

News Views

October/November 2017



Our President knows how to parade in style on Warriors Day at the CNE.



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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Branch is open for business, all we need is the members and their family to participate in what we have to offer. A survey was put out to ask what you the members would like to see, whether to keep something the same or to make changes. The Executive would like some direction from you the members on what functions and/or activities you would like to see. Please participate and help us make this Branch work for you the members.

Well summer is over and I hope everyone had a great time and all is well. Fall is now upon us and we will keep up a busy schedule of fund raising and I am sure the Special Functions committee and with the help from the Ladies Auxiliary will be working exceptionally hard at planning special functions for the upcoming season. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out this past summer, this is what makes the place work.

It is "VOLUNTEERS" as well as the members, families and friends who come out to support the Branch that help us make these functions successful. This is what keeps the Branch open for business. Once again I'm 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 we need to make at the Branch so you and your guests can have an enjoyable experience at your Branch.

Legion Week was as usual amazing. We started off with the Battle of Britain parade from Shoppers World back to the Branch for the opening of Legion Week. Hats off to June Smith and all the volunteers on June's committee that rallied around her as well as Helen Pearce to make this Legion Week display the envy of all the other Branches. I would like to thank the cadets who came out to help with the setup of Legion Week and also for providing the Colour Party on September 17th for the opening of Legion Week and the parade. This year was an exceptionally busy year with the students, we are pleased that the teachers returned with their students to wander through and look at the displays, have a

chance to interact with the veterans and the Hamilton Signal Corps.

The most important event that takes place yearly is the Poppy Campaign. This is a very important time of the year for us. This year we have almost doubled our Poppy area and this translates into needing more volunteers. Please come out and help even if it's just for a couple of hours. Once again, we need you the members to come out and support your Branch. You are the one that can make the difference.

John Dufort
President

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2017 ``IN MEMORIUM`` ORDINARY MEMBER

RICHARDSON, Henry
Royal Navy Service # LFX 743234
Joined Branch 11 September 1979
AFFILIATE MEMBER

KELLY, Vi (Violet)
Joined Branch 11 February 1991

Our deepest sympathy to the members of their families.

Vi Kelly Vi left a big hole in the volunteer group who continually work for all committees regardless of what they are for. She was always here to slice tomatoes and onions, make her Caesar salad for many functions, for the last few years she was a fixture at our Sunday fundays run by Bill Topham. She was really missed this year as her "job" was to stuff goodie bags for our students coming to see our Legion Week displays. We also know she will be missed by members of the Topham family as she visited them with Bill for several years and of course many Ladies Auxiliary members, too many to mention. All of us that worked with her will be aware of her passing every time she isn't there to pitch in and help out.

Bill Topham I know Bill was mentioned in the last newsletter but I have to apologize to his son Brian for not mentioning that he is also a member of Branch 11. Sorry Brian.

Many thanks to the people who have donated stamps for use at the Branch over the last year. I have received strips of ten, sometimes several at a time; I even received a roll of 100 stamps from someone who doesn't want to be named. Each stamp cost 85 cents + HST. This a wonderful saving to the Branch as we do mail a lot of items out, letters, newsletters, cards, invitations etc. too many things to list. All I can say is THANK, THANK YOU to the people who have donated.

You know who you are and I know this is your way of helping us out by contributing anonymously.

Cathy Cole

Membership Secretary

HONOURS AND AWARDS DAY

On Sunday, October 1st from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm, we are having our annual Honours & Awards day. Hopefully this date has already been marked on your calendar. This special day is an afternoon function with a luncheon for members and other people receiving awards as well as anybody who wanted to purchase a ticket to participate in the luncheon. After the luncheon and presentations are finished the clubroom will be open to go to if you want to stay and enjoy entertainment downstairs.

Letters to members receiving recognition for their length of service or for their 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 for everyone; the clubroom is open from 12:00 to 6:00 for everyone with entertainment. Our luncheon and presentations are on the main floor and then we can go to the clubroom to finish our day. You will definitely enjoy yourself if you decide to attend.

Joe Calderone

Honours & Awards Chair

REMEMBRANCE PARADE & SERVICE

Our parade and service is on Sunday, November 5th. Form up at Shopper's World at 1:00 pm with March off at 1:30 with a service at the Branch at 2:00pm. We go to the clubroom after the service for our Ladies Auxiliary special ``roast beef on a bun`` and of course entertainment and refreshments. Please come out to the parade and service either as a marcher or spectator. With the earlier serving of the food, we are able to accommodate even the members who like to get home early. Come out and enjoy our great service with the 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 food by our Ladies Auxiliary. It is a great day for everyone.

Cathy Cole

Secretary



REMEMBRANCE DAY, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH 2017

After the November 11th parade in East York, we will be providing food for everyone at our OWN Branch. For several years this has proved to be successful and we are going to be doing the same again this year. We are going to have hot food after the parade: stews, chili and crusty bread (hopefully it won't be cold and we won't need warming up or thawing out) but as weather for the East York parade is never guaranteed to be warm, we can only wish and hope that it will be. Come back to the Branch after the parade, enjoy the food, the comradeship of our fellow Legionnaires and many friends and celebrate our freedom due to the sacrifice of so many. This is a regular working day so the Branch will be open regular hours but we want everyone to share their day of Remembrance here at Branch 11.

POPPY



Dear Comrades

The annual Poppy Campaign is almost upon us. This year, the campaign will be from Friday, October 27th until November 11th.

The Poppy campaign is absolutely critical to the success of our Branch's ability to fulfill our mandate to support our Veterans and their families.

Please consider and reflect on the Oath that we all swore when we became Legion Members in which we all swear to:

''Ever strive by all proper means to promote the work of the organization, including active participation in the Poppy Campaign''

We require Poppy volunteers and lots of them, but we can't all stand out there for too many 2 hour shifts or have a vehicle to drive. But there is something for everyone. We need:

Taggers - The Poppy board will be available for sign up the day of our next general Meeting October 4th. Shifts in 2 hour slots.

Drivers - to assist driving the cadets to their posts on Saturday October 28th and Saturday November 4th. To drop off counter boxes to businesses, replace boxes, to pick up drop off taggers who need a lift etc.

Adopt a street or plaza - volunteers to maintain a certain area of businesses to ensure their Poppy needs are in good supply throughout the campaign.

Stuffers - assist the LA in stuffing Poppy envelopes for the schools and their students. And many more tasks need to be done.

There is a sign up board in the Branch for Volunteers. It does not matter if you are not available for the entire campaign. Any time that you can contribute will be helpful and greatly appreciated.

If you don't see something here that you feel capable or comfortable doing, please talk to me, I will find something for you. There is nothing more gratifying in knowing you made a difference in the success in the Poppy Campaign and a part of the volunteer team at Branch 11.

Thank you for your consideration, I remain;

Yours in Comradeship,

Jeff Paulin Poppy Chair

Sick

Hello Comrades

Sheila Hadden was sleeping when I visited her last week. She opened her eyes when I started rubbing her cheek with a stuffed puppy. She grabbed the puppy and was delighted with it. Another day another smile.

Joe Lake had surgery two weeks ago. It was a four hour operation. Gwen and family were quite concerned but Joe came through with flying colours.

Pat Collie was out with her niece when I went to see her. I left her a treat on her bed.

Brian Nichols was at our general meeting and was looking good.

Alice Million is doing ok and has gained a few pounds. Visitors are always welcome, she likes black tea and raisin oatmeal cookies.

George Moorhead is well looked after at Sunnybrook. If you visit him please bring pen and paper as he is very hard of hearing, visitors are welcome.

John Dufort his surgery was a success. He was told by the doctor to take it easy for the next few weeks. Let's hope he listens.

It was nice to see Joan Gray at Warriors day, she looked great and she is trying to get a ride to attend out Honours & Awards Day

Bill King is doing a lot better and has gained about 12 pounds. Bill had to take Mary to the hospital last week. Seven hours later she was sent home. Nothing serious at this time.

It was great to see Rob and Pat Bailey at the Legion.

Hope to see you out for the Poppy Campaign.

Yours in comradeship

Joyce Haden

Sick Chair

Sports



Well comrades another summer is over. I hope everyone had a good one. Now for your sports news.

Over the summer we were represented at Provincial horseshoes and washer toss although we did not place we were well represented.

The sign-up sheets for the winter Zone sports are on the sports board. We are hosting 2 events this year, Zone cribbage and senior darts.

Both winter dart leagues have started, Thursday mixed and Monday men's. Also the Monday euchre has begun.

In March 2018 Branch 11 will host the Provincial cribbage tournament. More on this later.

Yours in comradeship

Rick Groome

Sports Chair

Walkathon



Hello comrades,

Our walkathon on September 16th was a success. We had eight walkers and we did very well. The total will be read at our General meeting.

I wish to thank Sandra Durham, Mike Reardon, Nancy McKnight, Rick Groome, Jeff Paulin, Caroline Hanus, Jim LeRoy and Shirley Richie for a job well done.

All proceeds from our walkathon will be going to the Joe Sweeney fund for Homeless Veterans. Thank you, thank you.

Yours in comradeship

Joyce Haden

Walkathon Chair

Legion Week

Legion Week has had another very successful seven days of outreaching to the students in our area and other spectators.

Thanks to the teachers and parents who bring their students out to our Branch to learn about why they have a wonderful free country to live in. To the Veterans that came to talk, tell their stories and mingle with the classes. To the volunteers who showed up every day to oversee and discuss our displays with the children. To the Hamilton Signal Corps and

especially Lt. Col Ken Lloyd for enabling the students to understand how word was passed in the 1st World War without a cell phone. To the L.A. for allowing us to have Debbie making sandwiches to keep us all going for the next class to come in and last but definitely not least to the members of the Ulster Accordion Band who showed up when we requested volunteers to oversee the displays and kept coming back day after day. To the builders of our trench and the QYR cadets who do all the heavy lifting and carrying. To the people who made the posters and passed them out: Joyce Geddes, Jeff Paulin, Gary Gale and Judy Doucette for delivering.

We had over 300 students pass through our trenches along with their teachers and mothers.

To my committee who are mighty tired after being there from Friday 15th everyday till Saturday 23rd we thank you for being there and so helpful. To the people who stuff our bags and un-stuff the bags for the trenches, give the treat bags out to the children and I am sure I have left someone out so to you all our heartfelt thanks. We could not have done it without you.

To Helen who works endlessly with the teachers and Veterans and keeps them all coming back....kudos.

This our contribution to the future and thanks to all that care!

June M. Smith

Legion Week Chair

Youth Education



With being able to have so many students attend Legion Week we were able to talk to students about entering our contests for Youth Education.

Black & White posters, Coloured posters, essays and poetry and the monetary awards for winning. Last year with all our committee visits to the schools we reached hundreds of students and again reminded them of our talks and their participation. The teachers are all on board and again we are working to seeing the wonderful artist conceptions from the students on Remembrance Day.

Thanks to a wonderful dedicated committee and Helen Pearce who is constantly in touch with the teachers.

If I have forgotten to thank anyone, I will have a poster in the clubroom with all your names on it.

As Uncle Sam's Recruitment Poster said ``We Need You``

June M. Smith

Youth Education Chair.

Notice

Two donations were recently mailed to me personally in memory of my "Frick n Frack" team with the proviso that the funds be used solely for youth projects and I promised to do so. Over the years these 2 along with a few others, some of whom have left us, contributed constantly towards youth projects giving their support and complete trust in me. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

Helen D. Pearce

Clubroom Entertainment



Come out and enjoy our entertainment in the clubroom with live music on Saturday nights. Dance the night away or just listen to entertaining music - 7:30pm to 11:30pm

A Halloween dance planned on October 28th with Frank Wilkes and the Freedom Express, come and be scary, or scared.

Lynn Sommerton

Clubroom Entertainment Chair

Special Functions



We had a great corn roast on Labour Day weekend. Some came out to play darts and others tested their knowledge on Canada's history with Canada's 150th edition of Trivial Pursuit. I truly think some of us need to study a bit more.

Thanks to everyone who supported this event and because of you it was a great success. Thanks to Eunice and Debbie kitchen helpers and Chris for BBQing the meat and Rick for running the dart tournament, Sandra for running the art donation draw, to Cathy and Joyce for running the other donation draw. George for making sure you had

refreshments, to Lynn, Jeff and Jim for always jumping in whenever you were needed. If I missed anyone please know your help is appreciated just as much, so a great big THANK YOU to all!

Meat spins are now on Saturdays starting at 3:00 pm. Please come out and support your Branch. If you can't attend please feel free to leave your donation in an envelope behind the bar for a chance to win and help out the Branch.

Cindy LeRoy

Past Special Functions Chair

Ladies Auxiliary



I cannot believe that summer is officially over and so is September. That means that there is sports starting up, our first being Zone euchre on September 30th here at Branch 11, Zone single and double darts on October 1st at Branch 258 and Zone cribbage on December 2nd at Branch 1-42. Good luck to all the ladies that are playing.

Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Vi Kelly, she will be greatly missed around the Branch in many ways.

2018 membership cards are available from Gail Burrow. Dues are \$15.00 for under 70 years and \$10.00 if you are over 70 and have been a member for 2 years. You can leave your dues behind the bar for Gail or mail them into the Branch and Gail will get your card out for you. Remember to pay before December 31st to be an Early Bird and be eligible to play sports.

Our next General Meeting is Wednesday October 11th at 8:00 pm. Our Zone meeting is October 15th at Branch 22, registration is 1:00 pm.

We normally stuff the Poppy envelopes for the schools after our Executive meeting in October. We thought we would try something new this year and we will be stuffing the envelopes for the school Poppies on Sunday October 22nd at 2:00 pm in the clubroom. Anyone that would like to come out and help would be more than welcome, the more people we get out the faster it gets done as we now have 20 schools that we look after. I will put up a list up in the clubroom in the next couple of weeks and you can sign up.

The Poppy Campaign begins October 27th and this year we have two Saturdays where the cadets will be tagging and our Remembrance parade and service will be November 5th. Form up at Shopper's World at 1:00 pm with march off at 1:30. If you are unable to do the march you can join the parade at Dawes Rd. and you do not need a uniform to march in the parade but please try and wear your pin on your clothes.

Our General meeting is November 8th at 8:00 pm. Remembrance Day is on a Saturday this year, I hope we can get more people out this year. Form up is at East York CI at 10:00 am with march off at 10:30 to the Civic Centre for the 11:00 am service. Again if you can't do the full parade you can fall in at the Civic Centre.

Our Bazaar is Saturday November 18th from 9 to 1. If you have things to donate please coordinate with me as we have limited space to store things. I will be asking at the October and the November meetings for volunteers to come out and help. This is our biggest fund raising event so please make it successful. Tickets will be available by the October General Meeting. They will be 3 for \$2.00 again this year and we have several gift baskets and gifts to give away. All donations for the gift baskets are greatly appreciated.

I would like to wish everyone and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Yours in comradeship

Nancy McKnight

LA President

Dear Branch 11 members & friends.

I would like to thank the Branch for having a retirement party for me on August 10th. I enjoyed myself very much and I hope all members and friends did also.

Thanks to the many cards and gifts. Special thanks to Sandra and her committee for the supply of food.

Anne Bragan



Anne with husband Tom cutting her retirement cake

This year marks the centennial of the Battle of Passchendaele, which was part of the third Battle of Ypres. This battle started on July 31, 1917 and after months of fighting without any real gains, British General Sir Haig ordered Lieutenant-General Currie, commander of the Canadian Corps to capture Passchendaele.

Currie inspected the muddy battlefield and protested that the operation was impossible without heavy losses and he would not fight under the command of the Fifth Army. He was overruled, but came under the command of Second Army and so began careful and painstaking preparations for the attack. On October 26, 20,000 men behind a series of attacks under heavy fire as they inched their way from shell crater to shell crater. On October 30th with two British divisions, the Canadians began the assault on Passchendaele. They gained the outskirts of the ruined village during a violent rainstorm and for five days they held on in waist deep mud and exposed to a hail of jagged iron from German shelling.

General Currie estimated casualties of 16,000 by November 11th. The casualties were 16,654 of which 4,028 were killed.

My grandfather, James Andrew LeRoy was a private with the fourth division machine gun corps, who was at Passchendaele. He was one of the lucky ones who survived the war – which is why I am here!

James LeRoy

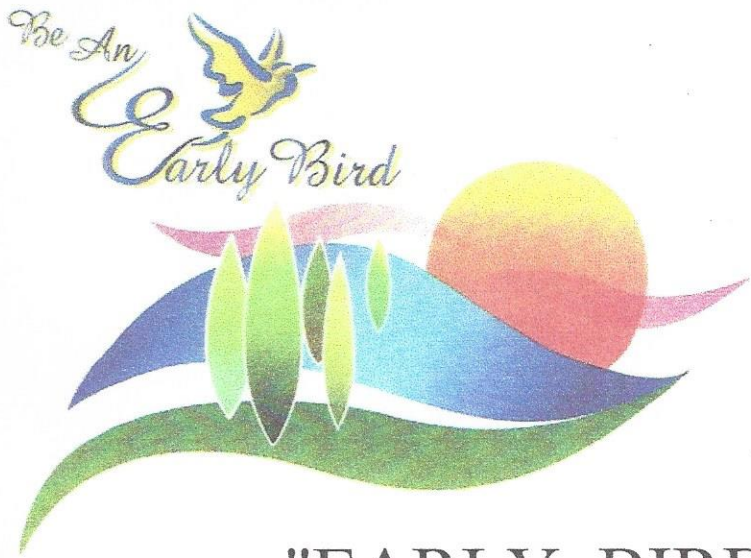


Veterans who came out for the opening ceremony of Legion Week.

Below the Ulster Accordion Band played at the opening of Legion Week



Photo in honour of - Bill Topham and Vi Kelly – You are missed by your Comrades and Friends at Branch 11



"EARLY BIRD DRAW"

For many years, we have had a draw for those who pay their membership dues before November 30th, of the current year. The draw is held at the December General Meeting and we draw four (4) names and these winners have their dues for the next calendar year paid for them by the Branch.

We attempt each year to get a renewal percentage of better than 60% and were very successful last year as many of you sent your dues in early, were part of the "Early Bird" campaign and our Branch received an acknowledgement that we attained a 70% renewal.

In order for us to attain this level again this year, we need YOUR help. We need you to pay your dues before November 30th so that we can send payment for your card to Ottawa to be recognized as an Early Bird. Please send or bring your dues of \$ 50.00 to the Branch: if mailing, your cheque must be received before November 30th; do not mail on the 30th and expect an Early Bird sticker or to be included in the draw.

As the cards are already in the Branch, if you pay your dues to a steward, your card will be behind the bar for pick up within the week. If mailing your cheque, you should receive your card within two (2) weeks. If possible when you mail your cheque, in order to save the Branch a few costs, please send a pre-addressed/ postage paid envelope for the return of your card. We would appreciate these small savings as each one helps our bottom line/general funds.

Cathy Cole

Cathy Cole
Membership Chair



MEMBERSHIP
RENEW TODAY!

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Honours & Awards Day 11:30 am	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 Karaoke	7 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Mickey & Mary
8	9 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	10	11 LA General meeting 8:00	12 Mixed darts 8:00	13 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers	14 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Silver wings
15 Oktoberfest Celebration & Dinner 12—7 PM Lloyd Young	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 Karaoke	21 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Al Jordan
22	23 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	24	25 LA Executive meeting 7:30	26 Mixed darts 8:00	27 Poppy Tagging begins Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers	28 Cadet Poppy tagging Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Frank Wilkes
29 Sunday Funday 2:00	30 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	31 Over 60 Club 1:15				

November 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 General Meeting 8:00	2 Mixed darts 8:00	3 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke	4 Cadet Poppy tagging Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Lloyd Young
5 Danforth Parade & service 1:00 form up. March off 1:30	6 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	7	8 LA General meeting 8:00	9 Mixed darts 8:00	10 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers	11 Remembrance Parade & Ser- vice. East York 11:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 David Wildsmith
12	13 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	14 Over 60 Club 1:15	15 Executive Meet- ing 7:30	16 Mixed darts 8:00	17 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke	18 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Tom Craig trio
19	20 Euchre Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	21	22 LA Executive meeting 7:30	23 Mixed darts 8:00	24 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers	25 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Silver Wings
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