

## *Lakes Region Seabees, Island X4, Donate to the New Hampshire Veterans Home.*

TILTON, NH - The Lakes Region Seabees, Island X4, recently donated \$500.00 and a photo of the Seabees Memorial in Washington, DC to the New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) in Tilton. Larry Morrison of Hollis, NH, Seabees Commander, and Ray Vercoe of Laconia, NH, Seabees Secretary and Past Commander, presented the donations to NHVH Commandant Barry E. Conway.

Along Memorial Drive near Arlington Cemetery is a monument dedicated to the men who served as Seabees, members of the United States Navy's engineering and construction force known as the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion, or CBs. A larger-than-life figure dominates the monument, depicting the momentous contributions made by the CBs. The image is that of a Seabee, who in the midst of a construction project, stops to make friends with a young child.

The Seabees were experienced, highly skilled craftsmen ... electricians, carpenters, plumbers, equipment operators — virtually any construction or building trade was welcome. From the construction and defense of Henderson Field on Guadalcanal to the Normandy Invasion, Seabees participated in every major amphibious assault in World War II. They quickly earned a reputation for exceptional creativity. If materials weren't available, the Seabees used whatever they could to get the job done. More than 325,000 men served with the Seabees in World War II, fighting and building in more than 400 locations before the war's end. They knew more than 60 skilled trades.

NHVH Commandant Barry Conway said, "We are very grateful to the Lakes Region Seabees, Island X4, for these donations. The Seabees' unofficial motto, 'Can Do!' reflects their ingenuity and determination—qualities that will always inspire us. We are honored and grateful to have their support."



*In photo above: Ray Vercoe of Laconia, NH, Lakes Region Seabees Island X4 Secretary and Past Seabees Commander; NH Veterans Home Commandant Barry Conway; and Seabees Commander Larry Morrison of Hollis, NH, with a photo of the Seabees Memorial in Washington, DC.*

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 first 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.