

## *Rochester NH AMVETS Officers Visit NH Veterans Home*

TILTON, NH - Three members of the Rochester, NH Post 1 of AMVETS (American Veterans) came to the New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) on Thursday, May 21, 2008 to visit Roland Guay and Mark Welch, former residents of Rochester, NH and honorary members of AMVETS Post 1. Representing AMVETS Post 1 were Al Benton, Commander; Norm Sanborn Sr., Vice Commander and president of the Rochester Veterans Council; and Bob Crout-Hamel, Chaplain and Past Commander.

NHVH resident Roland Guay is a veteran of World War II who served in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945. Prior to coming to the New Hampshire Veterans Home, Guay served as Commander of VFW Post 1772 in Rochester. NHVH resident Mark Welch, also formerly of Rochester, served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War from 1950 to 1954.

The AMVETS members visited with NHVH residents and distributed several gifts: decks of cards, small American flags, beverage can "koozies," and service pins.

As one of America's foremost veterans' service organizations, AMVETS has a proud history of implementing programs which assist veterans and serve our country and its citizens. AMVETS represents nearly 250,000 veterans and their family members, with posts in all 50 states. AMVETS National Service Officers provide free counseling to all veterans on their service-related compensation claims with the VA. In 2007 alone, AMVETS service officers successfully secured \$324 million in VA benefits for veterans.

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 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.



*PHOTO (left to right): Standing – Al Benton, AMVETS Post 1 Commander; Barry E. Conway, NH Veterans Home (NHVH) Commandant; Norm Sanborn Sr., AMVETS Post 1 Vice-Commander and president of the Rochester Veterans Council. Seated – NHVH resident Roland Guay; Bob Crout-Hamel, AMVETS Post 1 Chaplain and Past Commander; and NHVH resident Mark Welch.*