December 2017 Newsletter

Kilduff-Wirtanen American Legion Post 74, Brookline, NH meets the 4th Thursday of the month* at 38 Main Street Brookline.
Meetings begin at 1900 hours (7PM). *Nov and Dec meeting held 3rd Thursday.
If you wish to join or have questions about the American Legion, please call one of the Post Officers.

Next Meeting:

21 December at 7:00 PM

Please note date change due to Christmas and New Year Holiday’s on normal 4th Thursday of the Month

November Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7 PM by Commander Dave Larkin. 8 members present.
Colors advanced, prayers offered, POW/MIA empty chair recognized, and the Preamble recited.

Membership: Greg d’Arbonne reported that Lt Col Mark Andrews of Brookline has inquired about joining the Post and Greg provided him the information to join either online or to mail the application to the Post.

Minutes: Minutes of the October 2017 meeting were read. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Minutes be approved as read; seconded by Bob Canada and unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer’s Report for October and November were read. For October, the Post received $235 from dues and donations; and expenses totaled $536.94 for Legion Decals for the Flag Deposit box; the new water pump; District 2 and dues to the Department of New Hampshire and the electric bill. Bruce Moran made a motion that the October Treasurers Report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Greg d’Arbonne and unanimously approved. For November, income was $704.21 from the Poppy drive and a $500 donation to the Post; and expenses were $33.16 for the electric bill. Bruce Moran made a motion that the October Treasurers Report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Greg d’Arbonne and unanimously approved. Bob Glover asked if we should consider moving some of our funds to a CD to make a little money from the Interest. It was agreed by all that the rates are too low for a short-term CD to be worth the trouble, so the recommendation was to not put any funds in a CD.

Sick Call and Employment:

• Bob Canada reported that he saw Del Porter and he is feeling better but still has some pain from the ribs he broke a couple of weeks ago. Del told Bob he would not be able to make the meeting.
• Greg d’Arbonne stated he spoke to Ruth Wrigley and she says hello to everyone.
• Bruce Moran reported he has been having some episodes with his heart, so he will have to limit some of his activities.

Old Business:

• It was noted at the Flag Retirement Ceremony that we need a new tarp for the Flag Disposal Container. Patrick Kennedy stated he has a few at home that he will donate and bring down to cover the container.
• Greg d’Arbonne stated that after the meeting, he would like Commander Larkin, Bruce Moran and Bob Glover to help him fill out the paperwork for the rifle inventory the Post did before the Flag Retirement Ceremony.

New Business:
• It was noted the furnace was not working so Greg d’Arbonne will call Absolute Mechanical tomorrow morning and ask them to come fix the furnace. Jim Pope stated he is available to come to the Legion Hall if they need someone present.

**Correspondence:** Nothing to received.

**For the Good of The Post:**

• Jim Pope stated there will be a presentation by Dan Marcek at the Lions Meeting on 21 November at the Fire House. All Veterans and any friends are invited to attend.

• Greg d’Arbonne stated there will be a free screening of the film “Justice for All” at the Nashua Public Library on 30 November. All are invited.

• Commander Larkin stated he was asked to say a special prayer at church the Sunday after Veterans Day and to sing “Eternal Father”.

There being no further business, the closing prayer was said, and the colors retired. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting is 21 December at 7 PM.

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**News For & From Members**

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**The Brookline Lions Club Invites You To Be Our Guest at the Seniors Holiday Luncheon**

**Menu:**
- Fruit Cup & Sherbet Appetizer
- Roast Turkey with Stuffing
- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Vegetables, Rolls, and Butter
- Coffee, Punch & Water
- Dessert Cake

**When:** Saturday, December 16, 2017
**Time:** 12:00 Noon
**Where:** Brookline Fire Station

Transportation Available if Needed
Let us know if you need a ride!

**Reservations Requested**
RSVP by Monday, December 11, 2017
Vicki: 673-1660 or pope_vl@yahoo.com
Please Make Sure You Renew ASAP

If you are a member who pays 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.members.legion.org/CGI-BIN/lansaweb?webapp=MYLRENEW+webrtn=wr_memberdata+ml=LANSA:XHTML+part=TAL+lang=ENG#legion-org-header), but please renew! Thanks!

News of Interest to Veterans

AMERICAN LEGION
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Norris-Cotton Federal Building, 275 Chestnut Street, Room 519, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101

The American Legion Department of New Hampshire Veterans Service Office (VSO) has reopened after being closed for several months. The new Department Service Officer is Curtis Lenz, and the new Assistant Veterans Service Officer is Michael Hartt. The office is open daily, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred.

The VSO offers free assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors in claims for any federal or state benefits or service to which they may be entitled. The VSO can also act as an advocate, accompanying the veteran or dependent to hearings on their claims.

Curtis Lenz phone: (603) 222-5785
Email: Curtis.Lenz@va.gov
Michael Hartt phone: (603) 222-5784
Email: Michael.Hartt@va.gov
Office Fax: (603) 222-5787
Opportunity for The American Legion to Be Involved with The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys For Tots Program

MISSION: The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

GOAL: The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation’s most valuable resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.


https://www.toysfortots.org/

https://www.toysfortots.org/about_toys_for_tots/Default.aspx

POCs:

Coordinator: Sgt Justin Gordon, (339) 970-8793

Assistant Coordinator: GySgt Benitck, (603) 537-8125
Online Exchange Shopping a Winner

The military exchanges opened their online shopping doors to honorably discharged veterans over the Veterans Day weekend. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service said their online weekend sales more than doubled over the same timeframe last year; details were not available from the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard exchange systems. To shop online at any or all the military exchanges, you must first verify your eligibility through VetVerify.org.

Wreaths Across America NH State Veterans Cemetery Boscawen: 16 December

10:30 to 12:00 PM = Placing wreaths on graves.
12:00PM to 12:50 PM = Wreaths Across America ceremony, sponsored by NH Wing of the Civil Air Patrol
This document explains what the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) can do for you if you ever need emergency care. When it is not possible for you to go to a VA Medical Center (VAMC), you should go to the nearest hospital that has an emergency room (ER). If you are in an ambulance, the paramedics will usually take you to the closest emergency room.

What is an emergency?
A medical emergency is an injury or illness so severe that without immediate treatment, it threatens your life or health. Your situation is an emergency if you believe your life or health is in danger. If you believe your life or health is in danger, call 911 or go to the nearest ER right away. You do not need to call the VA before calling for an ambulance or going to an emergency room.

When should I contact the VA regarding an ER visit?
You, your family, friends or hospital staff should contact the nearest VAMC as soon as possible, preferably within 72 hours of your emergency, so you are better aware of what services VA may or may not cover. Provide VA with information about your emergency and what services are being provided to you. Ask VA for guidance on what emergency charges are covered, so you can plan accordingly.

If the doctor then wants to admit me to the hospital, must I obtain advance approval from the VA?
If the admission is an emergency, advance approval is not required although prompt notification to the VA is necessary (within 72 hours). If the admission is not an emergency, then you must obtain advance approval from the VA.

Will I have to pay for transportation to a VA facility?
VA will assist with transportation arrangements and may be able to pay for such expenses. Contact the nearest VA Medical Center for guidelines.

If a VA bed is available and I can be safely transferred, do I have to move to the VA hospital?
Yes, if you want VA to continue to pay for your care. If you refuse to be transferred, VA will not pay for any further care.

If I am admitted to the hospital as a result of an emergency, how much will VA pay?
Depending on your VA eligibility, VA may pay all, some or none of the charges. Some highlights are listed in the next column, and you may ask your local VA Medical Center’s VA Community Care Office for further eligibility guidance.

For service-connected conditions, some of the criteria that must be met are:
- Care or services were provided in a medical emergency, AND
- VA or another federal facility were not feasibly available, AND
- VA was notified within 72 hours of the admission.

For nonservice-connected conditions, some of the criteria that must be met are:
- Veteran is enrolled in the VA health care system, AND
- Veteran has received health care services from VA within the previous 24 months, AND
- Veteran has no other health insurance coverage.

How do I know if I have a service-connected condition?
A service-connected condition refers to an illness or injury that was incurred during or aggravated by military service, and has a rating assigned by the Veterans Benefits Administration.

How long do I have to file a claim for reimbursement for emergency medical care?
File your claim with the nearest VAMC quickly because time limits usually apply. For nonservice-connected care, the time limit is 90 days. Again, consult your local VA Medical Center for more information.

Will VA pay for emergency care received outside the United States?
VA will only pay for emergency care outside the U.S. if your emergency is related to a service-connected condition. For more information about care provided outside the U.S., contact the Foreign Medical Program at 1-877-345-8179, or visit the website at http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/

How do I get more information?
Visit the VHA Office of Community Care website at http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/ for more information on emergency care for Veterans.

VAMC White River Jct., VT
Contact: 802-295-9363 ext. 5700

Published November 2016
Memorandum

Date: NOV 28 2017

From: Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N)

Subject: Testing for Clonorchis Sinensis Exposure in Vietnam Veterans

To: Network Director (10N1-23)
VISHN Chief Medical Officers (10N1-23)

1. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to conducting research to enhance the health care provided to our Nation’s Veterans. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information regarding the Clonorchis Sinensis/Liver Fluke parasite Exposure in Vietnam Veterans study.

2. The Northport VA Medical Center Infectious Disease team conducted a pilot study to detect evidence of exposure to the Liver Fluke parasite in Vietnam Veterans during the Spring of 2017. The study evaluated Veterans who ate raw or undercooked fish from the rivers of Vietnam to find evidence of past Liver Fluke parasite infection. Liver Fluke is found in fresh water fish in some regions where Vietnam Veterans served. Exposure to the parasite might be a risk factor for a rare tumor of the biliary tract. Blood samples were taken from 50 Veterans that served in Vietnam. The samples were sent to a South Korean lab recognized for developing a blood test that can measure historical infection with Liver Fluke. The testing was performed under VA research protocol. The test is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration and is not available in the United States. The test is, therefore, not available to VA. All Veterans tested in this study were notified of the results.

3. VA is currently working to validate the South Korean test and is considering a second, larger study. Additional information about the disease may be found at the following website: https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/infectious-diseases/cholangiocarcinoma.asp.

4. For questions regarding the study, please contact Dr. Ralph Erickson, Chief Consultant for Post Deployment Health Services by sending an email to Ralph.Erickson@va.gov.
Points To Ponder

The views expressed in the following article were 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

The Army Navy Football Game

At the beginning of the Army-Navy football game, the coin toss in made.

The Navy captain shouts, HEADS followed by the Army captain shouting LATRINES.

How children perceive their Grandparents

1. I was in the bathroom, putting on my makeup, under the watchful eyes of my young granddaughter, as I’d done many times before. After I applied my lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye....

2. My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 72. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"
3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story.

"What's it about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I really think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"

8. When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."

9. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6." (WOW! I really like this one -- it says I'm only '38')

10. A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting." she said. "How do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."

11. Children's Logic: "Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?" she asked. "Sure," said the young boy confidently. 'It means carrying a child.'

12. A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties.

"They use him to keep crowds back," said one child.

"No," said another. "He's just for good luck."

A third child brought the argument to a close. “They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."
13. A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and whenever we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

14. Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

15. My Grandparents are funny, when they bend over, you hear gas leaks and they blame their dog.

A Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and Happy New Year to everyone!! See you next year!!!

Greg

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**Post Officers**

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Do You Have an E-mail Address?

If you have e-mail access, send a message to Greg (Gdarbo6844@aol.com). 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.