



Hollis VFW

April 2024 Newsletter

Vol. 34 Issue: 4

Serving Hollis and Brookline

April 2024

The Hollis VFW meets the third Sunday of each month at 7 PM. Meetings are at the American Legion Hall, 38 Main Street, Brookline, NH.

You can also attend via Zoom at: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/86999020485?pwd=blA2NlZlNmFo5cFhwVHlKUKVWtXMXZz09; Meeting ID = 86999020485; Passcode: q47TDf>, or, by Phone = (646) 558-8656; Meeting ID = 86999020485#.

If you wish to join or have questions about the VFW, please call one of the Post Officers.

Next Meeting: 21 April

March Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 8 members were present and one guest, Captain Mary Riddle (USAFR).

Minutes: A motion was made by Chris Lussier to dispense with the verbal reading of the Minutes since they were published in the newsletter; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

Quartermaster's Report: The Quartermaster's Report was read. The Post received an EFT of \$3.50 from National and \$10.50 from dues, for a total of \$16.09. There were three disbursements; \$418.72 to the Brookline American Legion Post to pay for the VFW Post share of the heating oil expenses; \$1,000 donation to the Hollis-Brookline High School Debate Team; \$1, 858.31 for insulation and sheetrock shed. Andy Seremeth made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Bruce Moran, and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

- Patriots' Pen presentation will be the last day of school. Certificates and gift cards need to be purchased. Chris Lussier made a motion that the Post purchase Amazon gift cards and certificates; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.
- George Robinson stated our Post's scholarship is posted at the High School so students can apply.

Membership: Jim Kelly and John Kelly (not related) memberships are now current.

Comrade in Distress:

- Greg d'Arbonne thanked the Post for supporting his dad's funeral by providing military honors.
- Jim Belanger stated his daughter is diagnosed with ALS. The Post members all expressed their condolences and support to Jim, his daughter, and their entire family at this difficult time.
- Chris Lussier stated Bob Smith went to the hospital with pneumonia and was discharged three days later. Bob then got a severe ear infection and went to the hospital in

Portsmouth. With antibiotics his infection started to clear but he had balance problems. Bob is now in Crestwood Rehab Center in Milford. Bob will leave there once his wife and daughter are clear of the COVID they both have at the moment.. Chris and Mark Andrews brought Bob's recliner from his home so he could sleep sitting up since laying down caused pain. Hopefully, Bob will be home soon.

Old Business:

- Post Historian: Robyn Nelson,, who has volunteered as our Post Historian for many years, will retire from that duty in May. There was discussion about seeking another volunteer that is not a member of the Post. Greg d'Arbonne stated we can fill this position internally and has volunteered to take it at this time. Bruce Moran motioned that we table this discussion until the next meeting.
- Citizen of the year: the presentation at the Hollis Town Meeting went well, with Charlotte Troddyn totally surprised by the award.
- Oil and Electric bill from the Legion: The Post paid for its share of the oil bill. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Post pay \$200 to the Legion to cover the Post's share of the electric bill; seconded by Andy Seremeth and unanimously approved.

Remember National Home: Prayer was said for the National Home and residents.

General Orders: As distributed by the Department and District and posted on the Department website.

Correspondence: Nothing received.

New Business:

- Captain Mary Riddle (USAFR) briefed the members on her Doctoral Project that involves making it easier for Veterans to obtain Service Dogs that are certified. The members were very appreciative of Mary's work and suggested she find an organization that has worked with Congress to get her proposals approved and funded.

- Post Elections: at the April meeting the Post will elect Officers for the 2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year. The nominated slate of Officers is:
 - Post Commander: Mark Tigert
 - Senior Vice: Mark Andrews
 - Junior Vice: George Robinson
 - Chaplain: Bruce Moran
 - Service Officer: Bruce Moran
 - JAG: Bob Smith
 - Quartermaster: Chris Lussier
 - Adjutant: No nominee currently
 - Surgeon: Jim Kelly
 - Trustees:
 - Andy Seremeth = 1 Year
 - Jim Bélanger = 2 Year
 - Bob Smith = 3 Year
- Memorial Day 2024:
 - Post members will meet with Al Fulchino on 27 March to discuss the event.
 - Al Fulchino will ask the Post for a Guest Speaker.
 - Chris Lussier will contact the Transfer Station to coordinate Poppy Distribution there the Saturday before Memorial Day.
 - Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Post purchase a sign with the QR Code linking our bank account so people can donate via the QR Code if they do not have cash to donate; seconded by Andy Seremeth and unanimously approved. Chris Lussier will get the sign made.
 - Chris Lussier made a motion that our Post provide support and maintenance during the Memorial Day weekend to the Veterans graves at the Beth Abraham Cemetery (439 W. Hollis St., Nashua, NH) where former Hollis resident Allen Soifert is buried; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

For the Good of the Order:

- Chris Lussier stated more work needs to be done on the shed project.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 21 April at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.

News For & From Members

Veterans in the 8th Grade Classrooms a Success

On Friday, 5 April, Veterans spoke to the 8th Graders before they went on their trip to Washington, DC. Several Post members attended, and the students and Veterans all enjoyed the event. Thanks to all who participated!

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

April

- 21 April: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 25 April: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

May

- 11 May: Brookline American Legion and Scout Troop 260 Spaghetti Dinner, 5 to 7 PM, Brookline Community Church, Main St., Brookline
- 19 May: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 23 May: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting
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- 25 May: VFW and American Legion Poppy distribution at each Transfer Station, 8 AM to 4 PM
- 25 May: Replace all US flags in the Brookline cemeteries, 9 to 11 AM
- 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, 5:00 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.
- 27 June: 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).

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>.

Announcement of Return the Favor with Country Music Star John Rich

Greetings My Fellow Warfighters and Patriots of our Auxiliary,

As we all know, a Veteran Service Officer is a vital part in helping veterans connect with benefits they have earned through their service to our country. In the coming days we'll publicly reveal a new initiative we've been working on with country music star John Rich. We've dubbed the effort, Return the Favor. Watch Assistant Adjutant General Brian Walker explain the campaign details.

Using technology of today in a peer-to-peer networking we are asking that you donate to support veteran service officers and join a team to ask others in donating by sharing your story or create your own team and ask others to join and donate. As an example, here is John Rich's page <https://givebutter.com/ReturntheFavor/team-john-rich/johnrich>.

You will notice he has a video of him talking with the Commander-in-Chief. From his page you can donate or if you scroll down and look for the Join/Start a Team button you can join a team or start your own team to raise funds. As an example, when I click on the button to join a team I need to create an account with my name, email, phone number and a password. From there I can join a team by selecting a team to join such as Team Alabama or I can create my own team. Either way the goal is to raise funds to support our service officers both nationally and in your state.

I know this is an effort you will all get behind, as our Veteran Service Officers help change lives for the better every single day. Please donate, join, or create your own team and ask your network of friends and family to donate and if you are comfortable in sharing, share your story of how the VFW National Veterans Service has impacted your life.

In addition to John's time, he is also donating funds from the sale of his signature brand Redneck Riveria Whiskey. If your Post would like information on his 100% American made whiskey and in appreciation of John's support to this campaign, we're asking that any Post with a canteen please consider talking with their distributors about carrying John's American made, Redneck Riveria whiskey.

Much more to come, but we thank you in advance for your support of Return the Favor and our fellow veterans and please share this message as much as possible.

Dan West, Adjutant General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

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

Wordsmithing - Really Clever

ARBITRAITOR - - A cook that leaves Arby's to work at McDonald's.

BERNADETTE - - The act of torching a mortgage.

BURGLARIZE - - What a crook sees through.

AVOIDABLE - - What a bullfighter tries to do.

COUNTERFEITER - - Workers who put together kitchen cabinets.

LEFT BANK - - What the bank robbers did when their bag was full of money.

HEROES - - What a man in a boat does.

PARASITES - - What you see from the Eiffel Tower.

PARADOX - - Two physicians.

PHARMACIST - - A helper on a farm.

RELIEF - - What trees do in the spring.

RUBBERNECK - - What you do to relax your wife.

SELFISH - - What the owner of a seafood store does.

SUDAFED - - Brought litigation against a government official.



Post Officers

Commander: Mark Tigert - (240) 344-8291, vfwhollis11373cdr@proton.me

Senior Vice Commander: Mark Andrews

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Quartermaster: Chris Lussier

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Service Officer: Bruce Moran

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Junior Vice Commander: George Robinson

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Chaplain: Bruce Moran

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Adjutant: Greg d'Arbonne

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