

## *Dover, NH, American Legion Post 8 Donates \$5,500.00 to NHVH*

TILTON, NH - SFC Galen G. Garretson, NH Army National Guard State RSP/IADT Manager and Commander of the Dover, NH, American Legion Post 8, recently presented a \$5,500.00 donation to the New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) in Tilton. \$5,000.00 will be used for improvements to the "Main Street" area of the Veterans Home and \$500.00 of the donation was used to underwrite part of the residents' cost of an Ice Cream Sundae Social, which was catered by Craig Jordan of Jordan's Ice Cream in Belmont, NH.

Garretson visited the Home and spoke with many of the residents. He explained that the funds were raised with enthusiastic support from Post 8 in Dover as well as from American Legion members in Portsmouth, Rollinsford, Newmarket, Somersworth, and Rochester Posts. Legion members sold raffle tickets, held meat bingos, hosted an American Legion Riders' Poker Run, and raffled off a Boston Red Sox Jonathan Papelbon jersey to raise funds which, when totaled, became "the largest single donation Post 8 has ever made," Garretson said. He added, "We all believe in the work of the NH Veterans Home and in showing our appreciation to those men and women who served."

NHVH Commandant Barry E. Conway accepted the donations and said, "The Veterans Home would not be as successful as we are if we didn't have the support of scores of veterans' service organizations. This donation, plus the ongoing support of many others throughout the state, make a dramatic difference in the Quality of Life we can provide for our residents."

The New Hampshire Veterans Home was established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans. One of just four New Hampshire nursing homes to win the 2007 Quality of Life Award from the NH Department of Health & Human Services, the modern facility is home to 200 men and women who have served



*PHOTO: (Standing, left to right) SFC Galen G. Garretson, NH Army National Guard State RSP/IADT Manager and Commander of the Dover, NH, American Legion Post 8, presents a donation to NH Veterans Home (NHVH) Commandant Barry E. Conway while Chuck Lewis, a member of the NHVH Recreation staff and past NH American Legion Department Commander, along with Wes Philbrick (seated), NHVH Resident and a 20-year member of the Dover NH American Legion Post 8 look on.*

their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans. More information on the Home is available at [www.nh.gov/veterans](http://www.nh.gov/veterans) or by calling (603) 527-4400.

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