



# CONTACT!

Volume 4 Number 12

December 2015

[www.kanatabr638.ca](http://www.kanatabr638.ca)

## President's Report

Congratulations to Garth Lee and Bruce McBride who represented the Branch in the Zone Dart Tournament. They won the doubles and will go forward to the District Tournament in Kingston in the New Year.

Our annual Christmas party was attended by over seventy people. We were entertained by Debra McCann and the meal was catered by Leatherworks. Our silent auction brought in \$775. Thank you to all who made this a successful evening.

Tickets to the Branch New Year's Eve party are almost sold out. There are approximately 10 tickets available. Don't be disappointed--get your tickets early.

The New Year's Day Levee will be held between 11:30 and 3:00 pm.

Our refrigerator of 15 years gave up, and we purchased a new one. Thank you to the Ladies' Auxiliary for donating \$2000 towards the purchase.

I am pleased to announce that our Veterans Comfort Fund team distributed Christmas gifts to 101 veterans or veteran's spouses in retirement homes or nursing homes in Kanata. Thank you for a job well done.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANUKKAH AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.**

John Cher  
President



## From the First Vice

This--our Christmas issue--brings a welcome to Christmas and a wind up of 2015. Starting with the Santa Claus parade, Branch 638 once again led the parade that I understand was one of the best put on in Kanata, so far. Great job Kanata and Branch 638 Colour Party.

Once again, the Legion and Ladies' Auxiliary have decorated the hall and brought 'Cheer' to the branch as well as putting on an absolutely super pot luck dinner. A challenging job done well!

All other events, like the LA Bazaar, Grey Cup Party, Christmas Dinner & Auction and the Seniors Luncheon were extremely well organized and executed. These events will be elaborated elsewhere within this Contact Issue but again, a lot of organizational skills and coordination to put these events on was the work of a select few who are appreciated beyond words. They are to be congratulated and know that we shall see their names at our annual Honours and Awards event end of May 2016.

I will be off to the West Coast for a 'working' Christmas Holiday by the time this issue is released, so I will take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Safe Holiday. See you all next year.

Thank you one and all!

Dan Knighton  
1st Vice



## From the Sports Desk

CONGRATULATIONS goes out to Comrades Bruce McBride and Garth Lee for coming first in the Zone Darts Competition and will now be going on to the District Championship in Kingston, Ontario, at Branch 631 on 6 February 2016. This is the first time I know of that Branch 638 has won this tournament and will be the first time this Trophy Plaque has been on our walls! Congratulations, again, Bruce and Garth.

The 2015/16 Zone sports calendar has been posted on the sports board for all to see. The next sports events are as follows:

- 5 Pin Bowling, 9 January 2016, at Smiths Falls, Branch 95
- Euchre, 16 January 2016, at Carleton Place, Branch 192
- Legion Seniors Darts, 1 February 2016, at Lanark, Branch 395

Names to me at least two weeks prior to the event.

Our Grey Cup game and celebration at the branch was held during the game and an absolute BLAST it was! Winners of our own branch event was Gaetan Chartier, 1st quarter and ½ game, then Paul Roquet 3rd quarter and Grand prize went to Brenda Grant for end of game. Once again, thank you to all who attended and participated in the event to make this one of the best Grey Cup events held at our branch. Also to the Red Blacks for getting to the Grey Cup and, of course, to the Eskimos who took the Cup again this year.

Yours in Good Sports,

Dan Knighton  
Branch Sports Officer  
613 864 1920

## Honours and Awards

I have so far only received two submissions towards our 2016 H&A Program. Submissions can be forwarded throughout the year by dropping them into my mailbox or left behind the bar in a sealed envelope addressed to me.

Remember, when you or someone does an exceptional job, write it down and send it to me. All the best.

Dan Knighton  
Honours and Awards Chair

## The Last Post



### Walter W. KASPER

Chevalier de la Légion  
d'honneur

CD, B.A., M.Sc.(Econ).

April 12, 1921 - Nov. 19, 2015

It is with profound sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Walter W. Kasper at the Perley & Rideau Veterans' Health Centre with his loving wife Ruth Baier by his side. Cherished father of Mark Christopher, Russell James, Jennifer Noelle (Paul Totten), Tamara Louise (Gary Miller); and proud grandfather of Kyle and Ryan Totten. Dear brother of Terrence (Gail). Predeceased by parents William Kasper and Adolina Wenzel and his siblings Mabel (Alvin Wenzel), Louis (Marie), Russell and Ethel. In addition to his family, he will be missed by all of his friends. As a member of the RCAF, Wally was active as both a Lancaster bomber and fighter pilot in Europe during and after World War II. Wally was inducted in the Veterans Hall of Valour. He held degrees in Economics from the University of Toronto and the London School of Economics. Wrote and published five books and numerous articles in "Canadian Stories", including many short stories and poems. He was active in the community - member of the Legion, Kiwanis and the Rotary, where he received the Paul Harris Fellowship. Was invested as a Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honour by the Republic of France on November 11, 2015. The family would like to thank the dedicated staff at the Queensway-Carleton hospital, for their love and care during his last days. Friends were invited to visit the Hall of Colours of the Beechwood National Memorial Centre December 4 after 12 noon followed by a Memorial Service in the Sacred Space at 2 p.m. Interment with Military Honours was held at the National Military Cemetery of the Canadian Forces followed by reception. In Memoriam donations made to Soldier On [www.soldieron.ca](http://www.soldieron.ca) or the charity of your choice will be appreciated.

Rest well, Wally. Your crew is home, safe.

**WE WILL REMEMBER YOU.**



# Canadian Forces Fridays



**Canadian Tire GAS+** is proud to support Canadian Forces personnel and veterans.

Every Friday, currently-serving Canadian Forces members and veterans will receive 3¢ per litre off\* their fuel purchase at select GAS+ locations.

Simply present your ID to the cashier and to receive the discount, and don't forget you'll earn Canadian Tire 'Money' on your fuel purchase.

\*Valid Fridays at participating locations with payment in kiosk only. Must show qualifying Canadian Forces ID. Promotion may be modified or discontinued at any time and cannot be combined with any other offer. See below for qualifying identification.

## Qualifying Identification

CF1 Platinum Member Card (CF, FF, V, D designations)

- NDI 10 - Temporary ID Card
- NDI 20 - Permanent ID Card
- NDI 75 - Record of Service Card
- Veterans Affairs Health Identification Card



Photo credit: Terry Jenkins

# From the Second Vice

## Membership

Memberships in good standing: 309

The Early Bird campaign has now come to an end as of November 30. If you haven't renewed, you will now pay \$55.

Payment can be made by cash, cheque payable to RCL Kanata Br. 638 or Debit/Credit machine.

Dues can be mailed or dropped off at the Legion. I would ask that they clearly be marked "membership."

THE EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN response has been excellent. Our membership count at the Early Bird completion was 285. Using the membership total for last year of 290, we achieved 98% renewal. This number of 285 includes the new and transferred in members as well as our Life members. AWESOME response, thank you, everyone. Unfortunately, on November 19, we lost one of our veterans, Comrade Walter Kasper. He will be missed

## CHANGE TO YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Our goal is to maintain and improve the communication between our members and the Legion. If you have moved, changed your phone number or email address, could you please contact us. I can be reached at 613-832-4127 [membershipbr638@gmail.com](mailto:membershipbr638@gmail.com).

You can also contact the Kanata Legion at: [rclbr638@gmail.com](mailto:rclbr638@gmail.com) or 613-591-5570

**\*\* CARDS CAN BE PICKED UP FROM THE BAR \*\***

Yours in comradeship,

Brenda Grant  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice

Left: The Branch was host to an informal visit from the Capt. and some crew members of HMCS Ottawa on their namesake visit to Ottawa in December.

Back Row: CPO1 Al Darragh; Geo Pollock, Branch Member; Lt (N) John Nellam; OS - J-M Derome; Cdr. Sylvain Belair (Capt.); Cdr. Bill Mercer, Branch Member; Paul Roquet, Branch Member.

Front row: Bob Thomson, Member; John Cher, President; Dan Knighton, 1st Vice.



## Gaming and 50/50 Results

### Bingo Event Report - November 2015

Date	Attendance	Rent to Branch	Deposit to Trust
Nov. 01	46	\$ 173.00	\$ 500
Nov. 08	48	\$ 211.50	\$ 710
Nov. 15	53	\$ 225.55	\$ 924
Nov. 22	47	\$ 199.66	\$ 712
Nov. 29	53	\$ 244.00	\$ 800
Totals	Avg. 49.4	\$1,053.71	\$3,646

Proceeds after EXPENSES = \$2,105.35

- \$1,002.14 for Building Operation & Maintenance
- \$1,103.21 for Donations

50/50 Revenue for November = \$762.50, all of which is for donation.

Total monies raised in November for donation = \$1,865.71

## General Trust Fund Administration

This group meets once a month to distribute funds generated through the Gaming Program. Once approved by the Executive, the funds are then distributed to the respective recipients.

The following organizations will each receive \$500 in DECEMBER, for a total donation of \$2,000.

- Military Wives Choir
- West Ottawa Resource Centre
- Kanata Food Cupboard
- Salvation Army

Yours in service,

Brenda Grant  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice

## Youth Education

### Poem, Essay and Poster Contest

The 2015 Remembrance Royal Canadian Legion Poems Essays and Poster contest is underway.

The first leg of the process is the branch competition.

The deadline for submissions was 20 Nov. 2015.

Judging took place 22 November 2015. Winners from each level move up to the next level. These levels are Branch, Zone, District, Provincial and National.

I would like to thank Moira Green, Terry Jenkins and Peter Wilkins who judged the colour and black & white posters; Helen McKiernan, Gaetan Pierre Chartier and Yves Grimard who judged the large volume of essays and poems, both in French and English. Without these volunteers, who spent their time, the contest would not have been a huge success.

We received a total of 490 submissions, up from the 345 of last year

- 76 - Black & White Posters
- 281 - Colour Posters
- 62 - Essays
- 71 - Poems

Below are the senior submissions that have a good chance of moving up through the levels.



Mary Kim - Gr. 12 - Earl of March S. S.



Jessica McLean - Gr. 12 -Earl of March S. S.

Brenda Grant  
Youth Education Chair

## Sargent-at-Arms' Report

The Colour Party was able to fulfill all of our Remembrance week obligations. We were unable to do a Legion Tribute that was requested at St. Paul's Kanata on 7 November, as we were double-booked with West Carleton Remembrance Service that day. Comrade Brenda Grant played the bag pipes at the church service; the Bells Corner Legion did the Legion Tribute. For the first time in a while, we were able to carry all eight flags at our own Remembrance Service.

We also participated in the Kanata Santa Claus parade on the 14th of November. The weather was a little on the chilly side but good marching weather.

The Canadian Tire Centre plans to have a Colour/Flag Party at every home hockey game this season. Kanata took their turn on the 19th of November. I was contacted on December 5th to fill in a cancellation for that night. We couldn't do it on such short notice; a Fire Service Flag Party was able to do it. One reason I am mentioning this is that we are allowed six tickets and free parking. If short on Colour Party members, we can use the extra tickets for guests. So I am going to attempt to make up a standby list to fill in for Colour/Flag Party cancellations.

We did pick up two new members who have greatly relieved the work load: Comrade Adrianus Cornelisse and Garth Lee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for participating in the Colour Party, during this busy period and for the whole year.

Bob Thomson  
Sgt-at-Arms  
RCL 638

Santa Claus Colour Party with MP Karen McCrimmon



Cedric Watkiss proudly shows off his newly mounted medals. Thanks to Sgt-at-Arms Bob Thomson for making a veteran very happy.





# From the Poppy Chair

Greetings All: An impressive total of approximately \$85,000 was raised, which exceeds my expectation for this year and is a testament to all who gave of their time and effort to accomplish this result. Time now to thank the many veterans, members, friends and family who helped during our Poppy Campaign. Our treasurer, Don Raven, and his ever enthusiastic and dedicated team consisting of Colin Aird, Carl and Barbara Hennigar, Norma Raven, Rick Raven, Reg Redknap, Tom Strachan, Catherine Raven and George Pollock. The counting was successfully and efficiently carried out over a period of nine days, two hours per day. Special thanks to George Pollock for supplying coffee and transporting heavy coin boxes to the bank. Table Captains: Sue McLean (Hazeldean Mall), Morley Connell (Loblaws, Centrum), George Medynski (Walmart), Dale Northrup (Home Depot), Suzanne St. John (Superstore), and Dan Knighton (Costco). Mark Hunter and John Cher (stores and businesses). Dave McPherson (Centrum stores), Mary-Jo Gauthier, Gord McCaskill and Curtis Keable (Signature Centre), George Pollock (supplies), Jane Cane (residences and nursing homes), Denis Pelletier (schools), Don Raven (Canadian Tire Centre), Brenda Grant (Youth Education), Bill Wilson (Cadets).

## Canadian Tire Centre

Only two games this year resulting in a total of \$2,789.65 as opposed to last year's total of \$8,370.80 when we had five games. A significant difference but a good total for two games. Don thanks the following perennial volunteers who are always there when called upon: Angie and Chris Jacklin, Carolyn and Harold McIlquham, George Medynski, Marianne Wilkinson, Tom Flood, Gaetan Chartier and Ernie Jurakosky. This is Don Raven's last year to perform this task as he has done so ably for many years. Thank you, Don, for all those years of commitment. A vacancy now exists for 2016, and if you would like to take over this job, please contact Don or myself at your convenience. There is a huge number of businesses in the Kanata area. Each one needs a poppy box dropped off, possibly refilled and picked up after Nov 11. John and Mark do a great job; however, at least two more bodies are needed to help out next year. If interested, please contact any member of the team.

A wind-up meeting was held on November 30, and I thank all who attended. It was a great turn out and a testament to all those dedicated volunteers who made this campaign a success. Many positive suggestions were made as to how to improve our campaign next year. All suggestions were valid and very much appreciated by all. No doubt I have omitted some names and for that I apologize in advance.

It has been my privilege to serve as Poppy Chair this year and I thank you for that privilege.

Yours in service,

Moira Green

## Annual Remembrance Dinner

Thanks to all who attended. Special thanks to Cadet Patrick Philipson and Officer Tom Platt from Snowy Owl 706 Air Squadron for their service as ushers.

Yours in service,

Moira



Photo credit:  
Sue McLean



### From the Desk of Poppy Table Captain, Loblaws, Centrum

Another successful campaign has concluded. Our table at Loblaws took in \$6506 (down only slightly from \$6785 in 2014). Total for the Branch: approx. \$84,900.

All shifts at this post were staffed by the following members and non-members (number of shifts in parentheses, where applicable): Chris Bissaillon, Ray St. Jean (3), Bob Barr, Laurie Barnes (2), Susan Farrell, Audrey Hunter (6), Deirdre Brown (4), Anne Erwin and son Liam (non member), Marianne Wilkinson, Henry ("Hal") Watson (2), Leah O'Neill, Judy Benvie (2), Peter van Boeschoten (3), Cathy Coghlin (non-member), Arnold MacDonald, Claude Roy (3), Denis Watson (2), Olive and Herb Powers (2), Jack Dekok, John Gray, Archie Harvey, Bill Mercer and son Devin (non member), Amanda Robbins, Lauren Cuffe (non-member), Keith Hollyer (non-member), Aime Mureta, and yours truly (2). A very big thank you to all of you!

On behalf of Bev and myself, I wish season greetings to all our comrades and their families!

Morley W. Connell

Poppy Table Captain, Loblaws (Centrum) 2015

The Royal Canadian Regiment celebrated its 132<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Congratulations! **Eileen Hollyer** and I were privileged to attend the wonderful dinner celebration at NDHQ WO's and Sgts Mess on Cartier Square hosted by the Ottawa Branch of the Royal Canadian Regimental Association. Best wishes also to **Eric Devlin** on the occasion of his 95th Birthday. A great evening was enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Moir Green



## From the Branch Secretary

I wish to take this opportunity to wish everyone a good and safe holiday season and the best New Year ever!

A friendly reminder, our Kanata Legion's general meetings are as follows:

No general meeting in December  
Wed. 20 January 2016 - 7:30 pm

Looking forward to seeing you in January!

Lorraine Lapensée

## Comfort Fund

This December the branch Comfort Fund distributed 101 gift bags to veterans in retirement residences and long term care facilities. Starting the first week of December, we visited 10 residences with gift bags, tokens of appreciation.

Many thanks to our team who organized, filled and delivered the gift bags: Sue McLean, Helen McKiernan, June Tyrrell, Bev Connell, Judy Homma and Lorraine Lapensée.

Thank you to Dan Knighton who designed and donated the Christmas cards that we attached to each bag.

Loblaws Centrum and Lorraine Lapensée (Avon) also donated items at reduced costs, which helped fill our gift bags and made them more attractive. It was greatly appreciated.

The Comfort Fund Committee will meet in January to discuss how the visits worked, and to make recommendations for next year.

Pat Cher  
Comfort Fund





# Ladies' Auxiliary

## Annual Christmas Bazaar

On November 28, 2015, the Ladies' Auxiliary held their Annual Christmas Bazaar at Hazeldean Mall. Donations of baked goods, pickles, jams, knitting, crafts, books and more was tremendous! Donations came from legion members, L.A. members and the community. The Ladies' Auxiliary wishes to take this opportunity to thank everyone very much who made a donation and to those who stopped by to shop. It is these generous contributions that made this year's bazaar one of the most successful over the years! Many thanks and much appreciation.

## Annual Seniors Festive Dinner

Approximately 56 guests attended the Ladies' Auxiliary's Annual Seniors Festive Dinner on December 9, 2015. It was the first time guests from Kanata's 10 retirement, nursing homes and long-term care facilities attended this event; three homes were represented. Make-up of other guests were members and non-members who attended. Special thanks to all who attended. Guests enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings prepared by the Ladies' Auxiliary. Guests were invited to browse and shop through the many good deals at the L.A.'s baked goods and white elephant table! Everyone enjoyed the Christmas music by Moira Green, piano, Gerry Doré, fiddle and Helen McKiernan, vocals! Well done, Moira, Gerry and Helen!

Door prizes were donated by Mary Aird and Lorraine Lapensée.

In addition to door prizes to be won, one person at each table had the opportunity to win a Christmas theme stuffed toy to take home!

As with all events, the success of an event would not be possible, if were not for our volunteers and this event is no exception.

Special thanks goes out to the following volunteers:

- Moira Green, Gerry Doré and Helen McKiernan for music entertainment
- Poster and ticket production, Angie Jacklin and Lorraine Lapensée
- Bar tenders for selling the tickets

- Jane Cane and Mark Hunter, bar tenders on duty
- Betty Ann Pollock and George Pollock, cooks
- June Tyrrell, food preparation assistant
- JoAnne and Joseph de Lepper, server/clearers
- Terry Homma and Angie Jacklin, dishwashers
- Judy Homma, baked goods and white elephant table
- Lorraine Lapensée, ticket taker and emcee
- Pat and John Cher and Dan Knighton for miscellaneous support

Submitted by

Lorraine Lapensée



Photo credit: Terry Jenkins



## W.E.R.C. Corner

(Ways & Means Entertainment Recruitment Committee)

On behalf of the Ways and Means Entertainment Recruitment Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of the events held throughout the year. Your support helped pay off the mortgage! What a significant celebration for the Kanata Legion! We have come a long way!

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Lorraine Lapensée  
Chair



## Deck the Halls

The best attended Decorate the Legion for Christmas and Pot Luck Supper event took place on November 22, 2015. Approximately 25 volunteers, including the Decorating Committee, put their decorating talents together to decorate the Kanata Legion for Christmas. The Ladies' Auxiliary and the Kanata Legion together covered the cost of a new artificial tree. End results - it looks like Christmas at the Kanata Legion! Good work everyone! The best pot luck ever...so much choice, a table was added! A great opportunity to visit, meet newcomers! A special thank-you to all who came out!

## Annual Christmas Dinner, Silent Auction and Dance

Approximately 70 guests celebrated Christmas at the Kanata Legion's Annual Christmas Dinner, Silent Auction and Dance on December 5, 2015. Guests bid and in some cases outbid each other on a variety of items in the silent auction before and after dinner! It is always amazing the large number and variety of items donated for a silent auction and this silent auction was no exception! A special thank you to all who donated to the silent auction. Of course, the success of a silent auction is also dependent on those bidding and again people pulled through! \$775 was raised from the silent auction! WOW! Thank you, again.

Guests enjoyed a delicious turkey buffet catered by Leatherworks and later danced and/or sang-a-long to music by Debra McCann! A very enjoyable evening!

Door prizes donated by Lydia Fancy and Lynn McPherson. Many thanks for your generosity, Lydia and Lynn!

Special thanks to those who attended. A good time was had by all!

Many thanks to our volunteers:

- Amanda Robbins, Pat Cher, Lorraine Lapensée - poster and ticket production and event promotion;
- Various bar tenders for selling the tickets
- Garry and Lydia Fancy, ticket takers

- Moira Green and Yves Grimard - bar tenders on duty
- Bob Thomson and John Thomson - hall set up and clean up
- Lynn McPherson - volunteer coordinator
- Lorraine Lapensée, event coordinator and emcee
- Dan Knighton, assistant event coordinator
- Pat Cher, silent auction coordinator
- Bev Connell, Terry Jenkins, Jackie Terris, John Cher, Lynn McPherson - silent auction set up assistants and cashier
- Lorraine Elmas - photographer



**CONTACT!** is published monthly by RCL 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  
[lorraine\\_elmas@yahoo.ca](mailto:lorraine_elmas@yahoo.ca)

# A Hallowe'en of a Time!

Excitement filled the decorated Kanata Legion hall as over seventy guests gathered to celebrate Hallowe'en at Harvest time! Costume winners: Diane Chevrette as Queen Elizabeth I and Dave Trinke as King Richard III.

Many thanks from the Ladies' Auxiliary for making their Harvest/Halloween Fundraiser a big success!

Thank you to all those who came out for their support and for the costume show

Thank you to Gord Hawley, DJ Hawley Services, for the music entertainment.

Thank you to Mary Aird, June Tyrrell and Lorraine Lapensee for donations of prizes.

Thank you to our volunteers.

Editor's apology: Our W.E.R.C. Chair, Lorraine Lapensee, provided a full list of valuable volunteers and their contributions. However, for this event only, in this issue of CONTACT! I've run out of space. LE



Can you find a Table for Two?!

## Kanata Legion & Ladies' Auxiliary Upcoming Events December 31, 2015 - February 13, 2016

Date & Times	Event	Details	Tickets	Cut Off Date for Tickets
No December Birthday/ Anniversary Celebrations				
Thurs., Dec. 31/15 6:00 P.M. Reception 7:30 P.M. Dinner	New Year's Eve Party	Roast Beef Buffet By Leatherworks Catering DJ Music By Eden	\$45.00 per person	December 22, 2015
Fri., Jan. 1/16 11:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.	President's Levee	Buffet	No Tickets, No Sign-Up Sheet, Drop By - Donations Welcome!	
Thurs., Jan. 21/16 1:30 - 4:00 P.M.	Games of Fun	Further details to follow.		
Sat., Jan. 23/16	Annual Robbie Burns Evening Event	Further details to be announced - please mark the date on your calendar, if interested in attending.	TBA	TBA
Sat., Feb. 13/16	Annual Valentine's Day Evening Event	Further details to be announced - please mark the date on your calendar, if interested in attending.	TBA	TBA