

News & Views

August/September 2015



Br 11, Royal Canadian Legion
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President's Message



Hello Comrades and all,

Well the summer is shaping up to be a good one. I hope that you and your family are enjoying and having a great summer.

We have had two parades so far this year, St John's Norway and Canada Day, these were both attended by our usual Branch members but we could always use more to fill the ranks. Don't forget that the next parade is Warriors Day, August 22nd, the buses will leave the Branch at 9:00 am SHARP. Hopefully the weather will be nice and again the parade will be in summer dress. I ask you to bring your blazer just in case it is needed. Remember, white short sleeved shirt with the Legion crest on the left shirt pocket. Tie and beret, no medals, just your ribbons.

Canada Day at the Branch, what can I say except "**Wasn't that a party**" **WOW!!** This was amazing how we tried something different last year and about twelve children enjoyed the day as compared to this year when we had almost seventy children. The Branch was packed both inside and out for most of the day. My hat goes off to Jacque and Dillon for working on the BBQ all day, also not to mention Susan and her team (Helen Small, Cindy, Cathy, Joyce). Amber did a wonderful job with face painting all day...hopefully next year we can have two painters. Amanda and Jean were working their a—s off all day behind the bar as well as all the volunteers that worked this function. You guys are the best and if I missed mentioning anybody I apologize but everyone that was at the Branch knows who you are and you all deserve a pat on the back and a huge thank you. This was a Community Day function and the community came out and enjoyed the day with us, and I believe that five visitors asked for applications to join the Branch, I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

The key to running this Branch is to have all the members participate in the functions and activities that are planned now and in the future. (We are always looking for suggestions) This is your Branch, you are the one that chose to join Branch 11 and we need it to be working the best that we can so you the member get the most out of your Branch from services that are available to you or just for the social aspect and the comradeship of belonging to

this Branch. Please attend the General meetings and tell us what you would like to see happen with your Branch and if that's not possible send me an e-mail or leave me a note or ask me to call you, it's that simple.

The other key aspect to the running of this Branch is **VOLUNTEERING** this is a function that is needed most desperately at the Branch. It seems that most of the same people do all the work for the benefit of others. **THIS IS YOUR BRANCH AND WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO RUN MOST FUNCTIONS THAT ARE HELD AT THE BRANCH.** This will benefit the Branch and all of us as a whole that are members of the Branch. Once again I can only say that the volunteers that helped prepare for and gave up their time on Canada Day made the day really worthwhile and this goes to show you and me that it can be done if we all pull together.

On August 2nd the Branch will be once again having a "**Rib Fest Dinner**" and on September 6th we will once again be having a "**B.B.Q. Corn roast**" Please come out and have a great meal, meet some of your friends, bring your family, friends, neighbours, and lets have a good time. Enjoy the rest of the summer and keep safe.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR BRANCH...BRANCH 11 THE "FRIENDLY BRANCH"

Yours in comradeship

John N. Dufort
President

JUNE-JULY 2015
"IN MEMORIUM"
ORDINARY MEMBERS

VANNOT, James (Jim) Signal Corp Service # L100023
Joined Branch 10, 1970 transferred to Branch 11, 1972

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

Our deepest sympathy to the members of his family.

Just a note of welcome from Branch 11 to the new members who have joined or transferred into our Branch since the last newsletter.

Amanda Creba, Greg Grant, Maryellen Johnston, David Reeves, Cindy Sammut and Bill Voth.

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

PARADES

Warrior's Day Parade is on Saturday August 22nd. There will be three buses again this year to take marchers, band

members and supporters to the Exhibition grounds. As form up is at 10:00 am and march off at 10:30 we will be leaving the Branch at 9:00 am sharp. The parade route is going to be the same as last year and there will be bleachers set up in front of the old Automobile building for you to watch the parade if you can't participate in it. The participants in the parade are becoming fewer and fewer each year and they need as much support as we can give them. Please keep in mind that the buses leave at a specific time to return to the Branch and if you miss the last bus (1:00pm) you will need to take the TTC back as we can't wait for you.

Cathy Cole
Secretary

HONOURS AND AWARDS DAY: SUNDAY
OCTOBER 4TH 2015

On Sunday October 4th from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm, we will be having our annual Honours & Awards Day. Please mark this date on your calendar. The format for this special day is an afternoon function with a luncheon for members and other people receiving awards. After the luncheon and presentations are finished the clubroom will be open if you want to stay and enjoy entertainment downstairs. Letters to members receiving recognition for their length of service, for their help in the Branch or community as well as non-members who have helped us in many ways, will be sent in August and there will be tickets available (for a nominal fee) for members and their guests who would like to attend this great day. For the last couple of years, we have sent invitations to and included the Veterans who would have been recognized and invited to and included and invited to our Annual Veteran's Dinner which used to be held on November 11th each year. Due to the decrease in Veterans' numbers, they are now recognized at this luncheon. Don't forget, this is a fun day, as we will be having the luncheon, presentations and then an open house with entertainment in the clubroom. You will definitely enjoy yourself if you decide to come.

Joe Calderone
Chairman, Honours & Awards Committee

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Information for all voting Branch: members:

In our House Rules, all participants in any Branch sport at the District level are entitled to lunch money in the amount of \$10.00. Several of our sports competitors, due to the decrease in and/or lack of sport funds, would like to

change/cancel this payment but as it is a House Rule, it can only be changed by a motion and all voting members need to be advised that there is a motion put to the floor. This is your notice.

At the General Meeting on September 2, 2015 a motion will be presented to the floor for approval of one of three options: cancel the payment completely, change the payment to \$5.00 per player, or leave unchanged at \$10.00 per player.

If you want any input into this important change or any discussion about the motion, you must be at the meeting to speak for or against any part of the motion(s) and **you must be in attendance** to vote. Hope we have a large turnout of voting members as this motion will affect even the members who do not play sports; the payments come out of sport dollars and if there isn't enough money in the sports fund, the Branch's general funds have to cover any deficit because the payment is currently in the House Rules.

Cathy Cole
Secretary

1st Vice President

First of all, thank you to all who came out and supported the Branch's Canada Day celebration. It was a great success and I don't think I've ever seen that many people at the Branch at any one time. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and I was impressed by the willingness of so many who stepped up and volunteered to make sure things ran smoothly, flipping burgers, direction traffic, selling tickets and/or getting wet in the dunk tank, too many to mention by name so a heartfelt thank you to all of you. The icing on the cake is that at the end of it all we even made some money, which the Branch can certainly use.

There are more events planned throughout the summer, so let's try and make them as much a success as this one was, raise more money and more importantly have a good time at our Branch.

The Canada Day Parade was sadly, not as well attended as it could have been as was the case for the two other Branches also present. Therefore the decision was made to march massed rather than as separate Branches. If the numbers continue to decline, this may be the case for future parades as well.

For those members who used to come out to parade but for whatever reasons have stopped, but are still able to do so, please consider returning. We need you and it is an important way for the Legion and Branch 11 to remain visible in our community.

For those members who have never been on parade with the Branch, why not consider it. If not knowing how to

march, or not having a set of Blues & Grays is what has been stopping you, let us know. Marching is easy to learn and there are plenty of members who can assist the Sgt-at-Arms in showing you the basics. Likewise obtaining Legion Dress or Blues & Grays isn't that hard or really expensive, and again there are plenty of members who can help you in what to buy and how to wear it.

Hopefully we will see plenty of new members for Warrior's Day this year.

James Smith CD
1st Vice President

Legion Week

Kudos to all who worked so hard on Canada Day to bring all the people together for a fun time. Susan and her committee did a wonderful job along with the volunteers.

LEGION WEEK is fast approaching and we are still looking for volunteers to turn their names in for helping with the dismantling on Friday Sept. 25th, after 3:00 pm. We must be all cleared up by 7:30. I will have a list posted in the clubroom and if you can give us any time to help, it would be greatly appreciated. On a positive note, we are extending an invitation for all to come and view the wonderful collections and interesting memorabilia that has been collected on loan to us. Take time and share the history of our country and mementos that are on view. Bring a friend and share a cold one in our clubroom afterwards. We have so much to be thankful for.

If you would like to volunteer for any evening hours from five to eight to host anyone coming in please see Helen Pearce or myself. Again we are expecting great things from the Hamilton Signal Corps and you can come and play in our trench and see how communications was transmitted during WW1.

If you have any thoughts to help us improve our displays or ideas we are open to listening. If you would like poster handouts we will have them available shortly for you.

Remember this is OUR Legion and we need to continue to work together to keep it a fun and nice place to come to.

Have fun with what is left of the summer weather and enjoy our patio.

June M. Smith
Immediate Past President
Legion Week Chair

Ways & Means



Well hello folks,

I hope everyone is enjoying this nice summer weather.

On Sunday funday August 30th Bill Dickenson will entertain.

The next Sunday funday is September 30th and the Ulster Accordion Band will be here to entertain. Please come out and support the Branch and have some fun.

Bill Topham
Ways & Means Chair

Poppy



The middle of the summer is not the time one normally thinks about our Poppy campaign. However maybe because my front garden has poppies in bloom now, I am.

I will be meeting with the rest of the Poppy Committee in the next few weeks and begin planning for November, because it always seems summer ends far too soon and fall will soon be upon us.

We've had success the past few years with our efforts and I hope to build on this for 2015. The money we raise is important and we can always find a use for more. So, I will be counting on all our Branch members that can support the campaign as taggers, drivers, counters and/or in whatever way you can when the time comes.

Finally if you know of anyone, a local veteran either a Legion member or not who may need financial assistance from the fund, please have them get in touch with me. That is what it is for.

R. James Smith CD
Poppy Chair

Over 60 Club



Are you interested in joining the club? Talk to me.

Our meeting dates for the next two months are: August 4th and the 18th, For September, Sept. 1st, Sept. 15th and Sept. 29th.

Tom Bragan
Over 60 Club Chair

Veterans Service

Just a quick update for the summer. Of late it seems I'm not too busy in this role, which I guess is a good thing. For the last while most requests I've received as service officer seems to have to do researching medals and military

service records for members and there is nothing wrong with that. In fact some of the research has been both challenging and enjoyable.

Just as a reminder though, I'm here for any and all Veterans and their immediate families, survivors. Should you need something or have questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. Give me a call or leave a message with the steward in the clubroom.

Finally I have a request from a graduate student who is looking to interview Second World War Veterans for his Master's Thesis. If anyone is interested let me know and I'll arrange for him to contact you.

R. James Smith
Service Officer

Clubroom Entertainment



We have live music every Saturday night in the clubroom. The music and dancing begins at 8:00 until midnight. Come out and enjoy.

Tom Bragan
Clubroom Entertainment Chair

Walkathon



This year's walk-a-thon will be held on September 19th. More information and pledge sheets will be out soon. Watch the clubroom bulletin board and the Branch Facebook for details. I plan on walking, who's going with me?

Jeff Paulin
Walkathon Chair

Special Functions



July 1st was a tremendous turnout for Canada Day. THANKS goes out to all the Special Functions committee and all the volunteers and "voluntolds" too many names to mention, you know who you are. I thank you so much.

We came together as a team and put on one heck of a day that was enjoyed by all. There were more children out this year and this was awesome to see. The Branch needed your support and you came out in your red and white and made the day a SUCCESS.

Mark Sunday August, 2nd on your calendar as our 3rd annual Rib Fest is fast approaching. Tickets are on sale for the meal at \$12.00 each at the clubroom bar. Music, prizes and fun is awaiting you.

Also mark on your calendar Sunday September 6th for a corn roast and shish-ke-bob also at \$12.00 per person. New entertainment coming in. Come check out the sounds. Prizes are to be won on this day as well. Above all come out and help support your Branch.

Susan Squires
Special Functions Chair

Youth Education



Well school is out but already have a new school booked to attend Legion Week so an SOS to all Legion teachers, grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts and cousins etc. please pass the message along to the schools, parent associations, and libraries etc. in your area about Branch 11's great Legion Week learning experience for our youngsters September 21st to 25th this year. As there is a threat of a strike from the TDSB school system (the above school is a private school) I am really concerned the union won't allow the teachers this important visit to Legion Week. But if we can get the parents and the parents associations on board ahead of time perhaps a special visit can be arranged. I am truly hoping a strike doesn't happen.

In the meantime, District YE Chair Sheila Harris has scheduled a workshop for Sunday, August 30th to be held at Branch 617, start time 10:00 a.m. Anyone wishing to learn and be involved in the Legion's YE programs please contact me as **soon as possible** at either 416-690-6388 or email helendpearce@rogers.com so Comrade Sheila can let the Branch know the number of attendees. It is truly a very worthwhile and rewarding experience.

Helen D. Pearce
Youth Education Chair

Sick



Hello Comrades,

Sheila Hadden still is in East General Hospital. Her son Stephen is trying to get her into a nursing home. When I visited her last week she was doing okay.

It was great to see Rose Mooney have a night out at the Branch with her family. When I visited John in the secure unit at Providence he looked fantastic. There are times when John still knows Rose and that's good news.

Joe Lake is still having therapy after breaking his hip. When I visited him last week he was in a great mood, he was the same smiling Joe.

Gwen unfortunately has had a few tumbles and is doing okay now. Gwen is a strong lady, I wish her well.

Charles Dobson is hard to catch, he is always walking. Charles is in the secure unit at Sunnybrook and very seldom sits still, obviously he is in great physical shape.

Brian Topham will be going into hospital July 21st. Bill will keep me informed.

Edie Neal is about the same. She is in Leisureworld on Midland.

Robert Snowdon gets around very well in his wheelchair. He's at Craiglee Nursing home.

It was great to see Barb Olindo on Canada Day also out were Doris and Myer Goobie.

Jim LeRoy shared his good news. Now he has to get through his next tests on July 29th.

On a sadder note, Ellen Zimm passed away on July 9th. Fraser, Jane and her family were with her at the end. There was a private service on July 17th and a wake was held in the clubroom July 18th, she will be missed.

Enjoy the rest of the summer comrades.

Joyce Haden

Sick Chair

AED/CPR FIRST RESPONDERS

On Saturday, July 25th, 2015 the following people received their First Responders' Certification. Re-certification will take place July 2017. I would like to thank Cindy LeRoy and Helen Small for providing Coffee, Tea, juice, water, snacks along with my fruit tray to sustain us all, including the instructor during our training. Please note the people with an asterisk beside their name took their training previously at a different location and are certified to 2016: *Amada Creba, Anne Bragan, Anne Davis, Christine Crichton, Cindy LeRoy, *Eunice Francis, *George Small, Helen Pearce, Helen Small, Jack Riddell, Jean Whynot, Jim LeRoy, John Dufort, Joyce Haden, Joy White, Rick Anderson, Shirley Caster, Tom Bragan. I will be posting this list both on the Board beside the men's washroom and beside the defibrillator located just outside the club room leading up to the main floor.

Helen D. Pearce
Site Co-Ordinator

Ladies Auxiliary



As I write this I am in France on the Legion Pilgrim of Remembrance. I must tell you I have learned quite a bit of "unknown" facts about D-Day and the months leading up to Dieppe and Normandy. We have actually met people that lived through the devastation and at one town the Mayor came running out to meet us to show us a school that has a dedication to one of our soldiers. It shines a whole new light on Remembrance and why the people over here love us so much.

As for back at home we had our Birthday Luncheon in June with a beautiful roast beef dinner prepared for by our chef Dave. I would like to thank Dave Ferron for cooking, Jack Riddell and George Bricknell our two "Voluntolds" and the Branch executives Jeff Paulin, Bill Topham, Gord Pearce, Anne Davis, Susan Squires for the great job of serving and cleaning up and Jim LeRoy for the bar. If I have missed anyone I apologize but it is so nice to be served for a change.

We had our garage sale on June 27th, we did pretty good considering it was raining. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped and especially the few who stayed and helped clean up. There isn't anything coming up in August for the ladies but there is Warriors Day and the Rib Fest dinner, please come out and support your Branch. September brings many things, we have LA euchre and board games. I must apologize, I don't have my calendar with me, so I can't give you dates. Please see Helen Small or Cindy LeRoy for dates and let them know if you can spare some time to help.

Our Bazaar is in November so keep that in mind if you are cleaning out anything, save it for November. Also if you have any prizes to donate to our draw please let me know as tickets need to be printed by September.

I will be back on the 26th and I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer and see you all at our first general meeting September 9th. The executive will be the last Wednesday in August.

Yours in comradeship

Nancy McKnight

L.A. President

August 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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|---|----|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 Clubroom entertainment 8:00 Lloyd Young |
| 2 Rib Fest 2:00 | 3 | 4 Over 60 Club 1:15 | 5 | 6 Mixed dart playoffs 8:00 | 7 Open Mike jammers 9:00 | 8 Clubroom entertainment 8:00 Bill Dunn |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Blind draw darts 7:30 | 15 Mixed Dart banquet 6:00 Clubroom entertainment 8:00 Gary Peters |
| 16 | 17 | 18 Over 60 Club 1:15 Executive meeting 7:30 | 19 | 20 | 21 Open Mike jammers 9:00 | 22 Clubroom entertainment 8:00 Mickey & Mary |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 LA Executive 7:30 | 27 | 28 Blind draw darts 7:30 | 29 Clubroom entertainment 8:00 Bill Dickenson |
| 30 Sunday funday 2:00 Bill Dickenson | 31 | | | | | |

September 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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|--|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | 1 Over 60 Club 1:15 | 2 General meeting 8:00 | 3 Mixd darts meet- ing 8:00 | 4 Open mike Jammers 9:00 | 5 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Silver Wings |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 LA General meeting 8:00 | 10 Mixed darts 8:00 | 11 Blind draw darts 7:30 | 12 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Al Jordon |
| 13 | 14 Men's Darts 8:00 | 15 Over 60 Club 1:15 | 16 Executive meet- ing 7:30 | 17 Mixed darts 8:00 | 18 Open mike Jammers 9:00 | 19 Walkathon Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Lindsay Thomas Morgan |
| 20 Legion Week begins. Main floor | 21 Men's Darts 8:00 | 22 | 23 LA Executive 7:3.0 | 24 Mixed darts 8:00 | 25 Blind draw darts 7:30 | 26 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Seabreeze |
| 27 Sunday funday 2:00 Ulster band | 28 Men's Darts 8:00 | 29 Over 60 Club 1:15 | 30 | | | |