



CONTACT REGAINED

Volume 1 Number 1

June 2012

From the Editor:

"Contact" has gone through its ups and downs since Gary Fancy took his steady hand from the helm and now the lot has fallen to me to follow a decidedly tough act.

Last September, the Executive decided to publish our newsletter electronically in future, but it was a decision that was never implemented. With this issue, it is.

Members with Internet access will have the choice of reading their own emailed copies or reading the newsletter on our new and rapidly expanding Branch website. Printed copies will be provided at the Branch for members without Internet access and for visitors.

You will see some changes in name, format and content. Starting with the next issue, the name will become **CONTACT!**. It will NOT replicate material on the website; especially the latter's photo galleries. If you want all the information, all the time, go to the website.

If you have not yet looked at our new website, it's high time that you did. It's located at <http://www.kanatabr638.ca/>

You will also, of course, be kept updated through Branch email messages.

I welcome ALL your comments and suggestions. Please direct them to harry@hncs.ca or (voice) 613-831-1068.

- Harry Needham



Bicentenary of the War of 1812-14 (which accidentally ended in 1815!)

On June 12th, an important new temporary exhibition opened at the Canadian War Museum to mark the 200th anniversary of the declaration of war by the United States of America.

The war saw action on land and sea over much of the eastern half of the continent, from the Midwestern states to Nova Scotia and from Newfoundland to Louisiana, as well as the north Atlantic, Caribbean, and even the Irish Sea. When it ended on Christmas Eve 1814, there were no real winners. The Americans had sent a total of eleven armies against what is now Canada, and Britain had retaliated in kind. None of them was successful, though both the capital of Upper Canada (York) and the US capital of Washington were both partially destroyed in the process. Due to the poor communications of the time, the last battle was fought near New Orleans some weeks AFTER peace had come.

There was a very clear loser – the Native peoples of Canada and the USA, whose rights and future were blithely tossed over the side during the last stages of peace negotiations at Ghent, in one of Britain's most shameful acts of betrayal of a loyal ally.

For the next few two years, you will be hearing a lot about the War of 1812,

If you'd like to learn more about this final war between the cousins, start by visiting the Canadian War Museum. If you'd like to read about it, your editor can give you quite a comprehensive list of books and audio books. If you REALLY want to get a feel for it, come to Bath Ontario on the final weekend of June where the largest War of 1812 re-enactment in Eastern Ontario will take place. Others will follow this summer at Gananoque, Plattsburgh NY (site of what Winston Churchill saw as the most important battle of the War) and Dunvegan in the heart of Glengarry County.

ENJOY COMMEMORATING YOUR PROUD HERITAGE and keep an eye out for the blinded seaman and his Moll (aka Harry & Sue).



From the Second Vice:

Greetings all: My thanks to everyone as I assume new responsibilities for the coming year. In order for me to perform the tasks I have been charged with I need your help. Please try to support our branch events. It is very unfortunate when we have to cancel a branch event because of lack of participation. We are all volunteers and much time and effort goes into the planning of these events. Speaking of which kindly mark **Sunday July 8 at 4:00 p m** on your date book. Mike Fahey has volunteered to entertain us and we plan to hold a family BBQ. More details to follow, if you are aware of any veteran/member/senior in need in any respect please contact me. All communications are private and discrete at all times. Hospital and home visits are available upon request. Your participation in the monthly birthday/anniversary celebrations is a must for success. Please check the board in the lounge for the signup sheet. This is a fun way to support your branch and guess what? It's free!! Coffee/tea/cake and ice cream are there for the taking! Suggestions for improvement are always welcome and if there is something we are not doing that you would like to see happen - please call or email.

Yours in service, Moira Email mmgreen@live.com or telephone 613 59233.

Happy Birthdays/Anniversaries to all the following.

May Birthdays/Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to:

Nancy & George Medynsky
Mary & Colin Aird
Angie & Chris Jacklin

Happy Birthday to:

Mary Aird
Andy Sweet
Brenda Grant
Eileen Hollyer
Connie Taylor
Sue McLean
Chris Jacklin

Thanks to Terry Jenkins for bar-tending and Brenda Grant for helping serve the cake and ice cream. A fine time was had by all. It's a great opportunity to sit down and have a chat with your fellow members and friends and enjoy an afternoon. **Remember you are welcome to participate and help celebrate a special occasion for others. The next celebration will be held on Sunday June 24th at 2 00 p m in the lounge. A sign up sheet is posted on the board. If you have a birthday/anniversary or other special day in July or August, we will celebrate both months together at the end of August. See you at the end of June.**

April Birthdays/Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

Evelyn Dick (95)
Norma Raven
Don Raven
Lynn McPherson
Martha Dormer
Barbara White

Thanks to Terry Jenkins for serving as bar tender for the p m and to Brenda Grant for helping serve and clean up and also for playing Happy Birthday on the pipes! Thanks to La Provence bakery for donating a delicious cake. Flowers were presented to Evelyn from the branch and the ladies auxiliary.

March Birthdays/Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

Jack Edelson (88)
Patricia Smith

Thanks to Terry Jenkins for bar tending and Bev Connell for helping distribute the cake and ice cream.

December – February Birthdays/Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

Morley Connell (80)
Bev Connell
Gerry Dore
Bill Wilson
Ursula Seyler

Thanks to the McGaskells (Lee and Colin) for their music and to P.J. Rose for tending bar.

And a very specil thank you to all the members who turned out to help celebrate these anniversaries and birthdays!

— Moira



In Durance Vile

Just a reminder that our Past President and current Zone Commander, **Mike Lapensée**, is presently in the Civic, Mike would love a visit from you or a call on his cell phone (613-266-1585).



From the Bar Manager:

**“Yes, we need more bartenders;
We need more bartenders
TODAY!!!”**

As the Legion does not survive on memberships alone, but predominantly on hall rentals and bar sales, we need YOUR help in staffing these functions.

As of now, I have a pool of perhaps 8-10 people. It is increasingly difficult to keep up to supplying the demand for staff. not to mention "burnout", by the same volunteers that keep the legion afloat.

For those who would like to actively participate at the branch "I NEED YOU" to help out on regular weekday bar functions, as well as for evening hall rentals.

Shifts generally are four hours and are as follows-

- Monday 11-3, 7-10
- Tuesday 1-5, 7-10
- Thursday 1-5, 7-10
- Friday 11-3 / Evening Rental?
- Saturday 1-5 / Evening Rental?
- Last Sunday 2-5

**DON'T LISTEN TO THIS MCP! WE
WANT BOTH MEN AND WOMEN TO
HELP TEND BAR AND WIN THE
WAR FOR OUR BRANCH!!!**

Come out, and get acquainted with your fellow members.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

- George Medynski, Bar Manager



Veterans Luncheon

The annual Veterans Luncheon will be held this year on June 19th, commencing at 11 AM. The luncheon is one of the ways in which YOU can thank a vet – and we expect more than 80 people, including a large contingent from the Perley-Rideau, to participate.

The luncheon is free of charge to all veterans.

Please turn out, enjoy the meal and help host our guests.



From the President of the Ladies Auxiliary:

Ladies' Auxiliary New Executive:

On May 2, 2012, the Ladies' Auxiliary of Branch #638 elected in their Executive for 2012-2013 as follows:

Lorraine Lapensée President
Nancy Medynski Immediate
Past President
Moira Green..... 1st Vice-
President
June Tyrrell 2nd Vice-
President
Marg Burton Secretary
Pat Cher Treasurer
Martha Dormor Executive
Committee
Lynn McPherson Executive
Committee
Kathie Nixon Executive
Committee
Bev Connell Sergeant at
Arms

L.A. Gala Dinner and Auction Saturday, April 28, 2012

The Ladies' Auxiliary hosted their 17th Annual fundraiser- 7th GALA on April 28, 2012. Guests enjoyed the evening by first studying the great variety of Silent Auction items and then bidding to win; tantalizing their taste buds with a delicious buffet prepared by Leatherworks and lastly, dancing or /and

enjoying the music played by the 5 person band known as "Revolver". When it was all over and the tallying complete, an estimated \$5,000.00 in proceeds was raised. The Ladies' Auxiliary topped this amount up and a **\$12,000.00 cheque** was presented to John Cher, Branch President by Lorraine Lapensée, L.A. President on behalf of the Ladies' Auxiliary at the May general meeting.

On behalf of the Ladies' Auxiliary, I wish to take this opportunity to extend a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who contributed towards making this year's GALA the success it was.

Many thanks.

- Lorraine

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From the Chairman of the Trusts Committees

"Wot's this?", you ask? "Trust committees? Do we have more than one of the brutes?"

Well, yes, we do, and we always have had two – but this year, as part of a process of simplifying and streamlining the Executive Committee, they are now under a single chairman, which will give Bruce Judge more time to work on the vital job of Training and Development.

The Poppy Trust Fund Committee administers the funds raised each year through the annual poppy campaign. The range of things on which the Fund can be spent is quite limited and is strictly governed by articles 401-403 of the Poppy Manual,

Some of the things on which we spent money this year were:

- **Veterans housing**
- **Student bursaries**

- The Foot Care Clinic
- City homeless shelters
- Meals on Wheels
- Needy Caribbean veterans
- The Perley-Rideau veterans
- Comforts for veterans in long-term care
- Support to four cadet corps
- The Ottawa Mission
- The Shepherds of Good Hope
- Support to our District Service Officer, now Pat Royle
- Support to our Branch Service Officer, now Moira Green.

The Fund also supports our own poppy campaign.

Don't you remember voting in favour of all these things at the general meeting on February 15? What? You say you weren't there?

We missed you.

The Branch also has a General Trust Fund, which is supported by money we make through our gaming operations – bingo, the sale of "Nevada" tickets and 50/50 draws. Each month, we have at least \$300 to distribute to other worthy community causes that cannot be funded from the Poppy Trust Fund.

Want to know what they are? Every expenditure from either fund must be approved by members at a general meeting. So come out for meetings and see what your funds are doing – or, better still, volunteer to serve on one of the committees and really get involved!

Just contact me at harry@hnsc.ca or by phone at (613) 831-1068,

- Harry Needham

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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@hnsc.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.

Final Reminders:

June 19 – Veterans Luncheon at 11 AM

June 24 – Birthday & Anniversary celebration at 2 PM

July 8 – Family BBQ at 4 PM