Dear Post 5 Members,

May - July 2020

**June 7th, 2020:** Post Meeting - **CANCELED**
**June 14th, 2020:** Flag Day - **CANCELED**
**July 5th, 2020:** Post Meeting - **CANCELED**
**Boys’ and Girls’ State 2020 - CANCELED**

**NH State American Legion Convention in June - CANCELED**
**National American Legion Convention in August - CANCELED**

**Sea Cadet Activities are under suspension**

**August 2nd, 2020: CANCELED** Post 5 meeting, Peterborough Community Center, 25 Elm Street

**September 6th, 2020:** *We hope to have the annual picnic at MacDowell Dam 😊*

**IMPORTANT POST BUSINESS 😊**

We need to address **FOUR** things:

1st: Because there was not a POPPIE drive in May 2020, if anyone has some spare change and wishes to donate to the poppy fund we will gladly welcome it. We can put it to good use.

2nd: Just to let everyone know that even though there was not a formal Memorial Day celebration in all three towns (Peterborough, Dublin, Hancock) **THE TOWN CEMETERIES WERE DECORATED prior to Memorial Day.** Because of distancing Wayne and Dee put out the 850 plus Peterborough flags alone. Thank you to the members who volunteered but we would have all been handling the same stuff.

3rd: At 10:00 am on Monday May 25th, 2020 in Peterborough there was a brief Service which is normally part of Memorial Day held on the Grove Street Bridge next to the Peterborough Post Office. There was a prayer, a rifle volley and a bouquet of flowers dropped into the Nubanusit River. The Peterborough Fire Department blew their whistle at this time. Thank you to John F., Andy, Brian, and Wayne. Thank you, Wendy and Dick who placed the crosses and flags at the Memorial Gates.

4th: At the beginning of July, National will be sending out renewal notices for current members to pay their dues for 2021. It is a lot of work for us and if you have access to a computer and feel okay about it could you please pay online. When you get your notice, they tell you what to do. **You need to go to: legion.org  DON’T GO ONLINE UNTIL JULY 1ST**

Click on the button **RENEW** Have your legion ID number and last name and then follow the prompts
Thank you all for your help and patience. 😊 If you have trouble paying your dues please let us know. Currently, we have an aging membership. We must all work together to rebuild our foundation with the next generation of VETERANS and prepare them to lead us into the next 100 years. We are losing our WWII veterans too quickly and want to show our WWII members and Korean Conflict members how important this Post is to us. Laurence Foley (92); Dick Freeman (92); Bernie Gale, (100); Arthur Hollenbeck, (95); Clifford Jarest, (97); Gordon Kemp, (95); Lester von Herzog, (97); Floyd Wakefield (91); Bob Weathers, (95); and Alden Wilcox, (96);

Wayne’s Fleet Reserve Association Magazine’ National President asks her membership three questions that also apply to our Legion membership. “What are we doing well? What could we do better? What more could we do?” Donna Jansky did not want them to focus on the negative but rather try to keep the answers about improvements.

We currently have 207 members for 2019-2020 and are at 96.27%. We needed 8 members for 100%. Do to the fact that we had ten members that did not renew for whatever reason we did not reach our goal for the first time in 15 years. There is still time to get new members please ask your friends. Our all-time high for the last two years was 216. **Dues for the new fiscal year are upon us!!!!** You will be getting bills in the mail from National. We ended last year with 207 members but 10 members are now deceased. So, we are starting the year with 197 members and hopefully everyone will pay their dues.

**PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, WASH YOUR HANDS 😊**

*Please take time to reach out to fellow veterans to see how they are doing 😊 Thank you!*

**Joseph W. Brennan**, of Peterborough, died on Memorial Day Weekend. Joseph was 95 years old and had served as a Marine during WWII. He joined the Marines straight from high school. He had to enlist in New York because his recruiting place had burned down in Connecticut and so he and a friend went in without his Mother’s knowledge and returned home late to dinner much to her chagrin. He had two middle names and the recruiter told him to pick one of them. After the war Joe married Judy and they were married for 67 years and had four children. Once a Marine always a Marine and that was what Joe lived by. He served in the Pacific, fighting on Saipan, Tinian and Okinawa before landing on Nagasaki a month after the Atomic Bomb had been dropped. Joseph was an Atomic Veteran. He was a member of the Post for 35 years. The Post donated $25.00 in Joseph’s name to the Peterborough Lions.

**Kenneth L. Cox**, of Dublin, died last September. He was a pilot on Air Force One and served during Vietnam. He flew one of the Air Force One planes.

**New members:** **Jonathan M. Coyne**, of Hancock, served in the Army during the Gulf War on Terrorism. Jonathan is the Hancock Town Administrator and his wife Debra teaches business at ConVal.

**Thomas C. Kelly**, of Peterborough, was a Captain in the Air Force. Tom is retired and lives with his wife Margaret.

**Daniel W. Shows**, of Peterborough, served in the Navy during the Gulf War. Dan and his wife Arlene have two sons.
Sick call: Robert Blanchette, from Inverness, FL; Ralph Tibbetts, from Rindge; David Geoffrey, Gordon Kemp, Joseph Labrie, John Sewall, Leon St Cyr and Gordon Stone from Peterborough; Bernie Wynn of Milford; Laurence Foley of Dublin; Bill St. Cyr of Orlando FL; Terry Farrell of Hernando Fl; Lois Hixson of Hancock and Anne Franklin of Peterborough.

03/23/2020 The NH Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen NH has ceased performing committal services and military funeral honors due to the Covid-19 virus outbreak. Families will be allowed to witness internments, but there is a limit of 10 visitors, and they will be asked to maintain social distancing.

Dear Members of Post 5 and Unit 5, Thank you for your generous donation to Honor Flight in memory of Richard Wheeler. He was proud of his longstanding Legion membership and we are grateful you chose to honor him. Sincerely the Family of Richard Wheeler

The Dublin Fire Company and Rescue Squad wish to thank you for your gift in memory of Kenneth Clukay.
On May 6th, the Post held military honors for Ken Clukay in the Dublin Cemetery. Thank you to Andy, Brian and Wayne. Because of the stay at home ruling and social distancing there could only be 10 or less at the cemetery which made the ceremony a challenge. Diddie Staples, Ken’s sister, lent Wayne her brother Ken’s Yearbook on The Old Guard 1965. Ken was a member of the Commo Platoon. (The Old Guard is the Army’s official ceremonial unit and escort to the president, and it also provides security for Washington, D.C., in time of national emergency.)

Dear Post 5 American Legion, April 2, 2020
Thank you for your gift to the NH Audubon in memory of Alvie E. Carpenter. We are honored that you have chosen NH Audubon as the recipient of this memorial gift.
Notification of your gift will be sent to Ann H. Preston.
Your donation will assist New Hampshire Audubon in protecting New Hampshire’s environment, and as such it becomes a living memorial to Alvie. What a fitting and lasting tribute.
With great appreciation, Jane Kolias

Dear Post 5 Members, May 29, 2020
Many thanks to all the Legion members who helped send a gift to the Audubon Society. Al loved birds and spent many happy hours with his binoculars. Sincerely, Ann

Thank you for the Post’s donation to ERPD in Joan’s memory. I am grateful for your support.
With very best wishes, Sincerely, Jerry Allen

Dear fellow members,
Thank you for remembering my brother Barry and the donation to the Somers Congregational Church. His loss came as quite a surprise to me and especially hard as it followed by a day the loss of my partner Lea.
Thank you again. We all move forward by standing together. Mike Cass
Burial and Memorial Benefits: www.cem.va.gov VA encourages all veterans to take advantage of Pre-Need Eligibility to ensure they, and their families, know their eligibility status. While families can always apply for the benefits at the time of death, applying in advance brings peace of mind and can help resolve eligibility problems ahead of time. **DOES YOUR NEXT OF KIN, OR PARTNER, OR CHILDREN, OR POWER OF ATTORNEY HAVE A COPY OF YOUR DISCHARGE PAPERS (DD 214)**

**Due to restrictions imposed** our American Legion Post did not participate in giving out poppies at our annual poppy drive. Those funds raised can only be used for veterans, disabled veterans, military personnel and their families. We do this to honor and support veterans in our local area. The red poppy is the sacred symbol to remind us of the sacrifices veterans and their families have made. **Thank you** for POPPY donations. So far we have received $2465.00 in poppy donations from members and friends of the Post. We are about half way to last year’s amount that we raised. Thank you Joy, Jerry, Philip, John, Clifford, Carl, Kathy, Lisa, Jim, Floyd, Bruce, David and Alan. Thank you, Pat, for donating to your World War I Dad’s memory. Thank you Diddie for donating in your brother Ken’s memory. Thank you, Jeff Allen and Tom Kelly, for your donations to the Scholarship Fund. A special thank you to Arlene Shows of Peterborough for her donation to the General Fund.

**Thank you**, to the members who participated in the Peterborough Memorial Day. Thank you, Gary Babcock, Brian Barden, Andy Benoit, Ron Bowman, John Franklin, Dick Loudon, Peter Sennett, Jacob Skinner, Wayne Thomas and Alan Zeller for helping with this event. Everyone wore masks and the guns went off without a hitch. **Andy’s Memorial Day Prayer**

Heavenly Father- Be with us as we gather here at the Nubanusit Bridge to praise you- and to honor the lives of our fallen comrades who served on the high seas.
We pause here for a few moments to remember our deceased relatives and friends who served our great country in all the uniformed services.
We thank you for your guidance and blessings, Lord. May they Rest in Peace.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen

Wayne presented the American Legion Award by way of Zoom to the graduating 8th grade boy and girl from South Meadow Middle School to Nathan Klonel from Greenfield and Laura Phillips from Peterborough. (The American Legion Award is presented to a girl and a boy in the 8th grade who exemplify outstanding qualities in the areas of citizenship, cooperativeness, reliability, leadership, attitude and personal and social growth.) (Nathan is the president of the student council and graduated with high honors.)

**Notes:** Good luck to **Steve Dupere** who with his wife is moving to Lee NH for the summer and then to North Carolina with his daughter for the holidays and then hopefully to Arizona.

Jean and **Brian Barden’s** Granddaughter Shelby Barden, of Dublin, received her degree from East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania on May 9th, 2020. Shelby received her Masters in Science in Athletic Training.
Kevin Brace and Ken Simonetta, bus drivers for ConVal Regional School District, have been delivering meals, school packets and smiles to Peterborough Children. There are nicknamed “Team Honey Badger” delivering 71 meals every day, plus work packets for 30 elementary students, and 26 packages every other week from the district’s End 68 hours of Hunger program.

On June 2nd, Annmarie and Bruce Beckley celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary. They were married in Manchester and she met him on the rebound and part of their first date was miniature golf.

Laura Elcoate’s daughter Kate has just been promoted to Lt. Colonel in the Air Force stationed out of Hanscom AFB.

Dear Friends, 4/13/2020
Thank you so much for your generous donation to help provide weekend food for hungry children in the ConVal School District.
We appreciate your Hunger Walk efforts designating our program as the recipient of your walk.
Kudos to YOU ALL!
Gratefully, The ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger Program

Dear Post 5 Members, 4/15/2020
On behalf of the Board, I express our appreciation to all the Legionnaires for the recent donation to the Peterborough Food Pantry.

At this difficult time, we need many helpers to enable us to feed our needy neighbors.
We salute all of you and appreciate that you are part of our team!
Sincerely, Virginia Lee Miller Board Member and Volunteer

Wayne: Thanks for your call. It was good to get caught up on friends and members. Warmest Regards, Floyd and Marie Wakefield

Dear Post 5 Members, I have very much appreciated all of my interaction with your group. I am so sad that I cannot tell your group in person about my experience at Girls State. The Post has inspired me to make a difference in this chaotic time and world. Thank you so much for the $250.00 scholarship! This is extremely generous and appreciated!
As far as college goes, this fall I will be attending The King’s College in New York City with a major in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics. This degree is often referred to as PPE. My current plan is to attend law school after my undergrad and become an international attorney. Thank you so much for your part in my journey! Please stay healthy and safe during this chaotic time.
Sincerely, Abigail Elizabeth Johnson (Girls’ State 2019)

Dear Post 5 Members, I hope you're all doing well and I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for the college scholarship. Boys State was an amazing experience that taught me many valuable lessons. Thank you for supporting me to go to both Boy State and college. I will be attending Roanoke College in Salem VA this fall majoring in political science or international affairs. But right now, I am working on my speech for graduation from ConVal which is going to be held in August.
Thank you, Jadyn Vaidya Jadyn was the ConVal senior class president and in the Honor
Society. (Boys’ State 2019) Jadyn’s younger sister Inaya and his Mother Dorothy were the ones who painted the big oil tank owned opposite Shaw’s’ owned by Sandy Eneguess. The theme was ConVal Graduation. Check it out 😊

I’m starting my first co-op through northeastern down on the cape in June. I’m going to be working for 7 months at Hydroid, doing mechanical engineering. Hydroid designs and manufacturers small rov subs for use in defense, oil industry and marine research. I’m very excited as it will give me an opportunity to apply my engineering skills that I have learned in school to some really interesting projects. Otherwise down on the cape I plan to be fishing a ton! I hope everyone at the legion is doing well! The skills I learned in boys state and the oratorical have helped me significantly to get to this point, and I am very grateful for being provided with the opportunity.

Best, Alex McCall (Boys’ State 2017)

Liam McCall is going to Case Western Reserve University: the top-ranked private research university in Ohio and one of the best in the U.S. Located in Cleveland, Ohio. Liam received the Silver Medal for scores in the 80th - 89th percentile for level 4 students in the National German exam. (Boys’ State 2019)

The Post is putting two new bricks into the Veterans’ Walkway. As a reminder the bricks support the gardens at the Memorial Gates. You do not have to be from Peterborough to purchase a brick.

This is an estimate of flags placed on the cemeteries of three of the local towns: Hancock- 150, Dublin 280, Peterborough- St. Peters (old) 45, St. Peters (new) 155, Concord Street 63, Old Street 86, Upper Pine 270, Lower Pine 236, Capt. Seccums (sp) 5, All Saints 1.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 13, 2020- The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs’ (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) announced today it will commemorate Memorial Day this year with solemn wreath laying ceremonies. Another offering is a new online memorial feature allowing the public to pay tribute to Veterans interred in VA national cemeteries across the country. “This year, by necessity, will be different from past Memorial Day observances,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “While the department can’t hold large public ceremonies, VA will still honor Veterans and service members with the solemn dignity and respect they have earned through their service and sacrifice.” Each VA national cemetery will conduct a brief wreath laying ceremony, accompanied by a moment of silence and the playing of Taps. In keeping with CDC guidelines to limit large gatherings, the ceremonies will not be open to the public. Secretary Wilkie will preside over the wreath laying at Quantico National Cemetery in Virginia on Memorial Day. Acting Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs Pamela Powers will do the same at Culpeper National Cemetery in Virginia, while Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs Randy Reeves will lay a wreath at Riverside National Cemetery in California Friday, May 22, and at Calverton National Cemetery in New York on Memorial Day. Live streaming, recorded video and photographs from these and other ceremonies will be shared on NCA’s Facebook and Twitter pages. Other public events typically associated with Memorial Day at national cemeteries, including group placement of flags at gravesites, will not take place. However, all VA national cemeteries will be open Memorial Day weekend from dawn to dusk for public visitation. Cemetery visitors are asked to adhere to health and safety guidelines and maintain physical distancing.
while visiting. Visitors are also urged to consider visiting Friday, Saturday or Sunday to avoid possible crowds on Memorial Day. Families may continue the tradition of placing flowers and small American flags at their Veteran’s gravesite.

VA will also be launching a new way for the public to pay tributes to Veterans at the Veterans Legacy Memorial (VLM). The site, originally launched in 2019, contains a memorial page for each Veteran and service member interred in a VA national cemetery. Starting Thursday, May 14, VLM will permit online visitors to leave a comment of tribute on a Veteran’s page, introducing a new way to observe Memorial Day. The tribute allows visitors to voice memories and appreciation for a Veteran’s service. All comments will be reviewed for appropriateness prior to being posted.

Don’t know who put this out but we are sharing:
"What the heck is a Jalopy?"
I hope you are Hunky Dory.
You sound like a broken record, and Hung out to dry.
Heavens to Betsy!
Gee willikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat!
We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!
Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.
Oh, my aching back!
Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.
Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels.
See ya later, alligator! Okidoki.
Many of us are children of the 40’S & 50’S ... NO ONE WILL EVER HAVE THAT OPPORTUNITY AGAIN ... WE WERE GIVEN ONE OF OUR MOST PRECIOUS GIFTS: LIVING IN THE PEACEFUL AND COMFORTABLE TIMES, CREATED FOR US BY THE “GREATEST GENERATION!”

“There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man.”
Winston Churchill

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Respectfully submitted, Wayne & Dee

The Post will gratefully accept donations for the General Fund, Scholarship Fund or Poppy Fund. The Post is a non-profit so your gift is tax deductible.