



**Robert E. Barnhart
State Commander
2007-2008**



Bob was born and raised in Kingston, New York. He enlisted in the Navy Seabees upon graduation where he served with M.C.B. 53. He did two tours of duty in Vietnam where he served as an equipment operator. While there he received the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

In 1968, while still in the service, Bob joined the Joyce-Schirick VFW Post #1386. Then, in 1985, Bob helped to restructure and rename Joseph C. Hassett Memorial Post #686 of which he is a Life Member. He served three years as Post Commander, two of which he received All State Commander. He has also served as Post Quartermaster for 20 years, also receiving state honors. Bob is also a Past All State County Commander and Past District #2 Commander. He has chaired many committees on both the State and National level. Bob was elected State Commander at the 88th State Convention in Binghamton.

Bob retired from Teamsters Local 445, employed by USF Red Star Freight. Aside from his activity with the VFW he is kept very busy as:

- Officer & Treasurer of Rosendale Vol. Fire Department for the past 25 years

- Director of the Fireman's Association and its Pension & Welfare Benefits

- Treasurer of Teamsters Local 445 Retirees Club

- Life Member of Dept. of New York Seabees – Island X-9

- Member of the American Legion Post #1219 of Rosendale/Tillson

- Babysitting the grandchildren

Bob and his wife, Karen have two children, Vanessa and Kristofer, and 5 grandchildren.