



Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

For God and Country

• 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH 03033-0761 •

January 2025 Newsletter

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

You can attend via Zoom: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/6205759325?pwd=a1g1aVdna0djMjRFYThlQUlVb1grdz09>
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.
Visit our Facebook Page at: Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post #74 Brookline, NH

Next Meeting:

23 January at 7:00 PM

December Meeting Minutes

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Post Commander Will Collard. 12 members were present, in person or by Zoom, and 2 guests.

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

Minutes: Bruce Moran moved to dispense with the verbal reading of the Minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all the members. Greg d'Arbonne seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: Arlene d'Arbonne presented the Treasurer's Report. The General Fund expenses reported: \$24.43 to Eversource. Deposits reported: \$35 dues (Jim Pope), \$35 dues (Jim Harrison), \$35 dues (Wayne LeFebvre), and \$101.50 from the Department of New Hampshire. The Monument Fund expenses include: None. Deposits included: None. Bruce Moran moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, pending audit, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne, and unanimously approved.

Membership: Several members have 2025 membership fees due. Please pay as soon as possible. Please note, if the three-year option is

selected, the member will receive their membership card for one year but the membership system shows the three-year enrollment.

Sick Call and Employment:

- Greg and Arlene d'Arbonne thanked everyone that attended the funeral for Arlene's mother and for all the support.
- Kerry Spangler will call Bob Glover to see how he is doing. (Update: He had the HALO removed and is now in a cast that is due to come off at the end of January. He is doing okay but cannot attend meetings, yet.)
- Pat Moquin is at the ER and cannot attend tonight's meeting. (Update: Pat is in the hospital dealing with multiple issues including a cough and a possible cough induced hernia.)
- Bruce Moran knee brace is off. His wife, Ann Marie, was treated for pneumonia at the ER and is doing very well.
- Steve Kolesnik, WWII Veteran at Premier Rehabilitation passed away on Dec 1. Steve's funeral was held on December 10, at the Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, NH with over 200 veterans and others in attendance.

Correspondence: Power outage notification from Eversource. American Legion Department of NH Check from dues.

Old Business:

- Monument: The final steps on the monument are to pick up, engrave and place the purchased bricks for the monument walkway. We currently have 79 bricks to be engraved. Greg d'Arbonne will pick up the 100 bricks and take them to Hudson Monuments for engraving early in 2025.
- Gutters on the Post Building: Greg d'Arbonne needs to find a contractor to get estimates.
- Arlene d'Arbonne needs to submit Sister Zore's information and application for membership.
- Bruce Moran Memorial Bridge: Remaining work includes rails around the porch and steps down to the yard on the sides.
- Need a list of past deceased members to ensure they are included in the bricks for the walkway. Kerry Spangler has a partial list and is researching to complete the list. Will Collard suggested using AI to help complete the list.
- Flag Retirement – We have received a large number of flags for retirement. We will look at having a Flag Retirement in the spring.
- Work to get the Brookline American Legion Post 74 into the NH charitable organizations list for gaming. We have to show how we apply the funds in support of our American Legion mission. It would require us to hire an accountant, pay the associate fees, and register with the NH Attorney General. Treasurer and our 1st Vice Commander will work with the VFW Quartermaster on the process to get on the list.

New Business:

- 1 Feb – American Legion Training, Hyatt in Boston. Cost is \$70 per person if purchased before 17 Jan; \$80 after. Jeff Smith made the motion to authorize funding for up to 4 Post Officers to attend at a maximum cost of \$320.00. Motion was seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.
- Brookline Fire Department is soliciting donations for purchase of firefighting supplies and equipment for the department. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Post

donates \$100 to support this volunteer fire department. Motion was seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

For the Good of The Post:

- Wreaths Across Hollis, 8 December - Several members participated in the ceremony. It was a wonderful turnout to honor our veterans buried in the cemetery. Many thanks to Al Fulcino with his support for this event.
- In 2025, Brookline is going to host a Wreaths Across Brookline event similar to the Hollis Ceremony. Al Fulcino has agreed to support this event as well.
- 8 Dec, 1500, several members provided Jewish Honors for Allen Soiffert who was killed in Lebanon in 1983 as well as all the other veterans buried at the Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua NH. The names of all the veterans buried there were read by Chris Lussier while others placed stones on the markers, said the name of the veteran and read a prayer to each of the 44 veterans interred there. Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett send the participating members an email of gratitude for the support of the Jewish community and for honoring the veterans.
- Two 8th-grade English classes from Hollis Brookline Middle School visited Chris Lussier at his home on two different days, and recited the Gettysburg Address to him because he was the only veteran they knew and that he lives next to the school. HBMS is doing wonderful things with the students educating them on historical events, veteran appreciation, and understanding our Constitutional Republic. We can't wait to visit the HBMS 8th grade classes in the spring prior to their upcoming trip to Washington DC where they will stand on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and recite the Gettysburg Address.
- 2025 marks the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the American Revolution and ceremonies will continue at several battlefields of the war through 2033.

- June 14, 2025 marks the 250th Birthday of the US Army. A large ceremony is being planned at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, MA. More information will be provided leading up to the event.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM. The next meeting is 23 January 2025.

News For & From Members

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

January 2025

- 19 January - Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 23 January – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

February 2025

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

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Please Make Sure You Renew Your Membership 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

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

Reach out to your Veteran friends and let them know what we are all about at American Legion Brookline Post 74.

Post Officers

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