



**New England Chapter 9  
John A. Barnes III (MOH)  
173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Association  
Mission Statement**

June 2015

Chapter 9 Members, Gold Stars and friends we welcome you to our Newsletter. The LONG Winter is finally a distant memory.

We want to thank all those who purchased and sold Raffle Tickets. The Raffle is our primary source of income for the year. Special thanks go to Kevin Shaw, Ed Donnelly, and Mike Ellsworth. Airborne, job well done! The winners will be drawn daily and posted on our website: [www.newenglandskysoldier.com/Raffle\\_2015.html](http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com/Raffle_2015.html) Good luck to everyone. Our website: [www.newenglandskysoldier.com/](http://www.newenglandskysoldier.com/)

Our Vigil started our year off. This was the Chapter's 21<sup>st</sup> continuous vigil. We had great weather this year unlike years past. Our thanks go out to those that supported us.

The National Website [Sky Soldier](http://www.sky-soldier.com) has new improvements and has a ton of information for members to read. The key word is members. Are you current on your dues, are you receiving The Magazine? We can now search for those that served with us by their name and email them. We are able to view upcoming events, read ALL past magazines in high definition, along with many other great enhancements. It's well worth the time to visit.

Next year's Reunion will be at Fort Benning. [www.173dreunion2016.com/](http://www.173dreunion2016.com/). For most of us it's been a long time since we have seen those jump towers.

Good Evening,

My name is Caren and I work in the Casting Department of All3Media, a production company based out of Los Angeles. All3Media, producers of the Emmy Award winning series *Undercover Boss*, is a leader in unscripted and documentary style programming shedding positive light to our unsung heroes and the storytelling process.

We are currently working on a brand new documentary special called AMERICAN PLATOON for a major cable network, and I am interested in speaking to Vietnam War veterans specifically. We are trying to track down 4-8 surviving members of a storied Vietnam platoon to tell the tale of their war adventure firsthand. Guided by interviews with each of them, we will relive the entirety of their experience through their multiple perspectives... from the moment each of them entered training, to the rescue missions, to the camaraderie's formed, to the final goodbyes and return home.

Since we are trying to reach as many veterans as possible, our team would greatly appreciate if you would spread the word about our new documentary to any and all Vietnam veterans, or anyone associated with Vietnam veterans. This subject matter hits very close to home and we would love to discuss with anyone interested in hearing more. Please feel free to share this email, as well as my contact information, which can be found in my signature below. Thank you so much for your time.

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Greetings to all, I am now mid-way thru my 5<sup>th</sup> year as President of this Chapter. We have come a long way, often times I think I see a light at the end of the tunnel, often times instead of it being a light it is just another train. As I have said in almost every newsletter I am so fortunate to have our current officers in place. They make things easy for me, always covering my 6. We are over 600 strong in almost every State, and 5 countries outside the US.

Our next Chapter meeting will be held in Jaffrey NH on 11 July, VFW Post 5613, 12 Hathorn Rd. Jaffrey, NH. 11:00 – 13:00 hrs.

We need volunteers for 2 positions within the Chapter: Newsletter Editor and Website Manager, if you have the time and want to help out our Chapter contact me at [logpc@comcast.net](mailto:logpc@comcast.net) .

There is an upcoming event that will require our Chapter's help. Here is an event well worth our time and effort. This very well could be a family event. More information will be forthcoming as we receive it. 3 Medal of Honor recipients will be in attendance.

### The Foundation

*"The 173d Airborne Assn. Foundation is having a Fundraiser in your AO on Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Manchester Country Club, 180 South River Rd., Bedford NH. We would appreciate your Assistance, involvement, and Support of this 1<sup>st</sup> Major Fundraising Event! You should have received by individual email some General Information about the Event; the 3 Guests of Honor will be our Last 3 MOH Recipients! All the Funds Raised will be used to Support our 4 Core Programs (see attached), and Veteran Support. We would very much appreciate your assistance in contacting your Membership to assist in the following areas:*

- 1) *We will be needing Volunteers to work at the Event. We are giving Away a New Car for a Hole in One at a specific Hole. That requires 2 men to be observers at the Hole at all times to watch for a hole in one, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> person to be the witness.*
- 2) *We will need Volunteers to sell raffle tickets, staff a "donation table", and several things like that.*
- 3) *We would like to ask your help in possible solicitation of "silent auction "and "raffle items "that could be used as part of our Fundraising Objective. ( Eric Hitchcock –will be the POC for raffle / auction Items)*
- 4) *We need assistance obtaining Sponsorships for the Event, and would Ask that Your Chapter consider being a Hole Sponsor Your Chapter Name on the sign at the hole you are Sponsoring , and a Picture of a "in memory of " Person of your choosing. Cost is \$125.00, if you would like one before they are all taken."*

*Eric Hitchcock*

The Chapter will support this event; Bill Maloney is the Point of Contact [billmaloney5@verizon.net](mailto:billmaloney5@verizon.net) . Let Bill know if you are able to participate. I will send out emails as information is received by me. We ask that each of us consider donating your time in this worthwhile event. This will require many of us, if you have the time and ability, we need your help. Those of us without email, I can be reached 0800 – 1900 EST @ 508-942-5069. "We leave no man behind".

Peter Klausner  
President

SECRETARY: [dhill173@verizon.net](mailto:dhill173@verizon.net)

Hello Everyone,

Here we are into the end of June and the weather has been very nice. Due to the weather I was able to get a two week jump on planting of my vegetable garden. The twenty first John A. Barnes, III vigil was conducted on Sunday the May 24<sup>th</sup>. This year's turnout was by far the worse we or I have ever experienced. Due to the lack of participation, the vigil had to be concluded at 1730 hours. In the last twenty one years that I have conducted and participated in the vigil we have never had to stop prior to our twelve or twenty four hour commitment to the vigil. Needless to say I am disappointed in this year's lack of members showing up to assist in the vigil.

Before you know it the July raffle will be upon us, if you have not purchased your raffle tickets for this year's raffle, contact me at 781-769-6062 and I will get them in the mail to you ASAP.

The California reunion has come and gone and preparations for next year's reunion at Fort Benning are now in the planning stages. Fort Benning should be a great reunion. I have not stepped foot on Fort Benning, Georgia since 1968 and I am excited and looking forward to attending the 2016 reunion. I am already putting money away for the trip, and looking forward to attending.

Never stop fighting for your benefits that you earned and don't forget to see your doctor or doctor's on a regular basis. A good friend of mine, who I served with in Recon died a few weeks ago. He kept drinking beer and when things started to break down he would not go to the doctors. Complete organ shut down and he left three children who do not have a father or mother as his wife died years ago of cancer. We are at the age when things are starting to wear out, so maintain your health the best that you can, and when in doubt, go see the doctor.

Airborne All The Way  
Dennis Hill  
Secretary

TREASURER: [billmaloney5@verizon.net](mailto:billmaloney5@verizon.net)

I have to admit that I winced when I read Dennis Hill's summary, elsewhere in this newsletter, on the 2015 Vigil in Dedham over the Memorial Day weekend. I was one of those people that had to leave the Vigil early, because of a family commitment and I wasn't able to be there to see the Vigil through to its end. Over the years, all of us who attend the Vigil are thankful to Dennis for the heart and soul that he puts into it. This tradition allows us all to do something that we should be doing on Memorial Day.

**WE WILL SOON HAVE A "NEW" YEARBOOK ONLINE FOR THE VIETNAM YEARS!**

For slightly over three years, we have been telling you that the yearbooks of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne are online at <https://archive.org/details/chapter9of173rdairbornebrigadeassoc>. Since these yearbooks went online, there have been almost 7,000 downloads made. Rick Young, Edgewater, MD, 173d Engineers realized that there was a yearbook made of the Brigade's last year in Vietnam that has not been included with the other yearbooks. Although it is titled Sky Soldier Magazine Summer, 1971, it is really a yearbook for the last year that the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade was in Vietnam. This yearbook may be online as this newsletter is being distributed. If you were with the Brigade in 1970 and/or 1971 you should check this out. You may see some people you recognize.

I wanted to mention that I recently left a remembrance on the Vietnam Memorial website remembrance page of a high school classmate who was killed in Vietnam. In posting this remembrance I saw that I could also attach a photo to the remembrance that was in addition to the photo of the person that might appear on the Memorial's Wall of Faces. Therefore, if you wanted to attach an appropriate photo to a remembrance in tribute to someone you might have known, please consider doing this. All submissions of remembrances are reviewed by the Memorial's volunteers to be sure that they are appropriate.

Bill Maloney  
Treasurer

Sign into our guesbook and let us know how we are doing: <http://newengland73.signourquestbook.com/>

Are you getting your National Magazine? Are you current on your Dues? Notify Dennis if you have recently moved, email has changed, Dennis will update your National record making sure you get their magazine.

As always we wish you a door position and safe landing

