



# Hollis VFW

## June 2025 Newsletter

Vol. 35 Issue: 6

*Serving Hollis and Brookline*

*June 2025*

*The Hollis VFW meets the third Sunday of each month at 7 PM. Meetings are at the American Legion Hall, 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH.*

*You can also attend via Zoom at:*

*<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/86999020485?pwd=bIA2NlZNMFo5cFhwVHlKUkVWTXMxZz09>; Meeting ID = 86999020485; Passcode: q47TDf, or, by Phone = (646) 558-8656; Meeting ID = 86999020485#.*

*If you wish to join or have questions about the VFW, please call one of the Post Officers.*

***Next Meeting: 15 June @ 7:00 pm***



### **May 18th Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Open Time:** 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 9 members were present.

Chris Lussier made a motion to suspend business to perform the installation of the reelected Post officers, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved. Installation was performed by Past Post Commander, Greg d'Arbonne and business was resumed.

**Reading of the Minutes:** A motion was made by Bruce Moran to dispense with the reading of the February meeting minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all members. Greg d'Arbonne seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Post Quartermaster's Report:** The Quartermaster's Report was read. There were two deposits: one from National for dues for \$3.50; and the other was \$7.40 from Interest

totaling \$10.90. Disbursements for the month were: \$6.00 to Department for Convention Delegates; \$380.34 for VFW share of heating oil expenses; and \$134.95 to the American Legion store for Memorial Day flags. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne, and unanimously approved. Quarterly Trustee Report of Audit was submitted.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Email received from Hollis Brookline Upper Elementary School requesting our attendance for their Memorial Day Ceremony and lunch Thursday, 22 May 2025 beginning at 1:00 pm, ceremony at 1:40 pm.
- Received Newsletter from Aroostock.
- Chris Lussier received a phone call from Rick Hardy of Brookdale Fruit Farm in Hollis about the geraniums for Memorial Day. When asked about the cost, Rick stated that the 50

geraniums were a donation from the farm. Many thanks to Brookdale Fruit Farm for the generous donation.

### **Committee Reports:**

- Service Officer: Bruce Moran was contacted by Paul Bodner concerning his veteran benefits. He was referred to John Barret. Bruce also offered membership to the Post. Also, Stew Jackson was also referred to John Barret for some assistance with his benefit status.
- Patriot's Pen Program: Nothing to report.
- Voice of Democracy programs: Nothing to report.
- Military Descendant Scholarship – Final decision was made for the scholarship winner on 7 May with a quorum present and agreed. George Robinson will make the presentation. The name was submitted 9 May.
- Program Reports
  - Americanism: 29 April – Met with Hollis Town Administration for planning Memorial Day activities.
  - Community Service: 14 May – Weekly Veteran's Breakfast in Hollis with numerous veterans from the community.
  - Buddy Poppy: 18 May – Final planning for Poppy Day Drive at the Hollis Transfer Station.
  - Safety (Home/Fire): 15 January – Met with Hollis Police Department concerning the lighting behind the senior residence where our WWII Veteran lives for safety and peace of mind.
  - Youth Activities:
    - 24 Mar – Attended the Hollis Brookline High School AP Class practice for constitutional hearings that the class will compete in Washington DC. \$1000/00 Presented to class to help with expenses.
    - 4 April – Fourteen Members spent time at Hollis Brookline Middle School with the 8th-grade class to answer many questions from the students about being a veteran prior to their trip to Washington

DC. Great questions were asked and good conversations occurred.

- Legislative: Nothing reported.
- Publicity/Media: Nothing reported.
- Post Service Officer: 5 May – Member delivered 10 crocheted Lap Robes made by a Hollis Resident to the Manchester VA for use by veterans.
- Hospital: Nothing reported.
- Scholastic Awards/Scholarships: 29 April – Met with Hollis Town Administration for planning Memorial Day activities.
- Veterans and Family Support:
  - 29 April – Members attended the Israeli Memorial Day service at the Temple Beth Abraham Synagogue.
  - 30 April – Members watched the movie "Biloxi Blues" with their WWII Veteran who actually attended basic training in Biloxi at Keesler Field during that time period.
- Deceased Veterans/Rendering Honors – 17 May – Provided Rifle Guard and Roll Call for USAF Veteran Airman Third Class Harry Russell.

### **Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress:**

- Bruce Moran is having a carcinoma removed on 22 Jun. Kerry Spangler will provide transportation if needed.
- Mark Tigert is doing better!

**Membership:** We will have a Membership Drive during our Poppy Drives at both the Hollis and Brookline Transfer Stations, 24 May, 0800-1600. Three members need to update their memberships that are due by the end of the year as soon as possible. Applications will be available.

**Remember National Home:** Prayer was said for the National Home and residents.

**General Orders:** As distributed by the Department and District and posted on the Department website.

## Old Business:

### • Memorial Day 2025:

- Brookline Ceremony 0930 on 26 May– Veterans please arrive 30 minutes prior
- Hollis Ceremony 1700 on 26 May – Veterans please arrive 30 minutes prior.
- Poppy/Membership Drive schedule for Saturday, 24 May:

0800-1000 – Bruce Moran and Chris Lussier

1000-1200 – Bruce Moran and Tony Fowler

1200-1400 – Bruce Moran and Andy Seremeth

1400-1500 – Bruce Moran (and Chris to help tear down)

Anyone else who would like to help out, show up at the transfer station.

- Greg d'Arbonne wrote a letter to the Select Board and the Hollis Town Band to notify them the Hollis VFW is running the ceremony this year and will provide them the details. Met with the administrator to solidify the requirements.
- George Robinson will contact the local Scout Troops and ask for their support for the ceremony. He has already contacted the High School Honors Choir and asked if they can support the event.
- Town will provide the podium from the Lawrence Barn.
- Chris Lussier will set up the PA system at 1500 on 26 May.
- Chris and Bruce Moran will provide the "Battlefield Cross" items.
- Chris Lussier asked and confirmed Reverend Rasmussen to give the Invocation.
- The Post needs to advertise this event in the Hollis-Brookline Rotary online newspaper and Facebook.
- Chris Lussier ordered the geraniums and got a list from the Rotary about the where the geraniums and flags go to each cemetery.
- Greg d'Arbonne will order the 4 wreaths for the Memorial Day event. The Town will reimburse the Post.
- Tony Fowler is the guest speaker for both Memorial Day Ceremonies.

- Chris Lussier will make the request students from the HBHS to read the names of the Veterans.

- Chris ordered more durable flags that can be placed at the Beth Abraham Cemetery as the wind from the area tears the graveside flags more there than at other cemeteries in Town. Kerry Spangler and Chris Lussier will change out the flags

- The Brookline American Legion Flag Retirement Ceremony will be 21 June at 10 AM. (OPEN)

- George Robinson stated that with the Nation's 250th Birthday coming up next year, the Post should purchase banners celebrating this event and place them at the major crossroads in both Towns, a total of 8 banners. George will investigate what needs to be done and permissions that are needed. (OPEN)

- Post Elections: Chris Lussier submitted the Post Election Report with the following:

Mark Tigert – Commander

Mark Andrews – Senior Vice Commander

George Robinson – Junior Vice Commander

Quartermaster – Chris Lussier

Service Officer – Bruce Moran

Chaplain – Bruce Moran

Judge Advocate – Bob Smith

1 Year Trustee – Bob Smith

2 Year Trustee – Andy Seremeth

3 Year Trustee – Jim Belanger

Surgeon – James Kelly

Adjutant – Kerry Spangler

Officer Installation will occur at the 18 May meeting.

- Chris Lussier reimbursed the American Legion for half of the oil refill bill (\$760.68) \$380.34.

- Kerry Spangler submitted the Delegate report with two Delegates for the Department convention 6-8 Jun in Concord. Mark Tigert and Kerry Spangler will attend.

- Chris Lussier made a motion at a special meeting that the VFW pay half of the electrical repair for the wiring repairs at a cost \$191.25, seconded by Bruce Moran, and unanimously approved in a separate meeting with a quorum present.

### **New Business:**

- Engraved bricks for the Brookline Monument and will be installed by Earth Echo LLC.
- Earth Echo LLC provided an estimate for improving the drainage around the building. We will wait to see what the American Legion decides before considering helping with the costs. Tabled until June meeting.
- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that we make a \$25.00 donation to each of the required donations not to exceed \$400.00, seconded by Bob Smith and unanimously approved.
- 4th July Parade in Brookline – Meet at the American Legion Hall at 0900, at the parade route by 0930, Parade step off at 1000! Barbeque to follow parade.

- Our Day of Service event (postponed from 3 May due to weather) will occur on 7 June to finish the safety rails and steps at a member's home.

### **Good of the Order:**

- The Holiday Card shed has helped the Holiday Cards for Troops to increase the quantity of cards by 49%.
- Mark Tigert thanked everyone for their support during his pre- and post-surgery.

**Closing:** Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Smith and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 15 June 2025 at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.

## **News For & From Members**

### **Calendar of Events**

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

#### **May 2025**

- 5 May – Post Annual Report due completion.
- 18 May – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 22 May – Memorial Day Ceremony at Hollis Brookline Upper Elementary School
- 22 May – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 24 May – Poppy Drive and Membership Drive at the Brookline and Hollis Transfer Stations.
- 26 May – Memorial Day activities Brookline 9:00 at City Hall, Hollis – 5:00 pm at Memorial Square
- 31 May – Scout's spaghetti supper

#### **Jun 2025**

- 7 June – Rescheduled Day of Service event: Bruce Moran porch safety rails and steps (Postponed from 3 May due to weather)
- 14 June – US Army birthday celebration at Foxboro Stadium.
- 15 June – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 21 June – Flag retirement ceremony. 10:00 am American Legion Hall.
- 26 June – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

#### **Jul 2025**

- 20 July: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 24 July: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

#### **Aug 2025**

- 17 August: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 28 August: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

### **Please Make Sure You Renew ASAP**

If you pay annually for your membership, we ask that you renew as soon as possible so we can meet our numbers for the year now and not have to rush at the end of the year (which is June). You can renew at a meeting, or you can renew online (<https://www.vfw.org/OMS/QuickRenew.aspx>), but please renew!!

### **News of Interest to Veterans**

#### **Help Build the Veteran Database at the NH Veterans Heritage Learning Center**

At the NH State Veterans Cemetery is the "Veterans Heritage Learning Center" to help people learn about NH's rich military history. One of the active displays is the Remembrance Station where veterans or family/friends can enter an entry of their military history and other information - as much or as little as they want. Photos of people and items can also be added to the entry.

Please take a few minutes to enter your name and military, etc. bio info (whatever you'd like to share). OR enter a family member who is/was a veteran or a friend. Here's the link to Veteran Bio Input Form: <https://www.vhlc.org/stories-of-service-station/veteran-bio-form>.

## **Points To Ponder**

*The views expressed in the following articles are deemed interesting enough by me to include in the newsletter. I take full responsibility and the content does not reflect the opinion of the members of the Post. Please contact me if these articles offend you. – Kerry Spangler*

**GET THE WORD OUT! Poppy Drive and Membership Drive at the Hollis and Brookline Transfer Stations 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Membership applications will be available.**

**Memorial Day is just around the corner. We have events scheduled in Brookline and Hollis.**

**Don't forget our Wednesday Morning Breakfasts at 8:00 at the Hollis Marketplace Diner. All Veterans are welcome.**

**Invite other veterans to our meetings so they can see what we are all about.**

Kerry Spangler  
Adjutant

---

### **Post Officers**

**Commander:** Mark Tigert – 240-344-8291 [vfw11373cdr@proton.me](mailto:vfw11373cdr@proton.me)

**Senior Vice Commander:** Mark Andrews  
603-732-6113; [agav8r1997@gmail.com](mailto:agav8r1997@gmail.com)

**Quartermaster:** Chris Lussier  
603- 465-2676; [clussier@tds.net](mailto:clussier@tds.net)

**Service Officer:** Bruce Moran  
603-465-1040; [bruce.moran@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.moran@hotmail.com)

**Junior Vice Commander:** George Robinson  
540-809-8696; [GMRobinson118@gmail.com](mailto:GMRobinson118@gmail.com)

**Chaplain:** Bruce Moran  
603-465-1040; [bruce.moran@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.moran@hotmail.com)

**Adjutant:** Kerry Spangler  
603-233-0266; [KSpang8393@aol.com](mailto:KSpang8393@aol.com)

**Post Mailing Address:** VFW Post 11373, c/o Commander, PO Box 1012, Hollis, NH 03049

**Post Website:** <http://www.hollisvfw.org/>

*E-mail addresses are for the use of the members to pass information and not to be sold or freely passed to others without formal consent of the member. No funds solicitation is authorized via e-mail.*