



MAY 2017

BRANCH LINE



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 340
P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0
519-389-9917

Branch340@eastlink.ca www.Branch340.ca

Inside this issue you will find.... what is happening this month... Committee Reports.... general information and a wee bit of humor too. 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. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line, please submit your articles to Branch340newsletter@gmail.com

The Annual Elections were held at the April 4th General Meeting. Please see inside for election results. We thank the past Executive members for their year of service and welcome the new Executive members to the team.

Photos of our day trip to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum are featured in this issue. It was an excellent day away and everyone had a very memorable time. Thanks again to our organizers Cde Elizabeth Eby and Padre Chuck Beaton.

Saturday Afternoon Cards will have their last event on May 13th and will resume play in September.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED..... Inside this issue you will see a call-out for volunteers for the Colour Party and the Barbecue Committee. If you have a couple of hours to help it would be very much appreciated. There is no experience required so please consider joining the team.

All the events happening at the Branch are open to the public so please bring your friends and join in the camaraderie.

If you no longer wish to receive the Branch Line newsletter, please leave a message at
Branch340newsletter@gmail.com

A special shout-out to all the woman figures in our lives – Happy Mother's Day

"My mother gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, she believed in me."



The Editor





PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Comrades,

I would like to start by thanking all the people who came out to support our Branch Annual General Meeting and Election Night. The night was action packed with the annual reports presenting how the Branch did last year. The elections were pretty quiet though with no voting required. There are a couple of new faces on the Executive which is very nice to see. Welcome aboard. I would like to congratulate all those who stepped up to be part of the new Executive. They will take over starting June 1, 2017. I would like to thank the existing Executive for their continued support. Our Branch is financially stable and active due to your continued effort.

We are starting to get a taste of summer with the warmer weather coming in. Still a little early but people are getting ready to plant their gardens. We have some activities coming up in May you may want to be involved with.

Our May events;

1. Bingos are still going well with crowds staying in the 50 to 60 range. It is being held every Wednesday night starting at 7:30 PM. Doors open at 6 PM.
2. We have one meat draw arranged. May 20th is the date for this month's draw.
3. The Kentucky Derby will be held on May 5, 2017. I am sure we will have a few draws for the event. The race is around 6:30. Come out and enjoy the most exciting 2 minutes in sports.
4. The 50th Ontario Provincial Convention will be held this month in London. Many of your executive will be attending as this is an excellent time to be involved with the operation of the Royal Canadian Legion. Election will be held at the Convention for the new Provincial Executive and we will be there to vote. The Convention runs from May 13th till 16th.

Hope all is well with you and I hope to see you all at the Branch this month.

We will remember them.

Yours in Comradeship

President Dan Kelly
Dankelly@bmts.com



BRANCH 340 ELECTION
TERM OF OFFICE – JUNE 1, 2017 – MAY 31, 2018



President:	Dan Kelly		
1 st Vice President:	Robert Harrison		
2 nd Vice President:	Rhonda Harrison		
Executive:	Alex Taylor	Gord Kelly	Stacey Hobson
	Mike Hobson	Charlie Roopnaraine	

Thanks to the following members for their participation with the Annual Election:

Scribe: Patty Kelly	Secretary: Norma Dudgeon
Chief Scrutineer: Randy Schultz	Scrutineers: Jim Mahon / Tom Jacques
Sgt-At-Arms: Robert Harrison / Jack Chapman	

Cde Mike Atkinson
Election Chairman
Mjatkinson@bmts.com



MEMBERSHIP



Members are reminded to ensure their current information is up to date for the email address, mailing address and phone number. If you have recently had a change of address or other changes please leave the particulars with the Bar Steward and the Membership Register can be updated; or contact the undersigned.

It is no longer necessary to have any type of military background to become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion. We are always looking for new members and would like to see more people join our Branch. Please see the Bar Steward for applications.

As members please attend the General Meetings which are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (July and August are exempt). This is your Branch and the meetings are for your benefit so you will know what is happening in your Branch.

We welcome new members: James Mills, John Morris, Mary McMurray and MacKenzie Rosner.

As my term of the Executive is coming to an end for this year, I urge you to make sure your Membership dues are up to date. If you want to receive the Branch Line Newsletter, it is imperative that we have a correct email address. Good Luck to the incoming Executive.

See you at the Branch, Sharen

Sharen Maas
Membership Chairman
jmaas@bruce telecom.com



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



Our Branch Colour Party on parade is one of the most visible things that we do. We could use a few new flag bearers. It is not difficult to learn and I would be more than glad to train new volunteers.

We will be participating in Canada's 150th Birthday parade on July 1st as part of the festivities being planned.

The more flags that are flying, the more prominent we look. Please consider joining our Flag Family Team. You can meet some new friends and have some fun doing it.

If you are interested please contact me.

Robert Harrison
Sergeant-at-Arms
bnrshow@eastlink.ca

The Stages of Motherhood....

- 4 Years Of Age - My mommy can do anything.
- 8 Years Of Age - My mom knows a lot.
- 12 Years Of Age - My mother doesn't really know quite everything.
- 14 Years Of Age - Naturally, mother doesn't know that, either.
- 16 Years Of Age - Mother? She's hopelessly old-fashioned.
- 18 Years Of Age - That old woman? She's way out of date.
- 25 Years Of Age - Well, she might know a little bit about it.
- 35 Years Of Age - Before we decide, let's get mom's opinion.
- 45 Years Of Age - Wonder what mom would have thought about it.
- 65 Years Of Age - Wish I could talk it over with Mom.



BRANCH 340 GIVES TO OUR LOCAL ATHLETES

On Tuesday April 25, 2017 President Dan Kelly and Cde Sharen Maas, Track & Field Chairman, present the Saugeen Track & Field athletes with a donation of \$1,000 from the Branch and \$50.00 from the Ladies Auxiliary. Accepting the donation is Tony Elliot.



**DISTRICT "C" – TRACK & FIELD MEET
SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2017
Davidson Centre in Kincardine**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Results Personnel
Photo Timer Assistant
Starter's Assistants
First Aid
Hurdles Crew/Block Crew
Discus/Hammer
Lunch Persons

Timers
Set-up/Runners
Announcers
Awards Notification
Long Jump
Shot Put
Food/Water Personnel

Starters
Track Referee
High Jump
Extras
Triple Jump
Javelin
Field Referee

Dress code is casual. Wear comfortable shoes; bring lawn chair, umbrella and sunscreen and a huge smile.
Lunch provided for volunteers.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP FOR THIS GREAT LEGION PROGRAM FOR OUR YOUTH

Crystal Taylor, Chairman ictaylor@tcc.on.ca
 Brenda Funston, Assistant
 Pat Smith, Assistant



TRAINING AND ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT
ONTARIO COMMAND FACT SHEET MAY 2016
(Fiscal Year 2015-2016)



The Legion at work in Ontario:

- There were 403 Branches, with a total membership of over 100,000 (Response of survey from Ontario Command Branches was 378 branches)
- For the year 2015 Grants from Poppy funds to Ex-Service Personnel and Dependants totaling \$847,164.82
- Additional Funds spent on Veterans Programs for 2015 totaled over \$2,000,000.00
- Not including funds spent on Veterans, over \$386,100.00 was used for Senior Programs
- Continues to provide a Provincial Service Bureau for all Veterans and

Ex-service personnel to assist with pension applications and benefit concerns, this is an ongoing process; with this service being free of charge.

- Our Ladies Auxiliary members raised over \$966,000.00 for donations to charities and other deserving projects in 2015
- Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation donated \$523,662.00 to Ontario communities in 2015
- Through our Bursary program in the 2015-2016 academic year a total of 500 applications were awarded to needy students for post-secondary education in the total amount of \$250,000.00 in the Province of Ontario. Since the academic year of 2002-2003 to 2015-2016 our Bursary program has made a total of 10,567 awards in the total amount of \$5,219,325.00.
- Additional Bursaries from Poppy funds in the amount of \$635,846.00
- Other Donations from Poppy funds in the amount of \$5,276,036.00
- Sponsors and facilitates low rental housing for senior citizens
- Branch and Ladies Auxiliary members visit Veterans in hospitals and continue to supply comforts and entertainment to enhance their quality of life
- Continues to Sponsor Cubs, Scouts, Guides, Cadets and other youth programs. Money spent for Youth Programs was over \$1.3 million; this does not include money from Poppy funds.
- Other donations to local Charities amount to over \$1.3 million; this does not include money from Poppy funds. Donations spent to local Communities totaled over \$1.9 million.
- Total Donations made to the Homeless Veterans Project - "Operation: Leave the Streets Behind" amount to over \$1,550,000.00
- Ontario Command Volunteers annually put in over 364,500 hours
- In 2012 Ontario Command Branches had over 7100 volunteer staff and employed over 1600 full time and part-time staff
- Ontario Command Branches offered their facilities free of charge to community groups for over 31,900 occasions in 2015

For further information please visit our Ontario Provincial Command Website at www.on.legion.ca

President Dan Kelly
TOD Chairman
Dankelly@bmts.com

District C Public Speaking Results as of April 2, 2017

The latest public speaking competition was held on Sunday, April 2nd in Brussels. Branch 340 had 2 competitors place; one each in the Junior and Senior divisions. The first place winners now advance to Area competition on Saturday, April 22nd at Br. 147 Barrie.

Junior

3rd – Chelby Morris, Gr. 5, Port Elgin Saugeen Central, “Education Equality” – 340 Pt Elgin/C4

Senior

1st – Emma Schuster, Gr. 10, Saugeen District S.S., “Kids Too Busy to be Kids” – 340 Pt Elgin/C4

District C Remembrance Day Poster Competition



Alex Bromaroff was presented with her Certificate for 3rd Place Intermediate – Black & White category in the Remembrance Day Poster Contest of the RCL District C Competition. She is a student at Ecole Port Elgin Saugeen Central.

L-R Cde Stacey Hobson, Youth Education Chairman, Alex Bromaroff and Vice Principal Kevin Wilson.

The Ladies Auxiliary was treated to an Appreciation Dinner by the members of the Branch on Thursday April 20th. This is an annual event where the Branch members "turn the kitchen door" and serve the ladies dinner as a thank you. The Ladies Auxiliary members work hard preparing meals for weddings, birthdays or other special events, but it's so nice to sit down to a meal we didn't have to cook, serve or clean up after!!!! Thanks to the ladies and gents of the Branch for a wonderful evening. Norma, you can come and cook for us anytime!



Port Elgin Branch 340 donates back to the community. At the April 4, 2017 General Meeting donations to our Grey-Bruce Regional Hospitals were presented.

	
<p>Owen Sound Regional Hospital Foundation received the following donations for earmarked for their equipment needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3000-Poppy Trust Fund (microscopes) • \$1000-Branch 340 (microscopes) • \$1000-Ladies Auxiliary (microscopes) <p>L-R President Dan Kelly, LA Cde Vicky Taylor, Willard Van Der Ploeg, Owen Sound Regional Hospital Foundation and Cde Terry Mills, Charity Chairman.</p>	<p>Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation received the following donations earmarked for their hospital needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3000-Poppy Trust Fund (Emergency Room and Lab) • \$1500-Branch 340 (beds/mattresses/stretchers) • \$2000-Ladies Auxiliary (beds/mattresses/stretchers) <p>L-R President Dan Kelly, LA Cde Vicky Taylor, Jonna Ebel, SMHF and Cde Terry Mills, Charity Chairman.</p>

Handprints on the Wall

One day as I was picking the toys up off the floor,
I noticed a small hand print on the wall beside the door.

I knew that it was something that I'd seen most every day,
but this time when I saw it there I wanted it to stay.

Then tears welled up inside my eyes, I knew it wouldn't last
for every mother knows her children grow up way too fast.

Just then I put my chores aside and held my children tight.
I sang to them sweet lullabies and rocked into the night.

Sometimes we take for granted, all those things that seem so small.
Like one of God's great treasures... A small hand print on the wall.





VIMY DAY REMEMBERED
April 9, 2017

Brock and Lexy Eby, honorary members of Branch 340 and Past President Kathryn Eastwood lay a wreath at the Cenotaph to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and to pay tribute to those who took part and especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Spring is in the air and that means barbecue! The Friday Night Barbecues are one of our best ways of fund-raising. We will be having either a barbecue or dinner every other Friday starting May 19 until September 29.

We will need some volunteers to help with set-up, cooking, serving and clean-up. No experience necessary as we would be happy to teach new cooks on the use of the equipment. We would love for you to join our Team.

We are also very grateful for the salads, desserts and cooking oil that are donated.

Robert Harrison
 BBQ Chairman
bnrshow@eastlink.ca
 519-389-4806

Over the centuries mothers have given their children plenty of good advice; here are some examples that are quite amusing.

COLUMBUS'S MOTHER: I don't care what you've discovered, Christopher. You could have written.

MICHELANGELO'S MOTHER: Mike, can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?

NAPOLEON'S MOTHER: All right, Napoleon. If you aren't hiding your report card inside your jacket, then take your hand out of there and prove it.

GOLDILOCKS'S MOTHER: I've got a bill here for a broken chair from the Bear family. Do you know anything about this Goldie?

ALBERT EINSTEIN'S MOTHER: But, Albert, it's your senior picture. Can't you do something about your hair? Styling gel, mousse, something...?

THOMAS EDISON'S MOTHER: Of course I'm proud that you invented the electric light bulb, Thomas. Now turn off that light and get to bed!

HUMPTY DUMPTY'S MOTHER: Humpty, If I've told you once, I've told you a hundred times not to sit on that wall. But would you listen to me? No!

The District C Spring Convention was held on April 8th and 9th at Branch 469 Elmira. Branch 340 presented several donations.



Cde Elizabeth Eby presented a \$1,000 donation to the Charitable Foundation Hospital and \$1,000 to the Charitable Foundation Bursary. Monies from the Poppy Trust Fund.

L-R Cde Larry Bailey, District Charitable Foundation Chairman, Cde Elizabeth Eby and Cde Don Young, District Bursary Chairman.



Cde Dan Kelly presented two cheques on behalf of the Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary. They were both for \$750 towards Charitable Foundation Hospital and Charitable Foundation Bursary.

L-R Cde Larry Bailey, District Charitable Foundation Chairman, Cde Dan Kelly and Cde Don Young, District Bursary Chairman.



Cde Elizabeth Eby presented \$1,000 to District C Hospital (Parkwood). Monies from the Poppy Trust Fund.

L-R Cde Lynda Hagedorn, Hospital Treasurer, Cde Elizabeth Eby and Cde Greg Oakes, District C Hospital Chairman.



Elections for District C Commander and District C Deputy Commander were also completed.

L-R Cde Lynn McClellan was acclaimed as District C Commander and Cde Eric Ross was elected as District C Deputy Commander for the 2017-2019 term of office.

Son: "Mom can I get twenty bucks"
 Mom: Does it look like I am made of money
 Son: "Well isn't that what M.O.M stands for?"



Hello Comrades,

Spring has finally arrived, the sun is shining and we are delighted to see our Snow Birds returning back to Branch.

On April 23rd a group of Veterans, Air Cadets and members travelled to the Canadian War Plane Heritage Museum in Hamilton. We had a marvelous day touring the facility with our private guides of WWII Air Force Pilots. These retired service personnel are an incredible wealth of information and stories.

This trip was a delight to plan with our Legion Padre Chuck Beaton and as a Poppy Chairman a real treat to be part of the experience.

Extra special thanks to the Port Elgin Dance Club for their \$500.00 donation of funding to support our Air Cadets. Extra thanks also to members, Craig, Merv, Tom, Chuck and Andrew for personally funding a ticket for a Cadet and membership for donations also.

I know our Veterans thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the company of one another reliving stories of days long ago.

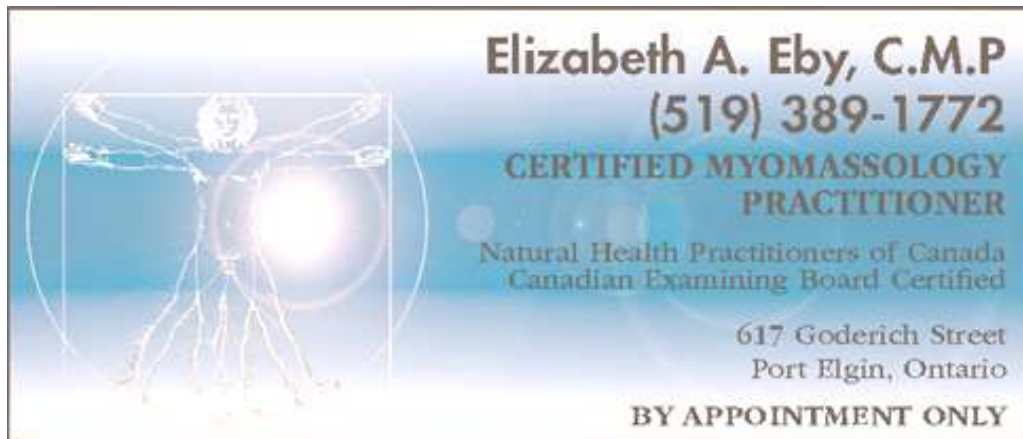
Our Cadets were very thankful of this experience and to accompany so many Veterans, and hear their stories, it most certainly will be memorable to them.

The highlight of course was to see the Lancaster Bomber, and it is spectacular!

There is a photo album at the bar commemorating the trip.

In Comradeship,

Elizabeth Eby
Poppy Chairman



Q: Why don't mothers wear watches?

A: There's a clock on the stove.

Mom texts, "Hi! Son, what does IDK, LY, & TTYL mean?"

He texts back, "I Don't Know, Love You, & Talk To You Later."

The mom texts him, "It's ok, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister, love you too."



Royal Canadian Legion
Port Elgin Branch 340
630 Green Street, Port Elgin
519-389-9917



Friday Night Dinners

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

May 19

June 2, 16, 30

July 14

August 4, 18

September 1, 15, 29

**Mark your calendars and join us for a
delicious meal and camaraderie.**

Tickets will be available on the day of the event.

Adults / \$12

Child 12 & Under \$6

Child 3 & Under - Free



Everyone Welcome



Denise and DeNephew

A pregnant woman gets into a car accident and goes into a coma.

After nearly six months, she wakes up to find that she is no longer pregnant.

Frantically, she asks the doctor about her baby.

The doctor replies, "Ma'am, you had twins! A boy and a girl. The babies are fine. Your brother came in and named them, if you don't mind me saying he does seem a bit of a redneck!"






















The woman thinks to herself, "Oh no, not my brother!" Expecting the worst, she asks the doctor, "Well, what's the girl's name?"

"Denise," the doctor says.

The new mother thinks, "Wow, that's not such a bad name! I like Denise!"

Then she asks the doctor, "What's the boy's name?"

The doctor replies, "DeNephew."

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> GENERAL MEETING 7:30 PM	3 BINGO 7:30 PM 	4 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	5 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM 	6 EUCHRE 1:30 PM 
7	8	9 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> LA GENERAL MEETING 7:30 PM	10 BINGO 7:30 PM 	11 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	12 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM 	13 EUCHRE 1:30 PM 
14 	15	16 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM 	17 BINGO 7:30 PM 	18 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	19 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM  <hr/> You're invited to a 	20 MEAT DRAWS 4:00 PM 
21	22 	23 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM 	24 BINGO 7:30 PM 	25 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	26 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM 	27
28	29	30 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> EXEC. MTG 7:30 PM	31 BINGO 7:30 PM 			

🌸 Please join us for our various events 🌸

🌸 Event Times and Dates Subject to Change 🌸