



Hollis VFW

July 2025 Newsletter

Vol. 35 Issue: 7

Serving Hollis and Brookline

July 2025

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=bIA2NlZNMFo5cFhwVHlKUKVWtXMXZzO9; 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: 20 July @ 7:00 pm



June 22nd Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 9 members were present.

Reading of the Minutes: A motion was made by Bruce Moran to dispense with the reading of the February meeting minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all members. Bob Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Post Quartermaster's Report: The Quartermaster's Report was read. There were five deposits: National for dues for \$3.50; Buddy Poppy sales \$1001.64, Venmo donation of 78.08, \$520.00 from donations, and \$7.32 from Interest totaling \$1610.54. Disbursements for the month were: Electrical repairs for \$191.25; \$200.00 for Memorial Day Sound Engineer; \$320.00 for Cleaning Services; \$85.00 for Memorial Day Wreaths; \$400.00 to Department for Voluntary Contributions (to be divided evenly); and \$50.00 for NH Lottery Gaming Commission application.

Total expenses for a total of \$1246.25. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by George Robinson, and unanimously approved. Quarterly Trustee Report of Audit was submitted.

Correspondence:

- Email received from Department VFW Adjutant Paul Lloyd notifying of the events associated with PFC George Curly Jr whose remains were recently identified and returned to NH. The remains land in Boston on 26 June escorted to Laconia, Calling hours 4-6 PM on 27 June, and the Funeral Service and burial on 28 June. Chris Lussier reached out to the Laconia American Legion Adjutant and volunteered to bring his WWII/Korean era Jeep as part of the procession. They approved and asked for the Jeep to lead the procession in front of the Patriot Guard and

hearse. Kerry Spangler and Chris plan to attend.

- Email received from Department VFW Adjutant Paul Lloyd with a VFW services flyer.
- Email received from Department VFW Adjutant Paul Lloyd to push for the last two members to get us to 100%.
- Hollis Rotary sent an email to Chris Lussier to the Post concerning Old Home Days. Its contents will be discussed during new business.
- Email to George Robinson from our Scholarship recipient thanking us for awarding the Military Descendant Scholarship and donation. The recipient is planning on attending University of Southern California and submitting the supporting documents once completed.

Committee/Program Reports:

- **Service Officer:** Nothing reported.
- **Patriot's Pen Program:** George Robinson attended the Hollis-Brookline High School to recognize the winners of the program and presented gift cards.
- **Voice of Democracy programs:** Nothing reported.
- **Military Descendant Scholarship:** George Robinson made the presentation on June 10th.
- **Americanism: July 4th:**
 - 24 May - Buddy Poppy sales at the Hollis and Brookline Transfer Stations.
 - 21 June – Participated in the Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Brookline American Legion.
 - 4 Jul - Twelve Members participated in the Brookline 4th of July Independence Day Parade including the color guard and the driving of two Jeeps (provided by Chris Lussier) carrying WWII, Viet Nam, and Global War on Terrorism veterans.
- **Community Service:**
 - 4, 11, 18 and 28 June– Weekly Veteran's Breakfasts in Hollis with numerous veterans from the community.

- **Safety (Home/Fire):** Nothing reported.

Youth Activities:

- 11 June - George Robinson attended an award ceremony at Hollis-Brookline High School and recognized the winners of our VFW Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy Programs.
- 22-23 May - Members attended multiple Memorial Day Activities at the Hollis-Brookline Middle and High School and Brookline elementary schools.

- **Legislative:** Nothing reported.

- **Hospital:** Nothing reported.

Teach Scout:

- 31 May – Several members supported the Scout Troop 260 Spaghetti Dinner by prepping, cooking and cleaning up.
- Two Troop 12 Scouts made Eagle Scout and will have a ceremony on 12 July. Kerry Spangler ordered their VFW Eagle Scout certificates.

- **Homeless Veterans:** Nothing reported.

- **National Home:** Nothing reported.

Veterans and Military Support:

- 2 June – 6 members attended the Operation Delta Dog Graduation ceremony. The 5 Vets led the pledge and sang the National Anthem and all 6 service songs.
- 6-7 June – Delegates attended the NH Department Convention activities.
- 29-30 June – Members attended wake and funeral for the 92-year old spouse of an American Legion member.
- 2 July – Seven members attended the funeral of USA Korean Era Veteran, aged 94, who was a long-time member of the Brookline American Legion. Members also provided the Rifle guard and Taps for the funeral.

Membership: We are going to set up a membership table at the Hollis Old Home Days in September. Bruce made a motion to pay the \$25.00 fee for a site at the Old Home Days, seconded by Bob Smith and unanimously approved.

Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress:

- Bruce Moran is having a carcinoma removed on 26 June. His wife Ann-Marie is actually walking and walked from the house, across the Bridge, and back twice.

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. Two sets were published in June. The second was an amendment to the first adding the newly elected and appointed Department Officers.

Old Business:

Memorial Day 2025 – The Brookline Ceremony 0930 on 26 May and Hollis Ceremony 1500 on 26 May events went well. (CLOSED)

Chris Lussier and Kerry Spangler replaced the flags at the Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua. They left a few extras for future use. (CLOSED)

George Robinson stated that with the Nation's 250th Birthday coming up next year, the Post should purchase banners celebrating this event and place them at the major crossroads in both Towns, a total of 8 banners. George will investigate costs, what needs to be done and permissions that are needed. It was agreed that he attend the select board meeting to discuss. (OPEN)

Engraved bricks for the Brookline Monument were installed by Earth Echo LLC. (CLOSED)

Earth Echo LLC provided an estimate for improving the drainage around the building. We will wait to see what the American Legion decides before considering helping with the costs. American Legion is purchasing sandbags to attempt to prevent the flooding of the basement before investing in a drainage system. (CLOSED).

4th July Parade in Brookline – Meet at the American Legion Hall at 0900, at the parade route by 0930, Parade step off at 1000! Barbeque to follow parade. (OPEN)

Our Day of Service event (postponed from 3 May due to weather) will occur as soon as possible to finish the safety rails and steps at a member's home. (OPEN)

New Business:

DAR is having a fundraiser to pay for materials clean the graves and headstones at the cemeteries. Bob Smith made a motion to donate \$200.00 since they support us in many activities. Bruce Moran seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. (OPEN)

Kerry Spangler proposed changes to the By-Laws to indicate meetings being the 3rd Sunday each month with the exception of June being the 4th Sunday because of the conflict with Father's Day. Jim Belanger seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Kerry Spangler has drafted the changes and will send out the draft with the monthly Newsletter for review for approval at the July meeting. (OPEN)

Kerry Spangler has developed a spreadsheet to use as a checklist for all events being worked by the Post. Assistance in identifying all the components of all events will be required. (OPEN)

Good of the Order:

The 4 Vets sang at the AUSA USA 250th Birthday event (Pledge, National Anthem), Bruce Moran recited the poem "Old Glory" and Chris Lussier recited "Flanders Fields." The 4 Vets closed the ceremony leading the group in the singing of the US Army song. Greg d'Arbonne did a wonderful job organizing and orchestrating the event.

Jim Belanger's house was struck by lightning (chimney, hole in roof, damage to the furnace).

Our website gets about 100 clicks per month. It needs to have pictures to support all the great things we do such as the Holiday Card Challenge Shed, Bruce Moran Memorial Bridge, and Operation Delta Dog Graduation ceremony so that people can see what their donations are supporting.

Andy Seremeth update on the DAV meeting and status. They have about \$150K and does not know what to do with it. They are looking for participation as well as leadership and membership. Andy will send Jim the membership requirements to post on our website.

Chris mentioned that Operation Delta Dog held an Ax throwing event in Nashua. He attended and later found out it was not a fund raiser but an opportunity for the veterans' comradery. Alison

Butler stated that Operation Delta Dog is also holding a fundraiser Aug 10th at the Able Ebenezer Brewery in Merimack NH.

PFC George Curly enlisted in the USA at age 17 and was sent to the Republic of South Korea where he was captured and held in captivity. He died after 2 years. His remains were sent to the Punch Bowl gravesite with 600 other soldiers.

Mark Tigert mentioned there is a Stable in Temple that provides free trail rides for Veterans.

Mark Tigert got to thank "Lisa" at a Slakas' gig for saving his life by getting him the services needed to remove a large tumor.

Closing: Chris Lussier made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 20 July 2025 at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom..

News For & From Members

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

Jul 2025

- 11 July: Lunch with Operation Delta Dog and Representative Maggie Goodlander.
- 20 July: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 24 July: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

Aug 2025

- 10 August – Operation Delta Dog Fundraiser at Able Ebenezer in Merimack NH.
- 17 August: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 28 August: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

Sep 2025

- 19-20 September – Hollis Old Home Days including Membership Drive.
- 21 September: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 25 September: 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).

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 as 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 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.

Invite other veterans to our meetings so they can see what we are all about.

Get VFW project pictures and articles to Jim Belanger for inclusion in the VFW website.

Kerry Spangler
Adjutant

Post Officers

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