

Royal Canadian Legion Br. 340

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Inside this issue you will find.... what is happening this month... general information. We welcome your articles and will be more than glad to insert them in future issues. Thanks to those who have submitted in the past.

President's Report

2015 Christmas Address

Comrades:

The holiday season is fast approaching and I would like to take some time to reflect on the past year. Many accomplishments were achieved this year and I would like to reflect on a few.

The year started with a very successful New Year's Day Levy. The band, The Danns entertained everyone for a few hours. Many thanks to Brenda Collins and Les Virtue for organizing this event.

January saw a long term lease signed for the Annex. Kidstreet moved in and for all accounts this relationship has been great and looks to be even better in the future.

This year a crew of volunteers wanted to try a Friday night BBQ program. It started out in April and was still going strong into October. There have been many comrades identifying how much they enjoyed the BBQ and can't wait till we start up again next year. Through the dedication of Blair Eby, Elizabeth Eby, Bob Harrison and Rhonda Harrison there was plenty of good food to go around for everyone. They received help from many volunteer who helped out by donating salads and desserts. I am sure Ann Eby went through many bags of potatoes making her salad for every one of the BBQs. Thanks Ann.



Upcoming Events

December 4

Turkey Raffle 8pm

December 5

Turkey Raffle 4pm

December 12

Turkey Raffle 4pm as well as the
19th at 4pm

December 31

New Year's Dance 8pm – 1am

January 1

New Year's Levy 1pm – 7pm

Important Announcement

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line, please submit to Andrew Reinhart at branch340newsletter@gmail.com

Annual toy drive is now on! Toys are to be unwrapped and placed in the box down in the Canteen. Please Give!

Pumpkinfest breakfasts were a huge success this year. We had to scramble on Saturday to get more eggs for Sunday breakfast as we used all that we had on Saturday. Many volunteers spent most of their Saturday and Sunday morning serving approximately 700 people. Thanks to Elizabeth Eby and her crew.

Remembrance Day service was blessed with a beautiful day. I have been a member of this branch for 34 years and this was one of the largest crowd I have been part of on Remembrance Day. Norma Dudgeon once again coordinated the day and did a fantastic job. The parade was well organized with people were applauding as we marched by them. Parade Marshall Mike Hobson did a great job with the help of his Colour Sergeant Bob Harrison and Sgt at Arms Andrew Reinhart.

Volunteers are the life blood of our organization and we are blessed with so many people that step up to support the branch, time after time. I would like to mention a few that always step up to the plate, Brenda Collins and her Ladies Auxiliary are front and centre when it comes to support. Other people that constantly step up to support are, Tom Jacques (meat rolls), Eric McLeod (bingo), Sharen Maas (bingo), Elizabeth Eby (BBQ, Pumpkinkfest breakfast, etc), Ann Eby (BBQ, Poppy Coordinator). Andrew Reinhart has stepped up to be editor of this Branch Line. Thanks Andrew. These are but a few of the many people who step up time and again. I would like to thank all of you for making Port Elgin Branch 340 the success it is.

On a personal note, Cynthia and I would like to wish you all health and happiness over the coming festive season. May you dreams come true and cup run over with kindness.

Thank you all and have a safe and Merry Christmas

Comrade Dan



Our Newest Life Member Rhonda Harrison! Congratulations



Around the Branch

Meat Draw November 7 & 21

4pm on both days

Turkey Raffle December 4 at 8pm, 5 at 4 pm, 12 at 4pm & 19 at 4pm

Bingo Volunteers Needed

Wednesday evenings upper hall

Annual toy drive is now on! Toys are to be unwrapped and placed in the box down in the Canteen. Or leave a monetary donation in the jar on the Canteen Bar. Please Give!



Youth Education

The Youth Education Leader is pleased to report to membership that we received 180 Elementary School entries this year for our Remembrance Day Legion competition. This particular contest is comprised of posters and literacy entries. Thank you very much to our judges for their continued support to this program.

In Comradeship,
E. Eby
Youth Education

Remembrance Chairman

This year, we had a beautiful day to honour our Veterans and Fallen Comrades. The weather co-operated and what a pleasure it was to see so many of our comrades, children and members of the community join us for our Cenotaph service.

We had so many accolades this year of what a beautiful Cenotaph service we presented but this could not have been done without all the help “behind the scenes”. Every year, our faithful volunteers help with preparing the cenotaph with the wreaths and then putting everything away. The church set-up / the co-ordination of the wreaths that were purchased / the crosses / crowd control, the parade, etc. is only a tip of the iceberg of things that need to be done.

So, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me at the cenotaph and church – I don’t want to put forth all the names as I might miss someone but you all know who you are and just know it is sincerely appreciated; we wouldn’t have a successful Remembrance Day without all the volunteers helping whether it is big or small.

I would be remiss if I didn’t thank Terry Mills and assistants who arrange the sound equipment every year and without this, we wouldn’t have a very good service.

It is a great pleasure working with our Poppy Chairman, Blair Eby as he is well organized and efficient. Thanks Blair!

Also, our ladies provided us with an excellent lunch – as always. Our Colour Party did us proud along with the Pipe Band and our Air Cadet’s role at the Church and the Cenotaph was superb.

Until we meet again on November 11th, thank you all!

Norma Dudgeon
Remembrance Day Chairman

First Vice President

A Halloween dance was held on Oct 31 with the band Fire Route who provided some lively rock and roll along with country music. There were several excellent costumes.

Thanks to our judges George Jacklin and Dave Zeigler and to Larry Hennesy our photographer. The door prize was won by Celeste Eickholdt. Those in attendance had an enjoyable evening.

Comrade Mary Alexander



Annual Wheel Barrel Raffle is now in full swing!! Tickets available at the Cantzen Bar.



Poppy Report

Our 2015 Poppy Campaign was once again very successful with almost \$19,000 raised. Although the wreath orders were down slightly, the canvassing more than made up for it. That goes to show what a great group of volunteers can do. Thanks to all of those who gave their time to distribute Poppies. Special thanks to our #340 Air Cadets for their Saturday mornings of volunteering during the campaign, you're a superb group of young people.

Considering we have a great group of volunteers at Branch, the Campaign seems to go very smoothly. Special thanks go to Anne and Elizabeth Eby for signing the canvassers in and out, delivering, monitoring and collecting the Poppy boxes at over 53 locations, and seeing that our Cadets had a good lunch for their efforts.

Many hands always makes light work so thank you to Randy Shultz, Larry Dudgeon, Jim Conan, Glenna Snider, Craig Bell, and Bob and Rhonda Harrison for their coin rolling expertise.

Norma Dudgeon should also be thanked for all the guidance she once again gave me during the Campaign.

The support the Legion receives from our community at this time of year is always appreciated and reminds us that our Veterans are and will always be remembered.

Thank You again,
Blair Eby
Poppy Chairman, Br. 340

Honours and Awards

At this year's Remembrance Day ceremony, the years of service pins were handed out. If there is anyone who is entitled to a pin and didn't receive one yet, please contact me.

During the ceremony, two special awards were given out. Kathy Eastwood received the Branch Service Medal for all the hard work she has done for the Legion, The recognition for all she does is well deserved. For her dedication to the legion for over 35 years, serving as President, almost continually on the Executive all her volunteer work in Branch, Rhonda Harrison received her Life Membership. It was my honour to present these two awards to Kathy and Rhonda, two people whose hard work for the Legion should be an example to all of us.

I would also like to thank our Zone Commander, Sheila James, who attended and helped with the awards ceremony.

Blair Eby
Honours and Awards Chairman
Br.340

Photographs in this issue are courtesy of Michael Crossling, Dan Kelly, Elisabeth Eby, Norma Dudgeon, Mary Alexander, and Andrew Reinhart.

New Year's Dance

For Only \$20.00 per person

Your Entertainment Committee invites our membership and any guests of the branch to the branch's Annual New Year's Dance. This event is open to the public. So tell your friends and neighbours.

The Doors open at 8pm on the 31st of December 2015.

Entertainment by "John Ledger & Easy Street"

Laté lunch, party favours, and Door Prizes. Tickets available at the Canteen Bar.

Come Ring In 2016 with us!!!!

New Year's Levy

Come join our annual New Year's Levy January 1st 2016 from 1 pm until 7pm.



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 Ladies Card Group 1:30 pm General Meeting 7:30 pm	2 Bingo 7:30 pm	3 Euchre 7:30 pm	4 Dance Club 8:00 pm Turkey Raffle 8:00pm	5 Turkey Raffle 8:00pm Euchre 1:30 pm
6	7	8 Ladies Card Group 1:30 pm	9 Bingo 7:30 pm	10 Euchre 7:30 pm	11 Dance Club 8:00 pm	12 Turkey Raffle 8:00pm Euchre 1:30 pm
13	14	15 Ladies Card Group 1:30 pm	16 Bingo 7:30 pm	17 Euchre 7:30 pm	18 Dance Club 8:00 pm	19 Turkey Raffle 8:00pm Euchre 1:30 pm
20	21	22 Ladies Card Group 1:30 pm Exec Meeting 7:30 pm	23 Bingo 7:30 pm	24 Canteen Open 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	25 Branch closed	26 Canteen open 3:00 pm – 7 pm
27 Branch Closed	28	29	30	31 Canteen Open 3:00 pm -7:00 pm Upper Hall 7:00 pm – 1 am New Year's Dance 8:00 pm	1 Levy 1:00 pm – 7 pm	

Notes:



"Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" Lapel Pins for sale

Cost: \$7 + HST

Can be purchased at the clubroom bar

These lapel pins can be worn on the Legion uniform from 1 November 15 - 30 November 16 on the right side of the blazer. They can also be worn on your civilian jacket





Cenotaph Artwork Price List

Items are available with either the '**Royal Canadian. Legion or Auxiliary Crest**'. Prices are subject to change upon availability of items.

Coffee Mug	\$15.00	
Apron	\$25.00	
T-Shirt or Golf Shirt	\$24.00	(Size Small, Medium, Large & X-Lg)
T-Shirt or Golf Shirt	\$27.00	(Size XXLplus)
Canvas Bags	\$15.00	
Stationary	\$15.00	10 pack of cards and envelopes

PRINTS – Double matted, non-glare glass and solid wood frame

8 x 10	\$ 49.00	
11 x 14	\$129.00	
16x20	\$169.00	
5 x 7	\$20.00-	single matting and plastic frame

Many more promotional items are available for printing. If you're looking for something special, just ask! Sweatshirts will be available soon.

Contact Information - Elizabeth/Blair Eby

#519-832.-3133 or bizebys@gmail.com

A Viewing stand is in the Canteen