



**Port Elgin Legion
Branch 340**

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0
519-389-9917
www.branch340.ca



AUGUST 2011

BRANCH LINE

Inside this issue you will find.... what is happening this month... Committee Reports.... general information and a wee bit of humor too. We welcome your articles and will be more than glad to insert them in future issues. Thanks to those who have submitted in the past.

It's not too late to show your support and display the yellow ribbons on your property. Show our Troops that you care and do it today.

We are proud to include some pictures of our local troops who have returned or will be returning from Afghanistan.

Plans are underway for Legion Week, which is held annually on the third week of September. If you have any suggestions or events that you would like to see happen, please submit your ideas with the Bar Steward or let one of your Executive members know.

Please read the article for the Early Bird Campaign, which starts September 01 and runs to the end of November. Your Branch needs your support to receive the highest Early Bird Award for 2012.

As a reminder, the next General Meeting will be held on September 06th at 7:00 pm. The Ladies Auxiliary will have their Meeting on September 13th at 8:00 pm.

The Editors



LEST WE FORGET



MEMBERSHIP

2012 ANNUAL EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN – SEPTEMBER 01ST – NOVEMBER 30TH

A reminder that the Early Bird Campaign for the 2012 Membership will be starting next month. This year our Branch received a 65% Award for renewals, but I am convinced that we can get an even higher percentage for 2012. When you renew your 2012 membership during the Campaign your name will be entered into the Monthly Draw and you will have a chance to win your membership free. We are counting on you – please don't leave paying your membership too late. We value your support and encourage you to continue your membership in our great organization.

I know I can count on you to pay your renewal dues early and help our Branch receive our highest Award ever!!

Annual Membership Dues remain at \$45.00.
Remember, the Early Bird gets the Reward!!

Our most recent Candidate to be initiated is Carol Gayle. Welcome to Branch 340, Carol!

Rhonda Harrison
Membership Chair
519-389-4806
harrisonconst@bmts.com

SERVICE OFFICER

****** NOTICE OF ITINERARY VISIT ******

**Randy Groundwater, Provincial Service Officer, will be visiting the area
during the week of September 18 –24.
If you require a visit kindly advise George Sicord no later than September 02, 2011.
The information sheet has been posted on the Bulletin Board.**

George Sicord
Service Officer
519-832-5143
sicordg@eastlink.ca

BY-LAW CHAIRMAN

Branch Regulations:

Ontario Command has asked us to revise Section 1201 and it shall now read as:

"The Financial Review Committee shall be comprised of 3 people who shall be a Branch member or Legion member or an outside accounting firm".

A copy of the regulations can be found on the bulletin board located in the Canteen.

Branch 340 Bylaw Chairman
Norma Dudgeon

YELLOW RIBBON CAMPAIGN at PORT ELGIN BRANCH



Past President George Sicord and President Kathryn Eastwood display one of the Yellow Ribbons, which will be decorating our Branch in recognition of the return of our Troops from Afghanistan.



Past President George Sicord and his son Sargent Jonathon Sicord, Air Force Intelligence Branch, pose in front of the Legion logo holding a yellow ribbon.



L – R: Mrs. Glenna Rivett, Past President George Sicord and Shirley & George Jacklin are set to kick off our Yellow Ribbon Campaign to welcome our Troops home. Their sons will be coming home from Afghanistan.



Captain Tom Rivett is at Kandahar Airforce Base with Operation ATHENA and will be there till all equipment is shipped home, sometime in December (hopefully early December!)

Tom is the son of Saugene Shores Police Chief Dan Rivett and his wife Glenna.

WO Gary Jacklin:

I deployed on this my most recent trip to Afghanistan on Operation ATHENA Aug 2010 and just returned mid July 2011. This was my third deployment for Op ATHENA and my ninth deployment overall. I am posted to a position at the Canadian Forces School for Communications and Electronics in Kingston Ontario so the chances of me deploying again are very reduced for at least a few years.



June 11, 2011 is a picture of WO Gary Jacklin and his two sons, Devin and Drew who are also over in Afghanistan right now working for a civilian company preparing military vehicles for return to Canada.



February 07, 2011 is a picture of WO Gary Jacklin beside the Task Force Afghanistan sign on the Kandahar airfield.



This is a picture of WO Gary Jacklin accepting a Commanders Commendation from LCol Chris McGuffin on his left and CWO Pynn on his right.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you have a few hours to spare on a Wednesday evening, we could use your help at the weekly Bingo.

Please contact Dan Kelly, Ways & Means Chairman, at 519-389-2352 or at dankelly@bmts.com



WHAT'S HAPPENING



ENTERTAINMENT 7 – 11 PM

August 13 – Lindsey Morgan
August 27 – John Stewart

MEAT ROLLS at 4 PM

Saturday – August 6, 13 & 27

IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE

3rd Tuesday of each Month
Play begins at 7:30 pm

BINGO EVERY WEDNESDAY

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Bingo at 7:30 p.m. \$700.00 Jackpot

British Newspaper Article about Canada

British newspaper salutes Canada.... this is a good read. It is funny how it took someone in England to put it into words....

Salute to a brave and modest nation - Kevin Myers, 'The Sunday Telegraph' LONDON:

Until the deaths of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan, probably almost no one outside their home country had been aware that Canadian troops are deployed in the region.

And as always, Canada will bury its dead, just as the rest of the world, as always will forget its sacrifice, just as it always forgets nearly everything Canada ever does. It seems that Canada's historic mission is to come to the selfless aid both of its friends and of complete strangers, and then, once the crisis is over, to be well and truly ignored.

Canada is the perpetual wallflower that stands on the edge of the hall, waiting for someone to come and ask her for a dance. A fire breaks out; she risks life and limb to rescue her fellow dance-goers, and suffers serious injuries. But when the hall is repaired and the dancing resumes, there is Canada, the wallflower still, while those she once helped glamorously cavort across the floor, blithely neglecting her yet again.

That is the price Canada pays for sharing the North American continent with the United States, and for being a selfless friend of Britain in two global conflicts.

For much of the 20th century, Canada was torn in two different directions: It seemed to be a part of the old world, yet had an address in the new one, and that divided identity ensured that it never fully got the gratitude it deserved.

Yet it's purely voluntary contribution to the cause of freedom in 2 world wars was perhaps the greatest of any democracy. Almost 10% of Canada's entire population of seven million people served in the armed forces during the First World War, and nearly 60,000 died. The great Allied victories of 1918 were spearheaded by Canadian troops, perhaps the most capable soldiers in the entire British Order of battle.

Canada was repaid for its enormous sacrifice by downright neglect, its unique contribution to victory being absorbed into the popular memory as somehow or other the work of the 'British'.

The Second World War provided a re-run. The Canadian navy began the war with a half dozen vessels, and ended up policing nearly half of the Atlantic against U-boat attack. More than 120 Canadian warships participated in the Normandy landings, during which 15,000 Canadian soldiers went ashore on D-Day alone.

Canada finished the war with the third-largest navy and the fourth largest air force in the world. The world thanked Canada with the same sublime indifference as it had the previous time.

Canadian participation in the war was acknowledged in film only if it was necessary to give an American actor a part in a campaign in which the United States had clearly not participated - a touching scrupulousness, which, of course, Hollywood has since abandoned, as it has any notion of a separate Canadian identity.

So it is a general rule that actors and filmmakers arriving in Hollywood keep their nationality - unless, that is, they are Canadian. Thus Mary Pickford, Walter Huston, Donald Sutherland, Michael J. Fox, William Shatner, Norman Jewison, David Cronenberg, Alex Trebek, Art Linkletter, Mike Weir and Dan Aykroyd have in the popular perception become American, and Christopher Plummer, British.

It is as if, in the very act of becoming famous, a Canadian ceases to be Canadian, unless she is Margaret Atwood, who is as unshakably Canadian as a moose, or Celine Dion, for whom Canada has proved quite unable to find any takers.

Moreover, Canada is every bit as querulously alert to the achievements of its sons and daughters as the rest of the world is completely unaware of them. The Canadians proudly say of themselves - and are unheard by anyone else - that 1% of the world's population has provided 10% of the world's

peacekeeping forces.

Canadian soldiers in the past half century have been the greatest peacekeepers on Earth - in 39 missions on UN mandates, and six on non-UN peacekeeping duties, from Vietnam to East Timor, from Sinai to Bosnia.

Yet the only foreign engagement that has entered the popular non-Canadian imagination was the sorry affair in Somalia, in which out-of-control paratroopers murdered two Somali infiltrators. Their regiment was then disbanded in disgrace - a uniquely Canadian act of self-abasement for which, naturally, the Canadians received no international credit.

So, who today in the United States knows about the stoic and selfless friendship its northern neighbour has given it in Afghanistan?

Rather like Cyrano de Bergerac, Canada repeatedly does honourable things for honourable motives, but instead of being thanked for it, it remains something of a figure of fun. It is the Canadian way, for which Canadians should be proud, yet such honour comes at a high cost. This past year more grieving Canadian families knew that cost all too tragically well.

Lest we forget.

Two Trees & A Woodpecker...

It is hard to find a joke today without a dirty word or two in it, but, here is one:

Two tall trees, a birch and a beech, are growing in the woods. A small tree begins to grow between them, and the beech says to the birch, 'Is that a son of a beech or a son of a birch?'

The birch says he cannot tell. Just then a woodpecker lands on the sapling. The birch says, 'Woodpecker, you are a tree expert. Can you tell if that is a son of a beech, or a son of a birch?'

The woodpecker takes a taste of the small tree. He replies, 'It is neither a son of a beech nor a son of a birch. It is, however, the best piece of ash I have ever put my pecker in.'

Pants and Panties

Mike was going to be married to Karen so his Father sat him down for a little chat.

He said, 'Mike, let me tell you something. On my wedding night in our honeymoon suite, I took off my pants, handed them to your Mother, and said, 'Here, try these on.'

She did and said, 'These are too big. I can't wear them.'

I replied, 'Exactly... I wear the pants in this family and I always will.'

Ever since that night, we have never had any problems.

'Hmmm,' said Mike. He thought that might be a good thing to try.

On his honeymoon, Mike took off his pants and said to Karen, 'Here, try these on.'

She tried them on and said, 'These are too large. They don't fit me.'

Mike said, 'Exactly. I wear the pants in this family and I always will. I don't want you to ever forget that.'

Then Karen took off her panties and handed them to Mike. She said, 'Here, you try on mine.'

Mike did and said, 'I can't get into your panties.'

Karen said, 'Exactly. And if you don't change your smart-*** attitude, you never will.'



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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 CIVIC HOLIDAY	2	3	4	5 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM	6 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
7	8	9	10 BINGO 7:30 PM	11 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	12 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM	13 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM <hr/> ENTERTAINMENT 7:00 PM
14	15	16 IN-HOUSE CIBBAGE 7:30 PM	17 BINGO 7:30 PM	18 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	19 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM	20 MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
21	22	23	24 BINGO 7:30 PM	25 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	26 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM	27 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM <hr/> ENTERTAINMENT 7:00 PM
28	29	30 EXEC MTG 7:30 PM	31 BINGO 7:30 PM			

~ Please join us for our various events and help support your Branch ~