Next Meeting:
22 June at 7:00 PM

May Meeting Minutes
Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Commander Dave Larkin. 7 members present.

Colors advanced, prayer offered, POW/MIA empty chair recognized, prayers offered for those lost and unaccounted for and the Preamble recited.

Membership: Nothing to report.

Minutes: Minutes of the April 2017 meeting were read. Bruce Moran Pope made a motion that the Minutes be approved as read; seconded by Will Collard and unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer’s Report was read. Bob Glover reported the Post received $50.50 in dues and paid $50.96 for the glass needed to fix the windows and paid the electric bill of $60.70. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Treasurer’s Report be approved as read, pending audit; seconded by Will Collard and unanimously approved.

Sick Call and Employment:
- Commander Larkin reported his wife is doing better.
- It was reported that Jim Bélanger is out of the hospital although he still needs an MRI and MRA later this month.

Old Business:
- Jerry Farwell installed the solar lights on the flag poles on 25 May.
- A plumber came and looked at the toilet. The filter was plugged so he unplugged it at no charge to the Post.
- Del Porter reported that when he came down to the building today the cellar door was open and the lights were on. Everyone needs to be more vigilant in turning off all the lights and making sure all doors are closed and secured when they leave the building.
- Will Collard reported the Spaghetti Dinner netted about $1,400. A motion was made by Will Collard that the Post donate $150 to the Boy Scout Troop; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Will Collard that the Post donate $150 to the Community Church; seconded by Bruce Moran and unanimously approved.

New Business:
- The members decided certificates of appreciation should be given to Beth Sulin, Phil Bowers, Absolute Mechanical, and The Cozy Tea Cart for their contributions to the Spaghetti Diners success. Greg d’Arbonne will prepare the certificates for Commander Larkin’s signature and present them at the next meeting.
- The members decided the Flag Retirement Ceremony will be held on 17 June at 10 AM. Greg d’Arbonne will coordinate with the Boy Scout Troop.

Correspondence: The Post received the registration bill from the Town of Brookline for the Boy Scout’s two trailers; $16.50 and $25.50 for a total of $42. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Post pay for the registration of the trailers for the Boy Scouts;
seconded by Will Collard and unanimously approved.

For the Good of The Post:
- The Post received Silver Star Membership Award for meeting the 100% goal year.
- Bruce Moran showed the members a WW II Coupon Book his mother still had.

There being no further business, the closing prayer was said and the colors retired. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM. The next meeting is 22 June at 7 PM.

**News For & From Members**

**Flag Retirement Ceremony, 17 June**

The Brookline American Legion Post will hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony on 17 June at 10 AM at the American Legion Post in Brookline. If you have any flags that need to be retired, please bring them to the Post on that day.

**Post Receives Silver Star Membership Award**

Congratulations to everyone for renewing their membership before the end of the year. Our Post was awarded the Silver Star Membership Award for this accomplishment!
Classic Car Ride

Hollis Heritage Commission Vintage

“Drive It Day”
Auto Rally & Tour Fundraiser
June 17, 2017

Dust off that old classic or polish that new collectable, and join fellow car enthusiasts for a “Touring Event” around the Hollis area. With a scheduled stop at RMR Restoration in Hollis to see some of their restoration projects. We’ll continue on our tour, ending at Beaver Brook to display the cars in their garden setting. Bring your own picnic lunch to enjoy, while we talk about autos, and admire their styling.

Cost: $20.00 per vehicle
Registration will start at 9am at The Lawrence Barn
Event runs from 9am to 1pm

Proceeds from this event are to help rebuild the Noah Dow Cooper Shop at Woodmont Orchard. A portion of registration cost will go to Beaver Brook Association for use of their grounds.
Call (603)-494-2362 for more information

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

Hearing examines VA Choice program

The Senate Committee on Veteran’s Affairs on Wednesday (7 June 2017) held a hearing aimed at reforming the Veterans Choice program, which allows veterans to receive care from private physicians.

During the hearing, VA Secretary David Shulkin outlined his new vision for the program, which will be renamed The Veterans Affairs Community Care Program.

The redesigned program should have several key elements, Shulkin said, including moving from a system where eligibility for community care is based on wait times and geography to one focused on clinical need
and quality of care; making it easier for vets to have access to urgent care; ensuring that VA is partnering with the best providers in the country; and it must apply industry standards for quality, patient satisfaction, payment models, health care outcomes, and exchange of health information.

“VA needs a different approach to ensure we can fully care for veterans,” Shulkin testified. “We believe that a redesigned community care program will not only improve access and provider greater convenience for veterans, but will also transform how VA delivers care within our facilities,” he continued.

Under Veterans Choice, vets who have waited at least 30 days for an appointment at a VA facility or have to travel more than 40 miles for VA care outside of the VA health system. The new program will drop the mileage and day requirements.

Shulkin is hoping that legislation to launch the new will be passed by the end of September.

Scholarships Available for Military Children of Fallen Patriots

Concord, NH, March 6, 2017 - Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation is currently seeking qualified New Hampshire student applicants for college scholarships for 2017-2018. Children of the Fallen Patriots Foundation provides college scholarships to military children who have lost a parent in active military service, including combat causalities, military training accidents, service related illnesses, suicide, as well as other duty related deaths as ruled by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Our mission is to ensure that every child of a fallen patriot receives all necessary college funds. Annually, Children of Fallen Patriots awards $6,250 to each student providing scholarships towards a student’s tuition, living expenses, transportation, internet expenses, health insurance and learning materials. Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation is a registered 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. To date, the Foundation has assisted more than 750 military children who have lost a parent.

Children of Fallen Patriots research found that nearly 20,000 dependents have been left behind by troops killed in the line of duty over the past 35 years. Many surviving families struggle to make ends meet with nearly two-thirds of surviving spouses making less than $50,000 per year. With no central repository of information from which to find these children, the organization works to find each and every one of these children to assist them in their growing success.

To learn more about Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation please visit our website at: www.fallenpatriots.org. To learn more about the Children for Fallen Patriots Foundation or to apply for a scholarship contact: Jay Lucas at: jlucas@lucasgroupinc.com. Also, please visit our website at www.fallenpatriots.org and our New Hampshire Facebook page: ‘Fallen Patriots – NH’.
This year marks 100 years since Camp Devens was carved out of the "wilderness" with 43,700,000 feet of lumber, 3,260,000 square feet of wallboard, 8,938 doors, 20 carloads of nails, and 29 miles of roads. It’s an anniversary worth celebrating as the beginning of a century that would leave indelible marks on well over a million soldiers, civilians, and local residents.

**Together We Win: WWI Dinner Dance**
Saturday July 15, 6-10 PM
Bull Run, Shirley, MA
**TICKETS**
This fundraiser is a dinner and dance at the historic Bull Run Restaurant featuring a live dance band playing music of the era. $80/person; $150/couple.

**18th Army Band Reunion Concert**
Sunday July 16, 2-4 PM
Quad at 94 Jackson Road, Devens
Retired and former members of the 18th Army Band long stationed at Fort Devens will join members of other local bands to perform a traditional afternoon outdoor band concert. Free and Open to the Public.

**WWI Living History Weekend**
Saturday August 5, 10 AM to 5 PM
Sunday August 6, 10 AM to 3 PM
Quad at 94 Jackson Road, Devens
Explore three WWI encampments for an overall experience of The Great War: Central Powers, Allied Powers, and the Red Cross. Admiral World War I equipment and period vehicles. Living History participants will represent U.S. and European soldiers, civilians, and even President Woodrow Wilson! Free and Open to the Public.

For more information please call us at 978-772-1286, email us or visit our website.

Preserving and sharing the stories of the men and women who lived, trained, and worked at Camp Devens and Fort Devens.
MAKE THE CONNECTION
Shared experiences and support for Veterans

Your Story.
Your Connection.

MakeTheConnection.net helps Veterans and their families recognize that they are not alone—there are people out there like them who are going through similar experiences, overcoming challenges, reaching positive outcomes for treatment and recovery, and finding paths to fulfilling lives. These messages are conveyed by the most credible sources of all—the voices of other Veterans.

Many of our Nation’s Veterans—from those who served in World War II to those who served more recently—can benefit from hearing the stories of others and gaining greater awareness of the resources that are available to help them move forward with their lives.

Join the Make the Connection online conversation:

www.facebook.com/VeteransMTC    www.youtube.com/VeteransMTC
Calling Veterans of the Vietnam War:
Boston Red Sox Invite you on the field at Fenway Park!

Saturday, July 15, 2017

In recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, The Red Sox Foundation and Home Base will honor the men and women who served in Vietnam during the 8th Annual “Run to Home Base” fundraiser and pre-game ceremony prior to the Boston Red Sox vs. New York Yankees game at Fenway Park that same afternoon.

Here are the Details

RUN TO HOME BASE Presented by New Balance: This signature fundraiser for Home Base is a 9K Run and 5K Run/Walk that begins at Fenway Park and ends with a home plate finish. Opening ceremonies begin at 7:15 a.m. where we will recognize the Vietnam Veterans present, thank them for their service, and welcome them home. Please join your fellow veterans, wounded warriors, and their families for this great event.

Red Sox vs. New York Yankees Pregame Ceremony: The Red Sox will provide a richly deserved “Welcome Home” to hundreds of Vietnam Veterans that will include senior military and civilian leaders. We want you there!

If you are a veteran of the Vietnam War and would like to join us for these two special events, please complete the attached application.

About Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program: As a National Center of Excellence, Home Base operates the first and largest private-sector clinic in the nation devoted to healing invisible wounds such as post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, anxiety, depression, co-occurring substance use disorder, military sexual trauma, family relationship challenges and other issues associated with military service. Since inception, Home Base has served more than 11,000 Veterans and family members with care and support, and trained more than 45,000 clinicians, educators and community members nationally. For more information please visit www.homebase.org.

Vietnam Veteran Event Co-Chairs: The Honorable Chuck Hagel, 24th U.S. Secretary of Defense*; Thomas J. Lyons, Managing Director, Government Affairs & Communication of Mass Housing*; General Frederick M. Franks, Jr., Honorary Director, Home Base Southwest Florida*; Thomas C. Werner, Chairman, Boston Red Sox and Red Sox Foundation Brigadier General (ret.) Jack Hammond, Executive Director, Home Base Host Committee: Gena Borson, Executive Director, Red Sox Foundation; Bill Davidson, Director of Veteran and Peer Outreach, Home Base; David Friedman, SFP / Legal & Government Affairs, Boston Red Sox; Superintendent-In-Chief/William Gross, Boston Police Department; Charles Cellucci, Director of Security for Boston Red Sox*; Jeff White, Financial Advisor To The President/CEO, Boston Red Sox; Frank Jordan, Co-Founder, Boston Area Church League & President, Worldwide Multi-Media Events*  

* Denotes Vietnam Veteran
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
CHAPTER 41
is bringing

THE WALL
AMERICAN VETERANS
TRAVELING TRIBUTE

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY
2500 N. River Rd, Hooksett, NH

OCTOBER 4 - 8, 2017

Many volunteers are needed for 24/7 coverage.

To schedule or volunteer, please contact Sandy or Dianne (603) 497-2102 or sandyw@goffstownlibrary.com or dianneh@goffstownlibrary.com

For more information, contact Ray Goulet (603) 669-8432
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

Paraprosdokians

Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. (Winston Churchill loved them).

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you ...but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up -- we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, "In case of emergency, notify..." I answered, "a doctor."
11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
13. I used to be indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.
14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
16. You're never too old to learn something stupid.
17. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

Sadly, this is true!!! Spread the Laughter, Share the Cheer, let’s be Happy, while we're here!

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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.