (M) in Alaska, and didn't see Vietnam until a later stint in the Navy 73-75. He is the only person I knew personally that I know was killed in RVN and has become somewhat of a touchstone for me in a way. Thank you for your work on the 196 website and of course, thank you for your service and sacrifice in that distant war. I will never

forget. I plan on calling the Pulsifers in the San Diego phone book and if you like will let you know the outcome. I'm attaching a couple of photos from yesterday.

Sincerely, *Jim Twyford* US Army 65-67 US Navy 73-75 [jt@webmoment.com](mailto:jt@webmoment.com)

## LENEHAN

Well, I got a scanner for Christmas and I have attached some photos. We were deployed on guard duty on a hill around DaNang. This was with the 1/46th Infantry, C Company. Here I am (on left) and Rick Jackson (on right). Rick was a good ol' buddy. I remember Rick always carried the M-60 machine gun in the field, and was always in the first chopper on CA's with our company. I was the FO radio operator for the Arty in the Company.

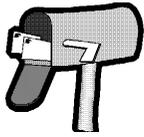


Some pictures below of LZ's. I can't remember the names of all the LZ's, but the photo with the skyhook was when we left LZ Yonkers on our way to LZ Linda

Regards,

*Curtis Lenehan*





# MAIL CALL



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## ASSOCIATE MEMBER

My name is Charlie Brewer. I didn't serve with the 196th or serve at all. My brother served with the 196th. He went to Vietnam 15 Jul 1966 with Co "B" 3/21 and was with them until he was part of the infusion in which he was placed with the 4th Infantry division

If possible, I would like to join your membership, if it is open to a family member of one who served.

Sp4 James Dale Brewer lost his life while serving with the 22nd Inf., 4th Inf division in March of 1967. I have joined their organizations in his honor.

Thank you,  
William C. Brewer Sr.  
*WELCOME!!*

*(Lenehan continued)* The CO has his back turned. He didn't like to be photographed. The gentleman next to me is the Recon Sergeant. I was the radio operator (RTO) for him.

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## UNIT DECORATIONS?

A few of my men of my Recon Platoon 65-67, have requested to know just what awards and decorations that the 196th picked up during the first year in Vietnam and if possible, what Battalion.

Patrick Turner  
2507 Tracy Tr, Austin, TX 78728

*Anyone who has research on this, please send it to Pat and the the Vice President, Warren Neill*

## MAIL CALL



I was one of the last 8 members of the Band before the entire Brigade stood down and went home in 1972. Attached is a picture of one of last performances for unit stand downs. The Band had gotten so small, that we were almost non-functional by this time.

*Michael L. Mideiros*

SFC, United States Army (Retired), Madera, CA

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### **DON'T WANT TO FORGET**

The Viet Nam War was something I have been trying to put out of my mind for years, but after contacting several of my old buddies and communicating with them I decided that the war and my comrades were something I didn't want to forget. I appreciate your help and you will have my support.

Thanks again,  
Frank Heet  
Centertown, MO

---

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR  
MAILING LABEL AND SEND IN  
YOUR DUES**

---

### **B, 4/31 CO**

I was recently made aware of the fact that the 196th had an Association. I commanded B Company 4/31 from August 1966 to April 67 just prior to its move from Tay Ninh, to Chu Lai. I then became the 4/31 S-1 for the remainder of my tour. I would like to become a member.

I retired as a LTC in 1985 and would really like to make contact with the men I served with. Appreciate your help. Take care.

Nicholas Borriceno  
Kempner, Texas

## MAIL CALL

### DISCREPANCY IN RECORD KEEPING

Hello,

I'm Dave Travis (SFC, Ret). I served two tours in Viet Nam. During the first, I was in B/4-31 for a short time, then with the LRRP Det. With some pride, I can say I was one of the original members of the 196th LRRP.

On my second tour, I was the night G2 Opns SGT in the Americal DTOC. One of my duties was to be the almost-universally-despised "body count NCO." In other, more accurate words, I kept the division statistics on enemy KIA, captured weapons, and several other categories. I must admit to letting my curiosity spur me to go to the files and see what kind of statistics were reported for March 16, 1968, the day the disgusting My Lai massacre occurred. Not surprisingly, that day did not exist in the files, which had been pulled for the investigation. However, that inspired me to look through the files, just to see an overview of the units' efforts. I happened to notice that one night, one of my predecessors had been unable to read his own writing and had dropped the KIA total for the 196th Brigade from seven thousand-some to four thousand-some.

Perhaps because I was an alumnus of the 196th, I couldn't let that pass me by. I imposed on myself the task of correcting all previous errors in the division statistics during the two to three hours a night when there was rarely anything for me to do. I started with day one and re-added each days statistics in all categories, right up to the current day. It was an effort of several months, but what the heck, I had nowhere else to go. My boss, CPT Gary Schappeau, knew what I was doing and supported me, even citing that self-assigned mission in an efficiency report.

The night I finished, I was pretty proud of myself and waited for the G2, LTC Holmes, to come in in the morning. When I presented him the corrected figures (which, by the way, showed the 196th to be by far the most productive unit in the division), LTC Holmes' response was not the praise I expected, but a croaked-out, "You can't change military history!" The fact that history was erroneous didn't matter to him. He ordered me to not post the corrected figures, an order that I very reluctantly obeyed because I could not perceive it as an illegal order, even though it was totally wrong.

Now, I know that there are a lot of guys out there who would say, "What you should have done is..." Well, as you were, guys. I've replayed that in my mind many times, and I've come up with a number of different scenarios that would have been better than accepting that boneheaded order. But I did what I did because I didn't know what else to do at the time and no one was injured by not correcting the figures.

But I wanted the 196th to know that you were jobbed. A probably tired, sleepy Infantry sergeant who happened into a job in the TOC made a mistake that erased 3,000 enemy KIAs from the tally sheet for you, and the only man who discovered that error, me, tried to fix it but was deterred by a LTC for whatever his reasons were. It truly changes nothing. I doubt that anyone has ever looked at those statistics since they were compiled. But, 196th Brigade, you were 3,000 enemy KIA better than they gave you credit for.

*Dave Travis*

DT1942@aol.com

## LOOKING FOR PHOTOS

Served with Co D, 3/21 on LZ Center Summer and Fall of '69. I was wounded a couple of clicks off the firebase in late October 1969. Hit bad enough that I went from there to the aid station, to DaNang, to Japan and back to the States. Unfortunately, lost any personal gear that I had and was wondering if anyone might have any pictures of LZ Center. All I've got is what's in my memory and I don't know if that's accurate anymore. I would be happy to pay any copying charges or any expenses that might be entailed if any such photos exist.

Jerry Donnellan, Director  
County of Rockland  
Veterans Service Agency  
20 Squadron Blvd - Suite 480  
New City, NY 10956  
(914) 638-5244

---

## LOOKING FOR PICTURE FROM WASHINGTON, DC REUNION

My husband "Doc" Donald Kvasne, who served with D, 3/21, 196th and Task Force Gimlet was at the Washington, DC reunion and carried the wreath to the apex during the service at the Memorial.

He is now rated 100% disabled and is very ill. I would appreciate it if anyone that has pictures of him at the Wall would please send them. Cost is no matter.

Thelma Kvasne, 2849 W 38th St  
Cleveland, OH 44113

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I was a medic with H-Troop, 17th Cav. (Americal Div.) at the end of 1969. I would like to help any vets who are looking to get and stay sober. Please visit us at: <http://stayingsober.com>

## ANYONE WITH SIMILAR MEDICAL PROBLEMS

I'm trying to locate veterans that served with B and D Co. 4/31st, out of LZ West and Siberia during the period of June '70 to Dec '70. I have questions related to their current health conditions. I want to know if their condition is similar to mine. Liver problems, Hodgekins's Disease, Diabetes, and Hypothyroidism or other medical problems. Thanks for any help!!!

Dan Collard  
224 W Oak Dr.  
Hurst, TX 76053  
E-mail: [Minihemi@aol.com](mailto:Minihemi@aol.com)

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## Co "C", 1/46

I am in the Army Reserve now as Director of Logistics for the 6045 GSU in San Jose, CA. I would like to contact members of 1/46th Inf, Co "C" for the years 1969-70. Also I need the Unit Crest for my dress uniform. Can anyone help?

*Bud Gantney*, 3042 E Hwy 104  
Merced, CA 95340

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## YEARBOOK?

I am mailing you on the behalf of a friend Kenneth Carlson of mine who served with the 196th L.I.B. from August 1966 until July 1967. He was wounded in April 1967 by a mortar. He has been searching for a book that contains pictures of the unit for the year that he served (he calls it a yearbook). He did receive a book from basic training but he would like to get one from when he was in country. Do you know where he could purchase one of these books. My e-mail address is [dsum@earthlink.net](mailto:dsum@earthlink.net)  
D. Suminski

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Greetings All,

We had a good response to our membership / reunion letter. The money received is shown in both the General Fund and Life Membership statements as separate items so you can see the amount. Thanks to each of you for your response of dues, donations, and information.

As a gentle reminder, (in advance), although the numbers look great at this time, as you read this report our general fund has been depleted by the printing of this newsletter to approximately the \$5000 mark, which is hardly enough to print the next newsletter.

Am I never satisfied?? It is my wish to have working funds to keep the newsletter coming and the reunions happening. What I am thinking about, and am concerned with, is the future. Think about where we will be in a few short years and how our money will become more limited. To me it is imperative that we build our funds now, that the Association can survive. We are investing the Life Member funds for this reason.

I am greatly excited about Gettysburg. We should have a great turnout. If you are considering attending but think you might not know anyone, COME. At the end of the reunion you will have made new friends and possibly have had the pleasure of seeing some old ones.

The activities schedule looks good and I am encouraged to see them. To me, the favorite activities happen in the hospitality room. Visiting and smiling. I enjoy the smiles.

I hope to see YOU there. Thanks and take care, *Ken Wright, Treasurer*

---

### GENERAL FUND

Balance brought forward		6450.79	
Deposits		6579.34	
Recd. from Membership letter		<u>7884.50</u>	
	Total		20914.63
EXPENSES:			
Newsletter printing	4946.90		
Reunion letter printing	996.10		
Mailing	789.91		
Postage	1339.22		
Officers meeting	<u>218.04</u>		
Total	8290.97	Balance	(12623.66)

### EASY ACCESS (LIFE MEMBER FUND)

Balance brought forward		3152.56	
Interest		32.67	
Deposits		3006.84	
Recd. from Membership letter		<u>7012.00</u>	
	Total	13204.07	25827.73

### INVESTMENT SAVINGS

Invested at Edward Jones:			
FNMA Bonds		9728.10	
Mutual Funds		3943.80	
Cash & Money Market		<u>3304.76</u>	
	Total	16976.66	<b>\$42,804.39</b>



## ACTIVE 196th INFANTRY BRIGADE REQUESTS HISTORICAL PHOTOS



We have been most fortunate in obtaining bits of historical memorabilia on our distinguished organization, the most recent being a plaque which hung on a chapel in South Viet Nam.

We are looking to enrich our knowledge and camaraderie with our predecessors in this distinguished Brigade and are asking for any photos the membership may have which show the chapel and the plaque if photos exist.

You are welcome to contact me directly with any questions or concerns regarding our request or costs that may be incurred in fulfilling our request.

Costs, if any, would be paid primarily from a donation by current unit members.

Thank you in advance for any help you are able to render in our quest to preserve our common heritage.

To help identify the plaque, I will quote the inscription.

"THIS CHAPEL WAS CONSTRUCTED BY  
1ST PLT D CO 9TH ENG BN US MARINES  
MEMBERS OF THE 196TH LIB  
AND CIVILIAN LABORERS OF SOUTH VIET NAM  
DEDICATED 24 DECEMBER 1968"

*CW3 Theresa R. Ferguson*, 196th IN Bde, Property Book Officer  
(808) 438-1209 x 241

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### EDITOR'S NOTES

Remember when we were in the Army, and people warned you not to volunteer for anything... Running an organization like the 196th Association is a lot of work. I hope everyone understands that things don't always run as smoothly as we would all like. This newsletter for example, probably should have gone out in May, but the effort went into the dues and reunion letter instead. As you can see from the Treasurer's report it was a great success.

There are number of things that this organization does for its members, and all of them require some effort on the part of the officers. Maybe there are some of you out there that would be willing to shoulder a little of the burden in the coming years. Yes brothers, I'm looking for volunteers!!

Bill Knight did most of the reunion planning in the past. I helped out on at least two, and Warren Neill is being baptised in 2001 after helping out on the last one. The job is a huge one, with hotel, tour, and speaker arrangements. Mailings and all the other planning. Does anyone feel they have the ambition to tackle the year 2003? Give it some thought and let us know.

The newsletter is a lot of fun for me, but I find it more and more difficult to get the time necessary to get it out on time. I could really use the help of someone with desktop publishing experience to assemble articles in electronic form. Let us know if you could devote some time to the Association. We could really use your help.

Regards, *Ken McKenzie* - Editor

# THE 196th RING

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



## CHOICE OF QUALITY

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

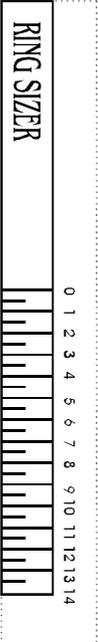
Jostens warrants the ring to be free from defects of material and workmanship for the life of the ring. Any ring not meeting these standards will be replaced if necessary, with an identical ring without charge.

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.



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

SEND ORDERS TO: Name \_\_\_\_\_

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
 c/o Ken Wright  
 HC 65, Box 401  
 Rome, IN 47574

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)  Spinnock (May)
- Aquamarine (Mar)  Alexandrite (Jun)
- Ruby (Jul)  Rose Zircon (Oct)
- Peridot (Aug)  Topaz (Nov)
- Fire Blue (Sept)  Blue Zircon (Dec)
- Black Onyx  Mother of Pearl

Encrusting on Stones (available on smooth stones only):.....add \$14.00

Sub Total \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

5% IN. state tax

Shipping

Total

4.50

**196th  
Light Infantry Brigade  
Association  
T-Shirt**



\$12.00 (includes shipping) All proceeds go to the Association  
Fruit of the Loom, BEST, 50/50 all white T-Shirt

## 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.

---

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

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association  
Ken Wright, Treasurer  
HC 65, Box 401  
Rome, IN 47574

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#### Dues are \$20.00 for the year.

I would like (number):

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Bumper Stickers @ \$2.00 ea.

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Decals @ \$2.00 ea.

#### Not included with membership package:

\_\_\_\_\_ Lapel Pin @ \$3.50 ea.    T-Shirt @ \$12 each, (number of each size ordered) \_\_\_\_XXL, \_\_\_\_XL, \_\_\_\_L, \_\_\_\_M

#### Lifetime Membership: \$196.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Unit: Bat/Reg \_\_\_\_\_ Company or Battery \_\_\_\_\_ Platoon \_\_\_\_\_

Service #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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# 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

## OFFICERS

**President: Bill Knight**

6068 S Augusta Coal St

Winslow, IN 47598-8970

(812) 789-2714

E-mail: BillKDianne@aol.com

**Vice-President: Warren Neill**

1215 Stuart Court

Cicero, IN 46034

(317) 984-3853

E-mail: neill@indy.net

**Secretary: Eddie Zahn**

N1199 Old US 8

Norway, MI 49870

(906) 563-8788

**Treasurer: Ken Wright**

HC 65 Box 401

Rome, IN 47574

(812) 836-2036

E-mail: SgtKew@psci.net

## HONORARY OFFICERS

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

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

## NEWS LETTER

**Editor: Ken McKenzie**

4185 Collins Road

Rochester, MI 48306

(248) 651-9027

E-mail address: KenMcK196@aol.com

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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 all dues and contributions are now tax deductible on your income tax.

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

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR DUES  
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# 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

William H. Knight, President

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