



# Hollis VFW

## July 2023 Newsletter

Vol. 33 Issue: 7

Serving Hollis and Brookline

July 2023

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: 16 July

### June Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. members present and one guest, Chuck Chapman, District 6 Junior Vice Commander.

**Membership:** Nothing to report.

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

**Quartermaster's Report:** The Quartermaster's Report was read. Chris Lussier stated all our banking and accounts are now in the Millyard Bank in Hollis. The Post received the funds from Boston Billiard; \$1,027.50 from the Poppy drive; and \$1.41 from interest earned. Disbursements from the Post were a check to National for the new bank account; reimbursement to George Robinson for the Patriot Pen awards; \$25.98 to the Brookline American Legion for flags; the donation to the Brookline Monument; \$500 donation to "Our Community Salutes"; \$200 to Wayne Letourneau for the sound system he ran

at the Memorial Day ceremony which will be reimbursed by Al Fulchino; \$176 for the Post Office box renewal; and \$9 for the Department of NH Convention registration. There was one deposit of \$3.50 from National. Jim Bélanger made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

**Correspondence:** Nothing received.

**Comrade in Distress:**

- Greg d'Arbonne stated his father is now in a rehab center and is having dementia issues as well.
- Jim Bélanger stated his brother Mike, our former Post Junior Vice Commander, is in poor health.

**Committee Reports:** Nothing to report.

**Old Business:**

- Chris Lussier stated he attended the meeting with the Brookline Legion and announced the contribution to the Brookline Monument. Chris stated the Legion members were very

much surprised and appreciated the donation. Chris also spoke to the casino, and they offered three more days for the Post, which we get 10 for the year. Chris told the casino we would like those days.

- Bruce Moran made a motion that the Post Quartermaster be bonded for \$40,000; second by Bob Smith and unanimously approved.
- The Post needs to do an After-Action Review with Al Fulchino about the Memorial Day ceremony, but everyone commented the ceremony was too long.
- Everyone was reminded about the Brookline Fourth of July parade. Everyone needs to be formed up at 9:30 in the morning.

**Remember the National Home:** The Post said prayers for the National Home and their residents.

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

#### **New Business:**

- Veterans Day Ceremony, 11 November:
  - Commander Tigert stated he has a potential guest speaker for the ceremony, the author of the book "The Rifle."
  - Everyone agreed the outdoor venue at the church is the preferred location.
  - Bruce Moran proposed using a different "Old Glory" recitation version to have a little variety; all agreed.

#### **For the Good of the Order:**

- Chuck Chapman, District 6 Junior Vice Commander, thanked everybody for their work.

- Jim Bélanger stated he disagreed with donating to the Brookline Monument as we should be helping veterans, and donations from local the community have been raised for the Monument. Andy Seremeth stated part of our purpose as a Post is Americanism and the Monument is an example of how we can get recognition for Veterans. Chris Lussier pointed out we have money in the bank account, and we do not use it as much as we could. Chris stated we can make scholarships and other programs for recognition. Bob Smith is concerned we need to advertise so we can get more members. Many of the members feel the monument is a worthwhile investment and cause to donate.
- Chris stated that three of our members sang the National Anthem at the Fisher Cat stadium and Greg d'Arbonne sang the National Anthem at the "Green Beret with a Mission" fundraiser.
- Everyone was reminded there is a veteran breakfast every Wednesday morning at 8 AM at the Hollis Marketplace Diner.
- Chris Lussier stated he and Greg d'Arbonne attended the Robert F Kennedy, Jr. event at Saint Anselm, and they wore their hats to represent Veterans.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM. The next meeting is 7 PM, Sunday, 16 July at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.

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## **News For & From Members**

### **Calendar of Events**

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

July

- 16 July: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 27 July: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

## August

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

## September

- 8 - 9 September: Hollis Old Home Days
- 17 September: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 28 September: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting

## October

- 15 October: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 26 October: 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>.

### **"Freedom Friday" Every Friday at Fisher Cats Games**

Buy 1 ticket and get 1 FREE when you show your valid Military ID. Deal is only valid at the box office. Presented By Manchester Firing Line.

# Stronger Together

## Veterans Coalition of New Hampshire

We are excited to formally announce that the Addiction Recovery Coalition of New Hampshire, in partnership with the Partnership for Public Health of NH and the Manchester VA, have launched the Stronger Together Veterans Coalition of New Hampshire. This partnership was formed to address suicide amongst New Hampshire's Veterans and military members.



According to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, the Veteran suicide rate in New Hampshire was significantly higher than the national Veteran suicide rate and was significantly higher than the national general population suicide rate.

The Stronger Together Veterans Coalition of New Hampshire has been meeting monthly since February of 2023 and its members range from Veterans, community mental health providers, private practitioners, community members, Peer Recovery Support Workers and volunteers. We meet monthly on the last Monday of the month from 6p-7p at ARCNH, 180 Elm Street, Suite E, Milford, NH 03055.

### Join Us



6:00PM - 7:00PM



Last Monday of every Month



180 Elm St, Suite E  
Milford, NH 03055



Addiction Recovery Coalition  
of New Hampshire  
180 Elm Street, Suite E  
Milford, NH 03055

ARCNH is a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization. The ARCNH Community Recovery Center in Milford, NH provides peer-support to individuals, families and veterans seeking recovery from Substance Use Disorder.

603-554-8142 [recover@arcnh.org](mailto:recover@arcnh.org)

[arcnh.org](http://arcnh.org)

[fb.com/arcofnh](https://fb.com/arcofnh)

# Granite State PACT Act Summer VetFest



Join us at the  
Manchester VA Medical Center

All who have served, we encourage you to come on  
over with your family and friends  
for a fun-filled event!



PACT Act  
information  
and toxic  
exposure  
screenings



Wednesday, July 26, 2023  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
718 Smyth Road  
Manchester, NH 03104



Kid friendly



And so much  
more!

Military  
and first  
responder  
vehicle  
exhibition



**VA**



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

Veterans Health Administration  
Manchester Healthcare System

## 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



### *My Living Will*

*Last night, my kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them,*

*'I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.'*

*They got up, unplugged the computer and threw out my wine!!*

*The little bastards.*

**Geezer  
Picked**

### Post Officers

**Commander:** Mark Tigert - (240) 344-8291, [chiefmt@gmail.com](mailto:chiefmt@gmail.com)

**Senior Vice Commander:** Mark Andrews

(603)732-6113; [agav8r1997@gmail.com](mailto:agav8r1997@gmail.com)

**Quartermaster:** Chris Lussier

(603) 465-2676; [clussier@tds.net](mailto:clussier@tds.net)

**Service Officer:** Bruce Moran

(H: 603-465-7611; C: 603-465-1040; [bruce.moran@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.moran@hotmail.com))

**Junior Vice Commander:** George Robinson

(540) 809-8696; [GMRobinson118@gmail.com](mailto:GMRobinson118@gmail.com)

**Chaplain:** Bruce Moran

603-465-1040; [bruce.moran@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.moran@hotmail.com)

**Adjutant:** Greg d'Arbonne

(603) 672-5830; C: 978-604-8835; [gdarbo6844@aol.com](mailto:gdarbo6844@aol.com)

**Post Mailing Address:** VFW Post 11373, c/o Commander, PO Box 1012, Hollis, NH 03049

**Post Website:** <http://www.hollisvfw.org/>

*E-mail addresses are for the use of the members to pass information and not to be sold or freely passed to others without formal consent of the member. No funds solicitation is authorized via e-mail.*