



Volume 2 Number 2

CONTACT!

February 2013



Harry Riley

**Past President - Kanata
Branch 638**

Royal Canadian Legion

Peacefully, Monday, January 28, 2013, at the age of 81. Beloved husband of Claire (nee Bigras). Loving father of Steve (Lynne), John, Paula (Larry), Ron, Chantal (Bryan) and Martine (Ron). Cherished by his 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Dear brother of Charles Arthur (Teresa) and Betty (late Bob). Predeceased by his brothers John and Jim and sister Rose.

In memoriam donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or Children's Wish Foundation e appreciated.

The Prez Sez:

Congratulations to Branch members Terry Jacobs, Betty Ann Pollock, George Pollock and Bob Thompson on being awarded The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

I am very pleased to announce that through the hard work of our Branch Membership Chair Brenda Grant, over 85% of our members signed up for the early bird campaign..

Our annual Robbie Burns Night was a great success. Thanks to the hard work of Lynn and Dave McPherson who organized the evening. Thanks to George and the kitchen crew for a great meal. Tom Baker did his usual fantastic job on the Ode to the Haggis. Eighty four members and guests attended and enjoyed the evening.

The Essay, Poetry and Poster Awards were handed out to 33 winners on Jan. 27th. Over one hundred and twenty parents' grandparents, teachers and branch members were in attendance. Thanks to Brenda Grant who organized this year's competition and ceremony. The judges had a long and difficult job in picking this year's winners.

I am pleased to announce that the Branch Rules and Regulations have finally been approved by Ontario Command.

John Cher

Youth Education Awards

Well, it had to happen some day and it finally did. There were so many people who had come to cheer on our great competitors in the annual poster, poetry and essay competition, that we ran out of chairs in the hall, and the last to arrive had to stand for the ceremony.



Thanks to Brenda Grant's hard work, which included visiting the ever-growing number of schools, the number of participating students increased dramatically – and so did the results, with several entries going on to win zone competitions and proceeding to the district level and one entry even making it to the provincial finals (we're waiting for the results!)



Top competitor Sofia Sudo, whose poster is now in the Ontario Command competition, shown here with two of her fans!

Congratulations to ALL our competitors. You are a GREAT bunch who have made us all proud.

The Second Vice

(Ed. Note: As we go to press, we admit we don't quite know where the Second Vice has stashed herself. She was last heard from in Cairns, on the Coral Sea coast of North Queensland, where she was about to dip her tiny pink toes into the crystal waters of the Great Barrier Reef. But there is an even chance that, by now, she has moved on to the wine country of Margaret River, next to the Indian Ocean near the southern end of Western Australia.

Like the other Beach Boys, Moira "gets around". Before she left, she emailed this report ☺

Branch Service Officer

District Service Officer Pat Royle will be visiting the Branch during the week of March 4. If you would like an appointment with her please contact Cde Gerry Doré.

If and when you are aware that a veteran or member has died please contact President John Cher or myself as soon as possible so that the proper tributes and calls can be made in a timely and appropriate manner. Your assistance in this important matter is greatly appreciated.

Seniors Officer

The next birthday/anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday April 28 @ 2 00 p m in the lounge. A

sign up sheet has been posted. If there is an event you would like to see happen at the branch please email or call me with details and we will see what we can do. Thanks to those who took the time to honour our veterans and members on their special occasions. Happy anniversary to June and Gerry Dore. Happy birthdays to Morley Connell, Bill Wilson and Gerry Dore. Thank you Sue for your help.

Sick, lame and lazy

(Ed. Note: This wasn't exactly Moira's choice of words, but as I have always wanted to use and as I am the editor and out of control, I decided to use it.)

In my absence if you are aware of anyone needing a card or a call please contact Sue McLean. Sue will also deal with the Nevada accounts and I sincerely thank her for stepping up to the plate.
Youth Education

Great job on the poems, posters and essays
Brenda!

One of the perks we can offer students in the Kanata area is the chance to demonstrate their skills in the fine art of public speaking. We are able to hold a public speaking competition here at our branch once a year. As a veteran educator and former zone public speaking chair I heartily endorse this opportunity ergo who's going to run the competition?? Brenda can't do it all and I am happy to assist in the setting up of the programme etc. Are you willing to help in this endeavour? We need you! To see that smile on a kid's face when they receive an award is worth a million bucks. Please consider donating some time to this worthwhile event. Please contact Brenda of myself if you have some time to spare.

We are fortunate this year to have Brenda Grant assume the duties of Youth Ed officer. This position also includes public speaking and hopefully this event will be held next year. If this is an area where you might be interested in helping out, it would be great to hear from you. It is part of our mandate to support youth in the community.
Are you helping our branch support its programmes?

See you when I return from the Land of Oz!

Yours in continued service
Moira

This month's Donations

Thanks to revenue from bingo and Nevada operations, we donated these amounts in February:

Ottawa Hospice Services - \$250.00

Camp Musqua - \$250.00

Ottawa Hospice Services is the amalgam of Hospice Ottawa and the Friends of May Court Hospice. Camp Musqua is a residential camp for the developmentally disabled.

Honours and Awards

The H&A committee has commenced deliberations on what awards should be given this year and to whom.

Nomination forms are available on the hall notice board. For suggestions for awards up to Life membership please get the nominations to us by 31 March. For nominations for Life and up, 15 February is the cut-off date and the sooner the better as the application and a carefully constructed narrative must leave the Branch by 1 March.

Ivan Hawley

More than one historian of the Italian Campaign has observed that Field Marshal Montgomery "would have made an excellent First World War general".

Also more at home on the Great War battlefield would have been the plodding Maj. Gen. Vokes, commander of the Canadian First Division in that campaign, whose utter lack of tactical imagination caused needless Canadian casualties in a series of feckless frontal attacks against strong German defences south of Ortona.

DISPOSE OF YOUR ELECTRONIC WASTE THE RIGHT WAY!

Here's how!!!

- ❖ As a fundraiser, The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #638, Kanata is working in conjunction with a certified member of the Electronic Stewardship Program to collect and dispose of Electronic Waste the RIGHT WAY!
- ❖ Disposal is environmentally safe, in a totally secured manner which protects all of your private and confidential data.
- ❖ The more E-Waste collected, the more funds are raised to support the Kanata Legion, our Veterans and our community.
- ❖ Save your Electronic Waste (E-Waste) – Computers, TVs, Cell Phones, Amplifiers, Cameras (Please refer to complete list below) for drop off days in May at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #638 – Kanata. A fundraiser to support our Veterans and the Kanata Community.
- ❖ Drop Off Days:
 - Friday, May 10, 2013 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - Saturday, May 11, 2013 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

at The Royal Canadian Legion, Br. #638-
Kanata, 70 Hines Rd., off Solandt Road,
off of March Road
- ❖ \$1.00 off Fish 'N Chips Coupon with every E-Waste drop off. Fish 'N Chips served Fridays 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Kanata Legion.

For further information, please refer to the following websites:
<http://www.targetrecycling.com> or
www.kanatabr638.ca or call Lorraine at 613-266-4705.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Televisions • Desktop computers and terminals • Monitors • Laptop computers • Desktop printers • Fax machines • Disk drives • CD-ROM drives • Keyboards and mice
(Ed. Note: some restrictions on the latter apply.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amplifiers, stereos, speakers, receivers • Cameras, digital cameras • Copiers, fax machines, scanners • Pagers, PDAs • Radios, TVs all used hospital equipment • Telephones, cell phones, answering machines • VCR and DVD players |
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The Sergeant At Arms & Housing Report

In January's report I said there would not be much until May for the colour party to do. I had forgotten about the Youth Awards for the Remembrance Week, Poster, Poetry and Essays. The event was held on the 27 of January, we had a full complement for the colour party. Brenda Grant filled the room with 30 winners and their relatives. There were over 140 chairs out and people still standing.

On a sad note, Comrade Harry Riley passed away. He was a Past President, Life Member, and known to all. Once again there was no problem with getting a full colour party for his legion tribute.

My other hat is Housing. I can only say that so far it has been a wet salty mess for the floors at the branch.

Bob Thomson
Sgt-at-Arms
RCL 638
821-8221

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From the Ladies Auxiliary

Last post: Claire LeClerc January 31, 2013

Saturday, April 27, 2013 – ***SPRING FLING!***

**Ladies' Auxiliary's Annual Fundraiser
Buffet / Silent Auction / Live Auction
and more!**

\$40.00 / person

**Set April 27, 2013 aside on your
calendar, please!**

**Consider who you can invite to join
you to help make this event a success!
Further details coming soon!**

Getting a head start – The Ladies' Auxiliary is looking for your help with their collection of good quality auction items! Products or/and Services. Consider items you may have at home, businesses and individuals you can approach to ask for an item or service to be donated for the silent or live auctions. For further information or if you have questions, please contact Pat Cher, Auction Co-ordinator at 613-831-0298. As always, your support is very much appreciated.

**From the Legion side:
Ways and Means
Committee**



Royal Canadian Legion
70 Hines Road Kanata

St Patrick's Day Dinner and Ceili

Friday, March 15, 2013
Reception 5:15 pm

Dancers : Sue Fay Healy School of Irish Dance - 6:00 pm
Dinner : Irish Stew, Corned Beef and Cabbage - 6:30 pm
Music : Cape Breton Fiddlers and Dancing (Brian Armstrong Calling) - 7:15 pm

Tickets MUST be purchased in advance and are available at the Bar or Call (613) 728-8125 (Lynn)

Everyone Welcome
Adults : \$20.00 Children : \$10.00

A treat that's past and One to Anticipate

ROBBIE BURNS DINNER

The legion's Robbie Burns Dinner was a very successful event and this was due to the efforts of many people : from the ticket makers to the ticket takers, the haggis bearers to the haggis speaker to the haggis eaters, the dinner makers to the servers and the dishwasher, the toasters and the drinkers, the singers, the dancers and the pipers..... There are way too many people to mention individually, and this is very good. It means that more of us are volunteering, and more members are attending our events. This was the most successful Robbie Burns Dinner in several years, and with the help of many, next year will be even more successful.

ST PADDY'S DAY DINNER AND CEILI

This is a family-friendly event, so members are encouraged to invite all of their family members to come and enjoy an evening of Irish music and dance. Once again the Sue Fay Healy Irish dancers (with our own Ellis Maveety) will entertain us, and members of the Cape Breton Fiddlers will entertain and tempt us on to the floor, where Brian Armstrong will guide us through very simple dances with much laughter and fun. Tickets are on sale at the legion and must be purchased in advance. Adults \$20. Children \$10. Last year St. Paddy's Day sold out, so get your tickets early.

THE BOY WHO WOULD BE KING

Garry Fancy Contributing Editor

The Boy Who Would Be King is the title of a modern parody of the Rudyard Kipling short story, The Man Who Would Be King.

A conversation with a young Air Cadet during the last Poppy Campaign brought new meaning to this parody. As is the norm, our table had local cadets assisting us "senior" volunteers. One Saturday, a particularly smart looking young cadet joined me, and I struck up a conversation with him partly to pass the time. His words were well chosen and mature and he showed an amazing grasp of world politics and events; he was obviously very much above the average, even for the Air Cadets. It was obvious that his father, a serving military officer, had many discussions with the young man.

Seeing he was so smartly turned out, with several rank and qualification badges for such a young looking person, I naturally assumed he was keen on progressing through the light blue ranks and becoming a fighter pilot in the RCAF. So I asked him; "I suppose you will want to be a pilot when you are an adult?"

"No", he replied, "I want to be a politician!" Well, I thought, this surely is something different. He certainly has the maturity and intelligence for so lofty a calling. And then, because he was so mature and serious, I pursued the topic: "And would you consider becoming Prime Minister?" He was more serious for a moment, and stared into the open doorway of the store, and, after reflection he replied, "I just might."

After he left the table to join his comrades, I thought to myself. "He just might

Recapping the Coming Events:

Friday, 15 February, St, Valentine's Day Dinner, reception at 5 PM, dinner at 6:15

Friday, 15 March, St. Patrick's Day party.

Saturday, 27 April, L.A. Spring Fling fundraiser (details later)

(Ed. Note: When are we going to have a St. David's party, for those of us with the REAL blood of kings?)

L.A. Electronic Recycling Project Drop-off:

Friday 10 May, 12 noon to 8 PM and
Saturday, 11 May, 8 AM to 6 PM

**2nd Annual
Heart and Stroke**

Rock-a-Thon 2013



Register your team of 4
TODAY!
Help us raise money for
Heart and Stroke!

Call Amy to pick
up your pledge forms
and register your team!
613-591-3991

February 27th, 2013
2pm-3pm

**Kingsway Arms
at Walden Village**
Independent & Supportive Retirement Living
27 Weaver Crescent, Kanata ON K2K 2Z8
mdwalden@kingswayarms.com

Any Legion members wishing to participate contact Sue McLean. smclean@deadsquid.com or 831-1068. Let's see if we can put 2 teams together and beat the Seniors Centre! You only rock for 10 minutes at a time. Pledge sheets will be on the notice board at the branch. Please support us.

The Most Incredible Armoury in the World!

Harry Needham

Strolling along the busy shopping street in the inner city of Graz, the capital of Steiermark, Austria's southern province, it's easy to walk right past the old three storey stone warehouse, sandwiched between and overshadowed by larger and more modern buildings. There are no plate glass windows and the entrance door is unremarkable – but inside lies the world's greatest collection of seventeenth century military equipment – more than 60,000 pieces of armour, helmets, muskets, pistols and all manner of edged weapons.



This is the *Landeszeughaus*, or provincial armoury, constructed in the mid 1600s to store enough military equipment to equip a force of several thousand horse and foot and what they put into that packed storehouse is all still there. Walking between its weapon racks is like stepping back almost half a millennium of military time – when the weapon of choice was the wheel-lock musket or, more likely, the pike.



Are you an old-fashioned man who needs body armour for yourself or your horse? No problem.



Need fifty or so halberds for your NCOs? We have them. Any particular pattern that you'd prefer, sir? Perhaps you'd like to try one of these newfangled jobbies they call "flintlocks? Don't look too reliable to me, but still, if that's what you want, it's your schilling.

Apart from the odd school group, you are generally alone on the long floors, whose narrow walkways seem hemmed in by all the storage racks. Mind your head! That's where they store the helmets and breastplates, hanging in rows from the ceilings.

It's one of the hidden treasures of Europe and that's where Sue and I will be – in May.

Servus!

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

CONTACT! Is edited by Harry Needham (harry@hnccs.ca or (voice) 613-831-1068.

A wealth of information on Branch hours, events, contacts, etc., as well as past newsletters and photo galleries, can be found at:

<http://www.kanatabr638.ca/>

PLEASE CHECK IT REGULARLY.