### October/November 2014











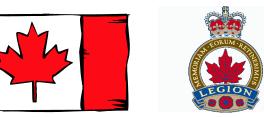














Branch 11, Royal Canadian Legion 9 Dawes Road, Toronto, ON M4C 5A8 Tel: 416-699-1353. Fax: 416-699-1831 E-mail: branch11rcl@rogers.com Web site:rcl11.com

#### **President's Message**



Well summer is over and I hope that everyone had a great time and all is well.

This summer we tried to keep the Branch busy with a few extra Sundays and dinners, this was a success but more is needed. Fall is now upon us and we will keep up with a busy schedule of fundraising and I'm sure that Susan Squires is working exceptionally hard at planning Special Functions for the upcoming season. I would like to thank all the volunteers that helped out this past summer, this is what makes this place work "VOLUNTEERS"

Once again I am asking you, the members of the Branch to give me ideas of what you think are needed to keep the Branch active in the clubroom. We are the executives that manage the Branch on your behalf, as members we need you to tell us what you would like to see in the way of functions and also what changes as a whole you believe that we need to make at the Branch so you and your guests can have an enjoyable experience at our Branch. This is even more crucial than ever now that we are governed under this new Blanket License. We must find ways to attract more people to come and enjoy our Branch. Also this would be a good time to look around and talk to your neighbours and see if any maybe interested in joining the Royal Canadian Legion or even coming out and joining the Over 60 Club.

Now onto more important items, the Branch is having another fundraiser dinner on October 19<sup>th</sup> Oktoberfest, this will be a great day, we have lots of goodies donated to us. Please purchase tickets early so as we can order the required food. On October 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a Halloween dance on the main floor and there will be prizes for the best costumes.

But the most important item to remember is the **Poppy Campaign**, this year the campaign is a short one, we do not start until **October 31**<sup>st</sup>. being a short campaign **we need all the volunteers that we can get out tagging.** The sign up board has been made up (thanks to June Smith) and should be in the clubroom shortly for you to place your name on. We also on various occasions during the campaign need drivers to help get the Poppy boxes delivered or to help get the volunteer taggers to and from the various locations. We will need drivers especially on November 8<sup>th</sup> when the cadets will be in to

do the tagging. On Friday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM (We will need to be there earlier and have a bus) The Toronto Argonauts Football Club is hosting a game against the Ottawa Redblacks, this event is called "Heroes Night". Tickets for this game sell for \$31.00 (regularly \$48.55), each ticket sold through the Legion they will donate back \$5.00 to the Poppy fund. I have also been asked to have volunteers at the game for the purpose of poppy tagging, this is similar to last year at BMO Field only it's all indoors. If you are willing to volunteer at this event please let me know.

Legion Week was amazing; it just keeps getting better every year. Hats off to Helen Pearce and all the volunteers on her committee that rally around her and make this Legion Week display the envy of all the other Branches. At the time I am writing this article Helen was expecting up to three hundred students plus a seniors group that requested to come and visit the displays.

Let's all have a great time and stay healthy.

John N. Dufort President

#### "IN MEMORIUM"

#### **ASSOCIATE MEMBER:**

**MARTIN,** Lauretta; Joined Branch 258, 2000. Transferred to Branch 11, 2009.

Our deepest sympathy to the members of her family.

<u>Lauretta Martin</u> for quite some time did the planting in the Branch gardens and had them looking beautiful. She will be missed by the members of her family who are Branch members, the many people she became acquainted with here and the friends who prompted her to join our Branch.

Just a note of welcome from Branch 11 to the new members who have transferred to our Branch since the last newsletter:

Tom Chiasson, Daniel Longshaw and Margitta Dougal. Welcome to our new members, We hope you will continue to support the Branch that you chose to join.





On Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm we are having our annual Honours & Awards Day. Hopefully this date has already marked on your calendar.

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This special day is an afternoon function with a luncheon for the members and other people receiving awards as well as anybody who wants to purchase a ticket to participate in the luncheon. After the luncheon and presentations are finished, the clubroom will be open if you want to stay and enjoy the entertainment downstairs

Letters to the members receiving recognition for the length of service or for the help in the Branch or community were sent and there are tickets available (for a nominal fee) for members and their guests who want to attend this great day. Don't forget, this is a fun day as we have a luncheon, the presentations and then entertainment in the clubroom. You will definitely enjoy yourself if you decide to come.

Joe Calderone Honours & Awards Chair

#### REMEMERACE PARADE & SERVICE

Our parade and service is on Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>. Our usual form up at Shopper's World is at 1:00 pm and march off at 1:30 pm with a service at the Branch may have to be changed due to all the construction on Danforth Ave. which is expected to last until November 27<sup>th</sup>. We are working on different arrangements for the parade but can't give any more information at this time. We will inform anyone marching and our loyal spectators where the start will be, once we get our parade permit, either on the chalkboard in the clubroom or by email to anyone on our master list. We go to the clubroom after the service for a light meal and of course entertainment and refreshments. Some time ago we changed the location for the social activities after the service to the clubroom, changed the time to earlier for serving the food and it appears that more people are able to stay around as we don't have to climb the stairs to the top floor.

Please come out to the parade/service either as a marcher or spectator. With the earlier serving of the meal, we are able to accommodate the members who like to get home early. Come out and enjoy our great service with usual SURPRISE by the Ulster Accordion Band, sometimes we laugh, sometimes we cry, but we always enjoy whatever they present us with and of course the meal by our Ladies Auxiliary. It is a great day for everyone.

**Bob Murphy** 

Remembrance Service Chair

REMEMBERANCE DAY, TUESDAY NOV. 11<sup>TH</sup> After the November 11<sup>th</sup> parade in East York, we again will be providing food for everyone at our OWN Branch.

For several years this has proved successful and we are going to do the same again this year. We are going to have food after the parade, stew and chili with crusty bread (hopefully it won't be too cold and we won't need warming up thawing out) but as weather for our Remembrance parade is never guaranteed to be warm, we can only wish that it will be.

Come back to the Branch after the parade, enjoy our food, the comradeship of your fellow Legionnaires and many friends and celebrate our freedom due to the sacrifice of so many. This is a normal working day so the Branch will be open regular hours but we want everyone to share their day of Remembrance here at Branch 11.

Cathy Cole Secretary

#### **Special Functions**



On Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> we are having our first Oktoberfest in the clubroom from 2:00 pm `til 6;00 pm. Tickets will be available from the bar at \$12.00 per person. Entertainment will be provided by Martin Kelly. He is an awesome treat. Come out and support the Branch and take home a lovely beer stein in memory of a day filled with fun. Let's help put the <u>FUN</u> back in Branch 11.

Come out and enjoy more fun at our **Halloween party** on the main floor on Friday October 31<sup>st</sup>. Door prizes, snacks and prizes for the best costume. The entertainment? Uncle Neil and the Other Guys, a great band. Tickets are \$10.00 per person.

New Years, December 31<sup>st</sup>. come out to the main floor and party at \$25.00 per person or the clubroom at \$15.00 per person.

Come out and say goodbye to 2014 and ring in 2015 with a lot of noise, laughter, dancing and hopes for a better year for our Branch and families.

Entertainment in the clubroom is Bill Dunn.

Entertainment on the main floor is Jack B. Nimbbel.

Susan Squires

Special Functions Chair

#### **Sergeant-at-Arms**



Due to the construction on Danforth Ave. our Remembrance Parade route may be in jeopardy. The

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parade will be on Sunday Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. Traditionally we have started the parade at Shoppers World, west on Danforth and south on Dawes Rd. That is the intended parade route if the route is free from construction and a safe route to march. Our alternate route is to march from Sobie's on the Danforth and to march east on Danforth and then south on Dawes Rd. A decision will be made on November 1<sup>st</sup>, the route will be posted in the Branch. Thank you to everyone who has and will be participating in future parades – Lest we forget.

Jeff Paulin Sgt-at-Arms

#### T.O.D.

Comrades,

On Sunday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am we will be having a training seminar on how to conduct a meeting. This seminar is open to all members of Zone D3 and LA's. Please let me know if you plan to attend by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Light refreshments will be served.

I can be reached at the Branch 416-699-6353 or 416-735-7362.

Jim LeRoy

#### Training, Organization & Development Chair

Kudos to those who helped put together the bunker and trench for the school children (and teachers) to pass through and enlarged their imagination so much for Legion Week. The vision for the trench and bunker came from recognising that children need to be stimulated by interactive experiences. This was an all day job for four men and six women and rewards have been wonderful. Ken Erwin, Doug Smith, Herb Davis and Edward Goodlet built the walls and made them secure for trench and bunker and thanks to Doug from Home Hardware for supplying the wood for the project. To all those who sold or bought the Vimy Ridge pins which helped supply the money for the materials of burlap and bags and to Fabricland who donated material for our back walls...you helped make this vision materialize. To Limerick Lake Hunt Camp (Ron White) for the loan of the netting which we anchored over the burlap our gratitude is never ending. To the women who for six hours stuffed newspaper into the burlap bags to make them look like sandbags. I am highly recommending you all to anyone who needs stuffers. Not only did they get black hands but they did it all with a lot of laughter. To Anne Davis, Elsie Higgins, Lois Forrest, Victoria Armstrong and Violet Murdock who helped me make this envisioned trench come true, you are astounding.

The Hamilton Signal Corp whom we talked to at the CNE have stepped up to the plate to bring the reality of handling communications without cell phones to the children of today. The three gentlemen in their World War One uniforms have brought the vision forward of difficulties of communication of past years. They have been so generous with their time and experience and accommodating the financial realities of Branch 11. This has been an unforeseen boost to our vision of interactive experience. The knowledge of Ken Lloyd, George Stal and Mike Latham has awakened us all to the reality of exactly how difficult communication was in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and we all sneaked a try on the Morse code machines.

We are weary after two weeks of hard work but the real thanks go to Helen Pearce who works on the Youth Education program all year long. Thank you for letting us be a part of this to work with the Youth who are our future.

June M. Smith Immediate Past President



Unfortunately, because several of our schools who have had very supportive principals/teachers either retired and/or transferred to other schools it is like starting out as a new Youth Education Chair to meet and introduce these new people to our YE programs. But rest assured this is what I am trying to do! Accordingly, I would like to "Pass the Torch" to you to help spread the word about not just the Legion's Youth Education Programs but also their involvement in Track & Field and the Cadet Corps.

Many thanks,

Helen D. Pearce Youth Education Chair

#### **Legion Week**

**WOW** – wasn't that a challenge – but we did it! Final tally indicates we had 322 students from grades 3 to 7 spread out over the week and this was just from Secord and George Webster Schools. One morning we had a small group of seniors visit from Avondale. I learned from Victoria Anderson, one of our volunteers that one lady in that group had lived in France during WWII. Jack Riddell advised me that Wednesday evening a

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couple of high school students from Birchmount Park Collegiate visited. Their teacher had seen our flyer and had given them a homework assignment based on that flyer. Andrew H from Beach Metro called and arranged to visit Thursday morning – keep an eye for pictures. Friday MP Matthew Kellway and MPP Arthur Potts visited.

Opening Ceremony Reception was a success thanks to all of you who attended; special thanks to: Ed Kenny and the Ulster Band providing the music as well as a beautiful presentation; Youth Ed Sgt.-at-Arms Daniel Caster with the 4 QYR Cadets made an awesome colour party; Jeff Paulin Honour Wall curtain), Gord Pearce (recorder & PRO), Joan Gray (lights); speakers, John Dufort, Jay Burford, Sheila Harris, Eunice Francis, June Smith, Elaine Perkins for Matthew Kellway, Janet Davis: all the veterans who attended, our District D PRO took a group picture and I hope to have that picture placed on our Branch website; Rick Anderson did an excellent job of videoing taping the whole ceremony. Anyone wishing to view the video please let me know. Thank you to the LA - Anne Bragan, Cindy LeRoy, Eunice Francis, and Jean Whynot for providing the refreshments, Ken Erwin for providing the music in the clubroom. Cindy and Eunice also made sandwiches for the volunteers throughout the week - sandwich with a sweet thrown in for \$2.00 was a real deal for all the volunteers working through the week and a small income for the LA – I hope that the LA will plan to do that for us next year. Thanks to June Smith we have a real bonus display involving the Hamilton Signals Association with an amazing display and presentation of communications during WWI. We were fortunate to have that team for 4 days during the week - a great history experience for the students, teachers and yes all of us. This wouldn't have been possible without the monetary donations provided by so many members and non-members – thank you!

<u>Volunteers:</u> June Smith has mentioned some of you above but I would like to include the following in no particular order, who whether, in the forefront or behind the scenes were all instrumental in making Legion Week such a success: Daniel Caster (booked the whole week off work), James Smith (two days of his vacation – I think he had planned to do work at home but helped us instead), Victoria Anderson, Anne Davis, Joan Gray, Gord Pearce, Elsie Higgins, Joe White, Dorothy and George Bricknell, Jack Riddell, Joe Gagne, Doug Smith, Bill Topham, Fred Davies, Joyce and Bernie Haden, Frank Winkler, Joe Calderone, Lois Forest, Myer G o o b i e , R o b y n K e e b l e , Ed Gray, Marg Smith.

Thank you to my favourite "bag ladies" Vi Kelly and Joyce Reynolds who worked so hard to put together the gift bags for the students.

Thank you to Officer Ada Kan who attended with the Cadets and worked just as hard as they did. She recruited 10 Cadets to set up, 4 as Colour Party and 11 to take down. We just couldn't have done without their youth, strength and eagerness.

Now we must start planning for next year – it is never too early to do so. All your thoughts, support and volunteerism is what puts this Legion Branch on the map.

Thank you to all of you,

Helen D. Pearce



The chair for Monday men's darts is Jim LeRoy and cochair Roy Weekes. Men's darts started on September 15<sup>th</sup>

The chair for Thursday mixed darts Cindy LeRoy,

Co-chair is Dylan Durham, secretary is Linda Green, treasurer is Helen Small and the executive is Eunice Francis.

The signup sheet for Zone cribbage is on the bulletin board at the rear of the clubroom and it takes place at Branch 11 on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The President is invited to join this event.

Zone mixed darts will take place on November 29<sup>th</sup> and again signup sheets will be on the board at the back of the clubroom.

Just a reminder, blind draw darts is every second Friday, please be there at 7:30.

Paul Stone Sports Chair

#### **Church Bloopers**

Potluck supper: Prayer and medication to follow.

For those of you that have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Don't let worry kill you off, let the church help.



Hello comrades,

I went to visit Edie Neal at Leisure World on Kingston Rd. and she looks fantastic.

Robert Snowdon has changed rooms, he is now in F508 and looking a little better.

James Lockhart is finally at home. He is very happy with the wheelchair that we loaned him and is able to get about a little better.

I paid a visit to Dorothy Dupont. Dorothy was in and out of Sunnybrook this summer and is finally on the mend and is looking forward to attending our Honours & Awards in October.

David McFarland is out of hospital and it's good to see him back at the Branch.

I spoke to Mike Hook today. Marg is feeling much better. Hope to see her back at the Branch soon.

It is so sad that we lost another comrade, John Kormann will be missed.

Thank you to Lori Martin for the donation of handicap equipment. It is already being put to good use.

Yours in comradeship

Joyce Haden Sick Chair

#### Walkathon



The Zone D3 and D5 Walkathon is over and I would first of all like to thank all those from the Branch who participated, both walkers and those who pledged money for making it a success.

This was a bit of a learning curve for me as it was my first time as chair. I was told, based on the last year to expect maybe 40 walkers and by my count had over 75, that's not too bad.

I don't have a total for how much money was raised by the District for the Tony Stacy Centre this year, however as soon as I do I will pass it on. I was told last year the District raised about \$15,000.00.

I am pleased to announce that this year Branch 11 alone raised \$ 1,640.00. I am not surprised by this at all, nor the fact that once again Branch 11 appears to be punching well above its weight.

There were only 5 walkers from the Branch, and look how much they raised. Imagine how much money we could have raised if we had ten, twenty or fifty. If you are available and able to do the walkathon in 2015, please start thinking about it now. It's a fun day and a worthy cause.

I also appreciate the speed with which the walkers all got their pledge sheets and pledge money into me so it can be forwarded up to Zone, District and to the Tony Stacey Centre where I'm sure it can be put to good use. Hopefully there will be no delay in getting tax receipts back this year.

R. James Smith CD Walkathon Chair



There is not much to report as yet but, we are getting things organized for this event.

Please do not forget your pledge when you joined the Branch to come out and support the Veterans by helping with the Poppy tagging.

The sign up board will be available in the first week of October and will be in the clubroom for you to pick your location for tagging.

Thanks to June Smith and her helper for making up the new board, much appreciated.

Bill Topham Poppy Chair

#### **Building**



The Branch thrives on volunteers, goodwill and members looking out for each other. I am looking to the members of Branch 11 to help with the building. If you find something wrong with the building or have an idea you would like to suggest, please contact me at <a href="mailto:sgt-at-arms@rcl11.com">sgt-at-arms@rcl11.com</a>

Do you have a trade or talent that you are willing to volunteer to the Branch? As the building chairperson I am responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the building, at the same time trying to keep costs down without cutting any corners or professional standards. If you have a licenced trade, electrical, plumbing etc. we may require your services. If you enjoy painting, decorating or gardening please let me know.

Jeff Paulin Building Chair

#### Ways & Means



Hello Folks,

Well the summer is over and where did it go? We sure didn't get much of a summer anyhow.

The next Sunday fundays are October 26<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you there.

Bill Topham

Ways & Means Chair

#### Service Officer

I hope the summer was enjoyable, if perhaps a bit too brief, for everyone else as it was for my family.

The first volume of Ontario Command's Military Recognition Book has been published in both online and hard copy versions. The online copy can be viewed on the Provincial Command website at http://www.on.legion.ca/documents/MSRB-Vol-1-web.pdf

I also placed a print copy at the bar in the clubroom for anyone to peruse. It's a very professional looking book and several of our members are in there. Other volumes will be forthcoming so continue to send in the completed forms and photographs.

As a couple of members have asked for copies for themselves, I have forwarded this request up to Provincial Command for extra copies and hopefully they may provide us with more for those interested. Perhaps selling them to raise money for the Branch may be an idea.

I have been asked by a couple of people to help them in doing research on family who served and obtaining their records from Ottawa. Again if anyone wishes my help in doing so let me know or leave a note in the clubroom and I'll contact you.

Finally I have been advised that the Provincial Service Officer will be making a visit to Branch 345 on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. Anyone wishing to make an appointment to see him please let me know as soon as possible and I'll forward the information and ensure a time is set for you.

R. J. Smith CD Veterans Service Officer

#### **Ladies Auxiliary**

Hello ladies,

Well I hate to say it but summer is over and Thanksgiving is just around the corner. With that comes Halloween and the Remembrance Day and our Bazaar on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are asking for new food donations to make up a food hamper or two for prizes at the bazaar. Please make sure it is not out of date. The Bazaar tickets will be ready at our next General meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup> and we will be stuffing the poppies for the schools after our Executive meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> (approx. 7:45) and all are welcome. The board for tagging will be available in the clubroom in October. Please sign up even if you can only do an hour. I hope to see you at our Remembrance parade and service on Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>, form up is at Shopper's World. It is with great sadness that we lost two members since our last newsletter, Joan Towner and Lauretta Martin. Our sincere condolences to their families.

Wishing you and your families a happy Thanksgiving. Yours in comradeship,

Nancy McKnight L. A. President

#### L.A. Sports

Sports at the L.A. is alive and well!

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of September, three teams played in a euchre tournament hosted at our home Branch 11. Twelve tables played and the winning team was OURS! Jean Whynot, Dorothy Bricknell, Eunice Francis and Anne Bragan came first and will go on to the next level held on October 18<sup>th</sup>. The other two teams that played also placed and will go on. Anne Breen, Donna Barnewell, Phyllis Misener and Betty Saymen played well. Our third team going on was Nancy McKnight, Molly Bakalar, Cindy LeRoy and Lis Horley McLeod. Congratulations to them all! Our plaque is at the engravers.

We are trying to revive Tuesday night's Ladies Darts. However, to truly have some competition, we need at least 16 ladies (not necessarily in the LA). We currently have 5 on our list which is on the Ladies bulletin board on the clubroom level. LADIES!! Get your friends together for a night out and lots of fun. We are a jovial group! Our deadline for signup is October 10<sup>th</sup>. Sixteen is only the minimum, so tell everyone you know. Cribbage is also back. Sign up on the Ladies board if you'd like to play. We will be playing at Branch 1/42 on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Let's see if our cribbage teams can do as well as our euchre teams.

Congratulations for a great start in Ladies Sports this year

Lis Horley McLeod L.A. Sports officer

#### **LEGION WEEK 2014**



Two Signal Corp soldiers from WWI who were at Legion Week with demonstrations of the primitive communication devices used at the time of the First War



Ed Kenny conducting the Ulster band



Janet Davis speaking to the assembly



President John Dufort welcoming the guests



The veterans having their picture snapped---maybe in Legion magazine?



LA First Vice welcome speech

## October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 General meeting 8:00	2 Mixed darts 8:00	3 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jammers 8:00	4 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Marlene Dunn
5 Honours & Awards 11:30	6 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	7 Over 60 Club 1:15	8 LA General 8:00	9 Mixed darts 8:00	10 Blind draw darts 7:30	11 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dunn
12	13 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	14	15 Executive meeting 7:30	16 Mixed darts 8:00	17 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jammers 8:00	18 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Lindsay Thomas Morgan
19 Oktoberfest Clubroom 2:00	20 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	21 Over 60 Club 1:15	22	23 Mixed darts 8:00	24 Blind draw darts 7:30	25 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Seabreeze
26 Sunday funday 2:00 Seabreeze	27 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	28	29 LA Executive 7:30	30 Mixed darts 8:00	31 Poppy tagging Begins Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jammers 8:00 Halloween dance	

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Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Lloyd Young
2	3 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	4 Over 60 Club 1:15	5 General meeting 8:00	6 Mixed darts 8:00	7 Blind draw darts 7:30	8 Cadets tagging Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dickenson
9 Branch parade & remembrance service 1:30	10 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	11 East York pa- rade. Form up 10:00 am	12 LA general meeting 8:00	13 Mixed darts 8:00	14 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jammers 8:00	15 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Mickey & Mary
16	17 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	18 Over 60 Club 1:15	19 Executive meeting 7:30	20 Mixed darts 8:00	21 Blind draw darts 7:30	22 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Al Jordan
23	24 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	25	26 LA Executive meeting 7:30	27 Mixed darts 8:00	28 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jammers 8:00	29 Clubroom Enter- tainment 8:00 Allen James
30 Sunday funday 2:00						