



# Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

*For God and Country*

• 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH 03033•

## May 2026 Newsletter

---

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=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:**

**28 May at 7:00 PM**

### **23 April Meeting Minutes**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Commander Will Collard. 12 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 sent to all the members and that we will be covering all items from the minutes during the meeting. Greg d'Arbonne seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Arlene d'Arbonne presented the Treasurer's Report. The General Fund Deposits reported: \$5,350.00 from VFW toward the AP Class Wash DC trip; totaling \$5,350.00. Expenses reported: \$34.06 to Eversource; \$31.50 to Department of NH for dues; \$6,350.00 for AP Class Wash DC trip; totaling \$6,413.06. The Monument Fund Expenses included: 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:** 2 members have 2025 membership fees due, and 3 members have

2026 membership fees due. Current membership is 55 members (52 Activ1e/8 PUFL/44 with 2026 dues or later, 3 due for 2026, 3 Expired/0 Pending). Reminder that the increase in membership fees to \$40.00 occurs 1 July 2026. Please note: Only members can renew for 3 years online. If renewing by mail, only submit the renewal for 1 year. If the three-year option is selected, the members will receive their membership card for one year, but the membership system shows the three-year enrollment. Notices should be arriving for 2027 membership renewal.

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

- John Weidman is continuing cancer treatment and cannot attend the meeting.
- Harold Ryder has dementia. Keep Harold in your prayers.
- Bobbie Canada passed away on 10 February. His burial is 2 May, 11:00 am and celebration of life is 2 May at 1:00 pm.
- Bob Glover – Will continue to try to contact him to see how he is doing.

### **Old Business:**

- Monument: Remaining obligations – identify American Legion past deceased members to add to the walkway. Kerry Spangler is working on the list and has about 167 area veteran names. So far, only 12 have been confirmed to have been Brookline American Legion Members. We need to check to see who of the 12 already have bricks at the monument. (OPEN)

- Gutters and Sandbags for the Post Building: May want to consider a way to deflect water from the outhouse roof away from the building.
  - Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to spend up to \$150.00 to purchase materials to install gutters on the outhouse section of the building, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. Gutters will need to be purchased and installed. (OPEN)
  - The Scouts Troop 260 filled 20 sandbags with sand for placement around the rear basement door. Sandbags are in place and we will assess from there. The sandbags seem to be effective so far this winter. (OPEN)
- Charitable Gaming – The paperwork was submitted and accepted adding the Post to the NH Secretary of State's charitable organization list. We will now wait to see if we can get into one of the casinos schedules. (OPEN)
- Insurance – Policy was implemented and payment made. The policy documentation arrived. (CLOSED)
- Bill Graham mentioned that we may want to improve the storage conditions in the basement. We need to look at getting shelves or storage lockers for storing items. After assessing the storage requirements with the Scouts, it was determined that the Scouts will use the existing tables with the legs shortened to place their equipment in the boiler room and the sump pump room. The VFW and American Legion equipment will require two storage shelves units to hold the stored items and retiring flags. The cleanup will occur on the day of the Flag Retirement Ceremony, 13 June, since all the participants will already be there. (OPEN).
- Oratorical Contest – We need to investigate participating with the schools for this contest. Since the District and Department only needs names for participants early and the competition at District is in January; Department is in March, we may be able to get them involved. Monetary awards are available at each level. Department is working with the Governor to make this part of the Civics curriculum in the schools. Greg d'Arbonne has the email information for the new HBHS principal. We will work toward implementing next school year. Contest starts in September with submitting names of those wishing to participate, but actual writeups are due in December. (OPEN)
- Since National dues are increasing by \$5.00 to \$36.50, we need to increase our annual dues to at least cover the National cost. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to increase the annual dues to \$40.00 effective 1 July 2026. The motion was seconded by Bruce Moran and was unanimously approved. Folks who have used the 3-year option will not be required to pay the difference. Kerry Spangler will notify the Department via Post Data Report for the increase. Post data report sent 20 Dec 2025. Because there was no reply, the report was resent to District for input 22 January. It was again submitted 1 May. (OPEN)
- Kerry Spangler made a motion to pay the annual membership dues for 3 years for Sister Zore at a cost of \$105.00 instead of paying them yearly. Greg d'Arbonne seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. One year updated, will need to add the remaining two years. (OPEN)
- Memorial Day –
  - Tony Mayfield worked scheduling the poppy sales at the liquor store plaza. We have Sunday, 24 May prior to Memorial Day to use for Poppy Sales.
  - Cemetery Flags will be replaced Saturday Morning @ 9:00
  - Poppy Sales – Brookline Transfer Station schedule, 23 May
    - 8:00-10:00 – Bob Glover/Pat Moquin,
    - 10:00-12:00 – Arlene d'Arbonne/Greg d'Arbonne
    - 12:00 - 2:00 – Kerry Spangler/Pat Moquin, Tom Fencil
    - 2:00 - 4:00 – Pat Moquin, Kerry Spangler, Jim Pope, Tony Mayfield
  - Poppy Sales – Brookline Liquor Store schedule, 24 May
    - 8:00 - 12:00 – Tony Mayfield/Pat Moquin
    - 12:00 - 2:00 – Chris Lussier/Will Collard

- For both the Brookline and Hollis Memorial Day Ceremonies, Kerry Spangler will be the guest speaker, Master of Ceremony Hollis is Chris Lussier, and Master of Ceremony Brookline is Greg d'Arbonne. The agenda will be like last year. Greg d'Arbonne submitted a letter to the Hollis Select Board to approve the event. The Select Board sent out forms to fill out which were submitted by Greg d'Arbonne. Chairs will need to be provided. The Hollis Community Church will provide 100 chairs for the Hollis Ceremony. Request for the Scouts to assist to be in place at 3:30 at the Hollis Town Common and to provide the color guard. Ask people to bring lawn chairs. PA to be provided by Chris Lussier. Lawrence Barn is reserved in case of inclement weather. The weather determination will be made at 3:30. Father Glasgow will provide the Chaplain services. For Brookline, Greg d'Arbonne asked if we can use town building portico for the building for the ceremony. Greg d'Arbonne will order the wreaths this week for both ceremonies. Brookline Ceremony starts at 9:30 am, Hollis at 5:00 pm. Uniform is Blue Jacket, Grey pants, white shirt, tie and cap. Andy Seremeth will pick up the five rifles for the Brookline Ceremony, if needed. A Battle Cross with rifle will be set up as well. (OPEN)
- If we set up a Venmo account, it needs to be done with a charitable profile versus business profile done through PayPal and linked to the Venmo account. PayPal needs the Federal ID to proceed. Arlene d'Arbonne will provide the number to Will Collard. (OPEN)
- Hollis-Brookline High School AP Civics completed their trip to Washington DC for the We the People Constitution competition. They have requested to attend our next meetings for both the VFW and American Legion to tell us what they did and express their appreciation for our donations. They will attend the 17 May VFW meeting and the 28 May American Legion meeting. (CLOSED).
- Post reports and forms (CLOSED).
  - Consolidated Post Report Form - It is for a 12 Month period. Submit to National and Dept by mid-April. Submitted 18 April
- Post Officers Report - a. Verifies Officers are members. Signed by District Commander at Installation.
- Annual Post Data Report - Documents the Posts Address, Contact info and dues. Submit NLT 15 April to Department.
- Post/Squadron Commander & Adjutant Form - Documents Post & Squadron Commander and Adjutant info. Submit after installation.
- Department Convention Delegate and Alternate Form - Submit after Post determines delegates.
- Boy/Girl Scout Report (If applicable) - Submit by 15 April to Department, presented 26 Mar, sent to Department 18 April.
- Cub Scout Report(If applicable) - Submit by 15 April to Department
- Memorial Service Form (Deceased Members) - Submit prior to Dept. Convention Sent 18 April 2026
- Direct Renewal Notice. Informs National to mail renewal notices to members. Submit to Department in March. Triggered by Annual Post Data Report.
- NH BTLA Form A9. Documents properties exempt from tax (If applicable) - Submit to Town Clerk NLT 15 April. ((Submitted 9 Feb 2026)
- NH BTLA Form A12. Submit form with a copy of IRS form 990 (If applicable) Submit to Town Clerk NLY 1 June. (Submitted 9 Feb 2026)
- Federal Tax Form 990 was filed on line 7 Feb 2026.
- Nominations for officers: All current officers agreed to accept nominations for another year.
- Delegates to the convention occurring in Nashua, 28-30 May.
  - Will Collard and Kerry Spangler were nominated and elected as delegates.
  - Kerry Spangler will deliver the form and \$20.00 payment to the Department.
- America's 250th Birthday events are being planned in both Hollis and Brookline. The parades begin at the same time.
- The Scouts' Spaghetti and Meatball Supper is Saturday, May 16 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM at the

Brookline Community Church. Tickets \$10 per person, \$5 for Seniors, free for children under 2. Kerry Spangler will send a link to the membership for anyone wishing to sign up to volunteer or provide sponsorships. (CLOSED)

- Arlene d'Arbonne researched and found that only National can input multiple year memberships into the system. We are recommending that members wanting to use the 3-year option do the action themselves since we have no means to make the inputs. Those who have sent funds for the 3-year option should contact Arlene for further information. (OPEN)

**Correspondence:**

- Electric bill from Eversource.

**New Business:**

- Delegates to the convention occurring in Nashua, 28-30 May. (OPEN)
  - Will Collard and Kerry Spangler were nominated and elected as delegates.
  - Kerry Spangler will deliver the form and \$20.00 payment to the Department.
- The Post building basement was broken in through the rear door and discovered on 12 April. Greg d'Arbonne repaired the door and the following day, 13 April, it was broken in through the rear door again. The second time, the Scout candles were burned and melted all over the floor and the intruder also defecated and urinated on the floor. Brookline Police Department was contacted both times. The door was once again repaired, and the mess was cleaned by Arlene d'Arbonne. (CLOSED)
  - The Post needs to look at getting an intrusion detection system with local alarm for deterring breaking. Will Collard said he will donate a Ring Camera System but that we will need to investigate internet access to

support it. Will Collard will investigate. (OPEN)

- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to conduct the Flag Retirement Ceremony on 13 Jun at 10:00, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. (OPEN)
- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion to spend up to \$300 for storage shelves seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. Kerry Spangler will purchase the shelves. (OPEN)
- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion for the Adjutant to make one ballot for all the officers and cast one vote to elect the nominees, seconded by Pat Moquin and unanimously approved. Kerry Spangler voted for the following:
  - Commander - Will Collard
  - Sr Vice Commander - Pat Moquin
  - Jr Vice Commander - Chris Lussier
  - Treasurer - Arlene d'Arbonne
  - Adjutant - Kerry Spangler
  - Chaplin - Bruce Moran
  - Sgt at Arms - Jim Pope
  - Judge Advocate – Pat Moquin
  - Service Officer - Bruce Moran

**For the Good of The Post:**

- Greg d'Arbonne announced that the new Secretary of the Navy, Hung Cao, is an EOD Master Blaster sporting a gold EOD Master Blaster officer's badge.
- Post needs to look at developing a Post Everlasting book which many posts have, that possibly an Eagle Scout candidate could begin to assemble for our Post.
- Conduct and document Buddy Checks to ensure our membership is doing okay.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting is 23 April 2026.

# **News For & From Members**

## **Calendar of Events**

Added/Changed events are **highlighted in yellow.**

May 2026

- 10 May – Mother's Day
- 13 May – Operation Delta Dog Graduation
- 16 May – Troop 260 Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner
- 16 May – US Armed Forces Day
- 17 May – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 21 May – Hollis Upper Elementary School Memorial Day Assembly – 1:45 to 2:30. Lunch at 1:00PM
- 22 May – CDSA Veteran Ceremonies – 830 am
- 22 May – HBHS and HB Middle School Ceremonies – Times to be announced
- 23 May – VFW Poppy Drive at the Hollis Transfer Station 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- 23 May – American Legion Poppy Drive at the Brookline Transfer Station. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- 24 May – Poppy Drive at the Brookline liquor store.
- 25 May – Memorial Day Events in Hollis 5:00 pm and Brookline at 9:30 am.
- 28 May – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 28-31 May – American Legion Department Convention

Jun 2026

- 5-7 June – Department of New Hampshire VFW Convention
- 6 June – D-Day
- 13 June – Flag Retirement and American Legion Hall Cleanup Day. 1000 am until done.
- 14 June – Flag Day
- 25 June – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 28 June – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall

Jul 2026 –

- 4 July – Parades at Hollis and Brookline – 1000
- 19 July – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 23 July – 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.**

**Get any Brookline American Legion project pictures and articles to Jim Belanger for inclusion in the Brookline American Legion website and to Kerry Spangler for inclusion in the Monthly Newsletter.**

**Buddy Checks for our members need to be done more frequently.**

**Kerry Spangler  
Adjutant**

### **Post Officers**

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

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

**Treasurer:** Arlene d'Arbonne  
603-533-8590; [attilathemom@aol.com](mailto:attilathemom@aol.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  
603-465-1040, [bruce.moran@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.moran@hotmail.com)

**Adjutant:** Kerry M. Spangler  
603-233-0266; [KSpang8393@aol.com](mailto:KSpang8393@aol.com)

*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.*

**Attention, Brookline Residents!!**

Boy Scout Troop 260

Cordially invites you to our annual

**SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL SUPPER**

All proceeds to benefit Troop 260 and the  
Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post #74

**Saturday – May 16, 2026**

**5:00 – 7:30 PM**

At the Brookline Community Church, 2 Main St.

Tickets \$10 per person, \$5 seniors, and free for children under 2

To purchase tickets: Call 603-533-3090 or

email: [brooklinetroop260@gmail.com](mailto:brooklinetroop260@gmail.com)





# HELP FILL THE NEED

*Donate blood!*  American Red Cross

## Manchester VA Medical Center Blood Drive (Veterans and Employees)

Thursday and Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Manchester VA Medical Center – Solarium  
718 Smyth Road, Manchester, NH 03104

Be a HERO and make your appointment today at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) by searching sponsor code "**VAMANCHESTER**" or by scanning the **QR code**



For an appointment, please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2020 The American Red Cross. All rights reserved.



**Join us!**

# 16th Annual VA2K Walk & Roll

- Promotes healthy activity for Veterans and employees
- Supports homeless Veterans
- Takes place rain or shine



- Voluntary donations of nonperishable food items and new clothing accepted
- For more information contact, [Laura.Shannon@va.gov](mailto:Laura.Shannon@va.gov) or call 603-624-4366 Ext. 205047



**Wednesday, May 20, 2026**



**Manchester VA Medical Center  
Meet up in the Solarium, Basement Level**



**11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**



**Wear red, white, and blue to celebrate America's 250th birthday this year!**



**Join us to honor  
and remember  
our nation's fallen  
service members.**

**Date:**

**Monday, May 25**

**Time:**

**10:30 a.m. to Noon**

**Location:**

**Manchester VA Medical Center**

*(Outdoor event, rain or shine)*

**718 Smyth Road**

**Manchester, NH 03104**

**MEMORIAL**

**2026**

**DAY**

**VA**



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health Administration  
Manchester Healthcare System



For questions, contact VA Manchester's Center for Development  
and Civic Engagement at 603-624-4366 ext. 206422.