

# News & Views

February/March 2018



Recipients of Poppy certificates at the Poppy Luncheon



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**President's Report**



For the past two years I have written and I can only emphasize this again, *“We are looking forward to another busy year of special functions as well as our other normal activities at the Branch. I know to some of our members it always seems we are always trying to pick your pockets, but the truth of the matter is that we are. This Branch needs all the support on this aging building.”*

Well, the same can be applied to this year, we have been turning the corner very slowly and cautiously. We have managed to keep some money in the bank and the bills are all paid. We at Branch 11 cannot let our guard down; we must watch every dollar and make sure that it is spent wisely because you never know when we will have a major expense. This past year alone we have had two hefty expenses. But on the other hand and with the help of volunteers plus the help from those who are building behind us the Branch managed to save on a couple of expensive repairs.

Again I would like to thank all of you, the Executive, the staff and all volunteers, but especially all the members, their families and friends that come out to support our Branch. I can only ask you to keep coming out. I would also like to ask those that do come out to the Branch on a regular basis to also let us know what we can do to have you come out to the Branch more frequently. If you have any suggestions please do not hesitate in sharing those with the Executive, place a note in the suggestion box, leave a note for me at the clubroom bar or even better, come out to the General Meetings, get involved and let us know what you would like.

The five year planning committee has been working very hard over the past year to look at every aspect possible in making this Branch viable in East Toronto, to be here for the next generation of Legionnaires, Veterans and providing support for our community. The committee members are: Jeff Paulin, Jack Riddell, Ed Kenny, Joyce Haden, Cathy Cole, Chris Ostiguy and myself. We have been working hard to obtain the best deal for Branch 11 and its members as well as our connection to the community. The hard work of this committee should be applauded, but you as members of the Branch will be the ultimate decision makers of which direction Branch 11 will take in the future. I'm sure that the chair of this

committee, Jeff Paulin will have something more to say about this in his portion of the News & Views.

Thanks again for all the hard work and support from all and let's have another productive year.

Yours in Comradeship

**John Dufort**

**President**

DECEMBER 2017-JANUARY 2018

“IN MEMORIUM”

ORDINARY MEMBERS

PENNIE, Douglas RAF Service # 2708149

Originally joined Branch 11 1972, moved out west and rejoined Branch 11 in 2013.

“At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them”

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

BETHUNE Diane Joined Branch 11 September 1984

CROMWELL Lisa (Beatrice) Joined Branch 10 February 1992, transferred to Branch 11 2002

Our deepest sympathy to the members of all these families who have recently lost loved ones.

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**CATHY COLE-MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

**EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN WINNERS**

The 4 winners to have their 2018 dues paid by the Branch are: Bruce Brown, John Chafe, Charlotte Kerr and Dusan Milic.

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

Just a note of welcome from Branch 11 to the new members who recently joined or transferred to our Branch: Valerie Colbers, John Craig, Michael Dotzko, Debbie Mackinnon and Doug Thorne.

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

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**IMORTANT INPORTANT IMPORTANT**

Any member who has not paid their 2018 dues by January 31, 2018 is classed as “as a member not in good standing” as per the By-Laws of Dominion Command. As a Branch adhering to these By-Laws as well as having this requirement in our own regulations, any member “not in

good standing” will not be allowed to participate in any functions in the Branch, to be served at the bar or to participate in any sports activities.

We would really like to see all members continuing to enjoy the facilities of our “Friendly Branch”.

**Please Note: after December 31, 2017, your dues are now \$55.00 (\$50.00 for dues plus \$5.00 for a late penalty)**

#### IMPORTANT

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

#### BRANCH ELECTIONS

We have changed our regulations, there will be **no** elections this year. Our elections were held in May 2017 for a two year term which runs until May 2019.

#### HONOURS & AWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

Joe needs information from all members/guests

Honours & Awards presentations will be made at a luncheon on October 14<sup>th</sup>. If you feel anyone deserves recognition by the Branch for their work, volunteering, helping out or working behind the scenes, there are a number of ways we recognize these workers both members and non-members.

Certificate of Appreciation, Certificate of Merit (Branch and Provincial level) Branch Service Medal, Legionnaire of the Year award, and Life Membership for ongoing work in the Branch. (Restricted to Legion members).

Please contact Joe Calderone, Chairman for this function either by speaking to him when he is in the Branch, leaving a note behind the bar for him, contacting him by phone at 416-423-3101 or letting someone on the executive know and they will in turn notify Joe accordingly, **We are always receiving info after the luncheon that someone should have received some type of recognition but their name was never given to Joe or someone on his committee.** He really needs recommendations before the meeting of the Honours & Awards committee which is usually held in late February/early March so that his committee can consider all the names he has been given.

#### 5 year planning committee- update

Recap - On November 26, 2014 the Executive Committee of Branch 11 approved the creation of a Financial Planning Committee (FPC) under the chairmanship of Executive member Comrade Jeff Paulin. On July 6, 2016 the Branch membership gave the Financial Planning Committee (FPC) the mandate to redevelop the Legion property by an 88% vote. It has been a long three plus years. We have learned a lot. Since the formation of the committee we have had dozens of offers to purchase the Branch out right and more than a dozen offers to redevelop. Countless meetings to discuss these offers and planning strategies. Late last year we decided to do a little stream lining by creating a sub-committee (Ed Kenny and Jeff Paulin) to initially screen potential suitors and if they passed our ‘stress test’ they would be brought before the whole committee. On January 11<sup>th</sup> the full committee met and we discussed 5 current offers for re-development. We narrowed the five down to two. We spoke with the two remaining developers and asked them to have a look, sharpen their pencils and improve their offers. One of them had met on January 25<sup>th</sup>, the other has asked to have until January 29<sup>th</sup>. Depending on their submissions, hopefully one or both of them will be handed over to our lawyer. (The same lawyer that had assisted me with the crane/air rights agreement). To move forward (if they pass the lawyer) we need to take our submissions to Ontario Command. Next update at our February General meeting.

**Jeff Paulin**  
*Committee Chair*

#### Poppy



Jeff at the podium for the Poppy luncheon

The updated running total for the 2017 Poppy Campaign is \$51,101.05 that is \$575.26, over the previous year.

On January 14, 2018 we hosted the poppy appreciation lunch. All 72 persons who participated in the campaign and

their guests were invited. We had a very successful turnout, good food (thanks to the L.A.) and a great time had by all. Pictures of the event can be seen on the Branch 11 web site: [www://rcl11.com](http://www://rcl11.com) and the Branch 11 Facebook page: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto. First time participants received a framed Certificate of Appreciation. Every 5 years of continuous support in the Poppy Campaign another certificate is issued. There was sign up sheet for those who wish to be part of the 2018 planning committee. To set our goals, objectives and strategy plan for 2018. Our first meeting will be in April. Thank you all once again for a successful campaign,

**Jeff Paulin**  
**Poppy Chair**



Jeff with Kevin receiving is award

### SICK



Hello Comrades,  
Happy New Year everyone. I hope everyone has kept warm over these very bitter months.

Tom Chiasson is having a very busy week going back and forth to Sunnybrook for blood tests etc.

Bill King has not been well for some time and will be having further discussions with his doctor to determine what can be done.

Sheila Hadden was in pain when I saw her last week. Her attendant assured me that her hip was healed but Sheila was still making a fuss.

Pat Collie is about the same. Pat likes to help other patients which sometimes is not helpful at all, she tries.

John Dufort had to go for a bone scan, no results as yet.

Rose Mooney's knee is a lot better.

John Mooney is doing very well and is ecstatic with his new wheel chair.

Paul Lake wants to thank everyone for their concern.

Caron Carter is home but had another fall. A physiotherapist sees her three time a week. Caron is looking forward to getting a new wheel chair.

Helen Small has been going through a difficult time lately, but she keeps smiling.

June Smith has been back to the Branch since her fall but June is still in pain and has a lot of physical therapy to go through.

Joe and Josephine Cromwell were unable to attend the Robbie Burns dinner due to ill health, they were missed.

Marg Smith is not well and does not get out to the Branch as often as she would like.

Some good news. Jeannette Phalen is in remission.

I visited two of our shut in members over Christmas and brought them a Christmas cactus from the Branch. They are both doing well.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Yours in comradeship,

**Joyce Haden**

**Sick Chair**

### Clubroom Entertainment



Come out on a Saturday night and enjoy our live entertainment from 7:30 to 11:30 pm.

### Upcoming events

There will be a Valentines dance on February 10<sup>th</sup> in the clubroom with entertainment by Al Jordan. We will be having light refreshments and prizes.

Come out and enjoy entertainment by the Pepper Shakers for St Patrick's Day on March 17<sup>th</sup> in the clubroom. 7:30-11:30

Best St Patrick's costume will win a prize.

**Clubroom Entertainment Chair**

**Lynn Somerton**

### Sports



Our sports teams are continuing to represent our Branch with good sportsmanship.

Our teams did not qualify for Provincial snooker or eight ball but they all played well.

We will be represented at the Provincial cribbage tournament by the team of Jean Whynot, Jack Riddell, Dave Ferron and Chris Scott. This tournament will be held at our Branch on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

There are still a few tournaments to be played: Darts (District) Mixed darts (Zone & District) Senior Darts (District) and Euchre (District). As these will all take place after this issue I will report on them in the next newsletter.

**Rick Groome**  
**Sports Chair**

### Bursary

Once again my mail box is empty for applications for our bursary funds. So many more students are attending university and I expected a fair number would be able to use the extra finances that we supply to our Veterans families.

Please check and make sure that this great opportunity is not being neglected by oversight.

**June Smith**  
**Bursary Chair**

### **Legion Week**

It won't be too long before we are looking for the great volunteers that always turn out and the new ones to help us present our displays for veterans and students. This has to be one of the most rewarding chairs when we deal with the past and the future.

**June Smith**  
**Legion week Chair**

### Youth Education



Excitement is building with the Public Speaking contest on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Set up for the hall will be on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and we could use some help with the setup, chairs etc. This year we have more schools involved but depend on registration the day of the contest before we have an actual number of students involved. Thanks to all who have volunteered as judges, time keepers, registers, runners sandwich makers etc. you make it all possible.

I would like to thank Helen Pearce who has diligently kept contact with all the teachers, schools, past students and all those who took over when I had my accident and looking after the judging of the poster contest. This is alive because of the joint efforts of so many.

Thank you for your cards, telephone calls, visits and good wishes. I can't hit anyone with my left hand so I will keep practising with my right. You have all made me humble.

**June Smith**  
**Youth Ed Chair**

### Public Relations

Dear Charlie,

I would like to tell you that my goal in life is to make life rough for you. I would like all members and non-members of the Legion to join me in bringing in your not crushed pop cans to the Legion and put them in the pop can area. Now if you hear Charlie complain about this, I feel we should listen to what Charlie has to say then double our efforts to bring in more pop cans.

So this is a challenge to you the readers to ask your neighbours and friends for their "not crushed pop cans", to come to come to the Legion. I say we can pile the room with 1000 cans per week.

P.S – If you have empty beer, wine & liquor bottles – you can donate those as well – it all helps the Branch!

**Paul Stone**  
**PRO Chair**

### Ladies Auxiliary

Welcome to 2018. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's.

It is with deep sadness that Lisa Cromwell passed away Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences go out to her family. Her celebration of life was held Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>.

We are heading into February already with Valentine's Day, there are celebrations on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> in the clubroom on Saturday evening. The ladies darts are on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at Branch 258, good luck to our team going. Our General Meeting is Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. Bingo at Sunnybrook on the 21<sup>st</sup> and our Executive meeting is on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

March brings us big things. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> we have LA District crib at our Branch. We are hosting the Provincial Cribbage on March 10<sup>th</sup>, it will be a very busy time from Friday to Sunday. We are lucky enough to have one team playing and we wish them much luck.

Reminder – General Meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup>, Bingo at Sunnybrook March 21<sup>st</sup> and Executive March 25<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and I hope the Easter Bunny visits you.

Shirley Duval has had a fall and hurt her hand, we wish her a quick recovery.

By the next newsletter it will be April, where is the time going!!

Yours in comradeship

**Nancy McKnight**  
**LA President**

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**Please note: Our parking lot will be closed on Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> to all except those members who are participating in the Provincial cribbage tournament.**



A man was so proud of his new fancy Cadillac that he invited a priest, a minister and a rabbi to come and bless it. The priest approached the auto, sprinkled holy water over it and chanted in Latin. The minister invoked the name of the almighty and led them all in a silent prayer. The rabbi sang a psalm and cut off the end of the tailpipe.



I'm so sorry to hear of Jim's passing, Mary. My deepest condolences.

Widow: "Oh thank you Father."

Priest: "It's hard time."

Widow: "Yes Father, it is."

Priest: "And did he have any last requests?"

Widow: "Yes, Father, he did."

Priest: "And what was his last request Mary?"

Widow: "Well, he asked me to please put the gun down."



There is a big advantage of turning 70. You don't get a lot of calls from Insurance sales people.



The accountant couldn't get to sleep so he tried counting sheep. But then he made a mistake and it took him all night to find it.

What did the elephant say to the naked man?

"It's cute, but can you really breathe through that thing?"



A cop pulls a woman over and says, 'Let me see your driver's license, lady.'

The woman replies, "I wish you people would get it together. One day you take away my license and the next day you ask me to show it."



When NASA started sending up astronauts, they discovered that ballpoint pens don't work in zero gravity. So they spent twelve million dollars and more than a decade developing a pen that writes under any condition, on almost any surface.

The Russians used a pencil.



My grandfather is hard of hearing. He needs to read lips. I don't mind him reading lips, but he uses a yellow highlighter.

The Poppy cake served at the Poppy Luncheon, mm mm good!!



# February 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Mixed darts 8:00	2 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 7:30	3 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 David Wildsmith
4	5 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	6 Over 60 Club 1:15	7 General meet- ing 8:00	8 Mixed darts 8:00	9 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 7:00	10 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Al Jordan
11 Br 11 Youth Ed Public speaking Main floor 12:00	12 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	13	14 LA General meeting 8:00	15 Mixed darts 8:00	16 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 7:30	17 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Mickey & Mary
18	19 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	20 Over 60 Club 1:15	21 Executive meet- ing 7:30	22 Mixed darts 8:00	23 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 7:00	24 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Linda Wells & Derek Pilgrim
25 Sunday funday 12:00—6:00	26 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	27	28 LA Executive 7:30			

# March 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Mixed darts 8:00	2 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 7:30	3 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Lloyd Young
4	5 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	6 Over 60 Club 1:15	7 General meeting 8:00	8 Mixed darts 8:00	9 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 7:00	10 Provincial Crib Tournament  Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Bill Dickenson
11	12 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	13	14 LA General meeting 8:00	15 Mixed darts 8:00	16 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 7:30	17 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Peppershakers St. Patrick's day in the clubroom
18	19 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	20 Over 60 Club 1:15	21 Executive meet- ing 7:30	22 Mixed darts 8:00	23 Blind draw darts 7:30 Karaoke 7:00	24 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 Linda Wells & Derek Pilgrim
25 Sunday funday 12:00—6:00	26 Monday Euchre 7:30  Men's darts 8:00	27	28 LA executive 7:30	29 Mixed darts 8:00	30 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open mike jam- mers 7:30	31 Clubroom Enter- tainment 7:30 David Wildsmith