



NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2025
DAVIS-WOODMAN-DURGIN
HENNIKER AMERICAN LEGION POST 78
P.O. Box 2178, HENNIKER, NH 03242-2178

For God and Country

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COMMANDERS NOTES



The Purple Heart Community signs have come in and have been installed. The town highway department put in the posts and a few of the members put the signs up last Friday and we had a brief ceremony to explain the program and unveiled the sign at the beginning of the weekly band concert. We also had the NE Run for the Fallen come through town on Saturday morning honoring fallen veterans. We've been a local sponsor for this program for three years now. Henniker natives Sgt. Russel Durgin and LTC Stephanie Murdough Riley were recognized. Come join us at our meeting 8/19/25.

David Tille, Commander Post 78

SICK CALL

- Cindi Nadelman
- David Tille
- Greg Champlin
- Jim Nash

BIRTHDAYS

Department of Defense Birthday	August
Faith Harris	August
Joseph Reed	August
U.S. Coast Guard Birthday	August
U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Birthday	August

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." – Anonymous

MEETING DATES

All meetings are held at 129 Centerville Road off the Old Concord Road Suite 3 (Rear of the Henniker Brewing Co building) 7:00pm the third Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted.

- Tuesday, August 19th 7:00pm
- Tuesday, September 16th 7:00pm
- Tuesday, October 21st 7:00pm

RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER

PURPLE HEART COMMUNITY PROJECT

We celebrated Purple Heart Month with a brief ceremony announcing the installation of the Purple Heart Community signs. They are now in place at the town lines entering Henniker (Hillsboro, Weare, Warner and Hopkinton (Old Concord Rd @ Old West Hopkinton Loop).

An explanation of how and when one is awarded a Purple Heart was presented to the crowd at the regular Tuesday night band concert at the Angela Robinson Band Stand in Community Park by Post Commander Tille.

The Purple Heart is a distinguished military decoration awarded in the name of the President to those who have been wounded or killed while serving in the U.S. armed forces.

Eligibility for a Purple Heart applies to service members who suffered a wound:

1. As the direct or indirect result of enemy action, and
2. The wound required treatment by a medical officer at the time of the injury.



Commander Dave Tille, Chaplain John Coburn, Adjutant Dave Currier and member Peter Leonard unveiled the sign during the presentation.

2025 POST 78 OFFICERS

The following Officers were elected in December and were sworn in at the January meeting for 2025 by District 5 Officers.

Commander: David Tille

1st Vice Commander: Jonathan Morton

2nd Vice Commander: VACANT

Adjutant/Finance Officer: David Currier

Service Officer: Cindi Nadelman

Chaplain: John Coburn

Sgt. at Arms: Eugene Fox

Historian: Cordell "CJ" Drabble

Judge Advocate: Derek Pelkey

Immed. Past Commander: Sukari Statton Bill



POST EVENT SCHEDULE

August 22-28 National Convention, Tampa, Florida

Saturday, September 20th – Post 88 Loudon – POW/MIA 24 Hour Vigil, 11:00am

Saturday, October 11th – Hillsboro Post 59 - **Golf Tournament Angus Leigh** - to register; sponsor; donate or volunteer sign up on their website.

Saturday, October 25 – Department Fall Convention, Post 49 Tilton, 9:00AM

Sunday, November 2nd 2025 10:00am Annual Henniker American Legion Post 78 Road/Trail Race – Hugs from VETS. Sponsored by Delta Dental, NEC Veterans Affairs, NEC Adventure Bound and Henniker Brewing Company.

ZOOM IN TO THE MONTHLY MEETING

If you are unavailable to attend the monthly meeting in person please watch for a separate email with an invite link to attend the meeting via Zoom. We've had a number of members who have availed themselves of attending the meeting using Zoom. It's pretty straight forward and only requires your computer to be connected to WiFi and a camera and microphone on your computer.

*"Coming together is a beginning,
staying together is progress and
working together is success"*
~ Henry Ford

NE RUN FOR THE FALLEN

The NE Run for the Fallen came through the area Saturday 8/16 at approximately 9:30am and stopped at their Mile Marker 68 and read the names of the fallen two of which are from Henniker: Sgt. Russell Durgin, USA and LTC Stephanie Murdough Riley, USAF. Members of the Durgin including Gold Star Mother Jean and the Murdough family were presented a small set of flags, the USA and the Honor & Remember.



They run from Bernardston, MA to Kittery, ME over a three day period which is approximately 140+ miles.

BE THE ONE

DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE NEWSLETTER

The Department of New Hampshire Newsletter can be found on their Web Site:

<https://legionnh-nh.newsmemory.com/>

There is a lot of useful information and news about what's going on around the state.

DISTRICT 5 MEETING DATES

Saturday, 9/20 – District 5 Meeting, Suncook Post 28 10:00am start, Social 9:00am

Saturday, 12/13 – District 5 Meeting, Penacook Post, 10:00am start, Social 9:00am.

Saturday, 3/7/2025 – District 5 Meeting & Elections, Deerfield Post 103, 10:00am start, Social 9:00am.



Let's kick off our celebration of America's 250th birthday by leading from the front, engaging in physical activities, conducting community service and embracing mental wellness.

I am honored to announce The American Legion's year-long celebration of our great nation, called

the USA 250 Challenge. This patriotic challenge will help celebrate the nation's 250th birthday by promoting American Legion values while offering options for everyone to participate.

Register today and join the challenge, which offers three categories for you to set and achieve goals. The challenge is now under way and concludes on the Fourth of July, 2026.

The three categories can be completed over the next year, solo or as part of a team. They are:

- **Fitness activities:** Participants may choose to walk, bicycle or cover 250 miles (or hours) any way they choose. Or they can aim to do 250 hours of activity like playing pickleball, strength training or kayaking. An example of a team challenge would be 10 participants each walking 25 miles.
- **Wellness:** Participants complete 250 hours of wellness activities such as yoga, meditation and other forms of mindfulness. Other options include tallying 250 participants in Be the One training, completing 250 Buddy Checks, etc. American Legion Riders chapters (or individuals) could create an event where they ride at least 250 miles. Other team events might be an American Legion post, Auxiliary unit and Sons of The American Legion squadron conducting 250 Buddy Checks in their community.
- **Community service:** Participants achieve 250 hours of community service or reach the 250 threshold of a specific community service project. Individual or team examples include volunteering for 250 hours, cleaning up 250 graves in a veterans cemetery, teaching flag etiquette to 250 students or sending 250 care packages to deployed troops, or properly disposing of 250 tattered American flags.

Not only are we embracing physical activity, supporting mental health and serving our communities, we are giving back to disabled veterans and military families. Participants will register for \$30 and receive a USA 250 Challenge T-shirt – in your choice of red, white or blue – with

the proceeds going to the Veterans & Children Foundation.

You can learn more by visiting legion.org/usa250/challenge, where you can also register and donate.

Please join me in celebrating America while engaging in healthy activities, supporting mental wellness and serving our great nation.



VETERANS RESOURCE PAGE

Did you know that there is a **Veterans Resource page on the Department website**? It is packed with information on Travel and Recreation, VA Loan info, TriCare info, PTSD Info, Woman's Veterans info as well as a list of available resources.

To access this information, go to the Department website = legionnh.org = select the Department tab on the left-hand side, then select Veterans Solutions. A wealth of information can be found on the webpage. Please take a look.



FREE PICNIC FOR NH VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

Hudson VFW Post 5791 is hosting its Ninth Annual Veterans Appreciation picnic for ALL NH veterans and their families.

When: Saturday September 13, 2025 from 11 AM to 3 PM

Where: Hudson VFW Post 5791, 15 Bockes Rd, Hudson, NH


Open to anyone who has served in any branch of the U.S. military. Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, Retired, and widows or widowers. You don't have to be a member of the VFW, American Legion or any other veterans' organization to attend. Bring your family.

- This is a FREE event
- All Veterans who attend will be entered into a drawing for Door Prizes!
- Cornhole tournament
- Horseshoes, bocce
- Games and activities for kids
- Come meet your fellow veterans
- Representatives of VSOs will be there
- Gov Ayotte is scheduled to attend

2026 DUES IS DUE

It really helps the post, the Department and National if you are able to pay your dues online. If you haven't paid your dues let's get to 100% before any post in New Hampshire. We came in 2nd last year so why not first this year. I'm having knee replacement surgery on October 30 and will be laid up for a couple of weeks so getting your dues paid prior to that would be helpful.

The PACT Act is delivering for New Hampshire veterans...

-  **9,235** PACT Act related claims received
-  **1,911** new enrollments under PACT Act
-  More than **\$22 million** in benefits delivered to New Hampshire veterans

CONGRESSWOMAN MAGGIE GOODLANDER

Data from VA, as of July 18, 2025

Editors Note: *The views expressed in this Newsletter are deemed interesting enough by the Editor to include in the newsletter. I take full responsibility and the content does not reflect the opinion of the members of the Post, the Department of NH or the American Legion. Please contact me if any of these articles offend you. – 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 or the Post. No funds solicitation is authorized via e-mail.*