



Volume 2 Number 1

January 2013

CONTACT!

The Prez Sez:

Congratulations to Lorraine Lapensee and her committee, Pat Cher, Lynn McPherson and Gord McCaskill, on the superb job organizing The New Year's Eve Party. Helpers Moira Green, Brenda Grant and Gord McCaskill. Set up was done by Bob Thompson, John Thompson, June Trryell and Bev Connell. Posters and tickets provided by Dan Knighton and Terry Jenkins the Media work. I have been receiving calls and e-mails of congratulations on a fantastic night.

The Annual New Year's Day Levee was attended by over 60 Members. Thanks to Terry Jenkins for his Moose Milk and Marg Burton for helping with the food. Moira Green, Ed Hollyer, Garry Fancy, Ed`s son and granddaughter entertained us all afternoon. Comments on the entertainment were all positive.

The Veterans Affairs Canada Remembers Division will be holding interviews with post Korea veterans here at Dominion Command on the week of 25 February. It is requested that if you know of any veterans, retired or currently serving, who served post 1953 in any mission who would consent to be interviewed on their experiences to please contact myself to arrange an interview timing. If interested please contact Danny Martin, at dmartin@Legion.ca, Deputy Director Administration, or 613-591-3335 ext 249

Robbie Burns night is being on the 26th of Jan. Tickets are on sale at the bar.

Entertainment committee is planning to hold on 15 Feb a Valentines Party. More info will be coming soon.

John Cher
President

**The Royal Canadian Legion
Dominion Command**

10 January 2013

**General Thomas J. Lawson, CMM, CD
Chief of the Defence Staff
National Defence Headquarters
101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K2**

Dear General Lawson:

On behalf of the 330,000 members of the Royal Canadian Legion I am writing to express our memberships' concern regarding an outstanding unfair policy affecting ill and injured members of the Canadian Forces.

On 28 September 2010 the Ministers of National Defence and Veterans Affairs released jointly the Legacy of Care Program which would introduce five initiatives, namely Barrier-Free Transitional Accommodations, Support Services while in Transitional Accommodations, the Canadian Forces (CF) Attendant Care Benefit, the CF Spousal Education Upgrade Program, and Enhanced Case Management Support for Seriously Ill and Injured CF members.

The news release indicated that ALL injured soldiers, sailors, airmen and

airwomen, and their families would be eligible. Unfortunately, this apparent wide eligibility was restricted when the policy guidelines were implemented in July 2011. Specifically, the Attendant Care Benefit, the Caregiver Benefit and the Spousal Education Upgrade Benefit are restricted to only those who have served in Afghanistan.

The Royal Canadian Legion is appalled that such blatant discrimination is taking place, encouraged probably by financial implications, in categorizing "Seriously III and Injured CF members" by theatre of operations. CF members are proudly serving in operations around the world and at home. If they are unfortunate enough to be "Seriously III and Injured", are we to assume that the sacrifice that they made in service to Canada is not as worthy as those that served in Afghanistan?

The Royal Canadian Legion requests that this retrograde situation be reviewed and reversed to enhance the ongoing care of Seriously III and Injured CF members. If it is allowed to remain as is, the Canadian Forces are creating categories of service qualifiers for various benefits. This is not treating all service personnel equally. The Legion will continue to serve all CF members, irrespective of their theatre of operations. To do anything else is pure discrimination and grossly unfair and inequitable.

Gordon Moore

Dominion President

SOS!!!

The good *ship Fish & Chips* is in danger of sinking

It is not that we aren't getting the business. We are. The problem is that we have lost several key members who worked to make this happen. Those left are putting in far more time than they bargained for – and are burning out. Unless more members step up to the plate and help – the Branch faces a choice. Either we limp along, or we discontinue the Friday fish and chips. It is your choice.

If the Branch has to stop serving fish and chips on Fridays, we will lose a very profitable and reliable source of revenue – as well as a critical opportunity for potential friends and members to discover us..

If you can volunteer 4 hours every 3 weeks, it would be enough. We need 1 person to fry chips and expedite the orders; 1 -2 persons to wash dishes; 2 – 3 people to serve. All of the above positions require you to help set up and clean up. The more the merrier, and this way we will have people who can step up to other positions when needed.

If there no volunteers, there will be no fish and chips; it's that simple. The long-term impact on the branch, I leave to your judgment.

Sue McLean

Kitchen Coordinator

The Second Vice

As of Jan 29 I will be en route to the land of Oz for six weeks i. e. snorkling off the Great Barrier Reef and sampling hopefully a fine WA Riesling south of Perth on the Margaret River. In the interim please support as many of your branch activities as possible. Much time, work and planning goes into each and every activity planned. See you for our St. Patrick's event in the middle of March.

Branch Service Officer:

Several cases underway. In my absence Cde. Gerry Dore will stand in.

Sick/Visiting:

Our former Padre the Rev. Mel Newman and his wife June send their regards and best wishes for the new year to all members of Branch 638. They are as well as can be. Mel celebrated his 90th birthday and we congratulate him on this milestone occasion. Please contact Rev. Craig Bowers in an emergency.

Seniors/Birthdays

Please join us to celebrate birthdays/anniversaries this month on Sunday Jan 27th 2 00 p m in the lounge. Kindly sign up if you wish to attend. The next celebration will be a joint Feb/March event on Sunday March 31st, same time same place.

Gaming/Nevada

I am looking for a replacement to submit Nevada accounts to the city in my absence. Please call me if you are able to do this job - not onerous - just needs to be done.

Lest We Forget

In 1938, as the likelihood of war increased, the War office ordered an expansion of the anti-aircraft defences

of the United Kingdom. This event led to the formation of 8HAA who were destined to serve in Northern France and then Burma. My Father, the late H. G Arnold took the King's shilling and enlisted in the 8HAA in 1939.

The conditions in France that year were miserable.. Gun pits were flooded and dry clothes were a luxury.

The batteries were eventually evacuated from Cherbourg and St. Malo. back to the U.K. The 8HAA were then deployed to protect Coventry, Plymouth, Wolverhampton and London during "the blitz".

In the spring of 1942, 8HAA embarked on the Belfast built RMS Britannic, bound for India. In July and August they defended Calcutta against Japanese air attacks.(At this point many of the soldiers were ill with malaria, beriberi and dysentery. My Dad lost all his teeth and due to lack of proper dental material - a set of teeth was made from bakelite i e oven material. These teeth were to eventually save his life during a terrorist raid in 1976.)

Burma: The first Arakan Campaign:

"The eastern side of the range was largely dense jungle. Leeches were rife and malaria took a heavy toll among the troops, with 7,500 cases. In one year alone 94% of the total manpower went down with malaria."

The second Arakan campaign. January/February 1944:

" For the first time the Japanese had been resoundingly defeated. 8HAA had played a significant part".

After VJ Day August 15 1945, 8HAA set sail from Madras for home on the Belfast built RMS Stirling Castle. Upon arrival in Belfast all troops were immediately quarantined for several weeks. My Dad weighed 97 lbs after his release from quarantine and was not easily recognized by my Mom after nearly six years absence. For many years my Dad refused to talk about Burma. We are now painfully aware of what occurred.

St. Anne's Cathedral Belfast - Regimental Memorial:

"To the Glory of God and in proud memory of the men of the 8th(Belfast) Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment Royal Artillery(SR) who gave their lives in the service of their King and Country in Europe, India and Burma in the war 1935-1945.

When you go home, tell them of us,
and say, for your tomorrow, we
gave our today."

Excerpted from the The Twelve Mile Snipers by John Potter and Murray Barnes. Published by The Northern Ireland War Memorial, 21 Talbot Street, Belfast Bt121D.

LEST WE



*Railway siding. Hyderabad State, India, May 1945 –
Dad and two local lads.*

LEST WE FORGET



Garry Fancy "who knew"?



The Ed Hollyer Quintet perform at this year's Levee

Sergeant-at-Arms Report

The year 2012 turned out to be another busy and successful year for the colour party. Thanks to everyone for stepping forward, often at our busiest periods of the year.

A special thanks to the following folks that assisted in services, John Cher, Moira Green, Terry Jenkins, John Weiss and Brenda Grant. Also I would like to thank Dan Knighton and Morley Connell in guiding me with their experience in the Sgt-at-Arms duties.

Right now is the slow period. There will not be much until The Battle of Atlantic at the end of May in Almonte. Then the fun begins all over again.

We are always looking for volunteers, if interested give me a call.

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

BINGO – IS IT WORTH THE EFFORT?

Ed, note: For many years, Clay Wheaton has organized our bingo activities. When the city's no-smoking ban came into effect and the Kanata bingo parlour closed, it was on Clay's initiative that we moved the bingo to the branch itself, and it is Clay who has worked like a slave to keep it going.

Periodically, over the years, members have wondered whether or not it has all been worthwhile, in terms of the benefit to the branch, as compared to the considerable investment – especially of the volunteer labour – involved.

The following is Clay's report to the branch on bingo activities for the calendar year 2012.

If this doesn't remove any lingering doubts as to the value of Clay's bingo operation, I don't know what will! – and this is for only a single year!

The following chart is a summary of the Bingo operation for the calendar year 2012.

MONT H	ATTEN-DANCE	REVENU E	PAYOUT	DEPOSIT	RENT PAID
JAN	158	\$5,230	\$4,440.	\$790.	\$464.5
FEB	176	\$5,731	\$4,676.	\$1,055.	\$539.65
MAR	173	\$6,376	\$4,408.	\$1,968.	\$648.20
APR	193	\$7,017	\$4,651.	\$2,366.	\$744.35
MAY	128	\$4,562	\$3,509.0 0	\$1,053	\$444.3
JUN	210	\$7,497	\$4,810.	\$2,687.	\$804.9
SEP	251	\$8,574	\$5,923.	\$2,651.	\$886.1
OCT	209	\$7,706	\$4,724.	\$2,582.0 0	\$775.9
NOV	205	\$7,256	\$4,573	\$2,683	\$768.4
DEC	192	\$7,557	\$5,531	\$2,026	\$733.6
TOTAL	\$1,899	\$67,106	\$47,245	\$19,861	\$6,809.85

There were forty-one Bingo's held in 2012. We are allowed to take 15% of Gross Revenue for Administrative Expenses which totalled **\$10,065.85**, the bulk of which went for Rent payable to Branch 638 of **\$6,809.85**. The balance went to licence fees, paper cost, advertising and gestures of player appreciation.

The Revenue after expenses amounted to **\$9,795.10** which is split into deductions for Branch Operations and Maintenance totalling **47.6%** of the Revenue **\$4662.46**

and the balance of **\$5,132.64** devoted to approved charitable donations.

Net benefit to Branch 638 General Fund in 2012 was:

Rent Collected	\$ 6,809.85
Operations and Maintenance	<u>\$ 4,662.46</u>
Total	\$11,472.31

Respectfully submitted

Clay Wheaton
Bingo Coordinator

This month's Donations

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

Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing (National Capital District)- \$100

Alzheimer Society (Ottawa Chapter - \$250

Sherry's School of Highland Dancing - \$200



Our Air Force Goals:

100 Air Cadets, 100 Flights, 100 Leaders

We Hope You Might Be Interested in Our Association-wide Challenge

The Air Force Association of Canada is partnering with Vintage Wings, Raytheon and others, in support of **Yellow Wings 2013** - a Cross-Canada tribute to tomorrow's leaders - young Canadians enrolled in the Royal Canadian Air Cadets. Amongst today's aerospace technology leaders there are many, many former air cadets. We hope to help set the conditions for a successful tomorrow, by inspiring tomorrow's leaders today. Please join us in this Vintage Wings - **Yellow Wings 2013** important initiative. It's what we're all about, really.

Yellow Wings 2013 is about taking as many as 550 top-performing air cadets flying in a BCATP-era vintage aircraft. We believe the experience of flight will kindle in them the desire to excel, in everything they set their sights on. Vintage Wings tells us, "the 2013 Yellow Wings Program will do more than just fly. We will tell the story of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, Canada's greatest contribution to victory in the Second World War and, with the support of Raytheon Canada, we will be promoting the benefits of an education in math and sciences, and a career in engineering and aerospace technology". **In addition to motivational briefings from Canadian astronauts, Vintage Wings pilots will provide detailed lectures on aircraft-specific history, and wondrous stories of our heroic veterans who at one time flew these aircraft in service.** We need your financial support to make this happen. The Air Force Association of Canada, and Royal Canadian Air Force Association Trust Fund Board of Trustees would like to invite all of our Wings to set a Wing-level goal of sponsoring one cadet - one ride - at a cost of only \$375*. If all sixty (60) of our Wings achieved this goal, we would be well on our way to reaching the association's goal of sponsoring 100 flights for 100 air cadets. Individuals wishing to sponsor one air cadet are encouraged to also donate. Wings who reach their goal will be acknowledged (published) in Airforce magazine, on airforce.ca and in the Vintage Wings e-mail newsletter, along with a list of other devoted supporters. A charitable tax receipt will be issued

once your donation is made. Any amount can only help. (*\$375 is the estimated per-hour cost of operating one of the Vintage Wings' aircraft). Help us prepare the aerospace technology leaders of tomorrow; help us inspire them today.

[Further information can be found here at the Air Force Association Web-site.](#)



Robbie Burns Dinner

It's not too late to get your tickets for the annual Robbie Burns Dinner on 26 January.

The traditional fare will be served and entertainment will be provided by Sherry's School of Highland Dancing.

Get your tickets now at \$30 per person!

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

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 | <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 |
|--|--|

Saturday, April 27, 2013 - SPRING FLING!

Ladies' Auxilliary'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' Auxilliary 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.

"Celebrate What Love Is!" - Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance

LOVE IS MAKING MEMORIES! LOVE IS A GIFT FROM THE HEART!

**Everyone is Welcome!
 Hosted by the Ladies' Auxilliary, Br. #638**

**Friday, February 15, 2013 / Reception 5:00
 p.m. / Dinner 6:15 p.m.**

Menu: Garden Salad & Pat's Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing, Chicken Kiev, Potatoes, Green Beans & Red Peppers, Cherry Trifle

Music Entertainment by: The Green Briar Band

\$15.00 / person

Reserve by getting your name on the sign-up sheet (in the lounge) on or before Friday, February 8, 2013. Call 613-591-5570 or drop by.

Remember! When you support the Ladies' Auxiliary, you support the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #638!

MEET JOE or MY NEIGHBOUR JOE

By

**Garry Fancy
Contributing Editor**

Joe is a neighbour; we live on the same street. I should explain that our "street" is a semi-circle; so the houses more or less turn in to one another, giving a feeling of friendly neighbourliness, that is if your neighbours are so inclined. Joe is so inclined. Joe is single, and by his own admission is closing in on eighty years of age. He speaks with a European accent, strong and positive.

Joe has lived here in this semi-circle with his aged mother longer than anyone else. This, in part, makes him the local icon. Other things make Joe noticeable. He has a friendly greeting for everyone, never complains, his house, inside and out is as neat as a pin. The grass is weed-free and always trimmed, the shrubs are neat and attractive and look manicured, his garage has all the tools, etc., neatly arranged, his car is always clean, his driveway is snow-free in winter. Inside, the house is just as neat and orderly.

A few years ago Joe's aged mother died, leaving Joe's only house companion, his little dog "Mattie". Last year Mattie succumbed to old age, leaving Joe on his own. Joe loves dogs, especially German Shepherds, a hold-over from "the old country". So

when I take my rambunctious, youthful shepherd, Kelsey for a walk, and Joe is outside, Kelsey makes a bee-line for Joe, and the two greet each other like old friends, in spite of the fact that Kelsey nearly bowls Joe over in her enthusiasm to greet her friend.

There is one other thing you should know about Joe. He gets about with the aid of two crutches, not the traditional wooden armpit types, but the shorter metal ones that go around the arms with braces... you know the type. You see, Joe lost one leg at the hip years ago as a young man, in a terrible accident and the other leg is in worse shape than mine before my knee replacement surgery. This probably explains why Joe never married.

Joe lives in pain and discomfort, but never complains. He is stubbornly independent, refusing help and charity. When my wife brings some cooking over, he says in his accented voice, "Why you do this, I no need food; I got lots in house."

I admire Joe as much as anyone I have ever met. In my opinion, we need more Joes in this country and less whiners and complainers. If such were the case, our country would be much the richer, both literally and figuratively. So Joe, may we long be neighbours and friends.

Branch 638's New Year's Eve Party Celebration - a BIG SUCCESS!

The first New Year's Eve Party at Branch 638 to have close to 120 guests – almost a full house! WOW! All had a great time bringing in the New Year and saying goodbye to 2012! Good food by Leatherworks Catering; Great dance music with DJ, Bytown Boogie. A whole lot of fun with each other!

As this New Year's Eve Event Co-ordinator, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the team of volunteers who contributed to this very successful event. ***Many thanks*** to the following: ***Dan Knighton*** who designed and printed the posters and tickets; ***Terry Jenkins*** for media bookings; The New Year's Eve Committee – ***Pat Cher, Gord McCaskill, Lynn McPherson, Lorraine Lapensée, John Cher*** for his support in various ways; ***Bev Connell*** and ***June Tyrrell*** for decorating; ***Bob Thomson*** and ***John***

Thomson for hall set up and clean up; **Brenda Grant, Moira Green** for bartending; **Bar Management** and **all bartenders** for selling tickets and ensuring champagne was in stock; **Lydia Fancy** for assisting with door prizes; **Gord McCaskill** for working the check-in table with me and assisting where needed i.e. bartending, decorating.

Door Prizes were donated by **SOBEY'S, MARCH RD., LYDIA FANCY AND LORRAINE LAPENSÉE.**

Last but not least, a big thank you to all who came out to support our legion and bring in the New Year!

GUESTS MADE IT THE BEST!

Together we proved Branch 638's New Year's Eve Party Celebration really is the Best in Kanata!

TRADITIONAL
BURNS' NIGHT CELEBRATION
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2013
 HAGGIS, ROAST BEEF DINNER, A WEE DRAM, PIPING, SONG AND SCOTTISH DANCE

Reception - 5:30 pm
 Dancers - 6:00 pm Dinner - 6:30 pm
 Highland Dress / Black tie / Business Suit / Legion Dress



BRANCH 638

\$30
 TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT THE BAR



Recapping the Coming Events:

Wednesday, 16 January – Branch General Meeting, 7:30 PM

Sunday, 20 January – Youth Education Awards presentation and Reception, 4 PM

Please come and show your support for these outstanding young people – and for our Youth Education program!

Saturday, 26 January – Robbie Burns Dinner

Sunday, 27 January, Branch Birthday/ Anniversary Party at 2 PM (Lounge)
 Wednesday, 13 February, Branch Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM

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

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



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

February 27th, 2013
 2pm-3pm

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.

Wednesday, 20 February, Branch General Meeting, 7:30 PM

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

L.A. Electronic Recycling Project Drop-off:

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

"Dear Daddy

I really miss you now that you are gone. I was only 7 when the plane went down! I think I was too young to even really understand that you would never come back to us again. I always hear the stories of how you graduated at the top of your class at the Air Force Academy way back in 1975. You were the greatest man that I ever knew, the strongest too. You worked hard flying to other countries in those big bombers and were gone an awful lot.

When you weren't away you were back here at the Academy where you taught those cadets how to fly and the basics of economics. I love you so and know that you served your country well in your short 32 years of life. Now Daddy there is something I need to tell you, wherever you may be now! I fell in love with a man, an officer that is. He, just like you, serves his country well. He actually gets to know the inside information on the airplanes. He is brave just like you, and someday, he too will probably die serving his country. The other day I married this Marine officer! He is the man that I never knew that I always wanted. He is my soul-mate and best-friend. I want to spend my life with a Marine officer, who is the next best thing to my father! Thank you for showing me the courage, commitment and honour of military men. I am proud to be a daughter and a wife of men that stand for something as simple as freedom, a gift for an entire nation! Thank you Daddy, I love you and I miss you!"

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.