

URGENTLY NEED ADDITIONAL TAX PREPARATION VOLUNTEER IN ANDOVER

We need an additional volunteer for income tax preparation in Andover. Presently we have one volunteer. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome. You don't need to be an AARP member or be a retiree to volunteer.

"The AARP Tax-Aide program is a wonderful resource for the American taxpayer," said Ron Koron, local coordinator. "AARP Tax-Aide volunteers get a great deal of satisfaction from helping people deal with the challenges of preparing their tax forms. If you want to help others with their tax returns, this is the program for you."

We need an individual who has some basic income tax preparation experience together with good computer skills. AARP Tax-Aide tax volunteers receive comprehensive training in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service. You will work one day a week beginning February 1, 2020. After training and passing a written test (open book) you will become certified to prepare tax returns. If you are interested, call Ron Koron, 526-8018. or Jeff North 748-7441



89 Northwood Road
New London



O'Halloran Group
KELLER WILLIAMS LAKES & MOUNTAINS REALTY

LORI MEDING
256 Main Street, New London, NH
C: 603-848-1879 | O: 603-526-8600
sunapeeregionproperty.com | lori@sunapeeregionproperty.com
Each office is independently owned and operated

JUST Sold



THANK YOU, VETERANS!



Barber from page 1

blown away by war."

Mitchell, along with Tiffany, Jerry, Jim, Bill, Shaggy, and Ravi, provide unwavering and unjudgmental support for Eric throughout his struggle back. General Douglas MacArthur, Gandhi, George Bernard Shaw, the Buddha, General George S. Patton, Christ, Ernie Pyle, Dr. Paul Brunton, and Plato provide challenging, relevant, and often disturbing insights into the human condition.

But in the end it's Eric, alone, despairing, and hopeless, who finds "a choice rooted deep in my soul" to turn irrevocably away from his addiction, his grief, guilt, shame, and anger. "I was filled with a new sense of hope. From a place deep inside, a whole new feeling of freedom. Free at last, I thought. Out of restraints and free at last."

This book's unwavering honesty makes it a tough read. And a very important one. As it says on the book's back cover, the story may be fiction, but the pain is real.

The Help is Real

The help available to veterans is real as well ... and that's one very important motivation that sustained Tom through the wrenching process of writing this semi-autobiographical book.

"Getting help is more than important," Tom says, "because once you've given your new life a kickstart, you never know when you may turn around and find yourself able to help a fellow vet do the same ... or help anyone do the same."

Sadly, the obvious sources of help – the Veterans Administration and other vet organizations – have received a lot of negative press over the years. So at one point in the story, Eric expresses doubt about whether help is really available for veterans in his own deeply troubled condition. But Mitchell reassures him:

"Sure, the system has problems. What system doesn't? But there are islands of hope in every storm. There are always people that know the ropes, are good at what they do, and can really help.

"Take the Vet Centers, for example. They were founded by Vietnam veterans because they needed help fast. Ended up puttin' the centers out in the neighborhood, closer to the 'front lines.' Easier connections and less hassle. They even get separate money from Congress, so they've got a life of their own."

(There are three Vet Centers within reach of Andover: see the end of this article for their phone numbers.)

Writing from Experience

The story is fiction, but it's fiction that comes from experience ... Tom's experience. "About the Author" at the end of

the book sums up the relevant bits:

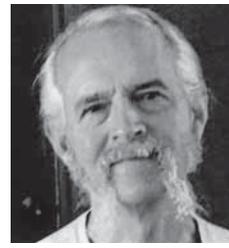
"Tom Barber was a Vietnam-era army medic unable to imagine the trauma of combat. Trying to help those physically and emotionally crippled by the chaos of war brought to life feelings of survival guilt and helplessness that would haunt him for years. Alcohol



The author's powerful and telling illustrations are a major part of his book's visceral impact on the reader.

killed that pain. Then alcohol addiction almost killed him.

"After his discharge in 1971, he became an award-winning illustrator of science fiction and fantasy paperback book jackets ... for a while. Then personal and business turmoil sent him fleeing to the mountains of Arizona. There he landed in the ghost town of Jerome, where he eventually slammed headlong into the world of sobriety. Big change. The result is this story."



Tom Barber of Andover: veteran, author, artist, and illustrator.

Tom's book, *What the F*** was That All About?*, is available on Amazon (in print or as a Kindle book) at [Amazon.com/dp/1970155019/](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1970155019/) or from the publisher at A15publishing.com/all-titles.

Area vets looking for help without hassle can contact a Vet Center at 752-2571 (Berlin), 668-7060 (Manchester), or 802-295-2908 (White River Junction, Vermont). For more immediate help, veterans or concerned family or friends can call 800-273-8255 or visit VeteransCrisisLine.net.

Tax Prep from page 1

We need an individual who has some basic income tax preparation experience together with good computer skills. AARP Tax-Aide tax volunteers receive comprehensive training in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service. You will work one day a week beginning February 1, 2020. After training and passing a written test (open book) you will become certified to prepare tax returns. If you are interested, call Ron Koron at 526-8018 or Jeff North at 748-7441.