

News & Views

February/March 2015



Branch 11. Royal Canadian Legion.
9 Dawes Rd. Toronto ON. M4C 5A8
Tel: 416-699-1353 Fax: 416-699-1831
E-mail: branch11rcl@rogers.com
Web site: rcl11.com

President's Message



Greetings Comrades,

Wow! 2014 went by in a blur. The past year seemed to go by so fast and with so much going at the Branch, sometimes it seemed hard to catch my breath. We managed to keep the building afloat another year by all the special functions and the different activities at Branch 11. My hat goes off to all of you that volunteered and/or supported your Branch in other ways. You all deserve a pat on the back for a job well done.

Unfortunately or fortunately, this is a new year, depending on how you wish to perceive it. For me, I always look at it from the positive side. This is a time for us to reflect on what took place over the past year and to see what each of us as Branch members can do to make Branch 11 a viable and busy place for all of our comrades and friends to enjoy.

We are looking forward to another busy year of special functions as well as our other normal busy activities at the Branch. I know to some of our members it always seems we are always trying to pick your pockets, but the truth of the matter is that we are. This Branch needs all the support and hard work to keep us going, to see through the tough times when we may encounter major expenses on this aging building.

I would like to thank all the members and their friends, the volunteers and the countless hours that they spend helping us at the Branch, the Executive committee for the work that they do and the staff that also works to keep this place going. Thanks to Ed Kenny for all the work that he does in keeping us in line and watching every nickel and dime that we spend and making sure it is spent in the best possible way. Ed Kenny is part of the five year planning committee as well as Jack Riddell and Executive member Jeff Paulin. We have entrusted them to think outside the box and to work hard at finding ways in which to make Branch 11 financially sound for the future.

Yours in Comradeship.

John Dufort
President

DECEMBER 2014-JANUARY 2015
"IN MEMORIUM"

ORDINARY MEMBER

EAGLES. John. Canadian Provost Corp Service # B95982 Joined Br 258. Transferred to B. 11, 1971

SMITH, John L.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them."

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

MCAULEY, Peggy. Joined Br. 11 1999

AFFILIATE VOTING MEMBER

THOMPSON, Alex. Joined Br. 11

Our deepest sympathy to members of their families.

Alex Thompson was always at our Branch on Saturday nights to listen to our music and to socialize with his many friends and was proud that he became a Branch member. Our thoughts go to his wife Joyce who nursed him and looked after him until he passed. Hope you keep coming out to visit with your friends on Saturdays.

EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN WINNERS

The four winners to have their 2016 dues paid for by the Branch are: Harold Campbell, Harold Connery, Anne Fenn and Twylla Maynard.

Thanks to everyone who paid their dues before November 30th so that your name was in the draw, good luck next year.

Cathy Cole

Membership Chair

Just a note of welcome from Branch 11 to the new members who have joined or transferred into our Branch since the last newsletter: Ernie Prentice, Ellen Swing, Blake Taylor and Lisa Warner.

WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS: we hope that you will continue to support the Branch that you chose to join.

VETERANS DINNER APRIL 12, 2015

Anyone who lives in or is a member of District "D" Toronto, who has served and is classified under the Legion or Canadian guidelines as a Veteran can be

included in the invitation to this luncheon. I didn't receive a response to my previous request to make sure you are on the list if you are interested in going to this luncheon and I am not sure how they notify everyone but they used to send a letter asking if you are coming and to notify them. If you want to ensure you are included, either phone the Branch and ask the steward to leave a note behind the bar for me or contact me directly and I will make sure that you receive the letter. We only have three Veterans who attended last year going and we would certainly like to have more Branch 11 Veterans attend this day which is just for you.

Cathy Cole 416-266-7359. Branch 416-699-1353.

MEMBERSHIP IMPORTANT- IMPORTANT

Any member who has not paid their 2015 dues by January 31st, is classified as "a member not in good standing" as per the By-laws of Dominion Command. As a Branch adhering to these By-laws as well as having this requirement in our own Regulations, any member "not in good standing" will not be allowed to participate in any functions in the Branch, to be served at the bar or to participate in any sports activities. We would really like to see all members continuing to enjoy the facilities of our "Friendly Branch". ****PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU HAVE not ALREADY DONE SO**** If you did not pay before December 31st you need to pay \$50.00; \$45.00 for dues and a late penalty of \$5.00.

IMPORTANT

If there is a reason you are not planning to renew your Legion membership, please call me at home 416-266-7359 (I have an answering machine), phone the Branch 416-699-1353 and leave a message for me to my attention as membership chair. We would really like to know why you no longer want to belong to our great Branch as well as the organization known as The Royal Canadian Legion. Perhaps there something we can do/change in the Branch that will help you change your mind and stay as a member.

Cathy Cole

Membership Chair

2015 ELECTIONS

Please make sure that you mark your calendar for the dates for the nominations and election meeting;

Nominations: Wednesday April 1st. 8:00 pm

Elections: Wednesday May 6th **7:30 pm Note earlier time.**

NOMINATIONS: Wednesday April 1st 8:00pm

Nominations can be made for the positions of President, 1st and 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, six Executive Committee members and the Sergeant-at-Arms. If you want to be on next years Executive you must be at the nomination meeting to accept your nomination or give a letter to either the Secretary or President stating your intentions.

All Life, Ordinary, Associate and Affiliate Voting members in good standing shall be eligible to be elected to any office providing they have the following requirements:

- 1) to be eligible for election as President, 1st or 2nd Vice Presidents, you must have completed one full term on the Executive Council or served on a council at a higher level of the Legion within the last three (3) years.
- 2) to be eligible for election to the Branch Executive or as Sergeant-at-Arms, you shall have been a member of the Branch for at least one year immediately prior to the elections and have attended at least five (5) General Meetings in the preceding term, from June to April.

Due to the Branch regulations now in effect, after the elections and before the May Executive Meeting, all chairman will be appointed by the President but all appointments need to be approved by the Executive Committee members and then by the General body at the June General meeting before the appointments are official.

Elections: Wednesday May 6th, 7:30 pm.

To be eligible to vote you will be required to show your 2015 membership card to the Sgt-at-Arms at the door. **Please make sure you bring your 2015 membership card with you.** We would like a number of the new members to our Branch to come out and exercise their right to participate in the

election process. All members are urged to attend this important meeting to elect your Executive for the next term which is now two (2) years; you are the people that elect/create the Executive. Many members of the Branch have lots to say in the clubroom about the abilities of the Executives who get elected but if you don't exercise your right to vote for **your** Executive, it really isn't fair to them to keep getting criticized, please come out and vote.

HONOURS & AWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

Honours & Awards presentations are made at a luncheon on the first Sunday in October. If you feel that anyone deserves recognition by the Branch for their work, volunteering, helping out or working behind the scenes, there are a number of ways we recognize special workers both members and non-members.

Certificate of Appreciation. Certificate of Merit (Branch & Provincial level)

Branch Service medal. Legionnaire of the Year award.

Life membership for ongoing work in the Branch (restricted to Branch members.)

Please contact Joe Calderone, chairman for this function either by speaking to him when he is in the Branch, leaving a note behind the bar for him, contacting him by phone at 416-423-3101 or letting someone on the Executive know and they will notify Joe accordingly. A meeting of the Honours & Awards committee is usually held late February or early March; he needs to be advised of your recommendations before this meeting so that his committee can consider all the names he has been given.

The committee is made up of the present President, all Past Presidents, a couple of the Executive and usually one member of the general membership.

Ed Goodlet, a member from Isle of Wight in Great Briton gave us a Poppy watch for a silent auction when he was here last fall. We held the silent auction and on December 24th the bidding was closed and Susan Adams had the highest bid which was \$180.00. Many thanks to Ed for this donation of the Poppy

watch and congratulations to the successful highest bidder, Susan.

Joe Lake is residing in Sunnybrook Veterans Centre but would like to send his thanks to everyone who keeps him in their thoughts and prayers but especially the ladies from the Ladies Auxiliary who have two socials a year, June and December, when all the Veterans are entertained by the Ulster Accordion Band and are served sandwiches and sweet treats. They are great reps for Branch 11.

If anyone has any equipment/books/toys in good condition that are suitable for children under the age of seven, Charlie Silson has a contact with a women who supplies these items to people who do day care in their own homes. All these day care facilities are set up in supervised, approved homes but because these are home facilities many of them need items such as strollers so that they can take the children out regularly. Give Charlie a call at 416-567-1310 or leave a message at the Branch, 416-699-1353 for him and he will get back to you

Cathy Cole

Ways & Means



Hello folks,

Our next Sunday fundays are February 22nd and March 29th. There will be hamburgers and hot dogs available on both days. Ed Kenny and the Ulster Accordion Band will be the entertainment on February 22nd and Bill Dunn will be here on March 29th.

Come out and enjoy.

Bill Topham

Ways & Means Chair

Over 60 Club

A new member joined at the last meeting, Steve Ostiguy, welcome Steve.

Jean Whynot organized a bus trip to Fallsview casino on January 13th. I haven't heard of any winners.

Tom Bragan
Over 60 Club President

Service Officer

First of all I would like to apologize to the membership for not contributing to the newsletter as much perhaps I should be as both 2nd Vice President and Service officer. To be honest I usually bring up anything I feel is new and/or important at the monthly meetings. In addition, I will post information on the web site of Facebook page.

I realize however that not every member can attend the General meetings and not everyone has access to or uses Social media. Therefore I will make an effort to contribute more frequently to the newsletter in the future.

As many are aware there is a concentrated effort to bring new and younger members into the Legion by Dominion Command, especially the newer generation of veterans. I feel as a Branch we need to do our utmost to support this, both because it is the right thing to do, and for our own continued survival. There is an excellent article on line from Dominion Command called "Don't be a Legion Grump" that deals with and I encourage all to read it.

There is a Provincial Service Officer's training seminar in Aurora at the end of February that I'll be attending and will report on any changes at the March General Meeting and then of course in the next newsletter.

The District D Annual Veteran's Dinner is fast approaching and is scheduled for April 12th. Last year the rules were changed to invite all veterans who either reside in Toronto or are members of Toronto Branches regardless of age or when they served to attend. Invitations will be going out shortly from the organizers at District. If you do not receive one it is most likely because you have declined to attend and/or respond in the past. Should you still wish to attend, please advise either I or the Membership Chair Cathy Cole and we'll pass your name on. Seating is limited and it is first come first served across the District. For those who do receive an invitation, please remember to respond whether you are going or not (RSVP).

The Military Recognition Book from Provincial Command will be publishing its second volume later this year and as soon as I receive a copy it will be placed in the clubroom besides volume 1 for all to see. Submissions for future volumes are still needed, so if you have not filled one out for yourself or a relative who served please do so and I'll pass them on to Aurora.

Yours in comradeship

R. James Smith CD
2nd Vice President, Veterans Service Officer

Special Functions



Well, hello 2015! "Happy New Year."

What a lovely evening it was. The food was excellent thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary. The band was awesome; they kept the dance floor filled all evening. The atmosphere was positive from start to finish. We had cash prizes and several other goodies that were won by happy winners. Want to win more? Mark Sunday February 15th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on your calendars, main floor for a Valentines dance with the "Jordans" entertaining us. So grab your sweetheart and let's make new memories in 2015 and above all support our Branch.

Special Functions Chair
Susan Squires

Bursary

The bursary fund forms are behind the bar and yours for the taking. Do you know a student who might be in need of special assistance? Please see me if you do and we will get all questions answered for you.

I would like to share a poem given to me by a man who had just lost his wife. When he saw my cousin greet me with a hug he have me this saying it was his wife's favorite. I hope you enjoy.

HUGS...THE WONDER DRUG.

Have you ever wondered how effective hugs are? You rarely give a hug that is not appreciated, or

receive one that does not make your day a little brighter. Can you think of any medication that has such pleasant side effects?

Hugs are good for you. They're not fattening and they don't cause cancer or give you cavities. They're all-natural; contain no preservatives, artificial sweeteners or other chemical additives. Hugs are cholesterol free and contain 100% of the recommended daily allowance of hope and happiness. They're a completely renewable source of energy and available without prescription.

Hugs don't require any special instructions. They don't need batteries, tune ups or x-rays. They are non-taxable, fully returnable and energy efficient. They can be safely used in all kinds of weather: as a matter of fact they work especially well during cold and rainy days. They are particularly effective in treating everyday problems like stress, worry, anger, frustration sadness or sorrow, and even the occasional nightmare.

The best thing about hugs is you can use them without special training or prior experience. But a word of caution for those of you trying it for the first time: you should never wait until tomorrow to hug someone who needs it today. Once you realize how good it feels, you'll want to do it all over again tomorrow! YES! Hugs are extremely addictive.

Health and happiness for 2015.

June M. Smith

Immediate Past President-Bursary Chair

Clubroom Entertainment



Branch 11 Saturday night is operating at a loss every week, this is due to the Blanket license restrictions, and any profit must come from sales at the bar. As in any business when profits go down steps must be taken to curtail the expense.

To all members of Branch 11 who can't for any reason come out Saturday night you can talk to family and friends who enjoy a Saturday night out listening to good music and dancing at Branch 11 from 8:00 to midnight. All are welcome.

We have a good list of entertainers, which will be on the calendars at the back of News & Views.

Tom Bragan

Clubroom entertainment Chair

Poppy



Hello Comrades,

Well the Poppy drive is all over for another year and I would like to thank all who came out to make this drive a huge success, Marg & Mike Hook and Robyn for the food to feed the hungry after being out in the cold tagging.

The ladies of the Ladies Auxiliary for the sandwiches. Thanks to all the taggers and the workers.

The Poppy appreciation luncheon was a huge success thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary.

Bill Topham

Poppy Chair

Sick



Hello Comrades,

I went to Sunnybrook Hospital just before Christmas to see our regular members. Alistaire Davidson is doing fantastic but I had to chase him down as he was watching the birds with Betty.

Doug Poole is about the same.

Charlie Dobson was a joy to meet and I'm looking forward to seeing him again.

Joe Lake is in good spirits when I saw him but I was speaking to a family member today and was told that he has the flu and is in lockdown, get well soon Joe.

Robert Snowdon is still in East General Hospital; Robert has been moved to the continuing care facility and didn't look well.

Barbara Olindo our bar steward had a stroke just before Christmas. She was transferred to Bridgepoint rehab hospital and is doing much better and is now

back home but will continue to have therapy twice a week for speech therapy, we wish her the very best.
Yours in comradeship

Joyce Haden
Sick Chair

Youth Education



There is no doubt about it our Remembrance Students' Awards luncheon was a resounding success, which would not have happened without the help both behind the scenes and during the luncheon. Thanks and kudos to so many people who were a part of this team effort – Robyn Keeble who organizes the pop etc. for me, set up Gary Gale, Jack Riddell, Ken Irwin and while Joe Calderone was sick he provided the set up sketch he had previously made which was a great help to Gary & Jack. Vi Kenny, Elsie Higgins followed to do the cosmetics to the room with table clothes etc. Vi brought in her Serger and while she was busy repairing the older table clothes and making the new ones she had brought in, Elsie and I headed out to pick up the 260 samosas to be included with the food being prepared by the LA. On the day of the luncheon Anne Davis was there before me busy getting all the balloons ready for the tables and enlisting the help of Cadets. Anne & Elsie also busy meeting and greeting people for me as they arrived. Special thanks to both my Sgt-At-Arms – Sr. Jeff Paulin and YE Daniel Caster. What great teamwork with Jeff looking after the Veterans at the front for the presentations and Daniel at the back with the Cadets and students. Another special thanks to our LA Ladies Nancy McKnight, Helen Small Eunice Francis, Cindy LeRoy for putting on a great spread and so to Jean Whynot who always drops of some sweets for the sweets tray. Rumour has it that at least two members with the initials of GP and BT each got a six-pack of butter tarts from you know who! There were 28 students receiving awards for 33 winning entries. A special thank you to the 19 Veterans from our Branch and from outside who presented these awards. I haven't named them here as you will see all of them

on the cover page. We had in attendance Legion Dignitaries, our local MP and MPP. As well, we had Zone D3 YE Chair John Holoway attend with awards for the students that won at Zone level so our Veterans did double duty presenting. Had wonderful help with thanks from High School Volunteers, Lauren, Viji and Cinthiya. Officer Kan did a brief presentation about the Cadet Corp and the Cadets who assisted were wonderful. I was impressed when one of Cadets suggested that they salute Officer Kan as they left the front of the hall, which at the direction of Sgt-at-Arms Daniel they did – well done! Thank you to Sgt-at-Arms Jeff for coordinating the large group picture and likewise for the Veteran – Student escort down to the food spread – very much appreciated and thanks to Gord for taking the pictures. Lastly, to Gary for coordinating the return of the hall to its original set up after the event.

Next YE item coming up Public Speaking Feb. 22/15.

Helen D. Pearce

Youth Education Chair

Sports



Hello,

The Branch sports is going quite well. On Monday night the Men's darts is going great, there is a low number of men but they are having a blast. The folks that play mixed darts on Thursday night are having such a good time that the volume of voices coming from the players is ear splitting at times.

Tuesday night, "Queen St. Dart League". There are at least two teams here at the Branch every week. The teams come from across the Toronto area. There is one "A" division team, Jason and Andrew are on that team. It usually takes those two 15 darts to score 501 points. There is a "B" division team. This team is the couple's team, Tim & Laura, Scott & Denise and Dave & Cindy, There are a couple of single guys on the team as well. It usually takes this team 21 darts to score 501 points. Last, there is a "C" division team. This team has Joan, Darren, Travis, Sandra and a very young looking Rob who the sports department is hoping he joins the Branch soon.

The upcoming sports events are:
District darts January 24th: teams, doubles & singles at Branch 11.
District euchre Feb. 15th at Branch 266.
District mixed darts Feb. 15th at Branch 258.
Please come out and cheer on our Branch at these tournaments.

Paul Stone
Sports Chair

Ladies Auxiliary



Happy New Year everyone. I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year's. I can't believe we are starting another year already, where did last year go? Just a reminder to everyone that our General Meetings are on the second Wednesday of every month (except for July and August) starting at 8:00 pm and we would love to see you there. I don't have too much to say but I would like to congratulate the ladies on a job well done for the New Year's dinner and thank everyone who helped. Our next meeting will be February 11th.
Until the next newsletter....happy Valentine's Day and happy St. Patrick's Day which will then take us to Easter and spring.

Yours in comradeship
Nancy McKnight
L.A. President

L. A. Sports

I would like to congratulate the team of Nancy McNight for going to District cribbage.
Our sports officer Lis Horley Mcleod is still recovering from a triple by-pass operation. Get well soon Lis.

Helen Small
Acting sports officer

**WHY MEN SHOULDN'T WRITE ADVICE
COLUMNS**

Dear John: I hope you can help me. The other day I set off for work leaving my husband in the house watching TV. My car stalled and then broke down about a mile from home, so I had to walk back to get my husband's help. When I got home I couldn't believe my eyes, he was in our bedroom with our neighbors daughter.

I am 32, my husband is 34 and the neighbor's daughter is 19. We have been married for 10 years. When I confronted him, he broke down and admitted they have been having an affair for the last six months. He won't go to counseling and I'm afraid, I am a wreck and need some of your good advice urgently. Can you please help?

Sincerely **Sheila.**

Dear Sheila: A car stalling after being driven a short distance can be caused by a variety of faults with the engine. Start by checking that there is no debris in the fuel line. If it is clear check the vacuum, pipes and hoses on the intake manifold and also check all ground wires. If none of these approaches solve the problem it could be that the fuel pump itself is faulty, causing low delivery pressure to the injectors.

I hope this helps.

John

February 2015

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	3 Over 60 Club 1:15	4 General meeting 8:00	5 Mixed darts 8:00	6 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	7 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Lloyd Young
8	9 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	10	11 L.A. general meeting 8:00	12 Mixed darts 8:00	13 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	14 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Gary Peters
15 Valentines dance Main floor 	16 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	17 Over 60 Club 1:15	18 Executive meet- ing 7:30	19 Mixed darts 8:00	20 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	21 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Martin Kelly
22 Sunday Funday 2:00 Ulster Accordion Band	23 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	24	25	26 Mixed darts 8:00	27 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	28 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Al Jordan

March 2015

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	3 Over 60 Club 1:15	4 General meeting 8:00	5 Mixed darts 8:00	6 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	7 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Mickey & Mary
8	9 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	10	11 L.A. General meeting 8:00	12 Mixed darts 8:00	13 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	14 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Gary Peters
15 St Pat's Clubroom 2:00 	16 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	17 Over 60 Club 1:15	18 Executive meet- ing 7:30	19 Mixed darts 8:00	20 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	21 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dickenson
22	23 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	24	25	26 Mixed darts 8:00	27 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 8:00	28 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dunn
29 Sunday funday 2:00 Bill Dunn	30 Euchre main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	31 Over 60 Club 1:15				