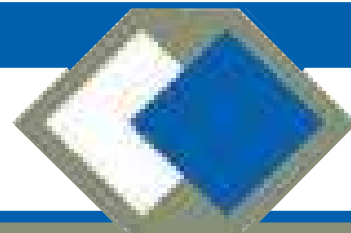


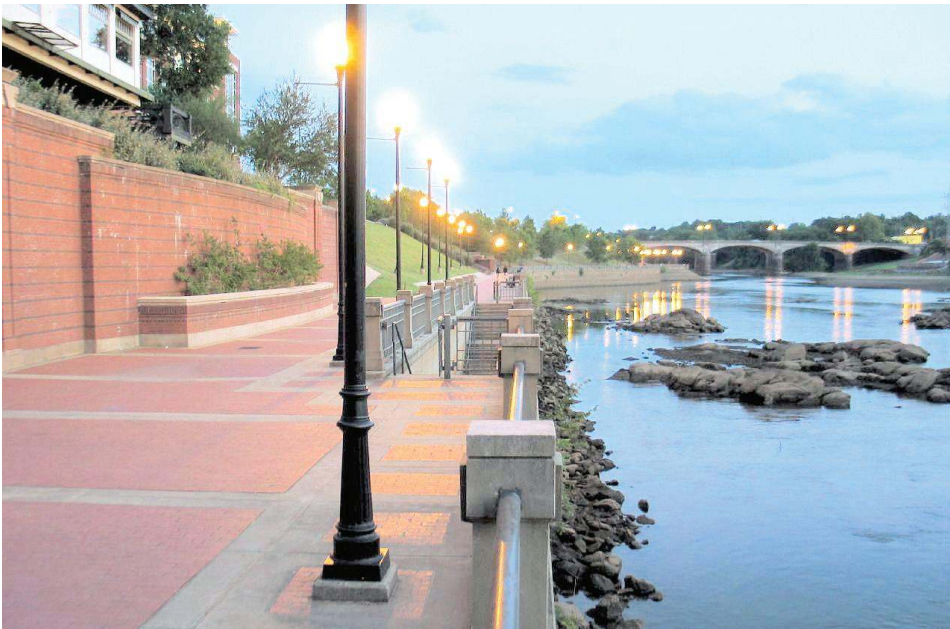
DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association • Fall, 2010

Reunion July, 2011 Location:

It's "Back to Basic" at Columbus/Ft. Benning, Ga.



Take a stroll along Columbus, Georgia's famed Riverwalk next summer!

The 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association is excited to announce that the 2011 Annual Reunion will be held at Columbus/Ft. Benning, Georgia! The dates for the reunion are July 20 - 23, 2011.

Columbus was founded in 1828 by an act of the Georgia Legislature and was located at the beginning of the navigable portion of the Chattahoochee River. The city was named for Christopher Columbus. The plan for the city placed the town on a bluff overlooking the river. Across the river, where Phenix City, Alabama is now located, Creek Indians lived until their removal in 1836.

The river served as Columbus' connection to the world, particularly connecting the plantations in the region with the international cotton market via New Orleans and ultimately Liverpool, England.

By the time of the Spanish-American War, the city saw much modernization. Mayor Lucius Chappell also brought a training camp for soldiers to the area. This training camp, named Camp Benning, would grow into present day Fort Benning, named for General Henry L. Benning, a native of the city.

The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center, opened in June 2009, is one of Columbus' centerpieces and honors the service of Infantry forces in the United States Army. The museum includes displays related to the history of the Infantry from the founding of the nation to the present.



National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park

The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park contains one of the largest collections of military art and artifacts, and follows the steps of the American Infantryman soldier across two centuries of courage and determination. You can also experience movies like never before in the IMAX Theatre, find a treasured souvenir in the gift shop, and dine in the Fife & Drum Restaurant. The museum is located on Fort Benning Road, off Victory Drive in Columbus. The phone number is 706-653-9234 and the website is www.nationalinfantryfoundation.org.

2011 Columbus/Ft Benning Reunion Preliminary

TRAVEL PLANNER

Watch for details in the Spring Deadeye Dispatch and on the Deadeye web site: www.96th-infantry-deadeyes.org

Where?

Holiday Inn Express North
Manchester Highway
Columbus, Ga.

How Much?

The 96th Deadeye room rate at the Holiday Inn Express North is \$100.00 per room/per day (includes tax!). You can stay 3 days before and/or 3 days after at this rate. Rate also includes breakfast for two: complete breakfast bar, cereals, fruit, yogurt, scrambled eggs, bacon, link sausage, milk gravy and biscuits, toast, sweet rolls, orange juice, tea and coffee. All registration for rooms must be made by June 10, 2011.

When?

Dates for Reunion: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 - Saturday, July 23, 2011.

How to get there?

If you're not driving, check airfare rates from your city to Atlanta instead of Columbus as it may be much cheaper. Consider Groomer's Bus Shuttle which goes from Atlanta Airport to Columbus every 30 minutes and similar reverse trips.

What's There?

- National Infantry Museum and Infantry Walk
- National Civil War Museum
- The Little White House north of Columbus
- Columbus City Tour and historic buildings/ Riverwalk
- Ft Benning tour
- www.visitcolumbusga.com/

See inside pages for more about Columbus/Ft Benning, Ga.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Return to:
MAIN STREET NEWSPAPERS
PO BOX 908
JEFFERSON, GA 30549

DISPATCH

PRINTED AND
MAILED IN
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

Edward Barth
Puyallup, WA
362nd & 363rd Field Artillery July
23, 2010
by son, Edward, Jr.

John Breeding
Jacksonville, FL
Co. D, 382nd Inf.
April 24, 2010
by son, Charles Breeding

Whitney Champagne
Lake Charles, LA
Co. C, 382nd Inf.
August 15, 2010
by Darlene Sovoie

Howard Dickenson
Napa, CA
Co. C, 383rd Inf.
April 10, 2010
by son, Charles

Leroy Domarus
Tomahawk, WI
Anti-tank - 381st
June 19, 2010
by Bob Siefert

B. Elliott
Waco, TX
Quartermaster Co.
March 23, 2009
by wife, Mary Elliott

Eino J. Filla
LaCenter, WA
Co. C, 381st Inf.
May 31, 2010
by son, Alfred

Elmer R. "Bud" Finch
Amarillo, TX
Co. B, 381st Inf.
February 10, 2010
by daughter-in-law, Dorothy Finch

Raymond Fixel
Vancouver, WA
96th Infantry Division Band
Dec. 18, 2009
By friend, John Meyer

Sisto Flores
San Antonio, TX
381st Inf.
August 12, 2010
by Blazita Flores

Thomas Donald George
Co. G, 381st Inf.
October 25, 2010
by Douglas Burton

Lawrence A. Goddard
Mikado, MI
Co. B, 321st Medical Battalion
August 12, 2009
by buddy, Armond Kipfmiller

Abraham (Abe) Hampel
Boca Raton, FL
Co. B, 383rd Inf.
August 27, 2010
by Jacob Zimmerli

Charles Hofstetler
Simpsonville, SC
Co. C, 383rd Inf.
December 3, 2009
by wife, Joan Hofstetler

Ralph Heise
LaPorte, IN
Co. C, 382nd Inf.
August 25, 2009
by son, Bruce Heise

Jesse Johnson
Co. K, 382nd Inf.
2010
by Edwin Wright

Emanuel Kahn
Alexandria, VA
96th Signal Company
August 2, 2010
by son, Wayne

Ervin "Tom" Kots
North Judson, IN
Co. F, 382nd Inf.
May 14, 2009
by wife, Shirley Kots

Le Roy Larson
Rapid City, SD
by Tom Roby

Dan Truett McWhorter
Eldorado, TX
Co. H, 381st Inf.
March 10, 2010
by wife, Rita McWhorter

Jeff Moore
Dallas, TX
Co. D, 383rd Inf.
January 10, 2010
by T/Sgt. Gordon Ryan

Alvin Nelson
Bristol, WI
381st Inf.
June 11, 2010
by wife, Marjorie

Clifton Oliver
96th Infantry Division
October 2009
by son, Duane

LaVerne Perkins
Co. A, 382nd Inf.
July 1, 1995
by son, Robert Perkins

John Pfaff
Independence, OR
Battery B, 362nd Field Artillery
May 16, 2010
by daughter, Jill Peters

John Polodna
Co. F, 382nd Inf.
July 2010
by son, Gary

Neil Potter
Griswold, IA
Co. C, 382nd Inf.
April 22, 2010
by son, Kenneth

Herman A. "Ted" Puryear
Austin, TX
Co. E, 381st Inf.
April 4, 2010
by son, David

Gilbert C. Roberts
Co. E, 2nd Battalion, 383rd Inf.
Round Rock, TX
February 10, 2010
by son, Mark Roberts

Jack E. Roe
383rd HQ Co., 96th Inf.
January 17, 2010

Abe Sitcov
382nd, C Co.
July 11, 2010
by wife, Sis Sitcov

Dr. Charles R. Stearns
Oregon, WI
Co. H, 381st Inf.
June 22, 2010
by Donald Dencker

Robert W. Stepp
October 10, 2008
Co. E, 383rd Inf.
by son, Ronald E. Stepp

Carl Tapella
Daly City, CA
August 20, 2009
Cannon Company, 381st Inf.
by wife, Gloria Tapella

Donald E. Tolliver
Co. L, 381st Inf.
Sept. 27, 2010
218 Wilbur St.
Vincennes, IN 47591
by wife, Colleen Tolliver

Charles Visockis
Spring Hill, FL
362nd Field Artillery
May 24, 2010
by granddaughter Kimberly
DiPiero

Gregory Voss
Washington, MO
Co. C, 382nd Inf.
February 13, 2010
by son, Robert Voss

John Patrick Walsh, Jr.
Lakespur, CA
Co. K, 382nd Inf.
May 6, 2006
by daughter, Janet Walsh

Wallace D. Walters
Glendale, AZ
Spring 2010
Signal Company
by daughter, Diane Walters

Don Whetsel
Rapid City, SD
HQ Co., 382nd Inf.
March 26, 2009
by wife, Freda, via Tom Roby

Richard H. "Dick" Wilde
Ogden, UT
96th Infantry Division
May 2, 2010
by Kay Hargis

Earl James Zinc
Algiers, LA
Co. D, 383rd Inf.
December 5, 2009
by Diane O'Brien

Auxiliary Members
Joan Heise
Wife of Bruce Heise, deceased
April 1, 2010
by Tom Roby

Vera J. McDonald
July 6, 2010
by nephew, Charles Jones

Benita Kleinschmidt
Wife of Walter G. Kleinschmidt,
Co. C, 382nd Inf. Reg.)
Green Valley, AZ
April 5, 2010
by Dorothy J. Mason

Mrs. Jack E. Roe
July 23, 2009.
by daughter, Kathleen Roe

*The 96th Infantry Division
Deadeye Association wishes to
sincerely thank the following
people for making the 2010
Reunion in Milwaukee possible:*

*Ruth Siefert, Ruby Sinnen
Winings and Mary Lou Sinnen,
Bob Siefert, Jim Black, Shirley
Kots, Janice Johnson, Sam
Wood, Dennis and Diane
O'Brien, Val Heinrich, Bev
McAdams, Jack Phillips, Josh
and Justin Santini, Don
Dencker, Jim Causey, and Laz
Lazerick, Helen Buffington,
Karen Kots, and Marvin
Margoshes, Father Norman
Oswald, VA Medical Center of
Milwaukee, Joann Wolf, Glenn
Stewart, Nikki Allen, Terri, Tim
and Brittany Stewart Heur,
VFW Milwaukee, Diane
O'Brien, American Legion
Cancer Bank of Milwaukee,
Milwaukee Tourism, Robert
Moore, Brad Brown, Joe
Boyack, Andy Duncan, Annie
Moroz Duncan, Hannah and
Grace Duncan, Jim Black, III,
VA Medical Center of
Milwaukee, Don Klimkowitz,
Mike McCafferty, John Reed,
Pat Allen and Jeff.*

*We also thank Glendoris Cole
and Tom Roby for their years of
service to our association.*



**Deadeye
Dispatch**

Official Publication of the
**96th Infantry
Division
Deadeye
Association**
• Fall 2010 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
96th-infantry-deadeyes.org/

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

Mary Eleanor Reunion

To all the members of the 96th Deadeye Division of WWII:

My wife, Gloria, and I attended our first reunion in Branson, MO this year. My only regret is that I did not attend in the past. Gloria and I had an outstanding time. We enjoyed everything that went on and shared a lot of memories with the many Deadeyes and their families.

Mary Eleanor and all the Deadeyes and their families who set up the reunion, I salute all of you for doing an outstanding job. Many thanks from Gloria and I for the best time of our lives.

Hopefully we will be well enough to attend the 2010 reunion wherever it will be.

Love,
Lester & Gloria

These Deadeyes would love to hear from others

These Deadeyes called after the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Reunion. These men and women want to connect with their buddies!

Irwin Bohac
7685 North Teamesch Rd.
Walkerton, IN 46574
b.school@comcast.net

Kenneth Shill
9693 Avenia Monterey
Cypress, CA 90630

James C Bowlin
154 South 108 Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74128
381st G Co.

Otto Steinhauer
6439 North Hwy 95
Flatonia, TX 78941
382nd M Co.

John Siler
5940 NW 35th
Apt. 54
Oklahoma City, OK 73122
362nd Field Artillery-Camp Adair

Dale Gullen
3210 Santa Raria Hwy, #115
Santa Maria, CA 93445-8342
805-269-2063
805-937-1238
383rd Co I
Rifleman: Organized Resistance

Henry Drahos
1488 McNeil St.
Dupont, WA 98327
253-912-0123
507-352-2111

James Bolain
154 S. 108th E. Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74128
381st Co G
Needs help - anyone who remembers him, for medical purposes
918-437-1182

Jerry (Harold) Burgener
527 S. Lexington
Olney, IL 62450
618-839-7241

Kathy Tragos
(anyone who knew her father)
Sgt. Diaz
San Antonio, TX
210-870-9958

Floyd Rose Information

Hello, 96th Infantry,

I'm Linda King and am writing this letter for a dear friend who happens to be my brother-in-law's father. His name is Floyd Rose. I was visiting him and his wife recently when he spoke of WWII. He said that he was in Okinawa and related some very heart-moving stories. Anyway, I thought he would like to talk with someone who might have had similar stories. So if there is anyone who'd like to visit with him, please do so.

Here is a little of what I found out about his life as a soldier: He was with the 383rd, went to Ft. Roberts for basic and also to Hawaii for jungle training. He was in S2, which was intelligence, I believe. I'm not sure, but I think his rank was a PFC. He wasn't in the service for more than maybe 18 months to two years. He was married with three children. So from what I gather, he went home shortly after the war. This is all the info I have so hope this will help. His address is:

Floyd Rose
220 SE Cherry Ct.
Ceder Edge, CO 81413
970-856-6586

Thank you for your help.
Linda King

Thanks for the help

Dear Mr. Dencker,

About 2 weeks ago I received a pleasant phone call at my office from Mr. Lloyd Pierson. He served with my uncle, Robert F. Domergue, in the 96th Infantry Division on Leyte and Okinawa. Both of these men served in the 38th Japanese Order of Battle Team for the 96th Division. These men continued their friendship long after the war ended.

Mr. Pierson found my name through your organization's newsletter. Apparently an email that I previously wrote was published and Mr. Pierson read it and decided to search for me. He graciously forwarded 2 photos of my uncle and 60 pages of typed information recounting, in detail, their wartime experiences together.

I have passed the information on

to my deceased uncle's son and daughter and they are both grateful to have the knowledge and photographs that Mr. Pierson sent to me.

I have already thanked Mr. Pierson for the information and I would like to thank whoever else assisted in making this connection possible. The information that Mr. Pierson sent is a valuable link to the past and illustrates the dangers, hardships and sacrifices that all members of your unit faced during those years.

Thanks again.
Sincerely,

Kevin A. Waits, D.O.
Attending Physician
St Elizabeth Community Hospital
Red Bluff, California

Seeks Chaplain Information

My name is 2nd Lieutenant Jeremy Anderson. I am working on a memorial project to be erected at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School in Fort Jackson, South Carolina starting February 2011. My reason for contacting you today is that I am currently compiling a list of Army chaplains and chaplain assistants who were KIA. Concerning your division, can you please provide for me a list of Army chaplains and chaplain assistants who were KIA (non-illness related)? A name, unit, date of death, and perhaps denomination would be extremely helpful. However, any information you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

I understand that you might not

be the person who can provide this information. However, I am kindly asking you to forward this email over to someone who you believe might be able to help us further in this matter.

Our goal for this project is to not forget any of our Soldiers who were killed in combat. Therefore, we are counting on our Divisions to help us not unintentionally overlook anyone.

Thanks in advance for your time and support.

2LT Jeremy Anderson
chaplainmemorial@yahoo.com

Letter from the General

This is a copy of a letter sent by the Commanding General of the 96th Infantry Division to Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL. The General comments on the performance of former A.S.T.P. (Army Specialized Training Program) men in the 96th Infantry Division. Over 2,000 A.S.T.P. men came to the 96th in March, 1944. This letter was submitted by Don Dencker and it was found in a book about Lake Forest College students and their service in World War II by Don's daughter, Kim. Don is an A.S.T.P. member. Former A.S.T.P. members had the highest percent of KIA.

MAJ. GEN. J. L. BRADLEY, U. S. A. RET'D
605 COSTA RICA AVENUE
SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

July 25, 1948

Mr. Francis Beidler II,
Lake Forest College,
Lake Forest, Ill.

Dear Sir-

As per your request I have examined the enclosed outline of the operations of the 96th Infantry Division. Although no official records are available to me, I have checked with my memory and with the History of the 96th Inf. Div. and believe the outline contains no substantial errors.

The Division owes a debt of gratitude to the A.S.T.P. students who were assigned to it. Naturally, at first, they were somewhat disgruntled over what they believed was a failure of the War Department to live up to its promises. However they soon forgot this and became excellent and enthusiastic soldiers. Without them and their wholehearted support, I doubt the Division could have made its fine record.

Sinceely,

J. L. Bradley

Maj. Gen., U.S.A. Ret'd.



Reunion Notes 2011... Columbus, Georgia

Columbus/Ft Benning, Ga.

Things to do at the 2011 Reunion...

Chattahoochee RiverWalk

The RiverWalk is an outdoor 15-mile linear park that hugs the banks of the Chattahoochee River.

For centuries, the Chattahoochee River has flowed from the mountains of North Georgia to the oyster beds of the Florida Panhandle. Sometimes a trickle. Sometimes angrily slapping against the rocks. Always telling a story of the history of Georgia and of Columbus. The relationship between Columbus and the Chattahoochee predates written history. Spanish explorers told about the falls nearby. The Indian nation's most extensive trading center was here. Then, in 1828, state legislation set aside 1,200 acres for the town that became Columbus. Steam boats soon were unloading cotton and other products at her busy pier. Romantic ballads were written by passengers who sailed on her lazy paddle-wheelers. Commerce depended on the river with the arrival of the railroad and other means of transportation. More recently, the Chattahoochee became a mecca for recreation. Lakes created for its lineup of dams attract fishermen from around the world, and on weekends the water is filled with boats and skiers. So it was natural for Columbus to come back to the river in 1992. Four years later, that first stretch of riverfront trail was extended to the main post of Fort Benning, giving those who travel on two feet or two wheels a blend of cityscapes and untouched wildlife. The RiverWalk now extends through the campus of TSYS and into the cotton mill town of Bibb City. Join us now on a trip down the Columbus RiverWalk. Take a leisurely stroll through a city's heritage, a walk that reminds all who come of what was, what is, and what will be.

Phone: 706.322.1613
Toll Free: 1.800.999.1613

Coca-Cola Space Science Center

Groups of 20-30 can experience a simulated mission in the Challenger Learning Center on an appointment basis at the Coca-Cola Space Science Center. The Mead Observatory is an attraction open to the public once a month for astronomical viewing. There is an admission fee to experience hands-on exhibits, shows in the Omnisphere Theatre and Challenger Learning Center missions. While visiting the Center, step across the street and visit Heritage Park, an interactive tribute to Columbus' industrial past.

Phone: 706.649.1470
Website: www.ccssc.org

The Columbus Museum

As an American art and regional history museum, and the second largest museum in Georgia, the Columbus Museum offers a diverse collection to the public. The Museum presents visitors from around the world with a comprehensive look at the history of the Chattahoochee River Valley. From clothing and books to furnishings and firearms, the Museum houses over 14,000 artifacts and objects that tell the story of the area's development. The American fine art collection includes paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts from a host of renowned American artists. In addition, the Museum's drawing collection is recognized nationally for its excellence and depth, and was featured in the 2006 Columbus Museum publication, *Lines of Discovery: 225 Years of American Drawings*.

In addition to the Museum's collection, the Museum also schedules approximately ten to fifteen temporary exhibitions a year. Regional history, contemporary art, American drawings,

watercolors, 19th century cut glass, photography, ceramics, and sculpture are just a few of the many areas in which the Museum has enriched the cultural experiences of visitors.

A range of educational programs, including lectures, films, and art activities attract visitors from all walks of life. The Museum also features Transformations, a hands-on gallery for children.

Phone: 706.748.2562
www.columbusmuseum.com

Heritage Tour and Park

Discover Columbus' heritage with this tour of memorable historic sites. Heritage Park is a celebration of the industrial heritage of Columbus, Georgia. The sound of falling water, beautiful statues, educational plaques and unique surroundings provide a place of quiet retreat for all who visit. To schedule a guided tour, call the Historic Columbus Foundation.

Phone: 706.322.0756
www.historiccolumbus.com

MidTown Columbus

MidTown Columbus, Georgia is an in-town community built primarily during the 1920's - 1950's. Consisting of Columbus' first neighborhoods it is now home to six contiguous National and State historic districts. The MidTown housing stock provides one of the largest inventories and widest arrays of architecturally significant homes for that era. MidTown is also home to numerous distinctive, locally owned shops and eateries. For an experience that is uniquely Columbus, Georgia, "Come Home to MidTown".

Phone: 706.494.1663
www.midtowncolumbusga.org

President's Notes

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



We had another successful and fun reunion, this time in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. You will see photos and an article about the reunion here in the Dispatch. Mary Eleanor Wood Smith did a great job organizing and working with her team of volunteers to conduct the reunion. She worked tirelessly for the whole week and all of us at the reunion appreciated the work of her volunteer team.

The Board of Directors has decided to hold the 2011 reunion in Columbus, Georgia. Columbus is very near Fort Benning and we expect that we will have several events at the Fort. Mary Eleanor has agreed to chair this event and she will again be asking for lots of volunteers to help out.

At the last reunion, I provided a summary of how our Association is doing. Our membership is around 1800 and it has dropped slightly since 2009. We are financially sound and rely on the reunions to add funds to our account. Our biggest expenditure each year is the mailing of the Dispatch. Our web site has been evolving and getting better. Marvin Margoshes has done an excellent job with the web site.

The board membership has also changed. Tom Roby, Harriet Nichols, Scott Quimby and Nick Bates have left the board. We have three new board members: Virgil "Bub" Simmons, Terry McCarthy Jones and Ann Moroz Duncan. First, I would like to thank our outgoing Board members for their service and second, I would like to welcome the new board members.

I concluded my remarks to the general membership at the reunion by sharing with them my view of the way ahead for the Association:

- Continue our annual reunions as long as the attendance is good
- Adjust our current legal status with the IRS
- Use the 96th Heritage Fund to gather donations
- Push hard for new membership
- Look for opportunities to preserve our history in museums and other venues.

Best wishes to all my fellow Deadeyes and family members!

National Civil War Naval Museum at Port Columbus

Port Columbus National Civil War Naval Museum - This new 40,000 square foot facility features two original Civil War military vessels, uniforms, equipment and weapons used by the Union and Confederate navies. Interactive exhibits,

including a Confederate iron-clad ship simulator, offer the visitor an opportunity to experience 19th century naval combat first hand. Located in South Commons near the Civic Center.

Phone: 706.327.9798
www.civilwarnavalmuseum.com

(Continued on next page)

Reunion Notes 2011... Columbus, GA

Scenes from the Ft Benning National Infantry Museum



Things to do in Columbus/Ft Benning, Ga. at 2011 Reunion

(Continued from Page 4)

The International Marketplace

The International Marketplace includes the Lunchbox Museum, the Museum of Southern Stoneware, the Museum of Transportation Memorabilia, and the Antique Mall.

Phone: 706-653-6240

www.internationalmarketplace.us/

Uptown Columbus

Uptown Columbus, located along the Chattahoochee River, is the home of Columbus' entertainment district. speciality shopping, pubs, art, and much more. Live, work and play in Uptown Columbus!

Phone: 706-596-0111

www.uptowncolumbusga.com

Springer Opera House

This spectacular, red plush-and-gilt theatre was built by Francis Joseph Springer, an immigrant from Alsace who moved to Columbus before the War Between the States. It opened February 21, 1871, and soon became known as the finest theatre house between Washington and New Orleans. As you look around the main hall with its curving double balconies, delicate tulip lights and high proscenium arch, imagine sitting beneath the glow of limelight watching Ma Rainey, Ruth Gordon, Agnes DeMille, Lillie Langtry, James O'Neill, or the legendary Shakespearean Edwin Booth perform on the deep Springer Stage. Or perhaps you've come to hear a lecture by William Jennings Bryan, Will Rogers, or Franklin D. Roosevelt. Like so

many before, you have found, a visit to the Springer Opera House is a very special experience. The Springer continued as a major regional theatre center until the Great Depression ended the vast network of American theatre road companies which provided the lifeblood of American theatre. When the touring circuits collapsed, the Springer became a movie house and began a steady decline into near-oblivion.

Today: The Springer Opera House was rated the number one Major Theatre in the State of Georgia for 1994 and 2004 by the Georgia Council for the Arts. It was designated as the official State Theatre of Georgia in 1971 by then Governor Jimmy Carter. A National Historic Landmark since 1975, the Springer Opera House operates today as a working theatre, presenting

year-round entertainment on two stages, as well as offering formal theatre training and educational programming. In addition, The Springer produces Springer Theatre on Tour, one of the fastest growing regional touring companies in the Southeast. With a full Main Stage Season of popular plays, a colorful Children's Series and a spicy schedule in the alternative Studio II Series, the Springer is once again a major voice for the performing arts in the Southeast.

The Museum: Museum areas on the first and second floors display artifacts and furnishings which reflect the times and talents of the Springer's most celebrated personalities. The Mary Margaret Byrne Museum on the second floor is named for a distinguished local journalist who was an early Springer advocate and original trustee. This room and the

larger lobby museum contain 19th Century theatre seats, vintage photographs, portraits, programs, posters, and other theatre memorabilia.

Springer Theatre On Tour: Springer Theatre On Tour is one of the fastest growing touring companies in the Southeast. Making annual stops in Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Tennessee and Georgia, Springer Theatre on Tour commits itself to keeping the arts alive in the Southeast by providing quality programming to both major cities and outlying rural areas. For information and dates, call 706.324.5714.

Phone: 706.327.3688

www.springeroperahouse.org/



96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association

CONTACT LIST

PRESIDENT
James P. Collins, MG
Los Osos, CA
 805-602-2056
 jimcollins96@sbcglobal.net

VICE-PRESIDENT
Don Klimkowicz
 337 N Rockingham Way
 Amherst, NY 14228
 716-580-3375 (home)
 216-789-9317 (mobile)
 donald_klimkowicz@beminc.com

TREASURER
Jim (James E) Black
 1445 NE Hoffman Dr
 McMinnville, OR 97128-2343
 503/435-1283
 jimblack96@comcast.net

MASS AND REUNION ASSISTANT
Harriet Nichols
 1113 S Range Ave, Ste 110-113
 Denham Springs, LA 70726
 917-715-1565
 chnn105@yahoo.com

CHAPLAIN
Glenn Stewart
 21 Robin Way
 San Carlos, CA 94070-4339
 650-364-1144
 GlennS@PeninsulaCovenant.com

HISTORIAN
John S. Reed, PhD
 168 "L" St.
 Salt Lake City, UT 84103
 801-364-6471 (home)
 801-581-7950 (work)
 john.reed@mail.hum.utah.edu

WEB PUBLISHER
Marvin Margoshes
 25 Maple Ave., Apt 3B
 Hastings on the Hudson, NY 10706
 physchem@verizon.net

DISPATCH PUBLISHER
Scott Buffington
 c/o MainStreet Newspapers
 PO Box 908
 Jefferson, Georgia 30549
 706-367-2485
 scott@mainstreetnews.com

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR
Cindy Otis
 PO Box 581254
 Salt Lake City, UT 84158
 sassy.cindy@gmail.com

SERGEANT AT ARMS
John A. "Jack" Phillips
 6304 N. Grand
 Gladstone, MO 64118
 816-452-5225
 816-225-6454
 phillipsjack@hotmail.com

REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
Mary Eleanor Wood Smith
 2104 Slash Court
 North Augusta, SC 29841
 803-278-2109
 mewoodsmith@gmail.com

MERCHANDISE SALES
Shirley Kots
 PO Box 134
 North Judson, IN 46366
 574-896-0448
 574-806-4491
 or
Janice Howard
 106 Central Ave.
 North Judson, IN 46366
 574-896-0448
 574-806-4491
 janicehowardnan@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Don Dencker
 128 N. Musket Ridge Dr.
 Sun Prairie, WI 53590
 608-837-7479
 dizzydon@aol.com

Ann Moroz Duncan
 1015 Foulk Road
 Wilmington, DE 19803
 302-594-0715
 aannmargrocks@comcast.net

Richard Hageboeck
 PO Box 1988
 Arizona City, AZ 85223
 520-466-5878 (home)
 richardandsylviah@yahoo.com

Terri McCarthy-Jones
 33 Robin Hill Rd.
 Lenhartsville, PA 19534
 610-756-3761 or 610-554-9189
 avonladyterri@verizon.net

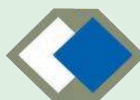
Mike McCafferty
 7632 Cambria
 Salt Lake City, UT 84121
 801-656-3659 (office)
 801-942-3541 (home)
 801-656-3657 (fax)
 mike.mccafferty@us.army.mil

Dennis O'Brien
 Winter address:
 6800 Strand Ave #585
 Yuma, AZ 85364
 608-317-9396 (Dennis)
 608-317-2496 (Diane)
 ddobrien@triwest.net

Colonel Clair "CJ" Read
 96th Sustainment Brigade
 Bldg 131 Osborne Hall
 Ft Douglas, UT 84113-5007
 801-605-7000 (office)

Barbara L. Schmidt
 8063 Ninth Street Way North
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55128
 651-501-9783 (home)
 schmidtbls@aol.com

Virgil M. "Bub" Simmons
 8825 9th Street
 Bay City, OR 97107
 503-688-7135
 bubfay@gmail.com



Deadeye Dispatch Change of Address Form

Clip and mail to:
 Cindy Otis, PO Box 581254, Salt Lake City, UT 84158 or email: sassy.cindy@gmail.com

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/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	(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 _____

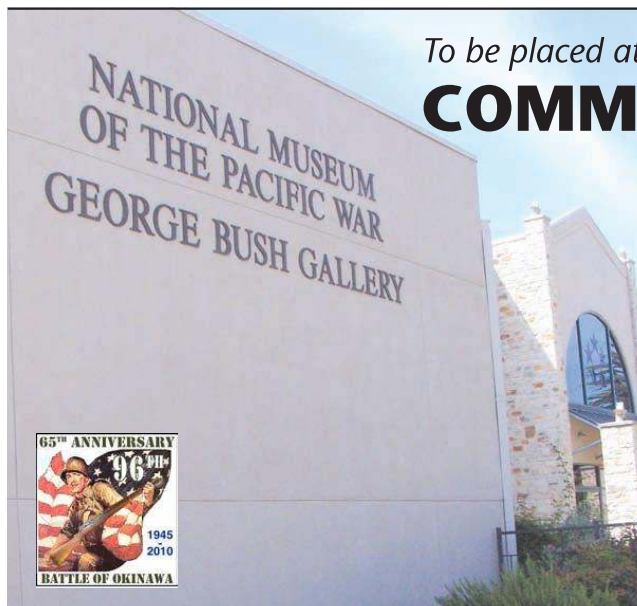
Please check one of the following that represents your status:

- 96th Veteran - Previously served in the 96th Div/ ARCOM/RSC/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:
 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association
 PO Box 581254
 Salt Lake City, UT 84158

Deadeye News... *Items about the Association*



To be placed at National Museum of the Pacific War in Texas

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE APPEAL

The Deadeye Association Board of Directors has approved the request for contributions to provide a 96th Infantry Division, 20" X 20" Commemorative Plaque to be installed at the National Museum of the Pacific War in **F r e d r i c k s b u r g , T X .**

This museum is the only one in the United States solely dedicated to perpetuate the activities of our armed forces fighting the Japanese in the Pacific Theater of Operations. Included are the amphibious operations, Leyte and Okinawa

which the 96th Infantry Division took part in.

We have a small plaque at the National Museum of the Pacific War, which was dedicated on June 23, 2001. This new plaque for the Memorial Wall will be 11.4 times larger than the existing plaque, which will remain. A suitable dedication ceremony will be held after the new plaque is installed.

Good news! Our 96th Infantry Division heritage effort has been reconstituted by the creation of the "96th Infantry

Division Heritage Foundation," which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Thus, your contributions to the new Foundation are tax-deductible.

Please make your check donation to: 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund with notation "Commemorative Plaque."

Mail to:

Jim Black, Treasurer
96th Inf. Div. Deadeye Assn.
P.O. Box 581254
Salt Lake City, UT 84158

Getting to know your Deadeye Association leadership

Over the next few issues, we will be introducing your 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Board of Directors

Marvin Margoshes

Association Web Site Publisher
 New York
 physchem@verizon.net

I was born in New York City in 1925, and grew up in Brooklyn. I graduated from Brooklyn Tech High in January 1943. I enlisted in the Army a few weeks before my 18th birthday (I would have been drafted anyway), and reported for duty in June. I went to Biloxi, MS for basic Air Corps training, and was told that I would be trained as an instrument mechanic. I also qualified for the ASTP program, which seemed even better. But early in the 2nd semester at Kalamazoo College, we were all put on a train to Oregon, where we joined the 96th Division. I was assigned to Co. C, 382nd Infantry Regiment, where I spent the rest of my Army term. I was discharged in January, 1946, and started looking for a college where I could study chemistry. I tried to forget about my Army experience, and I did not attend a reunion until 1998.

I completed the studies for a B.S. degree at Brooklyn Polytech in 1950, and enrolled at Iowa State to continue my studies while working part time at the Ames Lab of the Atomic Energy Commission. The Chemistry and Physics Departments of Iowa State took part in the Manhattan Project, and my Professor, Velmer Fassel, directed a laboratory whose main task was analyzing uranium for impurities. I was awarded a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry in December 1953.

My next stop was a research laboratory at the Harvard Medical School.

I met and married Miriam Kagan in Boston in 1955, and in 1957 we moved to Washington, DC, where I worked at the National Bureau of Standards. My boss there was Bourdon Scribner, who developed the method for analyzing uranium that was used at Iowa State and other Manhattan Project locations.

I left NBS in 1969 for Block Engineering, a high-tech company in Boston. They ran into financial difficulties, so in 1971 I moved again, this time to Technicon Instruments, north of New York City, a maker of equipment for medical laboratories. I retired in 1990.

Scott Buffington

Deadeye Dispatch Publisher
 Jefferson, GA
 scott@mainstreetnews.com

Scott is a son of Deadeye Herman Buffington. He is co-publisher of MainStreet Newspapers, Inc. which publishes six newspapers and also operates a commercial printing plant, located in Jefferson, and hosts a group of community web sites.

A native Georgian, he is a graduate of Jefferson High School and the University of Georgia. He has two children, Brittany 26 and Marty 20, two grandchildren and is married to the former Wendy Kesler.

He is a former board member of the Crawford W. Long Museum, a current board member of Georgia Press

Association, the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association and the Business & Computer Science Advisory council for the Jackson County school system. He has served as an Assistant Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 158 in Jefferson for 13 years.

Don Dencker

Board Member
 Sun Prairie, WI
 dizzydon@aol.com

I am Don Dencker. I was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on November 25, 1924. I graduated from high school in 1942 and entered the Army in 1943. I fought the battles of Leyte, Philippines and Okinawa, Japan with Company L, 382nd Infantry Regiment, 96th Infantry Division. My book, "Love Company", tells of fighting the Japanese.

After WWII, I obtained my Bachelor and Master Degrees in Civil Engineering. I reentered the Army and served in Korea. Before retiring, I had a 50-year career as a Professional Engineer.

For 30 years I have been active in the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye organization, serving as president and historian. For the past 11 years, I have concentrated on preserving the legacy of the 96th Infantry Division and through my efforts, the Presidential Unit Citation for Okinawa was obtained.

I have four daughters (Nancy, Kim, Lynn and Ann), 10 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Don Klimkowicz

Board Member
 Amherst, NY

donald.klimkowicz@beminc.com

I am the son of a Deadeye.

My Father's name is Roman Klimkowicz who was in the Field Artillery and served in Leyte and Okinawa. I live in the Buffalo, New York area. I have been married for 32 years to my wife Kimberly. I have four grown children: Rebecca, Daniel, David, and Rachel. I have five grandchildren; Brett (7), Alivia (5), Ava (3), Calie (1), and Carter (10 mos.). I am a chemical engineer and work for Brush Engineered Materials where we make precision alloys and high purity materials that service the micro-electronics, solar, magnetic data storage, medical, automotive, petroleum, and aerospace industries.

Dennis O'Brien

Board Member
 Yuma, AZ

ddbrien@trivest.net

After periods of employment with Lockheed Aircraft, Trane Company and National Security Agency, I retired in 2002 from the University of WI-La Crosse with 34 years in the Department of Mathematics. I was lured out of retirement to teach statistics at California Polytechnic State University. My wife, Diane, is the daughter of Deadeye Karel A. Knutson (Puposky, Minnesota) who served in the 361st Field Artillery. Diane and I reside in

Trempealeau, WI, but we spend most of our time roaming the U.S. in our motor home (southwestern states for the winter). We have four children between us and one granddaughter.

Barbara L. Schmidt

Board Member
 St Paul, MN

schmidtbls@aol.com

Hello, Deadeyes! My name is Barb Schmidt. I was born and raised in St. Paul, Minnesota where I went on to attend the University of Minnesota and marry Jim Persoon, my husband of 35 years. My career began in corporate bank marketing and today I am a marketing consultant with a broad background in advertising, public relations and public affairs.

But my proudest credential is that I am a Deadeye daughter. My dad is Bob Schmidt who was in the 381st Anti-Tank Company and served in Leyte and Okinawa. Dad has always had a deep love for his fellow Deadeyes so I grew up knowing all about the wonderful men with whom he served. Now, as a second generation Deadeye, it is my honor to serve as a member of the association board, continuing to tell the Deadeye story and supporting everyone who has ever worn the Deadeye "double diamond." You are my heroes and have given us all so much. We are united in our dedication to your legacy--the Deadeye legacy of duty, honor and country.

Deadeye News... *Items about the Association*

Fort Benning, Georgia - April 15, 2010

Dedication of New 96th Infantry Division Monument

By Don Dencker

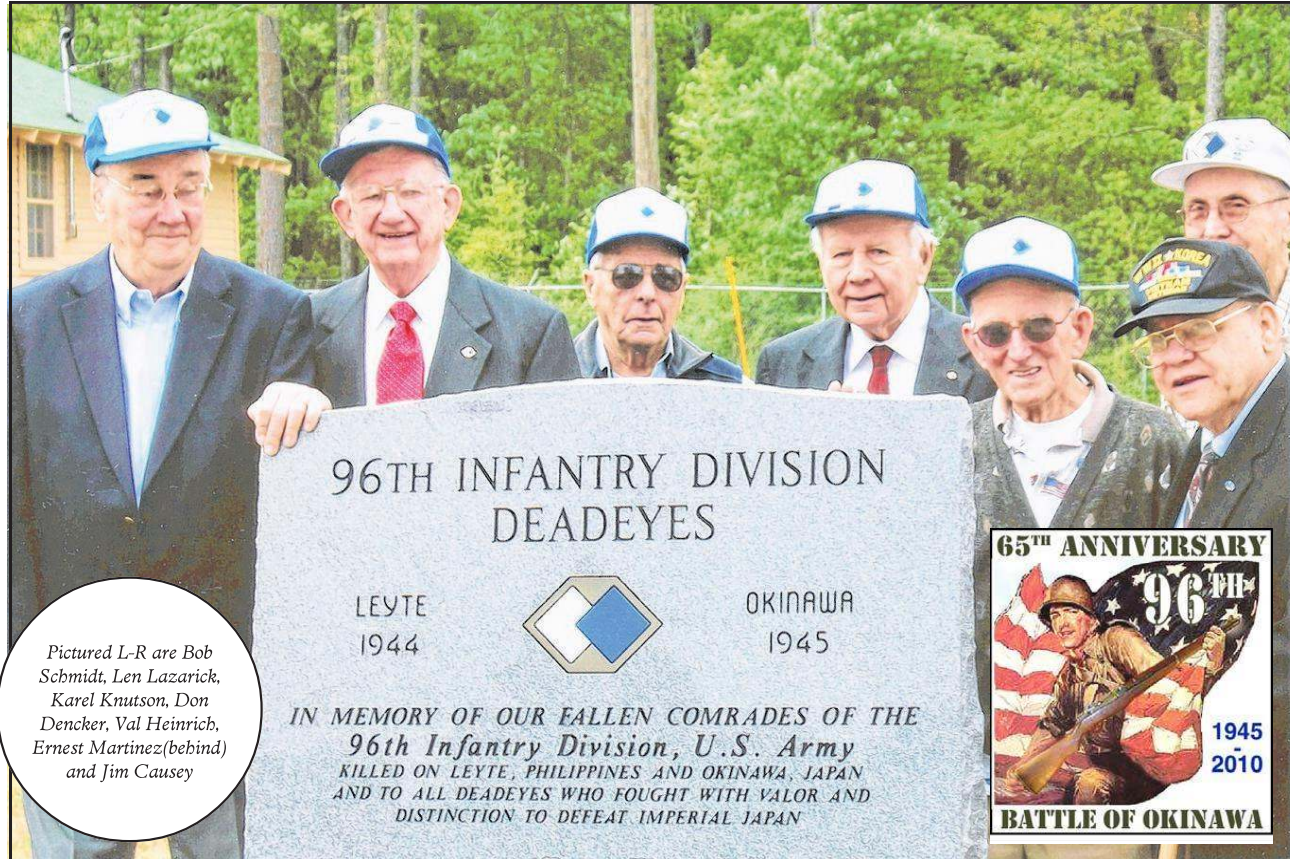
On April 15, 2010, the new 96th Infantry Division Monument was dedicated at the National Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, Georgia. The monument was temporarily installed at the Company Street for the impressive dedication ceremony. The Company Street is an area where wooden World War II buildings from Fort Benning are installed to form a fine display. The permanent site for the monument, the Walk of Honor, was not yet ready. It is expected the monument will be moved to the Walk of Honor later this year.

We were ably assisted in the dedication by the 192nd Infantry Brigade, and its Commanding Officer, Col. Terry McKenrick. The lineage of the 192nd goes back to the 96th Reconnaissance Troop of the 96th Division of World War II. The Brigade also provided a Color Guard, a Chaplain, a bugler, chairs and a sound system. We were also assisted by the National Infantry Foundation and its Operations Officer, Dick Hagan, who participated in the dedication program.

Representing the 96th Infantry Division and the Deadeye Association in the dedication were: Leonard Lazarick, James Causey, Robert Schmidt, Val Heinrich, Karel Knutson, Ernest Martinez, and Donald Dencker, together with Barbara Schmidt. A sudden illness prevented our President, Jim Collins, from being present.

After lunch at the National Infantry Museum, we were led on a tour of this new infantry museum by Frank Hanner, director of the museum.

A "Thank You" is extended to all who donated to this worthy cause. Major donors are recognized by a bronze plaque on the back of the monument.



Pictured L-R are Bob Schmidt, Len Lazarick, Karel Knutson, Don Dencker, Val Heinrich, Ernest Martinez (behind) and Jim Causey




Don Dencker with a soldier dressed in World War II style uniform at ceremony.

96th Infantry Division Monument Dedication


April 15, 2010
10:30 am

National Infantry Museum
at the Company Street

Fort Benning, Georgia



In commemoration of the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa
April 1 to June 30, 1945



96th INFANTRY DIVISION DEADEYE ASSOCIATION
Leading the Nation - Standing by each other

Reunion Notes 2010... Milwaukee, WI

Mary Eleanor's Notes & Ramblings On 2010 Reunion

By Mary Eleanor Wood Smith

Who would have ever imagined that Milwaukee, Wisconsin had so much for the Deadeyes and families to see and enjoy?

The reunion was quite a success. Over 225 persons were registered as of July 31 and we have no idea if the members brought family or friends that were not in the official count. Wow! But over 74 different 96th Infantry Division Deadeyes were represented. One of the highlights of the reunion was 381st, 383rd, 321st, 361st were represented but the Deadeyes mixed and met new buddies of the 96th.

Did you know the 96th Infantry Division had a band? Well, they did.

We had Deadeyes from all over the USA attend. Val Heinrich, Artillery, smiled and stood when Jim Collins announced that Val had attended 52 of the 53 reunions. How is that for loyalty?

Another fabulous experience was enjoyed by Jon Feeney and his family. The Milwaukee reunion was the first one he had attended. It is never too late to seek and befriend another Deadeye. Jon and his family were surrounded by warm welcomes from new friends.

Yes, Nick Schmidt, daughter of Carol Schmidt, and grandson of deceased William Dryer, attended the reunion so he could continue a friendship with Bill Draper's granddaughter, Bill, Fluorine and their entire family had registered for the reunion but life had other plans. Deadeye bonds are with the second and third generation too. Aren't the Deadeyes lucky?

As I looked around, I realized I needed to learn some new names. Well, I did. When I looked farther in the rooms, I kept looking for faces from over the last 15 years. Those I did not see, I missed and stopped and prayed, "God be with you." It is like going into church and having the opportunity to say aloud, "God be with you... and also with you." The Deadeye reunion gives us each something dear and special.

Another highlight was the hostess in the Double Tree Restaurant, whose father had been in the engineering division in the Philippines. She was so excited to have the Deadeyes on site. She brought the newsletter about her father's ship going home. We were told that the Double Tree's owner also had a connection with the Deadeyes... it is such a small world. Deadeyes keep wearing your hats, t-shirts and jackets... you will never know who wants to make a connection with a soldier who wore the Double Diamond!

The reunion t-shirt was a learning experience for the sons, daughters and other generations. We learned what the different insignia mean. It was fun to see Deadeyes respond to point and tell! If you are not aware of the meaning of all the insignia, look on the new web site, and find the answer. There is always something new to learn.

The activities and tours were fun and educational. The feedback from the persons who went showed they had fun. The tours often had a surprise. The candy factory gave everyone a nice sample bag of candy. At the Palermos's Pizza Factory, everyone had pizza and a t-shirt.

When the group went to Kopp's for lunch, they received custard or a hamburger. At Lakeview Brewery, they received a beer glass. At Reiman's Publishing Center, the group sampled the demonstration cake. One of the reunion members said they ate their way through the reunion! The Friday night fish fry was a Milwaukee experience that many enjoyed. Some ate at Harley Davidson's Motor Restaurant and others ate at Lakeview Brewery at the restaurant on site.

At Lakeview Brewery, some members enjoyed root beer and others enjoyed the brewery's beer. Food, drink, entertainment and conversation made a great hit at the reunion. If you were at the banquet, one would understand that the banquet count went from 139 to 189 before the dinner was served. It was close

quarters but the servers maneuvered like an orchestrated piece of music. Some of the servers were football-player size. The laughs and muted conversations abounded in the entire room. The evening entertainment was the American Legion Band with eighteen musicians and tremendous sound board. The musicians, all veterans, played the night away. They played past 11 pm while a few of the last reunion mend bid adieu. The marvelous selection of vintage and modern songs filled the room. The music was hummed, sung, swayed and a few people danced. No matter what the outer motion, many of the reunion members sat and chose to focus on old and new memories of their buddies - Deadeyes and their families.

The happiness filled the room as hugs, pats on the back, smiles, kisses and solid handshakes silenced the room but men, women and children gently left with fond farewells..... until next year. What a wonderful reunion!

The VA Medical Center of Milwaukee offered wheelchairs and walkers that some of the members shared. Remember for next year... you do not have to use the wheel chair all the time but they will be available for use. All you have to do is let the reunion committee know in advance.

More Notes.....

After the reunion, I was contacted by Angelo Denno. His

grandfather was a Deadeye and he would like to find out the events that the Deadeyes participate in. He plans to become a member of the Pacific Theater's Reenactment group. There is only one in the USA that he knows about. He would appreciate any help in obtaining true memorabilia from men or families that wore the Double Diamond. The reenactment group requires authentic clothes and equipment. If you would like to help, please telephone him. He does not know anything about his grandfather's time with the 96th except a few pictures. One picture listed a Harold St (unintelligible). Anything you can do to continue the legacy would be greatly appreciated.

Since last spring, I have received e-mails and phone calls from men, daughters and sons of the 96th that would appreciate your help in finding information about their loved ones. Our web site is one great place to start. Please look and see if you can help. As Kathy Tragos, daughter of Sgt. Diez, said, "No one except these Deadeyes can fill the hole about my father. These Deadeyes are so fantastic!"

• Welcome to our new Board Members: Virgil "Bub" Simmons, 96th Infantry Replacement, WWII, Ann Moroz "Marjorie Main" Duncan, daughter of Mike Moroz, Terri Jones, Daughter of Frank McCafferty.

• New Taps contact: Fran Huff, wife of Bob Huff, Indianapolis.



"SIS"
Mary Eleanor
Wood Smith

• We need volunteers for the 2011 reunion! Please send email to mewoodsmith@gmail.com.

• Check out our new and growing web site: www.96th-infantry-deadeyes.org

• We had 14 ASTP members, plus one guest, attend the ASTP luncheon.

• We had 45 ladies attend the ladies' luncheon.

• Welcome and thank you to Col. Phillip Jolly, the new 96th Sustainment Officer of the 96th. He attended the reunion and greeted the Deadeyes.

• Great News! Mary Lou White and Glenn Hamilton were married in the summer of 2010.

• Herman and Helen Buffington have two new great-grandchildren.

• Ernie and Lorraine Malkewitz have downsized and moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan.

2010 Reunion Attendees

Deadeyes/Families

Don Huber
Russell Watts
Melvin Parrish
Joe Gonzales
Kenneth Dolan
Sam Wood, Sr.
Jim Causey
Robert Kline
Virgil "Bub" Simmons
Val Heinrich
Don Dencker
Jim Black
Col. Phillip Jolly
Adelbert Miller
Howard Bentley
Rusty Johnson
Bob Stiefert
Edwin Wright
William Draper
Frank McCafferty
Mike Moroz

Robert Huff
Marvin Margoshes
Robert "Bob" Schmidt
Andrew Gaber
Frak Switzer
Thomas Toles
Karel Knutson
Ed Sagurton
Glenn Stewart
Orvill Caspers
Lester Brown
Jim Collins
Raymond "Doc" Strenski
Marvin Reames
Roman Klimkowitz
Leonard "Laz" Lazerick
John Graves
Herman Buffington
Col. John Read
Bob Ensor
Doug Peterson
Herb Wolf

Calvin Clements
Jon Feeney
Jim Foster
Bruce Heise

Family Representing Deceased Deadeyes

John Boyack
Margie and Robert Davis
Kathy Tregos
Ruby and Jim Simmen Winings
John Meyer
Jack Phillips
Gerald Schritz

Widows

Shirley Kots
Maria Briggs
Jane Daly
Dorothy Jacobson
Mary Lou Sinnen
Fran Marianga

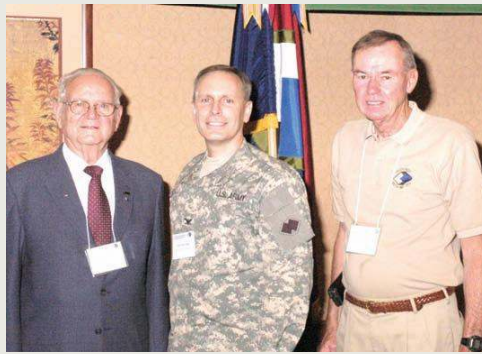
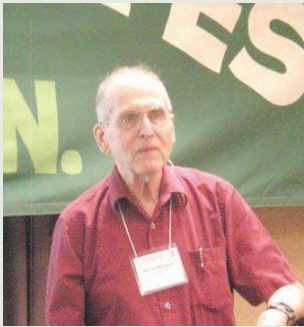
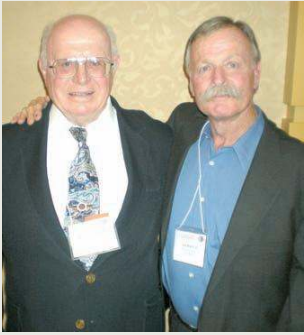
Pat McMillan
Rosemary Geistner

Board Members Present

James "Jim" Black
Jim Collins
Don Dencker
Don Klimkowitz
Dennis O'Brien
Scott Buffington
Barb Schmidt
John Read
Mary Eleanor Wood Smith
Marvin Margoshes
Glenn Stewart
Jack Phillips
(New Board Members)
Virgil "Bub" Simmons
Ann Moroz Duncan
Terri Jones
Fran Huff

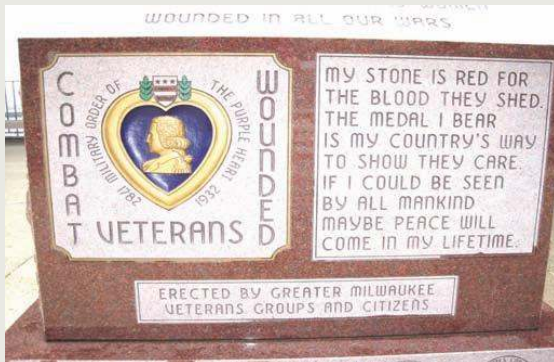
The 96TH Infantry Division

Scenes from the July, 2010 Reunion



Deadeye Association

nion in Milwaukee



Reunion Notes 2010... Milwaukee, WI



2010 Reunion Memorial Address: Families Remembered

"The war was about fighting for the freedom of my country."

Marvin Reames, 383rd, Co. K, 96th Infantry Division



Marvin Reames

gave of himself, gave time out of his life to protect our nation, to preserve freedom, and to honor what America stands for. Just as our wives, children, families at home fought to preserve resources, to keep each other strong in times of trouble, and to do everything they could for us when we returned home. In our own way, each of us is a hero.

That being said, I'm sure many men here today think what I first thought when working on this speech, "I am not a hero." At least not in my own eyes. I think my brothers can agree with this. I have time and again been referred to as heroic, and have been asked about my exploits during the war. In truth, I didn't want to include them. The war was never about me. It was about my brothers, my family, my friends, and my country. I wasn't a hero, I was a soldier. I was doing my job and my duty. While on the front lines, I can't say that I didn't think about the danger of battle, but while fighting alongside my fellow Deadeyes, I felt safer. I never felt that if I killed someone it would be exciting. For me, the war was about fighting for the freedom of my country, about defending my family and others and everything this beautiful land stands for.

I think Tom Brokaw described it well in his book, "The Greatest Generation" when he said straight-away on the inside cover, "They answered the call to save the world from the two most powerful and ruthless military machines ever assembled... they faced great odds, but they did not protest. They won the war and they saved the world. They have so many stories to tell, stories that in many cases they have never told before, because in a deep sense they didn't think what they were doing was that special, because everyone else was doing it too." Now, as the older generation of this country, we have the privilege of witnessing the impact that we've had,

but at that time we viewed ourselves as ordinary men, doing only what we were trained and called to do by both our country and our own sense of duty.

Out on the battlefield, stories that sound heroic or exciting were anything but. We all experienced fear and exhaustion. We all had the same two goals -

The war was never about me. It was about my brothers, my family, my friends, and my country. I wasn't a hero, I was a soldier. I was doing my job and my duty.

brothers, rather than as an individual.

Over the years, as part of this family, I have been fortunate enough to include my biological family into my 96th family. Together, we all have witnessed as many of our brothers have left us. One of the former ministers of my church would lead "Celebration Memorials" for those who had died. He would say "This person who has passed has not truly gone, but has merely moved to where he joined the ones in the balcony who had gone before and was watching us from above." I like to think of our brothers like this: that they are not gone, but are watching us now from the balcony, joining in on our Memorial Service.

During this year, and in the years past, we have lost many of our brothers. Some have been taken by accidents, some by illness and some by the passing of time. As fellow Deadeyes, we remember each one of them as a brother. And to our nation, and our families, they were all heroes.

doing what we had to do, then going home. If you haven't already written your story, I urge you to do so soon. Your family will appreciate it and when you are gone, you will still be with them in your stories.

This is a story I've told my family before, which I am including today. There was a time following the surrender of the Japanese on Okinawa that we were doing some policing of the area, picking up un-spent rounds and explosives when a Japanese soldier jumped out of a trench and came at me with a grenade in his hand. I pulled back the bolt to load my carbine but the bolt and round jammed. While again attempting to get my carbine loaded, I heard a gunshot and the Japanese soldier had fallen at my feet. Standing beside me was a fellow 96'er. I don't remember this man's name but I consider him a hero. He surely was a hero to me. He was also my Guardian Angel. I remember stories like this, stories of men standing beside each other, helping each other without asking for or expecting the honor of recognition, but of being remembered for their deeds as a band of

I will leave you with this quote by Benjamin Harrison about Memorial Day, with which I totally agree: "I have never been able to think of the day as one of mourning; I have never quite been able to feel that flags at half-mast were appropriate on Decoration Day. I have rather felt that the flag should be at the peak, because those whose dying we commemorate rejoiced in seeing it where their valor placed it. We honor them in a joyous, thankful, triumphant commemoration of what they did."

Let us honor our brothers today, but let us do it with a smile on our faces, remembering the times of joy that we shared with them, and also the trials we lived through with them. Let us remember them as our family and heroes of our nation, for being nothing more than themselves, and doing nothing more than what they thought was right.

In my wildest dreams, I never thought I would ever do a thing like this. When Glenn Stewart called and asked me to do the memorial address, I just about said "no" right away. But, he is a very good friend of mine and I thought long and hard about it, prayed about it, then decided I would try it. While writing this, I appreciated very much the help of my granddaughter, Sydney Sever. She took some of my thoughts and put them into these words for me. I hope you will bear with me through it. It will become apparent that I am not a public speaker by any means but I am doing this for one for my family members, Glenn.

Each one of us will be memorialized at some time, in one way or another, by someone. Today, we have a Memorial Service for our fallen comrades and their families. We lose a few each year and

as time goes by, more will leave us. As members of the 96th, we each have been given an opportunity. We have not only our biological families, the families that raised us, or the extended family members and friends who have influenced us along the way but in addition, we have our brothers, those who stood with us on foreign soil, whether we ever knew their names or not, whether they returned home with us or remained behind, whether they have ever attended a reunion or not. We are family. This is in honor of all those and for us as we leave this life.

Joseph Campbell once said, "A hero is someone who gives his or her life to something bigger than one's self." I believe it is safe to say that whether or not one of our comrades died in service or has passed away since, each and every one of us



Deadeye News... *Items about the Association*

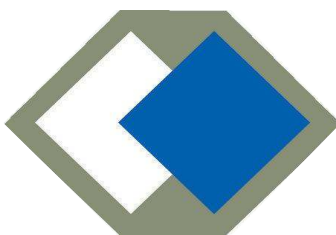
96th Sustainment Brigade

Collins attends Change of Command Ceremony



Association President
Major General Jim Collins (Ret.)

Major General Jim Collins (Ret.), president of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association, was among those attending the 96th Sustainment Brigade's Change of Command Ceremony July 12 at the University of Utah. Col. Phillip S. Jolly is the new commander, succeeding Col. C J. Read. Both made remarks at the ceremony, as did the reviewing officer, Brig. Gen. Mark MacCarley, commander, 311th ESC. The master of ceremony was Maj. Patrick O'Leary, S3, 96th Sustainment Brigade.



96th

SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

(Reprinted from the Change of Command Ceremony)

The 96th Infantry Division was first organized in October, 1918, during the U.S. mobilization for World War One, although hostilities ended before it could be sent to France.

During the 1920s and 1930s, it served as an Organized Reserve headquarters supporting Citizens Military Training and Civilian Conservation Corps camps in the Pacific Northwest.

In August 1942, the Division re-organized as a combat unit. It took part in the land battle of Leyte in October-November 1944 and the Okinawa Campaign of April - June 1945.

On Okinawa, it earned a Presidential Unit Citation, one of only four U.S. Army divisions to be honored in its entirety.

In 1946, it again became an administrative headquarters, and in 1996 after several reorganizations within the U.S. Army Reserve was re-designated the U.S. Army 96th

Regional Readiness Command or "RRC", with responsibility for Army Reserve units in Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Twenty reserve units from the command deployed to the Gulf War of 1990-91, four units supported peacekeeping missions in Bosnia, and one unit was deployed to Kosovo.

Many soldiers and units from the 96th RRC supported Operation Noble Eagle, post-911 September homeland defense, Operation Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism Mission.

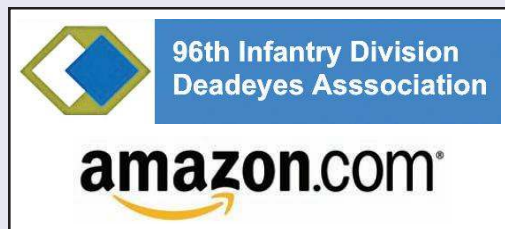
The 96th RRC was re-designated the 96th Sustainment Brigade, effective 18 SEP 2008.

The 96th Sustainment Brigade deployed to Taji, Iraq in September 2009 and managed logistic sustainment operations from Taji and Al Asad, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While you shop at home

You Can Earn Money For The Deadeyes

Submitted by Marvin Margoshes



Online shopping is popular. When you shop online, you can earn money for the Deadeyes Association. Amazon.com has a program that allows customers to direct a portion of what they spend to an organization like ours. It only takes a few extra seconds of your time to make it happen.

When you plan to shop at Amazon.com, first go to our Association's Web site at www.96thdeadeyes.org. Then click on the Links tab near the top of the page. That brings you to another page, and near the top is a small advertisement for Amazon.com,

Just click anywhere on that ad; you'll be connected to amazon.com. (What is advertised changes from time to time, but clicking on the ad doesn't mean you have to buy that particular item.) Shop as usual, and our Association will be credited with a portion of the price of what you buy on that visit, usually about 4%. It does not change what you pay.

Online shopping is especially popular for Christmas gifts. You avoid the crowded shops, and the vendor will ship the gift for you, so you also avoid the lines at the post office and the costs of a mailing box and postage. Many vendors, including Amazon.com, will gift wrap your purchase and you can include a card.

Deadeye News... *Items about the Association*

Utah soldiers home after a year in Iraq

May 20, 2010

By Jed Boal, KSL Broadcasting
Salt Lake City UT

SALT LAKE CITY -- After spending nearly a year at war in Iraq, dozens of Utah soldiers returned home Thursday to embrace their families.

The last 55 U.S. Army reservists from the 96th Sustainment Brigade will eat dinner with

water, fuel, ammunition, medical supplies, vehicle parts, etc. to troops.

Last July, 321 Army reservists left Fort Douglas. Others in the unit started to come home in March, so these soldiers couldn't wait to hear the word, "dismissed."

Some soldiers who previously served in Iraq called this deployment less dangerous.

"I was in charge of a retrograde mission," said Sachs, "which means, I sent home a lot of equipment that we weren't using anymore. So, I basically ran the D.I. for the army."

They're proud of their work and the progress they see.

"The soldiers over there are integrating with the Iraqis and turning things over to the Iraqi government," said Maj. Patrick O'Leary. "So, the partnership is really working, and we see the draw-down taking place. They're standing up on their own."

But now, they will focus on their families and friends.

While a couple of soldiers told us Iraq was calmer than on previous deployments, another told us that all depends on location.

Wearing Awards and Decorations

Submitted by Jim Collins

At this year's reunion in Milwaukee, I provided some comments and suggestions on wearing military awards and decorations on civilian clothing. Several people asked me to share my suggestions with our Dispatch readers.

First, the Officers Guide and the NCO Guide provide some specific guidelines for the proper wear of military decorations and this is based on Army Regulations. What I am about to suggest may be close but not exactly what is stated in these two Guides.

When wearing a sport coat or suit jacket it is appropriate to wear award and decoration lapel pins such as the Bronze Star medal or the Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB). Wear the Bronze Star pin over the button hole found in most men's left side lapels. The CIB could be worn above the Bronze Star too. The Purple Heart or other award can be used in place of the Bronze Star. Wear just one award Lapel

pin and one decoration like the CIB, Combat Medic Badge, Jump Wings, Ranger Tab, Presidential Unit citation pin or 96th Double Diamond. Don't go overboard on a lot of pins on the lapel. Keep it simple with one or two pins.

Many people like to put pins on their hats, like a ball cap. What you put on the hat and where is up to you. There are companies that will make up hats with various campaign and service ribbons embroidered on as well as unit insignia like the 96th Double Diamond. I like the hats with various unit pins/patches on them.

Miniature Ribbons are



appropriate for wear on a suit jacket. Use one, two or three rows of miniature ribbons with no more than 5 ribbons per row. They can be pinned on to the pocket. I would suggest just one row of five ribbons maximum all on a ribbon bar. It looks good and lets others know you have served in the Military. Staying with one row will make it manageable for most of you who have not worn your ribbons in public.

When attending a formal military dinner, a tuxedo is appropriate for those who are no longer on duty. The miniature ribbons are worn on the left lapel of the tuxedo jacket.

For the ladies, I would suggest you wear a 96th Double Diamond pin. The pin is small and looks very nice with almost any color or garment.

DVA Headstones and Markers Available

Submitted by Jim Collins

The Department of Veterans Affairs is making available a new medallion to be affixed to an existing privately purchased headstone or marker to signify the deceased's status as a veteran.

If requested, the medallion will be furnished in lieu of a traditional Government headstone or marker for veterans that died on or after November 1, 1990, and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

The medallion is currently available in three sizes, 5 inches, 3 inches, and 1 1/2 inches. Each medallion will be inscribed with the word VETERAN across the top and the Branch of Service at the bottom. Appropriate affixing adhesive, instructions and hardware will be provided with the medallion.

Important: This benefit is only applicable if the grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker. In these instances, eligible veterans are entitled to either a traditional Government-furnished headstone or marker, or the new medallion, but not both.

For family members of eligible veterans interested in submitting a claim for the new medallion, instructions on how to apply for a medallion will be updated on NCA's web site at www.cem.va.gov/hm_hm.asp. Until a new form specifically for ordering the medallion is available, use PDF icon VA Form 40-1330; Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker.

Fill the form out completely with the exception of blocks 11 (Type of Headstone or Marker Requested) and 27 (Remarks). Leave block 11 blank. In block 27 put the word Medallion followed by the size requested.

For example; use "Medallion 5 inch" to request a 5 inch medallion.



their families and loved ones.

"Just complete excitement," said Maj. Patrick O'Leary, describing the emotions of the moment. "Glad to be home."

And glad to be back with his wife and kids.

The soldiers spent the last nine months deployed in Taji, Iraq, helping other troops with just about any job.

Troops and their families tried to contain the anticipation as the soldiers of the 96th Sustainment Brigade set their boots on Utah soil again. As they came off the plane, the troops fell into formation for brief accolades before breaking to reunite with their families.

What is... the 96th Sustainment Brigade?

The 96th Sustainment Brigade serves as a military support unit managing the needs and flow of supplies like food,

"Iraq is really chill right now, I guess," said Sgt. Terry Sachs.

"The country was a lot calmer than we were expecting, so that was a nice surprise," said Spc. Ron Hubbard.

But, the soldiers will tell you, no deployment is easy for family at home.

"It's been a long 10 months, I guess. Very long," said wife Valynn Hubbard. "I'm just glad to have him home."

The Sustainment Brigade makes sure U.S. troops have the right things they need at the right time. Diverse assignments and duties that include a chaplain's assistant.

"We brought services to the soldiers so that they could worship the way that they wanted to," said Spc. Hubbard.

They also managed troop movements and equipment.

Deadeye News... *Items about the Association*

Can we solve it together?

Our Association Faces Extinction

Submitted by Marvin Margoshes

Most organizations of WW II vets have closed down as their members have grown older and less in number. Earlier this year, the VA estimated that there are fewer than 2.25 million WWII veterans left. Our association closed down after the reunion in Arlington, Virginia, but a new one formed with membership expanded to include veterans who served in post-WW II army organizations that wear the double-diamond shoulder patch. Unfortunately, too few of those later veterans have joined to ensure that our activities will continue and that our achievements will be remembered for long.

At the 2010 reunion, the Board decided to find a way to bring new generations of Deadeyes into an association with the WW II generation. We will do this in a way that has been used since the 1950s to gen-

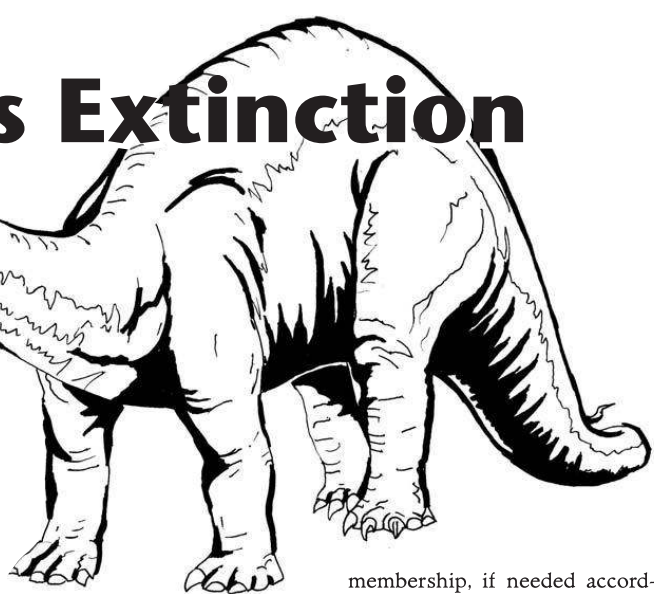
erate and evaluate solutions to difficult problems. We invite all of our members, and even interested nonmembers, to take part.

The method is called "brainstorming." It has been used since the 1950s to create and assess ways to solve problems. At first, the participants had to be in the same room, but now it has been done successfully on the Internet. Our Facebook page, "96th Division Deadeyes," will be a good place to do this. Anyone with access to a computer can join, and there is no charge. There are already more than a hundred members of that Facebook page.

Brainstorming has only a few rules, but they are important. Keep an open mind. Negativism will kill open discussion, so try to always be

constructive. The first step is to collect a list of ideas. Don't hesitate to make your own suggestion, even if it is half-baked. Someone else may provide the icing. To encourage that happening, you might point out where your suggestion needs help. Add on to other's ideas, whether or not the originator asked for it, but always without criticizing it.

In Step 2 we will together review the list of suggestions. Which do you think are the most promising? The rest can be ignored. How can the best ideas be improved? Will it work better if we adopt more than one idea? Your life experience could come into play. Do you remember a similar situation in the past? If you don't remember the details, just mentioning what you recall



membership, if needed according to our established procedures.

may trigger another's memory. The strong point of the process is that it brings into play the ideas and knowledge of a group of individuals, none of whom would have solved the problem alone.

The outcome will help the Association's Board in planning a course of action. Their decision will be voted on by the

We are distributing this announcement by e-mail, in this issue of the Deadeye Dispatch and on the Facebook page. (Go to Facebook.com and search there for "96th deadeyes".) Brainstorming will start about November 1.

Four Deadeyes Return to Okinawa on 65th Anniversary of the Battle

Deadeyes Charles Cebuhar, Company D, and Joe Gonzales, Company M, 381st Infantry; Aroell Sherban, Hq. Medic of 3rd Battalion, 382nd Infantry; and Ken Dolan, Company M, 383rd Infantry were the only Okinawa battle veterans who were in a Valor Tours group which visited Okinawa, June 19-25, 2010. Our Deadeyes were treated royally by the U.S. Army on Okinawa. They were honored guests at the Army Birthday Ball and Banquet the evening of June 19th.

They were also honored guests at a special Okinawa Battle Retreat Ceremony at the Torii Station Army base, and visited the Cornerstone of Peace Monument where the names of 96th Infantry Division soldiers killed on Okinawa are listed on black marble panels, as a part of the listing of 14,005 U.S. combat dead from the Battle of Okinawa.

Other locations of interest visited by the Deadeyes were the Brigadier General Bradley and Colonel May monuments, the Kakazu Ridge Battle Park, Hacksaw Ridge, Big Apple (Yaeju Dake Ridge), and other 96th Infantry Division battle sites



Deadeye Aroell Sherban attaches streamers to the flag.



Deadeyes Charles Cebuhar, Company D, and Joe Gonzales, Company M, 381st Infantry; Aroell Sherban, Hq. Medic of 3rd Battalion, 382nd Infantry; and Ken Dolan, Company M, 383rd Infantry, were treated royally in a Valor Tours group which visited Okinawa, June 19 - 25, 2010.

Deadeye History... Our Heritage is our Strength

Finally Coming Home! Notes from a Troop Ship

Reprint submitted by
Mary Eleanor Wood Smith

Article submitted by
Helen Buffington

It was early August 1945, and Deadeyes were waiting without anticipation the next step in the war.

On the other side of the world, a shipload of GIs was in the Mediterranean, leaving Italy headed for the Philippines--to help.

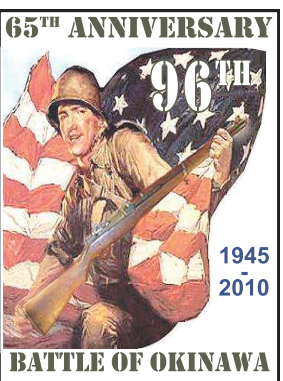
And then a few days later came news of "the bomb." And the subsequent end of the war on Aug. 14.

The GIs aboard the USS Stewart celebrated in fine style out there in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. But the next day's news brought an even greater celebration: The men learned that instead of going on to the Philippines, the ship was being diverted to New York and "home."

Details of the big celebrations and the ship's return came to light recently when officials of the Dispatch got access to a copy of the ship's Aug. 19, 1945 newspaper, "The Trooper."

"And now, we are going home," said a page one item. "What better feeling can a man have? Home to those we love, to the scenes we love, to the land we love."

Those Deadeyes in the Pacific understood perfectly.



U. S. S. Stewart "TROOPER" 19 August 1945 8

"THAT WONDERFUL MORNING"

Yeah fellas, it was a big night that evening of August 14th, but remember August 15th?...a Wednesday afternoon?... The morning after the war ended. In the morning, the first question you asked... "Are we still headed south? Do you think there is a chance of us getting new orders?...say maybe go into an eastern port...yeah you think we will...you say there is a rumor the ship's captain already got new orders...well why doesn't he announce it?...Naw, heck! we won't get any new orders. Washington won't be thinking about us...we're in the army...You know how the army goes...we'll go on to Panama and then brother, you'll be lucky to get to San Francisco...we'll probably have to go on to Manila even if the war is over... What's that fellow saying...says the sister ship of this darn tug received orders to go into port at Norfolk and they were headed for Panama and Manila too...Hey! Boy that sounds good; maybe we might get new orders...But no, we are too close to Panama...we're headed south and now we will be lucky to get home in a couple months. That sounds pretty good though about the sister ship. Gee! wouldn't it be swell if they did radio new orders and we would get to go into New York...man, that would be too good. I'm from Brooklyn and New York...wow..I'd be home in .. Whew! Ah gee, I'd be home in two day myself...It's only about 18 hours to Chicago and buddy, I can just see myself walking down State Street and Michigan Blvd...you say you live in Florida?... Well, that's the way it is; everybody can't get home in a hurry...Maybe they got trains running down there by now Lou...Aw but what the heck, we aren't going home...we're headed south...I tell you, Washington has forgotten about us...remember buddy, you're still in the army and you know the army..."

"Arguments...rumors...reports, but still we go rolling along...rolling along to the south...right on to Panama and then on to Manila..." "Yes sir buddy, it was a great war and it's swell that it is over but oh man, how I'd like to see those states... that good old USA." Those were the rumors...those were the questions...those were the thoughts in the mind of every man aboard this ship...3,000minds of GI's and army officers and the thoughts too of a hell of a lot of navy men and navy officers on board this rolling ship. Those were the thought as six A.M...7 A.M...8 A.M...9 A.M...10 A.M...10:15 A.M...10:18 A.M...10:19..."

Then at ten twenty...10:20 A.M., Wednesday morning, August 15, 1945..Whoooo..

Remember that whistle that came over the loudspeaker every time there was an announcement to be made...It was another announcement...probably that troops would have to continue fire drills until they got the time down to three minutes or less...but no, this was the announcement in a very quiet dull-like tone..."The ship's destination has been changed to New York...Wow!!! Talk about celebrations...3,000 men went absolutely nuts...Guys cried...GIs screamed. "We're going home buddy...we're going home...we're on the way..I'll be home by this time next week...Hey man! Washington didn't forget us after all...we're going home"...It started all over again...Yes, last night was a big night but this was a bigger day. Men ripped the shirts right off the backs of their buddies...GI's slapped officers on the back...and officers hugged privates...billie clubs the guards were carrying went sailing out to the fish in the Atlantic...hats went off into the air...the deck was a scrambling madhouse of 3,000 GI's, officers, navy men and navy officers and marines...yeah man! Don't forget those Marines, they were right in on it too...an heck fellas, you can't describe a scene like that...some men stood around with tears in their eyes, there was no doubt about it this time...guys thoughts of seeing his wife again...seeing his Mom and Dad or sweetheart was too much...some guys couldn't even talk...some guys tried to talk but their tongues were twisted with excitement. "Home buddy, think of it, we are going home...back to those things we left so long, long ago; back to those people we love...back to those old familiar streets and neighborhoods. Yes sir buddy, it's really all over now...we're going home..Aht it's too good to be true.. Honest it's just like a dream..what a break we got...headed for Manila, almost to Panama and now here we are headed for New York..think of those guys back there in Italy..Gee! We thought they were lucky getting to staythere for a few more months instead of going to the Pacific. Gee whiz Mac, guess I'll have to go see my old buddies, Mom, Dad and wife and baby..Ah! I still can't believe it...something is liable to happen yet...Hey! Why doesn't this ship go faster..Seems like we slowed down an awful lot since we changed course to New York..and look how much smoother the water is out there..it's just like glass..not even a ripple in it..not even a little ripple..I've never seen it like that before in the Atlantic...yes the world is really at peace.

All day long the men hugged the rail of the ship...everybody just wanted to stand (continued on page 9)

150 yards and 15 minutes of terror...

By Master Sgt. Steven Leitch
(Reprinted from 2006)

Within 15 minutes and 150 yards of the beachhead, he was hit in the chin by a Japanese bullet. To Pvt. Leonard W. Lazarick, the war in the Pacific became a sudden reality.

"We barely landed on Leyte, and we were getting resistance," said Lazarick. "I was the first to get it. I was lucky it wasn't too serious and I had to be hospitalized only for a short time before returning to my unit. From then on, my buddies called me the "Minute Man," because I got wounded within minutes of hitting the beach."

Lazarick, a rifleman in K Company, 382nd Infantry Regiment, 96th Infantry Division, was a 19-year-old college student at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1943 when he decided to enter the war.

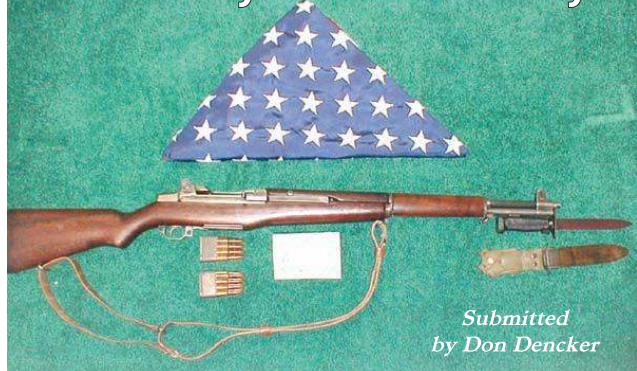
After the war, Lazarick returned to his native Pennsylvania, continued his college education and became a mechanical engineer. He married and had three children.

Today, the 76-year-old widower lives in Holland, Pa., and keeps his alliance with other former members of the 96th Infantry Division by attending annual reunions held throughout the country. This year's reunion will be held on July 25-30 in Salt Lake City, Utah, the headquarters of the 96th Regional Support Command (RSC). There, Lazarick hopes to reunite once again with his buddies of yesteryear as well as meet with today's soldiers of the 96th RSC.

"Some of my buddies in the 96th Infantry Division are my best friends," said Lazarick. "They are the residue of what was best in the U.S. in the 1940s. I'm also looking forward to meeting some of the best soldiers in the 96th RSC today when I come to the reunion."

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

31st Infantry Division Deadeyes



Submitted by Don Dencker

I have been asked to explain the "Honorable Discharge" papers of a number of 96th Infantry Division veterans. Recently, I was asked to explain the Honorable Discharges of two men, one of which indicated service in Company I, 124th Infantry Regiment, and the other service in Company H, 167th Infantry. The 124th, 155th and 167th infantry regiments were a part of the 31st Infantry Division. Also, both discharges under "Battles and Campaigns" stated "Southern Philippines" and "Ryukyus" (Okinawa).

These facts told me that these

two men were "Deadeyes." They were part of a group of about 2,300 "high point" men from the 96th Infantry Division sent to the 31st Infantry Division on Mindanao Island on October 25, 1945. (About 2,200 31st Infantry Division "low point" men were sent to the 96th). This was an effort to get these 2,300 Deadeyes home to the U.S. earlier than had they remained with the 96th on Mindoro Island. The higher one's point total was, the sooner the soldier would be shipped home. The 31st Infantry Division was scheduled to be shipped home much sooner than the 96th Infantry Division.

96th Infantry Division Okinawa Battle Casualties

Submitted by Don Dencker



This being the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa, I took a look at the 96th Infantry Division Ryukyus (Okinawa) "After Action Report." The "After Action" report was completed after the end of the battle and was as factual as possible. It was dated July 28, 1945.

In the 96th Division Medical Section of this report, the following data was presented:

Battle Casualties (wounded)	7,369
Disease Casualties	2,341
Injuries	1,269
Combat Fatigue	883
Died of wounds	<u>122</u>
Casualties, excluding Killed in Action	11,874
To which add, Killed in Action	<u>1,500</u>
Total Casualties	13,374

Died of Wounds were very seriously wounded men who died in Division medical care. The 96th Infantry Division history book: "The Deadeyes: The Story of the 96th Infantry Division" for the Okinawa Battle has the names of 1,622 killed: 1,622 minus 122 = 1,500 entered in the above tabulation.

96th Infantry Division strength on landing, according to the "After Action" report, was 12,837 men, very much under authorized strength. If one adds in the combat units attached to the 96th, 763rd Tank Battalion, 593rd Joint Attack Signal Company and 1 company of the 88th Chemical Mortar Battalion, the total combat strength is about 14,000 men. This put total casualties at 95.5% of landing strength. It also should be noted that quite a number of the 14,000 suffered two or more of the listed casualties.



The 2011 Reunion Committee needs pictures for an 18-month calendar which would be available at the merchandise center during the reunion.

Pictures of anything related to the 96th are needed. Send them to: Mary Eleanor W. Smith at 2104 Slash Ct., No. Augusta, SC 29841.



Ladies Notice:

The 2011 Ladies' Luncheon is in the planning stage. We need all ladies to bring one or more scarves to the luncheon. If you wear scarves or just have them in your closet - we have a treat for you! The scarves may be any size or texture, bandana, rectangular, large, square or long and flowing. This should really be fun!!! Think about it now and know you need to pack them for the reunion in 2011! If you have some you will never use, bring them also!



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

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Tokyo Rose And Vinegar Joe Agree:

The 96th Tops All At Killing Japs

96TH DIV. OKINAWA --- It is seldom that Tokyo Rose and "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, new Tenth Army commander, agree on anything. But they did recently when both commented on the famous 96th (Deadeye) division of Maj. Gen. J. L. Bradley.

Tokyo Rose, in a frenzied burst of anger, screamed that the Deadeyes are "Chicago gangsters --- murderers released from the Chicago jails."

"Vinegar Joe" didn't agree with that statement literally, but he did go along with its general spirit by labeling the 96th a "damn good sluggin' outfit."

Given Large Order

The Deadeyes hit the coral beaches of Okinawa on "Love Day," April 1.

The division landed on the narrow neck of the island with a mission of driving south with the 7th to capture the southern end of the island and its two main cities of Naha and Shuri - a task which eventually took five divisions.

Murderous fire from ill-famed Kakazu, Tombstone and Hacksaw Ridge greeted the Deadeyes when they turned south. The advance was halted while battalions of artillery poured tons of heavy explosive shells in the Jap positions and Navy bombers bombed and strafed the enemy. Battleships, cruisers and destroyers poured in broadsides.

In the words of Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge, XXIV Corps commander, it was "the greatest fire support of any one assault in the Pacific." Some observers compared it with Cassino. The barrage "hurt" the Jap - but he wasn't licked. He came out of his fortifications and caves and let loose with machine guns, mortars and artillery.

Costly Cave Fighting

Tanks and self-propelled 105s poured direct fire into the caves, but in the end it was the infantry which advanced from cave to cave with grenades, flame throwers and satchel charges.

But possession of the top of a hill meant the job was only half done. The

Jap is a great rear slope defender.

Effective artillery or tank support is difficult there, and the division lost more men blasting a way down the other side. Every cave had to be sealed.

Kakazu Ridge never was really taken. It was outflanked and made untenable at the cost of thousands of American casualties.

Cracked Shuri Line

In the first 30 days of the campaign, the 96th took two of the main Jap fortifications.

Hill by the 96th Division as the most important single factor in the collapse of the Shuri position, since it opened the way for the envelopment of the hostile right and forced the enemy's immediate withdrawal."

Kill 20,000 Japs

By mid-June, official estimates credit the Deadeyes with killing 20,000 Japs, the biggest bag of any division on the island, but the price was highest of any XXIV corps division. Only two or three survivors remain in some of the original platoons left from Leyte. More than one company

Re-print from Pacific Stars & Stripes

June 28, 1945

Submitted by Don Dencker

This article on the 96th Infantry Division came from the Armed Forces newspaper, Pacific Stars and Stripes, dated June 28, 1945. Okinawa was declared secure on June 22 and 96th Infantry mop-up ended on June 30, 1945, With the landing on April 1, three months were spent in total battle.



After a few days rest, they went back and helped crack the vaunted Shuri line, then drove on south. At the end of the 78th day of the campaign, the 96th had been in the line 68 days.

Recognition of Deadeye accomplishments came in a letter from the late Lt. Gen. Simon Buckner to Gen. Bradley:

"I wish to congratulate you and all members of your command for your part in driving the enemy away from his Shuri line and forcing him to the present area for final destruction. While all the divisions in the line have contributed to this end, I regard the capture of Conical

lost all its officers; one company has had seven commanders; one regiment has had three imprinted in blood-stained letters in the archives of the division.

There was Kakazu Ridge, up which the 383rd and 381st Infantry regiments charged. Oboe Hill, where rain-soaked doughboys of the 3892nd Infantry hung on for days. Conical Hill where men of the 381st and 383rd fought for 19 agonizing days.



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



What Does the Flag of the United States Stand For?

By Austin Black

I am the American Flag,
I am a symbol of Freedom, Liberty and Justice for
all.

I fly proudly above all other flags,
for all to see and know,
that they are privileged to be in my presence,
and all that I stand for.

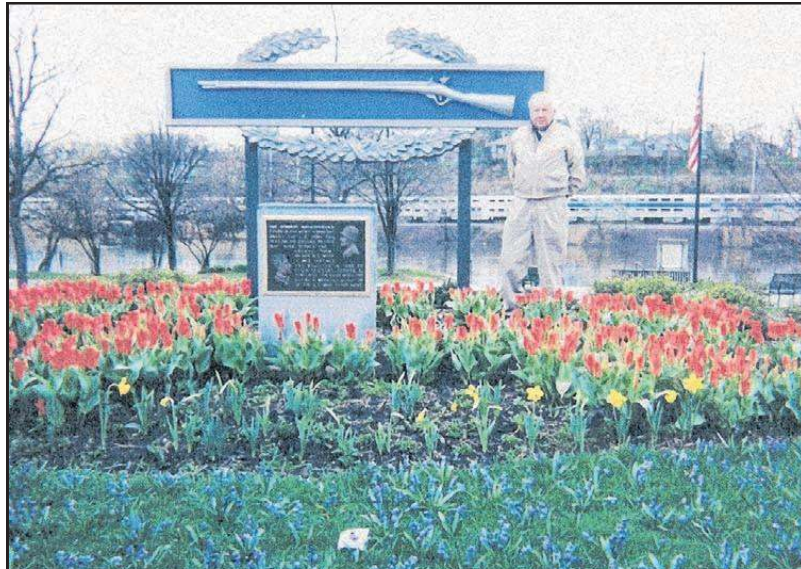
With my 50 stars and 13 stripes, I represent all that
is best in this world.

When people see me,
they know I am The Symbol of freedom that most
people can only yearn for.
I can only hope that one day, they too, will be free.

I cover the caskets of the brave souls who fought for
all the freedoms most take for granted.
I honor them.

I am also a reminder of all we have to lose.
I hope that you will always remember the freedom
for which I stand and hold so dear.

So when you see me proudly waving, remember...
you are free.



The Combat Infantryman Badge Monument is in a park in downtown Elgin, Illinois near the Fox River. The Bronze plaque in front of the CIB honors the man from Elgin who designed the badge. Shown above is Deadeye Don Dencker with the monument.

*Major General Mari K. Eder
Commander
United State Army Reserve
Joint and Special Troops Support Command*

Requests the Honor of Your Presence

*at the
96th DD, 96th RRC, 96th SB
Fallen Warrior Memorial Dedication Ceremony*

Thursday November 11, 2010

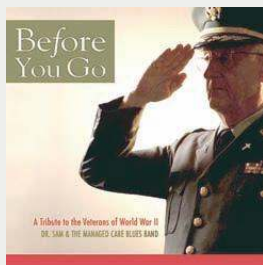
9:00 to 10:00

*Conducted on the
East Lawn of Building 103
Ft Douglas
Salt Lake City, Utah*

*Reception Immediately Following
First Floor Building 103
Guests Welcome*

*R.S.V.P. by October 22, 2010
Bryce.d.jones@usar.army.mil
(801) 656-3345
Military: Uniform ACU
Civilian: Attire Business Casual*

96TH INFANTRY DEADEYE ASSN. ITEMS

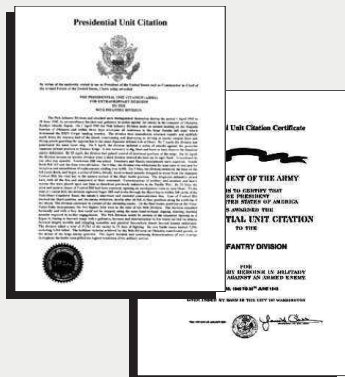


"Before You Go"

A Tribute to WWII Veterans

www.managedmusic.com

Check out this touching tribute to the veterans of World War II. The song can be purchased from the web site or by calling Managed Music toll-free at 1-888-426-7529. Their address is Managed Music, 6 NE Fisher Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33483.



96TH Infantry Division Presidential Unit Citation Documents Available

Two color photo copies: Presidential Unit Citation Certificate and Presidential Unit Citation Text. Cost is \$5.00 per set of two, postage paid.

Also available: Philippines Presidential Unit Citation. One page, black & white. Cost is \$1.50, postage paid.

Make check to: Donald Dencker, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

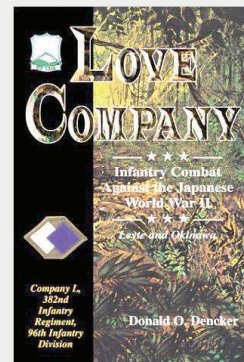


Deadeye Caps

(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

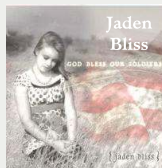


Love Company Book

Author Don Dencker has sale copies of Love Company for \$14.00, 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.

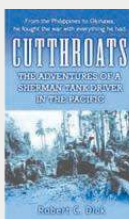
To purchase Love Company, send a \$14.00 check made out to: Donald Dencker, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Bless Our Soldiers



Jaden's CD, God Bless Our Soldiers Tonight, can be ordered online (blessoursoldiers.com) through PayPal for \$10 plus shipping and handling. Or call toll-free 1-888-893-7193.

Jaden sang at the Dining Out in Salt Lake City



Cutthroats

The Adventures of a Sherman Tank Driver in the Pacific

By Robert C. Dick, Co. C. 763rd Tank Battalion, 96th Infantry Division

Available at

Amazon.com or Barnesandnoble.com

Deadeye Merchandise Sales

Jackets.....\$32.00 (plus \$6 shipping)

Tan or Eagle T-Shirts.....\$10.00 (plus \$5 shipping)

2010 T- Shirts.....\$12.00 (plus \$5 shipping)

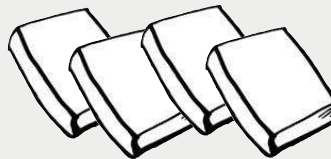
Polo Shirts.....\$22.00 (plus \$5 shipping)

Contact either:

Shirley Kots
P.O Box 134
North Judson, IN 46366

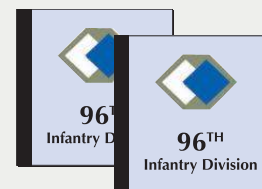
Janice Howard
106 Central Avenue
North Judson, IN 46364

Email: janicehowardnan@yahoo.com
Phone: 574-806-4491 or 574-896-0448



New WWII Book

A WWII book that will feature Deadeye stories is being compiled by Ed Phillips. He can be reached at: 14111 Capital Blvd. Wake Forest, NC 27587. He can be reached by phone at 919 554 7870 or by internet: mailto:ephillips3@hotmail.com



96TH 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, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

(Revised-April, 2007)

Get the Dispatch CD by mail

With this CD and any Windows or Mac computer, you can search, read and print every issue of the Deadeye Dispatch that was published by the 96th Infantry Division Association, from the first issue in 1964 to the last in 2005. The index helps you to find stories of special interest, or you can just browse.

In addition, the CD contains three issues of the original Deadeye Dispatch, that were published in Leyte. And an article from the 1947 Saturday Evening Post, "The Alley Fighters of the 96th", is also included.

Order the record of the division's history from Marvin Margoshes, 25 Maple Ave., #3B, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. The cost is \$10 for each CD, plus handling and shipping of \$3 for the first CD and \$1 for each additional one sent to the same address. Include your email address or phone number. Make checks or money orders to 96th Infantry Deadeye Assn. All profits go to the Association.



Words of Wartime Memories America and Abroad

Just off the press is a hard back 384 page anthology, Words of Wartime Memories America and Abroad (Volume 3), published by Park Tudor School, a distinguished college prep school in Indianapolis. Included are twenty three pages of narratives taken from video interviews of Deadeyes from central Indiana. The anthology also includes stories from the Civil War, The Philippine American War, The Mexican Border War, WWI and WWII. These stories were extracted from diaries, journals and unpublished letters from men and women. Order by check to: Park Tudor School, Kathryn W. Lerch 7200 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Single copy is \$22.00 plus \$6.00 shipping. Mention Volume 3.



Okinawa

Etched Deep in My Mind

A compiled recollection of author Herman Buffington, a veteran of the 96th Infantry Division. To purchase a copy, send \$12.00 to: Helen Buffington, 162 Jett Roberts Rd., Jefferson, GA 30549.