



Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

For God and Country

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

October 2023 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=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

Next Meeting:

26 October at 7:00 PM

September Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Post Commander Will Collard. 11 members present.

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 Arlene d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer's Report was read. The Post received \$415 from dues. Disbursements were \$600 for the two trees removed by Robinson Tree Service and \$18.66 for Eversource. Bob Glover asked that everyone renew their membership as soon as possible. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Treasurers Report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Bobby Canada and unanimously approved.

Sick Call and Employment:

- Andy Seremeth reported that one of his daughters has been diagnosed with stage 4

uterus cancer. He asks that we keep her and the family in your prayers.

- Greg d'Arbonne stated his father will be moving home temporarily and his dementia is getting worse.
- Commander Collard reported his father-in-law is still recovering and his wife is going to Florida to help him.

Membership: Everyone is reminded that you can renew your membership via cash, check, or online, whichever is easiest for you, but please do this as soon as you can if you have not already done so.

Correspondence: The Post Office box for the Post is cancelled and all mail can be received at the mailbox outside the Legion Hall. The address is 38 Main St, Brookline, NH 03033. Bob Glover will check the mailbox for mail and put it on the Commander's Desk. VFW mail will also go to this address as well on occasion.

Old Business:

- Monument:
 - The foundation has been delayed due to the constant wet weather.
 - Bricks for the pathway: A&B Masonry in Manchester offers bricks with a 20% discount. Based on the dimensions of the pathway and Monument, they estimated 650 bricks will be needed.
- Greg d'Arbonne will send to John Weidman the information needed for adding William

Quigley's name to the Korea/Vietnam Monument.

- Veterans Day: The schedule with the schools and the ceremony in Hollis are all set and will be published in the newsletter. Poppies will be distributed at the Brookline Transfer Station on 4 November. The schedule for distribution is:
 - 8 to 10 AM = Bob Glover and Pat Moquin
 - 10 to 12 PM = Greg and Arlene d'Arbonne
 - 12 to 2 PM = Jim Pope. We need at least one more volunteer for this time slot.
 - 2 to 4 PM = we need at least one, if not two, to volunteer for this time slot.

New Business:

- Water Drainage off the building and in the basement: After much discussion, it was agreed gutters would help tremendously with keeping water out of the basement. It was also agreed that sloping the grounds away from the building would also go a long way in fixing the drainage. Bob Barnes made a motion that the Post install gutters on the roof; seconded by Pat Moquin and unanimously approved. Greg d'Arbonne will contact some gutter companies and ask if

they have a Veteran discount we use to have the gutters installed.

For the Good of The Post:

- Bill Graham said he will get rid of the trash accumulated in the building.
- Pat Moquin, Bruce Moran, Jim Bélanger, and Bob Glover attended a Constitution Day Ceremony hosted by the DAR in Hollis. Despite the deluge of rain, attendance was good.
- Post members Kerry Spangler, Bruce Moran, Chris Lussier and Greg d'Arbonne, in their "role" as the "4 Vets", a singing group of four Veterans, were honored to sing at the Easterseals New Hampshire groundbreaking ceremony for the new campus to support members of the military and veterans in Franklin, NH. The facility will offer a variety of services, including affordable housing, a retreat center and other services specifically tailored to the military community in New Hampshire.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM. The next meeting is 26 October 2023.

News For & From Members

Veterans Day Activities

Next month we celebrate Veterans Day on 11 November, so we have several activities around the holiday. Some of the schools will have a Veterans Day program.

- 4 November: we will distribute Poppies at the Hollis Transfer Station. Please consider volunteering an hour of your time to help. Currently, here is the schedule for support:
 - 8 to 10 AM = Bob Glover and Pat Moquin
 - 10 to 12 PM = Greg and Arlene d'Arbonne
 - 12 to 2 PM = Jim Pope. **We need at least one more volunteer for this time slot.**
 - 2 to 4 PM = **we need at least one, if not two, to volunteer for this time slot.**
- 8 November: Veterans Day Assembly at the Hollis Lower Elementary School, 9 AM. They would like each Veteran who is attending to call them at (603) 324-5995 and provide your name so they can have a name tag for you and know how many Veterans will be attending.
- 9 November:
 - Veterans Day Assembly at the Middle School, 8 AM.

- Veterans Day Assembly at the High School, 9:30 AM.
- Veterans Day Assembly at the Hollis Upper Elementary School. At 1:10 PM lunch will be served. The ceremony will start at 1:45 PM and go to 2:15 PM.
- 11 November at 11 AM at the Community Church in Hollis (next to the Common). The ceremony is planned for outside in the gathering place at the church but if the weather is “nasty,” we will hold it inside the Church. “Uniform” for all is our usual VFW hat, blue blazer, tie, white shirt, and gray slacks. Feel free to wear your military awards and decorations on your jacket. Please dress according to the weather to keep yourself warm.

The “4 Vets” Perform at Groundbreaking for New Center in Franklin, NH

Post members Kerry Spangler, Bruce Moran, Chris Lussier and Greg d’Arbonne, in their “role” as the “4 Vets”, a singing group of four Veterans, were honored to sing at the Easterseals New Hampshire groundbreaking ceremony for the new campus to support members of the military and veterans in Franklin, NH. The facility will offer a variety of services, including affordable housing, a retreat center and other services specifically tailored to the military community in New Hampshire.

The “4 Vets” sang the military Service songs (although parodying the Space Force song because they do not know that one yet) and led the crowd of 300 in God Bless America. Post member Bob Smith was honored for his service in WW II and was thanked by several dignitaries in attendance to include Governor Chris Sununu. Also attending was Post member Ron Corsetti, the new Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for New Hampshire. Dr. Laura Landerman-Garber also attended, and as always, encouraged everyone to sign cards for the Troops (and we are all grateful for all her hard work in this mission). A great event and our Post was well represented.

Photos courtesy of Dr. Laura Landerman-Garber



(l to r) Bruce Moran, Dr. Laura Landerman-Garber, Bob Smith, Chris Lussier and Governor Sununu



(l to r) Greg d'Arbonne, Bruce Moran, Kerry Spangler, and Chris Lussier

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

October

- 26 October: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

November

- 8 November: Veteran Day Assembly at the Hollis Lower Elementary School, 9 AM.
- 9 November: Veteran Day Assembly at the Middle School, 8 AM.
- 9 November: Veteran Day Assembly at the High School, 9:30 AM.
- 9 November: Veteran Day Assembly at the Hollis Upper Elementary School, 1:10 PM.
- 11 November: Hollis VFW Veterans Day Ceremony, 11 AM, Hollis Community Church.
- 16 November: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting
- 19 November: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

December

- 17 December: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 21 December: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

January

- 21 January: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 25 January: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting.

February

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

Please Make Sure You Renew ASAP

If you pay annually for your membership, please renew ASAP so we can meet our numbers for the year now and not have to rush at the end of the year (which is June). You can renew at a meeting or renew online at <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew>. Thanks!

Pillars of Freedom Brick Donation Form

Please print clearly using capital letters only. (Text will be ALL capital letters when engraved.)

- A maximum of 15 characters per line, and a maximum of 3 lines of text per brick is allowed.
- Spaces, hyphens, and punctuation are considered characters.
- Text will be centered on the brick, top to bottom and left to right.

Donor Information

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State ZIP: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

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>.

VA Flu Shots Schedule

The following is the schedule for veterans to receive Flu Shots, from the VA Medical Center Manchester, if desired:

- Drive-through clinics: Wednesdays from 0800-1200 – 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25
- Walk-in clinics: Fridays from 0800-1200 10/13 and 10/27
- Weekend clinic: Saturday 10/21 1000-1400.



Special pricing on home
heating fuel for
American Legion members



SAVE
15¢ per gallon
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30¢ per gallon
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Irving Energy and

SAVE 25¢ per gallon
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*Promotion available to current promotional partner employees residing in areas serviced by Irving Energy in Maine, New Hampshire, or Vermont. Promotion limited to residential accounts and employee must agree to purchase their heating oil or propane from Irving Energy on an automatic delivery basis. Terms and conditions apply; see irvingoil.com/edp for details.

**Visit irvingoil.com/newoffer to learn more.



PACT ACT & GULF WAR, POST-9/11 ERA VETERANS



The **PACT Act**, signed into law August 10, 2022, **expands health care eligibility to several groups of Veterans** who may not have been eligible before.



Veterans who participated in a **toxic exposure risk activity** (as defined by law) while serving on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training.



Veterans assigned to a duty station in (including airspace above) certain locations during specific periods of time on or after:

August 2, 1990, in Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, or United Arab Emirates

September 11, 2001, in Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, or Yemen, or any other country determined relevant by VA



Veterans who deployed in support of:

Operation Enduring Freedom	Operation Iraqi Freedom
Operation Freedom's Sentinel	Operation New Dawn
Operation Inherent Resolve	Resolute Support Mission



SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD:

Veterans who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998, and who were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013, may enroll in VA health care **between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023.**



Toxic Exposure Screenings

As a general matter, there are several types of possible exposures or hazards Veterans may have experienced during their military service, including:

- Air Pollutants
- Radiation
- Occupational Hazards
- Chemicals
- Warfare Agents

ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022: VA will begin incorporating toxic exposure screenings. Every Veteran enrolled for VA health care will receive an initial toxic exposure screening and a follow-up screening at least every five years. Eligible Veterans who have not enrolled will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.



The PACT Act adds **20+ new presumptive conditions**. Learn more online at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT).

Participate in the **VA Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry** to help VA better understand potential health effects of exposures and proactively identify health concerns Veterans can discuss with their health care providers for follow-up care.

Family members or dependents of a deceased Veteran may qualify for various VA benefits due to the additional disabilities defined in the PACT Act if they meet eligibility requirements. More information for survivors is available online at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT).

4 EASY WAYS TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE



Apply online at
[VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)



Call the toll-free hotline
at 877-222-8387 Mon – Fri,
8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. ET



Mail a completed, signed
Application for Health Benefits
[VA Form 10-10EZ](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)



Bring a completed, signed
[VA Form 10-10EZ](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction) to the
nearest VA Medical Center
or clinic.

4 EASY WAYS TO GET STARTED WITH CLAIMS



Learn more at
[VA.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/](https://va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/)



Visit a VBA Regional Office
[VA.gov/benefits/offices.asp](https://va.gov/benefits/offices.asp)



Call the Benefits hotline
(for specific questions)
at 1-800-827-1000



Work with an accredited VSO
[VA.gov/oqc/apps/accreditation/index.asp](https://va.gov/oqc/apps/accreditation/index.asp)

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT)
Download the **VA Health and Benefits App**
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at [VA.gov/find-locations/](https://va.gov/find-locations/)

Get Your Toxic Exposure Screening



WHO:

All Veterans
enrolled in VA
health care



WHAT:

A brief screening
averaging 5-10 minutes
to identify and document
any potential exposures
to toxins during
military service



WHEN:

At least once every 5 years



WHERE:

At VA medical
centers/clinics,
including virtual
encounters



WHY:

To provide exposure-
informed care, support
long-term health plans, and
connect with
follow-up resources,
as requested

HOW:

Ask about the toxic
exposure screening
at your next VA
appointment

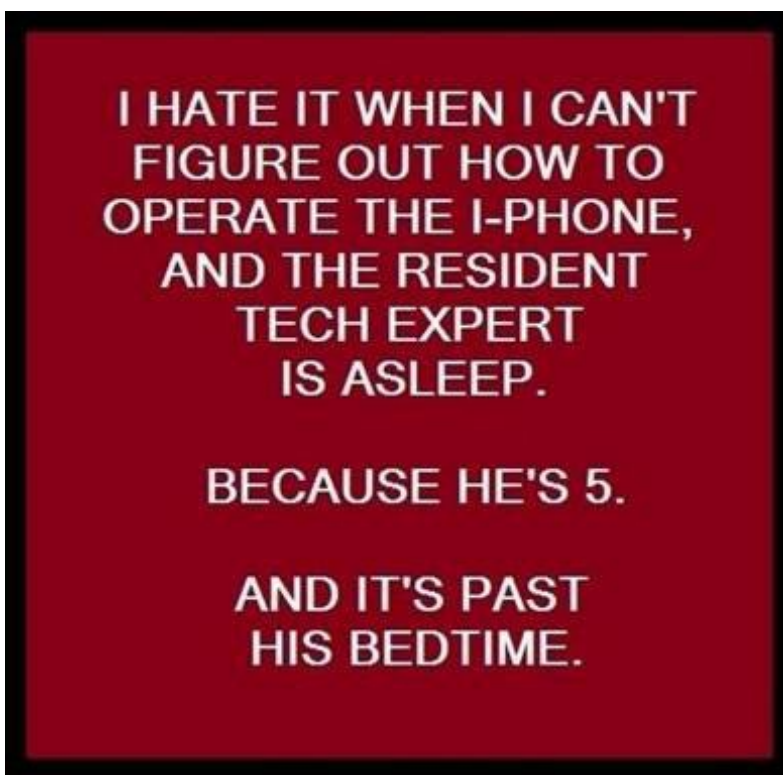


*If you do not have an upcoming
appointment or want to be
screened sooner, contact:*

*Michael M. Bichrest, MAT, CAGS, EdD
Outreach - VERA - MVP Coordinator
Manchester VA Medical Center
(603) 203-8391 or Michael.Bichrest@va.gov*

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. – Greg d'Arbonne



Post Officers

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Treasurer: Robert Glover

603-465-7705; sirclark80@gmail.com

Sergeant at Arms: Jim Pope

603-673-1660; jimpope031@gmail.com

2nd Vice Commander: Pat Moquin

603-809-5467; moquininc@aol.com

Chaplain: Bruce Moran

H: 603-465-7611; C: 603-465-1040, bruce.moran@hotmail.com

Adjutant: Greg d'Arbonne

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