

CONTACT!

Volume 3 Number 12

December 2014 www.kanatabr638.ca

President's Report

Congratulations and thank you to all who volunteered to work this year's Poppy Campaign. A record was set with over \$95,000 collected this year.

The spaghetti dinner, book signing and sale was attended by 65 members and guests.



Our annual Christmas dinner brought out 90 members and friends to enjoy a great turkey dinner and silent auction. Our auction team, Pat Cher, Mary and David Szabo, again did another fantastic job with almost \$1,100 going into the "pay down the mortgage" fund.



Another first for our Branch, our own band, "The Legionnaires", performed to the delight of those present.



Tickets for New Year's Eve are on sale. As of this writing only 17 tickets are still available. The annual New Year's Levee will be held between 11:30 am until 2:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

This year's Robbie Burns night will be held on January 24th. Tickets will soon be on sale at the bar.

"Get the Grump Out of the Legion!" Interesting article to read at http://www.legion.ca

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

> John Cher President

Report from the First Vice

... next issue!



From the Second Vice

Poppy and Remembrance Campaign 2014

Once again, comrades all, it is my pleasure and privilege to bring you this year's campaign results. A total of \$95,484 (approx.) was raised. This is amazing and partly in response unfortunately to the heightened awareness of our troops due to the tragic deaths of soldiers Vincent and Cyrillo. As always, the success of our campaign totally depends on you, the members, family and friends. Each one of you is as important as the other for volunteering your time and effort to ensure that *We Remember* and that we can give back to our veterans and community those funds with which we have been charged.

Don Raven once again did a super job as campaign treasurer along with his devoted coin counters Colin Aird, Carl and Barbara Hennigar, Norma Raven, Tom Strachan, Reg Redknap and the ever faithful George Pollock. Special mention goes to George for keeping counting supplies available and an ever present supply of coffee.

For performing the thankless task of distributing poppy boxes to stores and businesses, kudos to John Cher, Mark Hunter, Ed McAllister, Nancy Medynski, Sue Mclean, Dave and Lynn McPherson. Our table captains Sue McLean, George Medynski, Morley Connell, Suzanne St. John, Dan Knighton and Dale Northrup and all their volunteers did a great job at their respective venues.

Sergeant-at-Arms and Colour Party - well done at your various Remembrance services, seniors' residences and other obligations. Thanks to those who supported Don Raven's call to cover the Canadian Tire Center and to John Gooch for poppy distribution to schools.

Your Poppy Trust Fund has been immediately at work and has proposals ready to present to you at the next meetings.

Once again, a huge thanks to all who made this amazing total possible.

LEST WE FORGET

Moira

Sgt-at-Arms Report

The Colour Party fulfilled all of its Remembrance Week obligations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Colour Party members for making it a success.

We participated in two hockey openers, services at the Seniors Centre and Sage Kiwanis, a book launch event and two complete outdoor services including our own. On the November 15, we participated in the Kanata Santa Parade, a nice three kilometer walk on a nice sunny but cool day in Kanata.

LEST WE FORGET

Bob Thomson



From the Desk of the Table Captain, Loblaw's, Centrum

Despite a few hiccups (has anything changed?), we had another very successful year, thanks to the usual devoted service of several of our members in answering the call. Our "take' of \$6,785 was slightly above our 2012 total of \$6,742 although a decrease from the \$7,263 collected in 2013. (I should point out that the campaign was only 11 days this year compared to 17 days in 2013.)

Amongst the 26 members and 2 non-members who sat at the table, several took more than the obligatory one shift. Regardless how many shifts you served, all of you deserve mention: Peter Van Boeschoten (4, including a double); Rosemary Seddon (2); Chris Bisaillion; Claude Roy (3); Arch Harvey; Dierdre Brown (2); Audrey Hunter (3); Chris Gardner; Judy Benvie; Susan Farrell; Laurie Barnes (2); Mike Channing; Ray St. Jean (3); Olive and Herb Powers (3); Arnold MacDonald; Denis Watson; Jack Dekok; John Gray; Robert Barr; Bill Bradley (2); Ted Burton (2); Doug Bothwell; Marianne Wilkinson; William Mercer; Henry Watson; Morley Connell (1). The two nonmembers were: Keith Hollver (2); and last but not least, Lauren Cuffe (2) sitting in for her father Jeff, a former member and a faithful volunteer in the past, who has moved to BC.

For the second year, I really and regretfully missed having the assistance of Dr. Andrew Mackie (Ret) who is about 98 years young and had for the past decade or more insisted on serving one shift each and every day. He is not a Legion member. He is a member of Kiwanis Sage. A couple of times in the past, I suggested that he might like to join the Legion but he politely declined, insisting that he, nonetheless, supports the principles and purposes of the Legion. I accepted that with gratitude for his commitment and left it at that. About 1.5 years ago, he fell, severely injuring himself and was hospitalized for a time. I spoke with him at Kiwanis Sage in early November and learned he is now at the Chartwell Empress Retirement Residence and

is getting around using a wheelchair. We wish him well!

Bev and I hope that all members of Branch 638 and their families enjoy a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous start to 2015.

LEST WE FORGET

Morley W. Connell

Help Wanted

The Artifact Committee Chairperson is in need of at least four members to help catalogue our many artifacts.

It should be a good job for the winter.

One or two days a week at the branch.

Artifacts consist of numerous books, medals, photos, some art work and many more items.

Please email <u>rclbr638@gmail.com</u> if you are interested.

I will contact successful applicants in the early part of the new year.

Be advised, the decision of the Chairperson is final.

Terry Jenkins

From the Branch Secretary

A friendly reminder - no general meeting in December. The next general meeting is Wed., Jan. 21, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.



May each moment of your holidays have a beauty all its own.

Wishing you every happiness this holiday season and all the best in the New Year.

Lorraine Lapensée

LAST POST

Over the past month or two, e-mails have been circulating indicating the words for the LAST POST. The words in fact are for the American Taps. In fact, as far as the Last Post Association is concerned, there are no official words for the LAST POST. The following is a reply received from the Last Post Association

---- Original Message -----

From: Last Post

To:

Sent: Friday, November 07, 2014 9:12 AM

Subject: RE: Last Post Association - Contact

Dear Mr. Pollock:

Thank you for your mail.

Although Taps and the Last Post fulfill the same military and ceremonial function, that is all they have in common.

The words you have quoted are the words traditionally associated with Taps, which was believed to have originated during the American Civil War of 1861-1865.

The British Last Post - the Last Post played at the Menin Gate - originated during the Anglo-Dutch wars of the 17th century and - as far as we know - has no words.

Kind regards,

lan Connerty Last Post Association

Additional LAST POST information may be found at the following links:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Last_Post http://www.lastpost.be/en/the-lastpost/what-is-the-last-post or http://www.lastpost.be/en/home

A Big Thank-you from the Ladies' Auxiliary

Annual Christmas Bazaar

On November 29, the Ladies' Auxiliary held its annual Christmas Bazaar at the Hazeldean Mall. It was a resounding success that couldn't have been achieved without the generosity of the Branch and LA members who donated or purchased baked goods, knitting, books and other miscellaneous items to support our veterans in our community.

I would like to say thank-you to everyone who participated; your support is truly appreciated.

Yours in comradeship,

Angie Jacklin

Seniors Festive Dinner

In spite of the snow storm on December 10, over 40 guests made it out to enjoy a delicious turkey dinner and all the trimmings, shop at the baked goods and rummage sale tables, experience the fun of bidding in the mini silent auction and to get into the Christmas spirit a little more, guests sang along to Christmas carol music provided by members Gerry Dore, Garry Fancy and Moira Green! Oh what fun!

The Ladies' Auxiliary wishes to thank all those who supported our Seniors Festive Dinner event through the purchase of tickets, donation and/or purchase of baked goods, silent auction and rummage sale items and for venturing out in the snow storm.

Thank you to the volunteers: Marg Burton, Brenda Grant, Judy Homma, Angie Jacklin, Chris Jacklin, Lorraine Lapensée, Betty Ann Pollock, George Pollock, Suzanne St. John, June Tyrrell.

A special thanks to Moira, Gerry and Garry for their music and braving the winter weather.

Now that's dedication making it happen! LML

Ways & Means Entertainment Recruitment Committee

Successes, all, thanks to our members and volunteers!

Events in the last four weeks have been very successful in the following ways:

- Successful fundraising towards paying down our legion's mortgage!
- Support from you, our members, by coming out to the events and bringing family and friends as well, purchasing books and auction items!
- Support by donating items for the Dec. 5th Christmas Dinner's Silent Auction!
 - Over \$1,000 was raised from this one auction! WOW!
- Support by donating good quality second hand books for the Spaghetti Dinner/ Author / Book Night
- Enjoyable! Entertaining! Fun! Comradeship!
- Good food! Good reading! Good music! Good decorating!

On behalf of the Ways & Means Entertainment Recruitment Committee, many thanks and much appreciation to our members who contributed towards the success of these events!

A million thanks to our dedicated volunteers!

Volunteer Coordinator: Lynn McPherson Event Promotion: Pat Cher, Judy Homma, Dan Knighton and Lorraine Lapensée

Spaghetti Dinner / Author / Book Night November 21, 2014

Spaghetti dinner prepared by John Cher and Gene Szabo

Table setters: Yvette Clark and Brenda Grant

Ticket takers: Garry and Lydia Fancy

Servers/table clearers: Peter, Pat Rose, June

Tyrrell

Dishwasher: Jane Cane Bartender: Mark Hunter

Coordinator of authors and book sale: Pat Cher

and Mary Szabo

Authors: Roly Armitage, Pat Cher, Wally

Kasper, Les Peate,

408 Squadron & the anthology, Afghanistan A

Canadian Story-Andrew Nellestyn



Editor Lorraine with husband Haluk Elmas

Decorate the legion for Christmas and Pot Luck Dinner - November 23, 2014 Decorators: Mikaeyla Boyer, Barry Briggs, John Cher, Pat Cher, Annette Edelson, Jack Edelson, Garry Fancy, Lydia Fancy, Mark Hunter, Judy Homma, Terry Homma, Angie Jacklin, Chelsea Jacklin, Chris Jacklin, Lorraine Lapensée, Bill Wilson

CFL Grey Cup Party - November 30, 2014 Event organizers: Dan Knighton, Sal Rafi, Gene Szabo

Short Order Cooks: John Cher, Gene Szabo Servers: Yvette Clark, Bev Connell, Amy

McConnell, Lorraine Lapensée Dishwasher: Dave McPherson

Bar Tenders: Brenda Grant and Ray Quinn

Christmas Dinner & Silent Auction & Music Entertainment - December 5, 2014 Event Coordinator and MC: Lorraine Lapensée Bar tenders: Mark Hunter and Chelsea Jacklin Ticket Takers: Garry Fancy and Lydia Fancy Decorators: Judy Homma and June Tyrrell Silent Auction Coordinators: Pat Cher, David Szabo, Mary Szabo

Extra Special thanks to members of

THE KANATA LEGIONNAIRES BAND for a job well done! All volunteers, members of this newly formed band rehearsed weekly for the past three months to perform their debut at the Dec. 5 Christmas dinner. Thank you, Brian Anderson, Morley Connell, Gerry Dore, Brenda Grant, Moira Green, Helen McKiernan, Debbie Powers and George Royle.



Check out our new Interac device that Pat Smith is using! LE







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KITCHEN KORNER

The Food Handlers course will be held at the Branch on Sat., Feb. 28, 2015. It will be an all-day session, so mark your calendars now! More information will be coming.

Sue McLean

This month's funny, submitted by John Cher

A Farm Kid Joins the Army

Dear Ma and Pa,

I am well. Hope you are. Tell Brother Walt and Brother Elmer the Army beats working for the old man by a mile. Tell them to join up quick before all of the places are filled.

I was restless at first because you get to stay in bed till nearly 6 a.m. But I am getting so I like to sleep late. Tell Walt and Elmer all you do before breakfast is smooth your cot, and shine some things. No hogs to slop, feed to pitch, mash to mix, wood to split, fire to lay. Practically nothing.

Men got to shave but it is not so bad, there's warm water. Breakfast is strong on trimmings like fruit juice, cereal, eggs, bacon, etc., but kind of weak on chops, potatoes, ham, steak, fried eggplant, pie and other regular food, but tell Walt and Elmer you can always sit by the two city boys that live on coffee. Their food, plus yours, holds you until noon when you get fed again. It's no wonder these city boys can't walk much. We go on "route marches," which the platoon sergeant says are long walks to harden us. If he thinks so, it's not my place to tell him any

different. A "route march" is about as far as to our mailbox at home. Then the city guys get sore feet and we all ride back in trucks.

The sergeant is like a school teacher. He nags a lot. The Captain is like the school board. Majors and colonels just ride around and frown. They don't bother you none.

This next will kill Walt and Elmer with laughing. I keep getting medals for shooting. I don't know why. The bulls-eye is near as big as a chipmunk head and don't move, and it ain't shooting at you like the Higgett boys at home. All you got to do is lie there all comfortable and hit it. You don't even load your own cartridges. They come in boxes.

Then we have what they call hand-to-hand combat training. You get to wrestle with them city boys. I have to be real careful though, they break real easy. It ain't like fighting with that ole bull at home. I'm about the best they got in this except for that Tug Jordan from over in Silver Lake. I only beat him once. He joined up the same time as me, but I'm only 5'6" and 130 pounds and he's 6'8" and near 300 pounds, dry.

Be sure to tell Walt and Elmer to hurry and join before other fellers get onto this setup and come stampeding in.

Your loving daughter, Alice

CONTACT! is published monthly by the Kanata Branch 638 in Kanata, Ontario. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors or the editor, and not necessarily those of the Royal Canadian Legion or Branch 638.

CONTACT! is edited by Lorraine Elmas, and she can be reached at lorraine elmas@yahoo.ca.

Upcoming Events - Kanata Legion & L.A.

Monthly events <u>cancelled</u> for December: Friday Pizza Night, Birthday/Anniversary Celebrations

December 23, 2014 - January 31, 2015

DATE & TIMES	EVENT	DETAILS	TICKETS	CUT OFF DATE TO GET TICKETS
Wed. 31-Dec-14 6:30 p.m. reception 7:30 p.m. dinner	New Year's Eve Party	Dinner / Dance / Fun	\$45.00 Tickets will be available 19-Nov	Tues. 23-Dec-14
Thurs. 01-Jan-15 11:30 a.m 2:30 p.m.	President's New Year's Day Levee	Lunch & comradeship	Donations welcome	Just drop by before 2 p.m.
Sat. 24-Jan-15 Early evening	Robbie Burns	To be announced	To be announced	To be announced
Sun. 25-Jan-15 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Dec. & Jan. birthday and anniversary celebrations	Cake & Ice Cream	No tickets - please use the sign-up sheet if you can	Not applicable
Fri. 30-Jan-15 5:30 p.m. reception 6:00 p.m. pizza	Pizza Night	Pizza & comradeship	\$3.50/slice No tickets – get your name on sign- up sheet	Cut-off date to sign- up is 30-Jan before 5:00 p.m.

Mini colouring pages for the grand-children!

