

News & Views

August/September 2020



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11
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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto

President's Message

Hello Comrades,

I hope you are all staying well and taking care of yourselves and checking in on loved ones and friends.

When Toronto went into 'Stage 2' we were allowed to open our patio only on June 26, 2020. We were required to implement strict covid-19 protocols... Which includes: Covid-19 screening questions, to sign-in along with your phone number, to sanitize your hands, to social distance, one person in the bathrooms etc... Both the patio furniture and bathrooms need to be sanitized on a regular basis. To make this happen we needed a volunteer 'Patio host/hostess'... As the branch patio is open 1:00 pm. to 9:00 pm, we have 3 x 3-hour shifts... It took a while, but volunteering for this position is catching on... Again, it is heart warming to see who steps up to help when it is needed, not just branch members, but friends of branch 11 too... Always looking for more... The sign-up sheet is in the clubroom...

The Patio has been covering costs most days... There is a reverse pattern of turn out... Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday have been our better turnouts than the normal Thursday, Friday and Saturday...

Though we did not formally celebrate 'Canada Day' in the normal Branch 11 style. It was a great turn-out and guests received a free burger... Thanks again to all of our Canada Day volunteers...

When and what will stage 3 bring?? Anticipating we may be able to open the branch / clubroom as soon as July 31, 2020. Moving indoors there will require stricter covid-19 protocols. With no more than 50 persons allowed inside, in addition to the current rules: social distance seating, wearing a mask when moving around in the branch and still there will be no darts, dancing, or entertainment. It is good to see that sports are back up and running on TV... Baseball, Basketball, and Hockey... I believe we will continue to need volunteer Hosts/Hostesses to help things run smoothly... Once our doors do open... we



will continue with the 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm hours and re-evaluate the hours after a week.

Everyone will be required to respect the covid-19 protocols...

Again...Please take a moment to check on family, comrades and friends via phone, text, or social media... If you find someone who is in need of essential items, please call the branch and leave a confidential message at 416 699-1353...

Jeff Paulin President

JUNE - JULY 2020

"IN MEMORIUM"

ORDINARY MEMBERS

GENTLEMAN

Jim (James)

Joined Branch #11, December 2003 as an Ordinary member due to his Toronto police service
"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them"

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

CARTER

Margaret

Joined Branch #11, December 1986

LYONS

Bill (William)

Joined Branch # 42, March 1997 and transferred to Branch # 11, January 2001

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the members of their families as well as their friends who are also members of Branch #11 and other Legions in this area. As these 3 members have all been ill for some time and unable to come into the Branch, many new members and patrons will not know who they were or how they contributed to "their" Branch, each in their own way.

Cathy Cole, Membership

PARADES

Warriors' Day parade: cancelled

Battle of Britain parade: cancelled

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ **EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED**

There are members who receive their newsletter by mail, and we discovered during the Branch closure that many



come into the Branch and get a copy from the clubroom. During the closure we needed to keep these walk-in members informed and incurred extra costs as their newsletters had to be mailed as well. If you have been receiving your newsletter by post or if you are a walk-in and have an email, please send your email address to membership@rcl.com: you will then be included in our database and receive your newsletter without us incurring costs of labels/printing/mailing, etc. Due to the lack of income during this terrible time of closure, every bit of costs that we can eliminate will help us in the future.

LOOKING FOR A GARDENER

We have 2 gardens and 2 planters at the front of the Branch on Dawes Road that need a lot of care as they seem to grow weeds faster than flowers. Is there someone out there looking to get their “green thumbs” dirty and help make the front of the Branch look as if it is taken care of? Possibly there is someone who has no garden of their own but would like to nurture one and has the time to weed regularly. We have someone who waters but we need a “weeder” with strong arms and back. Please let Jeff Paulin or Cathy Cole know if you are interested.



RECYCLING FOR THE BRANCH

As many members and patrons of the Branch already know, we continue to crush our pop cans and take them to a scrap yard for cash for the Branch ... this has been very successful. We can send any liquor or wine bottles; tetra packs etc., anything with a deposit purchased at a beer, liquor store or grocery store, back via the Branch beer returns and get the benefit of these deposits. Although small, from .



05 - .20 cents, each time we redeem a deposit, the Branch benefits. Whenever you have any pop cans or items with a deposit on them, please bring them to the Branch, the cans will be crushed, the deposit items returned which is cash gained for the Branch. Any little bit helps the bottom line; instead of throwing these items out, please consider bringing them in so all of us will benefit.

HONOURS & AWARDS DAY: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2020 (TENTATIVE DATE)



Due to the uncertainty and continuation of COVID shutdowns, we should/could have our Honours & Awards Day on Sunday, October 4th, 2020 from 11.30am until 3.00pm. Please mark this tentative date on your calendar. The format for this special day is an afternoon function with a luncheon for members and other people receiving awards. Letters to the 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 late August or early September and there could be tickets available for members and their guests who like to attend this great day. For the last couple of years, we have sent invitations too and included all Branch #11 Veterans; due to the decrease in our Veterans' numbers, we recognize them at this luncheon.

Have repeatedly requested recommendations for awards to workers/volunteers at the Branch but have received very few names to date. It is important that if you think someone should be recognized that you put their name forward; every year there are comments that “someone” should have been recognized but their name was never put forward for consideration.

John N. Dufort:

Chairman, 2020 Honours & Awards Committee

Sports

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Alas, the committees for Monday Ladies & Thursday Mixed darts have decided that there will be no banquets this year. They are in the process of getting the money ready for distribution to the players.



I will be at the Legion on Monday & Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm-9:00pm, starting July 27th, but please call the Branch @ 416-699-1353 for confirmation that the envelopes are ready for pick up. I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer as we slowly get back to some sort of normalcy.

Thanks

Linda Green,
Sports Chair

Special Functions

Hello everyone, hope everyone is Staying Safe & Healthy! I just wanted to give a BIG SHOUT OUT OF THANKS to EVERYONE, that helped to make Branch 11's Canada Day BBQ such a Success! We had a Good turn out and all had a Great time!! Looking forward to seeing everyone in the very near future, if all goes well! When we can all get together for our General meeting, I will have all the details for my Financial Report.

Yours in Comradeship,

Karen Boudreault
Special Functions Chair

PRO

Just to let everyone know Beach Metro Staff will be returning from vacation in mid August. Depending where we are in these COVID Stages, any Ads must be provided to me before August 17th for the August issue. Also, if you have any pictures for submission, please send them to me. In the meantime, please protect each other ... wear a mask where needed, wash your hands regularly and practice social distancing.

Thank you,

Helen D. Pearce
PRO Chair



Youth Education

The Legion is proceeding with the Literary/Poster and Public Speaking contests for the 2020 - 2021 term. I received an email from Ontario Command that the Youth Ed Kits would be sent out July 23rd or 24th. If that is the case Branch 11's Kit should arrive one day the week of July 27th.



In preparing for our supplies to go into the gift bags, a thought occurred to me ... if there are any talented people out there who could make up face masks, using any left over material suitable for masks that would be a wonderful item to donate for these bags. During the month of August is when the Dollar Stores stock their shelves with school items ... notebooks, scribblers, erasers, pens, pencil, small sanitizers etc. are also really appreciated as donations.

Thank you,

Helen D. Pearce
Youth Chair

Walk-A-thon

There will be a **walkathon** September 19, 2020. More information coming soon. Looking for walkers. Please support a walker with your pledges...



Tom Bragan

Walkathon Chair

Ways & Means

Hi everyone, hope all is well with you. Keep safe and healthy. I do not know about you, but this is not what I had planned for my summer. Waiting anxiously for the opening of our Legion so we may enjoy our time together once again. And to see you all participating in various activities we have to offer. Our patio is open daily Monday to Saturday from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. - drop by for a cold one.

The next Sunday Funday is "tentatively" scheduled for Sunday, September 13th. Until we can be together stay safe and PLEASE THANK A Veteran.

Susan Squires

Ways & Means Chair



Well, old FRED is finally gone, and new FRED IV is up and running doing the newsletters working away. FRED was old and slow and just could not keep up to the demands put upon him.

Old FRED was about six years old which is over 100 in our years.

We wish him well.

Gord Pearce

Editor, News & Views

No Calendar

As there is no calendar at the back of the newsletter this issue due to the virus hanging around there really is nothing to schedule. There is no Saturday night music nor sports leagues of any kind. Until further notice

The only items that need to be in the calendar are:

Executive meeting, August 19th 7:30

General meeting, September 2th 8:00, **tentative**

Sunday Funday, September 13th 12:00 **tentative**

Executive meeting, September 16th 7:30

Walk-A-thon – September 19, 2020



Leadership & Development

Greetings from this wonderful world of today hopefully turning into a better tomorrow and a safe future. We are all in this together and hopefully we can beat it. It is hard not to be together but let us try to follow the rules and keep our distance and wear our masks and above all if you are over 70 STAY HOME. There are lots of things we feel like doing but cannot participate in so don't feel guilty. Stay in touch with your friends and family by phone or social distance on your veranda or back yard. Remember your friends love to hear from you and it helps all around to talk and make the most of this situation. Soon hugs will be back in fashion and I can hardly wait. Thank goodness for long distance calling and computers with Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Email etc. Looking forward

to the time when we can be together and resume our activities again.

Yours in comradeship,

June M Smith

*Leadership and Development and
Legion Week Chair.*

Ladies Auxiliary



Happy Summer everyone! This has been the strangest year so far. Not much has gone on with everything closed.

Our sincere condolences go out to Sandra Lougheed and her family on the loss of her daughter Audrey, our thoughts and prayers go out to them.

We have had to cancel our Birthday Lunch but as promised here are the ladies who will be getting pins in the mail:

20 Year Pin - Denise Caster, Cathy Cole and Dorothy Lundy

30 Year Pin - Romelda Borkowsky

40 Year Pin - Helen Park and Barbara Turcotte

At this point in time I cannot confirm if we will be holding our Annual Bazaar but I am keeping an open mind and hope to have more information by the next newsletter.

The LA Convention tickets have been sent into Command and the draw will be held virtually in September.

As things slowly open up we need to stay vigilant with our safety and keep this vicious virus from getting a hold on us. Looking forward to seeing some of you at our meetings once we can start having them again. I will keep you posted on our progress.

Yours in comradeship

Nancy McKnight

L.A. President

Branch 11 Facemasks

**The Branch 11 facemasks
are available at the
clubroom bar for \$15.**



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