



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



Good day to all Sky Soldiers, families and friends.

Our website is slowly getting completed. [www.newenglandskysoldier.net](http://www.newenglandskysoldier.net)  
The Chapter Raffle is fast approaching. On 1 May, the raffle begins with winners posted nearly each day (there will be some lag time as I will be making my way to and from Oklahoma). Keep in mind that this is the primary source of income for our Chapter. We thank all of you that have already purchased (hopefully) winning tickets and there is still time to participate. Additional tickets are on our website.

President:

Hello Sky Soldiers

Know that our Chapter is alive and well. I will be attending the Reunion in Oklahoma, my son and I will be driving, seeing the sights and enjoying our great country. As our website progresses there will be more and more information posted. A couple of days ago I attended the "Tough Ruck" marathon. The Airborne was well represented, I ask myself, was I ever that young? They are as proud of their status as are we, and very aware of the heritage that the Airborne has. Wearing my 173d hat brought handshakes and "Airborne"! Unfortunately there were no Sky Soldiers found participating.

Our meeting schedule for the year is posted on our website, The next major event for the Chapter is the John Barnes III (MOH) 12 hour vigil, come visit spend some time saying hello meeting old and new friends. The event runs from 0700 – 1900 hrs. Sunday May 28.

Peter Klausner  
President



Secretary:

Hello All,

First off I hope all of you and your families had a blessed Easter. It is such a crime that there are those out there that want to stop Easter along with other special events. I will never agree with them and don't care what they try to do I will always celebrate those special days and events.

Well our snow storms are now over for another year and time to start getting the yard and home ready for summer. Time to put the snow blower away and get the lawn mower ready to start cutting the grass.

Within a short time, it will be time to honor John Barnes once again. This will be our twenty third year running the vigil and I cannot say how long we will be able to do this. We are all getting older and many of us have aches and pains and are not able to stand a watch. Others have just stopped showing up and that is such a shame, same thing when it comes to chapter meetings. It's not like your being asked to do something so hard, come to a meeting, attend the vigil. This is your chapter and your attendance is vital to the success of your chapter. Please plan on attending the vigil, there were past years where there was more than enough people to do everything. Let's get back to the old days and make a large showing at the vigil.

Of course, finally have you paid your dues for 2017? I don't care if you're in the rears, just pay for 2017 to get you back up to status. Any questions you can contact me or any other chapter officer and we will do all that we can to assist you in any chapter matters. Remember to see your doctor and keep those appointments. We are now at the age where we need help to go on day by day.

Dennis Hill

Treasurer:

I wanted to thank Peter Klausner and Al Champeau for all their arduous work in printing, assembling, and mailing out the tickets for the 2017 Chapter 9 Raffle.



I have previously written about how important The Raffle has become in financing the Chapter's activities, and our member's response to it has been great. This year, as in past years, the initial response to the Raffle has been good, but we are still not up to the last year's ticket sales which was the second-best year that we have had since beginning the Raffle seven years ago. And, we only have two weeks to go to Showtime.

In the last two years, we have had raffle winners from the states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Alabama, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, Florida, New York, North Carolina, Hawaii, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

One of the things that the participants like about our raffle is that every ticket has the chance to win more than once, because a ticket, once chosen, is returned back to ticket drum for a chance to be chosen again. In past years, we have had double and triple winners during a year's raffle.

Information about the Raffle and additional tickets are available on our website

<https://www.newenglandskysoldier.net/>

Please mail all raffle entries to Dennis Hill, Secretary, at 97 Earle Street, Norwood, MA 02062-1504.

Thanks to Mark Robinson, John O'Dea, Richard Dolan, and Lisa Garcea who made recent contribution to the Chapter. Contribution help the Chapter to make contributions to other charitable organizations that have worthy causes. We recently made a contribution to Forget Them Not a veteran's organization in Lowell, Massachusetts.

A recollection from Vietnam:

Good Better Best  
Never Let Them Rest  
Until the Good Are Better  
The Better Are Best

Bill Maloney

[We wish you a good door position and safe landing](#)

