



Wilkins/Smith|Post 1

LACONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE



POST LEADERSHIP

Commander –
Wayne McLean

1st Vice Commander –
Frank Mello

2nd Vice Commander –
Toby Knowlton

Adjutant –
Mark Vrooman

Treasurer/Finance -
Ed Higgins

Sergeant-at-Arms –
Raymond Peavey

Judge Advocate –
Vacant

Chaplain –
William Davies

Service Officer –
Vacant

CANTEEN HOURS

Your Canteen is open
every weekday from
12:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

On Saturday and
Sunday, it is open 9:00
AM until 9:00 PM.

Come in and share some
enjoyable conversation
and make new friends!

Two pool tables are
available for daily use.

POST MEETINGS

The monthly meeting of
Post 1 will be held the
second Monday of each
month.

**No regular post
meetings in July and
August!**

The next regular
meeting is

Monday,
September 8,
2025, at
6:30PM.

The Executive Board is
scheduled to meet at
6:15 pm. All elected
officers are expected to
attend. The Board only
meeting is Monday, July
14, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

POST CONTACT INFORMATION

Physical location of Post –

American Legion Post 1
849 N. Main St
Laconia, NH 03246

Telephone # -
603-524-9728

Email –

post1laconia@gmail.com

Mailing address for Post -

American Legion Post 1
PO Box 494
Laconia, NH 03247

Commander's Message –

Welcome to the July 2025 issue of our newsletter!

There are many new things going on at the Legion Post and we are so thankful to all our members (Legionnaires, SAL, and Auxiliary).

There is also plenty of time to purchase a brick for the new pavilion. Please see the Adjutant for more information.

There is a lot happening in July. Please be sure to come out for our 4th of July celebration BBQ and parade activity.

Thank you to all who participated in our flag retirement ceremony on June 14, 2025. Your attendance is appreciated.

Thank you to everyone that honored Korean War POW/MIA, PFC George Curley on Saturday, June 28, 2025. The support to welcome him home to his final resting place was incredible.

Come out to Post 1 and see what is happening!

For God and Country,

Wayne

Adjutant's Message –

Greetings Post 1!

Newsletter –Please let me know if there are items of interest or changes you would like to see made to it.

POST MEMBERSHIP

The new membership for 2026 commenced on July 1st, 2025. Membership dues remain at **\$40.00** per member for the 2026 membership year.

Membership renewal can easily, and safely, be done through your www.mylegion.org account or on www.legion.org (click on the renew button). You can also mail your renewal directly to:
American Legion Post 1, PO Box 494, Laconia, NH 03247

If you know of eligible veterans, please ask them to join. Applications are available at the canteen or from your Adjutant.

Family members should notify me directly if a Post member is sick, hospitalized or has departed so we can let the membership know. Please notify me at 603-303-9732 or simply send a note to the Post address. We would like to post this information to the membership.

Post News:

Membership - renewals for 2025 – 274 paid for a total of 81% of goal of 338.

Welcome new member Ryan Nolan who resides in Laconia.

New Pavilion Fundraiser - Be a part of our expansion (Post 1 Pavilion) to serve future generations of Veterans, their families and our community by purchasing a customized, laser engraved brick. All bricks will be incorporated into the patio design surrounding and under our soon to be built pavilion. See information later in this newsletter. A building permit application has been approved by the City of Laconia. We have currently raised \$5000 towards the project. Thank you to all who have donated so far.

New L.E.D. sign – The new sign will arrive around July 3, 2025 and will be installed the week after.

Flag Day - We will held a BBQ on Saturday, June 14, 2025. Thanks to everyone that made this event possible. This was followed by a Flag Day ceremony. It was well attended. Thanks to everyone that participated.

Other Post Happenings:

There will a BBQ on July 4, 2025 from 6-8 pm at the Post following the parade. The line up for the parade is at 3:30 pm at the Laconia High School. The parade will begin at 4:30 pm. Come out and support the American Legion, the Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of the American Legion.

Editor's Note: The views expressed in this Newsletter are deemed interesting enough by the Editor to include in the newsletter. Full responsibility is taken, and the content does not reflect the opinion of the members of the Post, the Department of NH, or the American Legion. Please contact the Adjutant if these articles offend you. E-mail addresses are for the use of the members to pass information and not to be sold or freely passed to others without formal consent of the member. No funds solicitation is authorized via email.

Legion Happenings



Earl Beale receiving recognition from Adjutant Mark Vrooman on June 9, 2025, as he steps down as Finance Officer.



Earl Beale receiving recognition on June 9, 2025, from the Legion Auxiliary President, Shirley Brummer and the Sons of the American Legion Vice Commander Kim Brummer as he steps down as Finance Officer.



Gilford High School award recipient Cameron Drouin receiving Legion scholarship from Mark Vrooman, Adjutant at Gilford High School awards night on June 12, 2025.

FLAG DAY – June 14, 2025



Legionnaires at the Elks Lodge in Gilford for Flag Day Ceremony followed by Flag Day BBQ at Post 1 with Post 1 Chaplain William Davies and bartender Michelle (not on duty).



Flag Day ceremony and flag retirement activity.

Honoring PFC George Curley on June 28, 2025 – Home at last!





Honoring PFC George Curley – thank you for your service to a grateful nation – you are home at last in Laconia, NH!



Flag from PFC Curley's casket presented to the VFW by the Curley family to keep it in Laconia. Marc Joyal (VFW Officer) accepts the American flag and POW flag on behalf of the Laconia VFW while Mark Vrooman, Legion Post 1 Adjutant looks on.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 1 - BRICK FUNDRAISER

We invite our Post 1 American Legion Family to be a part of our expansion of our American Legion Pavilion to serve future generations of Veterans, their families and our community by purchasing a customized, laser engraved brick. All bricks will be incorporated into the patio design surrounding and under our soon to be built pavilion. All questions should be sent to our email address – post1laconia@gmail.com. The American Legion appreciates your continued and generous support of our effort to enhance the functionality of our Post into the future.

Donation – 1 brick = \$100.00 2 bricks \$175.00 3 bricks \$250.00

4"x8" bricks can be personalized with up to 3 lines of text – 15 characters per line

ALL TEXT IS CENTERED BOTH HORIZONTALLY & VERTICALLY ON THE BRICK – ANY SYMBOL IS CONSIDER ONE SPACE (PERIOD, COMMA DASH).

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Donor's Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email address: _____

Paid by Cash or Check _____

Thank you for supporting your American Legion Post 1 Family

Use one form for each brick ordered

Minutes of June 9, 2025, meeting.

The Post Executive Board held a meeting at 6:15 pm.

Meeting called to order by Vice Commander Knowlton in the absence of Commander McLean.

- Roll call taken by Adjutant Vrooman. Approximately eight members were in attendance.
- The minutes from the May 12, 2025, meeting were read and approved.
- The post treasury report was read and approved by unanimous consent.

New Business –

- Motion was made to suspend the regular order of business to make a special presentation to outgoing Finance Officer Earlon Beale. Following the presentations by the Adjutant, Legion Auxiliary and SAL, refreshments were served.
- Following the pause, the meeting was called to order by Senior Vice Commander, Frank Mello.
- New member Ryan Nolan – USMC – accepted into the post. Welcome Ryan to Post 1!
- Scholarship award winners – 3 in Laconia High School, 1 in Gilford High School. The awards will be presented on June 4, 2025 at Laconia High School and June 12, 2025 at Gilford High School.
- Flag Day ceremony to be held on June 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Old Business –

- Pavilion Project – Fundraising ongoing with brick sale.
 - New LED sign is scheduled to be shipped on June 23, 2025.
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- Sgt at Arms Peavey collected \$10 for the Post.
 - The meeting was closed by order of Senior Vice Commander Mello at 8:00 pm.
 - Next full membership meeting is Monday, September 8, 2025, at 6:30 pm.
 - The Executive Board will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, July 14, 2025.
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