



Port Elgin Legion - Branch 340

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street

Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0

519-389-9917

www.branch340.ca

December 2009 Branch Line

Another year is coming to close. We take this opportunity to thank our readers for your continued support and submissions to the Branch Line.

Special thanks to Cde Norma Dudgeon and her volunteers for the excellent co-ordination of the annual Remembrance Day activities and dinner. Well done!

Our highlight this year was being awarded a mirrored wall plaque for achieving 1st Place in "C" Category for the District "C" Bulletin Competition. This is certainly a huge honour and we were very, very surprised of the announcement. We will continue to do our best for your Branch bulletin.

We have a few pictures from our November 11th Dinner. We will print a few more in the next issue.

Don't forget ...If you have any articles to share with the membership, please email them to us or leave them with the Bar Steward to our attention.

We extend our Christmas wishes and thoughts for a wonderful New Year to each and everyone.

The Editors



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Dave Mensher, John Boyd, Brett Luxon, Chloe Hoskins and Rick Forrest who were recently initiated as members of our Branch.

The winner of the November Early Bird Draw was Diane Brill. Congratulations.

Another Early Bird Campaign is complete and I would like to say a big thank you to all of you who renewed within this period. I am hopeful that our Early Bird Award will be an even higher percentage than last year. Thank you for your continued support.

If you have already paid, please ask the Bar Steward if your card is ready to pick up. It would be appreciated to renew your dues by the end of December to avoid any interruption in receiving your legion magazine. If you have any questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Yours in Comradeship,
Rhonda Harrison
Membership Chair
harrisonconst@bmts.com
519-389-4806



SENDING MAIL OVERSEAS

In case you are looking for this information...

The DND website below, gives information on where to send letters and postcards, and the deadline date for sending for Christmas arrival.

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/Commun/message/index-eng.asp>

Pat Smith
District Commander

SPORTS

Zone C4 - Sports Tournaments

Registration: 10:30 am Play: 11:00 am

Sign up Sheet on the Display Board by the rear entrance to the Canteen

Sunday, December 06
Sunday, January 03

Southampton
Owen Sound

Team Mixed Darts
Double Mixed Darts

Mary Alexander
Sports Chair
marylousunset@bmts.com

FREE TO GOOD HOME – LEGION BLAZER

At the time of printing this Edition, a blazer has been donated to the Branch. It is free, (first come, first serve) for anyone who may be needing one. It is a Size 38 and is hanging in the wall closet by the display cases, if you wish to try on. If it fits –it's yours.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



NEW YEAR'S DANCE

December 31 – Dance to “Crippled Ducks”
See Poster for details

TURKEY & MEAT ROLLS

Friday, Dec. 04 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, Dec. 5, 12, 19 at 4:00 pm

BINGO

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Bingo at 7:30 p.m. \$700.00 Jackpot

REMEMBRANCE DAY PICTURES 2009



President Nigel Ord and Cde Kathryn Eastwood present Major General Ivan Fenton (ret) and his wife Sue with Thank You gifts as a token of our appreciation for being our guest speaker at our dinner.



President Nigel Ord and Chief of Police Dan Rivett display the plaque of the Cenotaph Park background history as presented from the Town Of Saugeen Shores.



Cde Mike Atkinson is presenting Cde Robert Harrison, Public Relations Officer with and award for the 1st Place Bulletin, in Category "C" for District "C"



The Branch is the recipient of a "Quilt to Remember" by Donna and George Foster. The quilt design is officially recognized by The Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command Poppy and Remembrance Committee. It is their vision that quilters across Canada will make the quilt for Veteran's Hospitals, Veteran's Homes, Legion Branches, for Veterans and themselves. Partial proceeds from the purchase of the designated quilt fabrics will be donated to The Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Trust Fund, in support of Canada's veterans.

To the Membership

I had the pleasure of doing my volunteer Poppy Campaign as usual October 30th at Legault's Independent Grocery Store.

I have cherished this ritual for many years.

We had a very fine day for our Remembrance Day Celebration, as for many years the weather wasn't the best.

Our guest speaker was informative and the Ladies put up a wonderful dinner as usual.

This Remembrance Day was a very sad day for Don, as he has never been absent from the Remembrance Day ritual for over 50 years.

He always is very proud of our new Cenotaph as Don and Mark Kraemer started this project years ago.

Don is recovering from a bout of pneumonia and can't be out for a few weeks.

Hopefully, he will recover and be back to standard.

*Yours in Comradeship,
Ruth Clemmer*

REMEMBRANCE DAY

November 11th has come & gone and once again we remembered and paid tribute to our Veterans and fallen comrades at Cenotaph Park. This year, we were also honoured to have the Northport Public School students lay a carnation in memory of our soldiers who were killed in the line of duty in Afghanistan.

For those of you who weren't able to be at the Cenotaph, each carnation had the name and picture of a fallen soldier of which the student memorized and said as they placed their carnation. It was very touching and a lovely tribute.

We are a proud organization and a mainstay in the community and having a successful Remembrance Day ceremony in the public eye is due to all the volunteers who have contributed behind the scenes. I would like to mention everybody's name but then I might miss one but you all know who you are and I sincerely thank everyone. You might not think you did much but every extra hand counts.

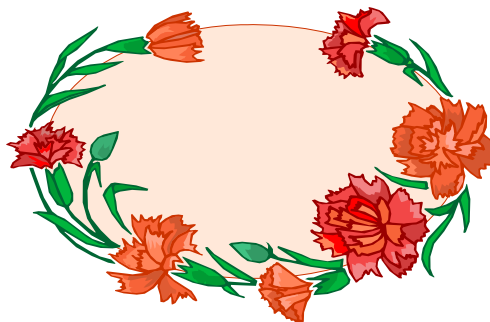
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Shriners' Club for the loan of the PA system and to Terry & Colin Mills for all their hard work in assembling the equipment and dismantling it. Without a sound system, we do not have a service – it's a vital part our Remembrance Day, as is the use of the Presbyterian Church and the High School music band; we are very lucky to have their support!

On Remembrance Day, we received \$1000 donation from our Ladies Auxiliary towards Cenotaph Park and we sincerely thank them for we all know how hard they work to make this happen.

So, once again, the Port Elgin Legion has had a very successful Remembrance Day and we owe it to our volunteers, our members and our community who are very supportive. It is the least we can do for our Veterans to say "thank you".

Would the person who ordered the fantastic weather please step up to the plate again for next year!

Norma Dudgeon
Remembrance Day Chairman



THANK YOU..... THANK YOU

At this time it is my pleasure to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of the members of the Branch for their constant participation in our Color Party. These dedicated Branch and Auxiliary members carry out their duties with pride and dignity and truly respect the job they are given.

It is wonderful to know people take this position so seriously, again a huge Thanks and the best of the season to one and all.

Sgt at Arms
Alexina Atkinson

A VETERAN ON OUR TEN DOLLAR BILL

If you look at the back right-hand side of a Canadian \$10.00 bill, you will see an old veteran standing at attention near the Ottawa War Memorial. His name is Robert Metcalfe and he died in 2008 at the age of 90.



That he managed to live to that age is rather remarkable, given what happened in the Second World War. Born in England, he was one of the 40,000 members of the British Expeditionary Force sent to the mainland where they found themselves facing the new German warfare technique – the Blitzkrieg.

He was treating a wounded comrade when he was hit in the legs by shrapnel. En route to hospital, his ambulance came under fire from a German tank, which then miraculously ceased fire. Evacuated from Dunkirk on HMS Grenade, two of the sister ships with them were sunk. Recovered, he was sent to allied campaigns in North Africa and Italy. En route, his ship was chased by the German battleship, Bismarck.

In North Africa he served under General Montgomery against the Desert Fox, Rommel.

Sent into the Italian campaign, he met his future wife, a lieutenant and physiotherapist in a Canadian hospital. They were married in the morning by the Mayor of the Italian town, and again in the afternoon by a British Padre.

After the war, they settled in Chatham where he went into politics and became the Warden (Chairman) of the County and on his retirement he and his wife moved to Ottawa. At the age of 80 he wrote a book about his experiences.

One day out of the blue he received a call from a government official asking him to go downtown for a photo-op. He wasn't told what the photo was for or why they chose him. "He had no idea he would be on the bill", his daughter said.

And now you know the story of the old veteran on the \$10.00 bill.



HOLIDAY HOURS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Canteen Open 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

CLOSED

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

Canteen Open 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

Canteen Open 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 01st

CLOSED



FOOD BASKET:

Please help support the Salvation Army Food Drive with your regular contributions of non-perishable food items. This food box is located as you enter the Canteen and will be taken to the Salvation Army at the end of each month or sooner if you fill it with your generosity.

Contact: Cheryl Lawson, Ladies Auxiliary President, if you require further information at 519-832-9592



**Happy
New Year!**

New Year's Eve Dance

Thursday, December 31st

Entertainment by "Crippled Ducks"

Doors open at 7:00 pm

Dancing 9:00 pm – 1:00 am

\$20.00 per person / \$35.00 per couple

Tickets on Sale Now

Party Favours and Light Lunch Included





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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 GEN. MTG. 8:00 PM	2 BINGO 7:30 PM	3 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	4 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM MEAT ROLL 7:00 PM	5 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
6	7	8 L/A GEN. MTG. 8:00 PM	9 BINGO 7:30 PM	10 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	11 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM	12 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
131	14	15	16 BINGO 7:30 PM	17 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	18 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM	19 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
20	21	22	23 BINGO 7:30 PM	24 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS	26
27	28	29 EXEC. MTG. 7:30 PM	30 BINGO 7:30 PM	31 NEW YEAR'S DANCE 	1	2

~ Please join us for our various events and help support your Branch ~