



## New England Chapter IX 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Bde.



**June 2008**

**We welcome you to another monthly issue of the New England Chapter of the 173<sup>rd</sup>'s Newsletter.**

**It is again *our* sad duty to say that another one of *us* has died. SFC (R) Robert Carroll a life member of Our Chapter died on 17 May 2008. Robert lived in Woburn Mass. May he rest in peace! We are getting older and fewer!**

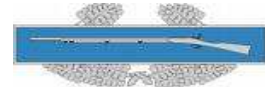
**The Barnes Vigil was without a doubt a huge success. The Chapter enjoyed near perfect weather. Many new and old members alike were there to partake of each others company and to pay tribute to *our* MOH recipient John Barnes and to *our* great Country. There are pictures on *our* website. There are still many of *us* in harms way, keep them in your thoughts and prayers.**

**The Moving Wall in Middleboro Mass. was also a success. How can going to such a place not bring back memories of those lost in Viet Nam? Each and every one of *us* carries a part of the wall with *us* every day of *our* lives. There also pictures to see on *our* website.**

**The emailing of the newsletter appears to be going along without too many bumps. *We* apologize if you received two or didn't get any. *Our* Newsletter guy leaves much to be desired. Your thoughts, ideas about this would be appreciated. *We* are trying to reach out to as many members as *we* can, as often as *we* can.**

The Brigade is getting closer to departing Afghanistan; there has been no release of their official rotation date as yet. All indications are mid to late summer. As always we wish them good health and safe return to their loved ones.

We have placed posters at the VA's and other prominent places to enhance *our* image and to recruit *our* new warriors. We want to make sure the No Man is Left Behind. If you know of a place where a poster should be contact any of the Officers or myself, we'll mail you one for insertion.



## 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade

Current Members, Former Members

We are here in New England

Visit us.

[www.newenglandskysoldier.com](http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com)

Call us

781.769.6062

## **New Members**

**Eric Smith & his wife living in Westboro, MA, Eric served with the BDE. 2000 – 2001.**

**Stanley Crump**

**Dan Greenlaw, living in Bethlehem NH.**

**Welcome All**

**We are continuing *our* recruiting of new members. There are many leads; many successes, and many failures. If you know of a person who served along side of *us* encourage him or her to make contact with Dennis. We do believe in Leaving No Man Behind! There are many, many success stories where this Chapter has helped with VA, personal, and DOD matters.**

**Reminder, you should keep your demographics up to date. We ask that you also keep your dues current. Dennis is the person to contact if you have any changes. Once we are all up to date communications will improve and the entire Chapter will be better off,**

**Our next big event will be Leap Fest 2008. Consider a visit. It is well worth the time. The Chapter will be there selling dogs, burgers, and shirts. This is another family event showing the talents of paratroopers from different countries jumping to a target. There are details etc on the website. Join us for a fun day.**

***Our* Chapter is now 14 years old. We have participated in and hosted many events. We need pictures of these events for posting. If you have any, please submit to me.**

**We have put important information on the website under Chapter News in reference to Combat Related Special Compensation (CRDP & CRSC). We encourage all to read this info.**

**The sponsor's page on *our* website is available for \$50.00 a year, support your chapter, and advertise your business, show off your family, pictures and text. Upload data to [webmaster@newenglandskysoldier.com](mailto:webmaster@newenglandskysoldier.com).**

President, Fred Lewis



To the New England Chapter IX members:

I would like to thank everyone that made the trip to the vigil in Dedham on the Memorial Day weekend. A lot of *our* members went to great expense and sacrifice to travel to the standown and to me that type of commitment and sacrifice demonstrates that there is a brotherhood amongst the members that is healthy and strong. Unfortunately demographics do get in the way and that is why the officers of the chapter are working very hard to resolve this problem.

We will try moving the meetings around in the fall and winter in hopes of connecting with members who live just too far away to travel. Thankfully we do have the web site and a lot of information can be passed back and forth and we are better able to stay in touch with each other.

The jump fest is coming Sat. August 9, 2008, rain date August 10, 2008. As in the past we will be there bright and early to meet and greet and sell some products to raise money for *our* chapter.

Please make an attempt to make a day trip to the jump fest and stop by *our* A.O. (tent) and introduce yourself and become acquainted with the chapter.

We are progressing with baby steps, its going to take time to solve some of the problems that have plagued the chapter in the past but with good communication, delegation, dedication, and understanding I feel we have the talent amongst the members to move forward towards a stronger chapter.

As always, thank you

Frederick Lewis A 2/503  
New England Chapter IX

Vice President, Sean Roden



**Airborne!**

First off I would like to thank everyone for their help and support integrating myself as an officer especially at this time in *our* chapter, I thank you all! Wow have we taken off in the past few months by leaps and bounds, a special thanks to everyone for that. We as a chapter are growing daily and taken on new members at every turn. *Our* chapter is getting the word out fast and furious and many members new and old are jumping aboard, and I hope many more will. Let your friends and family know about *us*, there are many brothers out there who still don't even know we exist, it is on each of us to spread the word in hopes of finding our brothers out there and letting them know there not forgotten and that we are here for them.

If you have not yet I encourage everyone to go and take a look at our webpage [www.newenglandskysoldier.com](http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com), at the time of this writing we had 7,355 hits, it is updated regularly, there is something there for everyone and my hats off to the hard work and dedication put into the site.

For the 14th year, we successfully completed the memorial vigil in Dedham, Ma. I was glad to see so many of you again and some for the first time. The vigil went off without issue. We had a great response from everyone involved and a large thanks to all those involved as it is a huge responsibility to ensure its success.

*Our* next mission is the Leap Fest in Rhode Island, it is a great time for all and I encourage everyone who is able to attend. It will be held on Saturday 9 August 2008 from 0700 - 1600 and is always is a good time barring the weather, so "drop in" have a bite to eat and catch up with friends new and old. Again thanks to all for the hard work and dedication to this chapter.

I hope to see many of you at the next meeting and in Rhode Island! All the way!

Sean Roden  
Vice President

**Being a retired old 1sg, as well as the editor, I always get the last word!**

**I was inactive for many, many years. Why because I wasn't happy with what I saw in the Chapter. Then I decided that perhaps I too could help to make a change. What I have noticed in the past few months is that this is not the same old Chapter. Things are changing, and changing fast. A new attitude and a new regime. We are growing because we are doing things correctly. Members are joining, rejoining because we are getting the word out, and they recognize the changes being made.**

**We have so many members that are dedicated to every member, the stories unfold every day. Help with a family, with the VA, with disability, a funeral. All these things go unsaid except to the member involved. We are strong as a Chapter and getting stronger everyday.**

**Help us out, share your talents with *our* members. Involvement is a personal thing. It is up to each of us to find our level of comfort. Keep in mind that united as a chapter we support each other. We also have some laughs, and always get the job done.**

**As we evolve as a Chapter (14 years now) we have bragging rights. If you have stories, events, and pictures, share them with the chapter. Sean said we have some 7300 hits on *our* website in a couple of months, why? Because we like to know about *us*! We all know our failures, help to reinforce our successes. Help *us* to go forward to take care of *our* warriors coming home. They are our future and the future of the Nation.**

**Comments, changes let *us* know about them.**

**As always, we wish you a good door position, a safe landing!**