



Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74

For God and Country

• 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH 03033-0761 •
September 2024 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=a1g1aVdna0djMjRFYThlQUIVb1grdz09>

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:

26 September at 7:00 PM

August Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Post Commander Will Collard. 11 members were present and no guests.

Colors advanced, prayers offered, POW/MIA empty chair recognized, Pledge of Allegiance 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 Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer's Report was previously submitted by Bob Glover and read by Kerry Spangler. Expenses included \$126.00 to American Legion Department NH for dues. \$100 was received for purchase of one brick for the monument walkway. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Treasurers Report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Pat Moquin, and unanimously approved.

Membership: Robert Hayden reached out interested in joining our post. He observed our participation in the funeral for James Seager. Meeting dates were provided for the next three months. He hopes to attend the September meeting.

2025 membership fees are due. Of note, if the three-year option is selected, member will receive their membership card for one year but the membership system shows the three-year enrollment.

Sick Call and Employment:

- Bruce Moran's wife, Ann Marie had a follow-up appointment about her back. The MRI showed breaks in her vertebrae (6, 10, and 11) may prevent cementing (osteoplasty) as they had thought. If completely broken, fusing with bolts and rods will be required and the pain will not totally go away.
- Tony Fowler discussed that he may need to have some tests done to check the vertebrae fused in his back.
- Bob Glover has an injury on his ankle which is preventing his meeting attendance.
- Kerry Spangler's grandson turned 1 month and is doing well. He has a couple of thousand pictures!
- Amanda is doing well. She will be attending the upcoming Veteran's Retreat.

- Rogene Porter turned 99 last week, but a celebration had to be postponed due to her getting COVID.
- Brookline American Legion and Hollis VFW members visited Steven Kopesnik, WWII Veteran who is currently in Hospice at Premier Rehabilitation Center in Nashua. His spirits are good and he really enjoys the visits. Greg d'Arbonne confirmed that his burial plans are in place at the National Cemetery in Boscawen.

Correspondence: Bob Glover sent finance reports for records to Kerry Spangler for June, July, and August.

Old Business:

- Monument:
 - Dedication ceremony will occur on 22 Sep at 1:00 p.m. in front of Town Hall as approved by Brookline Select Board. Greg d'Arbonne sent out invitations to Governor, Senators, Congresswoman, and Executive Council. Bruce Moran will provide the invocation. Informed the Police Chief, Emergency Management and Ambulance director. Greg placed VFW and Legion Post flag holder with flags at the monument. We will have a list of all those that have bricks purchased for engraving at the reception to allow for any corrections needed. Also, we will have forms for anyone wishing to purchase a brick at the reception to be included in the first batch of engraved bricks for the walkway. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the American Legion Post allocates \$350 to include drinks, light snacks and a cake by Natalia Alonza. Motion was seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. Greg d'Arbonne will coordinate with Natalia about the cake as well as availability of tables for the reception.
 - Greg d'Arbonne will coordinate the purchase of the bricks for a timeframe for engraving. Once known, Jim

- Pope will coordinate with Earth Echo, LLC for the installation.
- Greg d'Arbonne contacted Bob Heyer, a photographer, with the dedication date.
- Commemorative Sculpture Dedication Ceremony tentative schedule:
 - Invocation
 - Guest Speakers (State officials, department)
 - Dedication
 - Benediction
 - Reception
- Chris Lussier is getting grommets for the Post streamers for better display.
- Gutters on the Post Building: Greg d'Arbonne needs to find a contractor to get estimates.
- Greg d'Arbonne forwarded Sister Zore's information for membership from Rich Zore.
- ZOOM Meeting Account: Kerry Spangler set up the Zoom Pro account. Cost was \$159.34 per year giving unlimited time for meetings sharable with the VFW. VFW approved funding half the cost for the shared account. Account is installed on the Post laptop and the link information for each of the meetings are the same as before.
- Bruce Moran Memorial Bridge: Guard rails have been installed on the bridge. Remaining work includes rails around the porch and steps down to the yard on the sides.
- Holiday Card Central: Doors and one window were reinstalled and trim in place. Steps and fan were installed. We were able to get the building usable the first week of August As holiday cards began to arrive. Remaining items: One window, siding and exterior painting.
- Post Signage Painting: Arlene d'Arbonne started painting the sign in front of the post. Arlene will provide receipts to Bob Glover.
- Missing names for monuments: Bill was submitted for reimbursement.
- Pat Moquin offered to reach out to Harold Ryder to help him get to the Post meetings.

New Business:

- Need a list of past deceased members to ensure they are included in the bricks for the walkway. Greg d'Arbonne and Kerry Spangler will put together a complete list.
- Look at establishing a fund for people to donate for helping those who have served or members whose finances prevent doing things like purchasing a brick for the walkway.

For the Good of The Post: American Legion and VFW members visited Steven Kopesnik, WWII veteran on Hospice at the Premier Rehabilitation Center in Nashua on multiple occasions. He continues to share his 97 years of memories with fellow veterans.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM. The next meeting is 26 September 2024.

News For & From Members

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

September

- 4 September – One-on-one Veterans Assistance Expo at Gillette Stadium from 9:00am to 8:00pm. This outreach event is open to all Veterans and family members in the New England area.
- 21 September – Hollis Old Home Days
- 22 September – Dedication of the Commemorative Sculpture at Brookline Monument Square.
- 15 September – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 26 September – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

October

- 20 October – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 24 October – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

November

- 7 November - BHHS
- 11 November – 11:00 ceremony at Hollis Congressional Church.
- 14 November – Holiday card sorting at Eversource in Manchester.
- 17 November – Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 21 November – Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

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

The VA will be hosting a one-on-one Veterans Assistance Expo at Gillette Stadium on September 4, 2024 from 9:00am to 8:00pm. This outreach event is open to all Veterans and family members in the New England area. Brochure shown on next page.

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.

Elections are right around the corner on 5 November! Make your vote count. Know the issues and candidates that support your vision. **DON'T FORGET TO VOTE.**

ATTENTION: DID YOU SERVE IN THE MILITARY?

NEW ENGLAND VA 1-ON-1 VETERANS ASSISTANCE EXPO

September 4, 2024
9:00 AM – 8:00 PM

IN-PERSON EVENT

GET 1-ON-1 ASSISTANCE WITH:

- Enrolling in VA health care
- Submitting a VA disability claim
- Check the status of your disability claim or appeal
- Eligibility requirements
- Your toxic exposure options
- VA burial options
- VA housing options
- VA education benefits
- Career help
- Income-based benefits for war-time Veterans and survivors

GILLETTE STADIUM
(W3 Event Entrance, Suite Level Blue and Red)
ONE PATRIOT PLACE • FOXBOROUGH, MA 02035

Thank you for your service. We're here for you if you need us. Download the VA Welcome Kit: <https://www.va.gov/1on1>. Subscribe to Veterans Connect: <https://www.va.gov/veteransconnect>. Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255, Press 1. The one number to reach VA: 1-800-MyVA411

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

Post Officers

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