



# Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

*For God and Country*

• 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH 03033-0761 •  
June 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=a1g1aVdna0djMjRFYThQUiVb1grdz09>

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:**

### **27 June at 7:00 PM**

#### **May Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Post Vice Commander Pat Moquin. 13 members were present and no guests.

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

Installation of the newly elected officers:

- Commander: Will Collard
- 1st Vice Commander: Pat Moquin
- 2nd Vice Commander: Chris Lussier
- Treasurer/Finance Officer: Robert Glover
- Chaplain: Bruce Moran
- Adjutant: Kerry Spangler
- Historian: Arlene d'Arbonne
- Sergeant at Arms: Jim Pope

**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 Arline d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

**Treasurers Report:** The Treasurer's Report was read. The Post received \$200 for bricks for the monument. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion

that the Treasurers Report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Chris Lussier, and unanimously approved.

**Membership:** Russ Norris still needs to pay his dues for the year. There is a new veteran in the community named Bob Smith who is on a tight budget but would like to join the Post. Chris Lussier will forward the information to Greg d'Arbonne.

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

- Bruce Moran stated his wife was released prematurely from the physical rehabilitation center on 23 May. He had a difficult time getting her into the house because of the steps. Bruce says she is in a lot of pain and her left calf is swollen, lacerations still bleeding. What made the situation worse was the delay in informing them she was being discharged without sufficient notification to allow better preparations prior to release. She has two appointments coming up on 29 May and 31 May. Pat Moquin, Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler offered assistance and accepted the offers to get her into and out of the car, as needed. Will Collard offered the use of an electric scooter. Chris Lussier discussed the bridge needed to help facilitate her access to the house. Chris received a personal donation of \$500 to help with the construction and the Hollis VFW is donating up to \$500 as well,

Chris asked the Post to offer the same. Chris made the motion for the post to offer the \$500 donation, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne, and unanimously approved. Chris is designing the bridge in his CAD program and once we know the materials needed, we can begin the construction. Bob Glover said that he has an existing ramp that may help. Greg d'Arbonne suggested we look at it. He asks for everyone's prayers for Ann Marie and his family during this crisis.

- Will Collard is going to Florida to move his Mother into an assisted living facility.

**Correspondence:** Notification from Department of New Hampshire per capita membership dues increasing. Further discussion in New Business.

### **Old Business:**

- Memorial Day:
  - The Brookline Memorial Day Ceremony will be held Monday, 27 May at 9:30 AM in front of the Brookline Town Hall.
    - 8:00 - Coffee with a Vet.
    - 9:00 – Meet at Town Hall in uniform– Greg bringing newly built Lectern and Karaoke machine.
    - 9:30 Start
  - Greg d'Arbonne ordered the wreaths for the ceremony and will pick up on Friday. Rev. Merrill to give the Invocation and Benediction, and contact the Brookline Town Band for their support to the ceremony.
  - Chris Lussier will bring the rifles from the Hollis VFW Post.
  - The Post will replace the American flags on the graves at the three cemeteries in Brookline before Memorial Day. Bob Glover and Bill Graham will go to the Lake Cemetery and the one along Rt 13. On Saturday, 25 May, the American flags on the graves at the South Cemetery will be replaced starting at 9 AM. Greg d'Arbonne will bring a battery-operated drill and 5/16" drill bit to extract any flags that get stuck in their holders. Greg will also ask the Boy and Girl Scouts if they want to help.

- Poppy Distribution Schedule: The Post will distribute Poppies at the Brookline Transfer Station from 8 AM to 4 PM. Greg d'Arbonne contacted the DPW to move the Goodwill boxes for safety during the poppy sales. The schedule for volunteering is:
  - 8 to 10 AM: Pat Moquin and Bob Glover
  - 10 to 12 Noon: Arlene and Greg d'Arbonne
  - 12 Noon to 2 PM: Kerry Spangler
  - 2 to 4 PM: Jim Pope, Pat Moquin
- Bill Graham made a motion that we set up a QR Code so we can accept donations at the Transfer Station; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved. Bob Glover will coordinate with Arlene d'Arbonne to work with the bank and a Venmo account. Chris Lussier will work on a QR Code.
- Refrigerator: The refrigerator is in place and working (ice)! Need to keep things in it to help keep it more efficiently.
- Survey: Pat Moquin designed a survey to go out to members asking what they think can be done to help improve the Post and what our Legion Post does for members and the community. The survey needs to be reviewed and then sent to all the members. He sent the survey to test the responses to Greg d'Arbonne, Will Collard, Chris Lussier, and Kerry Spangler. After their review, a link will be published in the newsletter.
- Monument:
  - Gerry Farwell placed the foundation forms for the monument.
  - We need to decide a date for the dedication of the Monument separate event from Memorial Day or the 4th of July.
  - 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.
  - John Weidman has completed the monument and members can go look at it if they wish.

- Chris Lussier showed the members the idea for the streamers as previously discussed. Still working a viable solution for attaching the streamers.
- Gutters on the Post Building: Greg d'Arbonne needs to find a contractor to get estimates.
- Greg d'Arbonne coordinated with Sister Zore's family on the Post paying for Christine Zore's membership. Rich Zore will get the information.

### **New Business:**

- American Legion Dues: 1 July National dues will increase - \$23.50, Department - \$8:00, District - \$0:00. Our current dues are \$35.00 which leaves the Post receiving \$3.50 for each membership versus the \$5.00 currently. Do we want to raise our dues? We currently have 71 members. Chris Lussier

made the motion to discuss possible increase, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne. On line, there is a three-year option for membership with a cost savings of about \$2.00. Paid up for life is still available. If we choose not to increase our dues, we cannot increase until next year. Chris Lussier made the motion to not increase and reevaluate next year, seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously accepted.

- The Post Flag Retirement Ceremony will be on 15 June at 10 AM. We will have a "Coffee with a Vet" at 8 AM that day, prior to the ceremony. Boy Scout will be attending.

**For the Good of The Post:** A short ramp was donated for availability for anyone that may need it..

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM. The next meeting is 27 June 2024.

## **News For & From Members**

### **Memorial Day Activities – 24 through 27 May**

Memorial Day is 27 May. Highlights of our activities are listed here. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Please watch social media for other events at the schools and the community.

- Friday, 24 May:
  - 9:30 AM, Captain Samuel Douglass Academy, Brookline: Memorial Day Ceremony
  - Hollis Upper Elementary School:
    - 1:00 to 1:45: Lunch with students
    - 1:45 PM: Memorial Day Ceremony
- Saturday, 25 May, 8 AM to 4 PM = Poppy Distribution at the Hollis Transfer Station: We will pass out Poppies at the Transfer Station. An hour of your time is requested. Current Poppy Distribution Schedule is as follows:
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8 to 10 AM = Bob Glover and Pat Moquin</li> <li>○ 10 AM to 12 PM = Pat Moquin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 12 to 2 PM = Arlene and Greg d'Arbonne</li> <li>○ 2 to 4 PM = Jim Pope and Bobby Canada</li> </ul>
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- Sunday, 26 May, 1 PM, Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua: The Post members will cleanup and take care of the graves at the cemetery where Alan Soifert, a Hollis citizen and Marine killed in Lebanon in 1983, is buried.

- Monday, 27 May, Memorial Day: Preferred dress for the ceremonies in Brookline and Hollis is a blue blazer, blue or grey slacks, white shirt, cap, tie optional.
  - 9:30 AM, Brookline Town Hall = Brookline will hold their Memorial Day ceremony in front of the Brookline Town Hall. The public, especially Veterans, are invited to attend.
  - 5:00 PM, Hollis Town Common = Hollis will hold their Memorial Day ceremony at the Hollis Town Common with pre-ceremony activities beginning at 5 PM, followed by the actual ceremony starting shortly before 5:30 PM. Those who plan to attend should meet at the Common by 5 PM. All Veterans are invited to attend.

### **Calendar of Events**

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

#### May

- 26 May: Cleanup Veteran graves at the Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua, 1 PM
- 27 May, 8:30 AM Coffee with a Vet, then 9:30 AM, Memorial Day Ceremony. All in front of the Brookline Town Hall
- 27 May, 5:15 PM, wreath laying at Memorial Park, then march to Hollis Common for the Memorial Day Ceremony on the Hollis Town Common

#### June

- 15 June: Brookline American Legion Flag Retirement Ceremony, 10 AM, Legion Hall.
- 23 June: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall. (changed due to Father's Day)
- 27 June: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting.

#### July

- 4 July: 4th of July Parade in Brookline, assemble at 9:30 AM at Legion Hall.
- 21 July: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 25 July: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting.

### **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

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*

I have notice in the Brookline Post 74 roster that many of us have gmail and aol accounts for email. I suppose we have been around for a while!!

### Post Officers

**Commander:** Will Collard - [wcollard@hotmail.com](mailto:wcollard@hotmail.com)

**1st Vice Commander:** Pat Moquin  
603-465-9593; [moquininc@aol.com](mailto:moquininc@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Robert Glover  
603-465-7705; [sirclark80@gmail.com](mailto:sirclark80@gmail.com)

**Sergeant at Arms:** Jim Pope  
603-673-1660; [jimpope031@gmail.com](mailto:jimpope031@gmail.com)

**2nd Vice Commander:** Chris Lussier  
603-591-3505; [clussier@tds.net](mailto:clussier@tds.net)

**Chaplain:** Bruce Moran  
H: 603-465-7611; C: 603-465-1040, [bruce.moran@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.moran@hotmail.com)

**Adjutant:** Kerry M. Spangler  
(603) 888-8657; C: 603-233-0666; [KSpang8393@aol.com](mailto:KSpang8393@aol.com)

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