



Hollis VFW

May 2024 Newsletter

Vol. 34 Issue: 5

Serving Hollis and Brookline

May 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: 19 May

Please note the activities around Memorial Day and try to attend as many as you can. Think about it, if we Veterans don't support Memorial Day, why should non-Veterans?

April Meeting Minutes

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Brookline American Legion Hall and via Zoom. 8 members were present.

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 Andy Seremeth and unanimously approved.

Quartermaster's Report: The Quartermaster's Report was read. There was one deposit for \$.99 from Interest. There were three disbursements; \$200 to the Brookline American Legion Post to pay for the VFW Post share of the electric bill; \$225 for two memberships voted on at the last meeting; and \$63.30 for building material for the shed. Bruce Moran made a

motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Andy Seremeth, and unanimously approved. The Quartermaster reminded the Trustees that after the meeting he needs them to sign the Quarterly Report of Audit.

Committee Reports:

- Service Officer: nothing to report.
- Patriots' Pen presentation will be on the 18th of June at the Middle School.
- George Robinson stated he ordered the Eagle Scout certificates. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Post reimburses George in the amount of \$78.05 for the purchase of the certificates; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

Membership: Nothing to report.

Comrade in Distress:

- Bruce Moran stated his wife fell down the basement steps at their house and was severely injured. She broke her back, has lacerations on her head and it has affected her heart. Bruce says she is in a lot of pain and has pneumonia as well. Bruce says she is suffering tremendously even with the pain medications. He asks for everyone's prayers for Annmarie and his family during this crisis.

Old Business:

- Post Elections: Andy Seremeth made a motion that the Post Adjutant cast one vote for the slate of Officers nominated at the March meeting; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved. Greg d'Arbonne cast one ballot for the slate of Officers nominated at the March meeting. The Officers elected are:
 - Post Commander: Mark Tigert
 - Senior Vice: Mark Andrews
 - Junior Vice: George Robinson
 - Chaplain: Bruce Moran
 - Service Officer: Bruce Moran
 - JAG: Bob Smith
 - Quartermaster: Chris Lussier
 - Adjutant: No nominee currently
 - Surgeon: Jim Kelly
 - Trustees:
 - Andy Seremeth = 1 Year
 - Jim Bélanger = 2 Year
 - Bob Smith = 3 Year
- Memorial Day 2024:
 - George Robinson will be the Guest Speaker.
 - Chris Lussier stated he ordered the QR Code sign.
 - Chris Lussier coordinated with Rabbi John who will do the Invocation and Benediction. They also discussed taking care of the Veterans graves at the Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Post do the graves there on 26 May at 1 PM; seconded by Chris and unanimously approved.

- Poppy Distribution Schedule: The Post will distribute Poppies at the Hollis Transfer Station from 8 AM to 4 PM. The schedule for volunteering is:
 - 8 to 10 AM = Chris Lussier and Bruce Moran
 - 10 to 12 Noon = Andy Seremeth and Bruce Moran
 - 12 Noon to 2 PM = Jim Bélanger and Bruce Moran
 - 2 to 4 PM = Mark Tigert and Bruce Moran
- Greg d'Arbonne will publish the schedule of school Memorial Day activities in the newsletter.
- The Memorial Day Ceremonies are:
 - Brookline: 9:30 AM in front of Brookline Town Hall.
 - Hollis:
 - 5 to 5:25 = Pre-program. Fife and Drum and DAR activities.
 - 5:25 = VFW Chaplain begins at Memorial Park with prayers and laying of wreaths at monuments there.
 - 5:27 = Veterans march to the Common
 - 5:30 = Memorial Day Ceremony begins.
- Shed update: Chris Lussier stated fixes are being made. He said we brought in a Roofer who is repairing the roof with us. Chris made a motion that we pay the Roofer, Jeff, \$35/hour; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne and unanimously approved.

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: Nothing received.

New Business:

- Chris Lussier made a motion that the Post hire a good cleaning team to clean Bob Smith's residence at least every other week; seconded by Greg d'Arbonne. After some discussion, Bob Smith said he does not need anyone to come in. Andy Seremeth stated he

hired a cleaning company in Atlanta for his daughter's family that came in twice a month at a cost of \$135. Jim Bélanger also stated he hired a cleaning team for a cost about the same as Andy. The motion was tabled.

For the Good of the Order:

- Chris Lussier stated he and Bruce Moran spoke to the Brookline Scout Troop about flag etiquette.
- Greg d'Arbonne stated the Brookline Legion and the Brookline Scout Troop are holding a Spaghetti Dinner on 11 May, from 5 to 7:30

PM at the Brookline Community Church. All are invited. To reserve tickets, call (603) 672-5830.

- Greg d'Arbonne stated the Brookline Legion will hold the Flag Retirement Ceremony on the 15th of June at 10 AM next to the Legion. All are invited.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 19 May at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.

News For & From Members

Memorial Day Activities – 24 through 27 May

Memorial Day is 27 May. Highlights of our activities are listed here. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Please watch social media for other events at the schools and the community.

- Friday, 24 May:
 - 9:30 AM, Captain Samuel Douglass Academy, Brookline: Memorial Day Ceremony
 - Hollis Upper Elementary School:
 - 1:00 to 1:45: Lunch with students
 - 1:45 PM: Memorial Day Ceremony
- Saturday, 25 May, 8 AM to 4 PM = Poppy Distribution at the Hollis Transfer Station: We will pass out Poppies at the Transfer Station. An hour of your time is requested. Current Poppy Distribution Schedule is as follows:
 - 8 to 10 AM = Chris Lussier & Bruce Moran
 - 10 AM to 12 PM = Andy Seremeth & Bruce Moran
 - Jim Bélanger & Bruce Moran
 - Mark Tigert and Bruce Moran
- Sunday, 26 May, 1 PM, Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua: The Post members will cleanup and take care of the graves at the cemetery where Allan Soifert, a Hollis citizen and Marine killed in Lebanon in 1983, is buried.
- Monday, 27 May, Memorial Day: Preferred dress for the ceremonies in Brookline and Hollis is a blue blazer, blue or grey slacks, white shirt, cap, tie optional.
 - 9:30 AM, Brookline Town Hall = Brookline will hold their Memorial Day ceremony in front of the Brookline Town Hall. The public, especially Veterans, are invited to attend.
 - 5:00 PM, Hollis Town Common = Hollis will hold their Memorial Day ceremony at the Hollis Town Common with pre-ceremony activities beginning at 5 PM, followed by the

actual ceremony starting shortly before 5:30 PM. Those who plan to attend should meet at the Common by 5 PM. All Veterans are invited to attend.

Thank you from the AP Government Students

Recently, our Post donated to the High School AP Government and Politics students who won the State level competitions with respect to the Constitution. They traveled to Washington DC last month to compete at that level. They needed donations to offset the cost of the trip and our Post made a \$1000 donation. The students returned from their trip, and while they did not win at the national level, they were very grateful to the Post for the donation. Mr. Duval, their teacher, sent the following note:

If I could please ask you for the favor of sharing this message with your members at your next meeting. On behalf of the AP Government and Politics students at Hollis Brookline High School, we again want to thank the members of the VFW for your financial support in our trip to Washington DC this month.

After 5 long days of competing and sightseeing (and LOTS of walking) the students are heading home.

The level of knowledge that these young men and women demonstrated this past weekend was truly remarkable. While we did not place or win any best unit awards, their poise, articulation, and knowledge were on full display, and wow. I do wish you all could have seen it. These are not just my words, but words from parents, alumni and other guests that got to witness them compete.

They also got to explore many of the sites in DC and the surrounding areas.

A Civil War battlefield (Bull Run / Manassas, an example of the ultimate lesson of what happens when government fails); Monuments to great individuals and movements that shaped our nation (Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, MLK, Lafayette); Memorials to events great and tragic that shaped our national identity and remind us of the importance of good governance and the character of its people (Arlington National Cemetery, Marine Corps/Iwo Jima Memorial, World War I, World War II); Memorials to the things we should never, ever forget (Holocaust Museum, Pentagon 9/11 Memorial); Places that preserved our history for future generations to see and discover (US Botanical Gardens, Library of Congress, The National Archives- after all, a government class can't go to DC without seeing the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution or the Bill of Rights, right?).

And finally, to the seats of the 3 Branches themselves, from being outside of the Supreme Court as they hear arguments on a case that can impact the next several years (way too crowded to get in unfortunately) to the Halls of Congress, watching Members of the House debate legislation (and just what the rules of Congress are), seeing well known Senators conferring on the floor of the Senate to finally, touring the West Wing and peering into the Oval Office itself.

With all of this going on, many of these students also attempted to make time to study for other exams, do homework and continue to do the things that make them such successful students.

I feel truly lucky to have gotten to spend this time with such a great group.

Always thankful,

Respectfully,

Trevor Duval, M.Ed., Social Studies Department, Hollis Brookline High School.

Calendar of Events

Added/Changed events are highlighted in yellow.

May

- 11 May: Brookline American Legion and Scout Troop 260 Spaghetti Dinner, 5 to 7 PM, Brookline Community Church, Main St., Brookline
- 19 May: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall
- 23 May: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting
- 25 May: VFW and American Legion Poppy distribution at Transfer Stations, 8 AM to 4 PM
- 25 May: Replace all US flags in the Brookline cemeteries, 9 to 11 AM
- 26 May: Cleanup Veteran graves at the Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua, 1 PM
- 27 May, 8:30 AM Coffee with a Vet, then 9:30 AM, Memorial Day Ceremony. All in front of the Brookline Town Hall
- 27 May, 5:15 PM, wreath laying at Memorial Park, then march to Hollis Common for the Memorial Day Ceremony on the Hollis Town Common

June

- 15 June: Brookline American Legion Flag Retirement Ceremony, 10 AM, Legion Hall.
- 23 June: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall. (changed due to Father's Day)
- 27 June: Brookline American Legion Monthly Meeting.

July

- 4 July: 4th of July Parade in Brookline, assemble at 9:30 AM at Legion Hall.
- 21 July: Hollis VFW Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM, Brookline Legion Hall.

- 25 July: 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

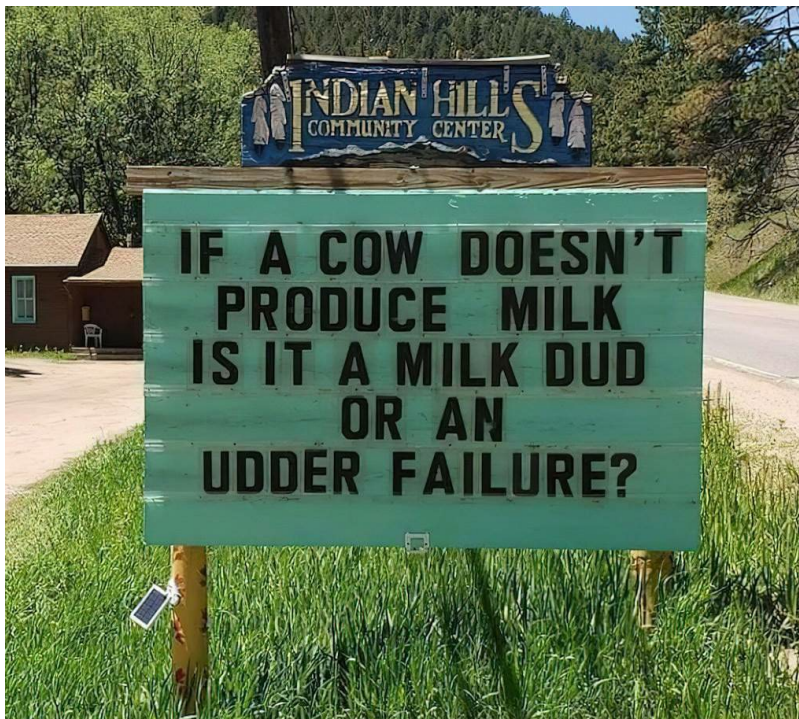
Help Build the Veteran Database at the NH Veterans Heritage Learning Center

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>.

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



"F" IN SCHOOL

MOST KINDERGARTEN
TEACHERS HAVE ONE
OF THESE IN THEIR
CLASSROOM



**70% OF THE EARTH IS WATER AND
VIRTUALLY NONE OF IT IS CARBONATED**



SO THE EARTH IS, IN FACT, FLAT...

**Q: What do you get if
you divide the
circumference of a
pumpkin by its
diameter?**

**A: Pumpkin π
Sorry. I'll see myself
out.**

Post Officers

Commander: Mark Tigert - (240) 344-8291, vfwhollis11373cdr@proton.me

Senior Vice Commander: Mark Andrews
(603)732-6113; agav8r1997@gmail.com

Quartermaster: Chris Lussier
(603) 465-2676; clussier@tds.net

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: Greg d'Arbonne
(603) 672-5830; C: 978-604-8835; gdarbo6844@aol.com

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