



# Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

*For God and Country*

• 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH 03033-0761 •  
July 2024 Newsletter

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Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74, Brookline, NH meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month\* at 38 Main Street Brookline.  
Meetings begin at 1900 hours (7PM). \*Nov and Dec meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday.

You can attend via Zoom: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/6205759325?pwd=a1g1aVdna0djMjRFYThiQUIVb1grdz09>

Meeting ID = 6205759325; Passcode: ht3w6Z or,

One tap mobile = (646) 558-8656; Meeting ID = 6205759325#

If you wish to join or have questions about the American Legion, please call one of the Post Officers.  
Click here to visit our Facebook Page at: [Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post #74 Brookline, NH](#)

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## **Next Meeting:**

### **25 August at 7:00 PM**

#### **July Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Post Commander Will Collard. 12 members were present and no guests.

Colors advanced, prayers offered, POW/MIA empty chair recognized, and Preamble recited.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Bruce Moran to dispense with the verbal reading of the Minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all the members; seconded by Pat Moquin and unanimously approved.

**Treasurers Report:** The Treasurer's Report was not available due to an injury of the treasurer. Two membership fees were received during the meeting and one online, one brick donation. Fidelity has a charitable matching donation program and Eric Power, Post 74 member, set up the program for the post to receive matching donations from Fidelity employees to the post.

**Membership:** 2025 membership fees are due. Of note, if the three-year option is selected, member will receive their membership card for

one year but the membership system shows the three-year enrollment.

#### **Sick Call and Employment:**

- Kerry Spangler is now a grandfather to grandson Isaac Meyer born 22 July 2024. Isaac and his mother, Amy, are doing well and expected to be released from the hospital within the next couple of days.
- Bob Smith, Hollis WWII veteran, who injured his hip during the USA birthday celebration, was released 23 July from the Premier Rehabilitation Center in Nashua. He attended the weekly veteran's breakfast the next day. Many thanks to Chris Lussier for picking him up and bringing him to breakfast. It was made possible because of having a wheelchair from the post available for him to use.
- Tony Mayfield just took his dad back to Oklahoma.

**Correspondence:** Eversource electric bill. Quote from Earth Echo, LLC for installation of the brick walkway to the commemorative monument in Brookline.

#### **Old Business:**

- Survey: Pat Moquin distributed the survey results from the 20 members responding to what they think can be done to help improve

the Post and what our Legion Post does for members and the community. Responses included determining what can be done more for casual social activities. Once we make any recommendations in response to the surveys, we will send the information out to the post membership. Kerry Spangler will correlate the data for further discussion at the next meeting.

- Monument:

- Greg d'Arbonne visited the company that engraves the bricks who will test the engraving on the bricks and let us know which works the best.
- Jim Pope discussed the quote from Earth Echo, LLC for the Brick Walkway Installation which includes excavation of the designated walkway footprint, preparation of compacted base graded for drainage, placement of the brick pattern with granite border on a bedding layer, and polymeric sand swept into the joints. Price includes labor, base materials, machine operator, machine, and transportation/ deliveries. \$3,950.00. The quote did not include the granite. (Reclaimed) Reclaimed granite purchased and delivered to the current site. Price to be determined. John Weidman recommended using this company as he has worked with them before. A motion was made by Greg d'Arbonne, seconded by John Weidman, to accept the quote so the installation of the walkway can occur shortly after the monument is positioned. It was determined that funds should be available in the monument fund to cover the cost even after paying for the concrete foundation that was poured to support the monument and for purchasing the bricks for the walkway. We will wait until after the installation of the monument and the receipt of the engraved bricks.
- John Weidman indicated the monument should be installed August 5th. He requested that we provide some plywood

to lay on the grass to prevent damage during installation of the monument.

- Greg d'Arbonne will contact Bob Heyer, a photographer, when the dedication date is set.
- Bricks for the Monument Walkway: Greg d'Arbonne will coordinate with the engraving company about them. Need to send as many as possible in for the first engraving. We have about 80 at this time. Costs for additional engraving of bricks remains the same, however, engraving time will increase due to the setting up of the engraving.
- Dedication needs to be at least 3 weeks after installation to allow invitations to be sent and receive responses. Initial date proposed is 8 Sep 2024. Greg d'Arbonne made the motion to perform the dedication on 8 Sep 2024 in the afternoon, seconded by Chris Lussier and unanimously approved. Pat Moquin will find out if the Hollis-Brookline High School Band can participate. (NOTE: Subsequent discussion identified 22 Sep as a potential dedication date. Final date will be determined at the August Post meeting.
- Commemorative Sculpture Dedication Ceremony tentative schedule:
  - Invocation
  - Guest Speakers (State officials, department)
  - Dedication
  - Benediction
  - Reception
- Chris Lussier is getting grommets for the Post streamers for better display.
- Gutters on the Post Building: Greg d'Arbonne needs to find a contractor to get estimates.
- Greg d'Arbonne received Sister Zore's information for membership from Rich Zore. Rich Zore needs to join the post as well.
- ZOOM Meeting Account: Price of Zoom account is \$159.34 per year giving unlimited time for meetings sharable with the VFW. VFW approved funding half the cost for the shared account. Kerry

Spangler will obtain the account and install on the Post laptop and provide the link information to the VFW to begin using it in the September VFW and American Legion meeting. ZOOM meeting link information will be provided in the September Post newsletter.

- Bruce Moran Memorial Bridge: July 5th thru 7th, members (Chris Lussier, Kerry Spangler and his son Brenden, Pat Moquin, Mark Andrews, Stuart Jackson) began construction of the Bruce Moran Bridge in extreme heat. Bridge is functional and final assembly will continue throughout July and August. The bridge has made attending appointments so much easier for Ann Marie and Bruce Moran on their own. This is a great example on what the American Legion and VFW provides for service to our veterans. Financially, \$1332.21 out of the \$1500 funds committed by the Legion, VFW and donations. Kudos to Chris Lussier for the awesome design of the bridge. Thanks to Bruce for keeping the teams supplied with cold beverages during the construction.



- Holiday Card Shed: Painting has been completed. Flooring has started. Trying to get the shed usable by August when holiday cards begin to arrive. Roof was completed. Remaining items: Door reinstallation, resetting the two windows, steps, and siding.
- Post Signage Painting: Pending marine paint purchase. \$100.00 allocated to purchase marine paint (Legion Blue and

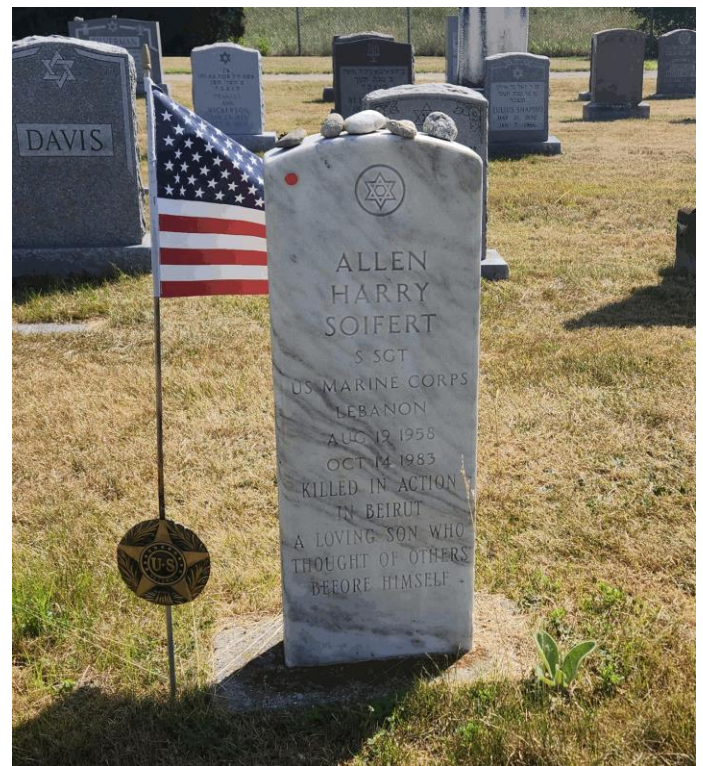
Gold) for painting the sign in front of the building.

- Missing names for monuments: Waiting for bill to submit for reimbursement.

### **New Business:**

- Harold Ryder requests assistance getting to meetings because his wife's eyes prevents her driving at night. Pat Moquin offered to pick him up. Just need to call and schedule pickup. Also, they may require a wheelchair access ramp.

**For the Good of The Post:** US Veteran flag holders, provided by the VFW were placed at 44 veterans' graves at the Temple Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua by members of the Hollis VFW Post 121373 and Brookline American Legion Post 74. Shown below is a picture of Brookline Veteran Allen Soiffert's grave with the US Veteran marker in place.



There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM. The next meeting is 22 August 2024.

## **News For & From Members**

### **Calendar of Events**

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

#### August

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

#### September

- 4 September: One-on-one Veterans Assistance Expo at Gillette Stadium from 9:00am to 8:00pm. This outreach event is open to all Veterans and family members in the New England area.
- 22 September: Dedication of the Commemorative Sculpture at Brookline Monument Square.
- 15 September: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 26 September: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

#### October

- 20 October: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 26 September: 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). There is also now a 3-year option. 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**

The VA will be hosting a one-on-one Veterans Assistance Expo at Gillette Stadium on September 4, 2024 from 9:00am to 8:00pm. This outreach event is open to all Veterans and family members in the New England area. Brochure shown on next page.

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 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 M. Spangler*

**Elections are right around the corner on 5 November! Make your vote count. Know the issues and candidates that support your vision. DON'T FORGET TO VOTE.**

# ATTENTION: DID YOU SERVE IN THE MILITARY?

## NEW ENGLAND VA 1-ON-1 VETERANS ASSISTANCE EXPO



September 4, 2024

9:00 AM – 8:00 PM

IN-PERSON EVENT



GET 1-ON-1 ASSISTANCE WITH:



Enrolling in VA health care



Eligibility requirements



VA education benefits



Submitting a VA disability claim



Your toxic exposure options



Career help



Check the status of your disability claim or appeal



VA burial options



Income-based benefits for war-time Veterans and survivors



VA housing options

## GILLETTE STADIUM

(W3 Event Entrance, Suite Level Blue and Red)

ONE PATRIOT PLACE • FOXBOROUGH, MA 02035



Thank you for your service. We're here for you if you need us.  
Download the VA Welcome Kit: [VA.gov/welcome-kit/](https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/)  
Subscribe to #VetResources: [VA.gov/vetresources/](https://www.va.gov/vetresources/)  
Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255, Press 1  
The one number to reach VA: 1-800-MyVA411

VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

### Post Officers

**Commander:** Will Collard - wdcollard@hotmail.com

**1st Vice Commander:** Pat Moquin

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**Treasurer:** Robert Glover

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**Sergeant at Arms:** Jim Pope

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**2nd Vice Commander:** Chris Lussier

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**Chaplain:** Bruce Moran

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