



Hollis VFW

February 2024 Newsletter

Vol. 34 Issue: 3

Serving Hollis and Brookline

March 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=blA2NlZNMFo5cFhwVHlKUKVWtXMxZz09;](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/86999020485?pwd=blA2NlZNMFo5cFhwVHlKUKVWtXMxZz09;MeetingID=86999020485) 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: 17 March

February Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 8 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 \$7.00 from National, a shed donation for \$100, and \$2.47 in interest from the bank. There were seven disbursements, all Lowes debit purchases for shed building materials. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Andy Seremeth, and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports: Patriots' Pen certificates and gift cards are still being held by Chris Lussier and will be given to George Robinson at the first opportunity.

Membership: The members voted unanimously to accept John Kelly into the Post. John is a member at large in New Hampshire and gave his DD214 which contained the appropriate credentials. John currently works with Operation Delta Dog. Next, Chris Lussier made a motion to award Dr. Jim Kelly a Life Membership due to his continued deployments and status as an officer in our Post; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

Comrade in Distress:

- Greg d'Arbonne's father was given Last Rites and is resting at home.
- Jim Belanger stated he is still having some balance issues. His doctor fears it may be permanent. Jim is using a cane to assist with his vertigo. He will soon be having cataract surgery on one eye.
- Chris Lussier informed the members that Bob Delia's son has passed away.

Old Business: The members voted on the Citizen of the year. Candidates were Charlotte

Troddyn of Operation Delta Dog and Robyn Nelson who has been the Historian for the Post. The results were Nelson 1, Troddyn 7. We will collect some information on Charlotte and prepare a certificate to present at the Town Meeting on 16 March.

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:

- An organization in New York solicited donations. It was declined by the members.
- Robyn Nelson submitted a letter of resignation as the Pos Historian. Members decided to present her with a certificate of appreciation. We will discuss the specifics with our Adjutant.
- Trevor Duval's Government students have won state level competitions with respect to the Constitution and are traveling to Washington DC to compete at that level. They are seeking donations to offset costs for the trip. Andy Seremeth moved to contribute \$1000; seconded by Bruce Moran. Mark Andrews cautioned us against setting precedents in the future, which was noted. Motion passed unanimously. We will coordinate with Trevor to find an appropriate time to present the check and a group of members will attend, to be determined.

- NH Department requested a donation of \$50 from all posts to pay for a logo-embazoned canopy for recruitment efforts. A motion to contribute was made by Bruce Moran, seconded by Chris Lussier and unanimously DISAPPROVED.

New Business:

- The American Legion has requested assistance with the heating oil bill (\$837.44) for the building. Bruce Moran moved to pay half the bill (\$418.72); seconded by Bob Smith and unanimously approved.

For the Good of the Order:

- Mark Andrews attended the Celebration of Life on 3 February in Texas for the MIA Captain on his POW/MIA bracelet. He detailed the experience of joining the family in this long-awaited closure.
- Mark Tigert described a workout program he attended at CrossFit that honored KIA Capt Ryan Phaneuf of Hudson.
- Chris Lussier gave a status report on the shed project. The interior is fully insulated, and sheetrock is now being ordered and will soon be mounted.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 17 March 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!"

VFW Volunteer Historian Needed

The Hollis VFW has albums with documents, obituaries and pictures of events which are stored in the Hollis Eveready Engine House Museum. A VFW Historian is needed to keep up this history since the existing historian is retiring but will be happy to show a successor the ropes and tradition. This position is open to any citizen of Hollis. Please contact Jim Bélanger if interested.

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

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>.

VA to Expand Healthcare Eligibility on March 5, 2024

VA has announced that they are expanding healthcare eligibility to all veterans who served in the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, or any other combat zone after 9/11/2001. Originally, the PACT Act called for a phased in approach, but at the direction of President Biden, VA has instead opened this expanded eligibility to VA Healthcare effective March 5, 2024.

Please encourage any eligible veterans to enroll in VA healthcare; they can do so online at <https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction>, by phone at 877-222-8387, or by visiting a local VA medical facility.

For more information please review VA's official statement here: <https://news.va.gov/press-room/veteran-toxins-hazards-serving-eligible-va/>

Additionally, Task and Purpose released a story on this expansion, you can read it here: <https://taskandpurpose.com/military-life/veteran-affairs-expands-healthcare-access/>



**In Commemoration
of the end of the
Vietnam War**

Welcome Home

If you served between 1955-1975, or are the widow of a Veteran who served during this time period, or a Gold Star Family Member of a Vietnam Veteran ...

Join us

**for a special ceremony
on Thursday, March 28
10 a.m. to Noon**

Manchester Vet Center

**1461 Hooksett Road, Suite B7
(Back of the building)
Hooksett, NH 03106**

Please register with the  no later than March 25th

Email: William.Connery@va.gov or call (603) 782-6947

NH Women in Military Service Memorial


Donate here:



**We are dedicated to
building a memorial to
honor our sisters in
arms.**


NHWMSM@gmail.com • Instagram: @nh_women_in_military_service
Facebook: New Hampshire Women in Military Service Memorial


REGISTER
HER
STORY




Without
HERstory
our nation's
history is
incomplete

Join the thousands of women who have registered their **HER**story with the Military Women's Memorial





Scan the QR Code with your cell phone to Register **HER**story



More than 3 million women have served in defense of our freedom from the American Revolution until today.


The Women In Military Service for America Memorial exists to collect and preserve their legacy – past, present and future.

REGISTER - If you are a woman who has served – be part of our history.
What we don't record – we lose.

VISIT - experience our permanent and traveling exhibits representing the collective history of women in the military.


SUPPORT – Our mission to Honor, Educate, Empower and Remember our service women.


Every Story Matters!
Register Today!
www.womensmemorial.org



MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL

Honor • Educate • Empower • Remember





Women In Military Service For America
Memorial Foundation, Inc.

Martha (Marty) Gladu
MSgt, U.S. Air Force (Ret.)
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www.womensmemorial.org

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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

Laugh Along

Seen during a conference: For anyone who has children and doesn't know it, there is a day care on the 1st floor.

Notice in a farmer's field: The farmer allows walkers to cross the field for free, but the bull charges.

Message on a leaflet: If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons.

On a repair shop door: We can repair anything. (Please knock hard on the door - the bell doesn't work.)

HEADLINES: Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

War Dims Hope for Peace

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge

New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group

Kids Make Nutritious Snacks

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half

Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors

Something To Lighten and Brighten Your Day

"Due to my time alone, I finished three books yesterday. And believe me, that's a lot of coloring.

What did our parents do to kill boredom before the internet? I asked my 26 brothers and sisters, and they didn't know either.

I tried donating blood today. NEVER AGAIN! Too many stupid questions: Who's blood is it? Where did you get it from? Why is it in a bucket?

There's nothing scarier than that split second when you lose your balance in the shower and you think, "They are going to find me naked."

Today, I melted an ice cube with my mind just by staring at it. It took a lot longer than I thought it would.

Struggling to get your wife's attention? Just sit down and look comfortable.

Just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 22nd time.

I grew up with Steve Jobs, Johnny Cash and Bob Hope. Now there's no jobs, no cash, and no hope. Please don't let anything happen to Kevin Bacon.

Shout-out to everyone who can still remember their childhood phone number but can't remember the password they created yesterday. You are my people.

One minute you're young and fun. The next, you're turning down the stereo in your car to see better.

Think you're old and you will be old. Think you are young, and you will be delusional.

When I offer to wash your back in the shower, all you have to say is 'yes' or 'no'. Not all this "Who are you and how did you get in here?" nonsense.

Not in jail, not in a mental hospital, not in a grave—I'd say I'm having a good day.

Enjoy your day and look forward to waking up tomorrow!"

People say 60 is the new
40. The cop who just
pulled me over didn't
agree.

Post Officers

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Junior Vice Commander: George Robinson

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