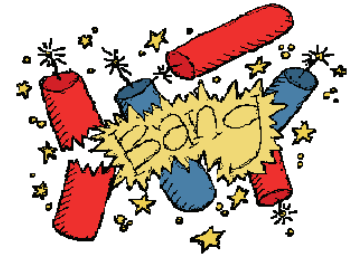


NEWS & VIEWS

APRIL/MAY 2016

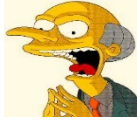


Helen Pearce, Youth Education Chair and Veteran Pieter Zuber
Attend Parkside School on Remembrance Day 2015



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

President's Report



Spring has sprung and once again it's election time. OOPS!! We do not have any nominations or elections this year, we have switched to a two year term and the next elections will be in May 2017.

You may have noticed that the Branch has been holding more Special Functions in the past year; this is needed to raise much needed revenue to keep the Branch afloat. If you have been participating, thank you. We need the members and their guests to come out and support the Branch.

If you have come out and not been satisfied let us know what was wrong, or if you have not come out tell us what you would enjoy having at the Branch that would be enjoyable for your guests and yourself.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that make this Branch function, everyone knows who these members are and we should be very thankful for their commitment and on-going help. I would like to thank Vi Kenny for taking the time and cleaning the Memorial Cross on the main floor and making it look great again and also Caroline Hanus for doing a great aerial acrobatics of changing light bulbs. Volunteers are always needed especially right now for the Saturday Meat Spin. If you can help out in any way around the Branch let us know.

The five year planning committee consists of Jeff Paulin as Chair, James Smith, Jack Riddell, Ed Kenny and I have been working hard for the last year. All the work we have done has been reported to the Branch members, Zone D3, District D and Ontario Command.

Ontario Command (Bruce Jullian Provincial Poppy Chairman and Dave Gordon Executive Director) have praised our plan and the direction that we are currently taking in rebuilding this Branch. The next step is the actual signing of a Non-Binding Letter of Intent; this has been approved by Ontario Command and will most likely have been signed before you have read this newsletter.

Now the negotiations begin. We will be forming up different committees to create several wish lists of what will be needed in a new Branch. The areas that need to be looked at may include some of the following. Clubroom sports area, social lounge, a room for artifacts, banquet and meeting hall including a smart room, kitchen, office space and storage areas. These are just

examples of the various areas we must be concerned with and the proper redevelopment and design.

We will be looking for volunteers to sit on these different committees, if you have any interest in this please contact me or leave a note for me in my box or contact Jeff directly.

The next steps we take after that will require a vote by the Membership of the Branch and then approval of Ontario Command.

Once again, just reminders, please come out to the Branch and support the various functions or events. The Branch is holding its own but still needs the support of its members and their guests. If you have any suggestions that you believe would interest you or make the Branch a better place to visit please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

John Dufort
President.

FEBRUARY 2016-MARCH 2016 "IN MEMORIUM" ORDINARY MEMBERS

HOUSE. Murray.

US Army Medical Corps. Service # RA9519419
Joined Branch 614, 2003

Transferred to Branch 11, 2010.

SNOWDON. Robert (Bob) R.C.R. 3rd Battalion
Service # SB20915

Joined Branch 11, 2009.

SWEENEY. Frank. Royal Regiment of Canada
Service # Reserves. Joined Branch 11, 1974

"At the going down of the sun, we will remember them."

Murray House will be missed by his daughter and especially by his granddaughter Lauren Gava. Many in the Branch have met Margaret and Lauren during our Youth Education contests, always working, running and helping Helen with her certificates.

Franck Sweeney was a regular fixture on Jean's casino trips with his daughter Sandra and in the Branch clubroom with his son and grandson. He was very proud of his Branch and enjoyed coming in and talking to other members and patrons.

Just a note of welcome from Branch 11 to the new members who recently joined or transferred to our Branch.

Robert Holmes, Thomas McGee, Patricia Merca, Sandra Southwood.

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

ST. JOHN'S NORWAY PARADE

The parade will be on the first Sunday in June, June 5th, 2016. Form up is at the usual place, the school on Kingston Rd. east of Woodbine. At 1:00 pm with march off at 1:30 to the service that begins at 2:00 pm at the cemetery. Final details will be posted in the Branch at a later date.

We would like to see as many marchers and spectators as possible out to support this important Remembrance parade and service. Branch 11 our own FRIENDLY BRANCH will be open after the parade for food and refreshments. Come out and enjoy.

Cathy Cole
Secretary

Legion Week

Spring has arrived and the ice storm and snow along with it. It doesn't look as bad as predicted so I will just look forward to the flowers that are breaking through the ground.

All is quiet for "Legion Week" at the moment and still looking forward to having a secure place for our collection of memorabilia. Hopefully April is when this should happen. We will be doing a fundraiser to enable us to bring the Hamilton Signal Corps, representing WWI back for the education of our students and guests. More info to follow.....

I would like to thank Gary Gale for always being so willing to help when it comes to helping to do something for the Branch, for veterans or students when I ask him. Kudos to you Gary.

June M. Smith
Immediate Past President
Legion Week Chair

Poppy



The Zone D3 Poppy meeting was held in March and after some discussions new boundaries were established, For Branch 11 this is significant as we will now be taking over a portion of Branch 1/42's old area, while retaining all our old area including the Don Mills which we are covering for Branch 22. We will again also most likely be asked to help out with tagging at both the Eaton Centre and maybe the Air Canada Centre as we did in 2015.

Our Poppy area now extends south from the present southern boundary the railway land south of Danforth Ave. to Woodbine Ave. The area has basically doubled in size. While most of this is residential, there are major

commercial and retail areas on Kingston and Queen streets that will need to be serviced with counter boxes and perhaps taggers. In addition the new area includes nine new schools.

While the good news is that we will probably see a major increase in the amount of money we collect in the Poppy Campaign there is a cost. This is going to require a lot of effort and much more work from our volunteers who I know are already stretched to the limit.

I have already started planning on how to deal with this increase. I will be in touch with my opposite number at Branch 1/42 to obtain any contact and other details on the schools and businesses we are now responsible for. After that I will conduct an in person visit to all stores, restaurants, businesses etc. over the summer to introduce myself and determine if they wish a counter box and/or have a space for taggers. When this is done I will have a realistic idea of both how many boxes, poppies and other supplies we will need and how many more people will be needed.

Hopefully our cadets will be able to help, and I am also looking at other groups. One of our new members, Mike Turner, is involved with a local Venture group in the new area and hopefully their knowledge and assistance will be made available to us.

Even with these two groups we are going to need more drivers to deliver and replenish counter boxes and more taggers and persons to sort and count the money as it comes in. Every one of us took an oath when we joined the Legion to actively participate in the Poppy Campaign. I am asking all who are able to do so and remember that oath next October and November. Every little bit helps.

R. James Smith
Poppy Chair

An army sergeant made a new recruit sweep all the sunshine off the sidewalk. It took the poor guy all day to do it.

Ways & Means



We had Sunday funday on March 20th. Where was everybody?

I was there by myself along with the bar steward, the cook Wayne, the entertainer and Joan Gray.

Be forewarned, I am not in the business of running Sunday fundays without any support from our members

Our next Sunday funday is April 24th with Al Jordan entertaining and May 29th when the Ulster Accordion Band will be back to entertain.

Bill Topham

Ways & Means Chair

Building



Yes, spring has sprung and once again our property and gardens will be needing some tender loving care. I am looking for a couple of members who enjoy gardening and some others who don't mind getting a little dirty and doing a bit of clean-up.

5 year planning committee

Thanks to your support, Ontario Command has given us the go ahead to sign the non-binding letter of intent. Now the real work begins, to create and build the greatest Royal Canadian Legion Branch. Please look at the President's message and join one of the committees of your area of interest. We need your ideas of what this Branch needs to look like or have provide you with for a successful future of the Branch.

The Swear Jar

As we all know profanity (swearing) is not permitted in the Branch, it shows disrespect of the Branch and our fellow members, but sometimes stuff happens and not meaning any disrespect, we let things slip, that slip will now cost you \$1.00. In conversation with Sandra Durham and a few others, I agreed to put the request forward to the Executive that we implement the swear jar. It was unanimously approved by the Executive members in attendance. The only question was who will enforce this. I had said those of us enforcing now will continue, which should be all of us. The jar is currently in place, it does however require the blessing of the membership. We will be looking for your support at the next General Meeting on April 6th, we will also need to decide on where the profanity proceeds are going, looking forward to your ideas.

I just lost my virginity at 58.

On Friday March 11th I lost my karaoke virginity on Branch 11's second karaoke night. It didn't hurt that much, not as much as I feared it would. It probably was the worse rendition of "Sweet Caroline" anyone ever

heard, but I got to check karaoke off my bucket list. What a great time by everyone, the place was packed. What an entreating evening. Thank you Karen Boudreault for hosting this new and ongoing by-weekly event. Thank you Sandra Durham for pushing the Branch into trying Karaoke again and finding the licenced Karaoke entertainer. Next Karaoke Friday April 8th 8:00-12:00

Jeff Paulin

Building Chair

The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire.

Veterans Service Officer

At the Service Officer seminar held in Aurora many new ideas were discussed on how we as a Legion can better help and serve our Veterans. One idea is what should happen with the Veterans Wing at Sunnybrook.

At present the agreement with Government of Canada is that when the last WW2 or Korean War Vet passes away that entire facility will cease to be a Veterans Hospital and Sunnybrook can then be used as they best see fit.

The Veterans Wing at Sunnybrook, as many who have visited it are aware, is an excellent facility where those who have served this country can stay in comfort and dignity during their sunset years. Few want to give up their homes and live in a hospital or long care facility, however for those who have no other options this is the best choice available to them.

One of the reasons it is such a state of the art facility is the time, effort and money that the Royal Canadian Legion has invested in it. That time, effort and money was for our Veteran Community and under present agreement that someday in the future will no longer be the case.

We presently have in access of 500,000 Veterans who served after the Korean War ended. They served in the Cold War, The Persian Gulf War, various UN and NATO Peacekeeping and Peace Enforcement Missions around the world, in Afghanistan and Libya and now Iraq. When the time comes for some of them to enter a long term care facility, where will they who also served this country go if Sunnybrook, is no longer open and available to them.

It was decided at the Service Officer seminar that we as Legion members should do something about this. The decision was made to start a letter writing campaign to our Members of Parliament asking them to reconsider this decision and keep Sunnybrook a Veterans Hospital for present and future generations of Veterans so that they too can enjoy a modicum of dignity and care.

I will be posting both in the clubroom and on the Branch website and Facebook page the letter and encouraging all members of Branch 11 to copy it, sign and send it to their respective Members of Parliament.

Lest we forget.

R. James Smith
Veterans Service Officer

Sick



Hello Comrades,

Ellen Swing is home recuperating from surgery. Ellen is looking forward to getting back in the swing of things, Elsie Prosser is in Providence Health Care Center. Visitors welcome.

Sheila Hadden is at Harmony Hills Nursing home, 1800 O'Connor Drive. Visitors welcome.

Pat Collie is also at Harmony Hills Nursing Home. Visitors welcome.

I have no new information on Brian Nichols. He was in East General and is now at home awaiting more tests.

Tom Chiasson is looking well. When he finishes his special medication he will be going for radiation. Tom was very pleased on getting the pin that commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Korean War.

Don Manley is in hospital again, maybe for only a few days, I'll keep you informed.

Victoria Armstrong had surgery at St. Mikes, no info as yet.

Florence Hope had eye surgery. Everything seems okay.

Donna Grumbley was back in hospital again this week. Our thoughts are with her.

John Dufort has had a terrible few months. He has been in and out of East General with heart arethmia. He has had a full day of extensive tests. No results so far.

Sheila O'Connell fell a few months ago and has a compression fracture to her back. Sheila is still not able to get around very much. She will be going for more x-rays.

Joe Fournier is back at the Branch.

It was great to see David McFarland at the Ulster dance.

Bud McColgan is home from Scarborough General. He is very happy to be at home with Carol and very pleased with all the support he received from his comrades.

Lorraine Stanich is home from Kennedy Lodge. She was there 3 months with a broken foot but took another spill this March, nothing broken this time.

Yours in comradeship.

Joyce Haden
Sick Chair

Youth Education



Public Speaking set up Feb. 20th – thanks to June & Doug Smith, Elsie Higgins, Gord Pearce, Daniel Caster, Jack Riddell.

PS Contest Feb. 21st – With the help of the following people the contest ran smoothly and 23 students did their bit with fascinating and thought provoking speeches. We all can learn from these youngsters! Kudos to **Registrars** Gay & Jim Fowler; **Sgt-at-Arms** Joy White and her Colour Party Anne Davis, Joan Gray, Karen & Nicole Boudreault; **Acting President** 1st V-P James Smith; **Time Keepers** Joe Calderone & June Smith; **Judges** Jill Grief, Robert Maygar, Farhana Ali & Blaise Power; **Runner** Daniel Caster; **Caligrapher** Michele Harrison; **Scrutineers** Rehana Ali, Doug Smith & Todd Harrison; **Over all Volunteer** Elsie Higgins and last but not least **LA** over the 2 day period Helen Small, Cindy LeRoy, Eunice Francis, Nancy McKnight, Jean Whynot – LA provided the hot dogs and Jean the sweets which were inhaled by the students while waiting for the winning results. Gift Bags were handed out to all the students who competed - thanks to all who donated items to those bags.

Mar. 9th was invited to an Ajax School's History Fair and attended along with June & Doug Smith. Doug was good enough to loan his air force uniform to one of the students who had chosen Billy Bishop as his Canadian Hero. Jim Fowler from Ajax Branch 322 was good enough to pick up and deliver the uniform to the school and attended both the a.m. and p.m. session as well as ensuring we arrived there safely for the afternoon

session. The teacher who organized the fair is obviously a dedicated History Teacher. All of the students did their presentations without notes – all you politicians out there watch out! On that same day I had also been invited to act as a Judge at Howlett Academy for their very first Public Speaking Contest. As I couldn't be in two cities at the same time my thanks to John Holoway (Zone D3 YE), Cathy Geary (Zone D3 PRO & District D Secretary) and Walter Vaughan (Zone D3 Commander) were good enough to attend on my behalf – all 3 have been very involved in the Legion's YE programs for years plus the 4 of us as a group have gone into schools and Heritage Fairs for several years now. It is called "great team work – working together to promote the Legion".

Next up April 8th & 9th – Branch 11 is the host Branch this year for the District D Public Speaking Contest. I have been assisting District D YE Sheila Harris in co-ordinating this event. I have people volunteering for both days along with our LA to keep us nourished. As well 2 of our local politicians will be there – MPP Arthur Potts and Councillor Janet Davis. Anyone interested in attending to hear these students please arrive before the opening ceremony which takes place at 1:00 p.m. There will be 3 competitors from Zone D1, 4 from Zone D3, 4 from Zone D5. Our Branch 11 Senior will be one of the competitors. District D YE is responsible for giving out the District, Provincial Remembrance Awards so both Sheila and I have invited several Veterans to do the honours.

Final remarks "Youth Education is one of the Legion's tools for educating the youth in the community".

Helen D. Pearce

Youth Education Chairperson



Doug Smith and student Afraz Baig dressed as his hero Billy Bishop in Doug's old Air Force uniform.

Clubroom Entertainment



Everyone is welcome to our Saturday night entertainment in the clubroom. It begins at 8:00 and runs until Midnight. We have great music and a good atmosphere. Please check the calendar at the back for our list of entertainers.

Tom Bragan

Clubroom Entertainment Chair

Over 60 Club



The Over 60 Club meets every second Tuesday and our next meeting is April 5th at 1:15 pm.

I would remind all who have not paid their dues for 2016 Over 60 Club they are now due and are \$20.00.

Check the calendar at the back of this newsletter for dates of our coming meetings.

Tom Bragan

Over 60 Club Chair

Special Functions



Karaoke: Friday March 11 2016 8:00 pm to 12:00 am. A SPECIAL THANKS goes out to Sandra Durham for her support in making this night so FANTASTIC! She posted this event on Facebook and spread the word making everyone aware. A big Heartfelt Thanks to my family and friends for being so supportive to me. I would like to thank John Dufort for posting it on the Legion websites.

We had an amazing turnout for our second Friday Karaoke We all had a great time singing dancing and laughing. Our next Karaoke will be on Friday April 8th. I hope we will continue to spread the word so this night

can be just as or more profitable. Thank you all that attended. Looking forward to another FANTASTIC evening.

St. Patrick's Day: Sunday March 13, 2016 in the clubroom. We had a small turnout for our St. Paddies Day celebration but all that attended had a nice time. We chatted, sang, listened to music played by Lloyd Young and filled our bellies. The highlight of our afternoon was the 'HONOUR' of listening to the Ulster Band and watching the WONDERFUL' Irish dancers perform. I would like to thank everyone who supported this event by preparing and donating food, Anne Davis, Joyce Haden, Helen Pearce, Helen Small, Sandra Durham, Charlie Silson, Doug Smith, Vi Kelly and Doris Goobie. Donating prizes, Vi Kelly, Cathy Cole and Jean Whynot and volunteering their time, Helen Small, Lisa Small and Nicole Boudreault. However let us not forget the most welcomed volunteer of all, George Small for being our bar steward. Congratulations to Jeff Paulin on winning the donation draw. It is with great pleasure that I inform you, Jeff has decided to donate his winnings to June Smith to help raise funds for her to bring the Hamilton Signal Corps for our Legion Week. Thanks to all who came out and supported us.

Yours in comradeship.

Karen Boudreault

Special Functions Chair

Sports



Andrew Drummond came in 2nd at District Senior darts and will play at Provincial on April 16th at Branch 582 Mississagua.

Andrew Drummond, Cliff Withey, Robert Fraiser and Glen Rose will also play at Provincial at Branch 582 in April. Good Luck.

We have one euchre team that advanced to Provincial level and they are, Dave Ferron, Diane Bethune, Laura Groome and Eunice Francis. They will be going to Angus Branch 499 on May 7th. Good Luck.

Branch 11 sports are here to stay.

Signup sheets are in the clubroom for horse shoes, washer toss, darts and golf.

Paul Stone

Sports Chair

While in the mid-east shortly before deployed to Iraq, a Major General told our meeting that we should expect to cross "into Iraq in less than 24 hours." He then opened the floor for questions.

A Lieutenant stood up and asked, "Is that 24 hours our time or 24 hours their time?"

Ladies Auxiliary



I hope everyone had a happy Easter and the Easter Bunny was good to you.

We have had a couple of busy months. We had two teams go on to District cribbage and one team placed and are going on to Provincial in June. Congratulations ladies and good luck. We had three teams going on to Provincial euchre in Woodstock and one team took the gold. Congratulations to them, the plaque will be hung on the ladies wall in the clubroom.

We will be having our elections at the April 13th meeting which will start at 7:30 sharp.

Our annual Zone convention is being held at Branch 614 on May 1st, registration is at 12:00 and the meeting is at 1:00 pm. Thus is an election year.

The Sunnybrook social will be on May 28th we will leave the Branch between 12:30-12:45 pm for anyone wishing to come.

June 5th is the St. John's Norway parade, form up is at Norway School at 1:00 and march off is at 1:30 pm.

The L.A. Birthday luncheon will take place on June 12th. Tickets will be available by the May meeting.

We will be having our Annual Garage Sale on July 9th so if you are cleaning up, think of us and save it for our sale.

I would like to thank everyone for their support over the past year and hope that we continue to work side by side with the Branch. Remember if you can help with a function please let Cindy LeRoy or Helen Small know.

Yours in comradeship

Nancy McKnight

LA President

L.A. Sports



Well Ladies I would like to congratulate the ladies who went on to play Provincial euchre on March 19th in

Wood stock. We had three teams go and the ladies of Branch 11 came in first. Cindy LeRoy, Nancy McKnight, Molly Bakalar and Lis Horley-McLeod.

We now have a team going on to Provincial cribbage on June 4th at Branch 258. Eunice Francis, Helen Small, Shirley Duval and Ann Breen.

There will be notice on the Ladies board over the summer for anyone interested in playing Ladies Zone Sports.

Helen Small

Acting Sports Officer

April 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 Open Mike Jam- mers 9:00	2 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Mickey and Mary
3	4 Euchre. Main floor 7:15 Men's darts 8:00	5 Over 60 Club 1:15	6 General meeting 8:00	7	8 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 8:00	9 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Silver Wings
10	11 Euchre. Main floor 7:15	12	13 LA General meeting 7:30 Elections	14	15 Open Mike Jam- mers 9:00	16 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 L. Thomas Mor- gan
17	18 Euchre. Main floor 7:15	19 Over 60 Club 1:15	20 Executive meet- ing 7:30	21	22 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 8:00	23 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Al Jordan
24 Sunday funday 2:00 Al Jordan	25 Euchre. Main floor 7:15	26	27 LA Executive 7:30	28	29 Open Mike Jam- mers 9:00	30 Meat Spin 3:00 Mixed darts banquet Main floor 600 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dickenson

May 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3 Over 60 Club 1:15	4 General meeting 8:00	5	6 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 8:00	7 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Lloyd Young
8	9	10	11 LA General meeting 8:00	12	13 Open Mike Jam- mers 9:00	14 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 SeaBreeze
15	16	17 Over 60 Club 1:15	18 Executive meet- ing 7:30	19	20 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 8:00	21 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dunn
22	23 Victoria Day	24	25 LA Executive 7:30	26	27 Open Mike Jam- mers 9:00	28 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Mickey & Mary
29 Sunday funday 2:00 Ulster Accordion Band	30	31 Over 60 Club 1:15				