



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



Sept 2008

We again welcome you to the New England Chapter's Newsletter. We decided to publish this early to inform those who do not have emails and to remind those of you that do of our **Sept 20<sup>th</sup> membership meeting**. It will be held in Dedham, at the American Legion at 10:00 hrs. All are invited.

### Agenda Items:

#### Old Business:

Recap of The Vigil & Leapfest

#### New Business:

Membership

Purchase of a trailer or storage space

Moving of meeting area

Goals for 2009

Christmas Party 2009

### New Members:

Alfred Pond

Mike Breen

Joseph Mallamaci

Eric Klausner

If you received this by regular mail and you have an email address it means that your data is not up to date. Contact Dennis @ [dhill173@verizon.net](mailto:dhill173@verizon.net) and let him know your email, or visit *our* website [www.newenglandskysoldier.com](http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com) and sign into the guestbook. This will be a tremendous cost savings to the Chapter as well as a much better way for *us* to communicate. Your help is appreciated.



**Secretary:**

Hello, my name is Dennis Hill and I am your Chapter Secretary. Fourteen years ago I took the position of Secretary and have been doing the job ever since. I am one of the founding members of the chapter. I conduct my duties as a full time job and attempt to help anyone that I can. I do this out of love for the chapter and Nation.

I was assigned to Vietnam in 1969, where I performed the job of a Check Chart Operator for the FDC of Echo Company, 4.2 inch mortars, 1/503. After a year I transferred to Recon Company 1/503 and stayed with them till they left Vietnam in 1970. I then transferred once again to Recon Company 3/503. I stayed with them for another year till we were assigned to leave Vietnam in 1971. I was out on a six-day mission with three of my dear friends, and on the third day I was wounded along with two other members of the team by a claymore. The Third Battalion departed Vietnam and I stayed at the 67<sup>th</sup> Evacuation Hospital for another 14 days. After spending a year at Chelsea Naval Hospital, and a few operations later I could walk and was boarded out and retired from the Army.

I worked for thirty-one years at John Hancock Protective Services in Boston and had an up and down career obtaining at one point the position as Watch Commander. I was forced to retire five years ago and at that time decided to take on my job as Chapter Secretary full time. I decided to dedicate my life to the chapter and to assist any military soldier in need. The job at times is over whelming, but I love what I do and I guess I will continue as long as I am effective. I want no soldier to ever come home to what we did when we came home. This must never be allowed to happen again.

At this present time I live in Norwood, Massachusetts, and am married to my wife Maria for the last eighteen years. I man “Herd Central” twenty-four hours a day, and love my job. I am very proud of my service in Vietnam, and the unit I was assigned to. There was no other unit as elite as the 173D Airborne Brigade. Airborne All The Way!

The Chapter donated 11 tickets to 6 Flags Theme Park to the Homeless Veterans at the VA in Brockton. They had a wonderful time and many thanks were expressed. A letter from the VA was sent to the Chapter thanking *us* for this generous donation.

## Security

*We* have the Chapter Membership Roster on line (Chapter Administration). No data will be provided to anyone without permission of the person involved. *Our* servers are secure and *our* data is encrypted. No data other than name and unit is on the internet. There is no chance of your SSN being stolen. All hard copies are shredded daily. *We care about your data!*

The newsletter is sent to only one person at a time, no mass mailings from the webmaster. The Chapter’s address book is on an external drive only accessed for changes and mailings. All other times it is removed and locked up. The webmaster’s emails are virus free (scanned by Norton Anti-Virus) prior to sending. *We care about your data!*

*Our* website is a spam free website, monitored by Yahoo. There are no tracking cookies of any sort when visiting *our* website! *We Care about your data!*

## **Dues**

**It is that time of year again when we start asking for the yearly (2008) members to submit their dues. Send check made out to Chapter IX, to Dennis Hill, 97 Earle St. Norwood, MA 02062-1504. These monies are essential to *our* Chapter. In 3 – 4 weeks you should receive your membership card from National.**

**Who always has the “last word”? The summer is over and as we prepare for our long winter, let’s keeps in mind those warriors that we have still in harms way, and that have been injured. The war is far from over, there is more yet to come. Step up and truly support our troops. Each of us knows what combat is like. These warriors of today experience a war like none other, seen things that are burnt into their brains forever. Each of us can help in some way. Be proud to be an American.**

**When November 4<sup>th</sup> comes, vote, that is what we are fighting for, to be free!**

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