

News & Views

February/March 2024



Everyone's Irish
On March 17th.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11

9 Dawes Rd. Toronto, ON M4C 5A8

Tel: 416-699-1353 Fax: 416-699-1831

E-mail: branch11rcl@rogers.com Web Site: rcl11.com



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto



President's Message

I would like to thank all our Members and Guests that continue to come out and support the Branch and those behind the scenes who continue to do what they do to keep us going...



We had a fantastic New Year's Eve dinner and dance; The event was a great success. I wish to thank the New Years Eve Party committee: **Sandra Durham, Lynn Brough, Lynn Somerton...** and a special thank you to **Karen Boudreault** who helped in the Kitchen and **Jean Whynot** and **Candice Bradt** for tending Bar.

We knew this day was coming but it is hard to believe the day is here... Branch 11 at 9 Dawes Road built by its members in 1971... last day in this building is March 31, 2024... Had the development gone as originally planned when we sold the building back in 2018, we should have already been back here in the New Branch. Our 5-year planning committee is well in its 9th year... I am sure that so many of you have fond memories of the events and time you've had in this building and the Comrades that you have met along the way... I would like to see a scrap book on the old 9 Dawes Rd.

Moving forward, as you know we have agreed to rent a small office space near 9 Dawes Rd to keep our presence in the community. We have also agreed that we would approach our neighbouring Legion Branches to continue to run our many events. Voted on by our Executive and agreed to by the Membership we have approached Branch 345 first with our proposal. They have to have the respective meetings to discuss our proposal. They may not be able to accommodate everything we want to do. We may have to share our activities between other Branches. Branches 22 and 13 have expressed interest in us running some events from their Branches... Either way I am hopeful that come April there will be a smooth transition from what we are doing the last week of March at Branch 11 we will be doing the first week of April at our host Branch.

Now we are working on what is to be put into storage, what gets sold, donated, or given away... and what is left to be demolished with the building....

Continued on page 5....

DECEMBER 2023– JANUARY 2024

“IN MEMORIUM”

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

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

FALLIS, Scott

Joined Branch # 11 April 2009

SAMPSON, Joe

Joined Branch #11 September 2019

SMALL, Helen

Joined Branch # 11 June 2008

AFFILIATE MEMBER

CROMWELL, Josephine

Joined Branch # 11 May 2002

Scott Fallis: due to illness Scott hasn't been in the branch for a number of years but when he was able to be here, he was always active and volunteered to help out many times. Scott was given a Certificate of Appreciation in 2010 and due to his continuous volunteering, Scott was awarded a Certificate of Merit from Ontario Command in 2015. His wife Linda is also a member who continually helped out at the branch. Their presence at the branch has been missed by a number of the longer serving members.

Joe Sampson: Joe came into Branch # 11 many years before he joined the branch. He sat in the clubroom many afternoons with his friend “gentleman Earl” and Joe was known as L.C.B.O. Joe by many of us. He has been missed by many who liked to sit with him, and we have to thank his wife for continuing to bring him down when he could no longer get here on his own so that we could enjoy his company and conversations. He is missed.

Helen Small: although Helen joined the branch her heart and work benefitted the L/A both at Branch # 1 and then at Branch #11. Her smiling face & quick “wit”, sometimes deadly, has been missed around the branch and at L/A functions. She is missed by her large

family, her husband **George** who is one of our stewards and by many members of the branch and especially the L/A.

Josephine Cromwell: Josephine was known at the branch for her active participation and playing of the accordion in the Ulster Accordion Band when we marched with them at many parades as well as on trips & at concerts. Her daughter **Beth** and other children were also active in the band and her hubby, the branches **Mr. Poppy, Joe** played the bass drum to keep all of us in step. We have lost another proud member of Branch 11.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the members of these families as well as their friends who are also members of Branch #11 and other Legions in this area. As several of these members have been ill for some time and unable to come into the branch on a regular basis, 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,
Secretary

CATHY COLE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN WINNERS

The 4 winners to have their 2025 dues paid by the Branch are:

Jim Collins, Danielle Ferris, Eunice Francis, Gerri Pennie.

Thanks to everyone who paid their dues before November 30th so that your name was in the December draw.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS: welcome from Branch #11 to the members who recently joined/transferred to our Branch; we hope that you will continue to support the Branch that you chose to join:
Joanne Brook, Maureen Carles-Fadno, Roze Cize, Trevena Desnee, Helen Donald, Gerry Dunne, Peggy Mehew. Welcome back: **Dusan Milic**

IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

Any member who has not paid their 2024 dues by January 31st, 2024, is classed 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”.

***** IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2024 DUES YET, PLEASE PAY THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE *****

If you did not pay before December 31st, your payment for dues is now \$ 55.00; \$ 50.00 for dues and a late penalty of \$ 5.00. A reminder letter will be sent shortly to all members with outstanding dues.

*** If there is a reason that you are not planning to renew your Legion membership, 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 that we can do/change in the Branch that will help you change your mind and stay as a member.

Cathy Cole,
Membership Chair

Ways & Means

Happy New Year.

By the time our letter goes to print our Jan 28 Sunday Funday Day will have passed. I need to thank



Joanne Brooke for donating \$60 to be used for the dessert and cream for the coffee. All donations keep the cost of our events down with many thanks. Our upcoming Sunday Fun Day, Feb 25 with entertainment. First time appearing Teddy Hawkins & Band members. Variety of music. Branch opens 1- 7 PM

Music 2 - 6 PM Meal served 4 PM
Meal tickets \$15 per person.
Moving forward to March 24 Sunday Fun Day with
Bernie & his Band
Ways & Means Chair
2nd Vice Susan Squires

Clubroom Entertainment

Saturday night dancing 7.30 - 11.30 PM
I need to thank **Sharon Smith** for the basket drawn on
December 23rd as a consolation prize. Watch the
clubroom board for upcoming entertainment or read
the calendar in this newsletter.
Ways & Means Chair
2nd Vice Susan Squires

Youth Education

Public Speaking – Thank you to
**Anne Davis, Cindy Bryne and
Vi Kenny** helping me put together
the gift bags for all the students
who will be competing starting at Branch 11 Level – it
is something that has been done since I started as Youth
Ed Chair back in 2002 which will of course be the last
time at 9 Dawes Rd. for the next few years. Hopefully
we will be able to continue something at our temporary
location for the next 3 years or so! The set up is
Saturday, February 17th and the contest is Sunday,
February 18th. I have been reaching out to people who
have volunteered before and some new people who are
interested. One Teacher has already provided me with
8 students who are now pre-registered – 2 primary, 3
juniors and 3 seniors. She has many intermediate
students interested so she is having a speak-off Feb.
11th and will provide me with the 3 top winners from
that speak-off. This is just one of several teachers from
schools belonging to other Zone D3 Branches because
of which I have asked each teacher to have speak-offs
and only send their top 3 from each of the 4 categories.
Pre-registration date is February 14th – no further
registrations will be accepted after that date. **Nancy
McKnight** is arranging with her team to provide the
refreshments. I also sent out an SOS message to YE at
other Branches in our Zone – so far Branches 22 and



75 have stepped forward. Branch 11 schools have not
responded yet.
Youth Ed Chair
Helen D. Pearce

PRO

Feb. 11 Super Bowl – Branch opens at 4 pm – see
Linda Green's report for details.
Feb. 25 Sunday Fun Day – check with Susan Squires
for the details.
Mar. 24 Sunday Fun Day – check with Susan
Squires for the details.
PRO
Helen D. Pearce

Legion Week

Getting ready to pack up our small Legion Week
cubbyhole and store our uniforms etc. for safe keeping
until our new Branch welcomes us back. Many
memories will go with us and look forward to better
and new beginnings. To all who participated in making
Legion Week an exciting time for school children we
were able to teach why our country is a wonderful place
to live in.....a time to teach what our young volunteers
left behind to go and fight and some laid down their
lives to keep us at home secure. Thank you to all
involved before, during and after.

June M Smith
Legion Week Chair



Over 60 Club

Nice to see so many players out
every 2nd Tues afternoon from
1:30 to 4pm. for euchre and darts.
Feb.6th & 20 Always room for
more. **Jean** our treasurer has
booked another Casino bus trip to
Niagara Falls and her trips are always fun filled so join
us on Feb 13th for a good day out. Our thoughts and
condolences go out to **Anne Breen's family** and
friends and also in remembrance to **Helen Small's
family and George.**

June M Smith
Over 60 Chair

Honours & Awards



It is never too early to recommend members or non-members for these various awards so please start early before the Branch closes and moves on to our new host Branch. This year the Honour and Awards luncheon is tentatively set for October 6th, 2024.

If you have any recommendations, please let either **Cathy Cole** or I know.

Yours in Comradeship,

John N. Dufort

Honours and Awards Chair

Bursary

The Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation is still looking for more applications to send in for consideration. Time is running out and the deadline is March 29th, 2024, for this year. If you know of someone that is thinking of applying, please remind them to do so sooner than later.



The Bursary Program is designed to assist students who are entering or continuing their post-secondary education and who are currently serving members, Ex-service personnel, Legion members, or their spouses, children, or grandchildren.

Students applying for assistance may be granted a Bursary based on documented need in the amount of \$1,250.00 per scholastic year as determined by the District Bursary Committee. Students entering a diploma or certificate course, usually of a shorter duration with reduced tuition, may be granted assistance at a rate to be determined by the District Bursary Chair(s). Indentured apprentices may also apply for assistance for the purchase of tools and instruments. Students completing a program through continuing, or distance education maybe considered for the Bursary Program.

Applicants for this award are required to make an application to OSAP (or its equivalent in other provinces). In addition, applicants must be one of the following to qualify for this Bursary:

- Ex-service personnel or currently serving members of The Canadian Forces (Regular, Reserve, and Merchant Navy) or their spouse, child, or grandchild.
- Commonwealth war veterans or their spouse, child, and grandchild
- An Ordinary and Life member of The Royal Canadian Legion or their spouse, child, or grandchild.
- And a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary or a child or grandchild of an LA member. Associate member of The Royal Canadian Legion or their child.
- Stepchildren and step grandchildren may also be considered where applicable.

You may also apply through the Poppy Trust for those that have Great Grandchildren. See your Poppy Chairman for more details.

Yours in Comradeship,

John N. Dufort Bursary Chair

Sports

We have 2 teams playing Provincial Cribbage in Falconbridge on March

2. Congratulations to **Jim & Cindy Le Roy, Rick Groome & Bob Murphy** as well as **Lynn Somerton, Eunice Francis, Jason Prevost & Shirley Buchanan**. 4 doubles and 2 teams advanced from Zone Mixed darts. District will be at Branch 13 February 24. I'm sorry to say we had no one advance from District Regular Darts on the January 21st.

We have 4 teams and 6 doubles playing Zone Washer Toss at Branch 11 on February 4th.

Our team did not advance from District Snooker. District 8 Ball is January 27th hosted by Branch 345 @ Cornerbank Sports Bar. We have 2 teams playing. District Senior Darts is February 3rd at Branch 101, and we have 5 singles, 4 doubles & 3 teams playing.



We have 2 teams playing District Euchre at Branch 31, Sunday February 11th.

We have 4 teams playing District Shuffleboard at Branch 31 on February 18th.

Good luck to everyone who is playing!!

We will be open for Super Bowl on Sunday, February 11th. Legion is open @ 4:00pm. Come on out and enjoy the game. There will be raffles, a quiz, food.... Bring your Valentine!!

Linda Green
Sports Chair

Building & Meat Spin

Let me know if you notice anything that needs to be done or leave a note behind the bar.

Meat Spins are every Saturday at 3:00pm. We need volunteers!! There is a sign-up sheet you can check available dates.

Happy Valentine's Day to all!!

Fred Green
Building & Meat Spin Chair



The Branch Memorial Board and the LA Memorial Board on the main floor hall were removed by **Joseph Calderone** and his crew... prior to our move to somewhere in the area until the new Branch can be built. The wrecking crew were **Fred Green, Charlie Silson, Joe Calderone, Doug Fulton and Dave Ferron.**

Ladies Auxiliary



We are now in a new year, unfortunately it has been very cold.

Our sincere condolences to **Anne Breen's** family, she was a 12-year member. Anne loved to play cards and try her luck with Nevada tickets. She would come out on Thursday night to visit everyone at darts. Her Celebration of Life will be held on February 3rd.

Our condolences also go out to **Helen Small's** family as she passed away on January 6th. Helen was a 43-year member of the LA, held many offices, received her Life Membership in 2016, and was elected 1st Vice President last April. She will be missed along with her butter tarts, mini cherry cheesecakes, zucchini bread and baked beans. Helen's funeral was held on January 18th. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

There isn't much going on in February. Our meeting is Wednesday, February 14th at 7:30 pm.

In March we will be hosting the LA District Cribbage on the 9th, and our meeting will be on Wednesday, March 13th at 7:30 pm,

We will have to start clearing out our dishes and glassware, if you know of anyone that could use dishes, please let me know.

That is about all I have at this moment, but the next newsletter should have some warmer weather.

Yours in comradeship

Nancy McKnight
LA President

.... continued from page 1. If you have thoughts and opinions on this, please share with me at jeffpaulin@rogers.com. There is a lot to do in a short period of time. We will also need many volunteers to complete these tasks... again email me or see the sign-up sheet at the Branch.

We have many events coming up in our last 2 months here, **Senior's games, Meat Spins, Saturday Night Entertainment, Karaoke, Sunday Funday, Casino Bus trip. Dart nights. and our Super Bowl Party...**

Yours in Comradeship
Jeff Paulin President

February 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Mixed Darts 7:30	2	3 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 John Mills
4	5 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	6 Over 60 Club 1:30	7 General meeting 8:00	8 Mixed Darts 7:30	9 Karaoke 7:30 Blind draw darts Reg: 7:30 Play 8:00	10 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 Yvonne & Gerry
11 Clubroom doors open at 4:00 pm  Party	12 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	13 Bus trip to Niagara Falls Casino 	14 LA General meeting 7:30 Valentine's Day 	15 Mixed Darts 7:30	16	17 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 Joe Tucker
18	19 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	20 Over 60 Club 1:30	21 Executive meeting 7:30	22 Mixed Darts 7:30	23 Karaoke 7:30 Blind draw darts Reg: 7:30 Play 8:00	24 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 David Wildsmith
25 Sunday Funday Teddy Hawkins & Band. 2:00-6:00 pm	26 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	27	28	29 Mixed Darts 7:30		

March 2024

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 Al Jordan
3	4 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	5 Over 60 Club 1:30	6 General meeting 8:00	7 Mixed Darts 7:30	8 Karaoke 7:30 Blind draw darts Reg: 7:30 Play 8:00	9 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 Bill Dickenson
10	11 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	12	13 L.A. General meeting	14 Mixed Darts 7:30	15	16 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 David Russell
17 St. Patrick's Day  <i>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</i>	18 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	19 Over 60 Club 1:30	20 Executive meet- ing 7:30	21 Mixed Darts 7:30	22 Karaoke 7:30 Blind draw darts Reg: 7:30 Play 8:00	23 Meat spin 3:00 Clubroom Entertainment 7:30 Yvonne Chapman
24	25 Euchre 7:00 pm Ladie's darts 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	26	27	28 Mixed Darts 7:30	29	30
31						