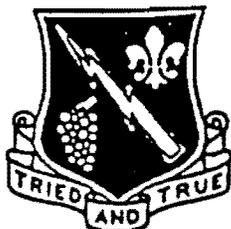


# The Communicator

PUBLISHED: SEPTEMBER 1995

NEWSLETTER NUMBER: 2 (1996)



## 97th Signal Battalion Association

( For Those Who Served 1942 - 1993 )

3608 Dupont Circle

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455

800-978-4270

(804) 464 0513

AMERICAN LEGION VET-NET

ACCESS CODE # 97

# 16205

Issued to members of the 97th Signal Battalion Association as an informational guide to activities of the Association. Members wishing to insert information or notices should send same to the editor.

Published in Gig Harbor, WA

W.H. Crews, Editor

### EIGHTH ANNUAL REUNION (CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 17 - 21 APRIL 96)

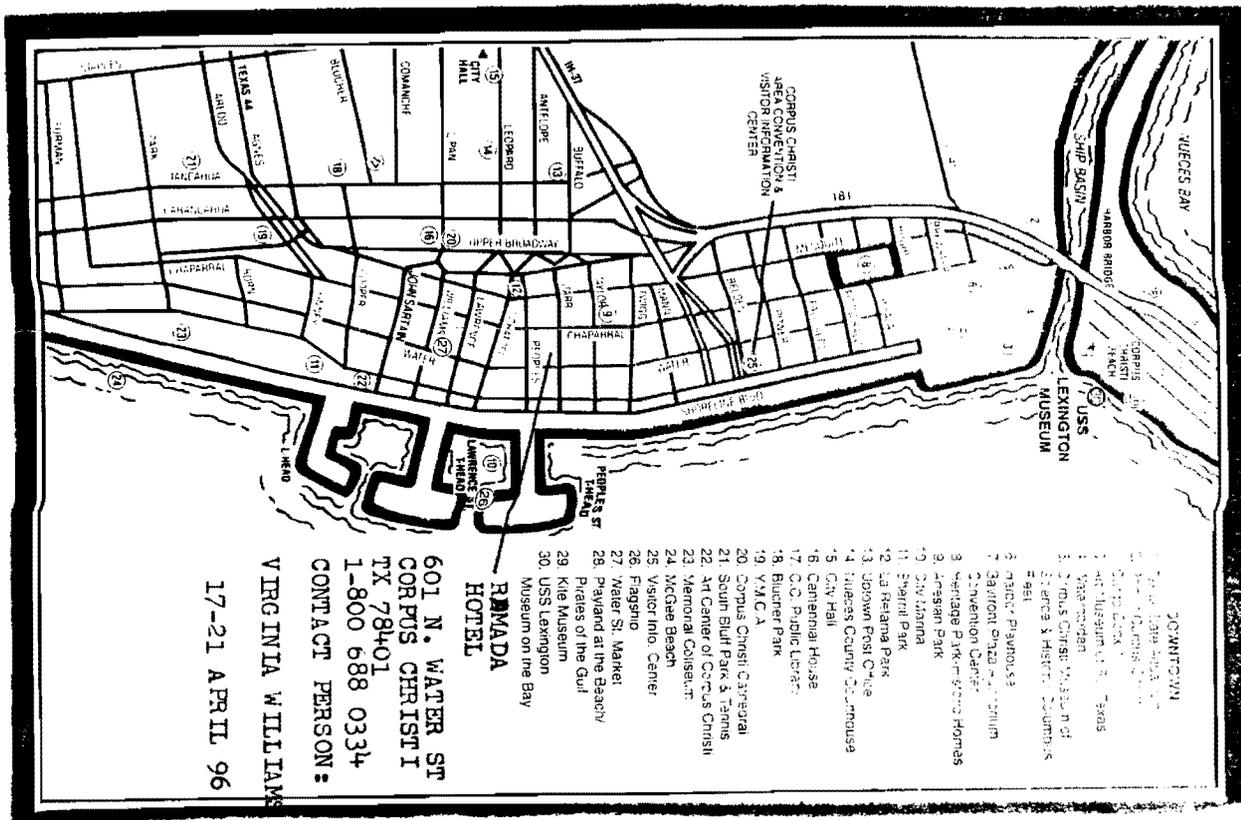
From Sam Sanchez, Host - Eighth Annual Reunion. Everything is beginning to gel for our reunion in Corpus Christi in April 1996. The Ramada Inn Hotel remodeling is on schedule and should be completed by April. Note that Hotel registration forms and flyers are included with this newsletter. The Lexington keeps adding more aircraft and new areas of interest for visitors to enjoy. The Aquarium has doubled in size and is continuously adding new exhibits. The Columbus Carabelas (ships) have a permanent berth location and have been placed next to the Natural Historical Science Museum. One area worth visiting that I had not mentioned before is the Heritage Park. The Heritage Park consists of vintage homes with rooms full of antique furniture. The vintage homes once belonged to old residents of Corpus Christi and have been restored.



15 MARCH            15 SEPTEMBER

15 JUNE             15 DECEMBER

For someone who is interested in old architecture and antiques, the Heritage Park is a veritable treasure. The Heritage Park is located one block over and seven blocks down from the hotel, and is two blocks from the museum, which is on the same street. The King Ranch tour is on and should be a worthwhile trip. The King Ranch Barbecue is superb and only local sauces are used; nothing from New York City. The cost of the King Ranch tour includes transportation to the ranch and the barbecue lunch. Anything you pick up on your boots or shoes you can keep. You know what it is to walk around cows. This should be as memorable a reunion as all the others have been. At least, I hope to see every member here. Arrangements have been made with a hotel across the street to accomodate any member, at the same cost, if the Ramada runs out of rooms. A map of the Corpus Christi waterfront area is provided below.



**1997 REUNION**

No definite plans or site selection were made at the New Orleans reunion for the 1997 reunion. Instead, members requested that Paul Muuss and Bud Brown investigate the possibility of our 1997 reunion being held in Colorado Springs, CO; Northern California; or Laughlin, Nevada. More info in a later edition of the Communicator.

## MINI REUNION

The next scheduled mini reunion for the southeastern region is to be held in Huntsville, AL 5 - 8 October 1995. Cecil and Hilde Lisenby will be hosting this event. The hotel selected is Holiday Inn, Huntsville West, off I-65. Contact Person: Doris Harden, 1-800-826 9563. Attendees are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. Information flyers will be mailed by the Secretary at a later date. For further information contact: Cecil or Hilde Lisenby at 205-536 2260. All members are invited to attend.

## DUES

As required under the Association by-laws, members are to be notified at least 60 days in advance that their dues are to be paid on 1 Jan of the current year. This requirement is normally met with the September newsletter. As of this date over sixty-five (65) 1994 active members are delinquent in their 1995 dues. In the event 1995 dues are not received by 31 December 1995, those members will be dropped from the active rolls and will not receive future copies of the newsletter or other correspondence. Further, members are reminded that to participate in decision making activities, they must be in active status with a current dues membership card. Please scan your membership cards, and if you have not paid your current dues, please do so now. A Dues Form is provided at page 1 to assist members in this action. Further, a discussion of a "Lifetime Membership" for those members who forget to pay their dues on time is provided below.



## LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

The subject of "Lifetime Membership" was discussed and approved by the general membership at New Orleans. The program will be administered by the Secretary/Treasurer with the following specifics:

Cost: \$100.00

How Paid: Lump Sum or in four (4) equal payments of \$25.00.

Membership Card: Special Membership Card will be issued.

The rationale for this program is that many members belong to several veterans organizations and dues must be paid each year. It has become a problem remembering when and to whom the dues are to be paid. Further, it will make the duties of the Secretary/Treasurer much easier and the bookkeeping will be minimized. Those members wishing to become lifetime members are encouraged to submit the required funds to the Secretary as soon as possible. Note: no consideration was discussed for the case of a member having paid his dues ahead of time, (Many members have paid through the year 1996) being given credit for the prepaid year(s).

Following members have taken advantage of the lifetime membership program as of this publication.

Benton "Bud" Brown	Darryl Fontenot	Troy D. Davis
William G. Barr	Milton D. Highsmith	Joseph R. Millici
MG A.B. Crawford	Raymond Melendez	Harry H. Zander
Harland E. Carney	Rolf A. P. Schumann	Eugene L. Darmstedter

Lifetime membership cards are being processed and will be provided to these members as soon as they are available. Temporary cards are being issued in the interim.

#### **RECIPES FOR "TRIED AND TRUE " COOKBOOK (Repeat)**

Those members that did not have the opportunity to enter their own private "recipes" in our just published cookbook, don't despair. Emerick and Louise Miller have requested that additional recipes be included in later additions to the present cookbook. So hurry, hurry and get those additional recipes in to Louise. (See Cookbook order and recipe forms on pages 9 and 13 respectively.)

#### **SEARCHING FOR A LOST COMRADE/ LOCATOR SERVICE.**

Members wishing to locate an old buddy but do not have the address and telephone number should submit full name, last known address, city and state, and area of residence to George Zentner. George has access to a "PC telephone disk" that contains over 80 million names, addresses, and telephone numbers. Send your request along with a "SASE, business size" for return of any names that are listed on the disk. Also, members that have not researched their files for old orders with names of former 97th members are asked to do so and mail copies of these orders to the Secretary. These names will be cross indexed and mailed to George Zentner for known addresses. These persons will then be contacted to let them know of the association.

#### **ASSOCIATION "800" NUMBERS.(Repeat)**

The Association has its own telephone numbers. One of the lines provide direct 800 access. The numbers are: 1) 800-978-4270, Access code #97 must be used, 2) 804-464-0513. Members are encouraged to use either of the above numbers when desiring information relative to the Association.

#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Effective mid-November 1995, the Editor (and the Communicator's office) will have relocated to Marco Island, Florida. Therefore, after 1 November, please send all correspondence to:  
P O Box 5034 Marco Island, Florida 33937.

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Since we are into the fall season now, I hope that all of you had a good summer. Its not a time for resolutions, but I hope you will resolve to join us all in Corpus Christi in April 1996. Those of us that attend each year spend the time renewing old friendships as well as making new ones. If you haven't resolved to attend our reunion in Corpus Christi, please give us that consideration now. First time attendees are accorded special attention to insure their comfort with all of us. Sam Sanchez has worked very hard to make sure we have a great time and I know his work will produce results. Registration forms are included with this newsletter. PLEASE don't hesitate to call us if you have ANY QUESTIONS! You can call Dave at our toll free number 1- 800 978-4270, then 97 when prompted, or use our fax line at (804) 464-0513 or you can call or fax me at (719) 390 - 7274. And that offer stands for any subject you wish to chat with us about, not just reunion business. When Dave and I chat, he brings me up to date on everyone who calls in. I very much enjoy this information and I'm glad you are taking advantage of our 800 line.~

Whether we served in the 97th during war or peace-time, I know we are all proud of the dedication and professionalism of our service. Sacrifice was a cornerstone of our duty. During my 30 years of service, I kept track of the 97th and they were one of the busiest Signal Battalions in Europe. My point is this - as we grow older, whether we made the service a career or not, our health care benefits, social security and other entitlements and benefits are being dramatically changed or halted altogether. Fewer and fewer of our elected officials know or appreciate our sacrifice and have never "walked a mile in our boots." Because of this, I urge all of us to be pro-active in organizations that promote our best interests and "get involved". If we don't, we will all remember "C" rations as one of our best meals! Lastly, Rose and I wish all of you a great Thanksgiving and that all the joys of the Hodiday Season be yours, with continuing good health.

See you in CORPUS CHRISTI !

Tried and True!!

PAUL MUUSS

### SIGNAL CORPS OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL(Repeat)

A search is being made for all persons affiliated with the Signal OCS Program (Ft Monmouth and Ft Gordon) 1941 - 1968. Graduates, cadre, and committee members, anyone that took part in the program, please contact Richard Green, Rt 18, Box 643, Lake City, FL 32025. (904) 752 6950.

## **THE PHANTOM REPORT.**

Rumors have it that Harris, Radke, and Sentell held their own Mini Reunion at Bob Sentell's home in St. Helen's Michigan. Those three were among the most feared party boys in 1948. Just think of the party that they must have had after gaining all this "party experience" in the past forty some years. Someone check with the St. Helen's Police for outstanding Bench Warrants.

Has anyone seen our Chaplain, Bernard L. Carter? Report in Bernie and get off the Association AWOL list.

Sam Sanchez has been breaking his Butt for our next reunion in Corpus Christi. Lets all make a special effort to attend. This includes you, Jack Gross and the rest of the Marion, Indiana crew. Rumor has it that our illustrious Secretary Harris packed up and floated west after the hurricane season.

The word is out that we are going to start a slush fund to buy Joe Milici a new car. He has been driving the same little putt-putt for the last ten or twelve years and the wheels are square.

THE PHANTOM KNOWS

## **97TH SIGNAL BATTALION PLAQUE**

As discussed previously, the Association is attempting to have a plaque installed at the Signal Corps Museum, Ft. Gordon, Georgia to honor the soldiers that served in the 97th Signal Battalion during its era, 1942 - 93.

Mrs Ethel DeGlas has donated one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to be used for this purpose in memory of her late husband, Jacques DeGlas.

John Medinger has been asked to coordinate the proper wording, make up, material, etc; for the plaque. Director Dave Radke is Project Manager.

A response to the Association Secretary from the Signal Corps Museum in regards to the plaque is at page 10.

## **Donations To The Signal Corps Museum.**

Members wishing to donate items mentioned in the letter from the museum are requested to coordinate with Dave Radke. Do not send to the museum.

## **LOCAL NEWS RELEASE**

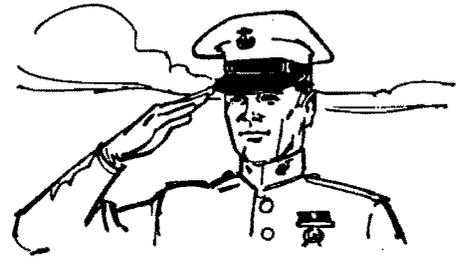
Request that all members contact their local newspapers and give them the information concerning our association reunions. Provide dates, places and persons to contact. Provide this information as frequently as the newspaper will allow.

## OTHER CHANGES

SICK CALL: Angelo "Greek" Demopolis

## LAST RETREAT

Gilbert DeShelter - 27 January 1995  
William V. Armstrong - 26 July 1995  
William E. Hull - 16 August 1995



## A FINAL GOODBYE TO A FRIEND

If anyone who served with the 97th is deserving of a few good words in our last retreat column it's Command Sergerant Major Charles R. Stanton, deceased. Stanton joined the 97th in 19444 while the unit was participating in World War II campaigns. He remained with the Battalion as Motor Sergeant and First Sergeant of Hq and Hq Co. In April 1953 he married Mary Jane Neary who ,prior to the marriage, was one of our Special Service Hostesses on the Post in Boeblingen.

Prior to entering the Military Service, Stanton was employed by Ford Motor Company and attended Ford's Automotive School. After his departure from the 97th he served in Fort Monmouth, Korea, Hawaii, Vietnam, and completed his Military Service at Fort Monmouth. He was among the First Sergeants to be promoted to E-8, then E-9, and retired as a CSM. In July 1972, Stanton and his family retired to Orlando, Florida where he attended Jones College, graduating Magna Cum Laude in Business Administration. (Which only proves 97th men can apply themselves to any challenge.) His retirement years were spent managing financial affairs for his church and aiding friends and neighbors with their financial problems. Although his final years were spent in ill health, he always inquired about our reunions and the persons who attended. Prior to his death he was able to greet his son Martin N. Stanton, Lt Col US Army upon Martin's return from the Gulf Operations where he was awarded the Silver and Bronze Stars. His daughter Peggy Stanton Crowley has her Doctorate in Speech Therapy. Mrs Mary Jane Stanton is still active in Community and Church affairs in Orlando. Rest well friend and enjoy your stay in 97th Branch Number One.

## COOKBOOK (Repeat)

An order form for the Tried and True Cookbook is on page 9 and a blank recipe form for the cookbook is at page 13.

**CHANGES, DELETIONS, ADDITIONS, ETC TO THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER.**

Make corrections listed below to your current membership roster of January 1995:

**ADDITIONS TO ACTIVE STATUS.**

Charles W. Smith Martha Smith 315 Rock St. Bowie, TX 76230 817 872 2547 52-53 Aviation Sec	John P. Lincoln Box 461 Damariscotta, ME 04543 207 563 3355 51-54	Harlan E. Carney Judy Carney 1007 Byers Ave Chambersburg, PA 17201 717 267 1456 46-49 Hq Troop
---	--	---

**ADD TO INACTIVE ROSTER.**

Frank K. Shideler Luella A. Shideler RR 4, Box 142 Winamac, IN 46996 219 946 4609 52-54 MCO Msg Ctr Clerk	Harry J. Romano 65 Everett St Fitchburg, MA 01420 508 342 7433 51-53 MOC - TTY Opr	Richard G. Egan 82 Claybrook Rd Dover, MA 02030 508 785 0266 51 - 53 WOC
David C. Anewalt 1219 Briar Hollow Trail Huntsville, AL 35802 205 882 0450 51-53	Donald E. Tanner 27271 Pembroke Drive Warren, MI 48092 810 751 4761 51-52	Albert L. Graziano 106 Bowles Park Springfield, MA 01104 413 732 6489 51-53 WOC
Robert F. Witteman 162 Buffalo Hollow Rd Glen Gardner, NY 08826 908 638 8390 Wife Ann	Frank Phenegar 1443 Village Rd Strasburg, PA 17579 717 687 6081 51-52	Jackie M. Sewell 721 Meadowhill Dr Grovetown, GA 30813 706 860 5814 73-76 B & C Co.
Donald E. Klingenberg 1772 Ferguson Rd # 104 Allison Park, PA 15101 2247 412 364 1338 51-53	Walter Bartold 152 Washington St Keyport, NJ 07735 908 264 4038	George E. Ploof 3225 Brookshire Rd Janesville, WI 53546- 608 752 7135
Eugene J. Rittel 16079 Yarnell St 7D Sylmar, CA 91342 818 367 0830 46-49 A Troop	James C. Chrisley 27 Hudson Dr Newburg, NY 12553 914 561 4382 48-52 WOC	Alfred A. Miller 1140 W. Locust St Scranton, PA 18504 717 347 1821

**FORMS**

A Dues Form and Change of Address Form is at page 11.

**97TH PARAPHERNALIA**

A price list of the several items of 97th paraphernalia sold by Sam Sanchez at previous reunions is at page 12. Members desiring to purchase these items please contact Sam.

**"Tried and True" Cookbook Order Form**

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Number books wanted \_\_\_\_\_ at 10.00 Total \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and handling per book 2.50 Total \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of check remitted \_\_\_\_\_ Grand Total \_\_\_\_\_

Send orders to the Millers at the address shown on page 13.



**UNITED STATES ARMY SIGNAL CORPS MUSEUM**

Building 36305, Fort Gordon, GA. 30905-5293, (706) 791-3856



28 June 1995

Mr. Dave Harris,  
Secretary/Treasurer 97th Signal Association  
Virginia Beach, VA

Dear Mr. Harris,

We welcome all Signalmen at the Signal Corps Museum, and we will do all we can do to help preserve the history of the Corps. We have no problems with accepting a plaque for installation in the museum to honor the men and women of the 97th Signal Battalion. We know by doing this, other battalions will want to have plaques done for their units, therefore I need to have a standardization on the size and shape of the plaques. Because of the vast number of Signal Units, the plaques would have to be rather small in size. My recommendation would be either a crest type of plaque no larger than 10 inches tall by 9 inches wide or a rectangular plaque 10 inches high by 8 inches wide.

We would much rather have artifacts from your association members because these are the types of objects we collect. We would prefer to do a case exhibit with a small dedication plaque (2 X 3 inches). We are in the process of putting together a case on the Korean War, we have no artifacts or uniforms of that period. Perhaps the 97th would rather assist us in this effort. This way the museum does not become a museum of crests and plaques.

We are apprehensive as you might well guess with the problems associated with gathering unit plaques. We've steered clear of this for almost 30 years. The reason we have not done this in the past is if one group has something special, then everyone will want something just as special or even more so. We hope to have a larger museum in the not too distant future.

We will do our best to accommodate your wishes. Either way let us know what your plans are.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Theodore F. Wise".

Theodore F. Wise  
Director, Signal Corps Museum

**MEMBER:**

U.S. Army Museums System; American Association of Museums; Southeastern Museums;  
American Association for State and Local History; Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries



**97TH SIGNAL BATTALION ASSOCIATION**

TRIED AND TRUE

PARAPHERNALIA PRICE LIST

Aprons			\$13.50
Battalion Crests	\$3.25 each,	2 for	6.00
Battalion Inactivation Commemorative Coin	1.75 each	3 for	5.00
Battalion 50th Anniversary Comm Coin	0.75 each	3 for	2.00
Battalion Crest Buttons	0.50 each	3 for	1.00
Caps			5.00
Decals, Constabulary	0.75 each	3 for	2.00
Decals, 97th Sig Bn Assoc	0.50 each	3 for	1.00
Patches, Battalion Crest			2.50
Patches Constabulary			3.30
Patches, 7th Army			2.25
Post Cards	0.50 each	3 for	1.00
Pot Holders			6.00
Shoe Shine Cloth			0.50
Toothpaste Tube Squeezers	0.50 each	3 for	1.00
T - Shirts			11.00
Vests			18.00

Members interested in ordering Aprons, Battalion Crests, Inactivation Coins, Battalion Crest Buttons, Caps, Pot Holders, T-Shirts, or Vests, please add \$2.00 for postage. Zero for Handling. The other items can usually fit in a regular envelope unless you are ordering several items.

Note: Please send orders and a check to cover costs of items and postage or SASE to Sam Sanchez.