



Hollis VFW

June 2026 Newsletter

Vol. 36 Issue: 6

Serving Hollis and Brookline

June 2026

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=blA2NlZNMFo5cFhwVHlKUKVWTXMxZz09>
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: 28 June 2026 at 7:00 pm

May 17th Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 11 members and 7 guests were present (Trevor Duvall, Hollis Brookline High School AP Civics class teacher and 6 students from the "We the People" competition).

Chris Lussier made a motion to suspend business for our guests to talk about Operation Care for Troops (OCT), seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

Trevor Duvall and the 6 students presented a letter of thanks for supporting their trip to Washington DC which allowed them to focus on the competition and not fundraising. The team had a memorial trip to the Nation's capital and were able to see many monuments and facets of our government operations. The students presented examples of two questions that were part of the competition. Their knowledge and ability to defend viewpoints referencing numerous cases and references. Great job!.

Returned to business.

Reading of the Minutes: A motion was made by Chris Lussier to dispense with the reading of the

March meeting minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all members and that topics will be reviewed in the meeting. Andy Seremeth seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Post Quartermaster's Report: The Quartermaster's Report was read. General Fund Deposits included: \$17.37 for Interest; Total deposits: \$17.37. Disbursements for the month were: \$5,000.00 to Operation High Flight; 5,000.00 to Operation Care for Troops; \$320.00 to Patricia Dutra for cleaning services; \$25.00 for Hollis Old Home Days; and \$9.00 to Department NH VFW Convention; \$595.95 for VFW Store for flags for Hospice; Total disbursements were \$10,949.95. The Relief Fund Deposits: \$0.00. Disbursements: None; Total Relief Fund expenses: \$0.00. Venmo Deposits: None. Deductions: None. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne, and unanimously approved.

Correspondence:

- Email from Trevor Duvall at HBHS to request attending our next meeting by the AP Civics class to talk about their trip to Washington DC.

- Email from National
 - Wear Red on Fridays in May
 - Purple Heart Honor Mission
- Email from Paul Lloyd:
 - May Issues of Headquarters Bulletin, General Orders, and Planning Calendar.
 - Flags at half Staff for Fallen LE officers
 - Buddy Poppy Display Competition
 - ID Remains of U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Edgar R. Norcross, 18, of Manchester, New Hampshire
 - Quartermaster and Trustee Training Sessions
 - Veterans Legal Justice Newsletter
 - Proposed Department Bylaws
 - Burger King Give Back to Veterans
 - MemStats

Committee/Program Reports: : Reporting is now accessed through the VFWNH.org website in the Login drop-down menu <Report Entry>. These reports include any submitted since last meeting. (140reports to date with 1146 hours of service).

- **Service Officer:** Nothing reported.
- **Community Service:**
 - Weekly Veterans' breakfast.
 - 13 May - At the Operation Delta Dog event, eight members attended and the 5 Vets led the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem and 6 service songs.
- **Americanism:**
 - •13 May - At the Operation Delta Dog event, eight members attended and the 5 Vets led the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem and 6 service songs.
- **Youth Activities:** •2 May – Selection of the Military Descendant Scholarship winner.
- **Legislative:** Nothing reported.
- **Safety (Home/Fire):** Nothing reported.
- **Veterans and Military Support:**
 - 2 May – Eight members attended and provided the Rifle Detail at the funeral for American Legion Member Bobbie Canada.
 - 2 May – 3 Members attended the Celebration of Life for American Legion Member Bobbie Canada.

- 13 May - At the Operation Delta Dog event, eight members attended the graduation for the Hollis VFW sponsored Veteran and service dog graduation.
- 17 May – Members voted to donate \$5000 second payment to Operation High Flight.
- **Homeless Veterans:**
 - 28 Mar - Attended Homeland Heroes Annual Gala fundraiser.
- **Hospital:** Nothing reported.
- **National Home:** Nothing reported.
- **Voice of Democracy programs:** Nothing reported.
- **Patriot's Pen Program:** Nothing reported.
- **Teach Scout:** Nothing reported.
- **Military Descendant Scholarship:** Chris Lussier, Sean Brady, George Robinson and Kerry Spangler selected the recipient. The award will be presented at the Senior Awards Ceremony (3 Jun) by George Robinson.
- **Membership:** Membership percentage stands at 93.18% with 41 current members compared to prior year of 44 members.

Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress:

- American Legion Member, Bobbie Canada, passed away on 10 February. Members attended the burial/celebration of life on 3 May.
- George Robinson's nephew's, HM2 Nicholas Daly, deployment has been extended and is still currently deployed at sea. Let's keep him in our prayers.
- Jeff Smith's cancer has returned and will require radiation therapy. Keep Jeff in our prayers.
- Bruce Moran injured his back. He needs some guidance for his home groundskeeping.
- Mark Andrews wife was diagnosed with breast cancer. Keep her in our prayers.
- Andy Seremeth is having some cardiac issues.

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:

- Chris Lussier reported that he was notified that there will be an opening ceremony on the 250th 4th of July beginning with a parade. Kick off ceremony at Monument Square. Hollis currently has no one to organize their July 4th Parade. Chris Lussier will be the Master of Ceremony and Bruce Moran will be presenting his "Old Glory" recitation. Both the Hollis and the Brookline parade begin at 1000. Hollis Town Band has a concert on 1 July. We need to determine who is doing each of the parades. (OPEN)
- George Robinson stated the SSGT Alan H. Soifert Memorial monument at the Hollis-Brookline High School is beginning to lean forward. In the summer, we need to look at fixing the memorial by lifting it and providing a more solid base. A Scout has volunteered to take on the project. He has been asked to provide a list of materials and will work on the monument when the weather warms up. Upon inspection, we are not sure if it really needs to be done. May want to consider doing the landscaping around the monument for the Scout project. (OPEN)
- Mark Andrews presented information on Operation High Flight (501 3c), a non-profit organization to support veterans, children's hospitals, first responders and inner-city youth through mentoring and other activities. Mark Andrews thanked the Post for the previous donation and identified the use of the money donated and the objectives met. Chris Lussier



provided the second payment of \$5000.00. (OPEN)

- Chris Lussier identified something about our Venmo account. It is currently set up as a business account and needs to be changed to a charitable account with a non-profit profile with PAYPAL. The change will be worked after the tax forms are filed. (OPEN)
- Kerry Spangler made a motion to purchase the 6 Services' Flags and 2 sets of poles and bases for Hospice Program We Honor Vets pinning ceremonies at a total cost of \$645.00 (actual \$595.95), seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved. Flags were ordered awaiting delivery for presenting the Home, Health and Hospice Care Program. Kerry Spangler and Chris Lussier presented the flags on 29 April. (CLOSED)



- Memorial Day Ceremonies – Greg d'Arbonne suggested we identify the guest speaker and MC for both the Brookline and Hollis Memorial Day Ceremonies. Kerry Spangler will be the guest speaker, Master of Ceremony Hollis is Chris Lussier, and Master of Ceremony

- Brookline is Greg d'Arbonne. The agenda will be like last year. Greg d'Arbonne submitted a letter to the Hollis Select Board to approve the event. The Select Board sent out forms to fill out which were submitted by Greg d'Arbonne. Chairs will need to be provided. The Hollis Community Church will provide 100 chairs. Request for the Scouts to assist to be in place at 3:30 at the Hollis Town Common and also to provide the color guard. Ask people to bring lawn chairs. PA to be provided by Chris Lussier. Lawrence Barn is reserved in case of inclement weather. The weather determination will be made at 3:30. Father Glasgow will provide the Chaplain services. For Brookline, Greg d'Arbonne asked if we can use town building portico for the building for the ceremony. Greg d'Arbonne will order the wreaths this week for both ceremonies. Brookline Ceremony starts at 9:30 am, Hollis at 5:00 pm. Uniform is Blue Jacket, Grey pants, white shirt, tie and cap. Chris Lussier will bring the five rifles for the Hollis and Brookline Ceremonies. A Battle Cross with rifle will be set up as well. Kerry Spangler made a motion for Chris Lussier to pay Jeff Bissonet \$200.00 for operating sound equipment for the event, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved. Chris Lussier stated that someone secured the geraniums them for the event. (OPEN)
- Operation Care for our Troops is soliciting donations. Based on the briefing of our guests from OCT, Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to donate \$5,000.00 to the OCT, seconded by Mark Andrews and unanimously approved. Payment was made. (CLOSED)
 - Operation Delta Dog thanked the Post by letter for being a 4-Star sponsor in 2025 and requested support in 2026 with their expansion of services. George Robinson suggested that we challenge other posts to donate and then match up to \$25,000 to potentially get more veterans served. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion for the adjutant to send the challenge to District 6 to donate with up to a \$25,000 match from Post 11373, seconded by George Robinson and unanimously approved. Kerry Spangler will send an email to the District 6 Commander to issue the challenge to local posts. He also presented the challenge at the District 6 meeting. Waiting for response from ODD for who has donated. (OPEN)
 - Elections – Report of election was submitted. Rejected because Mark Andrews cannot be an officer and a Trustee. Chris Lussier made a motion to elect Greg d'Arbonne as the 3 Year Trustee, seconded by Mark Andrews and unanimously approved. Supplemental report was submitted making Greg d'Arbonne the 3 Year Trustee. Post Commander/Adjutant report and delegate reports were also submitted. (CLOSED).
 - Flag retirement and storage cleanup are scheduled for 13 Jun 2026 at 8:00 am. VFW needs two shelf units (Kerry Spangler purchased from Sam's Club). Scouts will shorten legs on tables to place their storage bins in the boiler room and the sump pump room. (OPEN)
 - Members provided the Rifle detail for Bobbie Canada's funeral, 2 May and attended the Celebration of Life at Souhegan Valley Christian Church. (OPEN)
 - Greg d'Arbonne fixed the door to the basement that was damaged during a break-in. Thanks to Arlene d'Arbonne for cleaning up the mess. (OPEN)
 - Delegates for Department Convention 5-7 Jun – Mark Tigert, Kerry Spangler, Greg d'Arbonne
- New Business:**
- Coins for Graduating ROTC and Enlisted students. Chris Lussier made a motion to purchase 5 coins for presentation to the students at the award ceremony up to \$150.00, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. (OPEN)



- Honor U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Edgar R. Norcross, 18, of Manchester, New Hampshire, 7 July service at Boscawen after remains were returned.
- Hollis Transfer Station Poppy Drive Schedule (moving to exit gate) (OPEN)
 - 0800 – 000 Bruce Moran/Chris Lussier
 - 1000 – 1200 Bruce Moran/Andy Seremeth
 - 1200 – 1500 Bruce Moran/Mark Andrews
- Flag demo for the Scouts will be done by Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler at 7:00 pm, 18 May)

Good of the Order:

- SWAM is hosting a gala at Tuscan Village, Salem NH. The Singing Vets will sing the National Anthem and service songs(3-9:00 pm, 12 July).
- Our sponsored veteran and dog from Operation Delta Dog, Hershey and Avi graduated from ODD. Congratulations to Hershey and Avi. The Singing Vets sang the National Anthem and service songs.



- Bruce Moran is taking the quilts to the VA center.

Closing: Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Andrews and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM. The next meeting is at 7:00 PM, Sunday, 28 Jun 2026, 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 2026

- 21 May – Hollis Upper Elementary School Memorial Day Assembly – 1:45 to 2:30. Lunch at 1:00PM
- 23 May – VFW Poppy Drive at the Hollis Transfer Station 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- 23 May – American Legion Poppy Drive at the Brookline Transfer Station. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- 24 May – Poppy Drive at the Brookline liquor store.
- 25 May – Memorial Day Events in Hollis 5:00 pm and Brookline at 9:30 am.
- 28 May – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 28-31 May – American Legion Department Convention

Jun 2026

- 5-7 June – Department of New Hampshire VFW Convention
- 6 June – D-Day
- 13 June – Flag Retirement and American Legion Hall Cleanup Day. 1000 am until done.
- 14 June – Flag Day
- 25 June – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 28 June – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall

Jul 2026 –

- 4 July – Parades at Hollis and Brookline – 1000
- 19 July – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 23 July – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall

Aug 2026

- 16 August – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 27 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

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

Reach out to other members to encourage them to attend the meetings...the more the merrier and the more we can be aware of and accomplish with more participation.

If you have email addresses for Hollis Town personnel, the @hollisnh.org are now all changed to @hollisnh.gov.

Get VFW project pictures and articles to Jim Belanger and/or to Kerry Spangler for inclusion in the VFW website and newsletter.

Kerry Spangler Adjutant



Post Officers

Commander: Mark Tigert – 603-219-9963 cdrl1373@gmail.com

Senior Vice Commander: Mark Andrews

603-732-6113; agav8r1997@gmail.com

Quartermaster: Chris Lussier

603-465-2676; clussier@tds.net

Service Officer: Bruce Moran

603-465-1040; bruce.moran@hotmail.com

Junior Vice Commander: George Robinson

540-809-8696; GMRobinson118@gmail.com

Chaplain: Bruce Moran

603-465-1040; bruce.moran@hotmail.com

Adjutant: Kerry Spangler

603-233-0266; 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.

HIRE-A-VETERAN DAY JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR

Honoring those who served

ARE YOU A VETERAN LOOKING
FOR YOUR NEXT MISSION?

Join us to connect with:

- Local and National Employers
- Veteran Service Organizations
- Resume & Interview Support
- Networking Opportunities

**WEDNESDAY,
JULY 15, 2026**

11am - 1pm

Edward Cross Training Complex
722 Riverwood Drive
Pembroke NH

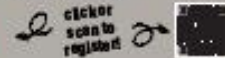
If you need accommodations for this event please contact jobfair@nhes.nh.gov or call 603-220-4355 by July 8, 2026

BRING YOUR RESUME & DRESS FOR SUCCESS!

Job seekers are encouraged to register but are not required to.
To register and view more information please visit: <https://jobfairs.nh.gov>

Employers must register to attend this free event

<https://jobfairs.nh.gov>



Applicants self-referred or referred to this recruitment event by NHEC. While a staff fee is required to attend, Veterans in attendance could offset a substantial amount of unemployment benefits.



Pictures and/or video recordings may be used by NHEC for future promotional and media to promote and program in the public domain.
NHEC is a proud member of American Job Center Network and NH Works. NHEC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request of individuals with disabilities.

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