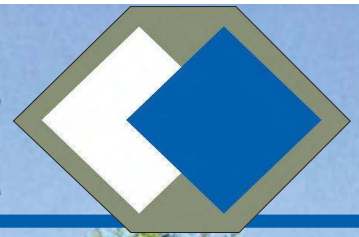


Visit the New Deadeye Web Site: 96thdeadeyes.org

DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Spring, 2011

Columbus/Ft. Benning, Ga. Reunion Registration Materials Inside

Deadeyes March to Ft. Benning, Ga.



The events are set, the schedule is arranged and the program is on for the 2011 reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association in Columbus/Ft. Benning, Georgia. All we need is for you and your family to register. See pages 6 and 7 inside for all the information on the upcoming get-together.

Columbus is home to the National Infantry Museum and this year's events include several tours as well as an invitation to summer graduation at Ft. Benning. Also on tap are visits to Callaway Gardens and FDR's Little White House. All this plus our annual Beer Bust, Memorial Service and, of course, the Saturday night banquet. Register today so you can start counting down the days to visiting with old buddies and making new friends!

Shown in the photo is Columbus, Georgia's famed Riverwalk.

2011 DEADEYE REUNION HEADQUARTERS

54TH Annual Reunion

96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association

July 20-24, 2011

Holiday Inn North

2800 Manchester Expressway
Columbus, Ga. 31904
Phone: 706-324-0231
Fax: 706 596-0248
www.holidayinn.com

Room Reservation Deadline....June 10, 2011
Reunion Price per night.....\$100

Tour Signup Deadline.....June 10, 2011

Two Options on Getting to the Reunion via Air

1. Fly into Atlanta, Ga. (ATL) and take Groome Transportation shuttle to the Holiday Inn North in Columbus, Ga. Call Groome at 706-324-3939 or 800-584-6735. Their full schedule is online at GroomeTransportation.com.
2. Fly into Columbus, Ga. airport (CSG) and call to have the Holiday Inn North Columbus shuttle pick you up. The hotel number is 706-324-0231

All reunion information is inside on pages 6 & 7 and is also available online at 96thdeadeyes.org

Special Note to Membership:

We're asking that you bring or send to Columbus, Ga. an item or items to be used for a silent auction to raise money for our 96th members and widows. We hope to have items that members would pay around \$5 to \$10.

This would also help pay postage for 96th Sustainment Brigade care packages and stamps for postcards and letters... We are still trying to strengthen the bridge with all of the soldiers who wear or who have worn the Double Diamond.

MAIN STREET NEWSPAPERS
PO BOX 908
JEFFERSON, GA 30549

POSTMASTER: RETURN TO
96th DEADEYE
ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 908
JEFFERSON, GA 30549

DEADEYE DISPATCH

TAPS.....Honoring Those Who Have Gone Before Us

John J. Archibald
Webster Groves, MO
96th Division Hdqs. Company
died Jan. 3, 2011

Barney Avery
Frankfort, IN
Co. M, 382nd Inf.
February 10, 2011
by wife, Betty via Bill Hill

Lloyd Beardsley
Panama City, FL 32405
March 4, 2009
by wife, Gerry

Merlin Bennett
Plainview, Tx.
January 19, 2010
Co. I, 383 rd Inf.
By Harry Brown

Jack V. Bernardi
Reno, Nevada
Co. E, 382nd Inf.
April 1, 2011
by Vern Duncan
Harold Blazier
Boring, OR
Co. E, 382nd Inf.
August 3, 2010
by Vern Duncan

George Bishop
Mansfield, TX
Co. D, 383rd Inf.
August, 12, 2010
by T/sgt Gordon E. Ryan

James "J.R." Robert Crawford
Amarillo, TX
January 21, 2011

George Crothers
Stockton, CA
96th Infantry Division
April 25, 2008
by wife, Millie

John Elliott
Cheney, WA
Co. K, 383rd Inf.
June 4, 2010
by wife, Marilyn

Michael Furilla
White Plains, NY
Co. B, 382nd Inf.
January 18, 2011
by Marvin Margoshes

Gabriel Garcia
Austin, Texas
Co. L, 382nd Inf.
March 6, 2011
by Brenda Vaughan

John Gerson
Rochelle Park, NJ
Co. K, 382nd Inf.
August 30, 2009
by son David

George Lisle
Chesterfield, Missouri
96th Signal Company
January 29, 2011
From: Calvin Clements

Ray McNabb
Deadeye Medic

Stanley E. Morriscal
Phillips, WI
361st Field Artillery
February 2, 2011
by niece, Catherine Mess

Irving Morris
St. Petersburg, FL
HQ Co., 383rd Inf.
January 26, 2011
by daughter, Joyce Lambeau

Edmund J. Nowick
Dearborn, MI
383rd Headquarters Co.
December 20, 2009
by wife, Kathleen

Russell J Packard Jr,
Saganaw, MI
Co. F, 382nd Inf.
March 31, 2011
by wife, Irene

John Palmer
Co. E, 382nd Inf.
Berlin, MD
Sept. 28, 2010
by Vern Duncan

Rodney Rasmusson
381st Infantry
ASTP, Co D Univ. of Wisc.
Edina, MN
March 16, 2011
by Bob Siefert

George D Rastall
Pensacola, FL
382nd Inf., Anti Tank Co.
December 10, 2010
by son, Stafford G. Rastall

Emmett F. Ray.
Roswell, New Mexico
Co. L 382 inf.
October 22, 2010
by son Troy F. Ray

Robert O. Rock
Dallas, TX
Co. I, 381st Inf.
March 7, 2010
by wife, Carrie Jo Rock

Floyd D. Rose
Cedaredge Colorado.
383rd Inf.
July 18, 2010
by wife Ora Lea Rose

Marvin Paul Sizemore
Gainesville, FL
Co. A, 381st Inf.
April 3, 2011
by daughter, Paulette Sizemore
McFadden

Ron Stabnoe
Battle Lake, MN
Co. G, 382nd Inf.
Jan. 4, 2011
by wife, Virginia

Ken Staley
Niskayuna, NY
Co. K, 383rd Inf.
March 31, 2011
by wife, Elizabeth Staley

Billy W. Stubbe
Ayr, NE
Co. L, 383rd Inf.
January 20, 2011
by daughter, Betty Dvorak

Robert E. Todd
Industry, PA
November 22, 2010
Co. K, 383rd Inf.
by wife, Nancy

Gregory F. Voss
Washington, MO
February, 2010
by Jim Black

Don Wessel
Rapid City, SD
HQ Co., 382nd Inf.
March 26, 2009
by wife, Frieda

John J. Archibald helped establish the Deadeye Dispatch newsletter

John J. Archibald, who helped establish the Deadeye Dispatch on Leyte, died January 3, 2011. He lived in Webster Groves, Missouri. Archibald, who was in the headquarters company of the 96th, was the first reporter for the Deadeye Dispatch.

After the war, he got a journalism degree from the University of Missouri and went to work on the St. Louis Post-Dispatch writing on everything from sports to features. His affable manner and easy-reading style made him a natural for celebrity interviews, including Nobel Prize-winning author and death-camp survivor Elie Weisel, historian William L.



John J. Archibald

Shirer, and Liberace. He retired from the newspaper in 1990.



Deadeye Dispatch

Official Publication of the
96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association
• Spring 2011 Edition •

Submit info to the Dispatch
Scott Buffington
c/o MainStreet Newspapers
PO Box 908
Jefferson, GA 30549
706-367-2485
scott@mainstreetnews.com

Update your Address
For changing your address
Ms. Cindy Otis
2630 South Veitch St.
#106
Arlington, VA 22206
sassy.cindy@gmail.com

Deadeyes Online at 96th-infantry-deadeyes.org/

**2011 reunion registration material
is on pages 6 & 7**

**Watch our web site for
updates and changes.**

How to submit a name for Taps

Our Taps information comes from a variety of sources, including emails, notes from family and friends and returned mail from the U.S. Postal Service. We apologize for any information that may be incorrect or incomplete.

To submit a name for Taps, please contact one of the following:

Fran Huff
6320 Woodwind Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46217
Phone: 317 784-5174

Pat McMillan
Email: pmil45@yahoo.com
4402 Chapman AV
Springdale, AR 72762
Phone: 479-200-1841

Scott Buffington
Email: scott@mainstreetnews.com
PO Box 908
Jefferson, GA 30549
Phone: 706-367-2485

Don Dencker
Email: dizzydon@aol.com
128 N. Musket Ridge Dr
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
Phone: 608-837-7479

Deadeye Mailbag...Letters from across the nation

Deadeye NFL Quarterback Connection

Dear Deadeyes:

I just got a call from Nick Sanchez who is the grandson of George Sanchez. George was a member of the 383rd and has since passed. Nick called to let me know his little brother is Mark Sanchez, quarterback for the New York Jets.

This past Sunday his brother said some words on TV in tribute to the soldiers of the 96th in honor of his grandfather. He wanted to let us know so we could look for it in the football highlights. I let him know of this year's reunion.

Please pass the word.

Don Klimkowicz

Terrific Tour of Okinawa

Dear Deadeyes (via Don Dencker):

Thank you so much for the Deadeye Dispatch article. I was hoping it would be in there - it was such a terrific tour - probably the best one we had all year - not in numbers, but in quality. And the fact that we had FOUR veterans with us was terrific. I have been getting a few calls for another tour this year, but since it's an anti climactic year and it's already difficult enough to get numbers, I have decided to wait until 2012. I have 20 tours scheduled for 2011, so I will be very, very busy. I will send a copy of this article to those on the tour. Thanks again for all your help with this tour and all the tours over the years.

Vicky Reynolds-Middagh
Valor Tours, Ltd.
Sausalito, CA

Monument Company Thanks Deadeyes

Dear Deadeyes (Via Don Dencker... comment from Columbus Monument Company about Deadeye Dispatch Don sent to them):

Thank you for sending us a copy of the Deadeye Dispatch with the picture of the monument in it. It has several great pictures of the National Infantry Museum as well as the monument. Thank you for sharing it with us.

Lynn Weekley
Lynn Evans

Seeks Camp Callan Vets

Dear Deadeyes (via Robert Schmidt):

Camp Callan was a post located on a bluff

atop a 300-foot cliff overlooking the vast Pacific Ocean fourteen miles north of San Diego, California. It was opened in March of 1941. I have been researching the camp since 1988. Originally a Coast Artillery Replacement Training Center, Callan transitioned to anti-aircraft gunnery in mid-1942. By early 1944 the army had more anti-aircraft troops than they needed and that training halted.

Beginning in the summer of 1944, many diverse units of the U.S. Army came to Camp Callan for a few weeks each to train in the fine art of amphibious assault for the pending attack on the home islands of Japan. Among those units were elements of the 96th Infantry Division. In my continuing research on old Camp Callan I am trying to track down some 96th veterans who trained there.

Could I possibly sweet-talk you into placing a blurb outlining my desire in an upcoming issue of the DEADEYE DISPATCH? Corresponding with a few of the 96th Infantry Division's veterans who trained there would greatly enhance my knowledge of the last sixteen months of Camp Callan's life.

For your convenience, I have enclosed a SSAE. I do hope to hear back from you soon and that you will be agreeable to my request.

Very truly yours,
Chris Marsh

SEEKING CAMP CALLAN VETERANS...If you served at Camp Callan, San Diego, California, during 1944-1945 in any capacity, I'd very much like to hear from you. I am seeking trainees, cadre, officers, MPs, doctors & nurses and civilian employees. A free newsletter is available to all.

CAMP CALLAN RESEARCH PROJECT
Christopher Marsh, Director
14117 Tricia Street
Poway, CA 92064-3955
twozulu68@botmail.com

ASTP Memories

Dear Deadeyes (Via Don Dencker):

In the last Deadeye Dispatch, I appreciated the letter from General Bradley to Lake Forest College. I could verify his claim by firsthand experience. This prompted me to record my ASTP experience since it was most likely different than most students in the program.

Enclosed is my story "ASTP Success" and another short story of my scary encounter that happened on April 1, 1945.

Don, you and I may have brushed shoulders a few times. I was at Illinois Tech for 8 months. Also, in your excellent book "Love Company" on page 119 you note that the 3rd Battalion of the 381st Regiment relieved your unit in the area of Dagami Heights on November 22, 1944. I remember that day well.

I was a rifleman in I Co., 3rd Battalion 381st Regiment at that encounter.

At the end of the Leyte operation, I was moved up from PFC to S/SGT and was a squad leader heading to Okinawa. Several of us ASTP guys were recognized when the chips were laid down and obviously noted by our Division Commander.

I was involved in a few other interesting activities but if I could get my attached stories in the next issue of the Deadeye Dispatch I would hope to reach some of my surviving old buddies.

Thanks for your attention.
Sincerely,

Raymond Radzivila
Poughkeepsie, NY

A Few Seconds

In the first wave of the invasion of Okinawa, I led my squad out of the landing craft vehicle. As I jumped onto the low level sea wall I noticed a large rock outcrop on the hill straight ahead. Reaching the elevation of the outcrop, I turned to see if there were anything behind it and found myself staring straight into the sight of a Jap with a bayonet coming at me. I pulled the trigger of my M1 rifle, then raised it to parry his rifle and bayonet. Suddenly he stopped and I knocked the rifle out of his hands. He fell dead at my feet. It was all done in a matter of a few seconds.

Moe Cutler of my squad was about thirty feet behind me and watched the entire incident speechless. He came up to me and apologized for not being able to yell a warning, saying he just couldn't get his voice to work. In the split second of thinking about it, I not only decided to excuse him but also to thank him because if he had yelled, I may have turned the wrong way and the result could have been a disaster for me. Funny how those things turn into blessings in disguise.

I then threw a grenade into the hallowed spot in the rock and called for the flame thrower to complete the taking of an outpost within minutes of our landing.

ASTP Success

Growing up in the "flats" section of Yonkers, NY, young boys looked forward to a common future which was to get through high school before getting into real trouble, and then hopefully getting a job locally. We were the first generation Americans of immigrant parents of many different nationalities. College education was never considered an option. I followed the usual pattern by completing Saunders Trades School in June 1941 and landed a job in a laundry and then progressed to one at an electric company. Six months later, WWII came along and eventually it would change the entire character of my development.

In early 1943 I was undergoing basic training with the 97th Infantry Division at Camp Swift, Texas. Within four months I was a Corporal and an Infantry Squad Leader. One



day my name was posted to report to a committee for an appointment to the Army Specialized Training Program. The Lieutenant was proud of me being the only one of our company selected. But when I found out that I would have to give up my Corporal stripes, I told him that I didn't feel like doing that. He prodded me and finally threatened to kick my butt if I didn't take the advantage of a possible higher education. I followed his advice and it became a turning point in my life.

In the ASTP, I studied basic engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. I made the grade in all of the studies but felt that the greatest lesson I learned was that I could compete with a lot of smart men and that maybe, just maybe, I could continue that. I vowed to myself that if I survived the war I would find a way to college.

When the ASTP was terminated, I joined the 96th Division and made it through the Philippines as a PFC and was a S/SGT and Squad Leader in the first wave into Okinawa where I had an encounter with a Jap and his bayonet. Luckily I won that struggle. However, a few weeks later, I was wounded and had to be hospitalized until the war ended.

Discharged in November 1945, I made the effort toward college in February 1946. I'm happy to say I graduated from Manhattan College with a BCE Degree in June 1949, the first member of the Radzivila family of the flats section of Yonkers to pursue and complete a college education. This was only made possible by the ASTP and I will always be thankful to the Lieutenant that guided and prodded me. My only and greatest regret is that I cannot remember his name.



Deadeye News & History

features

of the DEADEYE DISPATCH



CALAPA

How much is the Deadeye Dispatch that you brought home worth?

Submitted by Marvin Margosbes

If you are like me, the two issues of the Deadeye Dispatch (actually Deadeye Features) that I saved are priceless, but a copy of the issue dated 1 April 1945 was sold on E-bay in early April for \$152.50. The purchaser was Donn Cuson, who has a Web site, rememberingokinawa.com, and collects paper memorabilia from Okinawa, especially semi-official military unit publications. He was kind enough to send me quality scans to post on our Web site, 96thdeadeyes.org.

Every so often I surf the Web, looking for information on whatever interests me at the time. That was how I found that the card catalog of the Hoover Library of Stanford University listed a booklet called "The Deadeye Dispatch, the foxhole's finest". It took three tries, but I finally reached Paul Thomas there, who took the time to copy all the pages of the issue dated 7th December 1944, so it will also go on the Web site.

That brings to six the number of issues that are now available to all. Besides the three already mentioned here, there are three on the Deadeye Dispatch CD. Those are all "Deadeye Features" two are dated the week of the 20th and 27th January 1945, and the third is undated but is also from Leyte. It has a large sketch on the cover of a GI in the rain, wearing a poncho, with a Filipino child crouching underneath to keep dry.

It would be wonderful if more issues can be made available; if we found enough, we could have a second Deadeye Dispatch CD. If you have one, please contact me by phone at 914-478-0066, by e-mail to pmargosbes@verizon.net, or letter to 25 Maple Avenue, Apt. 3B, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706.

Getting to know your Association leadership...

Terri Jones

I am Terri Jones, daughter of Frank McCarthy, 381 H company. We started attending the reunions a few years ago. After teaching my dad how to use the Internet after my mom passed away, the first thing he wanted to research was the 96th Infantry Division. We found out that they had been having reunions for years and we missed them all. We have been attending for seven years. My dad lives with my husband and me and our five dogs and four cats in Lenhartsville, Pennsylvania. I am an English/Gifted Education teacher at Hamburg Area High School in Pennsylvania.

Virgil M. Simmons

Virgil M. Simmons graduated from Bay City High School, Bay City, Oregon in 1943, whereupon he was inducted into the Army at Ft. Lewis, WA on July 22, 1943. On August 9, 1943,

Simmons was assigned to the 175th Reg. of the 70th Inf. Div. at Camp Adair, OR and was transferred to the 13th Rep Depot in Oahu, HI. June 6, 1944. He was assigned to the 17th Inf. Reg. of the 7th Inf. Div. which had arrived from the Alaska Campaign. Simmons was reassigned to the 1st Bn. Hq. 381st Inf. 96th Div on July 13, 1944.

After Simmons saw combat as an NCO and was wounded on Leyte, he was sent to a hospital in Saipan. He rejoined his outfit just in time for the Okinawa campaign where Simmons was wounded a second time. He was honorably discharged Jan. 14, 1946 with 2 Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts.

During the Vietnam war, Simmons joined the Oregon National Guard Reserve as a 2nd Lieutenant. Simmons was quickly promoted to Company commander. After he received his pilot wings, he was

assigned as the Bn. Aviation Officer(S-3). Three years later he was promoted to LTC. where he took over the Bn. Just before his retirement, Simmons, was assigned to the IG Corp; He served a total of 24 years. Simmons was married July 1, 1950. With his lovely wife, Fay they raised four beautiful daughters. He was elected mayor of Bay City, OR for five, two-year terms. Simmons retired from public office in 1987 and has been enjoying their 37-foot sailboat from the Canadian waters to the Mexican ports. Now they spend their winters in the sea of Cortes having fun. To add more excitement to their life they celebrate their 60th anniversary by sky diving.

Featured previously: Marvin Margosbes, Scott Buffington, Don Dencker, Don Klimkowicz, Dennis O'Brien, Barbara L. Schmidt

Deadeyes need a volunteer

The 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association is looking for a volunteer to take over the membership database. If you would like to help with this vital job and want more information, please contact association president, Jim Collins, at 805-602-2056 or jimcollins96@sbcglobal.net.



President's Notes



Major General
Jim Collins (Ret.), President
96th Infantry Division
Deadeye Association

The next reunion, at Columbus Georgia, has been planned, and thanks to the efforts of Mary Eleanor Wood Smith and her volunteers, the reunion will be a great time for all. We still need volunteers at the reunion. This year we have an opportunity to go to Fort Benning and we will be assisted greatly by the 192nd Infantry Brigade. The 192nd has its lineage based on the 96th Reconnaissance Troop. Today the 192nd provides Basic Training for new Army soldiers. The tours for this year are interesting and informative. I am looking forward to seeing my fellow Deadeyes in Columbus!



Home Command News Galleries Resources

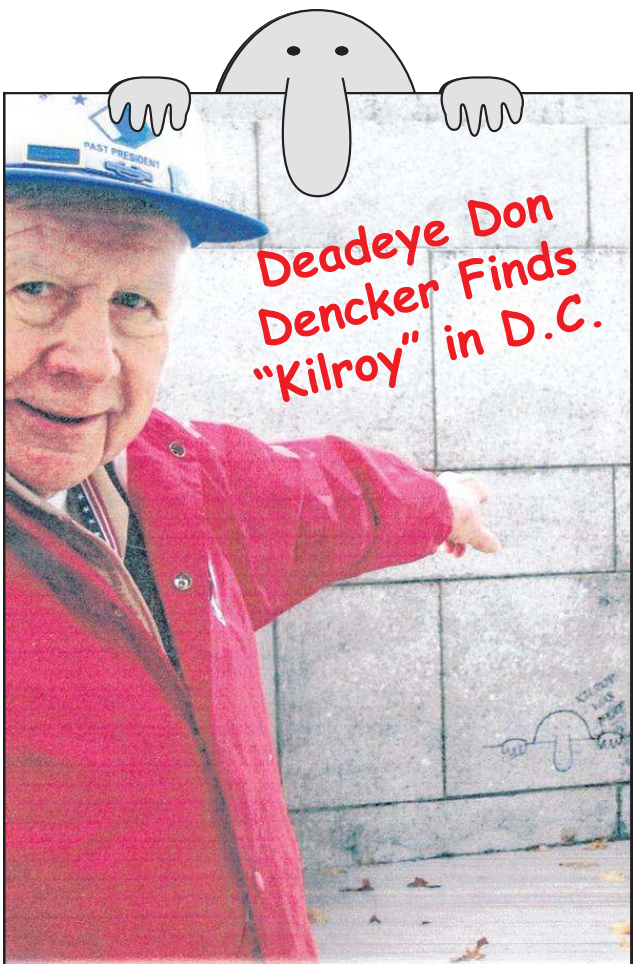
"It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect its successful outcome."

-- William James --

"Deadeye Ready"

Check out the
96th Sustainment Brigade Web Site at:
www.96thsbde.com

Deadeye History... *Our Heritage is our Strength*



Many World War II veterans will remember the obscure character "Kilroy" who was found to have preceded one's entry into a new location. This is still true at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. The photographs show what Don Dencker recently found in an almost hidden location at the National World War II Memorial.



A close-up shot of Kilroy's greeting at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Insignia of Units of the 96th Infantry Division

Submitted by Don Dencker

Taken from the Original February 1947 First Edition of "The Deadeyes: The Story of the 96th Infantry Division"

54TH Annual 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Assoc

REUNION REGISTRATION

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 10, 2011. This is most important. The association is unable to acquire dept or extra charges because of late registration. No guarantees are possible for events and transportation if persons are not pre-registered. If unable to attend reunion a \$5.00 charge will be subtracted from registration fee when refund is mailed.

The registration cost per person is \$15.00. For attendees under 18 years old, the cost is \$2.00. Please include a check for the total amount for all persons registering on this form as well as for the tours. For registering more than four people, just attach a note with the additional information as indicated below.

Name Attendee #1 _____
 Unit (381st 382nd, 383rd, etc.) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 SSN (required by Ft. Benning for access to the base) _____
 Phone (home) _____
 Phone (cell) _____
 In case of emergency, contact _____
 Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #2 _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 SSN (required by Ft. Benning for access to the base) _____
 Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #3 _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 SSN (required by Ft. Benning for access to the base) _____
 Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #4 _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 SSN (required by Ft. Benning for access to the base) _____
 Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____
 Indicate here if anyone in your party needs a wheelchair: Yes

REUNION SHIRTS... All shirts must be pre-ordered this year. We will not have extra inventory available at the reunion.

96th Reunion T-shirts: All \$13 each

Adult Sizes: #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ #Other (indicate size) _____ TTL \$ _____
 Child Sizes: #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ TTL \$ _____

96th Polo shirts: All \$22 each

Adult Sizes (white): #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ #XL _____ #XXL _____ TTL \$ _____
 Child Sizes (white): #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ TTL \$ _____

Adult Sizes (gray): #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ #XL _____ #XXL _____ TTL \$ _____
 Child Sizes (gray): #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ TTL \$ _____

Adult Sizes (blue): #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ #XL _____ #XXL _____ TTL \$ _____
 Child Sizes (blue): #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ TTL \$ _____

Total amount for all attendee registration and shirts \$ _____

Mail this form with checks to:
96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association, Attn: Jim Black,
1445 NE Hoffman Dr., McMinnville, OR 97128-2343
503-435-1283 • jimblack96@comcast.net

For questions, contact Mary Eleanor Wood Smith, Phone: 803-278-2109,
 Cell: 803-640-7791, Fax: 803 278-1913 or email: mewoodsmith@gmail.com

EVENTS (see descriptions on next page)	Price Per	#People	TOTAL
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20:			
Event A - Little White House and Callaway Gardens*			
Adult	\$45		\$
Student	\$25		\$
THURSDAY, JULY 21			
Event B - Ft. Benning Bus Tour and Graduation	\$2		\$
Event C - Lunch at Post Mess Hall	\$6		\$
Event D - Nat'l Naval Civil War Museum and BBQ dinner			
Adults	\$25		
Children under 10	\$15		
FRIDAY, JULY 22			
Event E - National Infantry Museum	\$2		\$
Event G1 - Ladies Luncheon at hotel	\$24		\$
Event G2 - ASTP Luncheon	\$24		\$
Event H - Dinner with 96th friends (your own group) buffet	\$24		\$
Event I - Beer Bust			
Adults	\$7		\$
Children under 18	\$2		\$
SATURDAY, JULY 23			
City Tour*	\$35		\$
Event J - Ft. Benning Rifle Range Demo	\$2		\$
Event K1 - Transportation to Columbus Museum*	\$15		\$
<i>Price is for transportation only. Museum entrance is free.</i>			
Event K2 - Transportation to Coca Cola Space Museum*	\$15		\$
<i>Price is for transportation only. Museum entrance fee varies.</i>			
Event L - Transportation to Memorial Service	NC		NC
<i>No charge but you must sign up to insure transportation space</i>			
Event M - Transportation to Wreath laying Ceremony	NC		NC
<i>No charge but you must sign up to insure transportation space</i>			
Event N: Banquet at Benning Conference Center			
Filet Mignon	\$34		\$
Baked Chicken Breast with orange sauce on the side	\$25		\$
Pecan Crusted Trout	\$30		\$
Total Amount for Events			\$

*MUST have 50 people to register for these events in order to have this trip.

Reunion • Columbus, Ga. • July 20-24, 2011

Calendar of Events

(All times tentative and subject to minor changes)

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Registration 10am -12 noon

12:00 Noon - 5:00 PM Board bus for Tour of The Little White House and drive through of Callaway Gardens (Event A). Approximately one hour to site and one hour back to hotel.

5:00 PM Board of Directors meeting

7:00 PM Mixer with the 192nd Soldiers at the hotel

Registration time for Wednesday evening TBA

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Registration TBA

7:40 AM Board bus to Ft. Benning for the following (Events B and C):
9:00 AM Graduation

11:00 AM Lunch at Ft. Benning Mess Hall with 2011 soldiers

12:30 PM Tour of Ft. Benning. Return to hotel about 2:00 pm

5:00 PM Board bus for Naval Civil War Museum and BBQ dinner (Event D). Board bus back to hotel at approximately 8:30 PM.

Friday, July 22, 2011

8:30 AM Board bus to National Infantry Museum (Event E)

12:00 Noon Board bus back to hotel for Ladies Luncheon

12:30 PM Ladies Luncheon (Event G1) and ASTP Luncheon (Event G2)

TBD General meeting

5:30 - 6:30 PM Dinner with 96th friends at hotel (Event H). Light buffet planned. We must have 50 persons to register to secure price.

7:30 PM Beer Bust (Event I)

Saturday, July 23, 2011

8:00 AM Board rolling bus for Ft. Benning Rifle Range (Event J) for range demonstration then board bus for hotel

10:30 AM Board bus for Coca Cola Space Museum or Columbus Museum (Event K)

4:30 PM Board bus for Ft. Benning (Event L)

5:00 - 6:00 PM Memorial Service at the Main Post Chapel then board bus for Wreath Laying Ceremony

7:15 PM Dinner at the Benning Conference Center (Event M)

9:30 PM Rolling bus returns to hotel

Sunday, July 24, 2011

Farewells

Tour Descriptions

Event A: Little White House & Callaway Gardens

Franklin Delano Roosevelt built the Little White House in 1932 while governor of New York, prior to being inaugurated as president in 1933. While posing for a portrait on April 12, 1945, FDR suffered a stroke and died a short while later. Today, the "Unfinished Portrait" is featured in a museum that showcases many exhibits, including FDR's 1938 Ford convertible with hand controls, his Fireside Chats playing over a 1930s radio, his stagecoach and a theater.

Callaway Gardens was founded in 1952 by Cason J. and Virginia Hand Callaway to promote and protect native azalea species. Today, Callaway Gardens features a wide variety of recreational attractions including a large enclosed butterfly habitat, the Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center, and the John Sibley Horticultural Center, known for its wide variety of cultivars and native plants. The native palm *Sabal minor* maintains one of its northernmost populations in the area.

Event B: Ft. Benning Bus Tour & Graduation

Fort Benning is named for Brigadier General Henry L. Benning, a Confederate army general and a native of Columbus. It was established in October 1918 as Camp Benning, and was assigned permanent status in 1918. During World War II, Fort Benning included 197,159 acres and had billeting space for 3,970 officers and 94,873 enlisted persons.

Event D: National Naval Civil War Museum & BBQ

National Civil War Naval Museum at Port Columbus, formerly the Confederate Naval Museum, is the only institution in the nation dedicated to telling the little-known maritime story of the Civil War (1861-65). This 40,000-square-foot facility located on the Chattahoochee River in Columbus opened in 2001 and features the remains of two original Confederate navy ships, along with full-scale reproductions of parts of three other famous Civil War ships and numerous artifacts.

Event E: National Infantry Museum

The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park opened in June, 2009. This world-class tribute to Infantrymen past, present and future, is the first of its kind in the United States. Throughout the 190,000-square-foot museum, visitors will take an interactive journey through every war fought by the U.S. over the past two centuries. The museum tells the heroic story of everyday Infantrymen through an enviable collection of more than 30,000 artifacts. Soldier Center offers visitors more than an education in military history. There is an IMAX Theatre, full service restaurant and gift store. Patriot Park includes a parade field for Fort Benning Infantry School graduations, a memorial walk of honor and an authentically recreated World War II Company Street.

Event K: Columbus Attractions

Coca Cola Space Science Center...See a replica of the first Coca Cola beverage machine taken into space and a dupe of the Apollo capsule that NASA used during the 1960's, at this far-out museum that also has a learning center that simulates space missions. The Mead Observatory is open to the public once a month for astronomical viewing. There are shows in the Omnisphere Theatre and Challenger Learning Center missions.

Columbus Museum... The second largest art museum in Georgia offers room after room of fine and decorative American art, with a special emphasis on the Southeast and the Chattahoochee River Valley. With kids in tow, don't miss Transformations, the museum's interactive gallery where children can create their own masterpieces.

Lodging Info

Holiday Inn North

2800 Manchester Expressway
Columbus, Georgia 31904
Phone: 706-324-0231
Fax: 706 596-0248

Room Charge: \$100 inclusive per night with breakfast for 2 adults. Must register by June 10, 2011 to get room rate. Hotel will give \$100.00 room

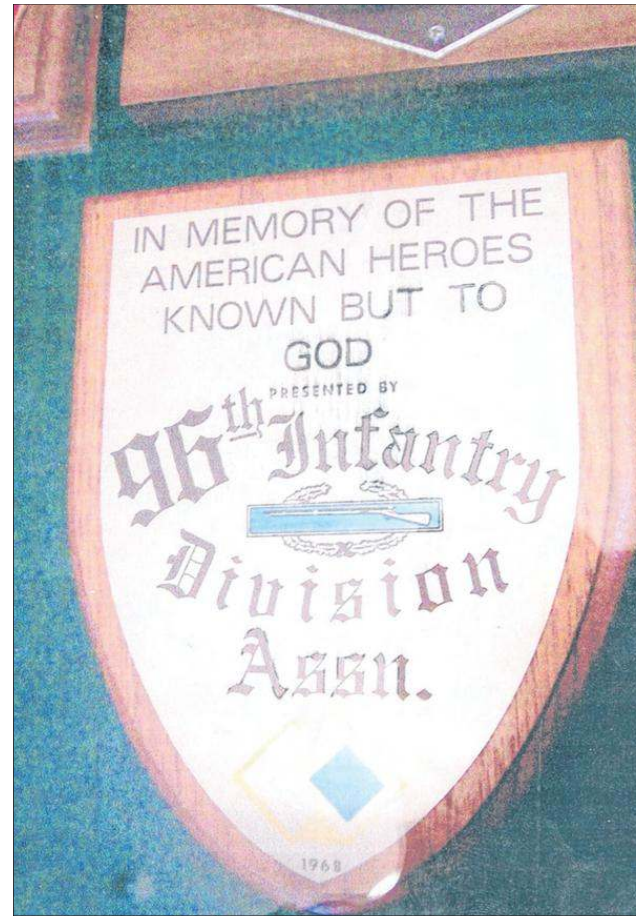
price for 2 days before reunion and 2 days after July 23, 2011. Reunion members must ask for first floor rooms if the person has difficulty with stairs--There is NO elevator!!! Holiday Inn North will allow campers and travel coaches to park on property. No facilities for electricity or plumbing, just parking!

Deadeye News... *Items about the Association*

Deadeye Plaque at Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington

Submitted by Don Dencker

In the memorial building whose exterior stairs lead to the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, there is a room full of Memorial Plaques. In a display case in this room is a memorial plaque which was placed by the 96th Infantry Division Association in 1968. Two photos taken on April 2, 2011 are shown.



96th Infantry Division Monument Walk of Honor, National Infantry Museum Fort Benning, Georgia

Submitted by Don Dencker

The 96th Infantry Division Monument, which was dedicated at a temporary location on April 15, 2010, is now permanently installed on a firm concrete foundation at the Walk of Honor, near the National Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning.

Its surroundings are nicely landscaped. A wreath-laying ceremony will be held at our monument during the 2011 reunion this July.



Above: 96th Infantry Division Monument, Walk of Honor, Fort Benning, Georgia. Inset: Major Donors bronze plaque installed on the back side of the 96th Infantry Division Monument.

Deadeye News & History



Don Dencker is shown above at the dedication of the "Fallen Heroes" memorial on November 11, 2010 in Salt Lake City, Ut.

Dedication took place on Veterans Day, 2010

Utah memorial dedicated to Deadeyes

A memorial was dedicated at Fort Douglas, Utah on Veterans' Day, 2010 to the fallen warriors of the 96th Infantry Division. The ceremony honored the members of the 96th Infantry Division who died in service to our country. But organizers hope the memorial will become more than that. Col. Dave Goeres, with the Joint and Special Troops Support Command at Fort Douglas, said, "We hope that this memorial here in a tree grove on Fort Douglas will be a place that people can come to honor warriors of all services that have fallen in service to their country."

Japanese sub attack against convoy carrying 381st from Okinawa to Mindoro

Submitted by Don Dencker

One of the many instances of the courage and bravery of a few saved the lives of many can now be told. It is the story of the U.S.S. UNDERHILL, Destroyer Escort #682.

Leaving Okinawa on July 21, 1945, our little convoy of 8 LSTs set out on what was expected to be just another routine "milk run". We were taking battle weary remnants of the 96th Division to rest camps in the Philippines. Every LST was loaded heavily with personnel and equipment – the men and machines that had fought the Japanese in Okinawa. The UNDERHILL was our chief escort, being the largest of our escorting vessels. She took position ahead of our formation, screening back and forth with a watchful eye.

Not until the morning of the 24th did anything unusual happen. At about 1000 a Japanese reconnaissance plane, flying at high altitude and well out of firing range, was sighted by patrol craft on our left flank. We were at that time about 200 miles off Japanese -- held Formosa. There had been no recent records of action in the area, however, so no one was very concerned over this lone Japanese pilot miles away.

At 1500 that same day the UNDERHILL sighted a mine in the path of our convoy. Almost automatically a 45 degree emergency turn to port was executed by all ships to avoid hitting the mine. The maneuver was successful, so the UNDERHILL proceeded toward the mine in order to destroy it. Enroute, a very remarkable incident occurred. She was suddenly confronted with several unmistakable underwater contacts – submarines, and all of them within a radius of 4000 yards!

There could be no mistake. She had run smack into a nest of Japanese subs, probably those small type subs launched recently

by one large sub, known affectionately as a "Mother-Sub". Obviously the innocent Japanese reconnaissance plane had tipped off the subs to our position. They had been lying in wait for us. Undoubtedly the "Mama" had launched the mine and her death children just as we approached.

The mine was of very secondary importance now, so the D.E. headed toward the area of its largest contact, arming her depth charges, loading her guns, checking her water-tight integrity, and making all the numerous preparations for battle. Her first charges were accurately dropped. Proof was the oil slick that suddenly covered the water; wreckage and debris emerged to the surface. One down, and four to go!

Our convoy had begun zigzagging, turning, and twisting through the water for its very life. LSTs are pretty slow and cumbersome, especially when there's a flock of subs on their tail, it seems. Our safety depended largely upon how long the UNDERHILL could delay the subs. If only she could sink the mother sub, we might be able to out-distance the small ones which would be practically helpless without her. We were now about 500 yards from where the D.E. was maneuvering to make her second kill. Over the inter-ship radio she was giving us a blow by blow account of her actions. When she announced her first sinking, we cheered like fanatical rooters at a football game. Our joy was short-lived, however.

On the port bow of the D.E. a lookout sighted the deadly wake of an approaching torpedo. The little ship swung hard to port, making a narrow target for herself, and breathlessly the crew watched the torpedo race harmlessly by. No one felt like cheering this time. That was too close for comfort.

Hardly a minute later came the ominous word of the

UNDERHILL's skipper over the ship's P.A. system -- "Prepare to ram". Almost dead ahead was what seemed to be a large sub. Out of the water protruded a periscope, and the sonar contacts verified its identity as the "Mother". Unhesitatingly the skipper set his course on the target and the distance closed quickly. No time could be allowed for the sub to fire another torpedo. It was a flight against time and death. The men on the D.E. braced themselves for the inevitable shock to come. Some prayed, some just crossed their fingers, but all were wishing they were someplace else, far away -- and with good reason.

In the next hellish moment occurred the most horrible explosion I ever hope to see. The scene was suddenly shrouded in dense black smoke, its huge round mass rising rapidly into the clear blue sky above, as though it were concealing from the heavens the death, pain, and destruction which had been wrought below.

During the split second that preceded an amazing thing had happened. As the bow of the UNDERHILL had crashed into the lurking sub, a small two-man sub had rammed her deadly prow into the port side of the unsuspecting D.E. The two-man sub, primarily a suicide weapon, carries a huge charge of TNT. The almost simultaneous explosion of her charges against the UNDERHILL's side and the destruction of the mother sub at her bow, had caused all hell to break loose. Magazines, depth charges, and rockets were detonated. Bodies were hurled into the sky, torn and bleeding, dead and dying. The gallant little ship buckled, her shattered bow rose proudly out of the water for the last time, and down she went -- her job well done. Yes, extremely well done.

(Please see this story continued on next page)

96th Infantry store items to be available year-round!

Submitted by Donald Klimkowitz

How would you like to buy 96th Infantry hats, jackets, shirts, etc. year round and get a 10% discount on your purchases while helping fund our Association? Our Association

has been in contact with many internet stores that specialize in providing military goods like these and numerous other items that display 96th Infantry logos and patches. They are available to you year round over the internet. Priorservice.com

has agreed to provide a 10% discount to 96th Infantry Association members when these items are purchased through our website, 96thdeadeyes.org. The Association also gets 10% of the purchase amount to help

fund future events. In order to help you learn to use this store, we are setting up a computer kiosk in the USO room this reunion. There will be someone available to help you see the items online and help you make purchases if you choose

to do so. The link will be added to our website soon and you don't have to wait until the reunion to use it. Please remember to make purchases through 96thdeadeyes.org.

SEE YOU IN JULY!

Deadeye History... *Our Heritage is our Strength*

Deadeye War Story: John Cole, 381st Infantry

John Cole doesn't have to dig up Gen. Douglas MacArthur to ask him what's impossible. Cole knows what's impossible. He lived it.

Impossible is the swamp between the eastern shore of the Pacific Island of Leyte and Catmon Hill, a high point about 12 miles inland. The 1,400-foot peak was an observation point defended with artillery and machine guns by the Japanese when then-Sgt. Cole landed on Leyte with the U.S. Army's 96th Infantry Division.

The 383rd and 382nd battalions of the 96th landed on Oct. 20, 1944. The 381st battalion was to remain on ship as replacements. Cole was a member of the 381st that would be forced to land on Oct. 24 because U.S. and Japanese navies were maneuvering for the epic Battle for Leyte Gulf. Leyte was the first battle front of World War II for most members of the 96th. Cole said the 96th was confronted by swamp that had been used in the production of rice before the war on one side and the ocean on the other. All three battalions of the 96th sloggied through the swamp for four days toward Catmon Hill "I was in water chest-deep for 24 hours," Cole, now 88, said during an interview at his home on Coachman Drive in Mountain Home. The first companies of the 96th reached Japanese defenses around Catmon Hill by nightfall on the 20th. The 381st made the swamp march alone four days later. Historians have held for 65 years that 96th's swamp march to Catmon was a feat that the highest military brass believed was impossible and would not have ordered. MacArthur, after receiving a report from Maj. Gen. James Bradley on the 96th's progress, reportedly argued loudly with Bradley regarding the accuracy of the subordinate general's intelligence. "That's impossible," MacArthur shouted at Bradley, according to the U.S. Army Center of Military History. "We are there," Bradley replied.

"We were a bunch of rookies from every state in the union," Cole said. "We were well trained."

Cole has lived with the

World War II experience for 65 years. The 96th took Catmon Hill on Oct. 26 and two days later battled forces at Dagami where the 96th lost more men than at any other place on Leyte. While Cole stayed out of the way of bullets on Leyte and Okinawa, he did not stay of the way of the work. Moving the weaponry over the swamp was an exercise of felling trees and raft building, he said. The fresh ranks of the 96th were obvious from the beginning of the war. Not a few were suspected of feigning illness to avoid or at least postpone facing the enemy, so much so that part of Cole's treatment for a belly full of parasitic worms at a hospital in the Philippines included a conference with a psychiatrist. "I had a real case of worms," said Cole. "And they were rough stuff." He saw the making of youthful soldiers before the shooting began. He recalled a mail clerk fell from a rope grid over the side of a ship off Leyte and hung by his foot on the way down. "He was hanging upside-down way up there with the rope bound around one ankle. He panicked and he was in a lot of trouble," Cole said. "Guess who got to go get him? Old John and another guy. He was a lot bigger than either one of us."

Work for Uncle Sam began on Oct. 29, 1942, for Cole, then 20 years old. Cole said he endured rigorous training at several locations before hooking up with the 96th. Along with way, he received a call from Lt. Col. Daniel Noland, who without much fanfare gave Cole a sergeant's stripes and assigned him to jeep transport, radio and runner service to Capt. Parker B. Poe. Poe commanded Company M of the 381st's 3rd Battalion. It was a heavy weaponry unit armed with .30-caliber water-cooled machine guns, 81 mm mortars and rifles, mostly M-1 carbines. Combat was certainly different from training, Cole said. More than 10,000 members of the 96th were killed in combat — most of them on Okinawa. Looking back on the war, Cole says it is clear that he stood a better chance of surviving the war from his command post with Capt. Poe. The assignment with the captain was by no measure safe, he

said. GIs and even generals were never truly safe during the capture of the two islands.

Brigadier Gen. Simon Buckner Jr., briefly commander of the 10th Army that included the 96th, was killed in battle on Okinawa. The battle for the island of Leyte continued in 1944 through December. The Sixth Army helped mop up there and worked patrol zones on Samar and other hot spots in the Philippines en route to Okinawa where it joined ranks with 140,000 U.S. ground fighters that took the cave- and crag-riddled island in 82 days. The fight for Okinawa produced more than 16,000 killed-in-action notices to American families at home. It was there the Japanese forces famously retreated from the beach landings in favor of defending the island from a complicated maze of caves, pillboxes and other natural fortifications.

At the end of that battle, with the war clearly in favor of the U.S., the 96th Infantry shipped out to Mindoro, Philippines, for what was to be a week of "R and R". The LST that carried Company M in a much larger naval fleet sailed into a typhoon that gave Cole what he calls his "most frightening" days at war. "We were in 12- to 25-foot seas for three days and two nights," Cole said. "You couldn't eat. You couldn't stand. And you had a hard time staying in bed." Before the storm hit, Cole and his comrades had discussed going topside to look for food. "I stuck my head out of the hatch and looked around and I didn't see anything but sky," Cole said. "I told the guys I was going to get some food. When I stuck my head out of the hatch again I couldn't see anything but rain. Food wasn't too important right then. We could hear the prop vibrating and spinning when it came out of water. When something breaks in seas like that in an LST, you don't have a chinaman's chance."

Sixty-five years ago Thursday, Christine Norton Cole received a telegram from Camp Stoneman, California containing these words from her dance partner: "It's a long stretch from no-man's land



John Cole, 88, of Mountain Home holds a photograph of himself as a soldier during World War II. Cole served in the Pacific Theater.

back to you, but I made it well and safe. See you soon. Love, Johnnie." The Western Union telegram is dated Dec. 16, 1945. He returned home through the same portals he passed through to begin his tour of duty. The giant sign over the Camp Stoneman terminal displayed this declaration: "Through these portals pass the best damn soldiers in the world." At home, Cole tried his hand at farming around Paragould for about five years before moving to Illinois for work with Caterpillar and International Paper at Peoria.

He retired from International Paper in 1982 and the family remained there for a couple of years before moving to Mountain Home. Along the way, the Coles raised six children. They have nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They have been married 69 years. Dancing has been a favorite pastime during their retirement, and the couple has traveled all over north Arkansas to find bands that play to old-fashioned two-step country music. "It's good exercise," Cole said.

Japanese sub attack... *continued from prior page*

We sailed on now in comparative safety. The Japanese plans for attack on our convoy had been thwarted. We could out-distance the few remaining small subs, which were now helpless without the larger sub. There were several thousands of soldiers and sailors, feeling an indescribable graciousness toward those 119 men

who had paid the price of our passage with their lives and us.

The above was written shortly before or immediately after the ending of World War II. Later after an examination of the Imperial Japanese Navy War Records it was determined that the I-53, the submarine involved with the

Underhill had not been sunk but had returned safely to Japan. Commander Oba, the captain, later served in the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force. It is now believed that the Underhill had sunk two kaitens and a third was destroyed in ramming the Underhill.



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Deadeye Dispatch Change of Address Form

Clip and mail to:
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OLD ADDRESS

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

NEW ADDRESS

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

**Now is the time to...
Join the Deadeyes!**

96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Membership Application

Membership is open to 96th Infantry Division "Deadeyes", their families, friends and members of the general public who support and are interested in promoting and perpetuating the legacy of the 96th Infantry Division from its beginning in World War I up to the present day 96th Sustainment Brigade.

MEMBERSHIP DUES			
<i>Those that previously served in the 96th DIV/ARCOM/RSC/RC and are not currently assigned to a unit:</i>			
1 year.....	\$18	2 years.....	\$34
		3 years.....	\$48
<i>Those currently assigned to a unit in the 96th Sustainment Brigade or those assigned to another command that previously served in the 96th Sustainment Brigade:</i>			
1 year.....	\$8 (yearly renewals are the same amount)		
<i>Family members or friends of former 96th Soldiers (WWII or Desert Storm):</i>			
1 year.....	\$10 (yearly renewals are the same amount)		

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

(Detach and return with Payment)

LAST NAME _____ **FIRST NAME** _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP CODE** _____
PHONE NUMBER _____
EMAIL _____

Please check one of the following that represents your status:

- 96th Veteran - Previously served in the 96th Div/ARCOM/RSC/RC
- Current member of a 96th unit
- Prior service in a 96th unit and still on duty
- Family/Friend of the 96th

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$ _____
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