

CONTACT!

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President's Report

The St. Patrick's dinner held on March 14th was a great evening with approximately 70 in attendance. The meal prepared by our kitchen manager, Sue McLean, was superb. Dozens of our members and guests approached me to mention how great the food and evening were. Thanks, Sue. Thanks to Lynn and Dave for organizing the evening. Thanks to the kitchen and bar staff for their usual great job. Lorraine Lapensee MC'd the evening with her usual flair. Thank you to all you donated door prizes.

Our First Vice, Dan Knighton, represented the Branch at the Zone Convention in Smith's Falls, as I was unable to attend due to family commitments.

Branch elections will be held on April 16. Please try to attend and show your support for your Executive Committee.

The Honours and Awards Committee met and are looking for nominations. Nomination forms are on the board outside the lounge. If you have someone in mind to nominate, please do so as soon as possible.

A Perogy Night will be held on April 5. We will also have wine tasting, beer tasting and a silent auction. Tickets are on sale at the bar and must be picked up on or before April 1st. Please pick up your tickets early as tickets are limited. This is the first fundraiser to pay down the mortgage. If you have any items to donate for the silent auction, please bring them to the Branch on Friday, March 21, and/or March 28, between 11 am and 1 pm, or call Pat Cher 613-831-0298. See the poster on the last page of CONTACT.

John Cher President

From the First Vice

Meetings, meetings and more meetings!

From an operations point of view, in order to have a successful event, you first must have a successful meeting (or two or three). The results are in. All events have been a resounding success and, going forward, there are many more to come. Just in the past month alone, we have been briefed by tax experts, had pedicures, hearing tests, been entertained and well informed by student public speakers grades 1 thru 12, entertained and fed Sea Cadets, we danced and were wooed on Valentines Night, kissed someone claiming to be Irish, dined on fish & chips as well as pizza, had morning coffee at the branch, and some of us actually went out walking! Now, I know all of this will be reported throughout this issue of CONTACT, but what you won't see is how much coordination it all took to put together. Let's face it, we MUST all work

together. First, it all starts with an idea, then a meeting, hall booking, bar staff, clean floor/environment, kitchen--

cooks/dishwashers/servers/table setters, and the job's never done till the clean-up's done. Did I mention posters, tickets, advertising-mostly word of mouth--purchasing supplies and food prep. I'm some glad we have great chairpeople to chair all of these meetings and a really great coffee pot! A special Thank You to all of our volunteers who work together to make these events the success they are.

Going forward, your Ways & Means Committee is working very hard to put on some special events: E-Waste (electronic waste) and High Tea. High Tea (???), watch for it! We look forward to your cooperation and support.

Also, Branch Elections and Honours & Awards are coming up. If you want to help the branch by volunteering for an executive position, please do so! If you have noticed someone you think has done a great job within the branch, please fill in a nomination form and send it in to the H&A Chairman. Nomination forms are on the board outside the lounge.

See you at the Branch!

Dan Knighton

From the Sports Desk

Sadly, there has been very little happening in the Sports Department from our branch. There are 52 Saturdays in the year and 44 Legion Sporting events throughout the year, all held on Saturdays. Hard to attend all of them, and of course playing in all of them would mean you won every event you entered. However, there are 12 main events at 3 levels, 5 additional events at the Provincial level and 3 more held at the Dominion level (44 events). So far (from November until now) we have only participated in one event (cribbage) and our two teams of four both won the privilege of going forward, but alas in the end we could not field a team for the second round. That was a shame because it was all due to illness

and unforeseen personal events. Ah well, better luck in the future.

Coming up, we have Horseshoes on May 24 and Golf on June 7. Any interested players, please contact me.

We have been invited to participate in the Montgomery Legion Golf Association, and I have posted their schedule on our sports board. Anyone interested, please make a copy for your retention and let me know if you would like to participate. Also, our own Ray Ponto Memorial Golf Tournament will soon be advertised and, to that end, I have tentatively booked August 14 as the date for our tournament. I will also entertain any suggestions for our tournament with regard to format, date and which course to play on. As I say, we are only tentatively booked and I am open to ideas. Please call or email me and we will set up a meeting day and hopefully form a new committee for this year's event.

Yours in good sports,

Dan Knighton Br Sports O

Honours and Awards

Just as a reminder to all, Comrade Ivan Hawley has stepped back from H&A due to illness, and Comrade John Cher has appointed me as chairman. To that end, I have appointed a new committee: Comrades Lynn McPherson, Gene Szabo and Lorraine Lapensee as our new committee. We had our first meeting early March and are looking forward to presenting as many honours and awards as we can in May or June. As I would tell my troops when in uniform, "you do the work and we will record it." To that end, if you feel you or someone is worthy of an award, I invite you to write it down and send it to me. Your committee will review all suggestions.

Dan Knighton Chairman

From the Second Vice

Home from India after an interesting five weeks and off to Mexico and back at the end of March.

Please forward all dates of coming events to Brenda Grant for inclusion a monthly/yearly calendar. Hopefully this will avoid events being too close together, and increase attendance at each one.

Plans for our 25th Anniversary celebration are under way. Kindly mark Saturday, September 20, on your calendar. Your input as to what you would like to see happen is very welcome.

Discussion re the artifact for exterior legion enhancement will be underway when I return. Please call or email with your positive and constructive suggestions.

Yours in continued service,

Moira

This Month's Donations

The following organizations each received \$250:

DONATIONS

- Queensway-Carleton Hospital Foundation
- Friends of the Canadian War Museum
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Multiple Sclerosis Society

Submitted by Harry Needham

Sergeant at Arms Report

I am approaching my last three months in my second term as Sergeant at Arms and have not given a report for a while. I would like to comment on some of the duties of the Sqt-at-Arms. The principle duty is to present the Colours at all official functions; the charge of the care of colours and the conduct and appearance of the Colour Party. The latter I could not do without a steadfast group of people behind me. I would like to name all of them, but I would worry that I might miss one. They know who they are, and many thanks again. In addition, to ensure that only the qualified are permitted to attend meetings by posting myself at the door or entrance. Also, to ensure that decorum is maintained. The above and more duties are as stated in the legion manuals of Ritual and Insignia and Branch Leadership.

Another of the Sgt-at-Arms tasks along with the Colour party is the participation in Legion Tributes. This may be a sensitive subject with some; all legion members regardless if a veteran or not are entitled to a Legion Tribute on their passing. In addition, Ladies' Auxiliary members are also entitled to a Tribute. This is as stated in the Ritual and Insignia Manual.

My experience has been that few people have expressed their wishes to their family members. In some cases when the subject is introduced by the legion member who contacts the family, they know nothing about it. Comments like, that would be nice, or I know that Mom or Dad would have liked that. In some cases the Tribute has ended up as an afterthought. This comes as a surprise to the attending family and friends, and even to some of the attending legion members.

I would only say, for clarification purposes, make sure your wishes are known; I have.

Bob Thomson RCL 638 Sgt-at-Arms 613-831-8221

From the Ways & Means Committee



Fashion Show High Tea May 10, 2014



Fundraiser in support of the Kanata legion

Doors open 12:00 noon Fashion Show/High Tea 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Featuring: Fashions by Jockey Person 2 Person

Prizes * Assortment of Teas, Sandwiches, Fruit, Cheese, Dessert

Tickets in advance only, by Tuesday, May 6, 2014 \$15.00/person or \$25.00 for two / \$5.00 12 yrs. and under

{Tickets on sale as of Friday, March 21, 2014}

A fun way for women to spend time together the day before Mother's Day, and men, too! - Mothers and daughters, sisters, friends, cousins, husbands! Everyone is welcome to come out to enjoy and support the Kanata legion!

Kanata Legion Hosts Zone G-6 Youth Education Public Speaking Competition

On March 1, 2014, participants from Grades 1 -12 representing Zone G6's eight legions competed in the annual Zone G-6 Youth Education Public Speaking Competition hosted at the Kanata Legion Branch #638.

The students did a great job presenting their speeches, providing the judges with a very difficult task of determining the winners. The capability of these children and youth was truly amazing, impressive and good competition for one another.

The 1st place winners moving to the District Competition at Branch #314, South Carleton in Manotick on March 29 are:

Primary:

Quinn Van Bekkum-Evoy, Smiths Falls, Branch #95 Topic: "How to train your parents!"

Junior

Parker Deugo, Almonte, Branch #240 Topic: "My brief career as a Japenese film star."

Intermediate

Connor Williamson, Perth, Branch #244 Topic: "What it is really like to give a speech."

Senior

Clarissa Philion, Smiths Falls, Branch #95 Topic: "What is humanity?"



Primary (Grades 1-3) & Junior (Grades 4-6) competitors



Intermediate (Grades 7-9) & Senior (Grades 10-12) competitors

Awards presenters: back row: far left, George Wood, Zone G-6 Deputy Commander & back row: far right, Dave Cormier, Zone G-6 Commander

Zone G-6 Youth Education Public Speaking, Chair back row: second from the right, Lorraine Lapensée

Special thanks to Branch #638, Kanata for covering the costs of the lunch and to The Ladies' Auxiliary of Branch #638 for preparing a wonderful lunch for the volunteers, special guests, the speakers and their families.

An event such as this is one of the ways we have an opportunity to showcase our branch and provide insight to local communities of one of the better things we do to promote the legion in our local towns and cities.

> Lorraine Lapensée Chair Zone G-6 Youth Education Public Speaking

From the Ladies' Auxiliary





Your appreciated support to make this event a success can be by:

- making a donation and attending;
- making a donation if not attending;
- inviting as many friends and family to attend;
- selling advertising space in the program to businesses and services you personally deal with.

\$25 business card size

> \$50 ¼ page

> \$100 ½ page

\$200 full page

A friendly reminder, reservations can be made by completing and returning the reservation slip with your donation to the attention of Betty Ann Pollock on or before April 16, 2014. Be sure to include the information required for each person attending in your party; i.e., seating preference. Reservation slips were included with your invitation, and they can also be obtained at the branch.

A Note of General Interest

Travelling Outside Canada

Should I obtain additional insurance coverage for my absence from Canada?

Yes. The ministry strongly recommends that you do, whether you are absent from Canada for a few minutes or for an extended time. OHIP does not insure or pay for all out-ofcountry medical services. Also, the amount of funding provided by OHIP will not usually cover the full cost of any health services that you do obtain outside of Canada. You should therefore, obtain supplementary health insurance from a private insurance company to provide you with additional coverage during your absence. It is also recommended that you understand the terms and conditions of the additional insurance coverage you have purchased and the implications of any preexisting health conditions on your insurance coverage. To obtain private insurance contact a private insurance company of your choice.

When I travel outside of Canada, will OHIP pay the same medical expenses that are covered in Ontario?

No. If you are a resident of Ontario and you are insured under OHIP, you are entitled to very limited funding for a certain range of medical services when you are travelling outside of Canada. For this reason, you are strongly advised to purchase additional health insurance every time you leave Canada and ensure that the supplementary insurance you have purchased provides adequate coverage. According to the American Heart Association report, the average hospital charge for all common heart surgery and procedures -- not including doctor fee is \$62,509. According to the report, plaque removal from an artery costs an average of \$30,588, heart bypass costs an average of \$117,094 and heart valve replacement cost an average of \$164,238.

This provides basic information the public and should not be construed as legal advice.

Recap of Coming Events

Sat., April 5, Perogy Night, at the branch Fri/Sat, April 11/12, Electronic Waste Disposal

Wed., April 16, Branch 638 Elections Sat., April 26, Swing into Spring, L.A. annual fundraiser Sat. May 10, Eastion Show and High Te

Sat., May 10, Fashion Show and High Tea



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.

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