



CONTACT!

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www.kanatabr638.ca

President's Report

Our annual Remembrance Day Ceremony brought out approximately a thousand people this year. I heard many compliments on the parade and on the reception afterwards. Thanks must go out to too many people to list, so I thank everyone who helped to make this a very special day. I must give special thanks to Allan at Sobey's on March Road for donating the food, the Ladies' Auxiliary for preparing the meal and to Lapointe's for opening early so our volunteers could enjoy coffee and a place to warm up. This year I made arrangements for the Canadian Military Wives Choir to entertain us at the reception (photo, below). They were a great hit, so I booked them for next year.

Please see the W.E.R.C. Corner for comments on our annual Remembrance Dinner.

John Cher
President



From the First Vice

With Remembrance Day 2015 now behind us and the Poppy Season in its final counting stages, we can reflect on how our veterans and members gave so tirelessly to help make this year's Poppy Drive the success that it's been. The Remembrance Day Ceremony itself came off once again without a drop of rain, the temperature was perfectly acceptable and the crowd was just about all we could handle. We were once again blessed with our ceremonial 'Double Seagull Fly-Past' just in the 'nick of time. In all seriousness, this did not all happen on its own, but was due to the organization and coordination of the many supporters within the branch. Congratulations to all who made it the success it was. Our sponsors laid approximately 85 wreaths while we were entertained by the Holy Trinity Catholic School Choir and our Branch 638 Highland Mist Pipe Band led by Second Vice President, Brenda Grant. I must also comment on how much we all enjoyed the absolutely stunning performance back at the branch by the Military Wives Choir. They were spectacular to say the least. Additionally, our annual visit from 2 CMBG Signals Squadron complete with tent and Public Address System put many a professional 'touch' to our ceremony. We are blessed to have such a proficient workforce.

Thank you to one and all,

Dan Knighton
1st VP

From the Sports Desk

The 2015/16 Zone sports calendar has been posted on the Sports Board for all to see. The next sports event up is

CRIBBAGE - to be played Nov. 28 in the Arnprior Legion Br. 174. Interested players must have their names to me no later than Nov. 19.

DARTS - to be played Dec. 5 in the West Carleton Legion Br. 616. Names to me no later than Nov 25.

8 BALL - to be played Dec. 5 in the Almonte Legion Br. 240. Names to me no later than Nov 25.

Yours in Good Sports,

Dan Knighton
Branch Sports Officer
613 864 1920

Honours and Awards

I have not yet received any 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 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



BOVA, George J. DFC, Knight of the Legion of Honour of France, RCAF WWII, Peacefully in his sleep on November 7, George Joseph Bova, 94. Son of Salvatore and Salvatora (nee Liberti). Loving husband of the late Roma (nee Manchester). Dear father of Richard (Elizabeth), Ron (Carrie), Janet (Rob), and Steven (Lori). Honoured grandfather of Teri, Sarah, Ida, Violet, Randelle, Natalie, Dylan, and Tory; great-grandfather to Nisha, Saoirse, Lochlann and Solomon. George will also be fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. George had a wonderful childhood growing up in Providence, RI, and Ottawa. He volunteered for the RCAF on his 21st birthday and as a Wireless Operator/Air Gunner in Bomber Command completed two tours (60 missions), the second with 405 Pathfinder Squadron. After the war, he worked at the National Film Board for 18 years. George retired from the National Archives Film Services in 1985. He and Roma enjoyed many happy years of retirement at "The Bovarosa". A 40 year member and past president of 410 Wing RCAF Association, he will be missed by many friends and fellow veterans. Special thanks to the staff at Fairview Manor for all their care. Interment November 12, Huntley United Cemetery. Donations to the Almonte General Hospital-Fairview Manor would be appreciated. Condolences, donations and tributes can be made at www.tubmanfuneralhomes.com

WE WILL REMEMBER HIM



Left: Remembrance Service at the Shepherds of Good Hope - Hope Living on 145 Castlefrank Road in Kanata

From the Second Vice

Membership

Memberships in good standing to date as 302.

The early-bird campaign has approximately 15 days remaining to renew your membership at the low price of \$50. After November 30 the renewal fee goes back up to \$55.

Payment can be made by cash, cheques payable to RCL Kanata Br. 638, or debit/credit machine.

Dues can be mailed or dropped off at the Legion in the return envelope provided with the reminder notices that were sent out, and membership renewals are processed immediately.

THE EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN

The response to the Early Bird Campaign has been excellent. Our membership count going into 2016 is 258, 86% of last year's membership. The target is over 90%. This number includes the new and transferred in members as well as our Life members.

Awesome response! Thank-you, everyone.

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: membershipbr638@gmail.com or 613-832-4127. Also you can contact the Kanata Legion at: rclbr638@gmail.com or 613-591-5570

CARDS CAN BE PICKED UP FROM THE BAR

Gaming

BINGO EVENT REPORT - OCTOBER 2015

Attendance	Rent Collected	Deposit
46	\$ 189.20	\$ 676
45	\$ 192.90	\$ 690
51	\$ 223.80	\$ 869
45	\$ 182.40	\$ 520
187 (avg. 46.75)	\$788.30	\$ 2,755

Proceeds after expenses = \$1,587.70

- \$775.75 for Building Operation and Maintenance
- \$811.95 for Donations

50/50 REVENUE FOR OCTOBER

Proceeds for October were \$770, all of which is for donations.

Total monies raised for the month of October for donations \$1,581.95.

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. Donations for November, once approved, will be \$2,000.

Recipient	Amount
Shepherds of Good Hope	\$ 500
C.H.E.O.	\$ 500
Chrysalis House	\$ 500
Crystal Bay Centre for Special Education	\$ 250
Friends of the War Museum	\$ 250

Yours in Comradeship,

Brenda Grant
2nd VP

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY BINGO

BINGO takes place every Sunday throughout the year, generating money for our General Trust Fund. These funds are donated to deserving charities and organizations within Kanata and to Veterans Services in the Ottawa Region. Over the past six months, the Kanata Legion has donated \$8,000.



In order to continue to generate funds for our General Trust Fund, our Sunday Bingo needs your help. Volunteers are needed from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the following duties:

FLOOR WALKER - duties include, reading off the winning numbers of the 11 Bingo Games, handing out the cash prize to the winner, collect finished games and deposit in garbage, collect all the garbage at the end and deposit in the dumpster. Great to have two on the floor.

CASH and BINGO CARD DISTRIBUTER - duties include selling bingo cards, distributing the cash prizes, tracking and tallying sales and cash.

CANTEEN - duties include preparing sandwiches, soup, French fries, hotdogs, grill cheese, coffee and tea. Monitor canteen cash. The patrons make the payments on an honour system. Canteen personnel tally the cash at the end of the day, clean up the kitchen and food tables.

PERK - free lunch ☺

If interested, please contact CLAY WHEATON at 613-592-5417 (H) or 613-301-2651 (C)

Poppy and Remembrance Campaign 2015



First poppy presentation ceremony of 2015 at Rideau Hall. Poppy Chair, Moira Green and veteran member, Gerry Dore, October 22, 2015



Pictured are Don Raven, Marianne Wilkinson, Carolyn McIlquham, Harold McIlquham and Tom Flood at the CT Centre.



At Hazeldean Mall. Photo by Sue McLean



Pipers Todd and Rick at Home Depot with Brian Wattie. These pipers played at many venues during our poppy campaign. We commend them for their support.

Sent from one of our members from Cornwall, England, on Remembrance Sunday, November 8. Royal British Legion



Remembrance Day Reception at the Branch Canadian Military Wives Choir



From the Poppy Chair

Greetings All: So far, so good! Thanks to all for the good work and countless hours spent in various capacities in various places. It is too early to give a comprehensive report as not enough data re donations is available as yet. A full report will be in the next CONTACT. Once again, too many people to thank at this time.

There will be a poppy campaign wind up meeting on Monday, November 30, at 7:30 p.m. All table captains, poppy distributors, etc., are invited to attend.

We conducted 11 Remembrance services in our community, bringing our message of Remembrance to approximately 100 veterans and over 500 residents and those in attendance at the seniors centres. I sincerely thank the following members for their dedication to this event: The Rev. Can. Dr. Bill Prentice, whose story about Herbie touched all our hearts; our stalwart Sargent at Arms, Bob Thomson; piper, Brenda Grant; and pianist, Helen McKiernan; and Harry Needham and his rendition on The Act of Remembrance, Sue McLean and Joanna Walters. It was a privilege for all of us to meet and salute these wonderful people in our community.

Yours in Service,

Moira



Silver Cross Widow Margaret Eaton at a Remembrance service. Photo by Moira Green.



Veterans George Rand and Reggie Harris at a Remembrance service



Eileen McLissac and Audrey Low, widows of deceased branch members at a Remembrance service.
Photo by Moira Green.



Remembrance Day Reception at the Branch

W.E.R.C. Corner

(Ways & Means Entertainment Recruitment Committee)

Remembrance Dinner

Our annual Remembrance Dinner held on the 14th had 70 plus members and guests attending. Moira did a wonderful job of organizing the evening, thank you. Leatherworks did a great job, as usual, on the meal. Thanks also goes out to Mike Fahey who volunteered to entertain us after dinner. To the bar staff, Mary-Jo and Gord; set up crew, Bob and John; decorating Judy and June; those giving toasts, John Gooch, Morley and Harry; ticket takers, Lorraine L. and Gary; Clay for the draw and Brenda for piping: great job, all.

The speech by our Zone Commander, George Wood, was appreciated by all.

John Cher

Below, Mike Fahey; photo by Dan Knighton



From the Branch Secretary

A friendly reminder that our Kanata Legion's next general meeting is Wed., Nov. 18/15 at 7:30 p.m.

No general meeting in December

Hope to see you then!

Lorraine Lapensée

Here is a bit of interesting WWII history most of us haven't heard about.

Submitted by branch member Ted Hanrath.

Wojtek (Voytek) was a bear cub found in Iran in 1942 and adopted by soldiers of the 22nd Artillery Supply Company of the Polish II Corps.



Soldiers fed him with condensed milk from an emptied vodka bottle. The bear was subsequently fed with fruit, marmalade, honey and syrup, and was often rewarded with beer, which became his favourite drink. He also enjoyed smoking and eating cigarettes.



Over the long journey from Iran to Palestine, the bear quickly became the unofficial mascot of the 22nd company. The bear would sit around the campfire with the men, eating, drinking, and sleeping in tents with the rest of the soldiers.





He enjoyed wrestling (obviously, no one had any chance with him) and was taught to salute when greeted. When the motorized convoy was on the move, Voytek sat in the passenger seat of one of the jeeps, hanging his head out of the window and shocking people walking on the street.



The problem, however, was that British High Command did not allow any pets or animals in their camp, so the Polish Army formally enlisted Voytek into their ranks. He was given the rank of Private (at the end of war, his rank was corporal), assigned a serial number, and from that point on he was included in all official unit rosters.



The Poles' Finest Hour of the war came in the battle for Monte Cassino. The campaign was proving to be one of the bloodiest battles of the Western Front, and the Poles were brought in to make the final push to capture the fortress. During the fighting, Voytek actually hand-carried boxes of ammunition, some weighing in at over 100 pounds, from supply trucks to artillery positions on the front lines.



His actions were so inspiring to his fellow soldiers that after the battle the official insignia of the 22nd Artillery was changed to a picture of Voytek carrying an armful of howitzer ammunition.

After the war, some elements of the Polish Army, including Voytek, were reassigned to Scotland, since Poland was under USSR control, and many Polish soldiers did not like the prospect of living in a Soviet-run police state.



Voytek lived out the rest of his days in the Edinburgh Zoo. He always perked up when he heard the Polish language spoken by zoo guests, and during his life in there he was always being visited by his old friends from the Polish Army – some of whom would throw cigarettes down into his open arms, some of whom would even jump into the bear enclosure and wrestle with him for old time's sake.



The bear was a hero of World War II, and there are statues of him and plaques memorializing his brave service in Poland, Edinburgh, the Imperial War Museum in London, and the Canadian War Museum.

He passed away in 1963, at the age of 22.

W.E.R.C. Corner (continued)

A variety of entertainment just for you!

The W.E.R.C. has planned something for everyone in the next six weeks!

Please study closely the upcoming events list (back page) to be sure you do not miss an event!

New Upcoming Event Highlight

**CFL Grey Cup Party on Sunday,
November 29, at 5:00 p.m.**

**Tickets are available now for all
events listed, where applicable.**

Christmas Dinner Dance

Silent Auction



Donations needed for your branch fund-raising Christmas Auction. Proceeds to help pay for Snow Removal, close to \$10,000 this winter. New or nearly new items may be dropped off at the branch care of Pat Cher. Items that worked well in past years were jewelry, purses, paintings, care products, collectible, china, figurines, home decor, Christmas decor, gift cards.



Thank you for helping out.

Request for New Year's Eve Party door prizes!

To help keep up the Kanata Legion's reputation as having the best New Year's Eve party in Kanata, door prizes can make a difference. A request goes out for donation of door prizes, please. If anyone knows of a business that might want to make a donation of a gift card or gift basket as a means of promoting their business, it would be very much appreciated if such door prizes could be collected. Door prizes can be dropped off at the Kanata Legion to the attention of Lorraine Lapensee, please. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at 613-831-8319.

Thank you!

Lorraine Lapensee
W.E.R.C. Chair

Ladies' Auxiliary Fundraising Entertainment Committee

Fundraisers - Ongoing Books/DVDs/CDs Table Sale at Friday's Fish 'n Chips, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Donations welcome!

Annual Christmas Bazaar



Saturday, November 28, 2015
at the Hazeldean Mall,
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

hosted by The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Royal
Canadian Legion, Branch #638-Kanata.

Crafts, Knitting, baking, books, preserves, jams, jellies and more available for your shopping pleasure! When you support the Ladies' Auxiliary, you support our Veterans and our community!

Request for donations of crafts, knitting, baking, books, preserves, jams or/and jellies for the Bazaar on November 28, 2015. All donated items can be dropped off at the Hazeldean Mall between

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 28.

For further information, please contact
Angie Jacklin, Bazaar Coordinator, at 613-720-6737

Seniors Festive Dinner Wednesday, December 9, 2015

11:30 a.m. - Reception
12:00 noon - Dinner

Turkey with all the trimmings!

Baked Goods and White Elephant Table Sale

Christmas Carol Sing-a-long with Moira Green

\$12.00/person

Tickets must be obtained by December 3.

Donation requests

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Kanata Legion wishes to thank the many who have donated books, DVDs, CDs, wool and more! It is all very much appreciated! Thanks a million!

While we have enough wool for now, donations of the above-mentioned bazaar items are still very much needed, please.

As well, baked goods and donations of items for the Seniors Festive Dinner (December 9) for the Baked Goods and White Elephant Table sale are most welcomed! Items can be dropped off at the Kanata Legion to the L.A.'s attention in advance and baked goods can be dropped off either day before, Dec. 8, or the morning of Dec. 9. Thanks so much!

Donations of books, DVDs and CDs for the weekly Friday book/DVD/CD sale at Fish 'n Chips is an ongoing request and, of course, always appreciated.

Ladies' Auxiliary Kanata Branch 638 is recruiting new members for the 2015/16 year!

Do you enjoy, community service, helping veterans? If so, we need your help. The Ladies' Auxiliary exists to lend assistance to the Legion Branch, to help veterans and their dependents wherever possible and to assist with the Annual Poppy Campaign.


What do we do? The Ladies' Auxiliary organizes events, as a separate group and also in conjunction with the Legion itself. Funds raised from events are donated to a number of charities and organizations such as the Ontario Command Veterans Wish fund, Ontario Command Charitable Foundation, Ontario Command Homeless Veterans, Ontario Command Bursary Fund, Kanata Food Cupboard, Easter Seals, Alzheimer's Society of Ottawa, The Humane Society and families in need. We also support the branch by donating funds for the building and grounds maintenance.

The Ladies' Auxiliary provides an annual dinner for our local Sea Cadet Corps and a luncheon for veterans, visiting troops and the community on Remembrance Day. The ladies also provide refreshments for family birthday celebrations, anniversaries and funeral receptions. A book/

DVD/CD sale is on the go each Friday at our Friday Fish 'n Chips -- the best fish and chips in Kanata!

We meet monthly on the first Wednesday at the Legion Hall in Kanata, 70 Hines Road, at 7:30 p.m. Membership is \$20.00 per year.

Interested persons, please contact the L.A. President, Angie Jacklin, at 613-720-6737.



With more than 70 retirement residences in the Ottawa area, how do you decide which one is best for you and your loved ones?

How do you find the time to do all the research?

Stay in the driver's seat, but trust the research to me. With over 9 years hands on experience, I can help you arrive at the right choice for you and your family!

Amy McConnell
www.teaandtoast.ca
613.406.6031

Tea & toast

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

Editor's Note: Where's Hallowe'en? I was so looking forward to publishing the Hallowe'en Harvest Dinner & Dance article, including photos of our worthy costume winners and list of invaluable volunteers, but I am limited to 10 pages (cost of postage). So we will have to wait till next issue to see our beautiful Queen Elizabeth I and King Richard III, among others. L.E.

Kanata Legion & Ladies' Auxiliary Upcoming Events November 22, 2015 - December 31, 2015

Date & Times	Event	Details	Tickets	Cut Off Date for Tickets
Sun. Nov. 22/15 3:00 p.m.	Decorate Legion for Xmas & Pot luck Dinner	Those interested in getting into the Xmas Spirit please get your name on the sign-up sheet in the lounge and indicate the category of food you plan to bring i.e. appetizer, salad, main dish, dessert	No tickets! Sign-up sheet – call the legion at 613-591-5570 or drop by!	Not applicable
Sat. Nov. 28/15 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	L.A.'s annual bazaar	Location: Hazeldean Mall Drop by to Shop and Support the L.A. Donations of baked goods, jams, jellies, books, crafts, etc. can be dropped off at Hazeldean Mall after 8:30 a.m. Nov. 28	Not applicable	Not applicable
Sun. Nov. 29/15 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	November birthdays & anniversaries	Cake & Ice cream	Not applicable	Not applicable
Sun. Nov. 29/15 5:00 p.m.	CFL Grey Cup Party!	Come out for some Football Fun! No admission fee! We ask that you get your name on the sign-up sheet in the lounge by Nov. 26 th . \$7.00 if you choose to try out the menu. Schnitzel Platter: Schnitzel on a bun; deep fried pickles, French fries	No tickets! Sign-up sheet by Nov. 26/15 – call the legion at 613-591-5570 or drop by!	Nov. 26, if you are planning to try out the menu.
SAT. DEC. 5/15 Evening	Christmas dinner, silent auction & dance	Turkey with all the trimmings by Leatherworks Catering Sing and/or dance to music by Debra McCann	\$25.00/person	Wednesday, December 2, 2015
WED. DEC. 9/15 11:30 a.m. Reception 12:00 noon Dinner	Seniors Festive Dinner Luncheon	Turkey with all the trimmings by the L.A. Baked Goods and White Elephant Table/Christmas Carol Sing-a-long with Moira Green	\$12.00/person	Thursday, December 3, 2015
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/person	December 22, 2015

Tickets are available now for all events listed, where applicable.