

The Veterans Voice



Newsletter of the New Hampshire Veterans Home, Spring, 2015

Commandant's Report

Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque



It's been a long, hard winter at the New Hampshire Veterans Home: starting with a flu outbreak in January that sickened residents and staff alike and forced us to restrict visiting, followed a seemingly never-ending parade of snowstorm after snowstorm after snowstorm, raising the height of the snowbanks and lowering everyone's spirits.

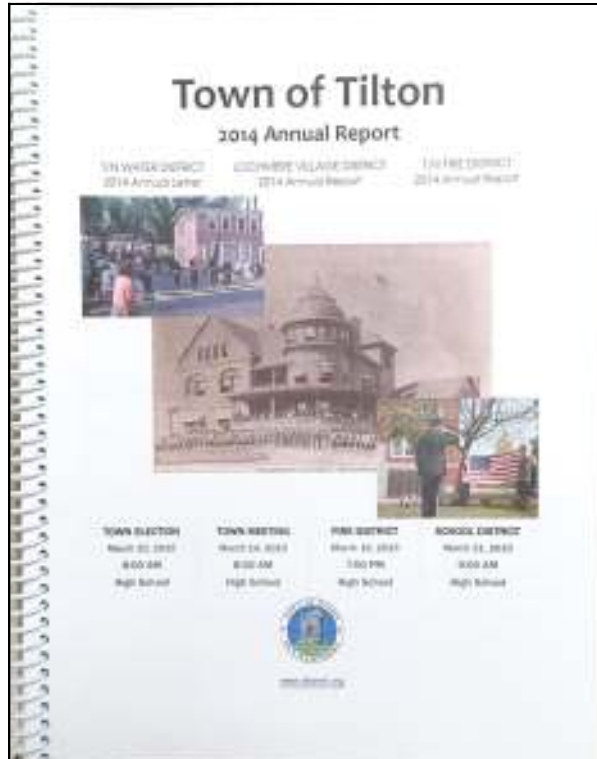
But with some 40-degree days whittling away at the snowpack as this is written, things are looking up. With no new diagnosed flu cases occurring, and a thorough cleaning as required by New Hampshire's public health laws, we were able to start welcoming visitors again on March 4. Even though the shutdown was necessary to safeguard the health of the Home's residents and staff and the public, we know that the long hiatus in visiting was very hard on everyone involved. The patience and understanding shown by residents, their families and friends, and the many veterans service organizations that are regulars here, are deeply appreciated.

And outside my window today, bright sunlight is glinting off the shrinking snowbanks. We sincerely hope we've seen the LAST storm for this season.

While it may be well into May by the time the last of these monstrous mounds has shrunk to a tiny pile of dirt and gravel, we'll be back in high gear long before that. Planning is well under way for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Ice Cream Social on March 28, a very popular event for both residents and NHVH staff, and their families and friends.

And we're set to resume our regular schedule of large-group activities – the popular intergenerational programs with the Tilton School and other local students,

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Talk of the Town

Tilton gets things started for celebrating our 125th year on Winter Street, featuring the Veterans Home on the cover and in resident photos throughout its annual Town Report.

Change at the Top

Paul Lloyd elected chairman of Home's Board of Managers



Paul Lloyd with Commandant Peggy LaBrecque at the January Board of Managers meeting.

The leadership of the Board of Managers, the New Hampshire Veterans Home's governing board, changed in January following the death of Chairman Robert "Bob" Wyman of Keene.

Mr. Wyman, a Navy veteran of Vietnam, former state commander of the American Legion and an NHVH board member for more than a decade, passed away Jan. 16 after a period of failing health.

A resident of Keene since 1966, Mr. Wyman was the purchasing agent for the City of Keene for 26 years, a past member of the Keene School Board, and active in scores of local civic and veterans organizations, including the Elks, Order of Eagles, Loyal Order of Moose, Masons, Veterans

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Applications open for Fogarty Memorial scholarship program

Once again this year, the Fogarty family of Laconia is sponsoring a special scholarship program for the children and grandchildren of employees of the New Hampshire Veterans Home in memory of Daniel "Chuck" Fogarty, who passed away here in 2013.

Last year, six individuals with various ties to the Home received a total of \$2,000 in scholarships from the program for studies at institutions including Wake Forest University, Plymouth State University, and several New Hampshire community colleges.



Daniel C. Fogarty

Mr. Fogarty, a widely known insurance agent and financial consultant in the Laconia area for many years, was a major college athlete and an Army captain who served five years in Vietnam. He had a lifelong commitment to education and was involved with local high school sports for much of his life.

During his two years at NHVH, he was known to many by the nickname "Coach."

Following his death in July, 2013, the family directed all of the memorial gifts into a permanent fund to support the scholarship program, which is administered by the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation.

Natalie Fogarty, Mr. Fogarty's widow, said the scholarship was the family's way

of recognizing the staff of the New Hampshire Veterans Home "for the skilled and loving care given to New Hampshire Veterans." "Everyone at the Veterans Home strives to serve those who have given so much for their country," said NHVH Commandant Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque. "We are very grateful for the generosity of the Fogarty family."

Application forms and information sheets will be available at the NHVH reception desk, through high school guidance offices, or may be downloaded from the LRSF web site, www.lrscholarship.org.

For more information, contact LRSF at scholarship@metrocast.net or 603-527-3533.



The New Hampshire Veterans Home Board of Managers, from left: Raymond J. Goulet Jr., Gerard "Gerry" Bosse, Madeline R. Dreusicke, Robert Dionne, Junious "Bud" Owens, NHVH Resident Council President Ronald Barcomb, Commandant Margaret LaBrecque, Paul Lloyd and Mark McCabe.

Managers

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Robert Wyman

of Foreign Wars and American Legion, serving as an officer in many of them. He was a life member of the Veterans Council in Keene.

Paul Lloyd of Concord, also a Navy veteran, was unanimously voted in as chairman to replace him at the board's quarterly meeting in late January.

Lloyd, who has served about two years on the board, is a former state commander

and current adjutant for New Hampshire's Veterans of Foreign Wars, and has served in various other elected and appointed posts in the organization.

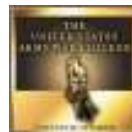
He also served as president of the Concord Veterans Council and a founding member of the New Hampshire Veterans Foundation.

Lloyd's term on the Board of Managers runs until March, 2018. Wyman's seat, which runs through March, 2017, remains vacant.

The governor will appoint a replacement to serve the unexpired portion.

Commandant is selected for War College seminar

TILTON -- Margaret D. "Peggy" LaBrecque, commandant of the New Hampshire Veterans Home, has been selected to participate in this year's session of the U.S. Army War College's National Security Seminar.



Each year the Army picks a diverse group of 160 from around the country for the Seminar at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. This year's session runs May 31 to June 4.

LaBrecque, who has worked at the Veterans Home for nine years and been its commandant since early 2013, is both the first woman and the first non-veteran to run the facility in its 125-year history.

Commandant

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bingos and Town Hall performances by visiting musical groups.

We'll also get back on track with our usual trips, excursions and nights out at veterans organization posts around the state.

And looking a bit further down the line, we'll continue preparations to celebrate 125 years of serving New Hampshire's military veterans.

A very special event will commemorate the day the Home opened its doors to veterans on Dec. 3, 1890. They've never been closed since.

Peggy LaBrecque

Roll Call

ADMISSIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>
Gerald Collins	Manchester	07/23/2014
Donald Kamholz	Franklin	08/07/2014
Leon Barry	Portsmouth	08/21/2014
Ernest Batchelder	Concord	08/28/2014
Elizabeth Nyland	Peterborough	09/10/2014
Eugene Clark	Meredith	09/11/2014
Henry Hunter	Goffstown	09/18/2014
Frank Mazur	Tilton	10/01/2014
Norman Adams	Northfield	10/08/2014
Edward Driscoll	Meredith	10/16/2014
Orlo Logue	Newton	10/29/2014
John Bean Sr.	Manchester	11/13/2014
James Brown	Manchester	11/19/2014
John Balles	Manchester	11/20/2014
Alan Chick	Winnisquam	12/10/2014
Sonja Poukstas	Nashua	12/18/2014
Donald McCloskey	Henniker	12/31/2014
Thomas O'Brien Jr	Merrimack	01/08/2015
Richard Hoyt	Franklin	01/14/2015
Gaylord St. John	Manchester	01/15/2015
Albert Sprague	Franklin	01/22/2015

FINAL SALUTES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>
William O'Hare	Henniker	07/17/2014
Dorothy Berry	Tilton	07/27/2014
Philip Labnon	Portsmouth	08/06/2014
Charlie LaPierre	Lancaster	08/08/2014
William Zuhlman	Concord	08/10/2014
Melvin Zarinsky	Wolfboro	08/20/2014
Gerard Sullivan	Manchester	09/21/2014
Roland Guay	Rochester	09/30/2014
Keith Humbargar	Rochester	10/06/2014
Helen Laverdure	Laconia	10/21/2014
Rocco Pasquale	Keene	10/21/2014
Robert Beaudoin	Nashua	10/24/2014
Adrien Mailhot	Andover	10/25/2014
Rudolph Ogden	Nashua	10/28/2014
Renarnd Gamelin	Manchester	10/29/2014
William Forte	Nashua	10/29/2014
Leonard Boucher	Nashua	11/15/2014
Gertrude Godbout	Manchester	12/11/2014
Orlo Logue	Newton	12/15/2014
Donald Campbell	Wentworth	12/18/2014
Gaylord St. John	Manchester	01/20/2015
Robert Distasio	Concord	01/24/2015
David Atwood	Manchester	01/26/2015
George Mead	Manchester	01/28/2015
Winfred Sargent	Farmington	01/30/2015
Michael Diamantopoulos	Bedford	01/30/2015



Gerald Collins	Manchester	01/30/2015
William Hodgman	Manchester	02/02/2015
Roy Jordan	Northfield	02/03/2015
Thomas Roy	Laconia	02/03/2015
Raymond Plummer	North Conway	02/04/2015
Ovila Maynard	Milford	02/05/2015
Christopher Duggan	Franklin	02/07/2015
Winslow Lobdell	Rochester	02/08/2015
Charles Tarbell	Moultonborough	02/08/2015
George Nichols	Contoocook	02/12/2015
Arthur Olson	Bow	02/12/2015
Henry Hunter	Goffstown	02/16/2015
Thurston Caswell	Exeter	02/20/2015
Norman Dahl	Manchester	02/20/2015
Gerard Belanger	Hudson	02/28/2015



New Hampshire Veterans Home

Margaret D. LaBrecque, Commandant

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NHVVH Memorial Day 2014

Upcoming Events

4/12-4/18 Volunteer Appreciation Week

5/2 USO Show sponsored by Unit 22 of Lebanon— 2:30 p.m. - Town Hall

5/10 Mother's Day Dance with entertainment – 2:30 p.m. – Town Hall

5/10-5/16 National Nursing Home Week

5/16/ Armed Forces Day with entertainment – 2 p.m. – Town Hall

5/25 NHVVH Memorial Day Ceremony in Town Hall – 11 a.m.

5/30 Memorial Day Ceremony at NH State Veterans Cemetery

6/6 Corvette Club Ice Cream Social – 2 p.m. - Pavilion

6/14 Flag Day

6/21 Father's Day Dance with entertainment – 2:30 p.m. - Town Hall