



Volume 3 Number 7

CONTACT!

July 2014

www.kanatabr638.ca

President's Report

Congratulations to Moira Green on being presented the Legion's Meritorious Service Medal by our District Commander, Gary Pond, on July 5th.

George Medynski has decided, after three years as bar manager, to step down. George has done a fantastic job, and I thank him for that. Mark Hunter has been appointed as bar manager.

The fundraiser for Paws Fur Thought, held on July 5th, went well. Our Branch collected \$460 and donated it to the cause.

The July 1st President's BBQ was a great success, with over 120 members and friends attending. Thank-you to Bob and John for setting up, Gene for BBQ'ing, David for helping Gene, Pat for making the salads, Moira for the music, and Gord and Ives on bar duty.

The Family BBQ and Silent Auction, our "pay down the mortgage this year" fundraiser, will be held on July 25th. Tickets are now on sale at the bar.

Thank-you to Judy Homma for planting flowers in the patio area. They look great!

John Cher
President

From the First Vice

It was a day to remember (July 5th) as more than 200 motorcycles and supporters for the Paws Fur Thought Program came roaring up to the branch in support of this event. The program was started in an effort to raise funds to purchase and support service dogs for retired Canadian military personnel in need. The event started at the Stittsville Branch and then moved on to three other branches in 'car rally' fashion in a fun-filled event that brought in more than \$13,000. Well done to all who participated and helped make this event the success it was.

Branch 638 members Comrades Lorraine Lapensée, Gerry Dore, Terry Jacobs and I attended an Executive Seminar at the Bells Corners Legion July 12, conducted by the District G Training Officer, Comrade Doug Monroe. This very informative session apprised us all of new, old and upcoming policies and procedures that have brought us up to date.

Our Kitchen Manager, Comrade Sue Mclean, has taken a tumble and fractured her lower limb. As one could imagine, this is going to put a strain on kitchen duties over the next six weeks or so. Therefore, I ask that if you're called upon to help out, please do so, if you can. It will certainly be appreciated. Healing thoughts go out to you, Sue. Take the time you need to heal!

Dan Knighton
1st VP Br 638



Once again, this year's annual Ray Ponto Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled to take place at the Greensmere G&CC, August 14. We are proud to be able to sponsor the Homeless Veterans of Ontario one more time. Last year's tournament was a great success and we look forward to another again this year. It is a 'Best Ball, Fun Tournament' that all can enjoy, eat heartily and hopefully pick up a prize at the end of the day. I look forward to seeing as many of our members as possible out playing.

Additionally, the Montgomery Branch Golf Association has room for more players. If you're interested, please check the schedule on the Sports Board at the Branch.

Yours in good sports,
Dan Knighton

Honours and Awards

We are pleased to announce, as of July 5th, the inclusion of Comrade Moira Green into the realm of Meritorious Service Medal award recipients. This is the highest award that can be granted to a Life Member in the Royal Canadian Legion. **Congratulations, Moira!**

Dan Knighton
H&R Chair



Photo by Terry Jenkins

From the Sports Desk

Comrades Andrew Nellestyn, Angie Jacklin and daughter, Chelsea, along with myself (and help from Nancy) attended and assisted with 'Jury of Appeal' Duties, at the Annual District G Eastern Ontario Legion Championships Track and Field Meet June 29, at the Terry Fox Athletic Facility, Mooney's Bay. This was the qualifier to the Ontario Team Selection Trials to go forward to the National Legion Track and Field Meet Finals. It was an absolutely super event with all entrants finishing within inches or seconds in scores. Congratulations are in order to all participants and winners alike. Special congratulations to our volunteers who helped out, especially to those of us who could still move the following day from our unpractised manoeuvres of bending and stretching to measure distances.

Coming up is the Annual District Golf Tournament to be held at the eQuinelle G&CC, July 19. Branch 638 will be represented by Comrade Brenda Grant and myself. We need all the luck we can get!



Photo by Terry Jenkins

President John Cher presents MSM to Comrade Moira Green, officiated by Comrade Gary Pond, District Commander, on July 5th.

From the Second Vice

Meritorious Service Medal

My sincere thanks to the Honours and Awards Committee, the executive and members of Kanata Branch 638 for this award. I am truly honoured.



Lest We Forget
Moira

Obituary

Bill Rankin has passed away in Langley B.C. at 90 years of age. Bill was a merchant navy veteran. He and his late wife Aileen were very supportive members of our branch. Our condolences to the family.



Photo by Dan Knighton

Paws Fur Thought Event

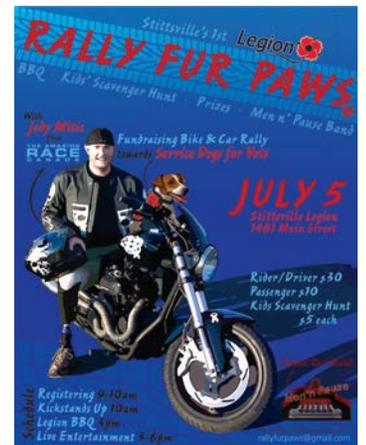
Many thanks to all those who gave generously of their time to support our veteran bikers and friends on Saturday, July 5. The day started slowly but once it got going it was great! A wonderful sight and sound to see the bikers in action!



Photo by Terry Jenkins

Cheque presentation to "Paws Fur Thought" organization during rally stop at the Branch

Left to right:
Moira Green, 2nd Vice;
Gus Cousineau and
Friend;
John Cher, President;
Randy Chartrand,
Canadian Canine
Training Academy



Charter 25th Anniversary Dinner

Date: Saturday, September 13

Tickets: \$25 per person

Menu: Roast Beef and trimmings

Music: Stittsville Legion Concert Ensemble

Guest Speaker: TBA

- Chaplains Wall Dedication
- Branch history review
- Slide presentation

Time: Cocktails 5:30 p.m. (1730 hrs)

Dinner 6:15 p.m. (1815 hrs)

Ticket sale date: TBA

More info next month

Artifact

Our request is in the hands of Veterans Affairs at the moment.

Band

There are many talented members and friends out there who can play an instrument and sing. We need you to help form a legion fun band. If interested please call or email me at your convenience.

Yours in service,
Moir

CPR and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Training

If you know what to do, you can save a life! This session on life-saving techniques is designed to train members on CPR and AED, and as a refresher for those previously qualified. The training will be conducted at the Branch Saturday morning, October 25. Details will be notified as they are firmed up and a sign-up sheet will be posted at that time.

Bruce Judge
Training and Organizational Development



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 638 Kanata

Branch Event Ticket Sales Policy and Procedures

Issue Number: 001
Issue Date: 18/06/2014

Policy

The Branch Event Ticket Sales Policy and Procedures has been developed to allow all members the opportunity to purchase tickets for branch events in a timely fashion, and to provide adequate time for the event organizers to purchase supplies and make preparations for the event without having costly overruns.

Procedures

1. The Event Co-coordinator, in consultation with food preparer, will set and advertise the cut-off date for ticket sales, payment and pick-up. All tickets must be paid for prior to or on this date.
2. Those wishing to make reservations without immediate payment may do so; however,
 - a) They will only be put on a waiting list until the tickets are confirmed and paid for.
 - b) Their unpaid tickets could be sold close to reaching maximum attendance level.
 - c) All tickets must be paid for before the event cutoff date.
3. For control purposes a sign-up/purchase list and a reservation/waiting list will be kept behind the bar. All purchases and reservations must be entered on the appropriate list.
4. There will be no refunds given after the cut-off date.
5. The Event Co-coordinator will ensure that this information is disseminated to all ticket purchasers and sellers.
6. Any changes to this policy for special events must first be approved by the Branch Executive.

This policy statement has been approved by the Branch Executive on 12/06/2014 and ratified at the Branch General Meeting on 18/06/2014.

Bruce Judge
Policy and Procedures Committee

John Cher
President

From the Kitchen Corner

Congratulations to the kitchen crew!

We had a visit from the Health Inspector on June 26. Although the kitchen was not operating at the time of inspection, the inspector was quite satisfied with what was observed. Well done!

Thank you from the Kitchen Witch!

Sue Mclean 😊

Ways & Means / Entertainment Committee's Upcoming Events

Friday, July 25, 2014

Family Night

BBQ ☺ SILENT AUCTION ☺ MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT
GET YOUR TICKETS ON OR BEFORE JULY 23, 2014

Sunday, August 24, 2014

Car Rally & Corn Roast

Saturday, October 4, 2014

Tea & Fashion Show

Details to follow in the coming weeks!

Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar!

All proceeds will go towards our President's goal to pay down the mortgage before the end of the legion year, May 31, 2015!

As always, your support is very much appreciated!

Submitted by
Lorraine Lapensée

From the Branch Secretary

A FRIENDLY REMINDER!

**THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING
IS NOT UNTIL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014**

**NO GENERAL MEETINGS
IN JULY AND AUGUST**



From the L.A. Secretary

A FRIENDLY REMINDER!

**THE NEXT L.A. GENERAL MEETING
will take place on
WEDNESDAY, August 6, 2014**

Recap of Coming Events

Wed., July 16, Free Hearing Test

Sat., July 19, District Golf Tournament

Fri., July 25, Family BBQ and Silent Auction

Sun., July 27, 2-4 p.m., Birthday & Anniversary Celebration

Wed., Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m., L.A. General Meeting

Thurs., Aug. 14, Ray Ponto Memorial Golf Tournament & Dinner, Greensmere G&CC

Sun., Aug. 24, Car Rally & Corn Roast & Hamburgers & WiFi Bowling

Fri., Aug. 29, Pizza Night

Sun., Aug. 31, 2-4 p.m., Birthday and Anniversary Celebration

Sat., Sept. 13, 25th Charter Anniversary Dinner at the branch

Sat., Oct. 4, Tea & Fashion Show

Senior Citizen vs Lawyer

A lawyer and a senior citizen are sitting next to each other on a long flight.

The lawyer is thinking that seniors are so dumb that he could get one over on them easily.

So, the lawyer asks if the senior would like to play a fun game.

The senior is tired and just wants to take a nap, so he politely declines and tries to catch a few winks

The lawyer persists, saying that the game is a lot of fun..."I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer, you pay me only \$5. Then you ask me one, and if I don't know the answer, I will pay you \$500," he says.

This catches the senior's attention and, to keep the lawyer quiet, he agrees to play the game.

The lawyer asks the first question. "What's the distance from the Earth to the Moon?"

The senior doesn't say a word, but reaches into his pocket, pulls out a five-dollar bill, and hands it to the lawyer.

Now, it's the senior's turn. He asks the lawyer, "What goes up a hill with three legs, and comes down with four?"

The lawyer uses his laptop to search all references he can find on the Net.

He sends e-mails to all the smart friends he knows; all to no avail. After an hour of searching, he finally gives up.

He wakes the senior and hands him \$500. The senior pockets the \$500 and goes right back to sleep.

The lawyer is going nuts not knowing the answer. He wakes the senior up and asks, "Well, so what goes up a hill with three legs and comes down with four?"

The senior reaches into his pocket, hands the lawyer \$5, and goes back to sleep.

Don't ever mess with old people!

~~~~~  
Editor: The above was provided by John Cher.

♥ All the nice girls love a sailor  
All the nice girls love a tar 🎵 🎵



*Although everyone knows what a sailor is, very few people know what a "tar" is. So to allay some of the myths of the sea, here are a few explanations of the uniforms of the sailor.*

(Submitted by our late Comrade Jim Lowe.)

## The Story of the "Tar" (Sailor)



Sailors, in the days of "wooden ships and iron men", were nicknamed "tars", because they not only smelled of tar, which they worked with "oakum" to repair their ships and boats, but because they didn't often take baths or change their clothes very often, the tar they used stuck to their clothing and exposed areas of their bodies, such as hands, feet and sometimes chest, thus making them appear dirty and smelly from the tar.

The "oakum", mentioned above, is a rope-like coil of hemp used to fill cracks, holes and separations between the timbers and boards used to construct ships and boats. The oakum was shredded by hand, a very hard job, which broke finger nails and wore off the skin on the end of the fingers, and therefore was given to prisoners as a form of punishment.

The oakum, after shredding, was pressed into the cracks or holes and pounded in by a hammer or a blunt chisel. Tar was then mixed with other oakum and pounded in above the raw oakum. As the timbers or boards became soaked with water, they swelled up and thus tightened the oakum and tar, making the crack or hole watertight. The same process is still in use today in some well-built wooden vessels. Although with present day technology and material, it is not necessary to fill in cracks and holes, which are not present in molded hulls and plastic coverings.



**More Truths about Sailors' Uniforms**  
Let's start from the floor, or the "deck."  
The bell-bottomed trousers were

designed to be easier to roll up above the knees, so they wouldn't get wet when the sailor was scrubbing or "swabbing" the deck.

When a sailor was "stowing", or putting away, his uniform, the pants were put in the bottom of his "sea bag." First they were turned inside out, thus forming creases on the sides of the trousers and, because the trousers were turned inside out, the creases were on the inside, an averse to the present day trousers, and becoming known as "outboard fish."

The pants were folded over right to left half way, which was approximately the width of the bottom of the sea bag. The average number of folds was seven, resulting in the common belief that the folds in a sailor's pants represented the "seven seas."

The same sailor's pants were originally designed to act as a life-saving device; begin made from a very, very close woven material, which when wet swelled up and closed the weave to a point where it became almost watertight. If a sailor found himself in the water without a boat nearby to save him, he removed his pants, tied a knot in the ankle section of the pants, holding the waistband above his head and bringing it down on the water, trapping air inside the pants, the two pant legs pointing upward in the air forming a "y" and being wet, has become buoyant and could retain the air for several hours, thus allowing the sailor to rest in the "y" until the air gradually escaped. Then he would be able to perform the operation all over again.

The sailor's jumper was designed so that it was fairly tight to the body, but when grasped at the lower point of the "v" in the neck, could be torn open and discarded quickly so that he could begin to swim and not get bogged down by clothing.

It is easy to see that most of these uniform parts were designed for tropical waters, which are slightly warmer than our northern atmospheres.

The black silk ribbon, which is worn around a sailor's neck, under his collar, is commonly believed to be in memoriam of the death of Lord Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar. That is a fallacy.

When a sailor went into battle, he was given a white band to wrap around his forehead to stop the sweat from rolling down his forehead and into his eyes, thus blinding him with the salt and grime. In the heat of battle and smoke of canons being fired off a certain amount of dirt, grime and black gunpowder would collect and roll down on the silk, making it very dirty and black. When the battle was over or there was a respite in the fighting, the sailor would slip the cloth down around his neck, where it was available for the next engagement. *Ergo...* why not provide a cloth that was already black and it would not be as noticeable in the off moments.

Sailors, in the days of sailing ships, were allowed to let their hair grow as long as possible and, to keep their hair out of their eyes and clear of all hazards, they braided it into pigtails kept in place with tar or wax. In order to keep the tar or wax from ruining their jackets, they had to have a long, easily changed or removed collar under the pigtail.

This collar was to be made of denim, which was durable and easily washed, and must be separate from the uniform and easily removed for washing or replacing. To provide a little embellishment, the manufacturers, when bidding for the contract to supply the Navy, they decided to add a trip of white piping around the periphery of the collar. Each supplier tried to outdo the other with more lines of piping. Finally a little Jewish company won the bidding by putting on three lines, and the cheapest bid. Thus began the myth that the three white stripes on the collar represent the three great seas.

It is easy to see that most of the sailors' uniforms were designed for tropical waters, which are slightly warmer than our typical modern climates.

The final part of the uniform of the sailor is the hat. The hat was designed to fit into a round tin box which, in turn, was designed to fit into the sea bag. It has a stiff brim, which retains its shape when the head is rested upon it to provide a pillow, when the sailor was sleeping in a hammock or a hard wooden bunk aboard ship or in barracks ashore.

So, here you have an explanation, in common sense language, of some mythical beliefs in connection with naval gear.

Remember that a ship is a ship; a boat has oars to propel it, and a "gig", a boat with a motor and no oars.

So, ANCHORS AWAY, AND SHIP AHOY! SHIP AHOY!

Written in Kanata, Ontario, by James H. Lowe, former Sig. T.O. R.C.N.V.R. V69484 (March 27, 2007)

## AN INVITATION TO A DIFFERENT TYPE OF FUNDRAISER!

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 95  
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PRESENTS "1000 ISLANDS MEDIUM" DEBRA,  
A genuine, honest medium with a wonderful gift of communicating with the spirit world, connecting with crossed over loved ones, angels, spirit guides and can deliver messages of love to you from those in the Spirit World

**AUGUST 8, 2014**

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE LEGION AND A MUCH NEEDED ELEVATOR

DOORS OPEN AT 4:30 WITH A CANTEEN AVAILABLE

DEBRA WILL START AT 6:30 WITH READINGS TILL 9:00 PM AND CONTINUES WITH UPGRADED

VIP TICKETS WITH GUARANTEED MESSAGES FROM 9:15 PM TILL 11 PM

ADVANCE TICKETS \$30, VIP TICKETS \$60, GEN. ADMISSION TICKETS AT THE DOOR \$45. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SMITHS FALLS LEGION AND THROUGH DEBRA @ 613-345-3817

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COFFEE WEDNESDAYS  
KANATA BR 638  
9 AM TO 11 AM



COFFEE  
AND  
SNACKS

Come for a few minutes or for longer. Enjoy the warmth and fine company! Bring a friend or two or more.

**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](mailto:lorraine_elmas@yahoo.ca).

Please visit our website at [www.kanatabr638.ca](http://www.kanatabr638.ca) for a wealth of information regarding the Branch.

# FAMILY BBQ

A "Pay Down the Mortgage This Year" Fundraiser



## Awesome Auction Items

Collectible radios, authentic Russian Icons, paintings, jewellery, baskets surprise packages, CDs, camp stove (new), decorator items and much more!

**July 25th**

Kanata Legion, 70 Hines Rd

Reception 5:00 Dinner 6:00

Adults \$12:00

Children under 12 \$5:00

Children under 6 Free

Please pick up your  
Tickets at the bar **BY** July 23

**Music by Mike Fahey**

**Silent Auction**

Items for Silent Auction may be  
dropped off on Fridays during Fish  
and Chips or Wednesday during  
Coffee Cafe.

**Menu:**

Chicken Brochettes, French Fries,  
Salad, Dessert Bar

## 2014-15 BRANCH EXECUTIVE CONTACTS

|                                 |                   |              |                                                                          |
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| President                       | John Cher         | 613-831-0298 | <a href="mailto:j.cher@sympatico.ca">j.cher@sympatico.ca</a>             |
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| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice-President  | Gord McCaskill    | 613-286-1400 | no email                                                                 |
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| Bldg. Grounds & Maintenance     | *George Pollock   | 613-836-2530 | <a href="mailto:geo.pollock@rogers.com">geo.pollock@rogers.com</a>       |

\*Executive Committee

### OTHER CONTACTS

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### LADIES' AUXILIARY

|                                |                   |              |                                                                              |
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