



**Port Elgin Legion
Branch 340**

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0
519-389-9917
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MAY 2013

BRANCH LINE

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.

Another year has passed and as your Editor I have enjoyed bringing you the Branch Line each month. I appreciate your positive comments and submissions. It has been my privilege to keep you up to date on what has been and what will be happening in our Branch.

There were a lot of events going on this past year and I would like to say "Thank You" to all the organizers and volunteers who have helped – no job is too small – and by your efforts you have made your Legion Branch a better place. We look forward to your continued support.

The Ladies Auxiliary also deserves a "shout out" for their tireless endeavors each year and who have continued to support the Branch as much as they have.

We also "Thank" those who supported the various events and your contributions are greatly appreciated. Each Spring various groups and organizations are presented with donations to aid their needs and your Legion is very proud to "give back" to the community.

The Executive Chairman provided their Annual Reports and they are included in this issue. They have all worked very hard during the year and are also to be congratulated for a job well done.

Our new Legion year will start June 01st and the newly elected Executives for the Branch and Ladies Auxiliary will begin their duties. There will be information provided in the next Bulletin as to who will be your Committee Chairman. We welcome the new Executive members and wish them well as they proceed to carry out their duties and responsibilities. If you have any suggestions or issues you would like to be brought forward to the Membership, please contact the President or any one of the Executive Members and they would be more than glad to assist you.

To all our "Mothers", we wish you a very happy Mother's Day and enjoy your time with family and loved ones.

Happy Victoria Day too!

The Editor



LEST WE FORGET



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- The past year has been very productive and financially stable. Income has increased in the Poppy Trust Fund, Bingo and Meat Raffles.
- Events were hosted in Sports, Zone C4 Spring Convention and again Senior Games.
- Building improvements will continue on the inside and out.
- The Ladies Auxiliary has been busy and their hard work is appreciated as well as their input with the Brainstorming Session.
- Our Late Comrades are remembered always.
- This past term of office has been enjoyable and thanks are extended to the Executive, volunteers, members and family for all the support.
- The incoming Executive is wished every success for the term of office.
- We have one of the best Branches in our District so may we continue to strive for excellence.

ANNUAL REPORTS - COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Bursary: Robert Harrison

- One application was received and processed.
- The updated forms have been received.

Hall Rentals: Norma Dudgeon

- Hall Rentals have been active with Meetings, birthday parties, anniversaries and children's parties.
- Wedding events are down and could be due to competition with other venues and the trend of the modern bride – there are more outdoor weddings the last couple of years.

By-laws: Norma Dudgeon

- There have been no changes to our Regulations since the last Annual Meeting.
- New Branch Regulation booklets have been made and copies will be available to the Executive and incoming new members.
- Thank you to Rhonda for compiling the new booklets.

Membership: Sharen Maas

The Membership Breakdown as of March 29, 2013 is:

Life	11
Ordinary	76
Associate	261
<u>Affiliate Voting</u>	<u>78</u>
TOTALS:	426

- 83 members have not paid their 2013-2014 dues and 10 members deceased since September.
- We need new members to continue to grow and keep our Branch viable.
- Attendance at Meetings could be vastly improved.
- Branch 340 received 71.54% paid membership in the Early Bird Campaign and tied for Second in New/Reinstated Membership. Thanks to all who contributed to our success.

L/A Liaison: Mary Alexander

- The L/A. of Branch #340 had a very busy Fall with catering to lunches, dinners and meetings.
- Unfortunately their wedding bookings for this summer are down.
- Our L/A are hosting Zone Convention this Spring; therefore, they are busy planning that.
- Our Ladies continue to do an excellent job in support of our Branch.

Sports: Mary Alexander

- Hosted Zone Cribbage on November 18, 2012 and 3 teams participated at District Level, but no entries went on to Provincials.
- 3 Euchre Teams qualified for District Level in Kitchener, but none going to Provincials.
- Thanks to Jim Mahon, Sharen Maas and Shirley Dadswell for organizing their respective Euchre nights and to George Walker for running the monthly cribbage.

Poppy: Mary Alexander

- The Poppy Campaign went really well and realized a total of \$18,978.68 in revenue receipts.
- There was a notable increase in business sponsored wreaths.
- Thanks to Cde Joan Hymmen for her tireless assistance and to everyone who helped with the Campaign.
- The veteran's deserve our dedication to their remembrance.

TOD: Kathryn Eastwood

- Training opportunities were attended and I am able to pass this knowledge on to others.
- Branch Policies have been developed to help guide members, Executive members and Staff. It also clarifies each Executive member's role within the Legion.
- The AGCO Seminar was attended and those present were informed of the legalities of Texas Hold'em Poker.
- Updated copies of the By-laws of Provincial Command, Officer's Manual and Smart Serve Guide are available in the office and members are welcome to read them.
- Thanks to the Branch for the opportunity to expand my knowledge and I hope the new Executive will continue in their efforts to learn.

Ways & Means: Dan Kelly

Meat Draws:

- Draws are held bi-weekly, with the exception of the Turkey Draws in December.
- Thanks to the support as proceeds from these events are donated back into the community.
- Many thanks to Tom Jacques, Dick Coulter, Eric McLeod and Murray Thede for their continued support.

Bingo:

- Bingo continues every Wednesday throughout the year.
- Many thanks to Fred Knibb, Howard Chappel, Eric McLeod, Sharen Maas, Bob Maas, Kevin Smallwood, Lisa Wilkie, Ron LaFlamme, Murray Thede and Annemarie Kinsman for their continued support.
- Fred Knibb has now retired from the Bingo program after 20 years of service and we take this opportunity to thank him and wish the best in the future.

PRO: Dan Kelly

Highlights of this past year's events include:

- Don Caloren Golf Tournament with approximately 50 golfers. The name will be changed for next year's tournament.
- Legion Week finished with a Friday night BBQ
- The "Portraits of Honour" Exhibit was on display during Pumpkinfest Weekend in September.
- Remembrance Day had an excellent turn-out and excellent weather too.
- The December Turkey Raffles were well attended with one event holding 124 draws.
- The January Levee was well received by all who attended.
- Volunteer Appreciation was also held in January, but marked with poor weather; however fun was had by all who attended.
- The Cliff Seaman Chili Cook-off raised \$847.75 for the Cancer Society.
- Thanks to everyone who donated their time and money to support all these events.

Youth Education: Dave Grieve

- The Poster/Literary Contest was held in November 2012 with 9 entries going on to Zone where there were two 3rd Place winners, four 2nd Place winners and one 1st Place winner. One entry went on to District Level and placed 3rd in Junior Poems. All winners are to be congratulated.
- The Public Speaking Competition was held on February 23, 2013 at Port Elgin Branch. 1st Place winners competed at Zone Level on March 3rd at Southampton Branch. At this competition three of our entries placed 2nd in their respective categories.
- Judges and volunteers are thanked for their participation to help make these programs a success.

Hospital: Donelda Thede

- Cards have been sent to those in hospital and visitations to patients were also done.
- Thank You cards were sent to those who donated-in-lieu of flowers at the Funeral Homes.
- One member is now in Southampton Hospital after being transferred from an Owen Sound facility.
- Please let me know of anyone that is in hospital and would like a visit or even someone at home who would like a visit.

Seniors: Donelda Thede

- Not much to report as the Seniors in our community have lots to do with other groups and organizations.
- The Seniors Seminar in Owen Sound was attended.

Nevada: Sharen Maas

- The 2012 Lottery Licence Reports were completed and sent to the Municipal Offices.
- Ticket sales are slow in the Canteen as the new tickets are not as popular. This lot has to be finished before we can do anything. Thanks to Don Dudgeon for all his help.
- Upstairs ticket sales are going well thanks to Donna Kain.
- Cdes Norma, Mary and I attended the Lottery Seminar in Listowel and pleased to say that any suggestions they made are already being done in our Branch.

There were no other reports from Chairmen for Standing Committees & Sub Committees

After the North American Beer Festival, all the Brewery Presidents decided to go out for a beer. The guy from Corona sits down and says, 'Hey Senor, I would like the world's best beer, a Corona.' The bartender dusts off a bottle from the shelf and gives it to him.

The guy from Budweiser says, 'I'd like the best beer in the world, Give me 'The King Of Beers', a Budweiser.' The bartender gives him one.

The guy from Coors says, 'I'd like the only beer made with Rocky Mountain spring water, give me a Coors.' He gets it.

The guy from Molson Canadian sits down and says, 'Give me a Coke.' The bartender is a little taken aback, but gives him what he ordered.

The other Brewery Presidents look over at him and ask, 'Why aren't you drinking a Molson's?'

The Molson Canadian President replies, 'Well, I figured if you guys aren't drinking beer, neither would I'.

Why do supermarkets make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front?

Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a DIET coke?

DISTRICT "C" SPRING CONVENTION April 13 & 14, 2013



Elections were held for the District and District Deputy Commanders.

R – L: Cde Derek Moore was elected as District Commander and Cde Patti Sargent-Gibson was elected District Deputy Commander.

Congratulations to our in-coming Officers and I know you will serve District "C" well in your new capacity.

Cde Patti is from Owen Sound Branch 006 and served as our Zone Commander and our Deputy Zone Commander during the last 4 years.



15 veterans along with staff from Sunnybrook Hospital attended the District "C" Legion Convention in Listowel aboard the new, eye catching coach bus.

They arrived in style on a new coach bus decorated with poppies called the "Legionnaire". It was donated by several legion districts last fall.

*Excerpt from Blackburn News
April 14, 2013*



The Brussels Legion Pipe Band led the "parade" for the Opening Ceremonies.

They later entertained the members during lunch break.

Due to the weather conditions, the Parade was held indoors in the auditorium.

Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens to the counters?

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ELECTIONS
Branch & Ladies Auxiliary

The Annual General Meeting on Tuesday April 2, 2013 included elections for the 2013-2014 Executive Committees. Congratulations to the newly elected Officers. We hope your term of service will be both enjoyable and fulfilling. Thanks are extended to the nominees who let their name stand for positions.

The Ladies Auxiliary held their Elections at their General Meeting on April 9, 2013.

The Branch and Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Joint Installation of Officers on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 which is also the May General Meeting. Executives will begin their duties on June 1, 2013.

We thank the past Committee Officers for their service during the past year.

More Executive information will be available in the June newsletter, you will be informed of who the Executive members and who the Committee Chairmen are for both the Branch and Auxiliary.

We welcome you to attend the May 7th Meeting which starts at 7:30 pm.

Thanks to those members who assisted with the Election process.

Mike Atkinson
Election Chairman



WHAT'S HAPPENING



LADIES CARD CLUB
Tuesday Afternoons
Upstairs Hall
Start 1:30 pm

IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE
2nd Tuesday of each month
Start 7:30 pm
Canteen

BINGO every Wednesday
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Bingo at 7:30 pm –
\$700. Jackpot

EUCHRE
Thursday at 7:30 pm
Canteen

DANCE CLUB
Friday at 8:00 pm
Upstairs Hall

EUCHRE
Saturday at 1:30 pm
Canteen

TRIVIA NIGHT
Friday May 19
Start 8:00 pm
Canteen

MEAT RAFFLES
Saturday – May 18
Canteen

JAMBOREE
Sunday May 5
2:00 – 5:00 pm
Upstairs Hall

*** NOTICE: The Sunday Jamborees will continue monthly until further notice.
 The June Jamboree date has been rescheduled for Sunday, June 9th.**

*One day an Englishman, an American, and a Canadian walked into a pub together.
They proceeded to each buy a pint of Labatt Blue. Just as they were about to enjoy their beverages, three
flies landed in their pints.*

*The Englishman pushed his beer away from him in disgust. The American fished the offending fly out of
his beer and continued drinking it as if nothing happened.*

*The Canadian picked the fly out of his drink and started shaking it over the pint, yelling,
'SPIT IT OUT, SPIT IT OUT, YOU B*****!!!'*



Port Elgin Legion Branch 340
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Entertainment

Music provided by

“Slight Return”

**Saturday, May 25th
8:00 pm - Midnight**






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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 BINGO 7:30 PM	2 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	3 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	4 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
5 JAMBOREE 2 – 5:00 PM	6	7 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 <hr/> IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30 PM <hr/> L/A GEN MTG 7:30 PM	8 BINGO 7:30 PM	9 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	10 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	11 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
12  MOTHER'S DAY	13	14 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30	15 BINGO 7:30 PM	16 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	17 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM <hr/> TRIVIA NITE 8:00 PM	18 EUCHRE 1:30 PM <hr/> MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
19	20  VICTORIA DAY	21 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30	22 BINGO 7:30 PM	23 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	24 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	25 EUCHRE 1:30 PM <hr/> DANCE "SLIGHT RETURN" 8PM - MIDNIGHT
26	27	28 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 <hr/> EXEC MTG 7:30 PM	29 BINGO 7:30 PM	30 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	31 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	

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