

# DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Fall, 2014

## New Orleans Bound in 2015

Thursday, July 30 – Sunday, August 2, 2015  
JW Marriott, 614 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA

- Submitted by Diane O'Brien, Reunion Coordinator -

Discover the epitome of old-world charm and modern convenience at the JW Marriott New Orleans. Our luxury French Quarter hotel offers nearly 500 elegantly appointed rooms and suites, accented with lush amenities. The JW Marriott New Orleans benefits from a prime location in the Business District, within steps of the excitement of Bourbon Street. Visitors looking to explore New Orleans will find the Aquarium, Insectarium, Harrah's Casino and historic St. Charles Street just minutes from our doorstep. Experience the sophisticated soul of the Big Easy at the JW Marriott New Orleans hotel here in the French Quarter.

New Orleans reflects its deep historical roots in almost every aspect of the city, and a carriage ride through the picturesque French Quarter isn't the only way to revisit its glory. For the best rides through history, visit one of the New Orleans institutions, each celebrating eminent events, lessons and experiences of days gone by that have shaped not only the city, but America as we know it today.

### The National World War II Museum - Tour on Friday, July 31st

The country's official World War II Museum lets you experience America's role in the war and on the Home Front - from the 1930s prelude to war, to the Normandy Invasion and the battles of the Pacific Islands. At the US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center shows how technological innovations aided the Allies. Then, see 'Beyond All Boundaries' - a multi-sensory cinematic feature from producer Tom Hanks playing at the 4D Solomon Victory Theater - feel and experience what soldiers at the front experienced. Through extraordinary artifacts and exhibits, get ready to discover the courage, teamwork and sacrifice of the Greatest Generation.

The museum opened on June 6, 2000, the 56th anniversary of D-Day. The museum has a large atrium where aircraft including a Supermarine Spitfire, Messerschmitt Bf 109, Douglas SBD Dauntless dive bomber, and Douglas C-47 Skytrain are suspended from the ceiling. The building is several stories high and consists of two multi-level sections which are connected only by the main floor atrium. The museum does not solely discuss the invasion of Normandy, but also represents the Allied strategy of island hopping, culminating with nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945.



### 58th Annual 96th Infantry Deadeye Association Reunion

*The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis serves as mother church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans*



*National World War II Museum will be the highlight of the tours offered at the 2015 Deadeye Reunion in New Orleans.*



*The JW Marriott New Orleans benefits from a prime location in the Business District, within steps of the excitement of Bourbon Street.*

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DISPATCH

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

Tolly M. Beaver  
Wilmot, SD  
Feb 10, 2014  
by son Maurice Beaver

Fredrick Hagelgans, Jr.  
Pasadena, MD  
August 16, 2014  
Co E, 381st Infantry  
by Douglas Burton

Russell Pohle  
Angels Camp, CA  
April 2, 2014  
Company K, 382nd Inf

Jerald Lambert Streutker  
Monroe WA  
April 10, 2014  
by Farian Dubarry

Herman A. Buffington  
Jefferson, GA  
July 13, 2014  
Co K, 383rd Infantry  
by Buffington Family

Donald J. Johnson  
Fond du Lac, WI  
May 9, 2014  
382nd Infantry  
by Diane O'Brien

John B. Siegler  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI  
Company A, 383rd Infantry  
June 27, 2014  
by daughter Jane Gross

Ken Staver  
Saginaw, MI  
January, 2010  
Company H, 382nd Infantry  
by niece, Gloria Bethune

John R. Edwards  
Noxon, Montanna  
October 15. 2013  
Company K, 383rd Infantry  
By wife Dorothy

Elmer Earl Lindell  
Lawrence, KS  
June 13, 2014  
321st Combat Engineers  
by Rick Mason

Harold "Hal" Sletten  
Northridge, CA  
July, 2013  
Company B, 383rd Infantry  
by son, Eric Sletten

Olin Lee Underwood  
Hastings, Nebraska  
Company B, 321  
Engineer Combat Bn  
April 11, 2014  
by daughter Cheryl

## 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:

- Diane O'Brien      • Email: ddobrien@trivest.net      • Address: PO Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034      • Phone: 608-534-5141 or 608-317-2496
- Pat McMillan      • Email: pmil45@yahoo.com      • Address: 4402 Chapman Ave., Springdale, AR 72762      • Phone: 479-200-1841
- Scott Buffington      • Email: scott@mainstreetnews.com      • Address: PO Box 908, Jefferson, GA 30549      • Phone: 706-621-5685
- Don Dencker      • Email: dizzydon@aol.com      • Address: 228 S Bristol St, Apt 328 - Sun Prairie, WI 53590      • Phone: 608-837-7479

## 56 Years of Deadeye Reunion Cities

YEAR	CITY	ST	YEAR	CITY	ST	YEAR	CITY	ST
1958	St Louis	MO	1977	Cincinnati	OH	1996	Des Moines	IA
1959	Chicago	IL	1978	New Orleans	LA	1997	St Louis	MO
1960	Kansas City	MO	1979	Denver	CO	1998	Ft Mitchell	KY
1961	Detroit	MI	1980	Springfield	IL	1999	Denver	CO
1962	Dallas	TX	1981	Milwaukee	WI	2000	Salt Lake City	UT
1963	Little Rock	AR	1982	Dearborn	MI	2001	Omaha	NE
1964	Portland	OR	1983	Houston	TX	2002	Kansas City	MO
1965	Minneapolis	MN	1984	St Paul	MN	2003	Tulsa	OK
1966	Indianapolis	IN	1985	Oklahoma City	OK	2004	Salt Lake City	UT
1967	Omaha	NE	1986	Fresno	CA	2005	Washington	DC
1968	Chicago	IL	1987	Memphis	TN	2006	Denver	CO
1969	Des Moines	IA	1988	Peoria	IL	2007	Salt Lake City	UT
1970	Detroit	MI	1989	Rapid City	SD	2008	Nashville	TN
1971	Denver	CO	1990	Omaha	NE	2009	Branson	MO
1972	New Orleans	LA	1991	Spokane	WA	2010	Milwaukee	WI
1973	Peoria	IL	1992	Louisville	KY	2011	Columbus	GA
1974	Indianapolis	IN	1993	Sparks	NV	2012	Colorado Springs	CO
1975	Kansas City	KS	1994	Hot Springs	AR	2013	San Diego	CA
1976	Fort Worth	TX	1995	Lubbock	TX	2014	Chicago	IL



2015 Reunion Thursday, July 30 - Sunday, August 2, 2015 New Orleans, LA



# Deadeye Mailbag...

## He is Not Alone

*(This letter was written in 1945 by a mother to the commanding officer of her late son, Charles P. Bell, shortly after the young soldier was killed in combat with the 96th Division.)*

September 17, 1945  
Clifford L. Meyers,  
1st Lieutenant  
383rd Infantry, Co. K  
2315 Morgan Street  
Houston Texas

Dear Lt. Meyers:

Your letter of September 3 came to us Friday. I want you to know that we are deeply grateful for it, for I am sure that you have a great many letters very similar to ours to answer.

In my grief, until I had your letter, I had thought of my son as having been so far away from friends and so "alone"; but I fully realize now, that if there can be such a thing as companionship in death, he has that companionship. And it seems to ease the pain a little to realize that he is sleeping with his "buddies," for in the last letter we had, he told us that his nearest buddies were gone. So, until we can bring him home, I know that he is not alone.

Lt. Meyers, my son was the very core of my heart - all my hopes, plans, and future were tied up in his. There was a closeness and understanding between us that no one else ever shared. Life can never hold for me the joy I knew when I had him. But I know there is but one thing I can do for him now, and that is to carry on as nearly as possible the things that would make him happy if he knew - and perhaps he does.

I get very little comfort from any feeling of "patriotism." I know my son was brave, but he had no illusions about war. He wanted to go - but not because he had any illusions about it! He wanted to go because he felt that it was as much his job as any other boy's. He loved us and hated to leave his home, and he hated the whole filthy mess of war. He loved beauty, good music, good books, all out-door sports - well, he just loved life. And he had to say goodbye to all happiness of living when he had hardly begun to live - because some dangerous beasts in the world were allowed to go free!

We cannot bring him back, nor all the thousands of grand guys who sleep beside him; but those of us who live should be able to see that the ones coming back, and their children and their children's children never have to pay such a price again. Mr. Bell and I have vowed to do all in our power to help. We are just plain people, without much money, but we feel if we dedicate our hearts and lives to such a cause, the way will be open to us.

We would adopt a son, but we are too old to take a young boy; but if we could find a young lad of 19 or 20 coming out of the service who has no home to go to, and who would like to finish college, we will gladly give him a home and help him all we can. If you should happen to know such a one, let him write to us.

I hope that this letter has not bored you. It would be too much to hope for an answer, for I know your days are full, but I want to thank you again, and say "God Bless You."

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Virginia L. Bell

.....

### Looking for Information: Norman Flanders

Dear Editor:

I wanted to inform you of the passing of my father, Norman Flanders (381st) who was a proud member of the Deadeyes.

I would be most grateful if any members of the association have any particular memories or additional information while serving with my father.

My Dad was a corporal and a medic and he received several commendations for bravery under fire for attending to several wounded comrades who were ambushed in Okinawa. He was very proud of his service and I wanted to make sure that the association was aware of his passing.

Thank you,  
Adam E. Flanders, MD  
Thomas Jefferson  
University Hospital  
Suite 1080B Main Building  
132 S. Tenth St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-5244  
215-955-2430  
adam.flanders@jefferson.edu

## Dear Special Friends:

Oh, how I wish you had been with us in person during the 57th Deadeye Reunion Ladies Luncheon. So many of the ladies mentioned how they would love to know how a friend was doing! Just like the Deadeye favorite song - "You are missed but NOT forgotten!"

The program went really well! For over a year I had mulled - what do I do to capture the love and friendship our band of Deadeye ladies have shared. At first, I had thought let's frame a memory - so I purchased all year 40+ small frames. Then when I continued to ponder, "I cannot get everyone's picture before the date. While I was mulling the idea over and thinking - "Hands" popped into the mind - then the wheels were running in high gear. What are the sights, sounds, memories evoked by picturing hands?

I would like you to focus on the word "hands." Let's reflect on the image, sounds and memories that are evoked by the sound of "HAND."

Hands of all sizes and shapes do so many wonderful things. They can help us describe the

path in the circle of life.

Do you remember when you view a new-born child, noticing the small hand that soon will grasp one of your fingers. The connection between small and large.

As the child gets older and the dexterity improves - remember the first games - Patticake, Ring Around the Roses - Do you remember hand games of "making the church"? Games on the playground - Red Rover, Red Rover? Can you remember if how fast you ran and with power to break the bond of the two children on the opposite team?

Oh, do you remember entertaining yourself or family with only hand shadows? What about hand puppets that talked and became real when left to time and imagination?

Could you hold a dealt hand of cards when learning to play Go Fish? What an accomplishment to shuffle the deck without the cards flying everywhere.

Do you remember holding a baby doll and teaching it all the things you had successfully mastered? What toys were as simple as a yo-yo but could occupy your hands for hours?

Grammar school had new skills that had to be mastered. Each morning the school day began with a prayer, and hand on the heart when saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Pride and gratitude for all the men who gave us the opportunity to be Americans.

Do you ever find yourself looking at people - what are they doing with their hands? Holding someone's hand, rubbing someone's arm or shoulder, waving hello, waving goodbye - what about hand signals? Hawaiian hello, peace, Texas Aggie, clapping, group wave at a football game, putting on gloves, looking at a wedding band?

Lyrics in songs can direct our minds to special times and events in our lives. "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands", "Clap Hands," "Second Hand Rose," "The Hand Song," Beatles' "I Want to Hold Your Hand," "Take My Hand" - "I'm a Stranger in Paradise."

Old favorite: "Put Your Hand in the Hand of the Man from Galilee."

Sincerely,  
Mary Eleanor "Sis" Wood Smith

## ATTENTION:

We have not heard from many of our Deadeye families and friends for some time. We currently have over 1,000 people on our mailing list, and we are attempting to verify the names and addresses of those interested in continuing on our list. Please complete the form below to verify you desire to remain on the mailing list or to be removed. If we do not hear from you, you may be removed from the list.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*(Email & phone will only be used if we need to contact you)*

Please maintain my name on the list and keep sending me the Deadeye Dispatch  
 Please remove my name from your list

**Please accept my donation to help cover the cost of the Deadeye Dispatch mailing:**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check should be made payable to the  
96TH Infantry Div. Deadeye Assn. and mailed to  
Dennis O'Brien, PO Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034



# Deadeye Reunion 2014

## 57th Annual Deadeye Reunion in Chicago

- Submitted by Diane O'Brien, Reunion Coordinator -

*It is hopeless for the occasional visitor to try to keep up with Chicago - she outgrows his prophecies faster than he can make them. She is always a novelty; for she is never the Chicago you saw when you passed through the last time.*

Mark Twain

"Life On The Mississippi," 1883

The 57th Annual 96th Infantry Deadeye Association reunion is behind us and we are pleased that 27 Deadeyes and over 100 other family members and friends were able to attend representing 25 states. The setting was the Westin O'Hare in Chicago. The Westin had undergone extensive remodeling and updates to make the facility very enjoyable and comfortable for our group.

The History Room was once again organized by historian Don Dencker assisted by many others. This room is always a popular gathering spot to reminisce.

This year at the photo exchange we scanned around 100 photos and documents from 8 different contributors. We also took orders for about 15 coffee mugs and 10 dog tags. Hopefully we can do better next year. These mugs can be done with just about anything we can scan or photograph - old photos from your time in the service, pictures from previous reunions, or any kind of group shots that you may have. A portion of the price of these items is returned to the Association and will be donated to the Heritage fund and the book scholarship fund. A special thanks to Joe Boyack, Alysia Austin, Barb Schmidt and Jim Persoon for assisting with these efforts.

We began Friday morning with a delicious catered

breakfast buffet before venturing out for the two tours.

**Tour #1... First Infantry Division Museum at Cantigny**  
Over 40 reunion attendees enjoyed the First Infantry Division Museum Tour at Cantigny. We received a hero's welcome since we had many of the WWII Deadeyes along on the trip. We started at the welcome center with a movie giving the history of Col. McCormick; his service in WWI, his life, and his dream that gave us the Cantigny. On our way to the museum we walked through 'Tank Park' with numerous American tanks and artillery pieces from WWI to present. At the museum we were greeted and assigned two very knowledgeable tour guides. The guides took us through the museum which covered the First Infantry's battle service in various wars including WWI and WWII. When we finished, veterans on the trip were given pins thanking them for their service.

Our trip gave us a chance to relive history and we were treated to some of the best hospitality in Chicago!

**Tour #2... Architecture River Tour**  
Over 70 reunion attendees joined the Architecture River Tour. We boarded an open top boat that seated hundreds. We cruised down the Chicago River and saw many of Chicago's magnificent buildings that gave birth to the 'skyscraper' and placed Chicago at the center of modern building architecture. The Chicago River connects the Great Lakes with the Mississippi River completing the northern connection from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean, so important to commerce complementing today's modern railroad and highway systems. The view of

the bridges from the water was tremendous. A skilled narrator explained the history of the river; its early importance to mid-west industry, the resulting health issues, and its renaissance to the beauty and splendor of today. The skies were partially sunny and the day was dry, giving for a warm pleasant time as we cruised Chicago from a view you can't see from the ground!

Friday evening was our infamous beer bust with a Chicago Gangsters theme. We were thoroughly entertained by Deadeye Ray Radzivila from Poughkeepsie, NY, 381st Co I who served on Leyte and Okinawa.

Ray was undergoing basic training in 1943 with the 97th Infantry Division when he was selected for the ASTP. He attended the ASTP program at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago where he studied basic engineering. When the ASTP was terminated in March 1944, Ray was assigned to the 96th Division and fought on Leyte and Okinawa. He was wounded on Okinawa and had to be hospitalized for several months. He attended the reunion with Dave Gerson. During ASTP training in Chicago, Ray was roommates with Dave's father, Julius who was also a Deadeye and served with 382nd Co K. At 91 years young, Ray still swims every day and competes in the Senior Empire State Games.

Special musical entertainment by Gayle Peterson continued throughout the Beer Bust.

Saturday morning began with another great breakfast buffet with a slight rush to get the room reset for the Memorial Service as arranged by Glenn Stewart. Featured were talks

by Don Dencker's four daughters Nancy, Kim, Lynn and Ann. The theme of their individual talks was: "Growing Up Deadeye." They decided if one would talk, all would talk. What they said, I think, summed up how important reunions of 96th Division men and families brought comradeship and a family-like gathering to all involved.

The color guard was provided by the American Legion Post 208, Arlington Heights. Musical selections were performed by Leah Rockweit, an energetic and emerging vocalist from Wisconsin; she was accompanied by pianist Kristina Nyberg. Taps were provided by Dan Harper, son of Liz Moroz Harper and grandson of Mike and Elsie Moroz. Thanks to Glenn for arranging for the memorial service which is always a highlight of the reunion, remembering our "Buddies".

The 2014 Ladies' Luncheon was one where our emotions ranged from laughter to tears. The program on "hands" allowed all 27 ladies to participate with a recollection of a memory they shared with a Deadeye husband, father, or friend. What a delightful time to focus on the beauty and gifts that hands do for us. Memories included recollections of:

Father's work gloves

Fathers making by hand a sled that she and siblings had fun with for years

A handkerchief that brought back memories when she carried them for happy and sad events—one person remembered her father always had a handkerchief and how it came to her aid.

One person recalled how handsome her father and

mother were in old pictures

One daughter shared about how her young daughter stroked her father's face when the time was short on earth

The topic of hands included many ways our hands are used and make permanent memory connections.

Helen Partridge, "Sis" friend and Sam Wood's extra daughter, concluded the program with a poem. It was strange how many of the specific memories had been shared during the luncheon. With fond goodbyes, hugs and hands waving - we concluded our lunch with - Until we meet again - hopefully New Orleans in 2015.

Likewise, twenty men attended the ASTP luncheon coordinated by Don Dencker. (See special story ASTP LUNCHEON LINKS OLD 'BUDDIES' elsewhere in Dispatch). A delicious lunch was served followed by more socializing.

We began our farewell banquet on Saturday evening with a group photo of WWII Deadeyes as well as the wives and widows of our beloved Deadeyes. Thanks to Joe Boyack for his never-ending photos throughout the reunion. Don Dencker presented a very interesting and informative summary of his quest to obtain the Presidential Unit Citation for the 96th Infantry Division. Don summarized his presentation as follows "The Presidential Unit Citation is the highest award given to a United States military unit. During World War II this award was called "Battle Honors" with the awards name being changed to "Presidential Unit Citation" in 1947.

(Continued on page 6)





# Deadeye Reunion 2014

## President's Report

Don Klimkowicz, President • 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Many of you were unable to attend this year's reunion. At the general membership meeting I report on state of the Association. For those of you who couldn't make it, here is the update I gave.

**Board membership status:** Thank you to the nominating committee! The board nominating committee members are Don Dencker, Mike McCafferty, and Dennis O'Brien. This year expiring terms were Scott Buffington, Mike McCafferty, Jim Black, COL Phil Jolly, MG Jim Collins (retired), and Kathy Tragos. Jim Black, MG Jim Collins (retired), Kathy Tragos were nominated for another 3 years, all accepted, and the board approved the nomination. Scott Buffington will remain the Dispatch Publisher and will become an ex officio board member. Mike McCafferty will be replaced on the nominating committee by Mary Eleanor Wood Smith. Three expiring board seats will be not be replaced reducing the size of the board from 16 to 13 in line with our long term goal to reduce the board size.

**Treasurer's Report:** Thank you Dennis O'Brien for maintaining our books, filing our taxes for both the Association and Heritage Fund!

- Deadeye Association  
Total Assets: \$32,487.20
- Projected unpaid reunion expenses: (\$13,000.00)
- Projected 2014 Assets: \$19,487.20
- 2013 Assets: \$18,826.24
- Projected Change from 2013: \$660.96

**Website Report:** David Ellis has done an excellent job maintaining our website! Marvin Margoshes is recovering from hip surgery. Website work is progressing. Our domain name is secured and paid for until December 2015. The Association Facebook page continues to gain popularity. Currently there are 234 members. Remember to check the website for the latest postings on items of interest like next year's reunion.

**Dispatch Report:** Scott Buffington continues to edit and publish the Dispatch and is doing a fantastic job! The Dispatch is a key selling point for the 96th Infantry Deadeyes Association. Recap for

Spring 2014 Dispatch: 1045 copies @56.6 cents each: \$591.85. The number of copies sent is down from 1410 based on analysis of who desires to receive the Dispatch. Please submit reunion stories, photos, general interest articles, columns, letters, photos, etc.

to scott@mainstreetnews.com or mail to Scott Buffington, PO Box 908, Jefferson, GA 30549. Experienced layout assistance is requested. For those who can help, please contact Scott.

**History Committee Update:** Once again, Don Dencker has done an exceptional job for us. The Fort Snelling project was successfully completed. The commemorative brick program is progressing with the help of Liz Harper. Donations are requested for Philippine monument restoration. Please contact Don Dencker if you are interested. The 96th Infantry history book project is in development by Marvin Margoshes and Don Dencker.

**Membership Committee Update:** Diane O'Brien is actively managing this and is doing a great job! She keeps our membership data base up to date and keeps the Association members current with letters for renewal reminders. This year we collected \$620.00 (35) in dues, \$704.00 (19) in donations, and \$1005.00 (33) in donations designated for the Dispatch. Membership dues down slightly since previous year memberships were for 2 and 3 years. Total collected through the membership activities was \$2,329.00

**Communications and Public Relations Update:** Barb Schmidt is actively managing this and is doing a great job! Barb and Mary Eleanor are working on a proposal for the Book Scholarship fund.

**2014 Reunion Update:** There was lots of assistance again this year organizing and setting up the reunion. Jim Black did initial research for the hotel and tours. Diane O'Brien again provided overall management of the reunion as well as registration, single point of contact with the hotel, Ladies and ASTP luncheons, tours, and T-shirts. Glenn Stewart coordinated the Memorial Service. Don Dencker coordinated the History Room. Joe Boyack is coordinating a special program to have mugs, water bot-

tlies, dog tags, and key chains fashioned with pictures as commemoratives. Those interested in providing assistance for 2015, please contact me or Diane.

**2015 and 2016 Reunion Locations:** New Orleans was chosen last year as the 2015 location. We will tour the WWII Museum. Washington DC has been chosen as the reunion location for 2016 as it offers many points of interest.

We are reviewing our options to reduce the Association's liabilities as we set up reunions. We make heavy financial commitments to hold rooms and get free meeting rooms based on estimated attendance. If we fall short of our room and food purchase commitments, we pay significant penalties (thousands of dollars). We are investigating how we structure the reunions to reduce our commitment levels. If we are successful, this will allow us to continue to have reunions further into the future.

We are again looking for volunteers to help with the reunions. Please contact me or Diane if you are interested.

I hope this report is helpful by keeping you up to date.

## 2014 Reunion Attendees



Back Row: Al Altig, Bub Simmons, Glenn Stewart, Calvin Clements, Edwin Wright, Jim Madison, Jim Foster, Don Dencker, Rusty Johnston, Chuck Cebuhar

Front Row: Joe Gonzales, Nels Olsen, Ray Radzivila, Albert Miller, Bob Siefert, Karel Knutson, Val Heinrich, Roman Klimkowicz, Arden Pridgeon, Marvin Reames, Raymond Strenski



Back Row: Shirley Kots, Ruth Siefert, Jayne Daly

Front Row: Patricia Strenski, Fay Simmons, Dorothy Jacobson, Bev Johnston, Faye Wright

## 96th Veterans at 2014 Chicago Reunion

AL ALTIG  
381ST 2ND BN HQ

LESTER BROWN  
383RD CO K

ORVILLE CASPERS  
383RD CO G

CHUCK CEBUHAR  
381ST CO D

CALVIN CLAUSS  
381ST CO I

CALVIN CLEMENTS  
SIGNAL COMPANY

JOHN CRAMER  
383RD 96 DIX CO

DONALD DENCKER  
382ND INF CO L

JAMES FOSTER  
382ND CO L

ANDY GARBER  
382ND CO K

JOE GONZALES  
381ST INF CO M

VAL HEINRICH  
361ST FA

PAUL 'RUSTY' JOHNSTON  
382ND CO F

ROMAN KLIMKOWICZ  
361ST B BATTERY

KAREL KNUTSON  
361ST FA B BATTERY

JAMES 'JIM' MADISON  
96th RRC

ADELBERT MILLER  
321ST MED BN CO D

NELS OLSEN  
383RD 3 BN

ARDEN PRIDGEON  
381ST CO G

RAYMOND RADZIVILA  
383RD CO I

MARVIN REAMES  
383RD CO K

ED SAGURTON  
383RD INF CO C

BOB SIEFERT  
381ST REC CO E

VIRGIL 'BUB' SIMMONS  
381ST 1ST BN HQ

GLENN STEWART  
383RD CO K 3RD PL

RAYMOND STRENSKI  
383RD CO K

EDWIN WRIGHT  
382ND INF CO K





# Deadeye Reunion 2014



**ASTP Luncheon links "old" buddies...** I would like to thank Don Dencker for hosting the ASTP luncheon. This was a great opportunity for the ASTP Veterans and their family members to share thoughts and stories from that time in 1943 and early 1944. The highlight of the event for me (and I think everybody else) was when ASTP Illinois Tech Alum, Nels Olsen got up to speak and his fellow ASTP Illinois Tech Alum and good buddy, Ray Radzivila recognized him after all these years. It was a wonderful moment for everybody in the room. Above is a photo of the ASTP band taken in November 1943. My father, Julius Gerson (Ray's roommate and Nels' buddy) is playing the sax in the front row (Chief). Nels is playing the trombone, back row first on right. Ray was there when the photo was taken. To the left is a photo of the four of us at the reunion. *Submitted by Dave Gerson*

## 2014 Reunion... continued from page 4

During World War II the 96th Infantry Division was part of the Army XXIV Corps. On August 24, 1946, the Army XXIV Corps, under Lt. General Hodge, awarded the 96th Infantry Division "Battle Honors" for the Division's actions during the Battle of Okinawa. However, for some reason this award was never approved by the Army Chief of Staff in Washington, D.C." Don Dencker continued: "In 1997 I started my effort to have the original Citation approved for the 96th Infantry Division. However, it became apparent that approval of the 1946 awards was impossible, so I restarted the effort seeking the Presidential Unit Citation. The first step is getting a member of Congress to make the request. Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon made this request. This started the process with a packet of information I had assembled and entailed working with the Unit Awards individuals in the Army Headquarters. A final step included getting approval from a committee of three Army generals. Finally, on January 10, 2001 the Secretary of the Army approved the Presidential Unit Citation of the 96th Infantry Division. This approval was affirmed by Army General Order #29 on December 31, 2001." Thanks to Don and his family for helping with this presentation.

Matt Smith, son of Mort Smith who served in

the 382nd Infantry, F Company, presented a proclamation from Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel proclaiming July 26, 2014, to be the 96th Infantry Division "Deadeyes" Day in Chicago in honor of the invaluable service, indisputable skill, and indomitable spirit of the mighty soldiers of the 96th Infantry Division.

We were pleased to have Deadeye Chuck Cebuhar attend his first reunion. Chuck traveled from Cedar Rapids, IA to St. Paul to attend the dedication of the 96th monument at Fort Snelling and then continued on to Chicago. Another first-time attendee was Linda Bekermeier (daughter of the late Herbert W. Bekermeier). Fourteen members of the Orville Caspers family joined him for the reunion and Don Dencker's family added another 12 attendees. We also welcomed back many who hadn't been able to attend the reunions for a few years. This is a great tribute to have so many family members to share these memories.

A tasty farewell breakfast was served again on Sunday morning with lots of hugs and handshakes until we meet again in New Orleans in 2015.

This truly was a reunion of memories of our beloved Deadeyes in the Windy City.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR

### PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, throughout the history of the world, there have been times where average citizens have been called to duty to fight to preserve their freedoms and defend the freedoms of others; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America entered one such event – World War II – following an attack on American Forces and the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, all of the existing branches of the United States Armed Forces served valiantly and made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, including the fearless soldiers and superior marksmen of the Army's 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, the men of the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division were nicknamed the *Deadeyes* for their expert marksmanship with the M-1 rifle – a widely acknowledged and celebrated benefit to the Allies' effort; and

WHEREAS, the *Deadeyes* were among the first forces sent into combat at pivotal points in the War including the Battle of Leyte where General Douglas MacArthur famously declared, "I have returned," and the Battle of Okinawa which earned the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division the rarely awarded Presidential Unit Citation for their fierce heroism and skilled excellence; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 30,000 soldiers served in the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division during World War II and about 3,000 died from wounds received during combat, and their unparalleled contributions to the overall effort continue to inspire servicemen and -women and civilians alike some 70 years later; and

WHEREAS, the esteemed veterans of the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Deadeye Association will make their way to the City of Chicago to host their 2014 Annual Reunion from July 24 - July 27, 2014;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2014 to be 96<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION "DEADEYES" DAY IN CHICAGO in honor of the invaluable service, indisputable skill, and indomitable spirit of the mighty soldiers of the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2014.

  
Mayor



# Deadeye News & History

## Typhoon Hiayan (Yolanda) & 96th Infantry Division Memorials

Submitted by Don Dencker

On November 14, 2013 a fierce typhoon, called Yolanda, struck Leyte, Philippines and heavily damaged the island, killed almost 5,000 people and displaced 630,000 persons. The typhoon hit the east shore of Leyte where the 96th Infantry Division landed on October 20, 1944. The island is slowly recovering as rebuilding moves ahead.

The location of the landing of the 382nd Infantry Regiment was called Blue Beach 1 and Blue Beach 2. The 3rd Battalion of the 382nd Infantry hit Blue Beach 1 which was defended by elements of the Japanese 16th Infantry Division with a major defensive position on Hill 120, located 600 yards inland. This fortified position was the commanding elevation of the area.

Rifle Companies K, L and I overran the extensive Japanese defenses and took the top of Hill 120 twenty minutes after the 10:00 AM landing. However, the fighting continued into the afternoon and my Company L suffered 21 battle casualties that day.

The nearby city of Dulag in 1977 made Hill 120 the 96th Infantry Division Veterans Memorial Park and constructed on the top of the hill a large 96th Infantry Division monument and a concrete "Deadeye" helmet. This is shown on Photo 1 which was taken from the 1977 reunion issue of the Deadeye Dispatch.

At the base of Hill 120, the Filipinos constructed a stairs starting the path to the monument. At the top of the stairs is an ornamental concrete descriptive sign. This is shown on Photo 2 together with the Hill 120 road sign. The devastation caused by the typhoon in this area in Photo 3.

Photo 4 taken in 2010 shows the 96th Infantry Division memorial and part of the Deadeye helmet as they looked before the Typhoon. The helmet is hollow inside with a bench therein to sit on. Photo 5 shows the remains of our Hill 120 memorial after the typhoon.

There're also four 96th Infantry Division Memorial Libraries on Leyte at Tabontabon, Burauen, Jaro and Dagami. These were built from donations given by 96th Infantry Division veterans, people interested in the Philippines and friends.

I know from Philippine contacts that the libraries at Burauen and Jaro were damaged by the typhoon but are structurally intact. Hopefully, they will be repaired and restocked with books by the municipalities where they were located. They were built at or near schools so that they could be easily used by school children. Photo 5 shows the 96th Infantry Division Memorial Public Library at Jaro, Leyte on dedication day, April 20, 1986.

### DONATIONS NEEDED

As mentioned above, some 96th Infantry Division monuments and some veterans' memorial libraries were damaged by this typhoon. The beautiful 96th Infantry Division monument on top of hill 120, which was landing Blue Beach 1, was among them. Anyone interested in contributing toward restoration of this and other monuments and libraries is asked to send the contribution to: Don Dencker, 222 South Bristol Street, Apt. 328, Sun Prairie, WI 53580. You can make the check out to Don Dencker, specified for "Leyte Monument or Library Restoration" and I will see to it that your donation is sent for this use. Donated funds are sorely needed.







# Deadeye Reunion 2014 Photos...





# Deadeye Reunion 2014 Photos...



- Photos by Joe Boyack -





# Deadeye News & History

## A SOLDIER IS DEAD

By Pfc. John J. Archibald

(From the DEADEYE DISPATCH, June 21, 1945)

For the last time, the 96th has seen its wiry little assistant commander up alongside them, dusty fatigues, a pair of binoculars in one hand, a pistol in the other. He didn't look much like a general up there, or at least not like many guys think generals look. He was up there Tuesday, in the front lines, where he could actually see what was going on – so he'd know how tough things really were. He was up too far, most people would say, even his doughboys. But these doughboys also admitted that it was a good feeling to see the man that was directing you up beside you.

Suddenly there was the roaring of a machine gun on an opposite hill, a fusillade of metal scorched the air about the General, and there was a cry from Lieutenant John Turbeville, his aide, as one of the slugs struck his hand. Down went the small group, desperately scrambling for cover, but the tough little general refused to bow to the slant-eye enemy. Instead, he called for a machine gun crew of his own, and defiantly helped his unprotected position so as to direct the fire.

But the Jap knew that the little American was a foe to fear. Maybe he didn't know he was a general, but there's something more to a great man than stars or eagles, and even the blood-crazed savage behind the Nambu could see that. He fired again. Bullets hit General Easley in the forehead, and then there was quiet.

Once before, the Japanese had gotten the range of the General. Back on Leyte, a sniper had blasted him from a hole. One shot had hit General Easley's arm and the other side, but there too he feared not, and managed to empty his revolver at the Jap as he went down. But the little Texan's number had not come up yet, and after a short stay in the hospital he was back with his men. For many weeks, white bandages covered the injured General as he continued to work, aiding General Bradley in directing the Deadeye Division to victory in its baptism of blood.

They wondered how long his luck would last – how many times Deadeyes said, "General Easley'd better learn to keep his head down!" But the General didn't seem to hear; he was too intent upon defeating his enemy to waste time fearing him. Or maybe he did hear the warning, but chose to take the risk in the hope that he could better aid his men by being there. By obtaining a firsthand picture of the battle, and by showing the infantryman that his foxhole didn't form part of a line near which no "brass" dared approach. General Easley showed his Infantry that generals are also soldiers.



Basketball Team

Hill 120  
Conquerors,  
Leyte

Submitted by  
Don Dencker



# Japanese Surrender Cards

The tickets shown below were produced by the Japanese Army. However, there were no takers. One buddy described them to me as "poor toilet paper." This was on Okinawa.

Don Dencker  
Co. L, 382nd Infantry

PS: The back side of both cards was the same.



## Deadeye Dispatch Change of Address Form

Clip and mail to:  
Diane O'Brien, PO Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034 or email to [ddobrien@trivest.net](mailto:ddobrien@trivest.net)

OLD ADDRESS	NEW ADDRESS
Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	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/RRC 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	2 years.....	\$18
		3 years.....	\$24

#### 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/RRC
- Current member of a 96th unit
- Prior service in a 96th unit and still on duty
- Family/Friend of the 96th

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to : 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association**  
Mail application to:  
Dennis O'Brien  
PO Box 34  
Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034



# Deadeye News & History

## New 96th Infantry Division Monument at Ft. Snelling



*Submitted by Donald Dencker, Project Manager*

A new 96th Infantry Division Monument has been purchased by the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Heritage Fund and is now installed at Fort Snelling National Cemetery adjacent to the Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota airport.

There are now monuments honoring the World War II 96th Infantry Division of the U. S. Army in five locations in the U.S.:

- North: Fort Snelling National Cemetery
- South: Fort Benning, Georgia
- West: Camp Adair, Oregon
- East: Arlington National Cemetery
- Far West: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii.

In addition, there is a large 96th Infantry Division plaque at the National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas.

The Fort Snelling monument was dedicated in a fine program starting at 11:00 a.m. on July 24, 2014. The monument dedication program cover page is shown here and is alongside a ceremony program page.

For the dedication program, honors were provided, including a rifle salute and color guard. Approximately 90 people attended the dedication program.

The monument bronze plaque is unique in that the four insignia are in color. They are the 96th Infantry Division Patch, the Combat Infantryman Badge and the U.S. and Philippine Presidential Unit Citation Ribbons.

The monument inscription reads:  
*"In memory of our fallen comrades of the 96th Infantry Division, U. S. Army, killed on Leyte, Philippines and Okinawa, Japan and to all Deadeyes who fought with valor and distinction to defeat Imperial Japan."*

A special thanks to Bob Siefert, Co. E, 381st Infantry, who ably served as onsite manager on this project.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**96th Infantry Division  
 Monument Dedication**  
**July 24, 2014  
 11:00 am**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**Fort Snelling National Cemetery**  
 Mallon Road off of Wold Circle  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota**

In commemoration of the 69th Anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa  
 April 1 to June 30, 1945

**Monument Dedication Program**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Introduction**  
 Donald Dencker  
 Company L, 382nd Infantry  
 Board Member, 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association and Association Historian

**Sound Attention**  
 (Please stand)  
 Joe Collova, Bugler

**Post the Colors**  
 Memorial Rifle Squad at Fort Snelling  
 Color Guard

**National Anthem**  
**Pledge of Allegiance**  
 Donald Dencker

**Invocation**  
 Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr.  
 Senior Chaplain, Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel

**Greetings**  
 Artis Parker  
 Acting Director, Fort Snelling National Cemetery

**Dedication Address**  
 Kenneth L. Beale, Jr.  
 Chaplain (Colonel - Retired) U.S. Army

**Unveiling of the Monument**  
 Robert Siefert and wife Ruth Siefert  
 Company E, 381st Infantry

**Placing of Wreath**  
 Peter Dukich  
 Brother of Tom Dukich, Company E, 381st Infantry,  
 who was killed in action on Okinawa

**Rifle Salute**  
 Memorial Rifle Squad at Fort Snelling

**Taps**  
 Joe Collova, Bugler

**Benediction**  
 (Please stand for the Benediction and Retiring the Colors)  
 Chaplain Kenneth Beale

**Retire the Colors**  
 Memorial Rifle Squad at Fort Snelling  
 Color Guard

**Dismissal**  
 Donald Dencker

## JAPANESE 320 MM MORTAR



This photo of a Japanese 320 mm mortar shell shows its very large size compared to the Japanese heavy 150 mm artillery shell next to it. Deadeye soldiers remember the very large craters these Japanese 320 mm shells made. It was very visible in the air and it looked like it was moving slowly. Deadeye soldiers on Okinawa, if the 320 mm shell was seen in its upward trajectory, could run out of its explosion range if they ran perpendicular to its trajectory. Sadly, one hit in an Infantry Battalion medical aid station and all there were killed.

*Submitted by Don Dencker L/382/96*





# Deadeye News & History

## 96th Infantry Division HERITAGE FUND

*Submitted by Jim Collins,  
Major General (Retired), President*

During the past year, there has been a campaign to inform our members about the opportunity to purchase an inscribed brick that will be placed on a walkway outside the new US Army Museum in Virginia. Liz Moroz Harper has been leading this effort and doing a great job. The Heritage Fund authorized the purchase of two bricks at a cost of \$500 each. One is for the 96th Infantry Division and the second lists the five Medal of Honor winners from WWII. Those individuals who purchase bricks will have theirs clustered around the 96th brick. If you have not ordered a memorial brick, please do so now.

The Heritage Fund was founded by Tom Roby, Mike McCafferty and Jim Collins. Earlier this year, Tom resigned from the Heritage Fund Board but will remain a Life Member in recognition of his efforts to create the Fund. Tom has been a life long supporter of the 96th Infantry Division Association and due to health reasons has not been able to join us during our annual reunions. Current Board Members are Jim Collins, Mike McCafferty, Don Klimkowicz and Dennis O'Brien.

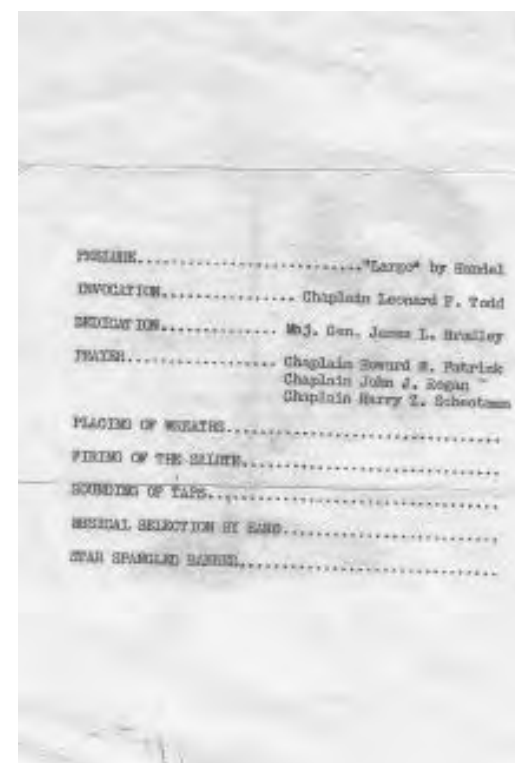
On 24 July there was a new 96th Infantry Division memorial dedicated at the Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is a granite monument with a brass plaque. Don Dencker, Bob Siefert and Ruth Siefert were instrumental in getting the monument designed, built and installed as well as arranging a touching ceremony to dedicate the memorial. This memorial was made possible by donors to the Heritage Fund.

Right now, the Heritage Fund is considering new memorials such as at the new US Army Museum.

Please consider making a donation to the Heritage Fund. You can be an Associate member starting at \$25 per year as well as a sustaining member for \$50, \$100 and \$250 or more. The 96th Heritage Fund Sustaining Gold Members (\$250+) for 2014 are: Al Altig, Jim Collins, Don Dencker, Liz Harper, Don Klimkowicz, Dennis & Diane O'Brien and Bob & Ruth Siefert.

Donations payable to 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund may be sent to Dennis O'Brien, PO Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034. Thanks to all for your interest and support of the Heritage Fund.

## World War II Military Cemeteries in the Pacific



*Submitted by Donald Dencker*

96th Infantry Division men who were killed on Leyte, Philippines were initially buried in a temporary cemetery on Leyte. Those killed on Okinawa were buried in one of the two 96th temporary cemeteries on Okinawa.

No permanent U. S. military cemeteries were in existence in the Pacific after the end of World War II. However, in 1947 and 1948 the U. S. Government removed all Pacific war dead from temporary military cemeteries in the Pacific.

The designated survivors of 96th Infantry dead were given the option of their soldiers' remains being brought to a local cemetery or being placed in one of the two designated permanent cemeteries in the Pacific. The remains of men killed on Leyte went to the American Cemetery in Manila, Philippines and those killed on Okinawa went to the new National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii. Approximately 400 Deadeyes killed in Okinawa are now interred in the National Memorial of the Pacific.

The 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association has small monuments in the Manila and Honolulu-located cemeteries. For those Deadeyes who died on Okinawa, there was a dedication memorial service on Okinawa on July 9, 1945. Most Deadeyes there went to this service.

The cover page for the dedication and the page for the memorial service are shown above.

Sidenote: I remember Chaplain Todd well. He truly was an infantryman's Chaplain. He frequently visited front line rifle companies.

**Twice each year, the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association produces this newsletter. The association would like to find someone to help lay out and design the Deadeye Dispatch. If you have computer design skills and want to volunteer some time and be part of this effort, please contact Scott Buffington at [scott@mainstreetnews.com](mailto:scott@mainstreetnews.com) or 706-621-5685.**



# Deadeye News & History

## Commemorative Brick Project

Submitted by Liz Harper

We had several inquiries at the Chicago Reunion for another Commemorative Brick Project Outreach to add to the original orders placed this summer. I am attaching an updated article for publishing in the upcoming Deadeye Dispatch to reach out for more Commemorative Brick Orders before the November 15, 2014 deadline.

Liz Moroz Harper here advising everyone that you have a second chance to honor our beloved veterans of the 96th with commemorative bricks in the Path of Remembrance to the National Army Museum at Fort Belvoir, Virginia! Your individually-designed brick(s) will be clustered together with other individually-designed bricks already on order in an attractive design honoring our Deadeyes. Please place your order today, beat the November 15, 2014 deadline, and give us more bricks to work into our group design!

Here's How to Use Our Attached Special Group Order Form:

Step 1: Please note that there are 2 sizes of bricks available:

4x8 with 3 lines of 20 allowed characters per line for \$250.00 and 8x8 with 6 lines of 20 allowed characters per line for \$500.00

Step 2: Choose your brick size(s) and then fill out our attached Special Group Order Form with the requested inscription information and return it to me with your check pre-dated November 15, 2014 and made payable to: National Army Museum Fund. My address is Liz Moroz Harper, 1104 Winnsboro Court, Allen, TX 75013-6306

Sources for Help:

1. If you need help designing your individual brick(s), there is an on-line tool available. Please go to this website [www.armyhistory.org/bricks](http://www.armyhistory.org/bricks) and click on the Design and Create Link, choose your brick size, and you will be able to see what your inscription will look like when actually engraved on a brick. Please DO NOT Complete and Submit Your Order Directly On-line when you have designed your brick(s) to your satisfaction. Remember, we want to submit all brick orders for the 96th Infantry Division together on November 15, 2014 for eventual placement in the walkway together. So, please do not submit your order on-line; instead, please send your order directly to me (by email or by mailing a hard copy of your order; checks must be mailed, however, although forms may be scanned and emailed.)

2. To hopefully inspire your inscription(s), I have also attached a sample of the brick I have ordered for my father (Michael Moroz) as part of the 96th Infantry Division group submission; it lists his name, unit information, and dates of service.

3. Call or email me if you have any questions or need additional help.

Do have fun designing and thank you again for your continued interest and support,

**MAIL**  
 Completed Forms and Checks to:  
**Liz Harper**  
 1104 Winnsboro Ct.  
 Allen, TX 75013-6306

.....


Questions?  
 Contact me at  
 214-726-5419  
 or email me at  
[eamh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eamh@sbcglobal.net)




**96<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION GROUP ORDER FORM - NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM BRICKS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone#/EmailAddress: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Choose Your Brick Size (8x8 or 4x8) and Complete Section Below for Lines of Inscription:**



8x8 Brick  
\$500.00



4x8 Brick  
\$250.00

**Inscribe My 8x8 Brick as Follows:**  
 20 allowed characters per line



Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 4: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 5: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 6: \_\_\_\_\_

**Inscribe My 4x8 Brick as Follows:**  
 20 allowed characters per line

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Please send this completed form and your check pre-dated November 15, 2014 and made payable to National Army Museum Fund to:**

**Liz Moroz Harper**  
 1104 Winnsboro Court  
 Allen, TX 75013-6306  
[eamh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eamh@sbcglobal.net)  
 (214)726-5419

**Please place your order today, beat the November 15, 2014 deadline, and give us more bricks to work into our group design!**





# Deadeye Reunion 2015

Reunion 2015 Preview...

## About New Orleans' French Quarter

The French Quarter, also known as the Vieux Carré, is the oldest neighborhood in the city of New Orleans. After New Orleans (La Nouvelle-Orléans in French) was founded in 1718 by Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, the city developed around the Vieux Carré ("Old Square" in English), a central square. The district is more commonly called the French Quarter today, or simply "The Quarter," related to changes in the city with American immigration after the Louisiana Purchase. Most of the present-day historic buildings were constructed during the late 18th century, during the city's period of Spanish rule, and reflect Spanish colonial architecture.

The district as a whole has been designated as a National Historic Landmark, with numerous contributing buildings that are separately deemed significant. It is a prime tourist destination in the city, as well as attracting loyal residents. Because of its distance from areas where the levee was breached during Hurricane Katrina in 2005, it suffered relatively light damage as compared to other areas of the city and the greater region.

### Boundaries

The most common definition of the French Quarter includes all the land stretching along the Mississippi River from Canal Street to Esplanade Avenue (13 blocks) and inland to North Rampart Street (seven to nine blocks). It equals an area of 78 square blocks.

Many of the buildings date from 1803, when New Orleans was acquired by the United States in the Louisiana Purchase, although some late 19th century and early 20th century buildings were added to the area. Since the 1920s the historic buildings have been protected by law and cannot be demolished, and any renovations or new construction in the neighborhood must be done according to city regulations to preserve the period historic architectural style.

### History

Most of the French Quarter's architecture was built during the late 18th century and the period of Spanish rule over the city, which is reflected in the architecture of the neighborhood. The Great New Orleans Fire (1788) and another great fire in 1794 destroyed most of the Quarter's old French colonial architecture, leaving the colony's new Spanish overlords to rebuild it according to more modern tastes. Their strict new fire codes mandated that all structures be physically adjacent and close to the curb to create a firewall. The exception to that rule, The Cornstalk Hotel, also listed on the National Historical Register, still stands today at 915 Royal Street and is most photographed hotel in the French Quarter. The old French peaked roofs were replaced with flat tiled ones, and wooden siding was banned in favor of fire-resistant stucco, painted in the pastel hues fashionable at the time. As

a result, colorful walls and roofs and elaborately decorated ironwork balconies and galleries, from the late 18th and the early 19th centuries, abound. (In southeast Louisiana, a distinction is made between "balconies", which are self-supporting and attached to the side of the building, and "galleries," which are supported from the ground by poles or columns.)

Before the Civil War, French Creoles had become a minority in the French Quarter. In the late 19th century the Quarter became a less fashionable part of town, and many immigrants from southern Italy and Ireland settled there. In 1905, the Italian consul estimated that one-third to one-half of the Quarter's population were Italian-born or second generation Italian-Americans. Irish immigrants also settled heavily in the Esplanade area, which was called the "Irish Channel".

On December 21, 1965, the "Vieux Carre Historic District" was designated a National Historic Landmark. In the 1980s, many long-term residents were driven away by rising rents, as property values rose dramatically with expectations of windfalls from the planned 1984 World's Fair site nearby.

More of the neighborhood was developed to support tourism, which is important to the city's economy. But, the French Quarter still combines residential, hotels, guest houses, bars, restaurants and tourist-oriented commercial properties.

*Bourbon Street...* The most well-known of the French Quarter streets, Bourbon Street, or Rue Bourbon, is known for its drinking establishments. Most of the bars frequented by tourists are new but the Quarter also has a number of notable bars with interesting histories. The Old Absinthe House has kept its name although the liquor has been illegal for a century in the United States because of its toxic qualities.

Pat O'Brien's Bar is well known both for inventing the red cocktail, Hurricane, as well as having the first Dueling Piano Bar. Pat O'Brien's is located at 718 St. Peter Street.

Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop is a tavern located on the corner of Bourbon and St. Philip streets. Built sometime before 1772, it is one of the older surviving structures in New Orleans (the Ursuline Convent, for example, is older). It has been called the oldest continually occupied bar in the United States. According to legend, the structure was once owned by the pirate Jean Lafitte.

The Napoleon House bar and restaurant is in the former home of Mayor Nicholas Girod. It was named for an unrealized plot to rescue Napoleon I from his exile in St. Helena and bring him to New Orleans.

Valor Tours, Ltd. presents...

**Battle for Okinawa Tour**  
70th Anniversary  
June 19 to 26, 2015



China Airlines  
Escorted by Glen Williford and Jack Letscher  
Cornerstone of Peace Memorial

## 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY Okinawa Battle Tour

Submitted by Don Dencker

Valor Tours has scheduled an Okinawa Battle Tour for June 19 to 26, 2015. This 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa tour will cover critical battle areas experienced by the 96th Infantry Division while also fully covering this climatic battle of World War II.

In the past, many 96h Division Deadeyes have visited Leyte or Okinawa with a Valor Tours group. We have found Valor Tours to be a very responsible tour operator. In the past period, 1990 to 2007, I led 13 Valor Tours to Leyte or Okinawa.

To obtain an Okinawa tour brochure, call Valor Tours at 1-800-847-4504.





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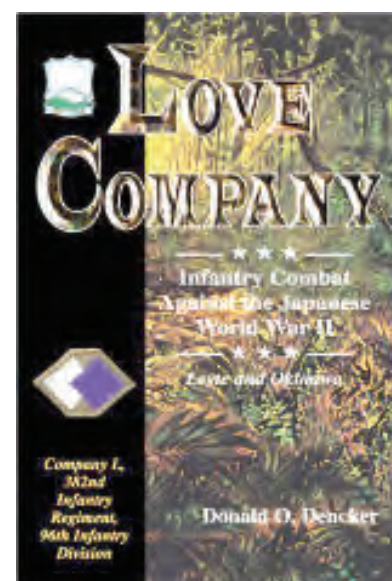


### Deadeye Caps

(above art not an exact depiction)

Cost: \$10

To obtain a new 96th Infantry cap, please send your mailing information, along with your check for \$10 payable to Douglas Burton, 11279 S. Fowler Ave., Selma, CA 93682-9619



### Love Company Book

Author Don Dencker has sale copies of Love Company for \$15.00, postage paid. In this 355 page book, there are 100 photographs, maps, drawings and documents. The regular retail price of Love Company is \$19.95. Royalties from the sale of this book go to the 96th Infantry Deadeye Assn.

To purchase Love Company, send a \$15.00 check made out to: Donald Dencker, 222 S Bristol St #328, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-3042

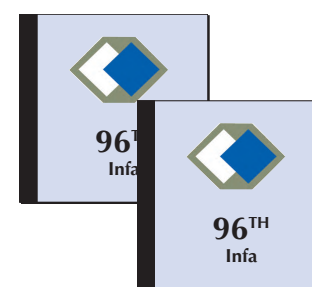


### 96<sup>TH</sup> Infantry Division Presidential Unit Citation Documents Available

Two color photo copies: Presidential Unit Citation Certificate and Presidential Unit Citation Text  
Cost is \$6.00 per set of two, postage paid

Also available: Philippines Presidential Unit Citation. One page, black & white. Cost is \$2.00, postage paid.

Make check to: Donald Dencker, 222 S Bristol St #328, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-3042



### 96<sup>TH</sup> Infantry Division CD's

Cost is \$10 each

All visual - no audio.

All income above CD cost and mailing to go to the Deadeye Association Monument Fund

CD #1:  
Battle of Leyte (73 screens)

CD #2:  
Battle of Okinawa (91 screens)

CD #3:  
Training in the US and Hawaii, Mindoro Island and return to the US and disbandment (86 screens)

**CD #4: NEW!!**  
96th Infantry Division Monument and Memorials (78 screens)

Make check to: Donald Dencker, 222 S Bristol St #328, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-3042