

SOUTH BERWICK MEMORIAL POST 5744



South Berwick, Maine

**2010 – 2011
Yearbook**

**Robert K. Place, Historian
South Berwick Memorial VFW Post 5744
853 Lebanon Road
North Berwick, Maine 03906**

Scrap Book of

VFW Post No 5744

South Berwick, Maine

For 2010—2011

By: Robert K. Place, Historian

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VFW Post Offices for 2010 - 2011



(Commander) Nicholas Tsakiris



(Senior Vice) John Elwell



(Junior Vice) Robert Place

(Historian) Robert Place

VFW Post Offices for 2010 - 2011



(Adjutant) Malcolm Kenney



(Quarter Master) David Fogarty



(Chaplain) Pastor Bruce Brown

(Service Officer) Paul Lapierre





VFW History



The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, with its Auxiliaries, include 2.2 million members in approximately 8,100 posts worldwide.

Its mission is to honor the dead by helping the living, through veteran's service, community service, national security and a strong national defense.

The VFW traces its roots back to 1899 when Veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or Veterans pension for them and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations with what would become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. By 1915, membership grew to 5,000; by 1936, membership was almost 200,000.

Since then, the VFW's voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, creating a GI bill for the 20th century, the development of national cemetery system and the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to agent orange and for veterans diagnosed with gulf war syndrome. In 2008, VFW won a long-fought victory with passing of a GI bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded education benefits to America's active-duty service members, and members of the Guard and Reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The VFW also has fought for improving VA medical centers services for women veterans.

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korea War, World War II and women in Military Service memorials, the VFW in 2005 became the first veterans organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for life Memorial, which is being constructed in Washington, D.C., and is expected to open in 2010.

In 2001, VFW unveiled its tribute to service and country with its dedication of Centennial Plaza.

Annually, VFW members and its Auxiliary contribute more than 13 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference and National Volunteer Week.

From providing \$2.5 Million in college scholarships to high school students every year to encouraging elevation of the Veterans Administration to the President's cabinet, the VFW is there--honoring the dead by helping the living

Commander Nicholas (Nick) Tsakiris was Born at Fort Jackson, Columbia, So. Carolina while father was training with 101st Infantry 26 Yankee Div. Spent a lot of his youth, either on Army Posts or on Grandparents farm in So. Berwick, Me. where he lives today with his wife of 47 years. Served in the US Navy from 1961 to 1967 attached to SUBRON 14 & 16 North Atlantic and participated in the standoff and blockade of Cuba. Parents were born in Lynn, Ma. Area. Mother deceased, but FATHERS still going strong at 90 Yrs old.

Historian (and Junior Vice) Robert Place was born and raised on a dairy farm in the neighboring town of North Berwick and lives there today. He served three years in the United States Army, stationed primarily in Korea.. His father, born in Dover, New Hampshire joined the Navy in 1923 and served until 1928, returning to North Berwick to start the dairy farm. His Mother was born in North Berwick and her ancestry goes back more than two centuries in the area.

Last meeting until fall

On May 11, 2010 The VFW Post # 5744 South Berwick had our last meeting until fall at spring hill South Berwick Maine. There were around 50 people attending. Richard Shaw swore in the offices for the next year. The members and their wives had a great time. There was a great menu, and the food was prepared perfect. Our next Meeting this fall will be our annual picnic at Malcolm Kenney's, when we do it all over again. We have still lots of things to finish through the summer. On June 26, 2010 the post will be selling water and coffee at the Strawberry festival, we have the memorial parade, and many other flights at Pease.

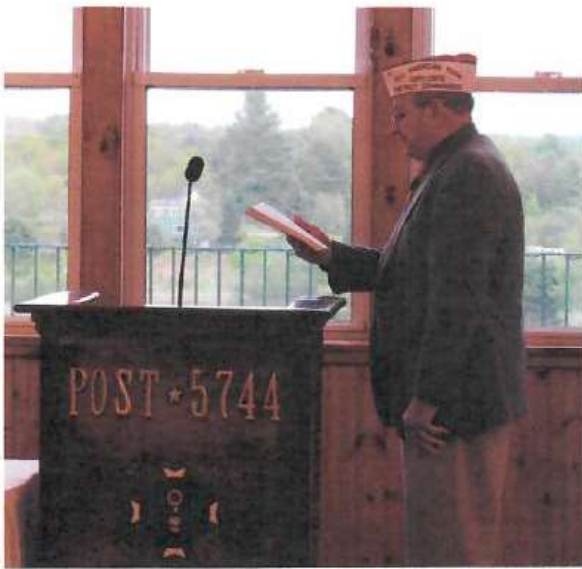


Commander Gary Spaulding, finale meeting after many long years as commander of The VFW Post # 5744 South Berwick, Maine. (Place photo)

Our newly sworn in Commander, Nicolas Tsakiris will take over in mid June. Nicolas will be a great leader for the post. He was senior vice last year and has always been there when things needed to get done. I am sure we will see many new things happen, and our Post will continue to grow (Place photo)



Last meeting until fall (Cont'd)



Richard Shaw (Past All American District Commander), Swearing in the Officers for the next fiscal year. (Place photo)



All of the different officers being sworn in at one time (l-r) Paul Lapierre (Service Officer), Rudy Mayo (Sergeant-at-Arms), Bruce Brown (Chaplin), Joseph Gagnon (Trustee) Raymond Brunelle, David Mayo (Quarter Master), Roger Guptill (Surgeon), Donald Heath (Trustee), Robert Place (Junior Vice), John Elwell (Senior Vice), and Nicolas Tsakiris (Commander). (Place photo)

Last meeting until fall (Cont'd)

Here are a few pictures, of the members and their wives enjoying the evening out. I believe everyone had a great meal. I hope that everyone will be at the fall picnic.



Last meeting until fall (Cont'd)



Adjutant Malcolm Kenney, reading the plaque that he made up for our Commander Gary Spaulding
(Place photo)

Commander Gary Spaulding holding the plaque that was presented to him. Gary was a great leader for the post and I am sure he will be there helping as he always did. Gary has worked hard, even when he was very sick. (Place photo)



POW/MIA Memorial Day Ceremony

POW/MIA Memorial Day Ceremony at Kittery Navy Ship yard.



POW/MIA Chair that represents all the POW/Mia's from all the wars and conflicts through the years

Presenting the Colors, Lead by Ken Kinsley (Commander VFW Post6548), Playing the Bag Pipes, Followed by John Elwell (senior Vice).



POW/MIA Memorial Day Ceremony (Cont'd)



(l-r) John Elwell, (Senior Vice), Daniel Hildreth, with Richard Howarth, standing at attention, followed by Richard Shaw.

Commander Gary Spaulding, VFW Post 5744, South Berwick, Maine, after lighting the Candle.



POW/MIA Memorial Day Ceremony (Cont'd)



(l-r) Chief Joel M. Buzzy, Introducing Special Guest; Former WW II POW, Army PFC, Gerard Vaillancourt.

Gerard Vaillancourt, Former Prisoner of war in Germany, Held Captive for six months, telling of his experiences



Capt Fuller (Ship Yard Commander) Capt Fuller is doing the Table for one Ceremony.



POW/MIA Memorial Day Ceremony (Cont'd)



Mc Gunny SGT Kelly Marshall Marine Corps Recruiting. Kelley is giving the History of the POW/MIA Flag

Color Guard (l-r) John Elwell, Daniel Hildreth, Richard Howarth.



Members of the VFW post 5744 South Berwick, Maine (l-r) Kenneth Goodwin, Bruce Brown (Chaplin) George Davidson, David Fogarty (quarter master), Nicholas Tsakiris (commander) and Malcolm Kenney (Adjutant)

South Berwick Memorial Day Parade



(l-r) Jim Currier, Garry Mayo, George Davidson, David Mayo, John Elwell, Malcolm Kenney, Richard Shaw and Nicholas Tsakiris (Commander VFW Post 5744).

Citizens and Members of the South Berwick Fire department getting ready for the Parade



Kids Bicycle parade, to show off their decorated bikes. They did a great job.



Crew of the Helena lead the Parade, with members of the VFW following



South Berwick Memorial Day Parade (Cont'd)



Members of the Navy, Stationed on the Helena Now In port at Portsmouth Ship Yard undergoing an overhaul. The Town of South Berwick and the VFW post 5744 have been supporting the crew and families, while in port

Gary Spaulding



(l-r Pastor Bruce Brown Giving a pray

South Berwick Memorial Day Parade (Cont'd)



Members of the VFW Post 5744 in front, with Members of the Crew from the Helena standing at Parade rest, with Scouts and citizen behind them.



Members of the Helena Submarine



South Berwick Memorial Day Parade (Cont'd)



Members of the South Berwick Fire department

The citizen's South Berwick, look on as the National anthem is being played



VFW Post First News Letter



VFW POST 5744

Meeting Place: Mayo's Family Restaurant
Route-236 Berwick, ME Post Office Plaza
Second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (1800 hrs)



Friday, February 11, 2011

The newly elected and installed Post Officers for this year are as follows:

Commander: Nicholas (Nick) Tsakiris, USN
Senior Vice Commander: John Elwell, USA
Junior Vice Commander: Robert (Gabby) Place, USA
Quartermaster: David Fogarty, USN
Adjutant: Malcolm (Mal) Kenney, USAF
Chaplin: Pastor Bruce Brown, USA
Surgeon: Roger Guptill, USN
Service Officer: Paul LaPierre, USA
Sergeant-At-Arms: Rudy Mayo

Boy Scouts:

Steve Shea
Jim O'Loughlin
Gary Spaulding

Trustees:

Raymond Burnelle	1 year
Joseph Gagnon	2 years
Donald A. Heath	3 years

Post Historian:

Robert (Gabby) Place

Membership:

Mal Kenney
Richard Gallant
Dave Fogarty
Commander

UP COMING EVENTS:

VFW picnic to be held at Mal Kenney's on August 22 noon time, we hope to have some, if not most, of the crew from the Helena SSN-725. Gabby Place is planning a major feast and yes he will have his famous Bratwurst sausage. For those of you who haven't attended this event before you are missing a lot of fun and fellowship. PLAN ON JOINING US THIS YEAR!

RIFLE SQUAD:

Our post is being continuously called upon to pay respects to a departed Comrade, for this reason we would like to put together a Post 5744 rifle squad. We need to have 7 full time and 3 alternates in order to put a squad together. The post will be paying for matching uniforms including boots etc. Please help us put out a sharp team to honor our departed Comrades. Contact me directly at 207-384-2450, thank you Nick Tsakiris Cmdr. Post 5744.

MEMORIAL DAY:

We had a great turn out again this year especially with the young folks, about three times as many youngsters showed up with their decorated bikes and electric cars. Even better is that the youngsters brought their folks to join them in the parade.

We were also honored to have as our Color Guard members of the Helena as well as the Commanding Officer, Commander Paul L. Dinius giving the dedication and laying of the wreaths.



VFW POST 5744 Membership by War/Conflict period:

WWII	30
KOREA	30
VIETNAM	61
LEBANON	3
CUBA	2
SWA	27 (Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait & Persian Gulf)

A special thanks to my fellow high school classmate, Robert (Gabby) Place for the outstanding job in putting together one of the finest books of Post history that I have ever seen. The effort and hours that went into this would make ones head spin; you can view the book at our meetings at Mayo's Family Restaurant as well as at the upcoming Post picnic on August 22.

As voted on at one of our last meetings, any member who recruits a new or reinstalls a member, that person's name will go into a special drawing for a chance to win \$100, each and every time you recruit or reinstall a member your name goes in the drawing, the drawing will take place at the post picnic.

In closing let me say that as your new Commander I look forward to working with you all to keep our Post one of, if not, the best in the State of Maine. It is with your help and participation that makes the Post what it is, so let's all continue the great work that has been accomplished by our past Commander, Gary Spaulding and wish him the same success as our District Commander. Thank You All.

Nicholas (Nick) Tsakiris, Commander.

VFW Greeting the Soldiers at Pease

The VFW Post 5744 South Berwick, Maine, continues to greet the soldiers going to and coming home during the Iraq war. The Marine League Started the program and the VFW got involved also. There will be from 10 to 20 of the VFW Members at each Flight, weather it is 2 am in the Morning or mid afternoon. There will be dogs, children, and many civilians; all they're for one reason, To Honor our Soldiers. There is Coffee, Donuts, Cookies, Soda, Ice cream and free Phones for the Soldiers. We will also have phone cards for all the troops that are heading over seas. The phone cards are supplied by a couple of young adults who created cell phones for soldiers. This has been a blessing for the post, as we don't have to buy the cards anymore. Now we can use our funds to do other things for the community and also we make donations to the young adults that created cell phones for soldiers. We are up to 380 flights as of August 27, 2010.



We have 14 phones ready for the troops to use when they arrive. This is completely free, and They can call anywhere. Also there are cell phone for the troops to use, donated by the cell phones for soldiers. (Place photo)

We have coffee, water soda donuts cookies and they are all free for the troops, some are donated and the Pease greeters purchase the donuts from Duncan donut. (l-r) Bill Harper, (Place photo)



Troops that are returning home can get stuffed toys for they loved ones. There are two locations for them to pick what ever they want. The stuffed toys are donated. (Place photo)

VFW Greeting the Soldiers at Pease (cont'd)



We have coffee machine donated by Keurig Company, and they donate the k-cups in a number of varieties, different flavors of coffee, teas and hot chocolate. This is a lifesaver for the greeters. We get to have a coffee on the early mornings. (Place photo)

All the Pease greeters sign the sweatshirts and the shirts are presented to the commanding officers of the group



People are lining up in the corridors, waiting for the arrival of the troops. It doesn't matter what time of the day or night we always have a great group of Veterans and civilians. The halls are lined with photos of troops that have come through. Each photo has the name of the group and has a unit patch under it. (Place photo)



Troops arriving at the air port and enter the hall where the Pease greeters are waiting. Unless some of the troops have been thought before, they have no idea that we are there, no matter what time of the day or night. We shake their hands and welcome them home or to New Hampshire, depending if they are going over or coming home.



VFW Greeting the Soldiers at Pease (cont'd)



Soldiers at the lunch table picking what they want, and there is no charge for anything. (Place photo)

Lots of the soldiers will go out side for that much wanted smoke. The greeters will go outside and mingle with the troops. (Place photo)



Even the children are they're greeting the troops. They will bring signs that they have made or they will bring small bags of cookies and candy to give out to he troops

VFW and other Veteran talking with the troops. We have around an hour to talk, before they have to go back up for our ceremony and the group photo. (Place photo)



VFW Greeting the Soldiers at Pease (cont'd)



The maintenance crew, for the Blue Angles was at the flight early Thursday morning. They stood for this photo at the table, of stuffed toys. (Place photo)

Soldiers using the phone bank to talk with their families, during the break, before they get back on the plane. (Place photo)



Soldiers getting coffee, as fellow veterans talk with them. Gerard Vaillancourt, member of the VFW talking to the soldiers. (Place photo)

The Soldiers are heading up to get their group picture taken, so it can be put up on the wall with all the other pictures. (Place photo)



VFW Greeting the Soldiers at Pease (cont'd)



Posting the colors while the National Anthem is being sung (Place photo)

We cut out the field of blue, on worn or tatted flags and the stars are placed in an envelope with the saying: I am part of our American Flag. I have flown over a home in the U.S.A. I can no longer fly. The sun and winds have caused me to become tatted and torn. Please carry me as a reminder that you are not forgotten. (Place photo)



The next day August 27, 2010, we had another flight at 1:10 AM heading over. They were Air Force heading to Afghanistan. Paul Lapierre in the middle of the group talking with the soldiers

We have soccer balls, word games water bottles, cards and other stuff that they might pick up to pass the time away. No matter what time we will always try to be there for our servicemen and women (Place photo)



VFW annual Picnic

On Sunday, August 21, 2010, the VFW had their first Meeting and cook out at Malcolm and Sally Kenney's home. We had a great turn out this year and lots of good food. Again this year the rain almost got us. It rained a little but not enough to spoil the picnic. We had families from the Helena that the post sponsors, attend the cook out. What a great group of people. I think that they really enjoyed the day away from the base. We need to thank Sallyanne Kenney for all that she did. Great job, and thank you.



Malcolm Kenney getting the grill set up. My son, Michael Place, big cooker on the left is all fired up. We have an 18 lb ham, 18 lb turkey, and a very large beef cooking at the same time. Robert Place started it about 8:30 AM and cooked until around 2 PM. We cook with apple wood only. It only took 8 pieces of wood to cook all of that food. We also cooked 50 Beer Bruttis. (Place photo)

Phyllis Place sitting up chairs for people. She was a great help getting thing set up for the cook out (Place photo)



George Davidson busy setting things up the chairs that he brought (Place photo)



VFW Annual Picnic (cont'd)



(l-r) Robert Place (Jr Vice Commander) and John Elwell (Senior Vice Commander) watching the cooker do its thing

(l-r) Commander, Nicholas Tsakiris, with his Dad, George Tsakiris, and Robert Place (Jr Vice Commander and Historian) taking a break.



Lots of great home cooked food. The Helena crew and their family's going threw the line.



(l-r) Gary Spaulding, (Past Commander), Bruce Brown (Post Chaplin), Nancy Brown and Phyllis Place. Relaxing and enjoying the day.



VFW Annual Picnic (cont'd)



(l-r) _____, Richard Shaw, Susan Shaw, and Edward Cushing. (Place photo)

Members of the post and family's enjoying the great food and company under the tarp.(Place photo)



Families of the Helena crew really enjoyed the time away from the base. If it had not rained, they probably would have stayed until dark.

Families of the Helena, meeting the post members and their families.



VFW Annual Picnic (cont'd)



Families and crew from the Helena, The Post has been sponsoring the crew since they came in for repairs. What a great bunch. They really made their selves home. These are our Adopted active Duty Military Group.



(L-r) Nancy Brown, Bruce brown (Post Chaplain) and Paul Dinius

VFW Annual Picnic (cont'd)



(L-r/B-f) Leon Davis, Edward Cushing, Robert Place, Gerard Vaillancourt, Stephen Shea, Jack Fogarty, Rudolph Mayo, Donald Heath, Bruce Brown, Gary Mayo, Gary Spaulding, William Winners, John Elwell, Roger Guptill, Paul Dinius, Nicholas Tsakiris, Joseph Gagnon, Malcolm Kenney, Richard Shaw, Chuck Cove, Daniel Hildreth, Richard LaBonte, Richard Howarth, Bernard Mushorn, George Davidson, Clinton Schoff, Raymond Brunelle, and David Fogarty. Present but not in photo, George Tsakiris, Richard Mc Grane, and Michael Madore.

We had a great turnout, great food, and not to bad weather. We want to thank all that lent a hand in getting ready, setting up and I want to thank people for sending me all the Pictures. Hope to see you all at our next Meeting. Thank You Robert Place Historian/Jr Vice-Commander.

Visiting Malcolm's



Esther Stevenson and Brother Daniel Limoges stopped by Malcolm Kenney's while Daniel was home on leave. Daniel is now serving in Qatar (the Horn of Africa). . Esther and Daniel are both members of the VFW Post 5744

Article From Fosters

Article Published September 11, 2010

VFW Hosts Sub's Crew

SOUTH BERWICK, MAINE---Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5744 on August 22 treated the crew and family members of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Helena to an afternoon of food and friendship.

Malcolm Kenney, Adjutant of Post 5744, facilitated the event, which garnered more than 100 guests.

We wanted to give the crew the opportunity to get away from the daily grind of the shipyard and just relax, said Kenney.

Cmdr. Paul Dinius, Helena's commanding officer and recent addition to Post 5744, thanked the post and town of South Berwick for their efforts in working with the crew and the community.

The crew and families of USS Helena are so proud to be a part of the South Berwick community, said Dinius, and we appreciate the support and fellowship of South Berwick's VFW Post 5744, clearly the best post in the State of Maine. Your friendship and continued service to the country are an inspiration to all of us.

The VFW Post and Helena crew have worked together over the past year organizing and executing several community events, including scholastic specking engagements, environmental beatification projects and veteran center visits. With a little more than six months left in New England, the crew is poised to continue their efforts.

Helena arrived at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard September 2, 2009 for extended maintenance, including several system upgrades. Helena, named after Helena, Mont., was commissioned on July 11, 1987. Her Motto is Proud and Fearless.



September 14 2010 VFW Meeting

On September 14, 2010, the VFW Post 5744 South Berwick, Maine, assembled at Mayo's Restaurant, in Berwick, Maine for our first official meeting. Commander Nicholas Tsakiris did a great job running the meeting and will be a great Commander. There were around 31 members present. We had a great meal as always, and it was Elaine Mayo's Birthday, as well as two members celebrated their birthdays around the same time. Things are going to get busy. We have a poppy drive in November at the Bridge, Veterans Day Celebration, as well as the Troops going and coming at Pease. We have a very active post. Everybody had a great time getting together and getting back into the Routine.



(L-r) Kenneth Goodwin, John Elwell (Sr. Vice Commander), Roger Guptill, and Girard Vaillancourt. (Place photo)

(L-r) Paul Lapierre, Service Officer, Raymond Brunelle and Donald Heath



Sept. 14 VFW Meeting (Cont'd)



(L-r) Commander, Nicholas Tsakiris and Quarter Master, David Fogarty



(L-r) Back to us Rudolph Mayo, Glen Johnson, William Weners , Jim Currier , Gary Mayo, and Charles Colwell. (Place photo)

Sept. 14 VFW Meeting (Cont'd)



(L-r) Pastor Bruce Brown and David Peterson
(Place photo)

(L-r) James Reilley, Malcolm Kenney, Robert
Leister, and Mark Pilgrim. (place photo)



(L-r) Anthony Cincotta, Paul Lapierre, Raymond
Brunelle, Phillip Lawrence and Richard LaBonte
(Place photo)

Sept. 14 VFW Meeting (Cont'd)



(L-r) Nicholas Tsakiris, Commander, Malcolm Kenney, Adjutant and James Reilley. (place photo)

(L-r) Kenneth Goodwin, John Elwell, Glenden Johnson, and Girard Vaillancourt back to us. (Place photo)



(L-r) Edward Cushing, Donald Heath, Raymond Brunelle ,Phillip Lawrence, Jim Currier , hidden Gary Mayo, and Charles Colwell. (Place-photo)

Veterans Cemetery Springvale Maine

Photos, of the new Veterans cemetery in Springvale, Maine. This is a much-needed site for the Veterans and their Families in this area. Photos taken by John Elwell, Sr. Vice Commander of VFW Post 5744, South Berwick, Maine.



New Hampshire Dad Greet His Son

On September 29, 2010, at a flight at Pease, Dad surprised his son. The Army unit was out of Hawaii, on there way to Iraq, when a New Hampshire Dad showed up to greet his son. This was a surprise visit, and Dad arrived during the ceremony. There were a lot of tiers shared by the greeters. This was our 385th Flight. (Dick LaBonte Photo)



October News Letter

VFW POST 5744

Meeting Place: Mayo's Family Restaurant
Route-236 Berwick, ME Post Office Plaza
Second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (1800 hrs)



Saturday, February 12, 2011

OUR NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 1800 hrs. (6 p.m.) at Mayo's come early and bring along a fellow VET or anyone interested in joining our post.

REVIEW OF LAST MONTHS' MEETING:

We still have 23 members with unpaid dues, get them in now to qualify for a drawing, for a free life membership.

The Strawberry Festival was a success bringing in slightly over \$1,700.00. Thank you to all who participated and made it a success. I would like to propose at our next meeting that we appoint a chairperson to be responsible for the next year's festival; I'll look forward to your comments at the meeting.

As you may be aware its 50/50 time this is by far our most important fundraiser and the Post needs your support so please contact member Clint Schoff. It would be nice to have Clint report at the October meeting all tickets are sold, REMEMBER THE DRAWING IS AT OUR NOVEMBER MEETING.

It's VOD/Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year time so make sure we have delivered forms to your local school, for additional information contact Mal Kenney.

Poppy Toll Booth is scheduled for, Nov.6 between the hours of 07:30 to 1400hrs. (2p.m.) at the usual, station on the bridge. We need to have a minimum of 4 people at all times manning the station.

Veterans Day Services: South Berwick will have services at the S.B. Town Hall front grounds on Berwick se3rvices will be Nov.11 in the morning we will have the correct time at this month's meeting. Let's all try to make an effort to attend these services and bring a friend, SPREAD THE WORD!

POST 5744 COOKOUT a great success and many thanks to Gabby and his wife for all their

work!



(Blue Angles at Pease, great time!)

NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND

George H. Bush Greet Troops at Pease

On October 4th, 2010, George and Barbara Bush joined the Pease greeters to greet the troops. A few years ago the Pease greeters were asked to go to the White, with only six people allowed going. The Greeters signed a sweat shirt and presented it to President Bush. So from then on a sweat shirt is signed by all Pease greeters and presented to the Commanding Officer of the group. The VFW has been very active with at least 10 to 16 members at Pease no matter what time of Day or night. We have greeted around 390 flights to this date.



George H. Bush Greet Troops at Pease (cont'd)



Barbara and George Bush standing with the Troops. It had to be a great experience to be with the greeters and greet the troops

Ninth invite

October 8, 2010

You are invited to our ninth annual Veteran's Day Celebration to be held on Friday, November 5, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at Marshwood Middle School (formerly called the Junior High). Our school wide gathering embraces our patriotism with tributes performed by our student and staff. The program will last approximately one hour with a reception following our program in the library.

We would be honored if you could attend our celebration that highlights the dedication on those who continue to defend America's freedoms and honor those who have unselfishly served America in the past. We would ask you, if possible, to arrive at 8:30. As our guest, we would appreciate if you greeted and shook hands with students as they enter the gym. This simple personal touch not only allows both parties to interact briefly, but also sets the tone of our celebration.

We hope you are able to attend our celebration and look forward to seeing you.

*Sincerely,
Students and Staff at
Marshwood Middle School*

***contact person Cathy Locke cclocke@msd35.net.*

If you are a veteran and would like to send a photo of yourself (a copy) in uniform to our address, we will frame and place it permanently in our school lobby.

Veteran Display Case

*** Show date: November 8, 2009*

VFW October Meeting

On October 12th 2010, our meeting was called to order at 06:00 pm, by Malcolm Kenney. We rendered a salute to the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Brown offered a prayer and then we broke for our meal. Commander Nicholas Tsakiris arrived a little late with his Dad, George Tsakiris. It is great to see George at the meeting. Nicholas has had a bad past two weeks, but we won't go there.

We had a new member come to the meeting, Jonathon Heath, who is on active duty and just returned from a tour in Afghanistan. He seems to like what we are doing and joined that night. His membership will give us 160 members strong in the post.



We had a great turnout for the meeting. Lots of events on the schedule: Poppy drive on the bridge, Veterans Day Ceremony, Veterans Day at Marshwood Middle School, and Great Works School. We also have the Pease greeting going on all the time. Our Post is very active and we are there to help Veterans and the community.

October 12, 2010 VFW Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Commander Nicholas at 1800 hours in due order as per National By laws and Ritual.

There were 36 members present with no Guests. New Member introduced, Active Duty US Army, from Berwick, Me. He is currently on leave. John received a Purple Heart while deployed to Afghanistan. Adjutant Malcolm Kenney read the minutes of the September 14, 2010 meeting. A motion to accept minutes as read by David Fogarty, seconded by Charles Colwell. Motion passed.

Quarter Master Report: Checking Account \$855.21, CD's \$10,000 with total of \$10,855.21.

There are no outstanding bills. Motion by Gary Spaulding and seconded by Glen Johnson to accept as read. This was a Quarterly Trustees Report. Motion passed.

Service Officer Paul Lapierre reported on visits he has made. He also reported that member Richard Bradburn was home, but not doing well. A fruit basket was taken to him. He also reported on Gary Collins and Warren Hilton. Anyone needing assistance please notify the service Officer or any Officer. Frank Baird was reported to be back home.

Old Business/Committee Reports: VOD/Patriots Pen and Teacher: Applications are in the Schools.

Deadline is November 1st. Malcolm Kenney will visit schools to pick up essays October 2, 2010.

50-50 Raffle: Clint Schoff. Please follow up and get tickets turned in to him, only 50 tickets printed. Lets make sure all tickets are sold before November's meeting. Drawing will be at the November meeting.

Discussion. On High School not doing the Pledge of Allegiance.

New:

1. Commander had a request for donation to help with mailing care boxes to deployed troops, from Melissa Provencher, Kennebunk. Motion by Anthony Cincotta, seconded by Daniel Hildreth to donate \$200 .00, same as last year> Motion passed
2. Motion by Mark Pilgrim, seconded by George Davidson to donate \$50.00 to Togas Veterans Hospital for Patient coupons. Motion passed after much discussion.
3. Homeless Veterans Stand Down at Togas 10-23-2010. Clothing, Dental and Medical check up Assistance provided.
4. Discussion on togas aid, QM David Fogarty reported that we normally donate around the holidays.
5. Gary Spaulding spoke about Children's Home in Rapid City, Gun Locks safety. Department has safety lock, Stop Loss extended to December 3, 2010 and recruiting Women into the Post

Commander; Nicholas Tsakiris, spoke about up-coming events. Need Post's support and help as you can.

October: watch troop flights for changers.

November:

2nd Pick up essays

3rd Anthony Cincotta and Girard Vaillancourt visit Fall's School

4th Flight going over seas

5th Marshwood Middle School 08:30, Vet Program

6th Poppy Toll Both, 7:30 – 2:30 sign up

7th Two flights 02:50 Home and 1400 Going

8th Post Essay Judging

9th Great Works School, Vet Program, Color Guard, Poppies, Post History Books

9th Flight 02:30 coming home

9th Post meeting at May's, 18:00 – 50-50 Drawing

10th Need post color guard 08:00, Saco, Maine Dedication of Veterans Family Homeless Shelter

11th Veterans Day Services: Berwick, 11 am, Lords cemetery and South Berwick Town Hall 02:00 Pm

13th Remove flags from Veterans Grave, South Berwick, meet at Malcolm Kenney's house 09:00. We will have Boy Scout's help.

October Meeting (Cont'd)

13th Boy Scouts will do a Flag Burning Ceremony. . Post to provide Hot Dogs and Hot Drinks for Scouts, and Parents and VFW members working on this. All welcome at Malcolm's house.

14th We need a Color Guard at Portsmouth High School Opening Ceremony, for the Half Marathon Fundraiser for Great Bay School at 08:00.

No further business meeting adjourned at 19:50 hours. Next meeting, November 9, at Mayo's.

Submitted by,
Malcolm Kenney
Adjutant, Post 5744

Pease greeters 400th Flight

Portsmouth- the smiles on their faces said it all Thursday. One by one, all 91 Members of the 16th Air Cargo Squadron of the U.S. Air Force made their way down the Heroes walk at the International Airport at Pease into a room filled with cheering spectators waiting with coffee, doughnuts, camouflage Bibles warm smiles and hand shakes. The event marked the 400th time since 2005 that the Pease Greeters, volunteers who attend landings and takeoffs of all Military flights, have shown up to support the men and women of the Nations Armed Forces.

Considered to be a milestone, Thursday's event featured hundreds of seacoast veterans, residents, school children and even a few animals that gathered at the airport to say a farewell to the troops before they headed overseas. The squadron, made up of mostly Pilots, is heading to Southwest Asia to conduct cargo flight missions in C-17 aircrafts. Thursday's goodbye was especially meaningful to one soldier.



Waiting in the crowd for William" Mac" MacVittie were his parents, Paul and Robbin of Newbury. . MacVittie parents said they got word their son was flying into Portsmouth last minute and drove nearly 90 mph to se him off. We're very thankful to see him and hug him, said Robbin MacVittie.

The 27- year old pilot signed up for the air force academy one day after the Sept. 11,2001, attacks, according to his parents. Since graduating in 2006, MacVittie has flown more than 100 combat missions. Upon spotting their son among the dozens exiting the aircraft, the MacVittie's cheered and waved to get his attention. What followed was a long embrace. I'm very grateful, said William. The family agreed the opportunity to say goodbye face-to-face was a blessing.

For the squadron's commanding officer, Lt Colonel Ken Greenstreet, the greeting on Thursday was more than he could of asked for. I knew there was going to be a surprise, but I did not know it was going to be this big of a surprise, said Greenstreet. Having flown in the Air Force for Nearly 21 years, Greenstreet said he's never experienced quite what took place on Thursday. With four months of being over seas ahead of him and his crew, Greenstreet said the surprise ensured the troops would leave with a smile on their faces. The milestone event also featured a home coming for one of the founding members of the Pease Greeters. Former greeter leader Ed Johnson stopped by for the 400th flight not only to wish the troops well, but also to say hello to some of his longtime friends and fellow veterans.

November VFW Meeting

Meeting on November 14, 2010

Meeting called to order by Commander Nicholas Tsakiris at 1800 hours, with Pledge of Allegiance followed by opening prayer by Chaplin Bruce Brown.

There were 34 members present and no guest.

New Member Report

Mitch Lewis transferred from VFW at Large. Mitch served in the Army and deployed to the Middle East. Mitch recently finished his Military career retiring from the US Coast Guard.

Mike Crago transferred from VFW At-Large as a Life Member. Mike retired from the US Army as an Lt. Col. Medical Corps and served in Viet Nam.

Adjutant Malcolm Kenney Read the Minutes of the October Meeting Motion passed.

Quarter Master David Fogarty reported the following: Checking accounts \$507.24, CD \$10,000. We took in \$4833.68, from Poppy Drive \$2738.68, and \$2500.00 from our 50-50 raffles. We have no outstanding bills. Motion to accept report as given subject to audit by Glen Johnson, seconded by Dan Hildreth.

Motion Passed.

Service Officer Report

Paul Lapierre delivered a fruit to Bill Pineo. Bill is recovering from an injury and doing well. Also thanked members for attending wake for Richard Bradburn and wife of Robert Canney. Reported how Leon Davis, Warren Hilton, and Frank Baird were doing.

Old Business/Committee Reports

Commander Nicholas Tsakiris spoke about the busy schedule that November brings, Thanking all for helping out with our Post projects of Veterans in school's as well as the continued support of Greeting troops at Pease Airport. Our Veterans Day service in So Berwick will be on the 11th at 2 PM. Please bring your family and friends. Our guest speaker will be Commander Paul Dinius from the USS Helena, and a member of our Post. Also at 11 AM there will be a Veterans Service in Berwick.

Committee Reports

VOD Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the year. Chairman Malcolm Kenney reported that the judging was completed for both essay contest and winners were forwarded to District 11. Chairman Paul Tabora for next level of judging. Also I have submitted our post Teacher of The year "Justin Roy" Package to District 11 for judging. We should know results of District by December Meeting. State Banquet is scheduled for January 8th in Winslow, Maine.

50-50 Raffle

Chairman Clint Schoff thanked members for their support of this fundraiser and it's importance to our post projects. Clint reported that all 50 tickets were sold this year, and we would draw 15 winners now.

\$500 ticket #12 Jack Fogarty,	\$150 Ticket # 10 Dianne Fogarty
\$300 Ticket #31 Regina Carpenter	\$150 Ticket #28 mark Pilgrim
\$200 Ticket #11 Larry Fogarty	\$100 Ticket # 22 Robert Ham
\$200 Ticket #2 Glen Thompson	\$100 Ticket # 21 Norbert Hilton
\$150 Ticket #47 Dwayne Mayo	\$100 Ticket # 34 Sam Mick
\$150 Ticket #40 Ken Reno	\$100 Ticket #48 Jackie Schoff
\$150 Ticket # 33 Bill Dame	
\$150 Ticket #30 Pat Neadu	

Color Guard Uniforms No Report

Poppy Toll Both

Chairman Malcolm Kenney and David Fogarty thanked all for working the tollbooth. Did better this year than ever.

November VFW Meeting (cont'd)

Pledge of Allegiance MHS

Anthony Cincotta reported and read a letter from the State of Maine Department of Education. Basically stating that the school board has final say as to whether the District schools should recite the Pledge of Allegiance Daily. After discussion a Motion was made by Anthony that Adjutant submit request to SAD 35 for our Post to be on the agenda of the next school board meeting. Motion seconded by Richard McGrane, Motion passed.

QM David Fogarty discussed donations to the town's of Rollinsford, Berwick, No Berwick and So Berwick for food baskets for the Holidays, stating we donated \$300 to each town last year. A Motion by Malcolm Kenney to donate the same as last year, seconded by Anthony Cincotta. Motion passed.

A Motion by Mark Pilgrim that any Post projects or commitment outside of District be brought to Post meetings for discussion and approval. Seconded by David Fogarty. Motion passed.

Commander Nicholas Tsakiris discussed status of our Post. We still have 15 members un-paid for 2011. Remember member dues run out December 31st. I am requesting membership help on dues, if we have a member that needs help. We don't want to loose a member for \$21 of dues. Each member of this Post is what makes us, who we are, the best in the State of Maine.

Discussion by Gerard Vaillancourt about Honor Flights out of Manchester Air port to Washington DC, for WWII Veterans. There is a need for money to support this program. Cost is about \$400 per veteran. A Motion by Girard that our Post donates \$400 to this Program. Seconded by Daniel Hildreth. Motion passed.

Schedule For Remainder Of Month

11-11-2010 Veterans Day Services

11-13-2010 Remove Flags with Boy Scouts from Veterans Graves

Flag Retirement Ceremony at Malcolm Kenny's house 5:30 PM with Scouts

11-14-2010 Portsmouth High School Color Guard 8 AM, John Elwell and Malcolm Kenney

12-12-2010 Veterans Home Scarborough Maine 2 PM

Greeting our Troops as scheduled

Good Of Order

Anthony Cincotta spoke about burial of Veterans and Spouse in a Veteran Cemetery.

No further business the meeting adjourned at 19:45

Submitted by

Malcolm Kenney Adjutant

Veteran's day Celebration, middle School

On November 5th, 2010, Marshwood Middle School had their tenth Veteran's Day Celebration. The celebration highlights the dedication on those who continue to defend America's freedoms and honor those who have unselfishly served America in the past. The turn out of Veterans was even better then last year.



Front corridor at Marshwood Middle School, lined with Veterans, Police men, fire men, to be honored at the celebration (Place-photo)

The VFW post 5744, Fire Men and Veterans in the area was well represented. (Place photo)



Students passed down the corridor shaking the veterans hands and thanking them for their service and then filed in to the gym to be seated in the bleaches. (Place photo)

Veteran's day Celebration (Cont'd)



The Gym was full of Veterans, Students and Staff. (Place photo)

The Posting of the colors by Eliot Police Department (Place photo)



The Veterans were lead in the gym, by Mr. Jon Stirling, (Place-photo)

It was so dark in the front of the gym, so the big screen could be seen. (Place photo)



Veteran's day Celebration (Cont'd)



Cathy Lock, standing center stage, is the person who put this together, year after year, and it gets better each year. I know there is a lot of Planning and coronation to put this Program together.

(Place photo)

Welcoming remarks by Superintendent Dr. Jeffery Bearden **(Place photo)**



Recognizing World War II Veterans By Mr Tony Bourbon and Mr Scott Carson. **(Place photo)**

Veteran's day Celebration (Cont'd)



Grade 6 White and Grade 6 Purple
Communities: What it means to be a veteran.
When the student s was all done they flipped the
sheets to revile the American Flag. Great show
(Place photo)

A Letter to Universal Solider by Mr Michael Walsh,
finalist in 2008 Tipperary Song of peace contest in
Tipperary, Ireland (Place photo)



Grade 7 White communities: Musical Selection
Collages inspired by Patriotism (Place photo)

Veteran's day Celebration (Cont'd)



Ms. Cindy Travers Sung "Sleep Soldier Boy"(Place photo)

"Taps" Performed by Andrew Blunt and Maxwell Richardson. (Place photo)



"Keep holding on "Music selection by Lane Klossner, Kristen Jones and Colleen Tuano. (Place photo)

Veteran's day Celebration (Cont'd)



Mr John Caverly, Principal Close the celebration and invited the veterans to the library for refreshments. Mr Caverly Thanked the Staff and Students for a job well done. (Place photo)

Entering the Library, there were all kinds of food for the veterans (Place photo)



Lots of goodies (Place photo0

The celebration gets better each year. We know that there is a lot of work by Staff and Students to put this altogether. Again the Veterans really appreciate this and we will be looking forward for next year. Thank you

MGWS Veterans Assembly

November 9th, 2010 The Marshwood great works School hosted a celebration for the Veterans. The celebration honored the Veterans who severed in the past and the Men and Women who are serving as we speak. The celebration started with the Colors being posted by the VFW 5744 South Berwick. We had the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Alex Noble.



Commander Nicholas Tsakiris and 1st Vice Commander John Elwell posting the colors.

The Student Chorus sings “We will not forget. They did a great job. In the back of the gym there was a slid show of different activities that the VFW have been doing, from greeting the troops at Pease to having our meetings at mayo’s (Place-photo)



Nathan Pastor introduced David Fogarty the Veteran Speaker. Mr. Fogarty told the students about the Pease greeters. The VFW post has been involved with greeting the troops for over five years. The troops love to see the students at Pease. There are all kinds of pets there as well. (Place photo)

MGWS Veterans Assembly (Cont'd)

Bell Choir performs "Star Spangled Banner" The Students are in no order Skler Amsden, Walker Christo, Brain Couture, Gavin Sorge, Alex Gale, Natalie Galvin, Joanna Howard, Miles Moody, Nicholas Lillis, Ava Magoon and Kogen Serrano. The Choir was directed by Mrs (Place photo)



Abby Kaye



Jackson Douglas



Madelin Sintiris



Hannah Normand



Jacqueline Ruksznis



Isabella Blumenfeld

MGWS Veterans Assembly (Cont'd)



Kellyn Dubois



Chloe Moretti



Melanie Dube



Shayleigh Folger



Elly Young



Jordyn Beers



Georgi Hilton

There were around 60 students who presented Essays, about what a Veteran meant to them. The school had to narrow it down 13. That had to have been a very difficult task. I sat up in the bleachers, taken their photos, and I could not believe the essays. The students did a tremendous job writing them as well as presenting them in front of the really large crowd. (Photos by place)

MGWS Veterans Assembly (Cont'd)



Caroline McKenna Plays "America" on the piano.
(Place photo)

Mr Jerry Brunell with Closing remarks and thanked the Students and Staff for a great job done by all. After that, Mr Brunell presented a check to Malcolm Kenney for the Poppies. (Place photo)



Adjutant Malcolm Kenney thanked the Staff and Students for a job well done. (Place photo)

MGWS Veterans Assembly (Cont'd)



Students and staff filled the Bleaches, and they were very quiet and courteous to what was going on. After the ceremony was over the students that brought their veteran family joined them and went down to the cafeteria for breakfast and other treats. As the Veterans left the gym, Caroline McKenna Plays "Evening Bells" As you entered the café, the tables were full of different goodies.



As you entered the Café, the tables were full of goodies and the front of the café had coffee and cold drinks (Place photo)

Students sat with their parents and enjoyed breakfast before going back to class. When the veterans left, the corridor was lined with students to thank the veterans for their service. This was a great experience. The students and staff really did a great job and the Veterans are proud of the Great job that everyone did. Thank You. (Place photo)



Supporting the Community

On November 10, 2010, Service officer Paul LaPierre presents a check to Judy Buckman (Town Clerk), for the Berwick Employees Benevolent Fund, donated by the VFW Post 5744 South Berwick, Maine. The money will help provide food baskets for needy families of the community at Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year, the way the economy is, there is a lot more people in need for help.



(L-r) Judy Buckman (Town Clerk of Berwick and Paul Lapierre (Service officer) (Place photo)

(L-r) Gerard Vaillancourt Presenting a check for \$400 to support the Honor Flight New England to Jerry Hibit. Jerry is one of the original people to start the Honor Flight and is a Former POW himself. He will get the check to Joe Byron, Founder Honor Flight New England. (Place photo)



Veterans housing dedication

VFW on November 10,2010 Saco veterans housing dedication



Guest speaker Honorable Senator Susan M. Collins
(Mal-photo)

(L-r) Department of Maine VFW commander Sandy A Peterson,, Post Commander Nicholas Tsakiris, Post Adjutant Malcolm Kenney, Bill Weinners Richard Shaw, members of VFW Post 5744 south Berwick, Maine. (Mal-photo)



Sandy A. Peterson II Department of Maine VFW Commander with Speaker from DC volunteers of America. (Mal-photo)



Veterans housing dedication (Cont'd)



(L-r) Richard Shaw Post VFW 5744, Army NG SGT. Westbrook Maine and Nicholas Tsakiris (Mal-photo)

(L-r) Richard P. Giroux Post 7997 Commander, Jim Bachelder PDC, Post 9935, Sandy A. Peterson II, Department of Maine VFW Commander and Nicholas Tsakiris Post commander 5744 South Berwick, Maine (Mal-photo)



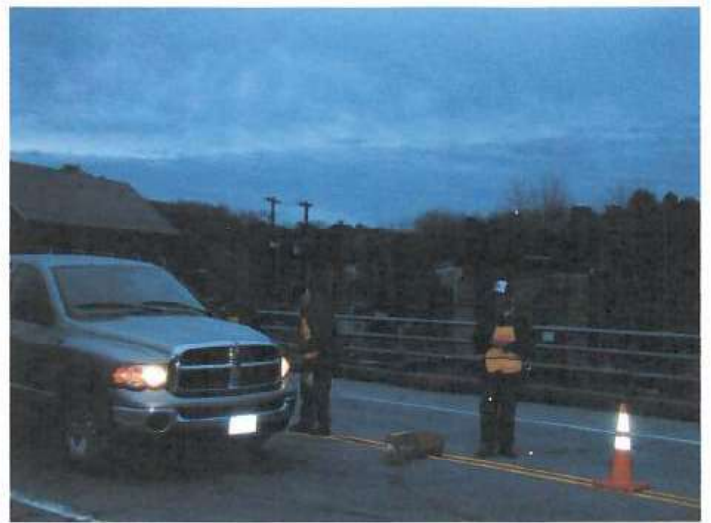
Members of VFW Post 5744 color guard (L-r) Richard Shaw, Nicholas Tsakiris, Commander and Bill Weinners. (Mal-photo)

VFW Poppy Drive

On November 6 and 7 2010, the members of the VFW had their annual Poppy drive on the Rollinsford Bridge. This has been a very good fundraiser for the VFW each year.



(L-r) John Elwell (Senior Vice Commander) and Malcolm Kenney (Adjutant)



VFW Poppy Drive (Cont'd)



(L-r) Raymond Brunelle and Rudy Mayo

Glenden Johnson on the bridge doing the poppy drive



VFW Poppy Drive (Cont'd)



Senior Vice commander John Elwell on the bridge doing the poppy drive

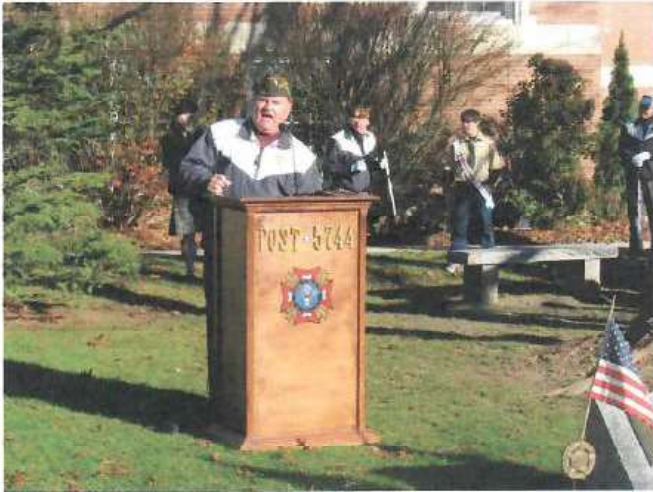
Roger Gupstill on the bridge doing the poppy drive



This year's Poppy drive brought in a whopping \$2738.68. This is the best year yet. Thanks to all the volunteers who spent their time on the bridge. It really shows that the citizens in the area are supporting the Veterans. Great job.

South Berwick Veteran Day Celebration

November 11, 2010 the Veterans Day service was held in front of the South Berwick town Hall. The service started 2 PM.



Commander Nicholas Tsakiris of the VFW post 5744, call the service to order. **(Place photo)**

Chaplain Bruce Brown offered a pray. **(Place photo)**



Guest Speaker was Commander Paul L. Dinius, United States Navy. Paul is the Commander of the USS Helena (SSN 725). The Sub has been in dry dock at the shipyard and just recently pulled out of dry dock. The sub will be here for just a few more months. **(Place photo)**

South Berwick Veteran Day Celebration (Cont'd)



Rifle Squad (L-r) Malcolm Kenney, Richard Shaw, John Elwell, and William Winners. Sitting in front is Audrey Vaillancourt and behind the tree Sue Shaw. (Place photo)

The VFW was well represented as well as the scouts. (Place photo)



There was a good turnout of Citizens and children. (Place photo)

South Berwick Veteran Day Celebration (Cont'd)



Member of the scouts played taps at the end of the service **(Place photo)**

A Prayer was offered by Chaplain Bruce brown and Commander Nicholas Tsakiris Closed the service and thanked everyone for attending.



Mr. Jon Stirling played bagpipes selections for the service. **(Place photo)**

Flags are retired

The flags are put out on the Veterans Graves before Memorial Day and are taken down the day after Veterans Day. The Scouts are asked to take down the flags by the Veterans," Patty Olsen, Navy Veteran, Parent and Advancement Chair of troop 338. Said they are proud to do it."



On the day when most kids would be sleeping, Boy Scout Troop 338 was venturing through the Portland Street and Woodlawn Cemeteries Removing tattered flags from the grave of (Place photo)

The flags are torn off the sticks, and the sticks are left so that next year, the veterans can find each Veterans grave and put a new flag. There are graves that need to have new markers placed on the grave next year. (Place Photo)



The Scouts removed the flags and it didn't take them long. They did it with respect to the old flags that have been over the Veterans Grave all summer. The flags are worn and tattered from the weather. (Place photo)

Flags Get Proper Sendoff

The torn and faded American flag waves softly one last time in the wind as it is slowly pulled down into the hands of two scouts who work together to fold the battered flag into a perfect triangle.



The torn and faded American flag waves softly one last time in the wind as it is slowly pulled down into the hands of two scouts who work together to fold the battered flag into a perfect triangle. (Place photo)

Surrounding them, Veterans stand in Salute and other Boy Scouts stand with their hands placed lightly over their hearts

The folded flag is place in the fire, where it is burned beyond recognition. The ceremony is complete at this time. (Place photo)



The scouts then enjoyed hot dogs and hot Chocolate. Patty Olsen said she feels that the project allows for the boys to get to know their elders. "Connecting with Veterans is a really big part of (removing the Flags)". The veterans feel like a lost generation .It instills respect (from the youth to the Veterans) and for the older generation to the youth. They learn to respect each other.

December 06'2010 Wreaths across America

The motto is "We Make It Our Business To Never Forget" and I can say that they are right. The Trucks just keep rolling in or by the Kittery trading Post. It was around 21 Degrees, but that didn't make a different, the people were there to support this great cause.

From Arlington to Across America

Wreaths across America, a non profit 501-c3 organizing, was formed as an extension of the Arlington Wreath Project. The Arlington wreath program was started by Morrill Worchester (Worchester Wreath) in 1992 with the donation and laying of 5000 Christmas Wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. This becomes an annual journey for Mr. Worchester. It was relatively obscure until 2005 when a photo of the stones adorned with wreaths and covered in snow circulated around the Internet.

The project received national attention. Thousands of requests poured in from all over the country from people wanting to emulate the Arlington project at National and State Cemeteries spurred the creation of Wreaths Across America. Unable to donate thousands of wreaths to each state, Mr. Worchester conceived the idea of sending 7 wreaths (one for each branch of the military as well as POW/MIA). In 2006 with the help of the CAP and other civic organizations, over 150 locations held wreath-laying ceremonies simultaneously.

The Patriot Guard Riders volunteered as escort for the wreaths going to Arlington. This began the annual "Veterans Honor Parade" that travels the east coast in early December.

The wreath laying is now held annually on the second Saturday of December. Wreaths Across America would not be successful without the help of the Volunteers, many active organizations and generosity of the trucking industry. We collectively thank our Military and their families for our Freedom.

On December 06,2010 at Kittery Trading Post, 21 degrees, Veterans and different organizations from all over the states were there to welcome the convoy.



The Police cars leading the convoy of trucks filled with wreath, coming down Route #1 from York Maine, to the Kittery Trading Post at 9 am. (Place photo)

Wreaths across America (Cont'd)



The entrance of the Trading Post was lined with Veterans holding American Flags, Marine Flags as well as the POW/MIA Flag.



The owner of the Kittery Trading Post was presented with a Wreath By Morrill Worchester. (Place photo)

Mr Morrill Worchester with Malcolm Kenney (Place photo)



The workers of the Trading Post then placed the Wreath over the entrance. (Place photo)

Christmas Wreath at Mayo's

The wreath was purchased for the entrance of Mayo's restaurant in Berwick Maine. This is service have a small flag attached. The Veterans really appreciate this. Her motto is **(Think snow).**



Christmas Party at Saco Veterans Home



The front lobby of the Scarborough Veterans home
(Kenney photo)

December 12, 2010 the VFW Post 5744 was invited to the Saco Veterans home for their Christmas Party. Eight of the Post members attended. Commander Nicholas Tsakiris, Adjutant Malcolm Kenney, 1st vice Commander John Elwell, Ray Brunelle, William Weners, Kenneth Goodwin, Quarter Master David Fogarty, and 2nd vice Commander / Historian Robert Place, taken the pictures.



Chairs were brought in for us to sit and watch the show. The VFW members were seated in the back. Ray Brunelle kept getting up and handed out a number of the stars that we give out to the troops as they deploy over seas. (Place photo)



The Veterans and their families were all in the meeting room when we arrived. We joined them and watched Norman Sanborn sing all kinds of music. (Place photo)



Christmas Party at Saco Veterans Home (Cont'd)



Norman Sanborn, President of the Rochester Veterans Council performed for the Veterans and children. Mr Sanborn did old songs as well as some modern songs for the younger generation. (Place photo)

And then Santa Clause showed up and handed Out a few presents to the children that attended. (Place photo)



As the gifts were given to the veterans, people lined up for a little snack. The VFW mingled in with the Veterans and talked with as many as we could. Many stars were handed out and they enjoyed receiving them. We feel that we are not destroying the flags, as they will be burned because of their condition, and the Flag will live on for a long time. This was a great day for the Veterans as well as the VFW. (Place photo)

VFW December Meeting

John Elwell (Sr. Vice Commander) called the meeting to order at 06:00. We said pledge to the flag And Pastor Bruce Brown gave a prayer. Commander Nicholas Tsakiris was away on business.

We stopped for our meal, prepared by Elaine Mayo, great as always. After everyone had finished his or her meal, the meeting continued. We had two new members that joined. Waiting for the names, so I can update the Contact List. This should give us 165 members.

Adjutant Malcolm Kenney read the minutes from November's meeting. The post accepted it as read. Quarter Master David Fogarty gave his finance report, followed by the service officer Paul Lapierre report.

Anthony Cincotta talked about the Springvale Cemetery. Any Veteran no matter where they lived can be buried there, as long as they have an honorable discharge from any branch of the service. Their wives can also be buried with them also. Anthony also has the fliers if someone needs to go to the Veteran's home. Anthony Cincotta also reported on Marshwood High School, for not saying the Pledge. The VFW will meet at the School Boards meeting on December 15th at 6:30 PM. Anthony will be the speaker, but we need as many members to be present to show support. Also we talked about trying to get a law passed to make the pledge mandatory as they did in New Hampshire. We will see what happens after the Marshwood Meeting.

We also voted on Donating to Reefs Across America, and money to cover teacher of the year, money to help buy razor for Veterans, and to pay Mr John Stirling for playing the bagpipes at the veteran day ceremony We had 30 plus members at the meeting. Pastor Bruce Brown gave a closing prayer and the meeting was closed. (Place photos)





Adjutant December report

Meeting of December 14, 2010

Meeting called to order by SR vice Commander John Elwell at 18:00 hours, with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by opening prayer by Chaplain Bruce Brown.

There were 35 members present, no guests.

New Member report

Patricia Cordier, US Army Active Duty, currently home on leave from Afghanistan. Obligated tonight.

Heath Gagnon, USA active Duty, serving in Korea. Heath is from Somersworth, NH. Obligated tonight.

Adjutant's minutes

Adjutant Malcolm Kenney read minutes of the November 14, 2010 meeting. A motion was to accept as read by Bill Winners, seconded by Robert place. Motion passed

Quarter Master's report

Quarter Master David Fogarty reported the following: Checking account \$2740.28, CD \$10,000. There are two CD's that will mature this month. He is thinking of transferring CD's to Checking until He looks into finding a better rate. Peoples (ocean) will only give 1%. Chuck Cove and Anthony Cincotta suggested, to check out a Credit Union.

QM will be writing checks for the scholarships in the amount of \$900 to be awarded on December 26, 2010. This is college Student, who are grandchildren of members.

QM read Thank You notes from Melissa Provencher for our \$200 donation for Troop Care Packages to help mailing costs. There also were thank you notes for towns of Berwick and So Berwick, for our donations to help those in need.

Department Commanders project?

No outstanding bills. A motion to accept as read, subject to audit by Richard LaBonte, seconded by Clinton Schoff. Motion passed.

Service Officers Report:

SO Paul Lapierre reported on his visits and delivery of fruit baskets to: Christian Muentener, at meeting Leonard Hanscom, Dover Hospital: Richard Gallant, at meeting: Gary Spaulding home foot problem: George Tsakiris, Dover rehab. Keep me informed of sick of confined. Paul also reported that Sonny Gick was due into MA today. He is returning from Afghanistan

Old Business /Committee Report: VOD/PP, Teacher of the year. Our VOD, Tiffany Currier from Noble High School won 1st place at District 11 along with Justin Roy, our teacher of the year, from Marshwood Middle School. Both will advance to state/Department level and attend the VOD/PP/Teacher of the year Banquet on January 8, 2011 in Winslow, Me. Winners will be announced at this function. A Motion to have the

Adjutant December report (cont'd)

QM purchase tickets not to exceed \$200 was made by Chairman, Malcolm Kenney and seconded by Anthony Cincotta. Motion passed. This is a overnight function. If a member and or Spouse would like to attend, please let Malcolm Kenney know ASAP so he can make reservations. Pledge of Allegiance, Marshwood High School: We are on the agenda,

to meet with the school board on December 15th, 2010 at 7 PM. This will be at MHS. If you can attend, wear blue and white jacket with cover (hat). We will have one member, Anthony Cincotta speak to the board with our request. After presentation, anyone can speak. We have invited members of Eliot American legion. Please show up at 6:30 in HS lobby.

New Business: A motion by David Fogarty to donate \$200 to Commanders project. Wreaths across America, seconded by William Weners . Motion passed.

Anthony Cincotta reported on cost of Me State Veterans Home. Provided brochure handouts. Cost varies with your Veterans status. We currently have five homes in Maine, Scarborough, being the closest.

SR Vice Commander John Elwell reported on our visit on December 12,2010 to the Scarborough Veterans Home Christmas party. We had a great time and the residents were happy to see us. We had nine members attend this function.

Anthony Cincotta answered questions from November 14th meeting, regarding out of state Veterans being buried in the new Springvale Veterans Cemetery. If they have an honorable Discharge any Veteran can be buried, as well as their Spouse.

Adjutant Malcolm Kenney spoke about post tradition of providing a fruit basket to our WW II members and members confined. I will make up the list for four towns and ask for assistance getting them delivered. This is a good time for a home visit.

We still have a Troop Flight on schedule for December 30th, 2010 at 1:30 AM.

Scholarships will be December 26, 2010 upstairs, Post 47 The American legion, Rollinsford, NH.

Membership: We still have 13 members unpaid. If you know of a need problem please speak to QM David Fogarty or myself or any Officer, we don't want to lose a member for \$21.00.

NO further business, meeting adjourned at 19:40, after a closing prayer by Chaplin Bruce Brown. Next meeting, will be at, Mayo's. January 11, 2011, 6 PM

Submitted by
Malcolm Kenney Adjutant

VFW January Meeting

January 11, 2011 1st Vice Commander John Elwell called the Meeting to order at 06:00 PM.

We saluted the colors and Pastor Bruce Brown offered a prayer. Malcolm Kenney gave a report on new members. At this meeting we had none, but Malcolm Kenney sent out a list with Names of local people, for members to contact to see if they wanted to join the VFW Post. We had a great turn out for the meeting, as always. Malcolm read the minutes of last months meeting. David Fogarty gave the finance report, letting us know that he is waiting to transfer some money into another bank to get a better rate for our money.



Service officer, Paul Lapierre, reported on the members he has been visiting at different facilities in the area. 1st Vice commander John Elwell read cards and letters for different people, thank us for what we did for them. I will finish this after I get the report from the Commander. (Place photos)

Commander Nicholas Tsakiris Receives award



January 2011, Commander Nicholas Tsakiris receives award for Post membership at the Department of Maine Council Meeting in Winslow Maine. (l-r) Nicolas Tsakiris Commander VFW 5744, Sandy Peterson Department of Maine Commander, Richard L. Eubank VFW commander –in chief, National Council Member District # 1, Eugene A. Pawlik Sr. and Arthur Roy Membership chairman Department of Maine. (Kenney photo)

Proud Dad, Jim Currier seated at the state banquet in Winslow, Maine for VOD Essay winner. (l-r) Daughter Tiffany Currier Department of Maine. VFW Commander Sandy Peterson and national Commander Richard L. Eubank. Tiffany place 3rd in state competition. Jim is a Member of VFW Post 5744, South Berwick Maine. (Kenney photo)



VFW Adjutant's January report



VFW Post 5744

Meeting of January 11, 2011

Meeting called to order by Sr. VC John Elwell at 1800 hours, with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Opening Prayer by Chaplin Bruce Brown.

NEW MEMBER REPORT: No new members present, No Guest, 28 members present.

MINUTES: Read by Adjutant Kenney, Motion by Mark Pilgrim to accept as read seconded by George Davidson. Motion Passed

QUARTERMASTER REPORT: QM Dave Fogarty reported the following:

CHECKING ACOUNT: \$-6093.32—total \$11093.32-----

CD:-5000.00-----

RECEIVED:-\$-8782.94-----

DISBURSED:\$-8544.83-----

College Scholarships \$900, Bonds for VOD and Patriot Pen \$175

Togus Aid: \$350.00, VOD PP Banquet tickets \$200.

No outstanding bills.

QM read thank you note from Togus DAVS for our donation of \$350.

Motion to accept report as read subject to audit by Bill Winners.
Second by Rudy Mayo. Motion passed.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT: SO Paul LaPierre reported on home and hospital visits. Fruit baskets were delivered to 28 members of our post during the Christmas holidays. Paul reported that Gary Spaulding is still in the Dover hospital and is ready for visitors and cards, also Leonard Hanscom and

VFW Adjutant's January Report (cont'd)

George Tsakiris are in Dover Rehab. Paul thanked those members who attended the service for James Gherson in Kittery, James was a life member WWII and lived in Berwick Estates, his family was very happy to see our Post there. If you know a member or veteran in need please let me or another officer know.

OLD BUSINESS / COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VOD-PP-TEACHER OF THE YEAR. Chairman Kenney reported that we had attended the Dept. Banquet in Winslow, Me. And our Post, District 11 winner Tiffany Currier placed third in the State, she will receive a \$500 dollar bond, the Dist. 11 PP winner from the York VFW Post also placed third in the state. Our Post Teacher of the year and District 11 winner Justin Roy placed second at State level. All in all our Post did quite well. There was one very proud dad, Jim Currier, when they announced his daughter came in Third.

MEMBERSHIP: Commander Tsakiris and QM Dave Fogarty were presented their 100% pins from VFW National Commander, Richard Eubank, and Nick received two certificates from the Department of Maine.

VFW Department Commander Peterson thanked our post, currently leading the Dept. in membership. Our post will be receiving The National CC exchange coin in mid-February. Thanks to what every member of this post is doing we are finally getting recognition.

SAD 35 School Board Pledge of Allegiance:

We had a good show of support from our post and the Eliot AL at the school board meeting,

We were prepared to present our request that the pledge be recited in all SAD 35 schools, we should have results of our request around Jan 19th, 2011. Other action on the Pledge of Allegiance, I have provided information to a State Representative from SB and Eliot to initiate a resolution, that would make the Pledge of Allegiance a State Law, that every school in Maine would be required to recite the Pledge daily in all Maine Schools, school staff and students would

VFW Adjutant's January Report (cont'd)

be required to stand, place right hand over heart and recite the pledge, should student or staff member elect not to recite the Pledge they will be required to stand in respect of Pledge . Once a resolution number has been assigned we will solicit state wide representatives support as well as all state wide veteran organizations. I will keep our membership informed of all action.

NEW BUSINESS: COMMUNICATIONS:

SVC John Elwell read thank you notes from two scholarship recipients.

Once again our post has been requested to bring our Veterans WWII program into a school, this time in a NH (Somersworth) school, Adjutant stated we need a membership vote to leave our district, also that Somersworth has a VFW Post. I feel we must notify the Department of NH VFW that we have had that request, as well the Somersworth VFW Post. A motion was made by Glenn Johnson that we initiate letters to Dept. as well as NH. VFW Post, and if there is no objection we take this on, this motion was seconded by Chuck Colwell. Motion Passed.

SVC John Elwell started discussion on our March fund raiser supper, a date was set for the third Saturday of month 3-19-11, from 4:00 to 7 PM. It was suggested that we pre-sell tickets as in previous years. See if commander can get Town Manager to waive insurance if town can cover as they did last year, and reserve community center for 19 March. 2011.

Wednesday 19th at 6 PM, Kittery Estates 220 state rd. VA Benefits Information Workshop on senior housing.

Greeting Troop Flight's as scheduled.

Next regular meeting February 8th at 6 PM Mayos.

No further business meeting adjourned at 19:45 hours.

Submitted by

Mal Kenney

Adjutant



Mustered February 26, 1946
VFW Post 5744

Commander, Nick Tsakiris
Vice Commander, John Elwell
Jr. Vice Commander, Robert Place
Quarter Master, David Fogarty

NEWSLETTER

As our Post approaches February 26, 2011, and our 65th year Chartered, I would like to dedicate this newsletter to Cecil Horr, Charter Number 11. Cecil is the only Charter Member active in our Post. He has served in most officer positions during the early days of Post 5744. He is a US Army WWII Veteran. Served with the 1644th Ordinance Supply Maintenance Company, in the 310th Service Group. We wish you good health and thank you for your service to country, community and VFW Post 5744.

Our VFW Post continues to serve veteran needs as well as community and schools. November, December Events: Members attended three schools to celebrate Veteran's Day, Veterans interviews in the classroom, removed flags from Veteran graves, held a Flag Retirement Ceremony with the scouts, provided Colors for the Opening Ceremony of a Veterans Transitional Housing Complex in Scarborough, ME., and Colors for a fundraiser, a 5K race for Great Bay School, Portsmouth, NH. We greeted 86 Troop Charter Flights returning from or heading to Iraq and Afghanistan during 2010 and provided thousands of phone cards to our troops along with US Flags.

We provided scholarships to three grandchildren of Post members attending college. In addition, our student VFW Essay Program was very successful. US Savings Bonds were presented to three Middle School students and one High School Student who placed 3rd in the Department (State) level. Our Teacher of the Year from Marshwood Middle School placed 2nd at Department level.

We Held a Poppy Toll Booth on Veterans Day in November which turned out to be the best ever, and our 50-50 raffle in November was a total success. Several members attended a Christmas Party for the Veterans in the Scarborough, ME Veterans Home in December.

Service Officer, Paul LaPierre continues to provide assistance to both the young and mature veterans, assisting with paperwork and appointments at VA Clinics and Hospitals. In December our Post provided 28 fruit baskets to our WWII member veterans in this area as well as those confined. We also gave \$300 to four towns to help those in need, and \$350 to Togus VA Hospital along with 500 phone cards.

We have initiated paper work to establish a State Law in Maine, to require every School District in Maine to provide time every day for students and staff to recite the "Pledge of Allegiance". This resolution is in the State Revisor's Office.

Four members attended the State VOD/Patriot Pen, and Teacher of the Year Banquet, in Winslow, ME. Our VOD Post and District winner placed 3rd in the State and our Teacher of the Year Candidate placed 2nd in the State. We also attended a Council meeting where National Commander Eubank presented 100% pins to Commander, Nick Tsakiris and Quartermaster, Dave Fogarty. Commander Tsakiris was also presented with two certificates for membership. Our Post is leading the Department of Maine in membership. Thanks to all of you we have been able to accomplish this.

Historian/Jr. Vice, Robert (Gabby) Place is working on his 2010-2011 Post History Book. If you have any stories or photo's you would like to share, please forward to Robert Place, 853 Lebanon Rd. No. Berwick, ME 03906.

Membership: We still have six members unpaid. We need your membership to continue our voice in Washington. Your membership does count! 2011 dues can still be paid. If you have a problem please contact Adjutant, Malcolm Kenney, 52 Agamenticus Rd., So. Berwick, ME 03908-1226. We want you and don't want to lose you for \$21.00.

Sick Call:

Please remember these Comrades and those serving in harms way in your prayers.
Gary Spaulding, Robert Canney, George Tsakiris, Warren Hilton, Leonard Hanscom. Dick Shaw,

Taps: James Gherson – January 4, 2011; Leonard Hanscom- January 22, 2011.

Upcoming Events:

March 19, 2011 Spaghetti Supper
Greeting Troops; Scout of the year

Post Meetings: We still have a Dinner Meeting at Mayo's Resturant, Berwick ME, 200 Route 236, next to the Post Office, at 6 PM, second Tuesday of the Month.

Next three meetings;

February 8, 2011 6 PM
March 8, 2011 6 PM
April 12, 2011 6 PM



Proud Dad Jim Currier, seated at the state banquet in Winslow, ME for the VOD essay winners, top left to right, daughter Tiffany, Dept. of ME VFW Cmdr. Sandy Peterson and National VFW Cmdr. Richard Eubank. Tiffany placed third in the state. Jim is a member of Post 5744 S. Berwick.



Post Cmdr. Nick Tsakiris, front, receives award for post membership at dept. of ME Council Meeting in Winslow, ME left to right, Dept. of ME VFW Cmdr. Sandy Peterson, National VFW Cmdr. Richard Eubanks, National Council Member Dist.-1 Eugene Pawlik Sr. and Arthur Roy Membership chairman Dept. of ME.



Dec. 2010 Scarborough Maine Veterans Home Christmas party attended by members of VFW Post 5744, it was a great time and a good feeling for all.



Dedication of new transitional Veterans Home in Scarborough, Maine VFW Post 5744 provided and presented the colors.

Pictured left to right, Dept. of ME Cmdr. Sandy Peterson and VFW Post members, Nick Tsakiris, Mal Kenney, Bill Winners and Dick Shaw.



Poppy Toll Booth Veterans Day weekend November 2010 VFW Post members Roger Guptil and John Elwell. Once again it was a great success, we are fortunate to be able to put our booth on the Route-4 bridge between So. Berwick, ME and Rollinsford, NH, thanks to all for your efforts.

Photos and copy by Mal Kenney

Many thanks Mal for a great news letter.

Commander VFW Post 5744
Nicholas G. Tsakiris

February VFW Meeting

Adjutant Malcolm Kenney called meeting to order at 06:00 PM. We saluted the colors and said the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 34 members present. We had a special member brought in, George Tsakiris who is in rehab in Dover, NH. We also had Russell Longchance come to our meeting to see if he would like to become a member. Russell seemed to enjoy the meeting and we will see down the road. We also had Mike Crago, LT Col (ret), has been a lift time member at large is now one of our members.

Adjutant Malcolm Kenney read last month's minutes. Motion was made to accept as read. Motion passed. Quarter Master David Fogarty gave his finance report. Motion was made to accept as read. Motion Passed. Also David told the Post that he would be giving up Quarter Master at the end of this year, due to health problems. David has done a great job for lots of years. His expertise will be missed.

Service officer Paul Lapierre read his report. He has been very busy Visiting and passing out fruit baskets. Paul does a great job.

Leonard Hanscom passed and will be placed on taps for this year. Please keep his family in your prayers.

On March 19, 2011, time 4-7 Pm, our spaghetti supper will be put on at the South Berwick Community Center. Workers should be there at 3:00 pm to help get set up. A sign up sheet was passed around for volunteers.

We are looking for nomination for Eagle Scout awards. Nomination for next years officers at the march meeting.



Commander Nicholas Tsakiris with his Dad George Tsakiris. It was great to see George back at the meetings. It has been a long road since his accident. He seems to be getting stronger every day. (Place photo)

We always get a great turnout at the meetings. (Place photo)



This is our corner in Mayo's restaurant. This is a great meeting place and we always get a great meal. (Place photo)

Email From Adjutant Malcolm Kenney

**Please note that VFW South Berwick, ME has just passed the Post membership ALL TIME HIGH of 158, that was established with the charter in February, 1946
. Noted today via MEM STATS 2-4-11 membership at 159 paid.**

Review of Department of Maine as of this date NO other post in Maine has achieved all time membership high.

I offer this as a challenge to other Post. Support your District and Department Commander.

**Mal Kenney
Adjutant
5744**

VFW Announces Winners

2 The Weekly Sentinel



~ News ~

VFW Announces Scholarship Winners, Teacher of the Year

SOUTH BERWICK—

Tiffany Currier, a senior at Noble High School, North Berwick, placed third out of 767 students in the State of Maine in the Voice of Democracy Essay Scholarship Competition. Tiffany will be presented with \$700 in US Savings Bonds at the March 8 Post 5744 VFW meeting.

Three local Middle School Students sponsored by VFW Post 5744, South Berwick, were declared Essay Winners locally, each writing a 300- to 400-word essay with a patriotic assigned theme. Ryan D. Gick from Berwick, home schooled, Katelyn E. Shea, Marshwood Middle School and Thomas G. Fuller, Marshwood Middle School will each receive a \$50 Bond.

Students and parents will attend the VFW March 8 meeting

where certificates and bonds will be awarded followed by dinner.

Three additional scholarships were presented to college students during their semester break. To be eligible for this scholarship the student must have a parent or grandparent in good standing in VFW Post 5744, South Berwick, and be reenrolled in the second semester. Each of the following students was presented with a check for \$300 at a joint Ceremony with Post 47 American Legion and the Rollinsford / South Berwick Lions: Hillary Cusack, Morgan Schoff, and Courtney Long.

VFW Post 5744 congratulates all the students that participated in the VFW Essay Program and thanks the schools and parents for their assistance in this program. For more info on VFW scholarships visit www.vfw.org.

In addition, Justin Roy of Marshwood Middle School placed second in the state for the Teacher of the Year Award after winning local and district level judging. Justin was sponsored by VFW Post 5744, South Berwick. Justin will be presented with a Community Service Certificate and dinner for two at Wentworth by the Sea at the March VFW Meeting.

Special Meeting at Mayo's

VFW meeting at Mayo's on February 24, 2011, the meeting was to discuss our next move to reinstate the Pledge of Allegiance in the Marshwood school system. It seem that the staff cannot make a decision to have the students recite the pledge in the Am. They say that the time that they have the students do the pledge will take away from the class work.

We need to get the public involved with this. Some of the Teachers are fine with it, but the school board doesn't want to step on anybody's toes by making this mandatory The VFW are also trying to get the Pledge of Allegiance passed as a State law, as it is in all but 12 States.

We had a great turn out with a few of the member's wives. We had a great discussion and breakfast. There were a lot of ideas put on the table as what we need to do to get this passed. The VFW will not let this rest until we resolve this problem. This is a big problem and needs to be fixed.



Members at the table (L-r) Malcolm Kenney, Adjutant, William Weners, Anthony Cincotta, John Elwell SR. Vice commander, Daniel Hildreth, George Davidson, and other wives and members. (Place photo)

(L-r) Pastor Bruce Brown, with His wife Nancy Brown, across from Nancy, Phyllis Place. Among other



VFW Feb Minutes

VFW POST 5744
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2011

Meeting called to order by Commander Nick Tsakiris at 1800 hours, with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Opening Prayer by Chaplin Bruce Brown

New Member Report: Mike Crago was introduced, Mike transferred to 5744 as a life member from vfw membership at large, Mike is retired from the US Army, served in VN as well as Perusing Gulf in the medical corps.

Guest

Russell Lonchamps guest of Robert Place potential member.

There was 34 members present with one guest.

MINUTES: Read by Adjutant Kenney, Motion by Mark Pilgrim to accept as read seconded by Dave Fogarty. Motion Passed

Quartermaster Report: QM Dave Fogarty reported the following:

CHECKING ACCOUNT: \$6050.72

CD: \$5000

RECEIVED: \$70.00

DISBURSED: \$112.60

TOTAL AVAILABLE: \$11008.12

QM read thank you notes from Honor Flight of NE for our \$400 donation

Motion by Glen Johnson and 2nd by Nick Tsakiris to accept report as read subject to audit. Motion Passed

Servicer Officer Report: SO Paul Lapieer reported on the following members, Gary Spaulding, Robert Carney, Warren Hilton. Services for Leonard Hanscom.also spoke about Agent Orange, VA extended time to submit claim and extended area in Korea making more veterans eligible for cancer and type 2 diabetes BENEFITS

Old Business/Committee Reports

Spaghetti Supper: Commander Nick Tsakiris spoke about the supper fund raiser scheduled for March 19th from 4-7 at the SB Community Center on Norton St. Clint Schoff picked up tickets for pre-sale and can be picked up from Dave Fogarty tonight, Nick stated hall was all set and town manager has waived insurance. A request went out to see if wives would bake pies, cookies cake brownies deserts as in past as well as assist is serving line. Steave Shea to request help from Boy Scouts, Commander will make call to get membership help, Mark Pilgrim suggested start signup sheet tonight, Mal to get information to newspapers. Mal discussed getting the janitor to clean up after; a Motion was made by Joe Gagnon and 2nd by Bruce Brown to look into cost of paying Janitor. Motion Passed.

Awards for Teacher of the Year, VOD and Patriots Pen: A Motion by Dave Fogarty with 2nd by Dan Hildreth to invite students, teacher and parents to March 8th meeting for dinner and awards. Motion Passed.

FEB Minutes (Cont'd)

SCHOOL PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE: Commander spoke about status of our request to have Pledge reinstated at Marshwood Hi School, Nick and Mal sat in on Policy Committee meeting, outcome of that meeting was Hi-School Principal was to speak with his school department heads as well teachers and student government to find a way to reinstate Pledge. Principal was to get back with SAD 35 school board; also VFW was requested to meet with student government to discuss why Pledge should be said daily. MSMA SAMPLE POLICY was provided to all members of policy committee. There is no change to status of the Bill submitted by Roberta Beavers, the bill has not come out of the Revere's Office. We will keep members informed on all actions on this matter.

VETERANS IN CLASSROOM SOMERSWORTH HI-SCHOOL

We need the name of who made request to visit this school, I have a letter drafted to send to NH. Department Adjutant as well as Maine Adjutant and Commander of Somersworth VFW Post.

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership is looking very good at this point, we still have six un-paid members, our membership growth has gone over the post all time high of 158 members that dates back to February 26, 1946 the date our post was chartered, no other vfw post at this time has achieved this in membership, full credit goes out to all our members and the there active part in our post, I thank you all. Next meeting we will open nominations for next year's officers, please consider stepping-up, Allan Carney stated he may be interested in taking QM. Commander Nick read thank you notes from Hillary Cusock and Tiffany Currier for scholarships and the trip to Waterville, Me. for VOD Banquet. Troop greeting have slowed down we will continue to support this program as flights are scheduled. Our April 12 meeting we will honor the Eagle Scouts from the Berwicks. Scout of the year nominations are due to the department of Me. NLT March 28th. One scout will advance to National to compete for a \$5000 1st \$3000 2nd and \$1000 scholarship, if you know of an Eagle Scout interested get in touch with Steve Shea or Mal Kenney.

Good of Order:

Toni Cincotta spoke about Veteran Cemetery
Dan Hildreth check out [www Any Soldiers.com](http://www.AnySoldiers.com)

NEXT MEETING MARCH 8TH

Meeting adjourned at 1945 hours

Submitted by Mal Kenney Adjutant

Meeting the troops at Augusta

On Tuesday march 8, 2011, a few of the members from VFW Post 5744 South Berwick left South Berwick to drive up to Augusta to greet the 132national guard unit as they returned home from after 12 months in Afghanistan . Two of the soldiers returning, are members of our post, Jason Pepin and Brian Dickerson.



The four buses arrive with the Maine State Police leading. All traffic was stopped to let the buses enter. (Place photo)

Some families and friends have been waiting there since 06:00 am. There was a lot of tension in this building while waiting. The troops got there at 11:45 am.



Many families were there displaying the many Posters for their husbands who were returning. (Place photo)

Meeting the troops at Augusta (Cont'd)



Welcome home Brian Dickerson. Augusta Armory 03-08-2011. Brian Dickerson a member of VFW Post 5744 South Berwick returned today from one year deployment with the 1136th Transportation Co. Maine NG. In photo: Nickolas Tsakiris Commander 5744, Post Chaplain Bruce Brown in Back SO Paul Lapierre and Kenneth Goodwin, Brain Dickerson with Wife Jessica in white and children (place photo)

Welcome home Jason Pepin. Augusta Armory 03-08-2011. Jason Pepin a member of VFW Post 5744 South Berwick returned today from one year deployment with the 1136th Transportation Co. Maine NG. In photo: Post Chaplain Bruce Brown and Kenneth Goodwin. Jason Pepin with, (as she said good friend.) (Place photo)



March VFW Meeting

Tuesday March 8, 2011 the meeting was called to order by Commander Nickolas Tsakiris at 18:00 hrs. with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Prayer by Chaplain Bruce Brown. We had a number of young people to be honored before our regular meeting begun. These students were sponsored by the VFW Post, 5744, South Berwick and were declared as essay winners. All the students that participated in the contest did a Great job.



Sonny, and Wendy Gick are here to see their son Ryan receive an award, plus a \$50 bond, for writing a 300 to 400 essay with a Patriotic theme. Ryan is home schooled. (Place photo)

Gary, Pam, and Katelyn Fuller are here to see their son and Brother receives an award, plus a \$50 bond, for writing a 300 to 400 essay with a Patriotic theme. Thomas is a student at Marshwood middle school (Place photo)



Stephen and Merrier Shea are here to see their Daughter Katelyn receive an award, plus a \$50 bond for writing a 300 to 400 essay with a Patriotic theme. Katelyn is a student at Marshwood middle school (Place photo)

March VFW Meeting (Cont'd)



Tiffany Currier, a senior at Noble High School, North Berwick, placed third out of 767 students in the state of Maine in the voice of Democracy Essay Scholarship Competition. Tiffany was presented with a \$700 US Savings Bond and award at the March 8 Post 5744 VFW meeting by Commander Nickolas Tsakiris and Quarter Master David Fogarty. Tiffany's Essay follows. (Place photo).

Voice of Democracy Scholarship Essay 10/24/2010 by Tiffany Currier

Does my generation have a role in America's future?

Youth in America today are occupying their time sitting in front of a T.V. or computer. Caring nothing about what is going on outside their bedroom window, and only caring about that song downloading. This is the millennial generation in which we live in. My generation has survived 9/11, the tragedy of Katrina, Iraq war, and many other unfortunate events. Yet somehow many of us still want to rush home to catch the next episode of the most popular show, and do nothing but lounge around the house procrastinating on that homework assignment. From the outside, this looks like an average teen. But from the inside, it's a caring loving person, who has an opinion, only waiting for their opportunity to shine, to voice their thoughts and share their ideas towards a better future. My generation, has a role in America's future; what that is, nobody is completely sure of, but there is only one way to be sure of our success and that is to prepare for it now. Despite what it looks like from the outside.

The generation that roams the streets today has very inspired young adults who fill their spare time volunteering to help the community hoping for a better future.

"Rather than seeking refuge in the familiar, they have challenged themselves with jobs that include serving in the military, working in post-Katrina New Orleans, joining the Obama presidential campaign, and teaching in the inner city.

If anything unites them, it is their search for political and social solutions that don't leave America isolated in the world or divided into a nation of haves and have-nots. By any historical yardstick, they are kindred spirits with the men and women whom Ralph Waldo Emerson, looking back on his own remarkable, nineteenth-century generation, described as the party of the future rather than the party of the past" (Party of the Future). These small actions are only preparing them for the future. Getting involved is important to learn to deal with problems and become effective communicators to others. Many schools' mottos are based off of becoming a better community and effectively learning to the best they possibly can. It all starts in the early stages of school. Learning about the environment and the society and understanding the challenges that comes with being around others. In those early stages, they teach children manners, and morals, and then as the children grow older, they teach them about politics, and change, and inform them about the future. This is the only way one can prepare for the decision making for the future; is be informed, and apply it immediately. If young adults see and understand the problems American face day to day, they will generally have more compassion and want to help by voicing their opinions.

March VFW Meeting (Cont'd)

"Problems like unemployment, illiteracy, poverty, and disease plague the streets of America. Abuse, crime, recession, terror, and sheer ignorance compromise the sense of security that we as Americans are entitled to. Government corruption and the lust for material gain are only a few out of a long list of obstacles that our leaders combat on a daily basis. However, these leaders will not be around forever" (The Deciding Generation).

The people sitting on the park benches with the ear buds on and completely oblivious to the rest of world buzzing around them are people we are going to be looking up to in the years to come. To say they are not ready is correct. However, they are still teens. They have not reached that point in life where making political decisions is crucial to the society, they still are very well dependent on their parents. But to say they will never be ready, is wrong. The stages of life don't demand that young adults become adults right away, they need to live their life in order to experience and gain wisdom. At this oblivious stage, this is the stage where they learn from the elders, and observe the world. Finding the pieces to their own personal puzzle of morals and right from wrong. This is the practice outside of schools, where they learn on their own without pressure.

"Every generation of Americans has a role in their country's future. From the founding fathers to today's young generation; we all play a very vast role in America's future" (Does my young generation).

My Generation will have to make decisions, fix problems that are left to us, and make a change in America for the best. Technology is changing rapidly, life styles are changing rapidly; in order to keep up with the fast pace of life, and to keep a functioning society, there has to be a strong government and strong inspired leaders. There is so much young adults today have to learn before filling in those big shoes that are left for us. Learning from our elders is crucial, and practicing within school and within the community. Whether it be protesting, or debating, it's all practice for the future. It will give teens wisdom, and acceptance, and pride towards America. There are positive messages posted everywhere we look that inspires teens to get involved. College education or not, young adults will have an opinion, and will be ready when the time comes to fill in those shoes of becoming America's leaders. What that road will look like exactly, is up to fate. Until then, we will continue preparing for the role my generation will have in the future. Works Cited

"Does my young generation of Americans have a role in this country's future? xomba 9/09
http://www.xomba.com/does_my_young_generation_americans_have_role_countrys_future
Party of the future:

Mills, Nicolaus, Voices from the Next America, March, 2010. University of Pennsylvania Press.

"The Deciding Generation".

Socyberty 10/210 <http://socyberty.com/future/the-deciding-generation/>

It had to be a tough job to narrow this down to third place. Great job to all the students that attended this Contest

This month's meeting minutes will follow. There is a lot of stuff covered.

March Minutes 2011



VFW POST 5744
Meeting of March 8, 2011

Meeting called to order by Cmdr. Nicholas Tsakiris at 1800 hours, with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by opening Prayer by Chaplain Bruce Brown.

There were 38 members present. Guest: Ten

Paul Tabora: District 11 SVC and Dist. Essay Chairman
Frank Hall and James Keohan from the Somersworth NH VFW Post

Students Essay Winners and their Parents:
Katlyn Shea from Marshwood Middle School
Tom Foulter from Marshwood Middle School
Ryan Gick from Berwick Me. Home Schooled

Tiffany Currier VOD Voice of Democracy Post, Dist.11 and third place State winner. From Noble High School and North Berwick, ME.

Commander Nicholas Tsakiris briefed on meeting agenda, this being our post Teacher of The Year and Essay Award's night. After dinner we will present awards. Adjourned for dinner.

Malcolm Kenney Essay chairman spoke about our VFW Scholarships and introduced all guest. Patriot Pen winners were called up to receive Bonds and Certificates presented by Commander Tsakiris.

Voice of Democracy Post, District 11 and Third Place Department (state) winner was called up to read her winning essay. Tiffany Currier received \$200 in US Savings Bonds and a \$500 scholarship, what a proud dad.

Teacher of The Year, Justin Roy from Marshwood Middle School was not present to receive his awards, \$150 gift certificate to Wentworth by the Sea, and a letter read by Mal Kenney, Justin Placed Second in the State.

Commander thanked parents and students for attending this awards night and wished each student continued success. Parents and students were excused.

Meeting continued.

New Member Report: Adjutant introduced new member Mike Jolley, retired Navy, from Wells Maine. Mike served in Iraq.

Minutes of the February 8th Post Meeting were read by Adjutant Malcolm Kenney. Motion by Glenden Johnson to accept as read, seconded by John Elwell. Motion passed.

Quarter Masters Report: Q.M. David Fogarty reported the following:

Checking Account : \$6183.75

CD: \$5000.00

Received: \$272.20

Disbursed \$150.17

No Outstanding Bills

Motion to accept report as given subject to audit, by Mal Kenney, seconded by Dan Hildreth. Motion Passed.

Service Officer Report: S.O. Paul Lapierre reported on the following Comrades.

Gary Spaulding fruit basket, Joseph Gagnon in Hospital, Robert Canney very bad off and Warren Hilton who is home. Paul thanked all for notification of sick, he mailed out several get well cards.

Old Business/Committee Report:

Spaghetti Supper: Date set for 3-19-11 please sign up to work this project, Mal and Nick to make calls for help. Commander has arranged for hall with Town Manager and Community Center, Pre sell tickets Raymond Brunelle and Charles Colwell doing a great job selling. See Q.M. if you want tickets. Work show time 2:30 P.M.

Membership: Post is doing great at this time. We need four more new or reinstated to make Nick and Gary complete for All-State Commanders.

Somersworth High School Request: No new information. Tabled.

School Pledge of Allegiance: Announced LD 1136, this bill is now in committee as soon as hearing is scheduled Nick or Mal will notify Members.

New Business:

Commander opened up nominations for 2011-2012 Officers, Nominations will remain open until April 12 Meeting at which time nominations will close and election held. The following were nominated for listed officer positions.

Commander: Nicholas Tsakiris,
Senior Vice Commander: John Elwell,
Junior vice Commander: Robert Place
Quartermaster: David Fogarty
Chaplin: Pastor Bruce Brown

Trustees:

Joseph Gagnon 1 yr.
Donald Heath 2 yrs.
Brian Maynard 3 yrs.

Surgeon: Roger Guptill,

Post Historian:
Robert Place

Service Officer: Paul Lapierre

Membership:

Sergeant-At-Arms: Rudy Mayo
Judge Advocate: Gary Spaulding

Malcolm Kenney
Richard Gallant
David Fogarty
Nicholas Tsakiris

Bruce Brown spoke about Middle School Mentor program, will talk to Julie Hundely.

In-School WW I Program March 25, 08:15, Kenneth Goodwin, Girard Vaillancourt and Phil Lawrence. This will be at Marshwood Middle School; Larry Ailleo will also work this program with his memorabilia from WW I.

Commander Nick thanked all for going to Augusta Welcome Home for 1136.

Next Meeting April 12. We will have Eagle Scouts, Parents, and Scout Masters.

GOOD OF ORDER: Guest comments. Frank Hall. Good Meeting.

Submitted by

Malcolm Kenney
Adjutant

VFW Spring Supper

The VFW Post 5744 will have their Spaghetti Supper on March 19th 2011 at 4:00 pm, at the South Berwick Community Center. We will have the famous Fogarty's Spaghetti and Meatballs with their sauce. The wives made home cooked desserts for to finish your meal. Tickets are being sold by members for \$7.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for Seniors/Students and children 10 and under free.

(L-r) Boy Scouts that gave a hand are- Mike Remick, Patrick Hourihan Max Ouellette, Seamus McManus and Michael Beaumier.
(Place photo)



The hall is ready for people to set. The tables were ready for Saint Patties day dinner, so we were able to just put the seating places down and condiments.
(Place-photo)

When you entered (L-r) Jim Currier, Gary Spaulding, and Girard Vaillancourt, selling and collecting tickets, and also selling the 50/50 tickets
(Place photo)



VFW Spring Supper (Cont'd)

(L-r) Judy Elwell, Phyllis Place, Ann Pilgrim and Diana Lapierre, serving the dessert and salad, with people enjoying the supper in front. (Place photo)



(L-r) Joseph Zagrosky, John Elwell, Mark Pilgrim, and Raymond Brunelle lined up to serve as the people go through the line (Place photo)

(L-r) Roger Guptill and George Davidson serving coffee and other drinks (Place photo)



VFW Spring Supper (Cont'd)



(L-r) Anthony Cincotta seated people as they went through the line and the Boy scouts cleaned and reset the table's as people were done eating. (Place photo)

Nicholas Tsakiris, busy cutting and putting the spread on the bread. We had all kinds of volunteers to help out at the many jobs that needed to be done. There were other people working in the kitchen, doing dishes, heating the spaghetti, sauce and meatballs. (Place photo)



The tables were full most of the evening, and the people really enjoyed the meal. Some asked if we could have a couple more dinners during the year. We feed over 200 people before the supper was finished. Great turn out and we did ok on the money taken in. (Place photo)

Court of Honor

Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Robbie Hundley, April 2, 2011. Held at South Berwick Rod and Gun Club. VFW Post Commander Nickolas Tsakiris presents Robbie Eagle Scout certificate. Sr. vice Commander John Elwell, Adjutant Malcolm Kenney and Post member and Scout Master Stephen Shea attend to honor this achievement.



(L-r) Eagle Scout Robbie Hundley, Commander Nicholas Tsakiris and Sr. vice Commander John Elwell

Robbie doing Promise with his Dad looking on



This makes the fifth member of the Family to get this Honor Eagle.

Court of Honor (Cont'd)



Robbie, with his Mom and Dad,

(L-r) Malcolm Kenney Adjutant, Robbie Hundley, Eagle Scout, Commander Nicholas Tsakiris, and Sr. vice Commander John Elwell



Doing the Pledge at the local schools



On April 29, the VFW meet with the kindergarten class of the Seacoast Christian School, to demonstrate doing the pledge as the Flag was being raised .VFW member present were, David Fogarty, John Elwell, Nicholas Tsakiris and Robert Place . The students have been practicing and did a very good Job (Place photo)



On April 2 2011, the VFW meets with the Kindergarten classes, at the North Berwick Elementary school, to demonstrate doing the pledge as the flag is being raised. Members present were, David Fogarty, Kenneth Goodwin, Paul Lapierre, Malcolm Kenny, Anthony Cincotta and Nicholas Tsakiris The students did a very good job doing the pledge of allegiance. Every student that was present received a certificate from the VFW. (Place photo)

Doing the Pledge at the local schools (Cont'd)

We also did the Flag demonstration at the Hussey school in Berwick, Hanson school in Lebanon and another class at the Christian school in South Berwick. This is a very important for our young students. The teachers are doing well teaching the students about our American flag. I wish that I could be at all of them, but there are so many other obligations that I am involved in that I can't.

VFW April 12, 2011 meeting

April 12, 2011, the VFW meeting was called to order by Commander Nicholas Tsakiris at 06:00 Pm. We saluted the Flag and did the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Chaplin Bruce Brown gave a prayer. We had 41 members at the meeting with 16 guest introduced by Adjutant.



These scouts are becoming Eagle Scouts, (L-r) Ross Conroy, Michael Remick, Robert Hundley and Zachary Pomerleau . Each of these scouts was presented with a certificate and \$100 bill. (Place photo)

Our VFW Post was notified Sunday that Ross Conroy was selected as Scout of the year for the VFW Department of Maine (STATE). Ross is now competing with 53 Departments for one of three Scholarships \$5000-\$3000-\$1000: from 50 States, Europe, Asia, Pacific and DC. We wish you best of luck to Ross Conroy, in the competition for VFW National Scout of the Year.

The various reports were giving and the meeting was adjourned. The Minutes of the April meeting will follow. Next meeting will be at Spring Hill. It is always a great meeting and great food.

April Minutes 2011



VFW Post 5744
South Berwick, Maine
Mustered February 26, 1946

Commander: Nicholas Tsakiris
Vice Commander: John Elwell
Jr. Vice Commander: Robert Place

VFW POST 5744
April 12, 2011

Meeting called to order by Cmdr. Nicholas Tsakiris at 1800 hours, with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by opening Prayer by Chaplain Bruce Brown.

Commander Nicholas Tsakiris. Brief on Agenda and Break for Dinner

There were 41 members present. Guest: 16, introduced by Adjutant.

New Member: Harley Regonini, USMC, AFG. Marshwood Hi-School.
Recognized: Brian Dickerson and Jason Peppin, just back from AFG.
Scouts and WW II School Program.

Scout Masters: So. Berwick: Paul Seraino, Lenne Andrews, Stephen Shea Troop 338

Eagle Scouts: So. Berwick: Robert Hundley and Parents
Michael Remick and Parents

Scout Master from No. Berwick Troop 313.

Eagle Scouts No. Berwick: Zachary Pomerleau and Parents
Andrew Clark and Parents

Scout Master from Berwick Troop 312: Rick Raynes
Eagle Scout: Berwick, Ross Conroy

Our VFW Post was notified Sunday that Ross Conroy was Selected as Scout of the year for the VFW Department of Maine. (STATE). Ross is now competing with 53 Departments for one of three Scholarships \$5000-\$3000-\$1000. from 50 States, Europe, Asia, Pacific and DC.

Best of luck to Ross in the competition for VFW National Scout of the Year.

April Minutes 2011 (Cont'd)

Presentd Certificates and \$100 to each scout. Group Scout Photo with Dave and Nick.

MINUTES MARCH MEETING:

Motion by: George Davidson

Seconded by: Richard LaBonte

Motion Passed.

Quarter Masters Report: Q.M. David Fogarty reported the following:

Checking Account: \$ 7626.01

CD: \$ 5231.26

Received: \$ 2540.09

Disbursed: \$ 776.51

Outstanding Bills: None

Motion by: Glenden Johnson

Seconded By: Gary Spaulding

Motioned Passed.

Service Officers Report: Paul Lapierre reported on deceased members and two members confined. Joseph Gagnon and James Reilley.

Old Business/Committee Report:

Spaghetti Supper Results: Commander Nicholas Tsakiris and David Fogarty Chairman. THANKS: To all the wives for desserts and working. Raymond Brunelle and Chuck selling tickets. All that worked or attended great success. Net from supper \$2636. Noted Ticket Pre-Sales by Raymond Brunelle \$1707.00.

Pledge of Allegiance in Schools:

Letter received from Marshwood Hi-School Principal, stated that school would recite Pledge starting after Spring Break.

No date set for LD1136 Public Hearing, we expect early May, any member who wants to testify in Augusta is encouraged to do so, I hope we will have many attend hearing.

New Business

Nominations: Officers for 2011-2012: Adjutant, Cast one ballot for nominees and closed nominations.

WW I I Program at Middle School March 25th. Our thanks to Kenneth Goodwin, Phillip Lawrence, Larry Aiello, David Fogarty, Nicholas Tsakiris and Malcolm Kenney.

Kenneth Goodwin's donation of his medals and history book to the school. Teacher of Year awards presented to Justin Roy.

April Minutes 2011 (Cont'd)

Induction of New Officers will be held at the Post Meeting/Dinner at Spring Hill South Berwick, on May 17th, 2011. Social Hour 5-6, Dinner 6 PM.

COLOR GUARD UNIFORMS: Commander Nicholas Tsakiris discussed purchase of uniforms and Team Members. Practice for Memorial Day Parade and Services.

NEW BUSINESS:

April 22, Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard. Present Helena with certificates, letters and history book. TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED.

Loyalty Day: April 28-29th, May 2-3-4. Elementary Schools, working getting the names. We will call members with dates and times.

Delegates to Department Convention: Vote on delegates and alternates, six each. Motion: by Malcolm Kenney, Seconded by. Bryan Maynard, Motion Passed. Delegates attached.

Motion By: Malcolm Kenney that Post provide the same amount as last year
To defer cost of hotel and registration fee for those who attend the Bangor convention. In amount of \$250.00. Seconded by Roger Guptil.
Motion passed.

MAY MEETING: Special meeting at Spring Hill May 17th 5-6. Social hour, dinner 6 PM, cost \$25 per person. A good chance to bring out your wife-girl friend. Must sign up and pay in advance so we can give a number to Spring Hill. Sign-up sheet.

NEWS LETTER: If you have an in-put get it to Nick or Mal.

May: 21st and 22nd: Place Flags on Veteran Graves. Time 09:00

May 30th Memorial Day Parade Services and Bike Decorating.

Form detail to march to Vietnam Memorial	10:00 AM
Patriotic Decorating of Bikes. Central School.	10:30 AM.
Place Wreath at VN Memorial	10:30 AM
Return to school form Parade, and kick-off	
Parade to All-Wars-Memorial	11:00 AM

Membership: 107%. Three un-paid: need three more to qualify Gary Spaulding for All-State District Commander.

Held Election of Officers for 2011 -2012 Year

April Minutes 2011 (Cont'd)

Nominations: Officers for 2011-2012: Closed, Adjutant, Cast one ballot for nominees and closed nominations. Motion by David Fogarty, seconded by John Elwell.

Commander: Nicholas Tsakiris,
Senior Vice Commander: John Elwell,
Junior vice Commander: Robert Place
Quartermaster: David Fogarty
Chaplin: Pastor Bruce Brown

Trustees:
Joseph Gagnon 1 yr.
Donald Heath 2yrs.
Bryan Maynard 3 yrs.

Surgeon: Roger Guptill,

Post Historian:
Robert Place

Service Officer: Paul Lapierre
Sergeant-At-Arms: Rudolph Mayo
Judge Advocate: Gary Spaulding

Membership:
Malcolm Kenney
Richard Gallant
David Fogarty
Nicholas Tsakiris

Next Meeting: May 17th SPRING HILL, SIGN-UP

GOOD OF ORDER: none
Submitted by

Malcolm Kenney
Adjutant

Fight for the Pledge

At the September Meeting, Jim Currier brought to the Post attention, that the Marshwood high school was no longer reciting the Pledge. Malcolm Kenney got in contact with Anthony Cincotta and they went to the school. They seem to get the run around and no one would make the decision to reinstate the pledge.

Special meeting at Mayo's:

VFW meeting at Mayo's on February 24, 2011, the meeting was to discuss our next move to reinstate the Pledge of Allegiance in the Marshwood school system. It seems that the staff cannot make a decision to have the students recite the pledge in the Am. They say that the time that they have the students do the pledges will take away from the class work.

We need to get the public involved with this. Some of the Teachers are fine with it, but the school board doesn't want to step on anybody's toes by making this mandatory. The VFW are also trying to get the Pledge of Allegiance passed as a State law, as it is in all but 12 States.

At the February meeting:

SCHOOL PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE: Commander Nicholas Tsakiris spoke about status of our request to have Pledge reinstated at Marshwood High School. Nicholas Tsakiris and Malcolm Kenney sat in on Policy Committee meeting outcome of that meeting was High School Principal was to speak with his school department heads as well teachers and student government to find a way to reinstate Pledge. Principal was to get back with SAD 35 school board; also VFW Post 5744 was requested to meet with student government to discuss why Pledge should be said daily. MSMA SAMPLE POLICY was provided to all members of policy committee. There is no change to status of the Bill submitted by Roberta Beavers, but she withdrew the bill. Beth O'Conner we-wrote the bill. We will keep members informed on all actions on this matter.

The VFW Post 5744 has been trying to get the Marshwood high school to reinstate the pledge each morning, but we had to take it further. On May 11th, a group of members from the VFW went to Augusta, to be there to speak on behalf of L.D. 1136. Co-sponsors for the bill:



The person who summited the bill was Beth O'Conner of Berwick. Beth did a great job for us in Augusta. Beth is standing with Nicholas Tsakiris Commander of VFW Post 5744. (Place photo)

Fight for the Pledge (Cont'd)

On May 11th Commander Nicholas Tsakiris, David Fogarty, QM, John Elwell, SVC, Robert Place: JRVC /Historian, Kenneth Goodwin, WWII, Malcolm Kenney: Adjutant, Clinton Schoff, and Allen Carter from Post 9394 Kittery. We went up to support the bill as it was being presented.

Clinton Schoff with Beth O'Conner after the bill was presented. (Place photo)



I pleased to forward to all of you the following information. The Committee of Education and Cultural Affairs conducted a Public Hearing on 11 May 2011, L.D. 1136 "An Act: To Require the Opportunity to Recite the Pledge of Allegiance in Schools". As a result of the Public Hearing, the Committee "Voted Ought to Past". Now it's up to both the House and Senate to vote on L.D. 1136. This is a "VOTE" that we will have to keep our "EYES" on. The current state of Maine House and Senate, will adjure for the summer of 2011, this coming Mid-June.

If you see the following sponsor and co-sponsors of L.D. 1136, take a few minutes to "THANK" them;

Sponsor; Rep. O'Conner of Berwick

Co-Sponsors;

Rep. Ayotte of Caswell

Rep. Fossel of Alna

Rep. Willette of Mapleton

Rep. Timberlake of Turner

Rep. Sanderson of Chelsea

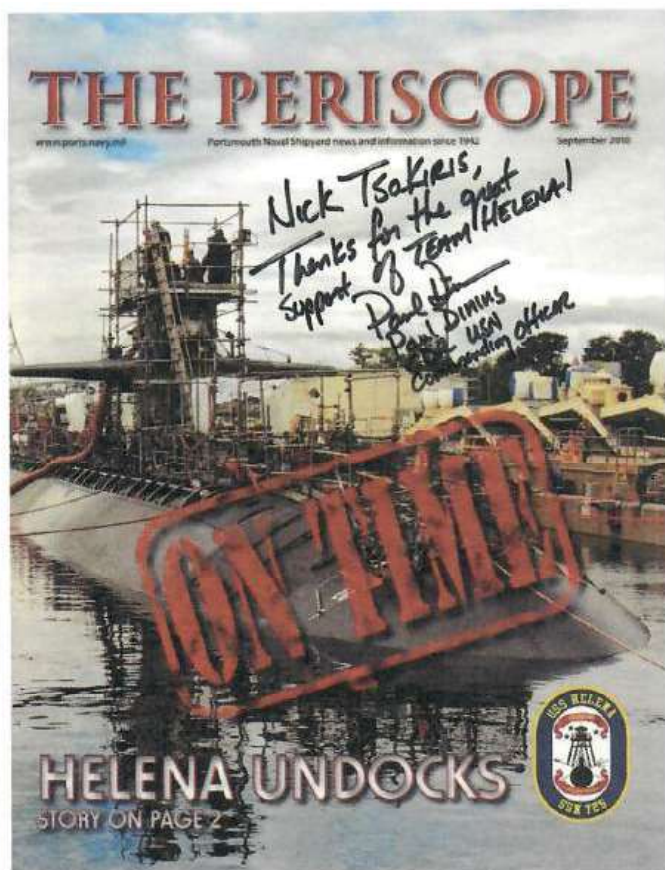
Senator Collins of York

Senator Farmham of Penobscot

Comrade's, the next time you see Malcolm Kenney of VFW Post 5744, take a few minutes and "THANK" Malcolm and Post 5744 for a "JOB WELL DONE", in taking positive action to get L.D. 1136, to where it's at today.

Take Care;

Presented to the Commander VFW Post 5744



This plaque was presented to the VFW Post 5744, from the Officers and Crew of the USS Helena (SSN725) in appreciation and for support of USS Helena from Sept 2009 to April 2011. (Place photo)





Taps
VFW Post 5744 South Berwick, Maine
July 2010 – June 2011



May our Comrades Rest in “Eternal Peace?”

Member	Conflict	Date Passed
Charles W. Warren	World War II	September 3, 2010
Nicholas A Crognale	Korea	September 24, 2010
Richard Bradburn	World War II	October 22, 2010
James Gherson	World War II	January 4, 2011
Leonard Hanscom	World War II	January, 2011
Robert Canney	World War II	March 11,2011
James Minutti	Vietnam	March 14, 2011
Cecil Horr	World War II	March 27,2011

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