



Hollis VFW

May 2025 Newsletter

Vol. 35 Issue: 5

Serving Hollis and Brookline

May 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: 18 May @ 7:00 pm



April 20th Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 10 members were present.

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 three deposits: one from National for dues for \$3.50; the second \$35.00 from dues; and the other was \$7.86 from Interest totaling \$46.36. Disbursements for the month were: \$1,000.00 to Hollis-Brookline High School AP Government Class; \$103.00 Memorial donation for Jim Belanger; \$100.00 Memorial donation for Jeff Smith; \$31.50 dues payment; \$25.00 for National Convention Delegate fees; and \$640 for cleaning services for March and April; Post expenses for a

total of \$1,899.50. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Tony Fowler, and unanimously approved. Quarterly Report of Audit will be submitted.

Correspondence:

- The Post received a thank you letter from Hollis Brookline High School for the donation supporting their trip to Washington DC.
- Received gift cards from the District for our Voice of Democracy winners. Bruce Moran will get them to George Robinson to pass on to the winners.
- Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler updated the OMS on the VFW site for our post reports. We need to attempt to get the reports in as events happen so that we capture all the great things we are doing. The Post Quarterly report was submitted to

District 6 at the District meeting. Copy is on file.

Committee Reports:

- **Patriot's Pen Program:** Next year's topic will be the same as this year. However, all entries and evaluations will be accomplished online. If submitted on paper, we have to put them online.
- **Voice of Democracy Program:** Next year's topic will be the same as this year. However, all entries and evaluations will be accomplished online. If submitted on paper, we have to put them online.
- **Military Descendant Scholarship:** Evaluations of seven applications are in progress for the scholarship. The name needs to be submitted by 9 May.
- **Service Officer:** Nothing to report.

Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress:

- Mark Tigert's fever is down and is doing okay.
- Jeff Smith offered his thanks for the donation in memory for his wife to St Jude's.

Membership: Three people need to update their memberships that are due by the end of the year as soon as possible. We also want to try to recruit members during our Poppy Drive at the transfer stations. Kerry Spangler will ensure both sites have applications available to fill out. COOTIES made a plea for new members at the District 6 meeting. Their numbers for active members are dwindling.

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:**
 - Poppy 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 Kerry Spangler (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 provide the PA system. Bruce Moran made a motion to pay the sound engineer \$200 to run the system during the event, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne, and unanimously approved. Cost to be reimbursed by the Town.
- 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. A motion was made by Chris Lussier for authorization to pay for the items in full with the expectation of full reimbursement by the Town, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.
- 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 the event.
- 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.

- Fourteen Veterans met with the 8th Graders at the Hollis Brookline Middle School. Great questions were asked and good conversations occurred.
- 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 made a motion that the Post Adjutant cast a single vote for all the Officer Candidates and appointees, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne, and unanimously approved. Kerry Spangler cast the single vote for each of 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.

New Business:

- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to reimburse the American Legion for half of the oil refill bill (\$760.68) \$380.34, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.
- Identify two Delegates for the Department convention 6-8 Jun in Concord. Mark Tigert

and Kerry Spangler will attend. Kerry Spangler will submit the Delegate report.

- Reports – Please fill in reporting worksheets at each meeting or send Kerry Spangler an email and he will input the reports. These will be discussed at the meetings. Identify the category for the report as:
 - AMERICANISM
 - COMMUNITY SERVICE
 - BUDDY POPPY
 - SAFETY
 - YOUTH ACTIVITIES
 - LEGISLATIVE
 - PUBLICITY
 - POST SERVICE OFFICER
 - HOSPITAL
 - SCHOLASTIC AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS
 - VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT
 - DECEASED VETERANS/RENDERING HONORS
- We owe the Department/District three items:
 - Election Report (Chris Lussier)
 - Delegate Report (Kerry Spangler)
 - Quarterly Trustee Reports (Chris Lussier)

Good of the Order:

- 4th July Parade in Brookline – add to your calendars!
- Bruce Moran made a motion that Chris Lussier make a streamer display like the one he did for the American Legion.
- Mark Tigert discussed how Veterans are able to get free audio books.

Closing: Chris Lussier made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 18 May 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.

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.

Kerry Spangler
Adjutant

Post Officers

Commander: Mark Tigert - (240) 344-8291 vfw11373cdr@proton.me

Senior Vice Commander: Mark Andrews

(603)732-6113; agav8r1997@gmail.com

Quartermaster: Chris Lussier

(603) 465-2676; clussier@tds.net

Service Officer: Bruce Moran

(H: 603-465-7611; C: 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

Cell: 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/>

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