



# Pro Patria Press



#106

May 2023

## NEWSLETTER OF THE 31ST US INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

EDITOR: DAN WOOD wooddr3@gmail.com

### MEMORIAL DAY – REMEMBRANCE DAY

May we all slow down enough this year to remember and pay our respects to all warriors, from all America's Armed Services, who gave their lives in defense of our nation and the principles upon which the United States of America was founded. As with each of our present-day warriors, those, over time, who gave the "last full measure of devotion" possessed legacies, family members, and friends who were personally touched by their sacrifice. As a reminder of the distinctive contribution of the Polar Bears to the nation, the following offers a synopsis of the birth of our Regiment nearly 107 years ago. Amongst the celebration activities this year—may we truly remember...

#### The Birth of America's Foreign Legion

World War I had just started its third year in Europe, and the United States' participation was not far over the horizon when the 31st Infantry Regiment was activated in the Philippines on August 13, 1916. The 31st, having never served in the United States as a full regiment, earned the unofficial nickname "America's Foreign Legion." After infantry regiments were discontinued as tactical organizations in 1957, several of the regiment's successor battle groups and subsequently its successor battalions served in the United States, but its headquarters and the 1st Battalion have never "been home." Currently the regiment's only active unit, the 4th Battalion, is assigned to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team (BCT), 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) at Ft. Drum, NY.

The 31st Infantry Regiment's insignia, a polar bear, commemorates the regiment's earliest combat experience during the Siberian Expedition of 1918–1920. The 31st Infantry's last contingent left Siberia on April 1, 1920. Sixteen of the Regiment's members were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, 24 were killed in action, 8 died of wounds received in action, and 52 were wounded in action, testifying to the valor of a generation of Americans fighting in a far-off, miserable place to accomplish an unclear mission. It would not be the last time.

The regimental shield is a sea lion from the Philippine Department's shoulder insignia, commemorating the regiment's birth and long service in the Philippines. Its polar bear crest was approved by the War Department in 1924. The regiment's Latin motto, *Pro Patria*, means "For Country." A poignant reminder to warriors across time when engaged in battles and service far from home.

The 31st Infantry Regiment, authorized by the National Defense Act of 1916, was formed in the Philippines later that year to strengthen the forces protecting U.S. interests in the Philippines following its capture from Spain in 1898. Filipinos, although generally inclined toward friendship, did not seek, or accept the occupation of their country by another colonial power, prompting a series of guerrilla wars against U.S. forces. These wars subsided in 1911. By 1916, six regiments of infantry and a regiment of cavalry remained in the islands, concentrated mainly on Luzon and Mindanao where *Insurrectos* remained troublesome.

Reaction to the National Defense Act of 1916 was not as orderly as congress might have intended. Since the required manpower for new regiments would take at least a year to recruit, the Army transferred men and equipment from existing regiments, diluting them. In compliance with the order, the Philippine Department formed the 31st Infantry Regiment's Headquarters, Machine Gun, and Supply Companies and 3rd Battalion on August 13, 1916, at Ft. William McKinley (Rizal, Luzon), with personnel and equipment from the 8th and 27th Infantry

Regiments. The 1st Battalion was formed at Regan Barracks (Albay, Luzon) from the 2nd Battalion 15th Infantry. The 2nd Battalion was formed at Camp McGrath (Batangas, Luzon) with personnel and equipment from the 13th Infantry. As B Company's First Sergeant Joe Dundas put it, "Men went to bed on the night of July 31 as members of B Company 15th Infantry Regiment and awoke the next morning in B Company 31st Infantry Regiment." On its first consolidated morning report, the regiment totaled 35 officers and 1,350 enlisted men.

The 31st Infantry's senior officers and some NCOs had served in the Spanish-American War 18 years earlier, gaining insight into expeditionary warfare. Others had served during the more recent Philippine Insurrection, making the regiment more seasoned than its newness would suggest. Colonel William H. Gordon, the Regimental Commander, and Lieutenant Colonel Frederick H. Sargent, his Deputy, had seen action during the closing years of the Indian Wars in the American West, had fought against Spain in 1898 and then against insurgents during the Philippine Insurrection. The context of the birth of the regiment was one of transformation from a pitifully small internal security force to a modern expeditionary Army.



## SITREP FROM 4-31 POLAR BEARS: QUARTER 2



The second Quarter has been a busy time for the Polar Bears! In February, the 4th Battalion began the journey down to Ft. Polk, LA for their pre-deployment Joint Readiness Training Center Rotation (JRTC). From February 12th to March 5th, the Polar Bears took the fight to Geronimo in JRTC Rotation 23-04. While at Polk, the Polar Bears collaborated with a company from the United Arab Emirates and developed close cross-cultural and military ties as the two units trained together.

During the month of March, the Polar Bears returned from the heat of Ft. Polk to their snowy home of Ft. Drum. The battalion reset their equipment, collected lessons learned, and prepared for their next mission after a hard month of training. Yet the training did not stop, squads of warriors competed in several division soldier skills competitions with A Co taking first place, and the Battalion Scouts taking third. A Polar Bear even went to Ft. Benning, GA to compete in the International Sniper Competition.

The month of April began preparations for much change across the battalion as five of the six companies began preparing for change of command layouts and inspections. Polar Bear leaders changed positions across most platoons, culminating in the Battalion wishing farewell to its outgoing commanders on the 28th of April. These were CPT John Yerby (HHC), CPT Hernan Vargas (A Co), CPT Joel Hammond (B Co). Then welcomed were its newest commanders, CPT Robert Hutchinson (HHC), CPT Samuel Burt (A Co), and CPT Jayme Tatko (B Co).

At the beginning of May, the battalion began preparations for the upcoming deployment and finished the last change of commands for Charlie and Hotel companies. Command inventories started, parallel with



4<sup>th</sup> Bn and UAE Soldiers conducting  
MEDEVAC Training



SGT Kedgeley (Center), member 10<sup>th</sup> Mtn  
Div International Sniper Competition



Non-Combatant Evacuation Training at JRTC

Pre-Deployment Training. The next target will be the completion of Marksmanship training before packing all gear away for the upcoming deployment. Once all the Polar Bear's training goals are met, the Battalion will celebrate with a Battalion Ball on May 19th, celebrating Polar Bears past and present. To further promote unit cohesion and enhance morale, the battalion will hold Honor Week to remember all Polar Bears past, present, and future. For this event, the Battalion welcomes 31st Infantry Regiment Association membership participation.

## INFORMATION AND UPDATES

### Honor Week Activities

- 13 June 0630-0730 – Polar Bear Fight Club; 1000-1200 – Casing Ceremony; 1300 – BBQ Competition
- 14 June 1000-1200 – Honor Room Ceremony; 1200 – Pitmaster BBQ Competition
- 15 June 1000-1500 – Battalion Organizational Day

For further information and if you wish to attend, contact Sr. Director Ron Corson (jrcorson@aol.com)

## 31st US Infantry Regiment Association Reunion September 14-17, 2023

### Details For Reunion 2023 – Watertown, NY

We look forward to seeing everyone in Watertown, NY, and Ft. Drum in September. The weather in the North Country should be splendid as summer ends. Ivan Barker (NE Director) and Judy Bettis (Association Secretary) are our Reunion Hosts for this year's gathering. The region of 1000 Islands offers lighthouses, historic castles, maritime museums, world-class fishing, quaint downtown shopping, on-the-water dining, winery visits, and more. A short drive to Sackets Harbor offers the Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site, a visit to Old McDonald's Farm, fine art galleries, boat tours and quaint dining experiences. And of course, Ft. Drum offers 4-31 Battalion Headquarters, Museum, and "George," the Polar Bear statue, and the 10th Mountain Division Museum. Our goal this year is for you to enjoy maximum time with old comrades and friends in a wonderful environment.

The **15th of August** is the official closing of reservations for the reunion so we can finalize numbers and meals with the hotel. The **1st of September** is the final day to adjust the number of people you may invite to the Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner. For those who desire to arrive early and depart late, the reunion rates are locked in for 3 days before the reunion begins and 3 days after it ends.

### Reunion Volunteers

The point of contact for all who would volunteer for the welcome table, raffle sales, and silent auction arrangement is our co-coordinator Judy Bettis. Additionally, Judy will be coordinating for items donated for the silent auction. Please consider bringing a unique and quality item or sponsor a gift basket that can be offered during the silent auction letting her know of your intentions. Judy can be contacted at 315-685-3944 if no answer, leave a voice message, number and name or by email at judy.bettis1944@gmail.com.

### Sponsor a Soldier

We are seeking sponsors who would like to cover the cost of one or more of the 5-member 4-31 Color Guard for the welcome dinner on Thursday evening and the closing dinner/ceremony on Saturday. The cost would be \$100 per sponsorship (1 soldier). We will arrange for the Polar Bear warrior you sponsor to be seated with you at the events. Your contribution/check can be mailed to the Association Treasurer, Don Carden at 8507 Covina Ct. Chesterfield, VA 23838. Please note "sponsoring a soldier" in the "For" space at the bottom of your check.

**Hilton Garden Inn Watertown/Thousand Islands:** 1290 Arsenal St. Watertown, NY; Cost is \$139/night for single or double occupancy; \$149/night for triple; and \$159/night with 4 guests. Breakfast included.

**Group Name for Registration:** 31st Infantry Association Reunion; **Group Code:** 31INF

Reservations are being accepted now. Call 315 788-1234 or use the booking link below.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=ARTGIGI&arrivaldate=2023-09-14&departuredate=2023-09-17&numAdults=2&numChildren=0&numRooms=1&srpCodes=31INF>

**31st US Infantry Regiment Association  
Reunion Registration Form  
September 14-17, 2023**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Company & Battalion of the 31st Infantry: \_\_\_\_\_ When: \_\_\_\_\_

If active duty, Current Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Served in Combat Zone: Yes / No (Circle) If Yes, where: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be staying at Hilton Garden in Watertown? Yes / No (Circle)

Have a car at the reunion? Yes / No If needed, are you willing to assist in local driving? Yes / No

Reunion Activity	Cost per Person	X # Participating	=	Event Cost
Reunion Registration	\$45	x _____		\$ _____
Reunion Arrival Dinner	\$45	x _____		\$ _____
Reunion Banquet	\$60	x _____		\$ _____
Grand Total				\$ _____

Make checks payable to: **31st US Infantry Regiment Association** ATTN: Don Carden 8705 Covina Ct. Chesterfield, VA 23838

Hotel Information: Hilton Garden Inn Watertown/Thousand Islands 1290 Arsenal St. Watertown, NY 13601; Cost is \$139.00/night with tax and a Hot Breakfast every morning; Reservations are now being accepted at 315-788-1234

***The Suspense Date for Hotel is August 15th and Reunion Reservations is September 1, 2023***



## HISTORICAL



Battalion Live Fire Training Exercise at Joint Readiness Training Center

This following is an account of a captured Chinese field telephone. This phone was manufactured during the period of the Korean War (1950-1953) and liberated in November 1968 at the Battle of Nui Chom Mountain in the Republic of South Vietnam by 4-31. It then wound up in Columbus, GA—the following story tells how.

After Sam Wetzel retired as a 3-star general he wrote a draft of his personal memoir covering 33 years as a professional soldier. In that memoir he summarizes the interrogation of an NVA POW of the 21st NVA Regiment captured on Nui Chom Mountain:

*He was in 3rd Squad, 2nd Platoon, 2nd Company, 1st Battalion, 21st NVA Regiment, 2nd NVA Division. Five days ago, the 21st NVA Regiment made contact with U.S. troops. They dispersed and he believed they planned to regroup at another location. They had left North Vietnam with a battalion-sized force of 300-400 men in May 1968 and after walking for three months arrived in South Vietnam in August 1968. He said the group leader's name was Nguyen-Nam, since deceased. He said there are three battalions in the 21st NVA Regiment. He gave the location of regimental headquarters and stated that their mission is to engage enemy forces which enter the regiment's area.*



As LTC Wetzel's Battalion slowly worked its way up the mountain, they found the enemy well dug in:

*Alpha Company had found a command post and headquarters a few hundred meters west of the hospital. "The command post bunker was about 50 by 50 feet and was completely underground," explained Lieutenant Dolan. "We found numerous papers and documents, plus a telephone switchboard and a small motor, which was probably used as a generator.*

*There was communication wire running all over the mountain, and each of the more than 250 bunkers was connected."*

Each of those two-man bunkers had a Chinese field telephone. Each phone weighed 12 pounds without its carry-strap apparatus. There were additional phones for the CP of each level of command, and for major staff officers, medical facilities, supply points and messing. Besides these hundreds of phones, the regiment's commo equipment also included more switchboards and many miles of commo wire. The bunkers' 250 phones alone, without carrying equipment, weighed about 3,000 pounds—a ton and a half. All commo equipment taken together likely weighed twice that. This hefty burden goes a long way to explaining why their field march from North Vietnam to South Vietnam took them, according to the POW, a three-month effort.

While the seven-day Battle of Nui Chom Mountain was under way, Sam's memoir tells us that:

*Alpha Company engaged two NVA evading. Result was one NVA KIA, one Chinese machine gun and one Chinese field telephone captured. I (LTC Wetzel) took that telephone and used it in my bunker on LZ West. Then I brought it back to the states in the summer of 1969. One like it is displayed in the National Infantry Museum in Columbus, GA.*

Sam kept that phone in his home in Columbus after he retired. When he passed away, his daughter, Chris Henson, presented the phone to a Board member of the 31st Infantry Regiment Association. The phone will eventually be transferred to the 4-31st and will likely have a prominent place in the Battalion Museum in the Headquarters Building at Fort Drum.

## **ASSOCIATION COMMANDER'S UPDATE**

Greetings to all veterans and currently serving Polar Bears, family members, and supporters of the 31st Infantry Regiment. We are only 4 months from our annual reunion. I encourage you to make your reservations soon at the Hilton Garden Inn to secure your room. Having been stationed at Ft. Drum, I can assure you there is a host of places to visit and wonderful places to dine. You even have the opportunity to visit the historic town of Kingston, Ontario and the Capital of Canada, Ottawa. The relaxed schedule for this years event offers optimal time for you to enjoy time with friends and family while still be present for important reunion events.

Your board has recently met virtually and completed the review of our Constitution and will begin later this month to identify update and changes to our Association bylaws. The Association webpage is being built by a few of our talented members and should have the capacity to go "live" in time for the reunion. Since our last newsletter, we have had one member volunteer to host the 2024 reunion. If you would like a reunion to happen near you, gather some friends for your region and make a plan so you can pitch it to the membership in September. Remember, this is your association, step out and be heard. Don't forget to pull your regional Director into the process and planning.

I wanted to thank those who have stepped forward to support our organization by donating and becoming a newsletter booster! We have had a great initial response and you can view the list of boosters in this addition. If you desire to join the team of supporters, simply follow the instructions noted later in this issue. Additionally, we have had one member step forward to sponsor soldiers at our reunion dinners. As noted above, we are making an effort to cover the cost of the Color Guard first but if we have volunteers above the number of 5, we can sponsor other warriors to attend either the welcome dinner or the closing dinner. The donation for covering both events for 1 soldier is \$100. and the amount to sponsor a soldier for one dinner is fifty dollars.

As you know, we are constantly on the lookout for those of you who are willing to take a more active role in our Association. One immediate and simple way is to contact Judy Bettis and volunteer to assist at the reunion. If you can afford additional time, we need assistance in the following areas: an assistant historian; an assistant newsletter editor who would become the editor eventually; a web savvy individual or someone willing to grow in this area to join the small group in managing the Association website; and an event manager who would organize special opportunities such as attendance at the Bataan Death March Memorial, attendance at funerals or memorial services of those whose remains have been returned home, and invitations from our active Battalion for attendance at special events and ceremonies. If you are interested in any of the above, please notify your Regional Director and our Adjutant, Vin Zike. Their contact information can be found on page 9 of this document. Have a wonderful Memorial Day and safe summer.

Pro Patria.  
Dan

# TAPS



**Deceased members identified since Newsletter # 105, February 2023**

## KOREAN WAR

Walter C. Butler, unkn, Smyrna, GA, died Feb 1, 2023, unit and period of assigned unkn  
Charles F. Gaffney, PFC, Manchester, IA, died Feb 18, 2023, HHC, Rgt, 1951-1952  
Charles E. "Babe" Geitner, CPL, Fullerton, CA, died Jan 1, 2023, Co C, 1st Bn, 1951-1952  
Lesley E. Stribling, SSG Ret, Radcliff, KY, died Jan 20, 2023, Co G, 2nd Bn, 1950-1951

## VIETNAM

Richard P. Spekczyński, SSG, Dunkirk, NY, died Feb 23, 2023, Co D, 6th Bn, 1968-1969  
Richard G. "Gabe" Stoeppler, CAPT, Chesnee, SC, died Jan 3, 2023, Co D & HHC, 4th Bn, 1968-1970  
Olin R. Warner, SGT, Maysville, WV, died Dec 15, 2023, Co A, 4th Bn, 1965-1967  
James A. "Jimmy" Wright, SP4, Cumberland, RI, died Dec 31, 2022, Co B, 4th Bn, 1965-1967

**NOTE:** No deceased members reported from the World War II, Pre and Post Korean War, and the United States eras

## NEW MEMBERS

Troy Blankenship, Sonora, CA, Son of SSG Ralph Bolander, 2-4 Arty,  
attached to Cos D & E, 6th Bn, died, Dec 29, 1998, Associate  
Pat Daniels, Big Lake, AK, son of Larry P. Daniels, PFC, HHC, 6th Bn, 1970, KIA Apr 4, 1970, Associate  
Elaina, Keaton-Crenshaw, Leavenworth, KS, daughter of CPT Everett Keaton, Commander, Co D, 6th Bn,  
KIA Jan 20, 1970, Associate

# 31st INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION QUARTERMASTER STORE ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cat #	Description	Price	Qty	Total
B 102	Book, 31st Infantry Regiment "America's Foreign Legion" in Peace and War (Includes shipping) <u>Do not include this item in shipping cost at bottom of form</u>	\$ 40.00	X ____ = ____	
C 100	Coin, Commemorative, 100th Anniversary (if you order 10 or more the price is \$6.00 each).	\$ 8.00	X ____ = ____	
C100AT	Airtight capsule for 100th Anniversary Commemorative coin	\$ 1.00	X ____ = ____	
C100EB	Easel, black both the black and clear easels are for Airtight capsule with 100th	\$ 1.00	X ____ = ____	
C100EC	Easel, clear Anniversary Commemorative coin or the Commemorative coin alone	\$ 1.00	X ____ = ____	
C RB 01	Cap, Royal Blue, 31st INFANTRY REGIMENT, POLAR BEARS, and crest embroidered directly on cap a waving US flag on the left side and US ARMY embroidered on back.	\$ 24.00	X ____ = ____	
C RB	Cap same as C RB 01 above with the addition of a combat patch on the right side (Philippines Div., 7th Inf. Div., 196th Light Inf. Bde., 9th Inf. Div., 10th Mt Div.) (Circle the patch)	\$ 24.00	X ____ = ____	
C K 01	Khaki CAP! same as C RB 01 above but in Khaki and all embroidery is subdued.	\$ 24.00	X ____ = ____	
CK	Cap, Khaki; Same as CRB above except in Khaki with subdued embroidery on the right side. (Philippines Div., 7th Inf. Div., 196 Light Inf. Bde., 9th Inf. Div., 10th Mt. Div.) (circle the patch)			
SP	Shirt, Polo/golf w/31st INFANTRY REGIMENT and Polar Bear crest on left chest, <b>no pocket</b> Please circle color and size. Size S, M, L, XL White, Brilliant Blue, Navy Blue	\$ 32.00	X ____ = ____	
	Size 2XL White, Brilliant Blue, Navy Blue	\$ 34.00	X ____ = ____	
SP100	Same as above with 100th Anniversary logo in <u>White only</u> . Size: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, & 3XL <b>Close out!</b>	\$ 12.00	X ____ = ____	
ST	Shirt, Tee, w/31st INFANTRY REGIMENT and Polar Bear crest on left chest, <b>no pocket</b> (Circle color & size) Size : S, M, L, XL Color: Light Blue, Navy Blue	\$ 22.00	X ____ = ____	
	Size: 2XL Color: Light Blue, Navy Blue	\$ 24.00	X ____ = ____	
SLSVC	Shirt, Long Sleeve, Dress in various colors w/31st INFANTRY REGIMENT and Polar Bear crest on left chest above pocket. (Circle color and size) Size S, M, L, XL Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Light Blue, Red, White, Texas Orange, Size: 2XL Colors: Burgundy, classic Navy, or Denim	\$ 37.00	X ____ = ____	
DCL 01	Bumper sticker, 31st Infantry crest (Polar Bear), 4-3/8" tall, 4-1/4 wide	\$ 3.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 01	Pin, 31st Infantry Regimental crest (Polar Bear), regulation size, facing set.	\$ 8.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 02	Pin, 31st Infantry Regimental crest (Polar Bear), lapel/hat pin 7/8" tall, 3/4" wide	\$ 4.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 73	Pin, Combat Infantry Badge, lapel/hat pin. 3/8" tall, 1-1/4" wide	\$ 3.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 74	Pin, Combat Infantry Badge, regulation size, 1-1/4" tall, 3" wide	\$ 4.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 82	Pin, Purple Heart, lapel/hat pin, 1-1/8" tall, 5/8" wide	\$ 3.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 85	Pin, Silver Star, lapel/hat pin, 1-1/8" tall, 5/8" wide	\$ 3.00	X ____ = ____	
PN 71	Pin, Bronze Star, lapel/hat pin, 1-1/8" tall, 5/8" wide	\$ 3.00	X ____ = ____	

SUBTOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SHIPPING CHARGES – add to your order: Orders under \$10.00 add \$3.00; Orders \$10.01 - \$25.00 add \$7.00.

Orders \$25.01 - \$50.00, add \$8.00; Orders over \$50.00, add \$9.00 to the subtotal line above: SHIPPING \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: 31st INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For Credit Cards (American Express, Discover, Master Card, or Visa) or Debit card (with Master Card or Visa logo) please include

NAME (on card): \_\_\_\_\_ CARD #: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

SECURITY CODE (on back of card): \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE (where credit card bill is to be mailed): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail the order form and payment to: Ivan Barker III, Quartermaster 3127 Cataract St, Copenhagen, NY 13626

If you have questions or would like a complete catalog, send your e-mail to Ivan at: barker\_ivan@hotmail.com



## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

<b>Honorary Colonel of the Regiment</b> 12 Randall Dr, Enola, PA 17025	<b><u>GEN (Ret.) Stephen Townsend</u></b> (Bn Cdr/4th Bn, Ft Drum, 2000-02) unlisted sjtownsend83@gmail.com
<b>Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment</b> 212 SW 15th St, Oak Island, NC 28465	<b><u>Dan Wood</u></b> 910-633-8397 (CSM/4th Bn, Ft Drum, 2000-02) wooddr3@gmail.com
<b>Commander:</b> 212 SW 15th St, Oak Island, NC 28465	<b><u>Dan Wood</u></b> 910-633-8397 See above
<b>Vice Commander:</b> TDB early June, Ft. Drum, NY	<b><u>LTC A.J. Brong, Jr.</u></b> C 248 202-6559 (CPT B, HHC 4th Bn, Ft Drum 2004-08) ajbrong@gmail.com
<b>Adjutant:</b> 9676 159th Ct N, Jupiter, FL 33478	<b><u>Vin Zike</u></b> 914-850-0095 (SGT, D 6th Bn, VN, 1969-70) vinzike@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b> 8507 Covina Ct., Chesterfield, VA 23838	<b><u>Don Carden</u></b> C 210-413-3315 (1LT, HHC 4th Bn, 1999-01) 31stpropatria@gmail.com
<b>Membership:</b> 1484 Loretta Dr., Penn Hills, PA 15235	<b><u>Jim Tierney</u></b> 412-793-7214 (SSG, A 6th Bn, VN, 1969-70) jtier64999@aol.com
<b>Editor:</b>	<b><u>Dan Wood</u></b> 910-633-8397 See above
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<b>Sergeant at Arms:</b> 4114 S. Lava Springs, Nampa, ID 83686	<b><u>Jim Jagers</u></b> C 916 802-7750 (SGT, B 6th Bn, VN, 1968-69) jim@jagers.me
<b>Historian:</b> 2321 S. Queen St, Arlington, VA 22202	<b><u>Grady Smith</u></b> C 703 927-6261 (CPT, D 6th Bn, Ft Lewis & VN, 1967-68) smithga@verizon.net
<b>Secretary:</b> 3728 Highland Ave, Skaneateles, NY 13152	<b><u>Judy Bettis</u></b> 315 685-3944 (Widow of CPL Ed Bettis, Co G, K 1951-52) judy.bettis1944@gmail.com
<b>Chaplain:</b> 490 Camp Rock Rd, Boone, NC 23607	<b><u>Al Olsen</u></b> C 336 262-1234 (SGT, C 6th Bn, VN, 1967-68) wannagoyes@gmail.com
<b>Senior Director:</b> 108 Mershon Way, Williamsburg, VA 23185	<b><u>Ron Corson</u></b> C 757-810-4155 (CPT, A 6th Bn, VN, 1969-70) jrcorson@aol.com
<b>Northeast Region:</b> (CT, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT) 3127 Cataract St, Copenhagen, NY 13626	<b><u>Ivan Barker III</u></b> 315-286-7696 See above
<b>Mid-Atlantic Region:</b> (DC,DE,MD,NJ,PA,VA,WV,AE,GM,PR) 104 Cumberland Dr., Carlisle, PA 17013	<b><u>Jim Simms</u></b> 717-243-5570 (LT, C & HHC 4th Bn, VN, 1969-70) jnpsim50@gmail.com
<b>Southeast Region:</b> (AL,AR,FL,GA,LA,MS,NC,SC,TN) 1116 Dundee Ct ,Murfreesboro, TN 37129	<b><u>Paul Fisk</u></b> 315-921-5392 (SSG, HHC, C & D 4th Bn, Ft Drum, 2005-13) pffisk@yahoo.com
<b>Great Lakes Region:</b> (IL, IN, KY, MI, OH, WI) 788 Eagledale Circle, Kettering, OH 45429	<b><u>John Howdeshelt</u></b> 937-435-0669 (SGT, D 6th Bn, VN, 1969) mamahowdy@yahoo.com
<b>Midwest Region:</b> (CO,IA,KS,MN,MO,ND,NE,NM,OK,SD,TX) 3100 Chambers St, Sioux City, IA 51104	<b><u>John Mansfield</u></b> 712-277-4498 (LT, A&B 4th Bn, VN 1967-68) arctic6@aol.com
<b>Western Region:</b> (AK,AZ,CA,HI,ID,MT,NV,OR,UT,WA,WY) 3035 El Rio Dr, Meridian, ID, 83642	<b><u>Joe DeAngeles</u></b> 208-362-9468 (SGT, C 6th Bn, VN, 1967-68) 31stpolarbear@gmail.com



## Newsletter Boosters

Thank you to our Newsletter Boosters!!

Joseph Crescenz  
Donald Carden  
Mark Sellin  
Harold McLaughlin Jr.

Nick and June Jager  
Richard Wilbur  
Roger Speicher  
Terry McFadden

Dan Wood  
GEN (ret) Stephen Townsend  
Alfred Banfield  
Isamu Long

If you would like to become a booster, simply contribute a minimum of \$20 annually toward the cost of generating and distributing this publication. The names of newsletter boosters will be listed in each edition of the newsletter for the calendar year within which they contribute. Mail your check made out to **31st Infantry Regiment Association**, to the Treasurer, Don Carden at 8507 Covina Ct. Chesterfield, VA 23838. Place “Newsletter Booster” on the “For” line at the bottom of your check.

## NEWSLETTER CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Cut along dotted line. Fill in requested information and mail to The Membership Chairman, address below.  
or email Jim Tierney with this information to [jtier64999@aol.com](mailto:jtier64999@aol.com) **SUBJECT: CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number if new: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Old Address</u>	<u>New Address</u>	<u>Mail To:</u>
_____	_____	Jim Tierney, Membership Chairman
Street or P.O. Box	Street or P.O. Box	1484 Loretta Drive
_____	_____	Penn Hills, PA 15235
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip	

# Membership Application–31st US Infantry Regiment Association



\_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name                                      Nickname                                      Middle Initial                                      Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address                                      City                                      State      Zip Code                                      Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address                                      Alternate E-mail Address

Please fill in as much information about your service/connection with the 31st Infantry Regiment as possible:

Battalion \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_ Platoon \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Highest Award Earned

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Rank & Duty Position when serving with the 31st Regiment

**Where did you serve with the 31st?**

**Period served month/year to month/year?**

Philippines                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Japan                                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Korea                                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Vietnam                                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Iraq                                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Afghanistan                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

Other Overseas                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

USA                                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_

**If currently on active duty, rank: \_\_\_\_\_ . If retired from the military, retired rank \_\_\_\_\_ .**

## Life Membership

Active Duty                      \_\_\_\$25

Age 49 & under                      \_\_\_\$60

Age 50 – 59                      \_\_\_\$45

Age 60 & over                      \_\_\_\$35

Associate                      \_\_\_\$25

Member (family)

Make your check out to **31st Inf Regt Assn** and mail it to the Membership Chairman:

**Jim Tierney, 1484 Loretta Drive, Penn Hills, PA 15235.**

**31st Infantry Regiment Association**  
**Jim Tierney**  
**1484 Loretta Drive**  
**Penn Hills, PA 15235**  
**Newsletter 106**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

If the Addressee no longer  
lives at the below address  
Please RETURN this to the above

**REUNION 2023**  
**WATERTOWN/Ft. DRUM, NY 14-17 SEPTEMBER 2023**

