



Volume 5 Number 1

# CONTACT!

January 2016

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

## President's Report

I would like to wish everyone a Healthy, Safe and Happy New Year.

Our New Year's party was sold out with 109 tickets sold. It was a great evening which saw the night going until 2:30 a.m. The food and music were fantastic. We received many compliments on the evening from people attending for the first time. Lorraine did a sterling job of organizing the event. Thank you to all who helped make this a wonderful night.

Our New Year's Levee had approximately 70 members and guests attending. The food donated by Leatherworks was excellent and plentiful. The moose milk made by Terry Jenkins was excellent. Thank you, Terry.

I regret to say our heating system failed last week. We were fortunate that our contractor had the parts in stock and repaired the furnaces within two days. Cost, approximately \$9000 plus tax.

Tickets for Robbie Burns' evening are on sale at the bar and are going fast.

The Dominion Command Convention will be held June 11-15 in St. John's, Newfoundland. Our branch can have up to four delegates who may attend at their own expense. We have two members interested in attending at present. If anyone else wishes to attend, please contact the branch secretary.

John Cher  
President



## From the First Vice

2016 - Wow! It hardly seems like 16 years ago we were all concerned with Y2K. This New Year turned the calendar page at the branch with one of the best New Year's parties to date. Many thanks to Lorraine and her committee for putting it all together, the 100 plus patrons who attended, our DJ who kept us dancing until well past 2 a.m. and to the tireless bartenders who kept going until the interminable end. Ironically, the year turned over with calm calamity for some but with a complete sense of accomplishment for all as the evening slowly came to be, so last year! It was a memorable evening for all who attended. Too bad we have to wait so long for the next one. But wait, there's another party coming up very soon. Hope to see you all there!

In this world of constant turmoil across the globe, let's all keep positive for the year ahead and pray for peaceful solutions everywhere. I wish you all a very Safe, Happy and Prosperous Year ahead.

Thank you, one and all.

Dan Knighton  
1<sup>st</sup> VP



## From the Sports Desk

The next sports event: District DARTS to be played February 6 in Kingston ON.  
Branch 638 representatives: Comrades Garth Lee and Bruce McBride. Winners of the Zone Tournament will be attending. Good luck, guys.

Yours in Good Sports,  
Dan Knighton  
Br Sports O  
613 864 1920

## Honours and Awards

Your Honours and Awards Committee will soon be sitting to review awards for 2016. The reward categories are listed below:

### Members

- ⌘ Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) or Palm Leaf to the MSM
- ⌘ Life Membership
- ⌘ Legionnaire of the Year Award
- ⌘ Certificate of Merit
- ⌘ Certificate of Appreciation

### Non Members

- ⌘ Branch Honorary Patron Award - to honour local dignitaries and community leaders
- ⌘ Friendship Award - to honour and recognize individuals and organizations that have rendered assistance or service through cooperation to the Legion.
- ⌘ Certificate of Merit
- ⌘ Certificate of Appreciation
- ⌘ Media Award

Thank you to those who have previously submitted names. Once again, when you see an exceptional job being done, write it down and send it to me or fill out one of the forms available on the board, seal it in an envelope and put as many as you like into my mailbox or leave behind the bar addressed to me.

Dan Knighton  
Honours and Awards Chair

## The Last Post



DUNN, George Edward Joseph  
Oct. 4, 1925 - January 1, 2016  
WWII Veteran, Naval Seaman on  
HMCS Antigonish

Peacefully, surrounded by family, at the Perley Rideau Veterans Health Centre in Ottawa, in his 91st year. Beloved husband for more than 60 years of the late Doreen Dunn (Delaney). Much loved father of Michael (Carol Lea), Patrick (Jacinthe), and Bev. Grandfather to Kimberly (John Reid), Jason (Parise), Ciara and Liana. Great-grandfather to Evajade and Dalia Dunn. Survived by his brother Edward (Diane) and sister-in-law Fran Dunn and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his brother Henry and sisters Irene Duck, Alice Dubois and Rita Phillippe. The family would like to express special thanks to the staff at Stillwater Creek Retirement Residence and to the Perley Rideau Veterans Health Centre for their kind and compassionate care. George was a proud member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Kanata, and the Knights of Columbus, Stittsville.

WE WILL REMEMBER HIM.

### Crossing the Bar

By: Alfred Lord Tennyson

*Sunset and evening star  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.*



# From the Second Vice

## HAPPY NEW YEAR, ONE AND ALL

### Membership Desk

I am happy to report that we are starting 2016 with a grand total of 297 members.



The Early Bird campaign was a huge success and I suspect that our numbers renewing early far exceeded last year. Great work!

We are still taking renewals for existing members and will gladly welcome new and transferring members.

Membership dues are \$55.

Payment can be made by one of three methods:

- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Cheque, made payable to **RCL Kanata Br. 638**
- ✓ Debit/Credit machine

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

### 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 or [membershipbr638@gmail.com](mailto:membershipbr638@gmail.com). Also, you can contact the Kanata Legion at 613-591-5570 or [rclbr638@gmail.com](mailto:rclbr638@gmail.com).

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

Yours in Comradeship,

Brenda Grant

## Gaming

### Bingo Event Report - December 2015

Date	Attendance	Rent to Branch	Deposit to Trust
06 Dec.	53	\$ 230.50	\$ 910
13 Dec.	44	\$ 185.65	\$ 640
20 Dec.	50	\$ 235.45	\$ 923
27 Dec. (max. payout)	40	\$ 178.55	\$ 275
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Avg. 46.75</b>	<b>\$ 830.15</b>	<b>\$ 2,748</b>

Proceeds after Expenses = \$ 1,538.85

- ✓ \$ 732.49 for Building Operation and Maintenance
- ✓ \$ 806.36 for Donations

### 50/50 Revenue for December

Proceeds for December = \$ 717.50, all of which is for donation.

Total monies raise for the month of December for donations = **\$ 1523.86**

### 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.

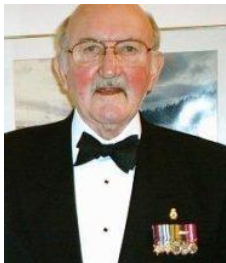
### Donations for January, once approved = \$2,000

Recipient	Donation
• Chrysalis House **	\$1,000
• Homeless Veterans - Ottawa	\$ 500
• Last Post Fund	\$ 250
• Disabled Skiing Program	\$ 250

\*\* Subject to general meeting approval

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

## Our Last Three Bomber Command Veterans



Bob McGee  
April 10, 1925-September 2, 2015



Wally Kasper, Knight of the Legion  
of Honour, France  
April 12, 1921 - November 19, 2015



George Bova, DFC,  
Knight of the Legion of Honour,  
France  
1921 - 2015

With the passing of Comrade Wally Kasper late last year, Branch 638 has lost the last of its valiant WWII Bomber Command aircrew. The others who left us the same year were Bob McGee and George Bova.

Bob McGee was a navigator with No. 6 Group Squadron on Lancasters, and then 8 Group (Pathfinders) and completed a Tour of Operations. George Bova (Distinguished Flying Cross), volunteered for the R.C.A.F. 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.

Wally Kasper served as a pilot with 408 Squadron, RCAF, completing a Tour of Operations and went on to fly Spitfires, Hurricanes, and post war, T-33 aircraft and F-86 Sabres. The fact that these three survived the hell of thirty operations in Bomber Command's is, in itself a minor miracle...six out of ten did not.

We younger and more fortunate ones can only imagine what these went through. Fortunately, the writings of Wally and others provide a fascinating history. The best record of their times rests with Murray Peden, a Canadian Bomber Command pilot who flew with the RAF, and recorded his memories in "A Thousand Shall Fall." An excerpt from this classic follows.

"To a person wanting to visualize how intense the strain could become, how suppressed fear could swell and gnaw inside, I offer the following as a comparison, perhaps easier to imagine than the unfamiliar surroundings of a darkened bomber cockpit framed in faintly luminous dials."

"Imagine yourself in a building of enormous size, pitch black inside. You are ordered to walk very slowly from one side to the other, then back. This walk in the dark will take you perhaps five or six hours. You know that in various nooks and crannies along your route killers armed with machine guns are lurking. They will

quickly become aware that you have started your journey, and will be trying to find you the whole course of the time you are on it. There is another rather important psychological factor: the continuous roar emanating from nearby machinery. It precludes the possibility of your getting any audible warning of danger's approach. You are thus aware that if the trouble you are expecting does come, it will burst upon you with the startling surprise one can experience standing in the shower and having someone abruptly jerk open the door of the steamy cubicle and shout over the noise. If the killers stalking you on your walk should happen to detect you, they will leap at you out of the darkness firing flaming tracers from their machine guns. Compared with the armament they are carrying, you are virtually defenceless. Moreover, you must carry a pail of gasoline and a shopping bag full of dynamite in one hand. If someone rushes at you and begins firing, about all you can do is fire a small calibre pistol in his direction and try to elude him in the dark. But these killers can run twice as fast as you, and if one stalks and catches you, the odds are he will wound and then incinerate you, or blow you into eternity. You are acutely aware of these possibilities for every second of the five or six hours you walk in the darkness, braced always, consciously or subconsciously, for a murderous burst of fire, and reminded of the stakes of the game periodically by the sight of guns flashing in the dark and great volcanic eruptions of flaming gasoline. You repeat this experience many times - if you live" (*Murray Peden*)

In those days, PTSD was unrecognized and unknown. LMF was the sobriquet for "Lack of Moral Fibre." Those who broke under the strain were unceremoniously drummed off the squadron in disgrace ... even though they were all volunteers!

Submitted by Garry Fancy

Branch veterans Gerry Bowen, Hank Dopler and Harry Needham at the Perley Rideau, where Moira was privileged to entertain on January 9, 2016.



## From the Branch Secretary

Happy New Year!

A friendly reminder - Kanata Legion's next general meeting:

- Wednesday, January 20, 2016 - 7:30 p.m.
- No general meeting in February

Hope to see you soon!

Lorraine Lapensée

## From the Veterans Service Officer

Important Request - Submissions for the Military Service Recognition Book Volume III

Two years ago Ontario Command launched a Military Service Recognition Program within Ontario with a goal to collect stories, biographies, photos of our Ontario Veterans past and present and collate into a book. This program has been very successful resulting in

two volumes of the Military Service Recognition Book.

A third volume has begun and submissions of veterans not yet in the Military Service Recognition Books are requested. For information about submitting a veteran's biography, story, photo, please leave a message for Peter Wilkins, Veterans Service Officer, at the Kanata Legion by phone 613-591-5570 or by email: [rclbr638@gmail.com](mailto:rclbr638@gmail.com).

## Ways and Means Entertainment Recruitment Committee

Say good-bye to the old and hello to the new!

...and that is just what 109 guests did as they brought in the new year-2016 at the Kanata Legion's Best New Year's Eve party in Kanata!

Leatherworks Catering put on a great Roast Beef Buffet with a variety of delicious dishes to tantalize the taste buds!

DJ, Eden Windish, maintained his good DJ reputation playing just the right tunes; a big ingredient in the recipe for fun! Add a few more ingredients such as party hats, noise makers, lots of smiles and dancing fun was guaranteed for everyone!



Photo credit: Lorraine Lapensée

Success of this event is thanks to:

- All who came out and to those who brought a tableful! Without you the New Year's Eve party would not be the success it was!
  - Those who donated door prizes:
    - President's Choice-Superstore
    - Laura's Independent
    - Dan Knighton, Ralo Headsets
  - Spot Dance prizes: Lorraine Lapensée, Avon
- Thank you, George Royle, for approaching businesses for prizes. Great job!

Special thanks to our volunteers:

- Promotion: Amanda Robbins, Lorraine Lapensée, Terry Jenkins
- NYE poster and ticket design and production: Dan Knighton
- Bartenders: Moira Green and Brenda Grant
- Decorations-take down Xmas & put up NYE decorations:  
Barry Briggs, Pat Cher, John Cher, Adrianus (Art) & Linda Jane Cornelisse, Judy Homma, Lorraine Lapensée, Helen McKiernan, Doug Rowland, George Royle, Velia Tamburello, Jackie Terris, June Tyrrell
- Party Assistants: JoAnne de Lepper, Joseph de Lepper, Stuart Gentle, Patricia Smith
- Bob and John Thomson for hall set up and clean up.



Photo credit: Dan Knighton

**Happy New Year!**

Lorraine Lapensée  
NYE Event Coordinator

## This Month's Chuckle

Thanks to L. Lapensee and G. Pollock



A police officer called the station on his radio.  
"I have an interesting case here. An old lady shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped."  
"Have you arrested the woman?"  
"Not yet. The floor's still wet."

Leave it to children to come up with answers

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Teacher: How old is your father?

Kid: He is 6 years.

Teacher: What? How is this possible?

Kid: He became father only when I was born.

(Logic!! Children are quick and always speak their minds.)

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TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America.

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now, Class, who discovered America?

CLASS: Maria.

---

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

(I love this child.)

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TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

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TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir; It's the same dog.

(I want to adopt this kid!!!)

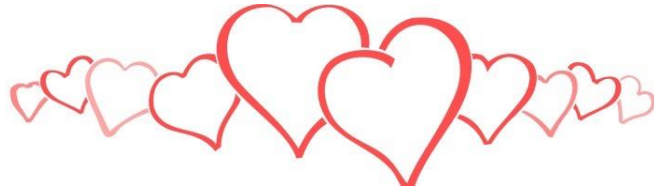
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TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher.

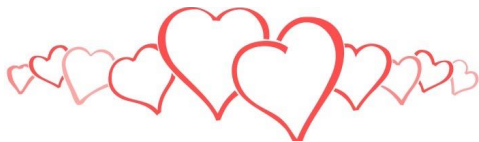
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PASS THIS AROUND AND MAKE SOMEONE LAUGH!  
LAUGHTER IS THE SOUL'S MEDICINE!!



# VALENTINE DINNER DANCE

## LIVE AUCTION TO BENEFIT LOCAL VETERANS



Kanata Legion, 70 Hines Road  
613 591-5570

Saturday, February 13  
Reception 5:30, Dinner 6:30

♥ Auctioneer John O'Neill ♥

♥ Entertainment Debra McCann ♥

♥♥ Catering Leatherworks ♥♥

♥♥ Stuffed chicken ♥♥

Tickets \$25.00

Pick up your tickets at the branch  
before Feb 10.



We have awesome auction items!

Check our website  
[www.kanatabr638.ca](http://www.kanatabr638.ca)  
for pictures and details.

*We are also looking for  
donations.*

Tax receipts available for items valued  
over \$100. Some conditions apply.

Info: Pat Cher 613 831 0298



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.

Anyone from the branch can write a tribute regarding members both living or past. CONTACT! is an opportunity to capture some of our veterans' stories from yesteryear.

CONTACT! is edited by Lorraine Elmas  
[lorraine\\_elmas@yahoo.ca](mailto:lorraine_elmas@yahoo.ca)

## Kanata Legion & Ladies' Auxiliary Upcoming Events January 23, 2016 - February 29, 2016

DATE & TIMES	EVENT	DETAILS	TICKETS	CUT OFF DATE FOR TICKETS
SAT., JAN. 23/16 Reception: 5:30 p.m. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.	Annual Robbie Burns Evening	Haggis and Roast Beef Dinner Variety of entertainment in celebration of Robbie Burns Highland Dress - Black Tie, Business Suit, Legion Dress	\$35.00/person	Jan. 20, 2016
WED. JAN. 27/16 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Afternoon Games	Golf, darts, bean bag toss, ring toss, car races, board games, cribbage Coffee / Tea / Snacks Proceeds to Homeless Veterans	No tickets \$2.00 / round of games	Drop in
SUN. JAN. 31/16 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.	December & January birthdays & anniversaries	Cake & Ice Cream	Not applicable	Not applicable
SAT. FEB. 13/16 Reception: 5:30 p.m. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.	Valentine's Day Dinner, Live Auction & Dance	Dinner Menu: Stuffed Chicken Auction: John O'Neill, Auctioneer Dance & sing along: Debra McCann	\$25.00/person	Feb. 10, 2016
SUN. FEB. 28/16 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.	February birthdays & anniversaries	Cake & Ice cream	Not applicable	Not applicable



# Saturday, January 23 Robbie Burns Celebration!

