

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association



2007 Reunion Headquarters in Northern Kentucky

BY-LAWS

Article I. Title

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

Article II. Aims and Objectives

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

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

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

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

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

Article III. Membership

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

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

Article IV. Officers

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

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

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

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

ON THE COVER: The Northern Kentucky area along the Ohio River. The many attractions are shown, as well as the proximity to the Cincinnati area.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January 2007



Happy New Year! I hope everyone's holidays were as happy & healthy as possible.

Well, we're inside of 6 months til our next reunion, this time in Northern Kentucky and I am getting excited about being together with my brothers once again. The registration materials are in this newsletter and on the website at www.196th.org. We've got 444 rooms reserved (including overflow), so get on the phone and call that old buddy and tell him to meet you at Fort Mitchell, KY in July.

Please be sure to read all of the materials and make *your hotel reservations and get your confirmation number* before filling out and sending in the registration form with your check.

As time marches on I feel a tighter bond and deeper pull to have my brothers around me. To talk the talk about the walk we walked. To laugh, tell lies and feel that brotherly love together for a few days. I look at each registration form as it comes in to see if we have someone new who wants to join in the camaraderie at our reunions and to see who is coming back again. I'm really hoping to continue our trend of increased attendance. We increased from 380 at Gettysburg to 400 at Branson. We increased from 400 at Branson to 413 at San Antonio. It would be terrific to see us hit 425 or better this time around.

For those of you who attend the Kokomo, IN Veterans Reunion in September each year, I have purchased Ron Davis' old OD travel trailer from his estate and will return with it to the Kokomo reunion this year. Come on back to Charger Base. You'll find a place for some great conversation, to grab a bite, a drink, or, if you need it, a place to flop! We'll be there, just look for the flag! If you never heard of Kokomo or just want more info about it, send me an email or catch me at the reunion in Fort Mitchell.

Ken & I owe you an apology, again, for not getting the printed materials to you on a timelier basis. It's Ken's fault! Feel free to punish him severely for it in July. Seriously, we won't try to make any excuses. Life has a way of changing your plans without much regard to what your plans may have been. We will continue to do our best to get back on schedule. We thank you for your continued support and understanding.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Kentucky!

Warren Neill

MISTAKE IN THE REUNION BOOK

Hi Warren,

My name is Marshall Hinton, D-2/1, and my wife is Linda Hinton. For some reason she was not identified in the 2005 Reunion Album.

Marshall and Linda Hinton

Marshall,

I apologize for the omission and will definitely discuss this with the photographer. I will make sure we reprint your picture in the next newsletter, with both names, so that members can clip it out and put it in their albums.

Please give my apologies to Linda. Carol and I look forward to seeing you both in Northern Kentucky this year.

Warren

President, 196th Association



HINTON
MARSHALL & LINDA

Reunion 2007

The 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association's 2007 reunion will be at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, KY, Thur, 26 Jul – Sun, 29, Jul 2007. The Drawbridge Inn is located at 2477 Royal Dr, just off the Buttermilk Pike Exit (Exit 186) of I-75. The direct reservation number is 1-800-354-9793. Tell them you are with the 196th Reunion to receive the special reunion rate of \$74.00 per night plus tax. If you plan to arrive early or stay over, the special rate will apply for 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion. A free airport shuttle is available.

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

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

****** Make Hotel Reservations First.******

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

We have booked the entire hotel and 60 rooms in a back-up hotel just across the street. The facility is big enough to handle our room requirement at an affordable rate and has more than adequate hospitality, meeting and banquet space, so everything will be on one site again for a change.

There will only be one tour offered this year. The tour will be to the National Museum of the US Air Force at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, OH. Please see the Reunion Info Sheet for a complete description of the tour. The tour will be on Friday, 27 July with busses departing from the Reunion Lobby at 0830.

There are many local attractions that are easily accessible by public transportation. Please see the Reunion Info Sheet for complete description.

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

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

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

Warren Neill, President / Bill Knight, Vice President

196th FLAGS NOW AVAILABLE

We have located a reliable flag maker to supply 196th Light Infantry Brigade flags. These flags are all-weather, double-sided, flags made from high quality materials. They come complete with heavy duty outdoor hem and brass grommets.

This flag has been personally tested by the Association President and has been flown 24/7 at his residence in Indiana with no problems and minimal fading.

The flag is available thru the Association for \$65.00 which includes shipping and handling. Make checks payable to – 196th LIB Assn.

Orders should be sent to: 196th LIB Assn, Ken Wright, Treasurer
8280 Hwy 66E, Rome, IN 47574.



MAIL CALL

ACTIVE 196TH MEMBERS DEPLOYED TO IRAQ

LTC Jeff Church here. I command 1-196 IN TSBn in Hawaii. Wanted to let you know that we have four soldiers from the Battalion deployed to Iraq and request that you put their mailing address in the next Association Newsletter with a request for the members to drop them a letter or package in the mail. They'll be returning about Feb 07. They were tasked to go and work training up Iraqi Security Forces.

Their names are:

MSG Rowe, MSG Frye, MAJ Steele and LTC William Oxtoby.

The address for all is:

(Their Name)
c/o LTC William Oxtoby
HQs 2BDE CDO SPTT
FBO Union
APO AE 09348

Appreciate your help in getting the word out.

Jeff Church

196th Association Life Member

LOOKING FOR OLD FRIENDS

Dear Ken,

For many years now, at the reunions, I thought I'd run into these people, but no luck! I've always wondered what happened to them.

I was in the 196th, 2/1 HHC from 6/67 - 6/68. These five men were with me the whole time. Please try and locate them for me.

Capt. Robert Catchinos
E7 Gerald Ford
E3 Gerald Trout
E6 James Fink
E4 Ronald Scott "Scotty"

Thank you very much,

Harold "Hal" Kuehl
309 Park Ave. W
Princeton, IL 61356
815-875-1408

(Editor's note: None of these names are on our roster. Maybe someone out there can help Hal.)

ANOTHER OLD FRIEND LOOKING

Dear Ken,

I've been looking for a guy for a long time. His name is William Forte, or Fort. Sorry, I don't remember the correct spelling. He was with the original group. I went over with him on the advance party, August 5th, 1966. I think he lived in Mass.

Hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Don Maxfield

41 Planten Ave.

Prospect Park, NJ 07508

DID ANYONE KNOW TOM STRADMAN?

I am looking for information about a friend of mine - Thomas Lee Stradtman, KIA August 18, 1969, ground casualty, Quang Nam, South Vietnam. Stradtman was a member of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. He was from St. Cloud, Minnesota.

I'm interested in what happened on the day he died - what was the overall mission, what was his individual mission, how did he die?

Is there any possibility of contacting others who were there?

My e-mail is pehaley@yahoo.com

Thank you for your time.

Pat Haley

(Editor's note: SP4 Thomas Lee Stradtman was a member of Co B, 4/31)

STUDENT PROJECT CONNECTS SON WITH HIS FATHER'S FAMILY -196TH WEBSITE MADE IT HAPPEN-

The following article from the Rapid City Journal, 10 April 05, was sent to the Association by Larry Mayes, Colonel, USAF (Retired). Larry was a lifelong friend of Bob "Chomp" Lewis, the father in this story.

STUDENT PROJECT HELPS MAN FIND FATHER'S FAMILY

PIERRE (AP) - A project completed by a South Dakota seventh-grader has helped link a California man with the father he never knew.

In the mid-1960s, when Robert Harris' mother became pregnant and was unwed, her family sent her out to South Dakota to have her baby.

Harris, now of Sunnyvale, CA, said he knew his father's name, Robert Russell Lewis, and that he had died January 10, 1968, but didn't know much more about him. As he started looking for information, he found his father's name on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and discovered he had served with the 196th Light Infantry Brigade.

With that information, he went on-line and found that the 196th Association had a web site and a forum for discussions.

He posted a message on February 20, 2004 asking if anyone had information on his father.

"I soon received replies from some who had served with my father, though none knew him well," Harris said.

He was also directed to the book "Through the Valley, Vietnam 1967-1968," which included a description of injuries his father had received.

"Between the book and the other communications, I got a pretty good idea of the conditions under which my father served, but little about the nature of the man himself," Harris said.

Enter Shirley Swanson's seventh-grade reading class at Stanley County Middle School. In February 2005, she gave her students an assignment to research fallen heroes. Student Christa Wolf was to do a report on a Pierre, SD Army lieutenant, Robert Russell Lewis.

With her teacher's help, Christa tracked down Lewis' sisters, Ruth Cassel and Linda Guernsey of Broken Bow, Nebraska. Christa also found that Lewis had grown up in Pierre, was the son of Russell and Ellen Lewis, had entered the U.S. Army in 1967 and was sent to Vietnam the same year.

While on an infantry patrol in January 1968, Lewis was wounded by grenade fragments and died of complications from those wounds five days later. But in further research, teacher Swanson found Harris' post-

ing on the 196th guestbook message board.

It read:

"I am looking for anyone who served with 1st Lt. Robert Russell Lewis of the 196th. He was born and raised in Pierre, South Dakota, and killed in action Jan 10, 1968. I am his son, and know little of his life and nothing of his service or death. Thank you."

Teacher Swanson and her student Christa were unaware that Lewis had a son.

"I thought it was a little strange that we had found this man that was Lewis' son, and his sisters hadn't said anything about him," Christa said.

Swanson then had to decide whether to give the information to Lewis' remaining family. Eventually, she phoned Lewis' sisters to tell them about the 196th web site posting.

Ruth Cassel, Lewis's sister said, "Needless to say, Linda and I were a little shocked and almost in denial. We questioned his true identity. 'What did he want?' was the next question."

A few days later, Cassel and her sister Linda e-mailed Harris.

"I was surprised and delighted to find mail from my aunts in my in-box. They have been welcoming, curious and kind," Harris said.

Since the discovery, Harris has become acquainted with his aunts through phone calls and more e-mail. They hope to meet in person at some point.

"We are thrilled to know there is a living link to our brother," Cassel said. "We are truly excited about finding a new nephew, and although we do not have a time set, we plan to see each other in the future."

VISIT THE WEB SITE

Visit the 196th web site and read the guestbook entries at www.196th.org

Many friends have been reunited through these postings, and the comments and stories are fascinating.

The example related in the above article is only one of the "hits" that have been accomplished over the years.

There has even been a paper written about how the postings have enhanced the healing for vets of the 196th. Your support of the Association have made all this possible.

SHOWING OUR PRIDE



I don't have a license plate to send for the Newsletter, however I thought that it might be interesting to send you my tribute to the 196th C, 4/31.

The car is what is known as a "Baby Grand" race car, which until just recently I drove on the race tracks here in Alaska.

The military presence in Alaska is one of the most strategic in our great country and it was, and is, an honor to represent the unit here.

Joe DesGranges



From: *Dennis Weaver, A, 4/31*



From: *Tom Nash*



196th License plate issued by the State of Alaska. Mine is the first in the state.
Neil Hannan
A, 3/21 '68



My call sign in F-Troop was Lightning 34 Delta. I was driver of the 34 Track, hence the 34DLTA.

I was in 3rd Platoon, F-Troop, 17th Cav, 196 LIB, May '67 to May '68.
Charles G. Fries III



From: *Frank Scarpa*



From: *Chuck Huebschen*
F-17-CAV-2nd Plt, 1965 - 1967



Motorcycle and truck plates.
From: *Danny Phillips*



From: *Don Maxfield*



Motorcycle and truck plates.
From: *Ken McKenzie, Editor*



From: *Lee Zeddies*
Co. C, 2/1 + Co. C, 3/21, 1972

ANNOUNCEMENTS
CHANGE OF COMMAND FOR ACTIVE DUTY 196th ON 7/19/06

The active duty 196th invites any former member to visit if you are in Hawaii. The 196th is stationed at Fort Shafter, in Honolulu on the island of Oahu



Colonel, US Army

COL Thomas Guthrie



Official Biography

COL Tom Guthrie graduated from Bucknell University in 1985 and following the Infantry Officers Basic Course, assumed duties as Platoon Leader and Company XO in the 2nd Infantry Division, Korea. In 1987, he was then assigned to Bravo Company, 2nd Ranger Battalion, Ft Lewis, WA and again served as a Platoon Leader and Company XO.

After the Infantry Officer's Advanced Course in 1990, he served as Commander, A Co, 4th Ranger Training Battalion, Ft Benning, Georgia before rejoining the Ranger Regiment in 1991. During this tour, LTC Guthrie served as a Regimental Plans/Exercises Officer, then Battalion Assistant S3 and Charlie Company Commander in the 1st Ranger Battalion, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia.

Upon completion of the Command and General Staff College in 1996, he served as a Battalion S3, the Division's Chief of Operations and Brigade S3 in the 10th Mountain Division, Ft Drum, NY. He then served at PERSCOM from 1999-2001 as the Infantry Branch assignment officer for Majors and was the Chief of Assignments for Combat Arms Division.

He commanded 2-27 IN at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, 2001-2003 and then served as one of the Infantry Task Force Senior Observer/Controllers at Ft Polk, LA, 2003-2004. COL Guthrie attended the Naval War College, 2004-2005 and before assuming brigade command served as the TRADOC LNO to the United States Marine Corps at Quantico, VA from 2005-2006.

COL Guthrie possesses all the normal awards, decorations and badges common to a career infantry officer.

His family includes his wife of 15 years and two children.



**196th Light Infantry Brigade
Association
2007 Reunion**

The Drawbridge Inn

2477 Royal Drive, Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017-3599
(859) 341-2800 • Sales (800) 426-3841
Fax (859) 341-5644 • Reservations (800) 354-9793
www.drawbridgeinn.com/info@drawbridgeinn.com



LOCATION/TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

- Full service hotel offering extensive meeting and convention space.
- 5 miles south of downtown Cincinnati, via I-75/I-71 at Buttermilk Pike, exit 186.
- 7 miles northeast of the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (Delta's second largest hub).
- 15 minutes from Northern Kentucky University, University of Cincinnati and Xavier University.
- Hotel easily accessible from area highways including I-74 and I-275.

RECREATION/ATTRACTIONS:

Northern Kentucky Area

- Newport on the Levee (Shopping, Restaurants & Entertainment Complex) • Newport Aquarium
- IMAX Theatre • Riverboat Cruises and Casinos
- Covington Riverfront District • Northern Kentucky Convention Center • Turfway Race Track
- Kentucky Speedway • Florence Mall • Mainstrasse Village • Golf Courses • Floating Restaurant and Nightclubs

Downtown Area

- Great American Ballpark (home of the Cincinnati Reds)
- Paul Brown Stadium (home of the Cincinnati Bengals)
- Cincinnati Zoo • Cincinnati Museum Center and Children's Museum • Music Hall • Tower Place Mall • Aronoff Center (Broadway Series) • Coney Island Swimming Pool & Amusement Park • Riverbend Music Center • River Downs Race Track • Variety of Hospitals and Medical Facilities •

**Located at I-75/I-71 and Buttermilk Pike (Exit 186)
And Easily Accessible from I-74 and I-275**

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association
2007 Fort Mitchell Kentucky Reunion

Thursday, 26 July	Registration	Reunion Lobby	1200 -1900
	Self Guided Attractions	Northern KY/Cincinnati area	All Day
	Hospitality Room	Canterbury Hall	1200 - 2400
	Photos	Reunion Lobby	1200 - 2100
Friday, 27 July	Registration	Reunion Lobby	1200 - 1900
	USAF Museum Tour	Reunion Lobby	0830 - 1700
	Self Guided Attractions	Northern KY/Cincinnati area	All Day
	Hospitality Room	Canterbury Hall	1200 - 2400
	Photos	Reunion Lobby	1500 - 2100
Saturday, 28 July	Membership Meeting and Memorial	Tudor Room/London Hall	0900 - 1030
	Photos	Reunion Lobby	1030 - 1400
	Hospitality Room	Canterbury Hall	1200 - 1600
	Cocktails (Cash Bar)	London Hall	1800 - 1900
	Dinner w/Guest Speaker	London Hall	1900 - 2000
	Music & Dancing	(DJ-Rich "Doc" Mosher)	2100 - 2400
Sunday, 29 July	Chaplain Service	Tudor Room/London Hall	0900 - 0930
	Check Out		Prior to Noon

For Our Members Who Choose To Drive Their RV Or Camper

Following is a list of RV Parks and Campgrounds within 30 miles of the Drawbridge Inn at 2477 Royal Dr, Ft Mitchell, KY.

We have provided only those campgrounds in KY due to the continual traffic hassles involved in commuting from Ohio and Indiana.

The list is provided for your convenience. **We have no agreements with these facilities. You must make your own plans and reservations.**

KOA Campground
3315 Dixie Hwy
Erlanger, KY
859-428-2000
3 miles

River Ridge Park
8637 Lower River Rd
Burlington, KY
859-586-7282
15 miles

Oak Creek Campground
Hwy 16 & Oak Creek Rd
Walton, KY
859-485-9131
11 miles

I-75 Camper Village
940 Curry Ln
Dry Ridge, KY
606-824-5836
24 miles

Big Bone Lick State Park
3380 Beaver Rd
Union, KY
859-384-4267
14 miles

Kincaid Lake State Park
565 Kincaid Park Rd
Falmouth, KY
859-654-3531
30 miles

REGISTRATION FORM
196th Light Infantry Brigade Association Reunion

*******Make Hotel Reservations First******* Call the Drawbridge Inn direct at 1-800-354-9793. Tell them you are with the 196th LIB Reunion to receive the special reunion rate of \$74 per night plus tax. If you plan to arrive early or stay over, the special rate will apply for 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion. Free airport shuttle.

Hotel Reservation Confirmation#_____

Last Name:_____ First Name:_____

Spouse or Guest Name:_____

Address:_____ City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Home Phone:_____ Work Phone:_____ E-Mail_____

Unit:_____ Dates of Service _____

REUNION REGISTRATION FEE:

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

MEMORY BOOK – 2007 Reunion Memories #Books_____ x \$25.00 = _____
(Professional photos will be taken during the entire event to include individual and group shots)

FRIDAY TRIP TO USAF MUSEUM WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB, OH:

8:30am – 5pm NOTE: Picture ID or Passport required to enter Air Base

Round Trip by Air Conditioned Tour Bus - \$25.00 per seat. #Seats_____ x \$25.00=_____

For motorized wheelchair/scooter access please indicate here ()

Tour Guides (retired USAF) will board busses upon arrival at the Air Base and stay with the bus group throughout the visit. Admission is free. Lunch on your own at the Museum Cafeteria. NOTE: Cafeteria does not take credit cards!

SATURDAY BANQUET: 6:00pm – 9:00pm Number of People:_____ x \$25.00 = _____

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

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

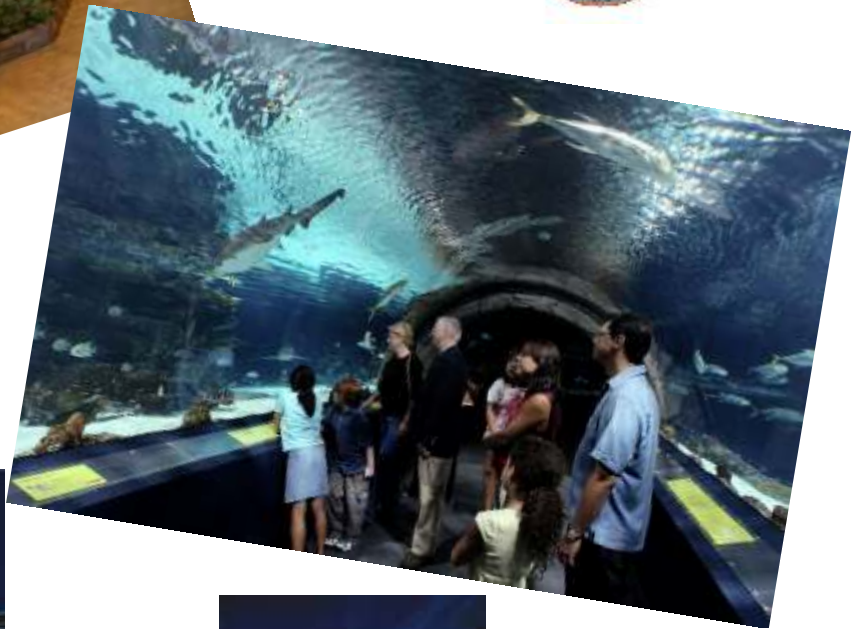
Make check payable to: **196th LIB Association** **TOTAL:** \$ _____

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

Registration Deadline – Friday, 15 June 2007

Any Questions Contact: Warren Neill – 317-984-3853/email – grunt196@insightbb.com
Bill Knight – 812-789-2714/email – billkdianne@aol.com

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS



Reunion Info Sheet

Northern Kentucky calls itself “The Southern Side of Cincinnati.” We are going to soak up some of that Southern Hospitality during our 2007 Reunion. There’s something for everyone in the Northern KY/Cincinnati area.

The Transit Authority of Northern KY (TANK) provides bus service Monday thru Friday from the doorstep of the Drawbridge Inn to the Transit Center in Covington, KY where you can transfer to the “Southbank Shuttle” which will take you to most of the attractions in Northern KY and some in Cincinnati. The “Southbank Shuttle” runs on the weekends. Schedules and maps will be provided in your registration packets.

The NKY attractions are –

The Newport Aquarium – A 100,000 sq foot aquarium with acrylic tubes that you can stroll thru and come face to face with some of the most exotic sea life in the world, a terrific penguin exhibit and a tidal pool area where you can actually pet a shark!

Newport on the Levee – An exciting riverfront Town Square with more than 10 restaurants, unique shops, art gallery, Comedy Club, 20 screen AMC Cinema and Gameworks Video World. It is adjacent to the Aquarium. Or you could walk across the Ohio River on the “Purple People Bridge”.

Hofbrauhaus – Newport – Restaurant and Bier Hall – It’s Wunderbar!! The first authentic Hofbrauhaus in America modeled after the original in Munich, Germany. It offers the beer, the food and the German fun known as “Gemutlichkeit” that is famous the world over. The beer is brewed on site. The food is authentic German meats prepared by local German butchers and the breads and Bavarian Pretzels are baked fresh daily by local German bakers,

Mainstrasse Village – The home of Old World charm and new world fun. It is part of Covington’s German heritage and contains over 60 unique shops, restaurants, bars and businesses in a historic setting. See the clock tower and the Goose Girl Fountain in this richly historic area.

On the Cincinnati side –

The Great American Ballpark & Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame & Museum – If you are a baseball fan, you can’t miss this!

The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center – You will find, as you tour the exhibits, that the Freedom Center is much more than a museum and cultural center. The Freedom Center reveals stories about freedom’s heroes, from the era of the Underground Railroad to contemporary times, challenging and inspiring everyone to take courageous steps for freedom today. There is much to see and hear. Allow at least 3 hours to maximize your experience.

These attractions are not accessible using TANK or the Southside Shuttle but are well worth considering –

Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal – Opened in 1933, Union Terminal covers 500,000 square feet and is one of the country’s most spectacular examples of Art Deco. It has been restored to its original grandeur and now houses 3 fine museums and an IMAX theater. The museums are the Cincinnati History Museum, Cinergy Children’s Museum and the Museum of Natural History and Science.

Of course there is also Paramount Kings Island and Coney Island Park for family fun.

There’s also a Premier Antique Mall in Florence, KY. Just a few minutes south on I-75 from the hotel.

*******TOUR*******

The National Museum of the US Air Force

NOTE: Due to the increased security at military facilities since 9/11 and the Global War On Terror (GWOT), it is now a requirement to present a **Picture ID or Passport** to enter the Air Base.

Round trip tour by Air Conditioned Motor Coaches. Coaches will depart from the Reunion Lobby Area at 0830 and are scheduled to return at 1700. The cost is \$25 per seat. Admission to the Museum is free. The trip is approximately 90 minutes each way. You will have plenty of time to see everything.



The USAF museum is the largest and oldest military aviation museum in the world. This unique museum tells the exciting story of aviation development from the days of the Wright Brothers in Kitty Hawk to the present. 300 aircraft and missiles and thousands of artifacts including personal memorabilia, uniforms and photographs tell the story through Vietnam. The Space Gallery contains spacesuits, capsules and other space items including a moon rock.



Sit in a jet cockpit, see the latest Stealth fighter, walk through the cargo bay of a C-124. Go to the Presidential Aircraft hangar and tour the Air Force One planes of 6 presidents.



Tour Guides (Retired USAF) will board busses upon arrival at the Air Base and will stay with the bus group throughout the visit.

Lunch will be on your own at the Museum Cafeteria. **CASH ONLY. Cafeteria does not accept checks or credit cards.**

196th WEB SITE

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

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.

Barilla, John (Twister John), July 9, 2006, A Bat, 3/82 Arty, 1965-67. John was a Life Member of the 196th Association and will be missed by all. "Zeke" Zemke writes, "His wife, Marlenne, said he died in his sleep peacefully. I saw him Friday and he said he had his good and bad days, but was in no pain. He will surely be missed. We had a lot of good times." John lived in Elmwood Park, IL.

Paulin, Daniel R., Aug 20, 2004, 156th Signal, 1968, His brother Matt writes, "Dan died from a stroke. His health was bad since his return from Vietnam in 1968. The VA told him several times that his illnesses weren't service related, which was hard to believe since he was really healthy before he went there. I know he felt that he belonged to your group because he was looking up his old Nam buddies before he died." Dan lived in Milpitas, CA.

Bengiovanni, Carlo, March 2006, Company A, 8th Support Bat, 1965-67. Carlo's son, Ian Roche, wrote that his father had suffered a severe stroke and , "I was wondering if you could send out a prayer or a message in the newsletter that he loved." Carlo lived in Carmichael, CA.

Gayheart, Ralph, July 28, 2004, Company D, 4/31, 1965-67. Jonathan Lewis writes, "I've been trying to get hold of some of the guys in the AT-Platoon, 106mm, of D Company (4/31) for the next reunion and came across a deceased comrade. Ralph was in the original 196th from Fort Devens, either in A or B Company in basic and AIT, then went into Delta for the remainder of his service. He died from a heart attack on July 28. He had two Purple Hearts while with us in Vietnam."

Thompson, Joseph J. SGM (Retired), July 25, 2005, HQ 3/82 Arty, 1968-69. Joe's brother Ernie writes, "While Joe never spoke much about Vietnam, I do know he was proud of the time he spent with the 196th. He served in Korea, Vietnam, and was recalled to active duty during Desert Storm and probably would have served during Iraqi Freedom if he were able." Joe was a member of the Association and lived in Melbourne, FL.



196th MIAs RETURN

1Lt. Fred Ransbottom, Snoopy 6
Pfc. William E. "Skip" Skivington



Services for our 2 Heroes, 2/1 Inf. Home after 38 years of being MIA at the Battle of Kham Duc, Mothers Day, May 12, 1968.

The Family of 1Lt. Frederick J. Ransbottom announced that services will be held:

January 12, 2007

Friday Evening - Visitation for Family and Friends:

6:30 - 9:00 (May be changed for 1 hour earlier)

Baggerly Funeral Home

930 S Broadway

Edmond, OK 73013

405-341-3737

January 13, 2007

Saturday:

Henderson Hills Church

1200 E I-35 Frontage Road

Edmond, OK 73034, 405-341-4639

1:00 Service,

Memorial Park Cemetery

13400 N Kelley

Oklahoma City, OK 73131

The Family of Pfc. William E. "Skip" Skivington, Jr., announced that services will be held:

January 23, 2007

1:00 PM,

Fort Myers Chapel,

Arlington National Cemetery.

Military Honors will be rendered grave side.

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.

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

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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.

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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.

Refinishing will be performed without charge.



Send Orders To:

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

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel. Number _____

196th ORDER FORM

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Lustrum.....\$165.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$330.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Karat White Gold.....\$335.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Questra.....\$209.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$425.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Karat White Gold.....\$430.00 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Karat Yellow Gold.....\$560.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Karat White Gold.....\$565.00 |

Engraving (inside ring)

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

Stones Smooth Facet

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

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

- Infantry MP Crossed Pistols Artillery Crossed Bayonets

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

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

Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Sub Total

6% State Tax

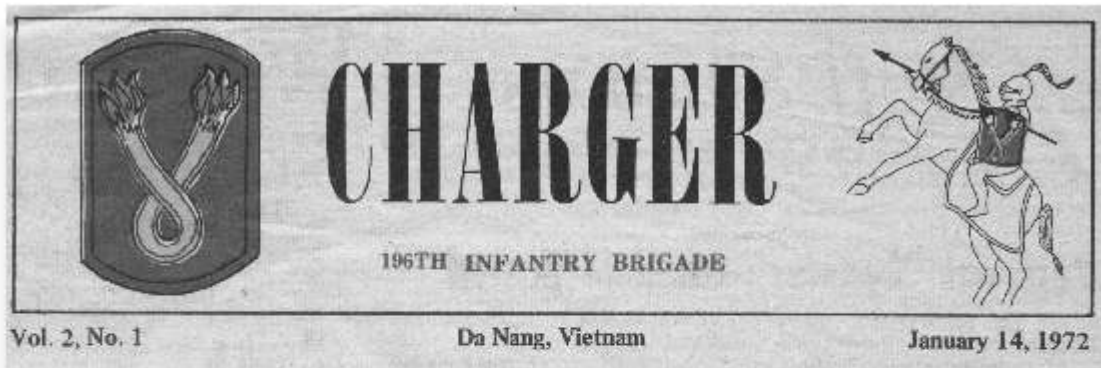
Shipping

Total

10.00

IT'S TIME TO START PRESERVING OUR VIETNAM HISTORY

(This Charger newspaper was sent in by Paul Flynn)



196th Bde spreads Christmas spirit

By SP4 Sam Rousso

DA NANG—Ask a GI in Vietnam about Christmas, and you'll probably get a mumbled reply about Bob Hope, or that it's really for the kids, or even that "it don't mean nothing."

Christmas, if you probe deeper, would mean "peace on earth" and

"goodwill to men". In these troubled times, with crises sprouting up at every hour, these qualities may seem hard to find.

The men of the 196th Infantry Brigade took the ideas that are the foundations of Christmas—peace and goodwill—to heart as they celebrated Christmas with Vietnamese children, mainly orphans.

These were several "parties" for the kids.

In conjunction with the Da Nang American Red Cross girls, the brigade chaplain's office threw a party for the children of the Phuoc Thanh Orphanage at the Freedom Hill Red Cross.

Santa Claus made an appearance and presented the children with Christmas stockings which contained candy and small presents. Refreshments were served and the children sang Vietnam and traditional Christmas carols in English.

After the carols, the children performed some native dances and were well received by the Chargers in attendance. Candy, fruit and Kool Aid were also served to the children.

On Dec. 23, the men of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. went to the Sacred Heart Orphanage—taking the 196th band with them—to celebrate Christmas with the children.

1st Sqd., 1st Cav. held a party for about 100 children from the China Beach Protestant Orphanage in the squadron's enlisted men's club, on Dec. 24.

Christmas Eve was also the date of the Christmas party given by the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. for 80 children from the Phuoc Thanh Orphanage. Toys and clothes—a ton-and-a-half of them, collected in a drive by a Dover, N.H. radio station—were distributed to the children, who entertained with singing and dancing, accompanied by the brigade's band.

The 37 children of Hoa Loc Orphanage hosted the men of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. at the orphanage. The men from 1st Bn., 46th Inf. brought food and presents to brighten the Christmas of the children.

These weren't the only units in the 196th making Christmas a little more special for Vietnamese children in the vicinity.

On Dec. 24, the brigade's Support Battalion (Prov.) hosted 75 children from the village of Con Son for lunch and gift-giving.

The day after Christmas, men from the 3d Bn., 82d Arty. distributed candy to the children of Da Son village.

Cardinal Cooke tours Charger country

DA NANG—Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York and Military Vicar to all US Armed Forces, recently visited the 196th Infantry Brigade on a stop in his fourth annual trip around the globe to visit American servicemen.

During his afternoon visit with the 196th on Dec. 30 the Cardinal traveled out to Landing Zones (LZ) Linda and Maude where he spent his time talking with the men. He also visited with Brigadier General Joseph C. McDonough, 196th Infantry Brigade commander.

Cardinal Cooke's visit to the brigade was highlighted at LZ Maude where he was presented with a plaque making him an honorary Charger.

Among other areas of the world the 50-year-old Cardinal has visited thus far are Thailand, Europe and Jerusalem, where he spent the Christmas holiday.

After visiting Pleiku and a few other locations in South Vietnam, Cardinal Cooke planned to head on to Hong Kong and various US installations in the Pacific on his way back to the states.

As the military Vicar to the US Armed Forces Cardinal Cooke's Military Ordinate comprises: nearly 3000 Catholic priests in the Armed Forces and Veterans Administration; all Catholics in the Armed Forces (including the Coast Guard, etc.), all Catholics who officially accompany or assist the Military Government or the Government of Occupation and all who are employed by the United States or who are engaged in diplomatic and similar missions in foreign nations. These include some 2,000,000 Catholic personnel and military families.

In addition, his Archdiocese of New York has nearly 2,000,000 more Catholics in it.

LOCATOR SERVICE

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

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

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

You can also leave a message on the 196th Website Guestbook at: www.196th.org 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.

EDITOR'S NOTE

It still hasn't been easy getting material to fill a newsletter. If anyone has a good story they would like to get published, please send it in. When sending in a story, make sure you indicate that you would like it published. I sometimes get stories sent by email that do not indicate who they are from, or if it is OK to publish them. Stories are best if they can be told in two pages of the newsletter (800 words), and if they have pictures accompanying them.

Ken McKenzie, Editor

(address and e-mail inside back cover)

Fill out and return form with your remittance to:

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

MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

Dues are \$20.00 for the year. I would like (number): _____ Additional Bumper Stickers @ \$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 _____ Additional Decals @ \$2.00 ea.
Name: _____ Telephone: _____	
Street: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
Dates served in the 196th: From: _____ To: _____	
Unit: Bat/Reg _____ Company or Battery _____ Platoon _____	
Service #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ E-mail: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> I cannot join at this time, but please add my name to the mailing list.	<input type="checkbox"/> Address Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$ _____ Donation

196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

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**196th ASSOCIATION
TAX EXEMPT STATUS**

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

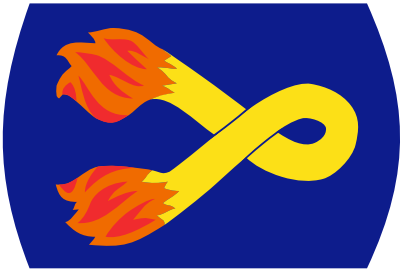
We are also able to reduce mailing costs as a tax exempt organization.

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



196th Light Infantry Brigade Association

Warren Neill, President
PO Box 434 Cicero, Indiana 46034

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