



Hollis VFW

February 2024 Newsletter

Vol. 34 Issue: 2

Serving Hollis and Brookline

February 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: 18 February

January Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 10 members were present and no guests.

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

Quartermaster's Report: The Quartermaster's Report was read. The Post received an EFT of \$3.50 from National; \$200 from the Gun Raffle Ticket sales; and \$2.24 in interest from the bank. There were two disbursements, both to Aaron Crandlemere for building materials for the shed, for a total of \$1,173.57. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. Chris Lussier stated we should ask other Posts and the Department to donate to help fund the shed. Chris also stated we need to continue working on the shed. Mark Andrews and Bob Smith recommended we do more work on the weekends when more of us are available.

Committee Reports: Nothing to report.

Membership: Nothing to report.

Comrade in Distress:

- The members expressed their condolences to Andy Seremeth at the recent death of his daughter.
- Greg d'Arbonne stated his father was given Last Rites and is resting at home.
- Jim Bellanger stated he is having some balance issues but is taking medication to hopefully clear that up.
- Jeff Smith stated he will have cataract surgery in February.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

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: "Operation Care for Troops" requested a donation from the Post.

New Business:

- Hollis Citizen of the Year: Voting for this award will be done at the February meeting. Nominations can be forwarded to Greg d'Arbonne.
- Chris Lussier presented the certificates and the gift cards to the Post Commander for our Post winners at the District level for the Patriots Pen program.

For the Good of the Order:

- The members stated it was nice to meet Congressman Dean Phillips, candidate for President, who attend the recent Wednesday Veteran breakfast. We also thanked Representative Philips for paying for our breakfast that morning.

- Chris Lussier showed the members the "100% Membership" banner the Post received from the Department for achieving 100% membership last year.
- Mark Andrews stated the person on his POW/MIA Bracelet he has been wearing since the late 1990's has been recovered. There will be a Celebration of life on 3 February in Texas and a later burial in Arlington Cemetery in the Summer.
- Chris Lussier stated the local synagogue will contact him concerning Veterans buried at the Jewish Cemetery in Nashua so our Post can ensure the flags are replaced when needed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 18 February at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.

News For & From Members

Veterans in the 8th Grade Classrooms 5 April

On Friday, 5 April, the Hollis-Brookline Middle School will hold its annual Veterans with the 8th Grade Class program where the Veterans talk to the 8th Graders before they go on their trip to Washington, DC. This is a great program where the students get to ask us Veterans various questions about our time in the military. The questions are wide ranging but generally focus on what we ate and what did we do while we were in the military. Your service does not have to be extra-ordinary or only wartime experience; the students want to know what we all did. It is also a great chance for you to connect with students that you may not normally meet. A great program for the students and the Veterans alike. The school asks that you arrive at the Middle School by 8:30 AM. We will speak to the students from 9 to 9:55, then, 10 to 10:55, then, lunch (provided) with the students from 11 to 11:30.

"Please be prepared to give a brief overview of who you are and where you served. Any memorabilia you have is of particular interest to the students and we encourage you to bring such items of interest to share with them. Students have prepared questions and are being encouraged to ask additional questions in response to your overview. Confirmation of your attendance would be greatly appreciated. Please call 324-5997 X 3055 or email our Senior Secretary Alexandra Harvey at alexandra.harvey@sau41.org to let us know whether you will join us or not. Again, thank you for your service and thank you for your support of our 8th grade students. We look forward to seeing you!"

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

February

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

March

- 12 Mar: Brookline and Hollis Town Election Day, 7 AM to 7 PM
- 13 Mar: Brookline Town Meeting, 7 PM, Captain Samuel Douglass Academy
- 14 Mar: Hollis School Annual Meeting, 7 PM, Hollis-Brookline Middle School
- 16 Mar: Hollis Town Meeting, 9 AM, Hollis-Brookline High School
- 17 March: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 19 Mar: Hollis-Brookline Coop Annual Meeting, 6:30 PM, Hollis Brookline High School
- 27 March: Veterans in the Classroom with the 8th Graders at the Middle School
- 28 March: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

April

- 5 April: Veterans with the 8th Graders, 8:30 AM, Hollis-Brookline Middle School.
- 21 April: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 25 April: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

May

- 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, 9:00 AM Coffee with a Vet, then 9:30 AM, Memorial Day Ceremony. All in front of the Brookline Town Hall
- 27 May, 4:30 PM, wreath laying at Memorial Park, then march to Hollis Common for the Memorial Day Ceremony on the Hollis Town Common

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>.

NH Veterans Home Mask Mandate Starting Friday, January 26th

Due to the recent increase in illness, starting tomorrow, Friday, January 26th NHVH will be requiring masks for all staff, volunteers, and visitors. This decision was not made lightly and was determined to be in the best interest of the safety of our residents and staff. Masks will be available at the main entrance, on units and in the Volunteer Services office (off the café area).

Residents Valentine Ball at the CLC, VAMC Manchester, Wed, Feb 14, 6pm

Comrades, the Manchester VA is inviting the VFW to support their Valentine's Ball at the CLC (Community Living Center) for their 22 CLC residents at the VAMC Manchester on Wed, Feb 14, 6pm.

Originally, this ball was planned to be funded with the excess proceeds of the VFW VA Christmas Party donation that came in from the Dept. NH VFW. Unfortunately, the VA is not releasing those funds for this event, and therefore other funds were used to cover the cost and the VA CLC Veterans' Valentine's Ball will go on as planned.

We are asking VFW members and Cooties to participate and attend this ball. This event takes place at 6pm so that working folks can attend. Capacity is limited, please contact me: jdreusicke@aol.com if you plan to attend.

We will enter the building through the VA side "Seacoast" Entrance. Ring the doorbell and ask to be let in for the ball at the Granite State Room on the first floor.

Visitor parking is in the large lower parking lot near the side entrance.

We will be guests of the VA and we will be operating under the control and at the pleasure of the VA staff on duty at that time.

Visitors: If you feel ill, please do not come. Depending on protocol, masks are optional unless they are required for visitors at that time.

What: A formal holiday dance planned for the CLC Veterans. Invites for the significant others of the residents have been extended. Our residents will have bowties and white shirts provided for them for their formal attire. This is a dress your best event for Valentines Day. The Idea is to give the residents a fancy dancing event.

Refreshments: Cheese and crackers, low sugar party punch with fancy plastic dinner utensils, cups, and plates.

Photographs may be done with a Holiday Theme backdrop.

A DJ that has performed at the VA previously has been invited for the event.

Jörg Dreusicke, VAVS Rep Manchester VAMC, Dept. NH VFW, 6 Main St. Pelham NH 03076; jdreusicke@aol.com; 603-553-0395

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

When I was 9 months pregnant with my son, my mom & I were on the side of the road, struggling with a flat. A car with 4 men stopped, not to help, but to ask for directions to a local golf course.
My mom sent them 15 miles in the wrong direction.
She is the legend who shaped me.



Post Officers

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