

101st AIRBORNE VIETNAM VETERANS ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER: JUNE 2023

WWW.101NAMVETERAN.COM

Since the last letter we have lost a member. John Bivona passed away on May 12, 2023. He served with A/1/502. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

The following is from our president.

Dear fellow Vietnam Vets,

As most of you are aware, we will be holding our annual reunion in San Antonio from August 23 – 26. This will be the first year that our reunion will be held with the 101st Airborne Division Association. I encourage everyone to attend. 90 % of the Association members are Vietnam Vets. This will give our members the opportunity to meet other 101st Airborne vets that we may have served with in Vietnam.

I have attended both events each of the past 5 years except for the Covid cancellations and have enjoyed both! We will be holding all our organizations events as normal. We will have a room to gather, which will also be used for our pizza party, auction, and membership meeting.

The registration fee of \$101 covers the registration costs which includes the hospitality room, a Saturday morning breakfast buffet, and the memorial dinner Saturday evening. This year's guest speaker will be General David Petraeus. The host hotel will be the Westin – San Antonio North with a room rate of \$115 plus tax.

There are two ways to register. The easier way is online. The normal way is with the registration form which can be filled out and mailed. Please access the registration on screamingeagle.org. Also, if you would like to attend the regimental dinners on Friday, August 25, there are registration forms with a separate fee which is mailed to the regimental representative. All can be accessed on the Association website.

There are many things to see in San Antonio. There is the river walk which is beautiful and unique to San Antonio. Also, there is the Alamo with the Mission Trail where you can experience the history of the missions traveling South.

Hope to see you all there!

Bruce Roshong,
President

101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Organization

I have also received several emails from our treasurer Dave Nesbitt. Because of some redundancy I have consolidated them the best that I could.

The following is from our treasurer.

Something you might mention in the next newsletter is we still have over 147 members who have not responded to our letter asking them to become life members of both organizations. Of the 335 names/addresses we have, 103 were already members of the Association, so they automatically became life members of our group too. I sent 85 new applications and funds to the Association several months ago. I think a second letter must go out to invite the remaining members to join us or ask if they plan to remain dues paying members of the 101st Airborne Vietnam Veterans organization. There may be some who do not wish to be a member of the Association. This would be an issue for us to discuss at the reunion in August.

If you haven't already reserved your hotel room and registered for the reunion, you should do so ASAP. Everything you need to know is at the Association website: screamingeagle.org. If you need assistance, call Association HQ at 931-431-0199. You can reserve your hotel room at that site also; there is a link. The email I sent earlier today omitted some important information and I will try to correct it for you. First, know that the hotel reservation number shown on our website: <https://www.101namveteran.com> is incorrect. I don't know why that number was given to us but it's wrong. If you call that number someone will try to sell you a room in a hotel that is not where the reunion is being held and the room rate is \$183 per night. DO NOT USE NUMBER 866-238-4218!!!! The correct number to make reservations at the Westin San Antonio North is 844-886-4304. The direct

number to the hotel front desk is 210-691-8888; if you call there you will most likely be transferred to the correct reservation number. You can register for the reunion and make hotel reservations online at <https://screamingeagle.org>.

Our group has been allotted a room for Friday for the period of 12 noon thru 2:00 PM. We will eat pizza and hold our auction at this time so bring what you have to donate. Please note that on Friday, August 25th, the Ladies Luncheon has been scheduled at the same time as the 101st Vietnam Veterans Luncheon. The Association Luncheon for the Ladies has a menu that is listed at their website: screamingeagle.org. I realize that the ladies can't attend both events so be sure you know where your lady wants to go. If you have already made Ladies Luncheon plans for the Association group, and your lady wants to be with our Vietnam Veterans group, you may call the 101 Association HQ and cancel the reservation and ask for a refund. I had already signed my wife up for the Association Ladies Luncheon when I realized they inserted our gathering for the same time frame. I called Association HQ and had them delete that registration and asked for the \$35 to be refunded.

Secondly, the revised agenda indicates **Pre-Registration Required** for the 101st Vietnam Veterans Luncheon on Friday, August 25 at 12 noon to 2 pm. The reservation form is also at the screamingeagle.org website. Once completed it is to be sent to our President Bruce Roshong, his address is on the form. What I didn't find on the form itself is a place to indicate what type of pizza you preferred. I sent my reservation form to Bruce and failed to tell what pizza I wanted; be sure you write-in what you like. Also, it asks if you will bring a "raffle gift"...what that means is, will you bring an item for our auction. The auction will be held during the luncheon time. I have not heard, but it's probable that we will have a 50/50 raffle in addition to the auction. There is no charge for our pizza luncheon, but you need to send Bruce Roshong (broshong@tampabay.rr.com) a notice of how many will attend and what your favorite pizza is so he can order them. The luncheon for the Vietnam group will feature only pizza and soft drinks (beer can be secured from the Association Hospitality Room).

I'm anxious to attend my first reunion with the 101st Association. I trust that we will have a good time and perhaps meet some Vietnam Veterans that we haven't seen in over 50 years. I also plan to attend the 2nd Brigade Dinner on Friday night; you can download a form from the website and mail it to whatever unit dinner you wish to attend. The form with payment for dinner must be mailed to whomever is hosting the event.

I'll look forward to seeing you in San Antonio.
Dave Nesbitt

Sheila and I have made our hotel reservation and have sent in our reservation for the reunion only. I hope if we decide to attend something else, we can sign up when we get there, if not, we will improvise and find something else to do. I went on the association's website and did see that our pizza party read pre-registration required but could not find a form. On our website we have a form to be mailed in. Since Sheila and I are getting there Wednesday, I will see Bruce then and tell him we are coming to the pizza party.

This will be the last letter before the reunion. I hope it answers any questions you may have, if not contact me. I don't know if I will be able to help you, but I'll try.

Airborne!

Mike

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