



# Hollis VFW

## September 2025 Newsletter

Vol. 35 Issue: 9

Serving Hollis and Brookline

September 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: 21 September at 7:00 pm***



### **August 17th Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Open Time:** 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 8 members were present.

**Reading of the Minutes:** A motion was made by Chris Lussier to dispense with the reading of the July meeting minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all members and that topics will be reviewed in the meeting. Greg d'Arbonne seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Post Quartermaster's Report:** The Quartermaster's Report was read. There was one deposit: \$7.56 from Interest; \$341.64 reimbursement from Hollis Memorial Day; \$7.54 Electronic deposit from National, \$5.25 return of overpayment from Kerry Spangler; total deposits \$361.99. Disbursements for the month were: \$80.00 to American Legion Post 74 for VFW portion of ZOOM Meeting account; \$29.00 to Kerry Spangler for Eagle Scout Certificates; \$25.00 to Town of Hollis Old Home Days for

Membership table reservation; and \$320.00 for cleaning services. Total expenses \$1,454.00. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Bob Smith, and unanimously approved.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Letter from the DAR, Anita Walker, thanking the post for the contribution for their efforts in cleaning the Veteran Grave Sites detailing how they are using the funds.
- Email received from Department VFW Adjutant Paul Lloyd with the general orders for August 2025.
- Email received from Department VFW Adjutant Paul Lloyd detailing the Quartermaster bond renewal.

**Committee/Program Reports:** Reporting is now accessed through the VFWNH.org website in the Login drop-down menu <Report Entry>.

- **Service Officer:** Nothing reported.
- **Patriot's Pen Program:** Nothing reported.
- **Voice of Democracy programs:** Nothing reported.
- **Military Descendant Scholarship** – Nothing reported
- **Americanism:**
  - Hollis Historical Society held an 80 year anniversary party for the end of WWII. Bob Smith was honored. Chris Lussier displayed his WWII Jeep, WWII weapon, etc. Chris will input the event into the reports. .
- **Community Service:**
  - Three VFW members attended a Victory event celebrating 80 years since the end of WW2. They brought a Willys Jeep for display along with a collection of vintage WW2 weapons and memorabilia. One member was honored as the remaining WW2 Veteran in Hollis. He greeted people and told stories.
  - 6, 13, 20, and 27 Aug – Weekly Veteran's Breakfasts in Hollis with numerous veterans from the community.
- **Safety (Home/Fire):**
  - 29 July - In alignment with 'Day of Service' members built 2 sets of steps to accompany a handicap access for a Vietnam Vet and his wife to prevent a fall.
  - 29 August - Two sets of handrails were installed on two sets of porch steps of a veteran's home ensuring safe access to yard area.
- **Youth Activities:**
  - 30 July - Post Quartermaster presented a check for \$1000.00 to our scholarship winner.
  - Three VFW members spoke to attending youths at a victory celebration recognizing 80 years since the end of WW2. The youths were told about the war and shown many artifacts from the period.
- **Legislative:**
  - 22 August – A small private informal group session and breakfast (hosted by Dr. Laura Landeman-Garber and Dr. Ben Garber) met with NH US Senator Maggie Hassan and two of her staff. Dialog involved several veteran concerns presented to Senator Hassan.

Included was a discussion of the retroactive veterinarian support for service dogs for dogs provided by a non-accredited organization once accreditation is achieved (a nationwide problem. Also concerns for timely VA medical care were discussed. Government efficiency and National debt were also topics of discussion.

- **Hospital:** Nothing reported.
- **Teach Scout:**
  - 12 July – George Robinson awarded two Eagle Scout for two new Troop 12 Scouts.
- **Homeless Veterans:** Nothing reported.
- **National Home:** Nothing reported.
- **Veterans and Military Support:**
  - 10 August – VFW member and his band donated services and \$200 to support a fundraiser for Operation Delta Dog at the Able Ebenezer Brewery. Band played 3 hours plus setup and breakdown.
  - 10 August - 4 VFW members plus a few Legion members attended a fundraising event for Operation Delta Dog at the Able Ebenezer Brewery. While there they supported fundraising efforts met with other Veterans learned about the service dogs and also filled out holiday cards for troops serving overseas.
- **Membership:** We are going to set up a membership table at the Hollis Old Home Days 20 September.
- **Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress:**
  - Nothing to report.
- **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:**
  - At the June meeting, 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 costs, what needs to be done and permissions that are needed. It was agreed

that he attend the select board meeting to discuss. (OPEN)

- Our Day of Service event (postponed from 3 May due to weather) steps were completed 29 July. Remaining work is handrails. (Editor's Note: Handrails were completed 29 August.) (OPEN)



- Kerry Spangler proposed changes to the By-Laws to indicate meetings being the 3rd Sunday each month with the exception of June being the 4th Sunday because of the conflict with Father's Day. Jim Belanger seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Kerry Spangler has drafted the changes and sent the draft with the monthly Newsletter for review for approval at the July meeting. No comments received. Final copy will be signed and Kerry Spangler will take to the District 6 Meeting in August for District Approval. Editor's Note: Bylaws were submitted to Department Adjutant Paul Lloyd 28 August.) (OPEN)
- Kerry Spangler has developed a spreadsheet to use as a checklist for all events being worked by the Post. Assistance in identifying all the components of all events will be required. (OPEN)

- Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler met with the Gate City Casino coordinator to get the final dates for the Hollis VFW charitable gaming the week of September 9th. (OPEN)

#### **New Business:**

- Membership staffing for the membership drive at Old Home Days. Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler will be there for the duration. Members will also participate in the Hollis Old Home Days parade. Kerry Spangler will bring applications to the drive. Need to ask the scouts to perform color guard. Kerry Spangler will reach out to George Robison to request the scouts. Chris Lussier will pick up the flags for display at the membership drive and Kerry Spangler will return them to the Post. (OPEN)
- We need to start planning for the Veterans Day events. We also need to identify a guest speaker. (OPEN)
- We need to renew the Quartermaster bond. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to increase the bond to \$150,000 from the current \$75,000. The motion was seconded by Mark Andrews and unanimously approved. (OPEN)

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

- Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler had a trip to Gulfport MS to help a veteran with personal affairs. The trip included an excursion down 7 Lakes Road along the Hudson River in New York, singing their way through West Virginia and Alabama.
- We still need to get project pictures to Jim Belanger to post on the website.

**Closing:** Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Andrews and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting is at 7:00 PM, Sunday, 21 September 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**.

Sep 2025

- 8 September – DAR receiving the CONSTITUTION WEEK Proclamation given by the Hollis Selectmen at 6:20 PM at the Town Hall.
- 11 September – Patriot Day / 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony. Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 11 a.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Donna Hastings, American Red Cross Volunteer
- 18 September – American Legion District 2 meeting, Milford Post at 7:00 PM.
- 20 September – Hollis Old Home Days including parade and Membership Drive.
- 21 September – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 25 September – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

Oct 2025

- 19 October – VFW District 6 meeting, 10:00 am, Pelham VFW.
- 19 October – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 23 October – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

Nov 2025

- 6 November – Veterans Day Events at HBMS & HBHS. Coffee and breakfast treats will be available starting around 7:45 a.m., and our assembly will begin approximately at 8:15 a.m. The high school plans for your arrival around 9:30 a.m.
- 10 November – Veterans Day Events at HPS - AM time to be finalized, and HUES - Pizza lunch at 1pm....program at 1:45pm.
- 11 November – Veterans Day
- 16 November – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 20 November – 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.**

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

**Get VFW project pictures and articles to Jim Belanger for inclusion in the VFW website.**

**Please note the dates for all of the Veterans Day activities.**

**What branch of the military do babies belong to? The infantry.**

Kerry Spangler  
Adjutant

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### **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.*

## **VFW Teams Up with Aspen Dental to Improve Access to Care for Veterans and Their Families**

*Exclusive membership discount and donation program supports veteran dental health*

**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (July 25, 2025)** – The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) announced a new relationship with [Aspen Dental®](#) to improve access to dental care for veterans and their families. Through this collaboration, VFW members will receive exclusive discounts on the [Aspen Dental Savings Plan membership](#), and Aspen Dental will provide support to the VFW Foundation to further expand veteran health care initiatives.

VFW members and their eligible immediate family members can access the discounted savings plan for \$29 per year – a 41% savings from the regular \$49 annual fee. Benefits include free exams and X-rays plus up to 30% savings on dental services with no deductibles, claims filing or waiting periods.

“This relationship directly addresses a gap in healthcare access that affects many in our veteran community. Through our collaboration with Aspen Dental, we’re helping ensure those who served have access to quality, affordable dental care,” said VFW Adjutant General Dan West.

“Veterans often face unique barriers to accessing care,” said Dr. Arwinder Judge, chief clinical officer at Aspen Dental. “This collaboration with the VFW builds on our longstanding commitment to those who have served, helping to ensure that veterans and their families can access quality, affordable care when and where they need it.”

This relationship makes Aspen Dental the VFW’s official dental provider, offering nationwide access to care. With more than 1,100 locations nationwide — many in underserved areas — Aspen Dental makes it easy for veterans to find affordable, quality care close to home. Aspen Dental practices serve more than 35,000 patients each day and eight million annually, offering accessible, high-quality care to communities across the country. With state-of-the-art technology and on-site labs at many locations, Aspen Dental offices help ensure a fast, comfortable experience for patients.

VFW members can learn more at <https://www.aspendental.com/dental-savings-plan/vfw-partnership/> or call 877.808.2776.

Aspen Dental has supported veterans for more than 10 years through its Healthy Mouth Movement, donating over \$36 million in dental care to more than 33,000 veterans and individuals in need through programs including VFW Day of Service and Smile for Your Service.





## SAVE – THE – DATE:

- JOIN US for the **National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony**
- DATE: **Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2025**
- TIME: **10:30 AM**
- LOCATION: **New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery – Chapel**

Presented by **Rolling Thunder®**, Inc. New Hampshire Chapters, this ceremony honors the sacrifices and unwavering courage of our Nations' **Prisoners-of-War and those Missing-In-Action**.

Mark your calendars, and let's unite to remember and honor their legacy.

More information to come.....





# Free Dentistry Day for Veterans



Saturday, September 20, 2025 | 8AM - 1PM

**Rockingham Dental Group - Exeter, NH**

16 Hampton Road | Exeter, NH 03833

Veterans who do not have dental insurance but are in  
need of dental care can choose one:

**A FREE CLEANING, FILLING OR EXTRACTION!**

If you or someone you know is a veteran who would benefit from  
free dental care, please call to schedule an appointment:

**603-772-7874**

*Please bring your Military ID on September 20th*

Apeksha Jain, DDS

Meaghan Collamore, DMD

General Dentists

[rockinghamdentalgroupexeter.com](http://rockinghamdentalgroupexeter.com)

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