



**John A Barnes III (MOH)
New England Chapter 9
173rd Airborne Brigade Association
Newsletter**



August 2009

New Members:

Captain Graham Compton, CSC, 173rd, Victor Burgos-Ralat, HHC, STB (Active),
Charles Ballato, D 4/503 68-69, Johnny Moore 82nd 63 – 66
Timothy Rose D 1/503 (Active)

Chapter Membership Meeting:



October 3rd, 10:00, American Legion, Dedham Ma., everyone is invited.

President:



Hurdles

Greetings

Since our last newsletter we have jumped some hurdles. First and foremost we are now a 501 (C) (19) Not for Profit Organization. Bill Maloney has put in a lot of man hours and sleepless nights to get us to this tax status. Aside from our website, becoming a 501(C) (19) tax exempt organization is probably one of the most important projects that this chapter has accomplished. We are lucky to have Bill and his talents in our chapter and I can't thank him enough for the hard work and dedication that went into this project.

The Daytona Reunion: I would like to thank Bill Patenaude, Roy Wheelock, Dan Roden, Hank Young and his wife, Ed Donnelly and his wife and Celine Sullivan for helping with the vending table. I would also like to thank Eric Hitchcock for all his hard work at National and I would like to welcome Roy Scott as the new president and Mike Montie as the new vice president. The turn out at the reunion seemed small in number however the motivation factor was huge.

I would urge everyone to start planning for North Myrtle Beach as I believe that reunion will be one of the best all time reunions because of the planning that is going into it at this time.

The Leapfest – For this occasion I need to thank Gregory Gwisc, Dennis Hill, Peter Klausner, Dan Roden, John Moore (82nd ABN.) Bill Maloney and Juanita Lewis for all their hard work feeding the jumpers and civilians from 0700Hrs until 1400Hrs. This project also takes a lot of planning, good weather and back breaking work to set up and tear down. This is one project that we need all the help that we can get and we will be looking for more help next year with this fun packed project

Onset Reunion- Sunday, September 13, 2009. Steve Baptiste has a dedication to all paratroopers at his restaurant in Onset and feeds all the paratroopers and their families as well as the public. This is a great event meeting glider pilots and paratroopers from World War II up to the present, not to mention the food is great.

Elections-This November we will hold officer elections and hopefully new faces will step forward to take the helm and keep the chapter moving forward and jumping more hurdles.

Airborne all the way
Fred Lewis (Chapter 9) President

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Secretary: 

Hello Fellow Members,

Well here we are into the end of August and once again near the end of summer break and the start of another round of winter chapter meetings. Let me first speak about some of the past events that have affected the chapter.

John A. Barnes, III Annual Twenty-four hour vigil.

Mother Nature was not good to us on this day and in turn we received three terrible rain storms and one of them produced hail. We were not well equipped for the rain and in turn lost stock that became rain soaked. Member participation was not up to the high standards set in the past and because of this, the tour watch was terminated at 2400 hours. This is the first time that a vigil had to be stopped due to lack of manpower.

National Annual Reunion at Daytona Beach.

Chapter participation was off this year. I believe that this was caused due to the economy. The chapter also did not plan well for the reunion in regards to stock, therefore the sales were down.

Rhode Island National Guard Leapfest.

Membership participation was off this year and in turn more work was the order of the day. Also the Chapter spent more money on food supplies than were sold and in turn the profit margin was almost a break even event.

Because of the above three noted events that were not as successful as expected the chapter funds are way below what is the norm.

In November the 173D will be deployed down range once again in Afghanistan and like the other deployments the chapter will sponsor Chosen Company, 2/503. A big Thank You is given to Ed Donnelly for all of his hard work and direction with the support during last deployment. Without Ed and his resources, I feel very little would have been accomplished. Thanks again Eddy, you did a fine job.

Within the last year and a half the chapter has recruited over ninety new members. This alone is a fantastic feat and has raised the eyebrows of many of the Officers in National. The chapter continues to discuss old and new subjects with National which will benefit the Chapter and National. Your Officers are putting in many, many hours of hard dedicated work to ensure that the New England Chapter is remains a strong chapter.

In December elections will be coming up for the year 2010. Anyone interested in running for a Chapter position should make his intentions known between now till the middle of December.

Last but not least, the end of the year is fast approaching and dues will be due for 2010. Please take the time when available to send in your dues for 2010.

Airborne All The Way!
Dennis Hill, (Secretary)

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Treasurer 

On July 30th, the Internal Revenue Service issued Chapter 9 of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Association a tax ruling that we are a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code. A copy of the IRS's ruling is viewable on the New England Sky Soldier website.

I think it is important to say that this is not a change in our tax status. It is only an official confirmation by the IRS that we meet their requirements for their recognition.

I first became a member of the New England Chapter just before the National Annual Meeting in Boston, in July 1998. Prior to learning about the Meeting, I was not aware that there was a New England Chapter. By attending Chapter meetings over the years since that time, I learned that some people were suspicious of what filing with the IRS would do to the Chapter. However, as somebody who spent 10 hours a day working on taxes everyday, I knew we could get this done if people wanted to do it.

Since becoming the Chapter Treasurer in the fall of 2006, I felt pretty certain that we could pull this off, because of the composition of our members (war veterans) and the nature of our spending (patriotic and charitable). With the help of Dennis Hill, we put together a summary of our members that met the IRS's tests. Our bank, TD BankNorth, was able to give us copies of older bank statements to meet the IRS's requirement that we submit four years of prior year's financial information.

Unfortunately, the IRS requires a \$300 filing fee to request a ruling from them. We decided to press on and get this ruling, because it was never going to get any cheaper, and it could go up in the future. Bigger organizations have to pay higher fees.

As I had hoped, we got an IRS contact who asked for what she was required to get, and was reasonable in modifying what she needed in order to grant us the ruling. The ruling is going forward as of July 6, 2009, because the IRS will not rule on anything before we gave them documents that met their.

I was glad that the IRS's ruling included a statement that donations to the Chapter are deductible as charitable contributions, because more than 90% of the Chapter's members are war veterans. The Chapter must continue to meet this requirement in the future in order for these amounts to remain deductible.

Although our tax filing was not driven by the reason to get non-profit mailing rates by the IRS, Peter Klausner is working on that with the US Postal Service.

Bill Maloney, Airborne CPA

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Meet Our Members:

My name is James Foreman; I currently reside in Fort Kent Maine.

I arrived at the 173rd Airborne base camp during operation Junction City I, in 1967 as a parachute rigger. I was quite surprised when I was assigned to recon platoon 1-503 under my secondary M.O.S of 11F4P. My reply to being called an F.N.G. was LEGS. That caused a few problems until I put my rigger wings on my uniforms and was told to quit picking on the troops. Having a rigger assigned to the unit caused rumors of another jump to spread through the platoon and company. I was assigned as a fire team leader. I dug foxholes and O.P. just like everyone else. It was fun to fuel the rumors. It didn't take long to find the rigger shed and get D-handle shovels and axes which no one minded carrying. In Dok-To it was discovered that I also had extensive commo training from my time in the 509th. I became platoon R.T.O. a job no one else sees to want in those mountains, but it had its perks.

I remained with the Herd until September 67 when I was transferred to F. Co. 51st Inf. Airborne "Long Range Patrol" Second Field Forces Vietnam as team leader of 4-4 where I remained until the unit was disbanded in February 1969. I was then signed to D Co. 151 Inf. Airborne L.R.P. Indiana National Guard that became part of the 75th Ranger Regiment Vietnam.

After six years as a paratrooper, and traveling the world I decided to call it quits while I was still almost in one piece.

James Foreman,
Life member, 173rd ABN
75th Ranger Regiment
The Military Order of the Purple Heart.

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STUFF:

There are meetings and activities planned in the near future for the Chapter, check out our events page for specifics. <http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com/Events.html>

4th Battalion's POC is Jack Tarr, Jack is consolidating lists of those who served with the 4/503d until the 173d left Vietnam. There are 370 in the first year (6/66 – 6/67), 112 in the 2d year (6/67 – 6/68), 17 in the 3d year (6/68 – 6/69), and 11 in the 5th year (6/69 – 6/70). He is also starting lists of KIA for each year and names and info of those who died after return from VN. Contact Jack for those lists and to add names. He will try to search the internet for lost buddies for you. If you are, or know of anyone who served with the 4/503 during Vietnam, contact jtarr5@verizon.net. The Battalion's website is www.geronimobattalion.com.

Not for Profit Organization; as Fred said in his article we are a registered Organization with the IRS. http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com/files/Tax_Exempt_Letter.pdf

The Brigade: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usarmyafrica/show/with/3748930529/>

The Brigade receives its warning order for deployment: http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com/files/173_Deployment_Order.pdf

The Chapter donated 11 tickets to Six Flags to the Homeless Domiciliary (REACH Program) at the Brockton VA this month.

Sept 13th, 15:00 hrs "All Airborne Day" Pier View Restaurant, Onset Mass. Get a chance to meet "Old & New" airborne troopers. A great time, with great food. Don't miss out.

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Our Chapter has

In its membership the highest ranking officer in the entire Association, a 4 Star General. General John Deane. Commanding General, 173rd 1966.

A living Medal of Honor recipient, Dave Dolby.

We are fortunate to have members such as these in our Chapter.

New PX Items, full size playing cards, \$20.00 per deck shipping included: contact Dennis: 781.769.6062, dhill173@verizon.net



LAST WORD:

Security: Our website has no personal information on it. We track no visitor information. I only send emails to one person at a time, no mass mailings. All my emails are scanned prior to sending. All documents are shredded and disposed of. No SSN's are maintained by the Chapter. No phone numbers or addresses are shared without your consent. The Chapter address book is maintained on a removable hard drive and secured when it's not in use. We take all reasonable precautions to insure that our information is kept as our information. WE CARE ABOUT SECURITY.

Speakers on, have a smile on The Chapter 9 Officers & Staff !

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EYAUazLI9k&annotation_id=annotation_72265&feature=iv

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“Military power wins battles, but spiritual power wins wars.”

General George C. Marshall

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As always we wish you a good door position and safe landing.