



Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

For God and Country

• 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH 03033•

July 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: **24 July at 7:00 PM** **June Meeting Minutes**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Post Commander Will Collard. 9 members were present, in person or by Zoom, and no 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. Dean McCollaum seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: Arlene d'Arbonne presented the Treasurer's Report. The General Fund Expenses reported: \$22.66 to Eversource and \$175.00 to the State of New Hampshire for Non-Profit renewal; totaling \$197.66. Deposits reported: \$191.25 for VFW half of electrical repair; \$805.00 from Poppy Drive totaling \$991.25 The Monument Fund Expenses include: \$2365.00 for brick engraving and \$395.00 for final payment to Earth Echo, LLC for monument walkway installation. Deposits included: None. Bruce Moran moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, pending audit, seconded by Jim Pope, and unanimously approved.

Membership: All the membership pending updates were completed in the Legion website. Francis LeFreniere was reported as deceased. Four members have 2025 membership fees due. Kerry Spangler will notify each member of the dues required. Please pay dues as soon as possible. Current membership is 60 members (56 Active/4 Expired/0 Pending). 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:

Bobbie Canada's wife, Marilyn, is being moved to Hospice. (Editor's Note: Marilyn sadly passed away on 27 June 2025).

Bruce Moran's wife, Anne-Marie, is doing much better. She is walking and doing much better.

Bruce Moran is having a squama cell carcinoma removed 15 July.

Old Business:

- **Monument:** Greg d'Arbonne and Bill Graham picked up the bricks. Earth's Echo, LLC installed them June. Remaining obligations – identify American Legion past deceased members to add to the walkway. We have about 200 bricks in the basement. (Open)
- **Gutters on the Post Building:** Greg d'Arbonne contacted Earth's Echo, LLC for an estimate for installing two dry wells at the back of the property to drain the water away from the

building versus installation of gutters. The estimate totaled \$8150.00 for building a comprehensive drainage solution, adding a retaining wall, site grading, and equipment rental. Dean McCollaum suggested we investigate using sandbags to stop the water from getting into the building basement through the door at the rear. Greg d'Arbonne made the motion to purchase sandbags not to exceed \$150.00, fill them with sand, and install them in September to see if it is a viable solution before making a major investment in a drainage solution, seconded by Bruce Moran and John Weidman and unanimously approved. Sandbags cost estimate is 25 for \$12.59. Sandbags are ordered. May want to consider a way to deflect water from the outhouse roof away from the building. (Open)

- Bruce Moran Memorial Bridge: Remaining work includes rails around the porch and steps down to the yard on the sides. Planned completion for 3 May 2025 was delayed due to rainy weather to 7 Jun. (Editor's Note: Delayed again due to inclement weather, Date to be determined.) (Open)
- Flag Retirement –Flag Retirement completed 21 Jun 2025 at 10:00 am. Pit needs to be cleaned and flag remains buried. (Editors Note: The Pit has been emptied. There is a bucket of remains to be buried at the cemetery. New tarp and tie downs installed) (Open)
- Charitable Gaming – The paperwork was submitted and rejected due to the Post being dropped off of the NH Secretary of State's organization list. Secretary of State sent out the forms to get us back on their roster. Waiting for approval. (Open)
- Greg d'Arbonne is framing four print copies of the paintings by Jim Laurier who has many military-based paintings. Plans on working them after the US Army 250th Birthday event. (Open)

Correspondence:

- Kerry Spangler has sent several emails to Department American Legion Adjutant with regard to the address being incorrect on the "Find a Post" search on their web page. Our Post indicates that we are located in

Manchester NH. A search for Brookline presents Milford and Nashua. Kerry Spangler submitted a Post Data Report to make the change on 19 June. (Editor's Note: Kerry Spangler sent an additional inquiry for making the change on 8 Jun. Address is still incorrect as of 10 July.)

- Fred Courchaine has been transferred to the Post per his request.
- Joseph Grable membership application has been processed.
- Brick application for Mark Andrews for the Monument.
- BTLA FORM A - 9 and A-12 forms have been submitted to the Brookline Town Tax Assessor for our tax exemption status.
- State Charitable Gaming application for the Post has been submitted.

New Business:

- Scouts Spaghetti Dinner completed on 31 May. Kerry Spangler made a motion that we reimburse our share of the proceeds back to the Scouts, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne because we are in fairly good financial shape this year. Motion was unanimously approved. Greg will give the check back to them after they give it to him. (Open)
- Greg d'Arbonne will print out the American Legion Eagle Scout certificates for the two Troop 12 Scouts. (OPEN)
- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to purchase a replacement tarp and tie downs for the Flag burn pit up to \$100.00 seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. (OPEN)
- POW/MIA flag is tattered. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to purchase a replacement flag for up to \$100.00, seconded by Bruce Moran through the American Legion supply store. Greg will place the order. (OPEN)

For the Good of The Post:

- American Legion has an online National Registry for all monuments. None of our monuments are listed. Arlene d'Arbonne will get the monuments added. (OPEN)
- Chris Lussier coordinated with the Laconia American Legion Post Adjutant to use his Jeep in the funeral procession for PFC George Curly's Funeral Service. He was

taken prisoner in 1950 at the age of 18 and died as a POW after nearly two years. His remains were buried in the Punch Bowl Grave Site (about 600 personnel). In March 2025, his remains were identified and will be returned the 26 of June, with a wake on 27 June and funeral service and burial on 28 June. PFC Curly's parents passed away never knowing what happened to him. Kerry

Spangler will accompany Chris on the trip. The Jeep will be adorned with two 48-star flags a placard bearing PFC's Curly's Picture, name and Welcome Home and will lead the funeral procession to the cemetery.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM. The next meeting is 24 July 2025.

News For & From Members

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

Jul 2025

- 4th of July Parade – Form up at 0930, step off at 1000.
- 11 July: Lunch with Operation Delta Dog and Representative Maggie Goodlander.
- 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.

Aug 2025

- 10 August – Operation Delta Dog Fundraiser at Able Ebenezer in Merimack NH.
- 17 August: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 28 August: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

Sep 2025

- 19-20 September – Hollis Old Home Days including 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.

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 (My Legion.org), 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

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 any Brookline American Legion project pictures and articles to Jim Belanger for inclusion in the Brookline American Legion website.

Post Officers

Commander: Will Collard - wdcollard@hotmail.com

1st Vice Commander: Pat Moquin

603-465-9593; moquininc@aol.com

Treasurer: Arlene d'Arbonne

603-533-8590; attilathemom@aol.com

Sergeant at Arms: Jim Pope

603-673-1660; jimpope031@gmail.com

2nd Vice Commander: Chris Lussier

603-591-3505; clussier@tds.net

Chaplain: Bruce Moran

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

Adjutant: Kerry M. Spangler

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