



Hollis VFW

March 2025 Newsletter

Vol. 35 Issue: 3

Serving Hollis and Brookline

March 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=bIA2NlZNMFo5cFhwVHlKUKVWtXMXZz09>; 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 March @ 7:00 pm



January Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM via Zoom only due to inclement weather. 9 members were present.

Reading of the Minutes: A motion was made by Chris Lussier to dispense with the reading of the January meeting minutes since they were published in the newsletter and sent to all members. Greg d'Arbonne seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Post Quartermaster's Report: The Quartermaster's Report was read. The Post received \$8.14 from Interest and \$11.04 from VFW National totaling \$19.18. Disbursements for the month were: \$309.50 to Brookline American Legion for shared cost of heating oil. \$320.00 for cleaning services, and \$147.00 Anne's Floral for Bourgeois funeral, totaling \$776.50. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Jeff Smith, and unanimously approved..

Correspondence: Kerry Spangler received email from the VFW National Commander concerning the reduction in force and asked members not to worry about loss of services because they are on top of it.

Chris Lussier received a letter from Trevor Duval at the HBHS about their invitation to the national competition in Washington DC demonstrating knowledge of the constitution, asking for a donation to help with expenses. Andy Seremeth made a motion to contribute \$1000.00 to HBHS to help cover their expenses for the trip, seconded by Jeff Smith. We are all about the Constitution, and supporting students in this endeavor is warranted. Bruce Moran called for the vote which was unanimously approved.

Letter to Bruce Moran from Veterans Count asking for a donation. Since we recently made a contribution at the Gala, no further action is required.

Committee Reports:

- **Patriot's Pen Program:** Our award winners will attend the March 16 meeting to receive their awards.
- **Voice of Democracy Program:** Our award winners will attend the March 16 meeting to receive their awards.
- We will be participating in the school end-of-year ceremony to recognize these winners in front of their peers peer contact with Mr. West at HBHS.
- **Military Descendant Scholarship:** George Robinson posted updated applications at the high school and for home-schooled students. George Robinson will post on Facebook page to help get the word out..
- **Service Officer:** Received a text from Becky Parkhurst about another veteran at the Premier Rehabilitation Center, Ernesto, requesting visits from other Veterans. Chris, Bruce and Kerry will try to visit in the week.

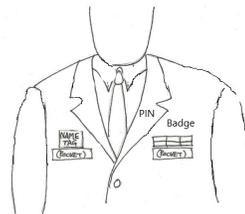
Membership: Membership is down (89.3%) by 7 to get to 102%. We need to look at who needs to renew. Some are months away from expiring. At the District 6 meeting, it was indicated that the goal is going to be reduced to 100% for the posts. State membership just reached 90%.

Old Business:

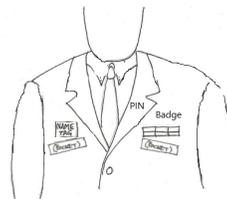
- Casino Fund Raiser sent a copy of the end-of-year letter to the Gate City Casino thanking them and showing what the Post has been doing with the funds with pictures.
- Greg d'Arbonne sent a letter to the Towns' Welfare Departments in Hollis and Brookline and let them know that the Post will help cover any needs the Towns cannot provide for a Veteran or the spouse of a Veteran.
- State Veteran's Advisory Committee is building a Global War on Terrorism monument at Boscawen Cemetery. They are selling bricks for \$250 to help fund the project. Greg d'Arbonne made the motion to purchase a brick that says "Hollis VFW Post 11373 for \$250.00 seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. (OPEN). Greg d'Arbonne needs to provide the information to

Chris Lussier to submit a brick with \$250 to support the Global War on Terrorism.

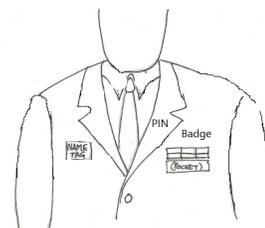
- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that since we have no nominations for the Citizen of the Year award that meet the criteria for the award, we will table making a submission until 2026. Motion was seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.
- Charitable organization form for submission to Department. (Chris and Kerry)
- 990N needs to be done for the Post. Chris Lussier is meeting with the accountant next week.
- Kerry Spangler made a comment that during the recent funerals and ceremonies, members uniforms were worn differently between the members. Kerry drafted post instructions and presented two options. It was agreed to use the option that puts the nametag above the right pocket parallel with the bottom of the badge or ribbons. To standardize the member uniforms (blue coat, grey pants, tie, hat) at various events items are placed as shown on the following pictures. Hat protocol follows the standard VFW hat guidelines.



2 Pockets



Slanted Pockets



One Pocket

- Day of Service – Kerry Spangler registered on the VFW website the completion of the guard rails and steps for safety purposes for Bruce Moran to access his yard from his porch safely. Tentatively planned for 3 May 2025, weather permitting.
- Chris Lussier, Bruce Moran and Kerry Spangler attended the next district 6 meeting, January 26th at the Merrimack VFW Post. Chris presented the post report.
- Kerry Spangler matched the latest membership roster and updated the members on the group email address. Website is available for use and the low cost may allow us to share more information publicly through the site. Further discussion to follow at the next meeting.

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.

New Business:

- Funeral service for Pasquale Cioffi – Flag folding and Taps; 22 Feb 2025, 11:30 at Rochette Funeral Home.
- Horace (Oscar) Demanche passed away at the Premier Rehabilitation Center after only being there less than 24 hours. Funeral will be 24 Feb at 1030 performing Flag folding.
- A few years ago we had made a decision that someone active in the post would receive a lifetime membership. Bruce Moran made a motion that Kerry Spangler receive a lifetime membership for being an active member since joining; seconded by several and unanimously approved. Accepted with thanks.
- George Robinson suggested that we do an annual letter that shows what we do similar to the information Chris Lussier presented with pictures for the District meeting. Greg d’Arbonne made a motion for the Quartermaster and Adjutant to do an annual report to use to promote the activities of the Post by the 5th of May each year, seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

- Unfortunately, Al Fuchino has to withdraw from the organizing of the Hollis Memorial Day Ceremony. Greg d’Arbonne made the motion, seconded by Bruce Moran, for the Post to set up a committee to take on the responsibility of the Hollis Memorial Day Ceremony to begin at 5:00 and last approximately 1 hour. Need to hold a separate meeting to determine what we want to do for the activities. Greg will write a letter to the select board to let them know our intentions to manage the event. Memorial Day Committee members include Greg d’Arbonne (chair), George Robinson, and Andy Seremeth. Tony Fowler will be the guest speaker. Motion was unanimously approved.

Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress:

- Bob Smith cracked some ribs falling in the bathtub. He is okay but very sore.

Good of the Order:

- Chris Lussier picked up 4 full trash bags of flags from the Hollis Transfer facility. They included 2 each 48-star flags that were in really good shape.
- Veterans breakfast on Wednesdays at 0800.
- Vettix has tickets available for events. Sign up and get notifications for tickets they have available for various event types all over New England.
- Copper Door, Cactus Jacks and T-Bones offers 25% discounts to veterans on Tuesdays for the entire tab for parties of 6 or less.
- Marianne’s Diner offers 20% off tab for veterans.
- Marketplace Diner honored Bob Smith’s 96th birthday by painting “Happy Birthday, Bob,” in the snow bank of the parking lot.
- USA 250th Anniversary at Gillette Stadium on June 14. Looking for donors and a celebrity Master of Ceremonies.

Closing: The meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 16 February at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.

News For & From Members

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

March 2025

- 16 March: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 27 March: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

April 2025

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

May 2025

- 3 May: Day of Service Event – Bruce Moran porch safety rails and steps.
- 5 May: Post Annual Report due completion.
- 18 May: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 22 May: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.
- 26 May: Memorial Day activities

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>.



VFW Posts and veterans from coast to coast are signing up for the fourth annual VFW Day of Service, which kicks off May 3, 2025. [Will you join them?](#)

If you're wondering what kinds of events to plan, or if you have other questions, look no further. Our website has lots of great resources.

- This handy [FAQ page](#) has answers to all your questions.
- [Check out the list of 100 ideas](#) for Day of Service.
- If you're on a solo mission, we've got you covered with [individual service project ideas](#).

Let us know you're all in. [Sign up for 2025](#) so we can keep you in the loop and track your event!

[Sign Up for Day of Service 2025](#)

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

The Presidential Inauguration is complete and the new administration is being nominated and put in place. A successful transition of power as outlined in the US Constitution.

Kerry Spangler

Post Officers

Commander: Mark Tigert - (240) 344-8291 vfw11373cdr@proton.me

Senior Vice Commander: Mark Andrews

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Quartermaster: Chris Lussier

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Service Officer: Bruce Moran

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

Junior Vice Commander: George Robinson

(540) 809-8696; GMRobinson118@gmail.com

Chaplain: Bruce Moran

603-465-1040; bruce.moran@hotmail.com

Adjutant: Kerry Spangler

Cell: 603-233-0266; KSpang8393@aol.com

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

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