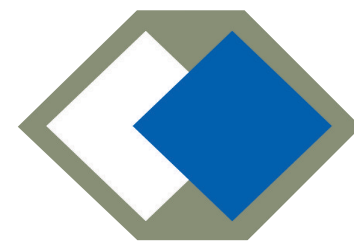




DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Spring, 2017

60TH Annual Reunion Upcoming

Minneapolis Welcomes Deadeyes in July!

Welcome to Minnesota!

Deadeyes gather for the 60th Annual Association Reunion



You are cordially invited to the 2017 annual reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association! This year's reunion is an especially important one. Why? Because this year will be the 60th consecutive year that Deadeyes, families and friends have gathered to enjoy time together and to celebrate the shared history and legacy of the 96th.

This is a remarkable milestone for a remarkable group of men, so mark your calendars today and plan to join the Deadeyes in Minneapolis. It isn't always easy to coordinate family schedules, arrange transportation or to handle any of the details of making a trip such as this. But the Deadeyes, their friendships, families and the fun we share are all worth it. So start planning today. For reunion program information and registration forms, see inside this issue for all the information you will need. See you in Minneapolis!



MALL OF AMERICA



ST. PAUL SKYLINE



60th Annual Reunion

The 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

July 27-July 30, 2017

Crowne Plaza AiRE Hotel: MSP Airport and Mall of America
3 Appletree Square, Bloomington, Minnesota

For reunion program information and registration forms,
see inside this issue for everything you need.

Registration Deadline is June 30, 2017.

The Crowne Plaza AiRE Hotel is just south of Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport and easily accessible by the free Crown Plaza AiRE Shuttle or by cab.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The 96TH Infantry Division: A New Mission for our Association

This summer in Minneapolis, we'll gather for the 60th consecutive annual reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association. This is an important milestone in the history of our organization.

It's also a fitting, timely occasion for your Board to present its recommendations for the future of the association. Please see pages 12 & 13 inside for details.

See Mission Statement inside on pages 12 & 13

DEADEYE DISPATCH

PREPARED BY
US BANKING
MAIL BOX 94
PAPERBURY, IA



Minneapolis Reunion 2017...

REUNION SCHEDULE & PROGRAM

2017

2017 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion • Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN • Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30, 2017

Minnesota is known as the Land of 10,000 Lakes. But it's a lot more than that. It's also a world class destination that is home to all the major professional sports, a thriving theatre scene, some of the best restaurants in the country and shopping that draws people from throughout the world. You're sure to have a great time in Minneapolis! This year's reunion program will feature favorite Deadeye reunion traditions, along with some new twists that will add to your fun and convenience. Here is just a sampling of the activities being planned for your reunion schedule:

July 27: Arrival Day

Registration will run from 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the hotel's Second Floor Foyer. Stop by to pick up your registration packet and then meet up with old friends in the hotel or head out for an evening of fun. There will be plenty to do during this free time. If you're one of the first forty people to register for the reunion, you can enjoy an Early Bird evening of St. Paul Saints minor league baseball at the new CHS Field in downtown St. Paul. Or how about a visit to the Mall of America, the nation's largest mall and indoor amusement park or aquarium? There's always the fabulous Mystic Lake Casino with its restaurants and buffet. And you can check out Canterbury Park Race Track, the Minnesota Zoo or the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Information about these and other activities will be available at registration so you can decide what sounds good to you. But if you're a fan of minor league baseball, the Saints game will be your best bet. Return the enclosed registration form today to make sure you have a ticket for this event!

July 28: Tour Day, Wreath Laying at Fort Snelling National Cemetery and the Annual Beer Bust!

Friday is our traditional bus tour day, but this year we are going to be a bit more relaxed. After breakfast, we'll travel to the Minnesota History Center where we'll visit the Minnesota's Greatest Generation exhibit. Deadeyes will stroll down memory lane and your families will enjoy learning more about the remarkable lives of the Deadeye generation. We'll also visit the new World War I exhibit as time allows. Exhibit tours will be "on your own", so you can cover as much or as little of the exhibits as you'd like.

Following a catered buffet lunch at the museum, we'll reboard our buses for a stirring visit to Fort Snelling National Cemetery where we'll participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the newest 96th Infantry Division Monument dedicated in 2014. The Fort Snelling Honor Guard and Rifle Squad will be in attendance, rolling out the red carpet for the Deadeyes.



Then it's back to our hotel where we'll relax until it's time for the annual Beer Bust, this year featuring a new twist: a buffet dinner. This means that you can have all your fun in one spot and make a complete evening of it. No need to go to a restaurant, just stay at the hotel and bring your family and friends to the ballroom where we'll enjoy the delicious Minnesota Buffet featuring two entrees and all the fixings. Beer and a cash bar will be available and you'll enjoy the music of the Bend in the River Big Band—a swinging tribute band that honors the great music of the WWII era. Feel free to dance in the aisles as we celebrate the Deadeyes and their legacy of Duty, Honor and Country.

And there's even more! Dessert and coffee will be served later in the evening—the perfect time for more conversation with friends and family.

July 29: The Memorial Service, The Annual Meeting, Luncheons and Banquet

No Deadeye reunion would be complete without the Memorial Service. This service is the time we set aside to remember all Deadeye brothers, those who paid the ultimate price and those who have since left our ranks. This year, the Memorial Service will be followed by the Annual

Meeting at which time we will discuss the importance of preserving the history and the legacy of the 96th Infantry Division.

Next, the ladies and the gentlemen will enjoy their separate luncheons at the hotel followed by a relaxing afternoon. An official photograph of all veterans in attendance will be taken prior to the finale event of the reunion on Saturday evening:

The Banquet. This will be the time to get dressed up and toast each other—particularly fitting at the conclusion of this, the 60th consecutive annual reunion.

The 60th Annual Reunion will be a fun, fitting tribute to the men of the 96th Infantry Division. Please register today so that you and your family can be part of this event!





Minneapolis Reunion 2017...



REUNION THINGS TO DO & SEE



2017 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion • Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN • Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30, 2017

MINNESOTA HISTORY CENTER

Friday, July 28: Two excellent exhibits for your enjoyment

1. Minnesota's Greatest Generation

Step into the lives of Minnesota's Greatest Generation in this 6,000-square-foot exhibit. True stories from this amazing group of people will take you through each era and leave you inspired. Members of Minnesota's Greatest Generation are people we know – they are our grandparents, our parents and our next-door neighbors. They are the Deadeyes. Whether you're from Minnesota or elsewhere in our fifty states, this exhibit tells us about the Deadeye Generation—growing up during the Depression, coming of age during World War II and participating in the post-war boom –creating a lasting legacy that has shaped all of us who have followed.

Highlights:

- View classic film clips in a 1930s-style movie theater
- Get behind the counter of a 1930s soda fountain
- Watch a recreation of a World War II combat flight in a C-47 plane
- Join a "Rosie the Riveter" style assembly line packing ammunition shells
- See an M-8 armored vehicle and a 1955 Ford sedan, both produced at the St. Paul Ford plant



2. WW1 America

The World War I era – 1914 to 1919 – was a transformational time for America. The nation emerged as a confident global superpower while deep divisions and conflict at home threatened to tear the nation apart. This major new exhibit created by the Minnesota Historical Society opens during the centennial of America's involvement in WW1. Through original artifacts, images, voices, music, interactives and multimedia, WW1 America tells the extraordinary stories of Americans during a transformational era in our history.

- Explore themes and major movements in depth – from immigration, racial politics, women's suffrage, the Great Migration, Prohibition and the 1918 influenza pandemic, to daily life and popular culture.
- View dozens of original artifacts from museums around the country, including a WW1 machine gun, a deck chair from the RMS Lusitania, President Woodrow Wilson's hat and Houdini's handcuffs.
- Discover stories of the legendary and unsung Americans who shaped our history, from pacifists to presidents.
- Discover how the war transformed our nation into a world leader – at a time when our country was riven by divisions over citizenship, nationhood and identity that are strikingly relevant now.

BEER BUST 2017!

Featuring Bend in the River Big Band

Beer Bust 2017 will be a complete evening of fun—tapped keg, a delicious buffet dinner and entertainment featuring the Greatest Generation's favorite music as performed by Bend in the River Big Band. BRBB has appeared throughout the upper Midwest and includes some of the finest musicians in Minnesota, along with their "thrush", the gorgeous gal singer who sings the great songs of the 1940s. For a sneak preview of Bend in the River Big Band, you can find them on YouTube and on their own website. But the best way to enjoy them will be live and in-person at Beer Bust 2017! Bring the family so they can join you for dinner and then get a taste of what great big band music is all about. Get "In the Mood" by registering for Beer Bust 2017 today!



DEADEYE NIGHT AT CHS FIELD

Early Bird Event on Thursday Night

Limited tickets available, so register today!



Be part of the action as the intrepid Saint Paul Saints baseball team takes on the Sioux City Explorers at the new CHS Field in downtown St. Paul. This isn't your average major league baseball team. No, the Saints are part of the North Division of the American Association of Independent Professional Baseball. The Saints have a long and glorious minor league history in the Twin Cities, with the modern incarnation of the Team now playing in the new CHS Field. Whether you're a baseball fan or not, the Saints provide fun for all. The Saints are known for promotions that are sometimes over-the-top even by the standards of minor league baseball. Mike Veeck, formerly the team's principal owner and still owner of a large interest in the team, is seen as following in the footsteps of his father Bill Veeck, who was famous for conceiving outlandish promotions as an owner of the Major League teams the St. Louis Browns, Cleveland Indians, and Chicago White Sox. Comedian and actor Bill Murray is also a part owner. The Saints have become one of the most successful teams in all of independent baseball and you'll have a great time if you register to be part of this Thursday evening Early Bird Activity. Thanks to Deadeye Daughters Sue Schornak and Bev Herkenratt, the Deadeyes have forty prime tickets that will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. So if you're looking for an evening of fun for the whole family—not to mention Dollar Beer Night, this is it. Get your registration form in today!

Get your registration form in today!

Minneapolis Reunion 2017...

REUNION THINGS TO DO & SEE

2017

2017 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion • Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN • Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30, 2017

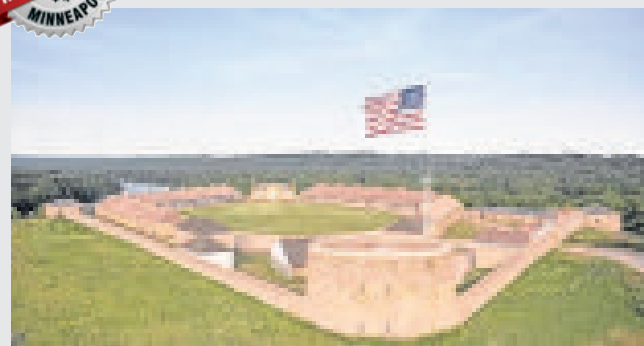


Attractions and things to do near the hotel and the MSP Airport:

- MALL OF AMERICA
- Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
- Minnesota Twins Baseball at Target Field
- Xcel Energy Center - Home of the Minnesota Wild
- IKEA
- Fort Snelling State Park
- Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- Minnesota Zoo
- Guthrie Theater
- Minnesota Sea Life Aquarium at MOA
- Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport
- Military Reunions in Minneapolis, MN
- Science Museum of Minnesota



Historic Fort Snelling



On September 21, 1805, Zebulon Pike arrived and proceeded with a purchase proposal for 100,000 acres of land in exchange for \$200 worth of trade goods, a keg of whiskey and the promise of a trading post. Fifteen years later, Colonel Josiah Snelling took command of the fort and established its permanent character.

The fort continued to be a presence for the native population, settlers, and the US government for another 125 years. During the Civil War, Minnesota used the fort to train volunteers for the Union Army. The Fort was also used as a supply base for the Dakota Territory and a training center for soldiers assigned to the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish American War, and World Wars I and II.

During World War II, Fort Snelling processed over 300,000 inductees, including many future Deadeyes. The fort was decommissioned at the end of the war in 1945 and given to the Veterans Administration. A few years later freeway construction threatened the future of Fort Snelling. After many more years of debate, the fort was designated in 1960 as Minnesota's first National Historic Landmark. Since then, Historic Fort Snelling has been rebuilt and maintained by both private and public funding and is managed by the Minnesota Historical Society.

Because the Mississippi and its tributaries offered a natural transportation route for movement of people and goods, the junctions of these rivers (confluences) were important places. To the Dakota, this sacred place was the center of the world. To Europeans, it was a strategic location capable of monitoring and controlling a majority of river traffic in the Upper Mississippi River Watershed. During our reunion, we will visit Fort Snelling National Cemetery for a wreath laying ceremony at the newest Deadeye monument dedicated in 2014. Old Fort Snelling is a separate attraction and would be worth a visit during your reunion free time.

Need Help Making Your Travel Arrangements?

If you'd like the assistance of a professional travel consultant to make your airline reservations, help is on the way. Deadeye friend Donna Hoiem is with Travel One, Inc., and she has volunteered to help any and all Deadeyes who contact her for help with 2017 reunion arrangements. Just call Donna at 1-800-245-1111 or email her at dhoiem@traveloneinc.com. Tell her you're with the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion and she'll make sure you're headed in the right direction. Thanks, Donna for your support of the Deadeyes!



Minneapolis Reunion 2017...

REUNION HOTEL INFORMATION

2017 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion • Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN • Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30, 2017



2017

Come early/stay late - group rate honored 3 days before and 3 days after

CROWNE PLAZA AiRE MSP AIRPORT MALL OF AMERICA



3 Appletree Square / I-494 & 34th Ave
Bloomington, MN 55425
FREE Crowne Plaza Aire shuttle
every 30 minutes from airport

HOTEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 30TH.
IF AVAILABLE, RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT
THE REGULAR HOTEL RATES AFTER JUNE 30TH.

Toll Free: Central Reservations: (877) 810-5190
MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS under the
Group name **96th Infantry** OR Block code **NSI**.

Please make sure you ask for a handicapped room if
necessary so that this is reserved in advance.

If two beds are needed be sure to specify.

If you experience any issues, please feel free to call me
at (608)317-2496 (Diane O'Brien, reunion coordinator)

SPECIAL DEADEYE RATE IS \$119 PER NIGHT

(Includes the hotel breakfast buffet for up to 2 persons per room;
additional guests in room will be \$8 per breakfast buffet)

*Rooms must be canceled by 6 p.m. (CDT) one day prior to your check-in
date to avoid a room charge. Check-in time 3 pm – Checkout at 12 noon*



CROWNE PLAZA AiRE MSP AIRPORT/ MALL OF AMERICA name change

Our hotel for the reunion is the **CROWNE PLAZA AiRE - MSP Airport/Mall of America – Bloomington**. I have not been able to confirm when the large name of the outside of the building will be changed from Crowne Plaza Hotel & Suites to the new Crowne Plaza AiRE. I did not want you to be confused about this upon arriving at the hotel if the name was still Crowne Plaza Hotel & Suites. So please verify that you are going to the **Crowne Plaza AiRE in Bloomington at 3 Appletree Square**.

The same situation may involve the shuttle from the airport to the hotel. The current wording on the black shuttle is Crowne Plaza Minneapolis Airport Bloomington. If they get the shuttle bus name updated, it will be Crowne Plaza AiRE. Again, please verify that you are going to the **Crowne Plaza AiRE at 3 Appletree Square in Bloomington**.

I apologize that I cannot confirm at the time of printing the Dispatch if and when these changes will take place. I just want to make sure that you arrive at the correct hotel since there is another Crowne Plaza that is close to the airport that also has a Bloomington address.

-- Diane O'Brien, Reunion Coordinator

CONVENIENCE, COMFORT, STYLE...



Our Crowne Plaza AiRE offers the most convenience to those who seek to discover all that Minneapolis and Mall of America have to offer. Located just 5 minutes from Mall of America and 2 minutes from Minneapolis International Airport (MSP), our hotel proudly offers complimentary 24 hour shuttle service to the airport, shuttle service to the Mall of America, and other points of interest. All 430 guest rooms and suites feature complimentary Wi-Fi, flat screen televisions, and Crowne Plaza's signature Sleep Advantage Program - guaranteeing the utmost comfort. As a proud part of the Intercontinental Hotels Group (IHG), you can earn IHG Rewards® points when you stay with us.

- **FREE AIRPORT SHUTTLE** every 30 minutes from airport shuttle area (see signage from baggage area)
- **FREE CAR SELF-PARKING IN ADJACENT RAMP** (no valet)
- **HEALTH/FITNESS CENTER & INDOOR SWIMMING POOL**
- **FREE INTERNET**
- **ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE METRO BLUE LINE LIGHT RAIL - The METRO Blue Line offers fast, quiet light-rail service to 19 stations between downtown Minneapolis and Mall of America. The Crowne Plaza Aire is located at the American Boulevard stop**

96TH DEADEYE REUNION 2017

**Make your
reservations today!**



2017

Reunion Dates:

Thursday, July 27- Sunday, July 30, 2017
Minneapolis, MN, USA



Minneapolis Reunion 2017...

Amy & Adams Entertain at 2017 Ladies Luncheon

This year's Ladies Luncheon will feature Amy & Adams, a husband and wife duo who share their unique, inspiring and upbeat music with folks throughout the upper Midwest and beyond. For nearly two decades they've touched audiences of all ages with their special brand of musical entertainment that they call "Eclectic/Folk Rock/Tin Pan Alley/BluesGrass."

Their audiences just call it FUN and they enjoy Amy & Adams' wide musical repertoire including the great music of the 1920s, 30s, 40s, 50s and 60s, along with their own infectious original songs—all wrapped up in accompaniment of guitars, ukuleles, mandolin, keyboard and stunning harmonies.

Amy & Adams are regular performers on upper Midwest radio and television and their original music has been showcased in feature films, including a recent project titled MOVIE STAR: The Secret Lives of Jean Seberg. They have produced and recorded six well-received CDs that have garnered national and international airplay, along with critical success. **Roots Music Report** declared them "fresh and entertaining..."

Amy and Adams have appeared in too many venues to list here, but we're lucky to have them with us at the 2017 Ladies Luncheon. [Make your reservation today to enjoy a lovely lunch with cherished friends followed by the musical entertainment of Amy & Adams.](#)



AmazonSmile Program Details to support your 96th Infantry Division Association Heritage Fund

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on smile.amazon.com the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the 96th Infantry Division Association Heritage Fund.

This donation is then sent by AmazonSmile directly to the 96th Division account every quarter.

About Product Availability, Pricing and Services

AmazonSmile has the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as Amazon.com, including Amazon Prime member benefits.

Purchases Eligible for Donations

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

About Choosing a Charitable Organization to Support

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. By selecting 96th Infantry Division Association Heritage Fund we will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make on smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

So be sure to log into smile.amazon.com for all your Amazon purchases to assure this donation in support of the 96th Infantry Division Association Heritage Fund.



ONLINE 96th SITES

- The name of our website is: "96th Infantry Division Deadeyes Association" and the address is: www.96thdeadeyes.org
- The name of the Facebook Group is: "96th Division Deadeyes."
- Another good site that has a lot of historical information is: "Remember The Deadeyes" and the address is: www.rememberthedeadeyes.com

On our Association website, the best source is the Home Page. There are numerous links in the "History of the 96th Infantry Division" section on the upper left side of the page. It provides details about the battles and other WWII info.

Below the History Section is a link to "Recommended Reading" which is a list of books Don Dencker compiled that are related to the 96th. Also on the Home Page is a link to "Soldiers' Stories" which is mostly individual recollections.



Deadeye News & Features

Siblings find dad's war story in old letters

This story originally appeared in the Wausau Daily Herald, Wausau, WI.

WAUSAU - There were times, decades after the war, when Don Williams pulled out the World War II Japanese pistol to show his kids.

He was vague about how he got the weapon during his time in the U.S. Army. "He'd just say, 'I got it from a guy who didn't need it anymore,'" said Griff Williams, his oldest son.

In the mid-1940s, Don Williams fought through meat-grinding battles on the islands of the South Pacific with the 96th Infantry Division. He became a platoon sergeant because, he told his children, "I was the only one left." In the battle for Okinawa in 1945, he once spent four hellish days behind Japanese lines. He laid in an old tomb hiding from the enemy for much of that time, while some of his comrades died around him. He survived a grenade attack, then a face-to-face attack with Japanese soldiers.

After he and other survivors got back to American lines, their story made headlines across the U.S. One headline announced: "5 Americans Return From 'Grave' On Okinawa."

Later, when Don Williams was a teacher and counselor at Horace Mann Middle School in Wausau, raising six children with his wife, Rhode, he kept those experiences mostly to himself. It wasn't until a few years after his death in April 2000 that his children got the full story.

After their aunt died, their cousin discovered a cache of more than 100 letters Don Williams wrote to his parents when he was soldier. The writing highlights the day-to-day grind of a soldier, and for Don Williams' children, underscored the frustrations, resilience, courage and terror of the war their father fought.

The letters take on particular significance to all the Williams on Veterans' Day and Memorial Day, Griff Williams said, two days that were important to Don Williams. Griff Williams approached USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin with the story of the letters because he wanted people to know what veterans such as his father went through.

One of those letters Don Williams wrote described the anguish he felt during the war: "I'm afraid my nerves are pretty well shot, how much a person can stand of this I don't know, but I can't stand any more. My mind or something I'm afraid will crack. All I can do is have faith in God and pray, I guess."

Don Williams did not express these kinds of feelings with his children.

"He was a private man with this type of information," Griff Williams said. "(The letters) fill in the gaps and pieces, and it all made more sense as to who this guy was."

Griff Williams, 63, of Wausau said he and his broth-



Don Williams during World War II.

ers and sisters knew their dad as "the kindest, nicest man I ever met in my life."

Don Williams also was a strict disciplinarian who could stop misbehaving kids with one look, said Tom Williams, 59, a retired Wausau police officer.

If his father was displeased, "that became evident real quick," Tom Williams said. "You did not want that look."

But most of all, Griff and Tom said, their father passed along the values he held, to support community, work hard and value education.

Don Williams came home and made the most of the simple things in life, his sons said. He did his best to put the war behind him, even though it loomed in the back of his mind.

"I don't think anybody who knew him knew all the things he went through," Griff Williams said.

BORROWED



DEADEYE

Copyright by William R. Hill October 1, 2016

Borrowed Deadeye

New historical novel by Deadeye William Hill

Deadeye William "Bill" Hill has written a novel titled "Borrowed Deadeye" based on the Battle of Okinawa. This historical novel is derived from a story on the Deadeye web site. It is a story of a son and his quest to understand his dad who survived the battle of Okinawa in WWII.

It is available for downloading on Bill's website, rememberthedeadeyes.com.



Quotes from "Borrowed Deadeye"

"Dads can be an enigma to their families; especially when fact or reason lies deep below the surface. After all dads are not just an example to blindly emulate; they are there for children to analyze so they can make a step forward from wherever their point is to reach a better understanding of dad and life itself."

"I also tried to find his buddies; with few results. How nice it would have been for me to look up to my dad the warrior, be fascinated with his stories, and be proud of what he did."



96TH DEADEYE REUNION 2017

Thurs., July 27- Sun., July 30, 2017

• Minneapolis, MN, USA



REUNION REGISTRATION



2017 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion • Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN • Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30, 2017

60th ANNUAL REUNION REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS June 30, 2017 -- please send at your earliest convenience...thanks

Reunion members will need to preregister for events and attractions. For the Association to get the best price deals it requires a count for all tours and food by June 30th. After June 30th registration fee will be \$25.00

The registration cost is \$16 per person. For attendees 17 and younger, the cost is \$2 per person. Please include a check for the total amount for all persons registering on this form as well as for the events. For registering more than four people, attach a note with the additional information as indicated below.

IF A FAMILY MEMBER, PLEASE INDICATE NAME OF DEADEYE: _____

Name #1 (for nametag) _____

WWII Unit _____ (for nametag and Deadeye listing) # of reunions attended _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Email and cell phone are important for contacting you with any changes before or during the reunion.

In case of emergency, contact _____ Phone # _____

Name # 2 (for nametag) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ # of reunions attended _____

Name # 3 (for nametag) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ # of reunions attended _____

Name # 4 (for nametag) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ # of reunions attended _____

For registering more than four people, attach a note with the addition information as indicated above.



REUNION REGISTRATION



2017 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion • Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN • Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30, 2017

Mail this form with your check to: make check payable to: **96th Infantry Div Deadeye Assn**
Dennis O'Brien - PO Box 34 - Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034

For questions, contact Diane O'Brien, ddoebrien@trivest.net phone: 608/317-2496

	Price Per	# People	Total
Registration fee before June 30th \$16 per person	\$16.00	# _____	\$ _____
\$ 2 17 and under	\$ 2.00	# _____	\$ _____
After June 30th registration fee will be \$25.00			
Wheelchairs must be pre-ordered and will be available when you arrive at the hotel (\$50 total for 3 days) \$ _____			
THURS, JULY 27 Saint Paul Saints Baseball Game w/bus	\$35.00	# _____	\$ _____
FRIDAY, JULY 28 Breakfast at hotel (up to 2 persons per room; additional \$8 per person if more than 2)			
MINNESOTA HISTORY CENTER & FORT SNELLING WREATH LAYING # _____ \$ _____			
10:30 am-4:30 pm The all-inclusive price for this tour is \$62 adults; \$58 seniors (62+); \$45 students (17 and under) which includes the bus transportation, MN History Center exhibits and lunch, and wreath laying ceremony at the Fort Snelling Cemetery (see tour descriptions elsewhere in Dispatch)			
BUFFET DINNER & BEER BUST 7 pm – 11 pm Adults	\$41.00	# _____	\$ _____
Children 10 and under	\$25.00	# _____	\$ _____
(includes "Minnesota" buffet dinner & Bend in the River Big Band)			
SATURDAY, JULY 29 Breakfast at hotel (up to 2 persons per room; additional \$8 per person if more than 2)			
MEMORIAL SERVICE 10 am	NO CHARGE		
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11:15 am	NO CHARGE		
LADIES' LUNCHEON 12:30 pm	\$25.00	# _____	\$ _____
MEN'S ASTP LUNCHEON 12:30 pm	\$25.00	# _____	\$ _____
GROUP PICTURES 5 pm			
BANQUET 6 – 7 pm Cocktail Hour 7:15 pm Banquet	CASH BAR		
BANQUET – London Broil	\$41.00	# _____	\$ _____
BANQUET – Pan seared Atlantic Salmon	\$40.00	# _____	\$ _____
BANQUET – Sautéed Chicken Breast	\$39.00	# _____	\$ _____
BANQUET-- Vegetarian (Butternut squash ravioli)	\$35.00	# _____	\$ _____
BANQUET – Children's (Chicken fingers/fries)	\$20.00	# _____	\$ _____
PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS			
Reunion shirts: All shirts must be pre-ordered. We will not have extra inventory available at the reunion.			
96 th Reunion T-shirts: Adult Sm-Med-Lg \$14.00 - Adult XL or larger \$16.00 Child: \$13.00			
Adult: #Sm_____ #Med_____ #Lrg_____ Other (indicate size)_____	TOTAL SHIRTS _____ \$ _____		
Child: #Sm_____ #Med_____ #Lrg_____	TOTAL CHILD SHIRTS _____ \$ _____		
SUNDAY, JULY 30 (Farewell) Breakfast at hotel (up to 2 persons per room; additional \$8 per person)			
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR REGISTRATION, EVENTS AND SHIRTS:			\$ _____

make check payable to: **96th Infantry Div Deadeye Assn – send to Dennis O'Brien at address above**

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

Tom Onis Carroll
Delta, CO
Co. A, 383rd Inf.
December 7, 2016
by daughter, Lisa Carroll

Harold Gilbert
Houston, TX
by USPS
David A Grimm
Sunbury, PA
10th Army, 381st Regiment, C Co
Nov 3, 2016
by wife, Sharon Grimm

Robert Halsey
Santa Rosa, CA
September 3, 2016
by daughter, Carole Sheehan

Robert H. Johnson
Chicago, IL
August 20, 2016
by George Gordon, Jr.

Charles A. Kestle
Butte, MT
Co. L, 381st Infantry
Oct. 20, 2016
by son, Jeff Kestle

Joe Lindsey
Tingley, IA
3rd Bn. HQ 382
January 20, 2017
by daughter Judy Cooper

Edward Ludwig
Forreston, IL
Antitank 382nd
November 3, 2016
by nephew Gerald Ludwig

Sgt Emil V. Malinowski
Emma, PA
Co. F, 381st Infantry
November 27, 2015
by his daughter

Ernest William Malkewitz, Jr
Rockford, MI
Co. M, 381st Infantry
December 19, 2016
by William Hill

Staff Sgt.
Ferdinand "Mel" Mehihoff
November 30, 2016
by daughter,
Laurie Watson on Facebook

Robert W. Ramsaier
Arlington Heights, IL
September 28, 2016
by wife Annette Ramsaler

George H. Rice
Media, PA
Co. F, 381st Infantry
December 28, 2016
by son, Timothy O. Rice

Gordon E. Ryan, Staff Sargent,
Co. D, 383rd Inf., 96th Div. US Army
February 24, 2016
By his family

Phyllis Schmidt
Stillwater, Minnesota
January 12, 2017
Wife of Bob Schmidt, 381st Anti Tank and past division association president. Phyllis served the Association as president of the Division Association Women's Auxiliary
by her daughter, Barbara Schmidt

Leon Stanley
Company F
November 2, 2016
by son, Mike Stanley

Wallace Earl Wood
Muskegon, MI
December 29, 2016
Co. G, 383rd Infantry
by granddaughter, Krystal Foster

Letter to the Editor

I am trying to find information for my Dad who is 90 years old. He has been trying to find other soldiers that served with him in Deadeyes' 381st regiment, Company G. We have had no luck in previous years. Could you please help us in finding any contact information. It would be much appreciated. My Dad's full name is Edward Earl Werdein. He served from 1944 to 1946. He was in Okinawa and the Phillipines. My contact phone number is 417-229-9703.

Thank you!
Sherri Werdein

60 Years of Deadeye Reunion Cities

YEAR	CITY	ST	YEAR	CITY	ST	YEAR	CITY	ST
1958	St Louis	MO	1978	New Orleans	LA	1998	Ft Mitchell	KY
1959	Chicago	IL	1979	Denver	CO	1999	Denver	CO
1960	Kansas City	MO	1980	Springfield	IL	2000	Salt Lake City	UT
1961	Detroit	MI	1981	Milwaukee	WI	2001	Omaha	NE
1962	Dallas	TX	1982	Dearborn	MI	2002	Kansas City	MO
1963	Little Rock	AR	1983	Houston	TX	2003	Tulsa	OK
1964	Portland	OR	1984	St Paul	MN	2004	Salt Lake City	UT
1965	Minneapolis	MN	1985	Oklahoma City	OK	2005	Washington	DC
1966	Indianapolis	IN	1986	Fresno	CA	2006	Denver	CO
1967	Omaha	NE	1987	Memphis	TN	2007	Salt Lake City	UT
1968	Chicago	IL	1988	Peoria	IL	2008	Nashville	TN
1969	Des Moines	IA	1989	Rapid City	SD	2009	Branson	MO
1970	Detroit	MI	1990	Omaha	NE	2010	Milwaukee	WI
1971	Denver	CO	1991	Spokane	WA	2011	Columbus	GA
1972	New Orleans	LA	1992	Louisville	KY	2012	Colorado Springs	CO
1973	Peoria	IL	1993	Sparks	NV	2013	San Diego	CA
1974	Indianapolis	IN	1994	Hot Springs	AR	2014	Chicago	IL
1975	Kansas City	KS	1995	Lubbock	TX	2015	New Orleans	LA
1976	Fort Worth	TX	1996	Des Moines	IA	2016	Washington	DC
1977	Cincinnati	OH	1997	St Louis	MO	2017	Minneapolis	MN

How to Submit A Name for Taps

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

Diane O'Brien
PO Box 34
Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034
Phone: 608-534-5141
or 608-317-2496
Email: ddoebrien@trivest.net

Pat McMillan
PO Box 2432
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
Phone: 479-200-1841
Email: pmil45@yahoo.com

Deadeye Dispatch

Official Publication of the
96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association
• Spring, 2017 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
Diane O'Brien
PO Box 34
Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034
608-317-2496
ddobrien@trivest.net

Deadeyes Online at www.96thdeadeyes.org

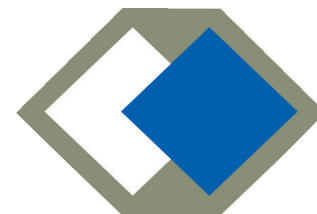
The Deadeye Dispatch NEEDS YOU!

DID YOU KNOW that the *Deadeye Dispatch*, the newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association, is one of the longest continuously published newsletters in the history of the United States Armed Forces? This publication began in the midst of World War II and has continued to this very day, keeping us all in touch with each other and honoring our shared values of Duty, Honor and Country.

Our *Dispatch* has become an outstanding publication, most recently through the volunteer support of Deadeye son Scott Buffington and MainStreet Newspapers who manage the production, printing and distribution of the *Deadeye Dispatch*. But print production and mailing expenses are not free and they are the single biggest expense of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association.

SUPPORT YOUR DISPATCH TODAY!

Your contribution is needed to help fund the expenses of producing the *Deadeye Dispatch*. It's important that you, your family and your friends continue to receive the *Dispatch* and all the news and information about the history and activities of the association. We need your help today.



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Please complete the form below and return this entire page along with your check in any amount made payable to: **96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association**

Mail to:
Dennis O'Brien, Treasurer
PO Box 34
Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034

YES!

The Deadeye Dispatch can count on my support in the amount of \$_____.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address (if applicable) _____
Phone _____ Cell _____

(Please note that phone and email information will only be used if we need to contact you. The 96th Infantry Division Association is committed to respecting and protecting the privacy of its membership.)

You can also help spread the news by sharing the DEADEYE DISPATCH with your family and friends. If you would like to do so, please provide their names and addresses on the right side of this form and return it with your generous donation.

YES, I want to share the Deadeye Dispatch with my family and friends.

I have listed their names and addresses below.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address (if applicable) _____
Phone _____ Cell _____



Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address (if applicable) _____
Phone _____ Cell _____



Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address (if applicable) _____
Phone _____ Cell _____



Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address (if applicable) _____
Phone _____ Cell _____



Deadeyes' New Mission

A NEW MISSION: 2017 AND BEYOND

President's Report

DON KLIMKOWICZ, PRESIDENT
96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

An Important Message from Your Association Board and President

This summer in Minneapolis, we'll gather for the 60th consecutive annual reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association. This is an important milestone in the history of our organization. It's also a fitting, timely occasion for your Board to present its recommendations for the future of the association.

These recommendations are detailed in a new document titled: A New Mission: 2017 and Beyond. This document has been developed in response to your input and with the consultation of board members and veterans including General Jim Collins, Marvin Margoshes, Diane and Dennis O'Brien and Barbara Schmidt. It reflects the opportunity we now have to expand the legacy of the 96th--a legacy that must live beyond all of our lifetimes and celebrate our shared values of duty, honor and country.

Because this document marks an important turning point in our organization, I have requested that it be printed in its entirety in this issue of the Dispatch. You can refer to it below and on the next page (page 13). Please take the time to read it before our annual meeting in Minneapolis this summer. At that time, we will discuss its contents and officially recommend them for your consideration and approval.

I, along with the members of your Board, am supportive of this document and the way in which it will help all of us move forward into a new era for the Association: working together to ensure that Deadeye history and the Deadeye legacy live forever.

Don Klimkowicz

President, 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

To the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association:

The 96th Infantry Division's distinguished history in defense of freedom is something we will forever celebrate and honor. The men of the 96th, their families and their friends share a unique bond and special friendships that have been celebrated with sixty years of consecutive reunions held throughout the United States.

- Together we have remembered and honored those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.
- Together we have built lifelong friendships and shared memories that only we can share.
- Together we have honored their service and celebrated each other.

Today we are called to a new mission. Think about it. When the war was over, the Deadeyes accepted a new mission. They went back to their lives and became a part of what has been called the Greatest Generation--a generation that was tested by the Great Depression, the Second World War and then came home to create the greatest economic boom the world has ever seen.

But times change and true strength is often best measured by how we respond to the challenges of change.

Today it's time for all Deadeyes, families and friends to prepare ourselves for a new mission--a mission in which we purposely shift our focus from the reunions of the past to creating a legacy for the future. This legacy must ensure that the special history of the 96th Infantry Division lives on and that our values of duty, honor and country are shared with generations to come.

The following report features recommendations that will help the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association move into its new mission of Legacy Building. All of these recommendations are presented for your endorsement and support. All are offered in the spirit of the 96th so that together we may ensure the Deadeye legacy lives on and that what these men did will never be forgotten.

DEFINING OUR MISSION

To date, the Association has largely focused its energy on the annual reunions for Deadeyes, friends and families. Now the organization will focus on the following mission: To preserve the history and legacy of the 96th Infantry Division.

Please see next page (page 13) for details



Deadeyes' New Mission

A NEW MISSION: 2017 AND BEYOND

(continued from prior page)

In order to successfully pursue this mission, our organization will consider the following strategies:

Organizational Strategies

1. Reorganize by combining the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association with the 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund, conducting all future business under the name of the Heritage Fund and transferring remaining Association funds to the Heritage Fund. (2017-2018)

2. Clarify the organization chart and responsibilities/accountabilities for the new organization. Identify the individuals charged with the management and execution of this plan.

3. Replace annual reunions with annual meetings of the Heritage Fund designed to do the business of the Fund.

4. Develop a sponsorship program in which current members of the Deadeye Association become Founding Sponsors of the new, combined 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund. In addition, new sponsorship categories would be offered to those who wish to provide financial support.

5. Expand the current website to include more extensive information about Deadeye history, including opportunities for families to connect, share and trade information about their Deadeyes.

Legacy Building Strategies

1. Monuments: The Deadeyes are remembered through monuments throughout the country and beyond. New opportunities for new Deadeye memorial monuments continue and we should be prepared to evaluate and fund these as appropriate.

2. Museums: The Deadeyes have long archived their history and memorabilia at the Fort Douglas Museum in Salt Lake City. It is important that a long term relationship be built to continue that

practice and also evaluate a new archival/programming relationship with key WWII museums such as the New Orleans WWII Museum and the Museum of the Pacific War in Texas.

3. Annual Report/Communications with sponsors/donors: If the association is to focus on legacy building, sponsorships and donations become even more important, as will the need to produce an annual report that catalogues donations and uses of funds.

4. A New Type of Reunion: Veterans organizations across the country are experiencing the same challenges we do—declining numbers of veterans able to attend. It's possible that we don't have to eliminate reunions altogether, but instead work with the existing WWII museums to encourage their consideration of an idea that would give them extensive media coverage, while providing a real service to aging veteran's associations throughout the country—a nationwide annual event for all WWII vets sponsored and managed by one of the key WWII museums. This strategy would involve submitting a proposal to the WWII Museum and/or the Museum of the Pacific War for an annual Legacy Building Reunion, in which veterans, families and friends come together to celebrate their shared history. This would create huge media opportunities for either museum in addition to building a relationship that could be helpful for the future archiving of Deadeye records and memorabilia.

5. Develop a new position: Support Deadeye Historians Don Dencker and John Reed by adding a new position designed to act as chief advocate and manager of all new legacy-building strategies, projects and outreach efforts. (Note: We do have a Deadeye grandson—

Matt Helget—who could be requested to participate with Don, John and the board as part of this position development process.)

6. Develop new archival strategies: For example, if relationship building with the WWII Museum and/or the Museum of the Pacific War is successful, consult with them about the possibility of a "Thanks for the Memories" memorabilia campaign. Deadeyes and Deadeye families would be asked to consider donating/loaning any memorabilia that they may still have in their possession and that could be offered to the museums as part of an archival strategy for the 96th Infantry Division.

Communications/ Sponsorship Development Strategies

1. Develop and produce a new Logo, Legacy Brochure and Legacy Letterhead. This makes the new organizational changes official and underscores the message that Legacy-Building is now our first priority.

2. Officially approve the proper name of the new organization and use it consistently throughout all media including printed pieces, the website, etc.

3. Explore the possibilities for conducting annual direct response/online fundraising campaigns. Campaigns should focus on preserving 96th history/heritage via a "Spirit of

96" campaign encouraging gifts in multiples of \$96.00. Premium incentives could be offered to stimulate giving and items offered should be relevant to the history/spirit of the 96th. (Examples: calendar featuring historic photos of the 96th in action, 96th Logo Stickers, Legacy Caps, etc. Larger premiums could be appropriate for larger donations requests...e.g. the artprint campaign.) The first step in this process should be an evaluation of similar efforts on behalf of other organizations and consideration of hiring a consultant/service provider to develop and execute these campaigns. Also, consider using a Deadeye WWII vet as spokesperson/endorser of the campaign.

4. Review and update current mailing lists. A special direct response campaign either by mail or on line to the descendants of Deadeye vets should be evaluated.

5. Develop and introduce an online website sponsorship feature that coordinates in message and tone with the direct response strategy.

6. Evaluate and recommend next steps for the Deadeye Dispatch. Perhaps the Dispatch assumes a new role as a history/legacy journal focusing on Deadeye stories and legacy funding strategies.

7. Conduct a Legacy Luncheon at the annual meeting. This would be an annual event at which attendees would participate in an estate planning workshop designed to provide practical information about how they can ensure that their commitment to the 96th lives beyond their lifetime. Outside legal counsel and financial advisors would run the workshop and take-home information would be provided to every participant. This event

could also be promoted as an online webinar for potential supporters.

8. Establish the Legacy Corps, an honorary organization of all those members who have contributed/pledged a specified amount or who have named the 96th in their wills/estate plans. A "Thank you" luncheon and financial report would be hosted by the Endowment Committee at each annual reunion. The first members of this organization should be the entire board of directors of the organization.

9. Evaluate other potential sources of funds. Example: affinity credit cards are one source of funding that could also provide a real service to members.

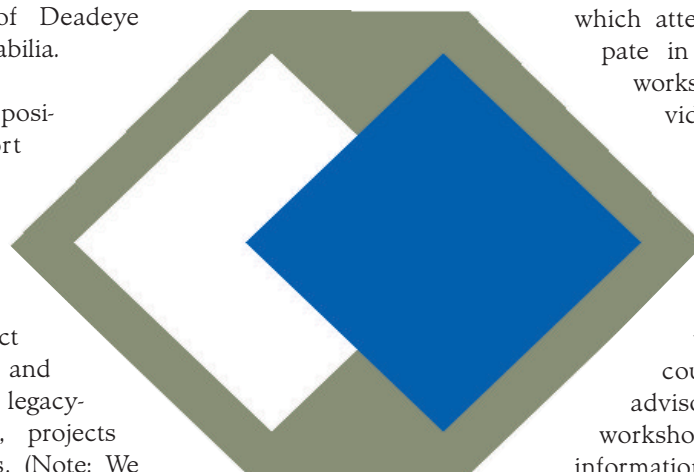
10. Research those grant makers and foundations that would consider requests from 96th and prepare a list of recommended prospects and application processes for review and consultation with the board.

11. The website should be reviewed to ensure an updated, convenient process for making contributions/sponsorships.

12. Begin an ongoing review of the activities of similar legacy-building organizations in order to see what's happening elsewhere, get new insight and to stay abreast of new developments and strategies.

All of the above strategies are offered as a starting point for consideration and discussion. Some or all may be used. The result will be a new plan that will help us accomplish our primary mission for 2017 and beyond:

**To preserve
the history
and legacy
of the
96th
Infantry
Division.**



Deadeye News & Features

My First Night on Leyte

By Harold K. Gulzow
(Contributed by
Don Dencker)

I remember very vividly my first night on Leyte.

Sgt. Roy Vaughn and I dug two foxholes in the shape of a V. This was so we could have a wide other without talking and giving away our position.

We pulled brush over the top of our foxholes. I left a small opening in the brush just above my head.

I was determined to use my 45 Cal. pistol that I kept in my shoulder harness on anyone or anything that darkened that hole.

We lay awake all night. I kept staring at the hole with my pistol held pointed up along the side of my head.

The Japanese were close enough that we could hear them talking. We did a lot of toe-tapping that night, but luckily nothing covered the hole.

We both felt a lot better at first light the next morning.

Tokyo Rose And Vinegar Joe Agree:

The 96th Tops All At Killing Japs

By PFC. GIL FEINSTEIN
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer.

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 labelling 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 Hack-saw 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 bar-rages "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. 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 60 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 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 credited 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 lost all its officers; one company has had seven commanders; one regiment has had three.

There are ugly knolls and ridges on Okinawa that are indelibly imprinted in blood-stained letters in the archives of the division.

There was Kakazu Ridge, up which the 383rd and 301st Infantry regiments charged. Oboe Hill, where rain-soaked dough-boys of the 382nd Infantry hung on for days. Conical Hill where men of the 301st and 383rd fought for 10 agonizing days.

"Stars and Stripes" article from early June, 1945

Contributed by Don Dencker

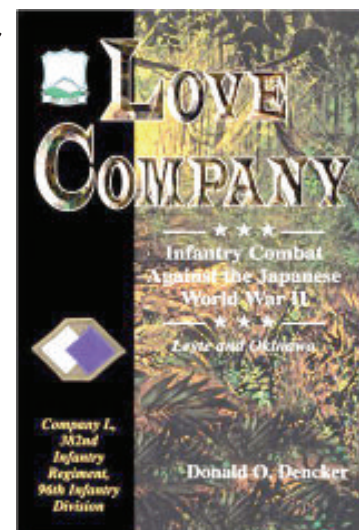
Love Company book update from Don Dencker

Submitted by Don Dencker

My book, "Love Company: Infantry Combat Against the Japanese; World War II, Leyte and Okinawa," was published by Sunflower University Press in 2002. A total of 2,300 bound copies were made at that time. Now I am down to two books plus one I have used as a reference. I am having 100 exact copies made.

These new "Love Company" book copies will cost me about \$20.00 per book and I am selling these at that price. The ordering information is on page 16 of this issue of the Deadeye Dispatch.

My goal is to spread the 96th Infantry Division History.





Deadeye News & Features

Awarded to
96th Infantry Division
United States Army
20 October 1944 through 1 March 1945

For acts and services of exceptional gallantry and heroism rendered by its officers and men during the Leyte Campaign, from 20 October to 1 March 1945. The 96th Infantry Division landed with General Douglas MacArthur in Leyte on 20 October 1944. Capturing the critical terrain of Catmon Hill which was fiercely defended by elements of the 16th Infantry Division of the Imperial Japanese Army, the Division advanced through deep swamps and penetrated to Tubon-Tubon which was heavily infested by the enemy. After four days of attack, counterattack and heavy losses of personnel and equipment, the Division succeeded in defeating the enemy. Again, in December 1944, the Division participated in the counterattack against the 2nd Parachute Brigade, Imperial Japanese Army which was then assaulting the airfields and supply depots in Central Leyte Valley. By these achievements the 96th Infantry Division, United States Army, greatly contributed to the success of one of the decisive battles of World War II and earned the lasting admiration of the Republic of the Philippines and its people.

OFFICIAL: FABIAN C VER
 General, APP
 Chief of Staff

BINFOAOSO L DUQUE
 Brigadier General, AFP
 The Adjutant General

By direction of the President, pursuant to paragraph 19 1, Section II, Armed Forces of the Philippines Regulations G 131-052, this Headquarters, dated 24 April 1967, as amended, the PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION BADGE is hereby awarded to the 96th INFANTRY DIVISION UNITED STATES ARMY

Submitted by Don Dencker

Mary Eleanor Wood Smith

A Note From Sis

Hello Ladies and Gentleman of the 96th Division and adult children,

Since the disbanding of the Ladies' Auxiliary, I have lost contact with some special people. When some of the ladies became widows and dropped their Deadeye Dispatch subscriptions, I lost contact with these special ladies,

I have gotten requests from several ladies who asked where is so-and-so but I do not know where these friends are living. A few of my letters have been sent back.

If you know the address of any former friend from the 96th or the adult children, would you please send me their address, email address or a location to find them?

Also, if you know of deceased ladies of the Auxiliary, would you send me the address of one of their loved ones. It would be special to make a list with their names for the 2017 Memorial or list for the Hospitality room.

Good friends need to be remembered and recognized by those of us who shared time and fun events over the years.

Thank you for helping me find them.
 Mary Eleanor Wood Smith (Sis)
 Auxiliary President 2001

Way to send information:
 Email to: mewoodsmith@gmail.com
 Mail to: Mary Eleanor Wood Smith
 2104 Slash Court
 North Augusta, South Carolina 29841

Requested information:
 Name of lady you have kept up with: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone number: _____

Name and address of adult child with whom you have remained in contact:

96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association CONTACT LIST

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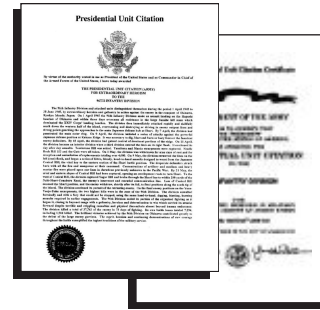
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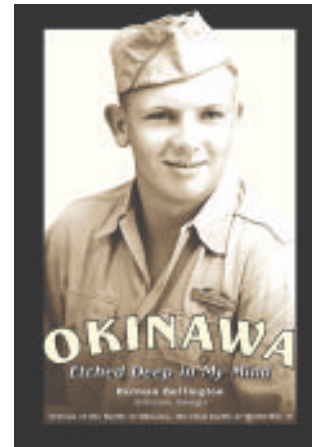
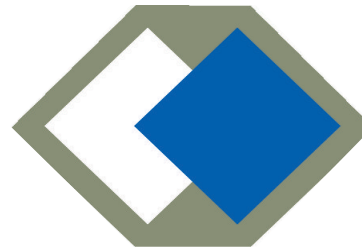
96TH Infantry Division Presidential Unit Citation Documents Available

Two color photo copies: Presidential Unit Citation Certificate and Presidential Unit Citation Text

Cost is \$6.00 per set of two, postage paid

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

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

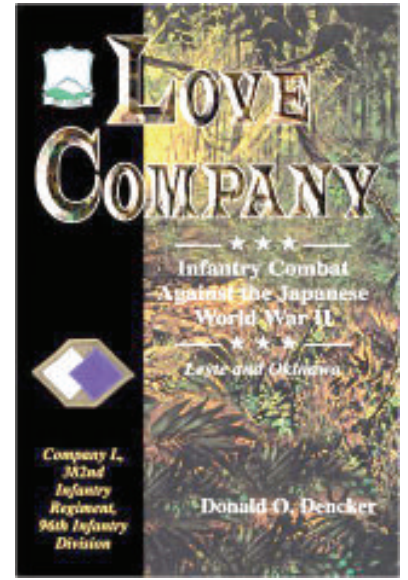


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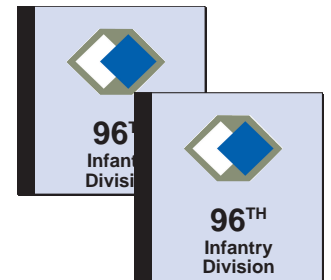
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