



New England Chapter IX 173rd Airborne Bde.



May 2008

I guess it is safe to say that spring is finally here after another long winter. We welcome you to another newsletter that we hope you will find it informative, and entertaining.

We are not snail mailing any newsletters out during the summer months, as there are no “official” Chapter Meetings. We will however, continue to post it on the website and email them so that you can keep current to the happenings.

The Chapter continues to go through growing pains. There has been an Officer change, new members; the Chapter is growing by leaps and bounds. We are one the largest Chapters within the Organization, fast approaching 300 members.

CHAPTER BUSINESS:

At the Officer’s meeting on 3 May many things were hashed over including the below officer changes.

John O’Dea has stepped down as President because of health and family issues. We thank John for his help and wish him the best in the future. John took on the duties as Quartermaster.

Fred Lewis the former Vice President has taken on the challenges of the President’s office and is the new Chapter President. Fred has already shown his commitment to the Chapter and to its members. We all look forward to his leadership. Welcome Fred!

Sean Roden in addition to being the Chapter's Chaplain took on the Office of Vice President. For those of you that don't know Sean, he is a member of the NEW 173rd, having served in Iraq with the Brigade. Sean has been an active member of the chapter for some time already, and has shown his care for the Brigade and the chapter. Welcome Sean!



PRESIDENT

Taking Command

It's an honor and a privilege to move into the president's position. My hat goes off to John O'dea for knowing when its time to pop smoke and break contact as sometimes life just gets in the way and one has to do what is best for the chapter and his own survival.

Having Sean Roden as my young wingman will be interesting as we start moving onward and upward towards more goals and ambitions. To begin with we will take a good look at the foundation of the chapter's bi-laws, define some responsibilities of each officer's position, and do some serious recruiting for new members. We have a busy season ahead of us, a lot of activities. I feel we are ready for any challenge that should come *our way*.

It's great to be on board
Thank you again
Fred Lewis (President)

New Members

We welcome you to *our* Chapter

Mr. Richard McCarthy, Richard is a Silver Star recipient.

Mr. Jim Prettyman A, 1/503, 1968 - 69

Mr. Evertt Kinney, 1SG, C 4/503

Mr. Antoine (Andy) Ray, C 4/503, 1967 - 68

EVENTS

The Barnes Vigil, setup is 11:00 hrs. 24 May, the actual Vigil is 0700 hrs, 25 May through 0700 hrs. 26 May. Come help support *our* Chapter, your comrades, your fellow Herdsmen. It is a family event, good food and drinks

are provided free of charge by the Chapter. There are items for sale, good memories, and mostly a chance to meet old friends. Your help and support is needed for this great event. Come join *us*! It is at the Barnes MOH Memorial, Dedham Mass.

The Moving Wall will be in Middleboro Mass, 28 May through 2 June The Chapter will be recovering from the Vigil so there will be no organized Chapter presence there, however individuals will be attending. It is a worthwhile event for you and the family. It is part of *our* legacy to the Nation. The last time "The Wall" was in our area was Nov 1998 at the VA in Brockton. It doesn't come often, so don't miss the chance to see this.

STUFF

We ask that you keep your data current with *us*, as well as your dues, this will ensure you getting newsletters, and emails, as to the activities of *our* chapter. This is all done thru Dennis Hill, dhill173@aol.com.

The website www.newenglandskysoldier.com has been a success! In the one month that it has been on line it received over 5000 hits. If you haven't yet seen it, stop in and take a look. It changes often, and we try hard to keep it up to date. If there are pictures, or history that you want to share email or upload to webmaster@newenglandskysoldier.com. That's me! Also sign into *our* guestbook and let *us* know what you think of *our* website and or the chapter's running. We are interested in your input.

We have many new items for sale, pictures of these are being posted to the website, If you are interested in any of the items email or call Dennis and he will give you the details and mail your items out to you,

The Brigade is preparing to finally leave Afghanistan. We know what is going thru their minds about now, don't we? We wish them continued safety, and God Speed back to Italy and their loved ones.

Supporters: This is a new area on the web site. It is a place for a business to advertise its goods. It can also be for a family or individual, pictures, links or text are acceptable. The cost is \$50.00 a year. Consider this, at 5000 + views a month in a year that is a lot of exposure! Checks should be made out to Chapter IX and mailed to Dennis Hill. A receipt will be sent via snail mail to you for confirmation and tax purposes, (advertising). Uploads can be done thru webmaster@newenglandskysoldier.com I will process them promptly, and get them on the web. If you have questions they can be directed to me at the above email address.

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