



Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

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JANUARY 2014 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.

Just to let you know that we did have a lot going on and lots of pictures were taken for Nov. 11th. I have included a few more pictures to share with you.

The Branch hosted a New Year's Eve Dance and a great time was had by all. A few people to thank for making this event happen - Kathy for setting up the room and decorations; the Ladies Auxiliary, the lunch was great; Dan and Cynthia for the admission table and to Eric for being our Greeter. To anyone that helped out – thanks to you too. And of course – to the band “Crippled Duck” for the entertainment.

We also celebrated our New Year's Levee on January 1st. Thanks to Les Virtue and Brenda Collins for all their work in organizing again this year. We were entertained by “The Danns” and they did a wonderful job with their music. We always have a great time when Leo and the Boys are in the house!

See the poster for the Annual Chili Cook-off which is happening on Saturday, January 25th. Mark your calendar now so you won't forget to bring your entry to the contest.

All the events happening at the Branch are open to the public so please bring your friends and join in the camaraderie.

The Editor



LEST WE FORGET



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Looking back at 2013 we can see that the Branch had a very busy and eventful year. Our Legion year ended in May with a surplus of \$5,000 due in no small part to the generosity of our user groups and to the countless hours put in by our tireless volunteers during our fundraising activities. My thanks to each and every one of you for all you do. This Branch could not exist without your dedication. Nor could it continue without the efforts of the Executive members who do so much behind the scenes as well as up front. They are all to be commended as are, too, the Chairs of the various Committees who look after the many demanding aspects of the Legion, especially George our now retired Property Chair. Kudos to you George!

Unfortunately, we said a sad goodbye to quite a few members last year, some of whom were veterans, and I know that they are greatly missed. Happily we also welcomed some new Legion members, some who are younger Veterans, and we are pleased to have them join us. With the recent purchase of the building next door and the upcoming District C Convention in April, this year will see new and different challenges, but I am very confident that they will be faced with the same determination that has kept this Branch alive for the last 70 years. Yes, believe it or not, this Branch will celebrate its 70th anniversary in December a year away from now. That is a cause for a celebration!!! Watch for details. (care to help?)

I wish you success and happiness in the coming year and thank you for allowing me to be part of the last four as President. It has been an honour.

Yours in Comradeship,
President, Branch 340
Kathryn Eastwood



Ladies Auxiliary President's Message



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We are looking for Ladies to become members of our Auxiliary.

Are you a Veteran?

Are you a wife, widow, mother, sister, daughter, grand-daughter or niece of a Veteran?

Are you the wife or daughter of an Associate Member?

Do you have a friend who would like to become a Member?

The Ladies' Auxiliary's prime object is to be of assistance to the Branch. We help the Veterans by bringing whatever comfort we can to them. We help with the Ontario Provincial Bursary Programme; which allows the Veterans' children to continue their education. In order to do these things we must work to raise money. You will be asked to work with us. We also have a Sports Programme where we enjoy a day of fun and comradeship.

Members of Branch 340 invite your wives to become members of your Auxiliary!

Ladies Auxiliary Members – a **CHALLENGE** to each of you....Can you bring a friend of yours into our membership this year?

Hoping you give this matter your urgent consideration so some of our Auxiliary can continue to operate in the future as we have done so faithfully in the past.

PRIDE TO OUR PAST – FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

I would like to thank all the Comrades who helped the Ladies Auxiliary during the busy holiday season with our banquets.

On behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary to Branch 340, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

Cde Joyce Chapman
L/A President
chappy@bmts.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The following individuals were initiated in a private ceremony: Nolan Pickett, Caroline Przybysz, Nicole Zimmerman and Stacey Hobson. Please welcome them when you see them in the Branch.

If you have recently had a change of address or a change in your contact information, please leave the particulars with the Bar Steward and the Membership Register can be updated; or, contact the undersigned.

It is no longer necessary to have any type of military background to become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion. We are always looking for new members and would like to see more people join our Branch. Please see the Bar Steward for applications.

Sharen Maas
Membership Chairman
519-389-2412
jmaas@brucetelecom.com



LAST POST

Rev. Margaret Greenhow
Branch Padre



POPPY REPORT

Another Poppy Campaign has come and gone and once again it was a great success. Not all figures are in yet but it is safe to say we have surpassed all of my expectations. The Poppy Campaign, as you all know, is the biggest fund raiser the Legion takes on for our Veterans and our community and cannot succeed without the help of our membership. This was my first year as Poppy Chairman and I could not have done it without all the help I received.

I would personally like to thank everyone who donated their time to make this year's campaign go as smoothly as it did. From those who took the time to stand in stores with poppy boxes to those who helped count money, and those who gave advice when needed, I have come to learn how fortunate we at Branch 340 are to have so many volunteers willing to give their time.

Once again I thank everyone who helped with this year's Campaign.

Blair Eby
Poppy Chairman
bizebys@gmail.com

SPORTS COMMITTEE



The Branch sold tickets for the Christmas Wheelbarrow Draw. The prize is in an actual wheelbarrow and holds a variety of goodies for you to enjoy.....various sundries, gift cards, homemade craft items and lots of other treats. Proceeds will be given to the Legion Pee Wee Hockey Team and a percentage to the Building Maintenance Fund.

Last year's winner, Ann MacKay, drew the winning ticket on December 23rd and the lucky winner was Amanda Hutter, Port Elgin. Congratulations, Amanda!!

Mary Alexander
Sports Committee
sunsetcottages@eastlink.ca

TOD (Training/Organizational Development)

Being a member in a service organization such as ours can be one of the most rewarding things, especially when it involves caring for Veterans. Unfortunately, while most members are happy to offer their services as a volunteer or join in the fun, not everyone wants to be on the Executive to make the decisions that keep the Branch up and running and the doors open. This is where succession planning comes in.

By actively involving volunteer members in the Branch activities and encouraging them to take part in training opportunities, the possibilities of learning new things about the Legion and the benefits of being a Branch Officer can be highlighted. It is important, too, to recognise and thank volunteers whenever possible for all that they do. Encouragement and praise fosters growth and confidence in one's own abilities and furthers a desire for greater personal achievement. Being a leader is not about being popular but about creating future leaders to continue the Legion's work.

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy and prosperous 2014

Kathryn Eastwood
Branch 340 - TOD Chairman



The Provincial Legion Track and Field Indoor Championships will take place on January 25th at York University in Vaughan, Ontario.

The Saugeen Track and Field Club is in the process of registering athletes for the 2014 season. Any athletes wishing to compete with the Club can contact Earl Farrell at 519-832-6886 or farrell@bmts.com

REMEMBRANCE DAY – 2013



L – R George Jacklin, Warrant Officer Gary Jacklin and Shirley Jacklin



L – R Major Kevin Grieve, RCAF; Brian Grieve, Connie Grieve, Dave Grieve and Front Center- Grant Grieve



The Eby Family donates a wall hanging to the Branch.
L – R Eleanor Smith, Blair Eby, Basil Eby and Jim Fleming



Many of the local groups and organizations were represented and wreaths were laid.

Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine spring day in his new west Texas mission parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside. He then noticed there was a jackass lying dead in the middle of his front lawn. He promptly called the local police station.

The conversation went like this:

"Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How might I help you?"

"And the best o' the day ta yerself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann's Catholic Church. There's a jackass lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?"

Sergeant Jones, considering himself to be quite a wit and recognizing the Irish accent, thought he would have a little fun with the good father, and replied,

"Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites for the deceased!"...

There was dead silence on the line for a long moment.

Father O'Malley then replied:

"Aye, 'tis certainly true; but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin first, which is the reason for me call to you."

New Year's Dance 2013



From the diary of a Pre-School Teacher

My five-year old students are learning to read.
Yesterday one of them pointed at a picture in a zoo book and said, "Look at this! It's a frickin' elephant!"

I took a deep breath, then asked..."What did you call it?"

"It's a frickin' elephant! It says so on the picture!" And so it does...



" A f r i c a n E l e p h a n t "

Hooked on phonics! Ain't it wonderful?

TRIBUTE TO Meat & Turkey Raffle Volunteers



This month's Volunteer Tribute is to the happy gang who brings you the Meat Draws without fail every month and the Turkey Draws at Christmas time. They can always be relied upon to provide you with that Sunday roast or succulent ham for your lunch. We would have featured them separately, but it's a "joint" venture!

L-R: Dick Coulter, "The Caller"; Tom Jacques, "Go To Prize Guy"; Eric McLeod "The Money Man" and Murray "Get your Ticket" Thede. Missing from the photo is Ways & Means Chairman Dan Kelly.

Keep that wheel spinning, guys: we love ya!



AIR CADETS 340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin



The 340 Air Cadets have been busy, working on their float and various signs they used in the Santa Claus Parade in Port Elgin and Southampton at the end of November. In December the Ladies Auxiliary put on a wonderful roast beef dinner for the Officers, Cadets and the families of the Cadets. We had almost 90 people attend the dinner, the biggest in recent Cadet history. The night started with Civilian Volunteer Ridley Gillmore leading 2 Cadets in small band that played several selections. This was the first time the Cadet Band had played in public and they did a superb job. After the meal, L Col (retired) Jim Gale said a few words, followed by a gift exchange for the Cadets that saw many gifts change hands multiple times. It was a lot of fun and a good time for everyone to get to know each other a little better.

Coming in January the Cadets will be preparing for National Course Interviews, continue to work on the band, and further develop their marksmanship at the Griffin Training Facility in Southampton.



Steven Pellow, Squadron Director
Member of the Ontario Provincial Committee of the Air Cadet League



CLIFF SEAMAN MEMORIAL CHILI COOK-OFF



Saturday, January 25, 2014

Enter your favorite chili recipe - Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Saturday Events will include:

Meat Raffle at 4:00 pm

Judging Results

Chili Deals will be available after the Judging

\$10.00 Entry Fee

Please pay when you Register

Proceeds will be donated to the
Grey Bruce Health Services - Oncology Unit

Participants please deliver your Entry by 2:00 pm to the upstairs Hall

Husband to wife: - Today is a fine day.

Next day he says: - Today is a fine day.

Again next day, he says same thing - Today is a fine day...

Finally after a week, the wife can't take it and asks her husband: - Since last week, you are saying this 'Today is a fine day'. I am fed up. What's the matter?

Husband: - Last week when we had an argument, you said, "I will leave you one fine day." I was just trying to remind you...

O x y m o r o n s

1. Is it good if a vacuum really sucks?
2. Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?
3. If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
4. If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he find the words?
5. Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack?
6. Why does "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing?
7. Why does "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing?
8. Why do "tug" boats push their barges?
9. Why do we sing "Take me out to the ball game" when we are already there?
10. Why are they called "stands" when they are made for sitting?
11. Why is it called "after dark" when it really is "after light"?
12. Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?
13. Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites?
14. Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things?
15. Why is "phonics" not spelled the way it sounds?
16. If work is so terrific, why do they have to pay you to do it?
17. If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
18. If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
19. If you are cross-eyed and have dyslexia, can you read all right?
20. Why is bra singular and panties plural?
21. Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead?
22. Why do we put suits in garment bags and garments in a suitcase?
23. How come abbreviated is such a long word?


24. Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use them?
 25. Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?



JANUARY



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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 NEW YEAR'S LEVEE 	2 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	3 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	4 EUCHRE 1:30 PM <hr/> MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
5	6	7 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> GEN MTG 7:30 PM	8 BINGO 7:30 PM	9 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	10 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	11 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
12	13	14 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> L/A GEN MTG 7:30 PM <hr/> IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30 PM	15 BINGO 7:30 PM	16 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	17 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	18 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
19	20	21 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM	22 BINGO 7:30 PM	23 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	24 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	25 EUCHRE 1:30 PM <hr/> MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM <hr/> CHILI COOK-OFF ENTRIES – 2:00 PM
26	27	28 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> EXEC MTG 7:30 PM	29 BINGO 7:30 PM	30 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	31 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	

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