



Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

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FEBRUARY 2015

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.

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

Please see inside for details for a Scooter – Free to a Good Home.

Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion is seeking candidates who may wish to participate in the world's largest walking/marching event held in mid-July in the Nijmegen area of Holland. More information inside this issue. Zone C4 Commander Chris Blondin participated in the march last year.

The Editor



LEST WE FORGET





PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Well, our winter is more than ½ over and things are well in Port Elgin. Wiarton Willie has predicted an early spring so let's hope he is correct. Things are progressing well at Branch 340. The Christmas Season is over and we had some very successful events:

- Our Turkey Raffles were very well attended and the place was packed at each event. Thanks to Tom and his crew for doing such a great job.
- Our New Year's Eve Dance was sold out and people were entertained by the Cripple Ducks. All had a great time and the hall was decorated up to look fantastic. Thanks to Ann Marie and her crew for making it all come together.
- January 1st was time for our Levee Day celebration. The Danns entertained a packed house for approximately 4 hours with a variety of music from Country to Rock and Roll to Eastern Canada Music. Once again all had a good time. We are blessed to have people like Les and Brenda who love to set this up so all can enjoy.

Now that our busy season is over and our LA is getting a well deserved rest, Don has taken over getting our building in shape. With his hard work we now have storage spaces we never had before and the building is in great shape. Thanks Don. He even found our extra set of Bingo balls that have been missing for almost 10 years. Dedication pays off again.

Thanks to all of you that have helped our Legion be the envy of many others around.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Branch.

Yours in Comradeship

President Dan Kelly
dankelly@bmts.com



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



We welcome new members Mike Rushton and Larry Helmuth to Branch 340.

We are always looking for people to join this great organization and application forms are available at the Bar. Bring a friend and sign up today.

If you or anyone you know would like a copy the newsletter sent to them, please leave the email address or mailing address with the Bar Steward and I will ensure that your name is added for future Branch Line editions.

Remember to keep your contact information current and inform me if there are any changes as soon as possible.

Sharen Maas
Membership Chairman
jmaas@brucetelecom.com



LAST POST
Donald McDermid





Annual Cliff Seaman Memorial Chili Cook-off:

It was with regret that we had to cancel the Chili Cook-off this year as we only had 2 entries prior to the event. I couldn't see asking 5 Judges to donate their Saturday afternoon therefore the cancellation. We cannot run this event when people sign up the day of the event, as we cannot be certain of how many walk-ins we would be getting.

It has been suggested that the Chili Cook-off be held in April or May when people are back from their winter holiday and the weather is better.

If any one is interested in running this event please contact the undersigned so we can get the word out as soon as possible.

Military Service Recognition Book:

If any one has a relative who you would like to see in the Military Service Recognition Book we have new forms available at the Branch or you can download at <http://www.on.legion.ca>

Robert Harrison
harrisonconst@bmts.com



Below is a news bulletin that was issued out from the Ontario Government. Please review and see if you can benefit from it. There is money available out there for programs that help Seniors.

News Release

Ontario Seniors Community Grants Accepting Applications

January 28, 2015

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors Making Progress

Ontario is now accepting applications for the [Seniors Community Grant Program](#) to help more seniors stay safe, active and engaged in their communities.

Funding for the grant has been doubled in size to \$1 million to give seniors more opportunities to participate in their communities. Last year's grants went toward projects such as, helping seniors learn new skills like cooking or using tablets, and encouraging physical activity like dance, lawn bowling and tai chi.

Ontario is also marking the two-year anniversary of its Action Plan for Seniors, which is helping more seniors access quality services and live safer and more inclusive lives. Recent initiatives include:

- Launching the \$1.5 million [Age-Friendly Community Planning Grant Program](#), which helps municipalities plan for aging residents.
- Introducing the [Family Caregiver Leave](#), which allows people in Ontario up to eight weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to provide care or support to a family member with a serious medical condition.
- Launching [the Community Transportation Pilot Grant Program](#), which helps municipalities to improve access to, and options for, community transportation services for seniors, persons living with disabilities, youth and other members of the community.
- Implementing the Retirement Homes Act, which enforces new care and safety standards and allows licensing for more than 700 retirement homes to keep residents safe.

Developing services and supports for seniors is part of the government's economic plan for Ontario. The four-part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, building new public infrastructure like roads and transit, creating a dynamic, supportive environment where business thrives, and building a secure savings plan so everyone can afford to retire.

QUICK FACTS

The Seniors Community Grant Program is accepting applications from January 28 to March 27, 2015 and will support projects that allow seniors to contribute to all aspects of community life.

Individuals representing non-incorporated seniors groups, incorporated not-for profit organizations, municipalities, Local Service Boards and Aboriginal groups are eligible to apply for Seniors Community Grants.

The Seniors Community Grant Program has already supported 179 projects and helped 43,000 seniors across the province.

As of 2015, for the first time, people over 65 account for a larger share of the population than children under 15.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

[Making Ontario the Best Place to Age](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Applications and guidelines for the 2015 Seniors Community Grant Program.](#)

[Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors.](#)

[Ontario Seniors' Secretariat.](#)

QUOTES

"Our seniors deserve our respect and our support to make Ontario the best place to age. With the help of our partners, we will continue to ensure seniors live healthy, safe and active lives for as long as possible."

— *Mario Sergio, Minister Responsible for Seniors Affairs*

"The contributions of seniors have made this community stronger and it's important that, in return, we ensure older adults have the supports they need to live safe, healthy, vibrant and active lives. Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors, and the projects funded through Seniors Community Grants, are helping us create a supportive environment for our seniors as they age."

— *Han Dong, MPP, Trinity-Spadina*

CONTACTS

Celeste Bottero
Minister's Office
416-326-1689

Laura Sylvis
Communications Branch
416-314-7010

Ontario Seniors' Secretariat
<http://www.ontario.ca/seniors>

Cde Dan Kelly
Senior's Chairman
dankelly@bmts.com

A police officer sees a man driving around with a pickup truck full of penguins. He pulls the guy over and says, "You can't drive around with penguins in this town! Take them to the zoo immediately."

The guy says okay, and drives away. The next day, the officer sees the guy still driving around with the truck full of penguins -- and they're all wearing sunglasses. He pulls the guy over and demands, "I thought I told you to take these penguins to the zoo yesterday?"

The guy replies, "I did. Today I'm taking them to the beach!"



WHAT'S HAPPENING In February



LADIES CARD CLUB
Tuesday Afternoons
Upstairs Hall
Start 1:30 pm

IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE
2nd Tues. each month
Start 7:30 pm

BINGO every Wednesday
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Bingo at 7:30 pm
\$700. Jackpot

EUCHRE
Thursday at 7:30 pm
Canteen

DANCE CLUB
Friday at 8:00 pm
Upstairs Hall

EUCHRE
Saturday at 1:30 pm
Canteen

JAMBOREE
Sunday, February 1
Upstairs Hall - 2:00 – 5:00 pm

TRIVIA NIGHT
Friday, February 20
Canteen – 8:00 PM



AIR CADETS 340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin



As 340 Air Cadet Squadron heads into 2015, December 2014 saw them kept quite busy with local activities. First there were the Santa Claus parades in both Port Elgin and Southampton. Despite the chilly weather the Cadets stepped out in good form. As always, the Cadet Squadron Dinner held at the Port Elgin 340 Royal Canadian Legion was enjoyed by all. There were 65 cadets, parents and siblings in attendance. A big thank you goes out to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Legion for doing such a fantastic job on the meal as always. There were 20 ladies involved with the preparation of the meal and it was delicious. The Cadets also enjoyed a fun gift exchange after dinner. A fun night had by all. The Cadets had a chance to let loose a little and enjoyed a night of bowling at Sunset Lanes in December as well.

The year is already shaping up to be a busy one for the Cadets. On Tuesday, January 13, 2015 the Cadets had their sports night. They came ready to sweat and have some fun. There will be a Range Competition coming up on February 21, 2015 at the Westcast Complex, in Wingham, so range practice will be going ahead full steam, weather permitting, on Saturday, January 17th at the Griffin. There will be 5 cadets chosen to represent 340 Squadron at the shoot. We compete in Zone 9 (which extends from Port Elgin to Goderich and includes Hanover and Mount Forrest). There are about 10 teams, both Air and Army Cadets in Zone 9. Hoping for a good turn out come Saturday. A special thank you to Miller's Septic for blowing the parking lot out at the Griffin after 3 days of snow fell and left behind 3 feet of snow at the entranceways to the Griffin trailer.

The Cadets have been busy picking the National courses they would like to attend this summer. We have 2 Cadets preparing for interviews in February at the Hanover Airport Offices. We also have several Cadets preparing for the Effective Speaking Competition held locally. The Squadron Level ES competitions are scheduled for February 17th. The aim of this competition is to provide an opportunity for Air Cadets to increase their self-confidence and enhance their ability to reason, organize and express ideas; to promote the citizenship component of local squadron training. To provide a focus at the Local, Provincial and National levels to promote and encourage Air Cadets to participate in an optional activity that will provide them with an opportunity to acquire effective speaking skills through instruction and practice in a structured and competitive environment. To increase public awareness regarding the citizenship and leadership aspects of the Air Cadet program at the National, Provincial and Local levels. Each cadet participating is required to present a prepared speech of 5 to 6 minutes and an impromptu speech of 2 to 3 minutes. Cadets can choose to give their speeches in English, French or both. The topics for this competition range from The 50th Anniversary of the Maple Leaf Flag (2015) to How has being a Cadet affected my life? Good luck to all those Cadets participating, I'm sure you'll do your squadron proud.

As you can see Cadets is off to a great start in 2015 with lots more to come. We will keep you posted!

Tina Aasman
Air Cadet Sponsoring Committee

A bar owner locked up his place at 2 AM and went home to sleep. He had been in bed only a few minutes when the phone rang. "What time do you open up in the morning?" he heard an obviously inebriated man inquire.

The owner was so furious; he slammed down the receiver and went back to bed. A few minutes later there was another call and he heard the same voice ask the same question. "Listen, the owner shouted, "there's no sense in asking me what time I open because I wouldn't let a person in your condition in..."
"I don't want to get in," the caller interjected. "I want to get out."



2014 ANNUAL WHEELBARROW DRAW - PRESENTATIONS



Cde Mary Alexander coordinated another successful Wheelbarrow Draw and three youth programs were recipients from the profits.

Saugeen Shores Minor Ball received \$297.50; Minor Hockey received \$600.00 and Sponsored Swim & Skate for \$178.03.

L-R Back Row: Sean Fowler, Minor Hockey, Cde Mary Alexander, President Dan Kelly, Andy Dunlop, Vice President, Minor Ball.

L-R Front Row: James Fowler, Maeve Dunlop and Austin Dunlop.

Mary Alexander
Sunsetcottages@eastlink.ca

Legion Seeking Applicants for 2015 CAF Nijmegen March Team

OTTAWA, ON, 22 January 2015 – Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion is seeking candidates who may wish to participate in the world's largest walking/marching event held in mid-July in the Nijmegen area of Holland.

"Every year we receive dozens of applications from our members to participate in this march on behalf of the Legion," says Royal Canadian Legion Dominion President Tom Eagles.



"The Legion's interest in the Canadian Armed Forces Nijmegen March Team extends back more than ten years ago when it began making an annual grants to the Canadian Armed Forces' team to enable them to visit Vimy Ridge" says Mr. Eagles. "Since 2004, the CAF has reciprocated by welcoming the participation of a Legionnaire in the team at CAF expense," adds Mr. Eagles.

For the military, the Nijmegen March entails four days of walking more than 40kms per day with a 10kgs backpack for each soldier. Historically, more than 7,000 military from all over the world participate in this event and an additional 40,000 civilians also take part without the backpack requirement. Details on the event can be found here:
www.4daagse.nl/en/

- http://www.legion.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Nij2015_Bil_GM.pdf
- http://www.legion.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2015NijApplicForm1_Bil_GM.pdf

All submissions must be sent to the Dominion Command coordinator, Danny Martin, 86 Aird Place, Ottawa, ON K2L 0A1 or to dmartin@legion.ca and received no later than 2 March 2015. Selection of the candidate will be confirmed by mid-March 2015.

<http://www.legion.ca/article/legion-seeking-applicants-for-2015-caf-nijmegen-march-team/>

ANIMAL JOKES

Having arrived at the edge of the river, the fisherman soon realized he had forgotten to bring any bait. Just then he happened to see a little snake passing by who had caught a worm. The fisherman snatched up the snake and robbed him of his worm. Feeling sorry for the little snake with no lunch, he snatched him up again and poured a little beer down his throat. Then he went about his fishing.

An hour or so later the fisherman felt a tug at his pant leg. Looking down, he saw the same snake with three more worms in his mouth...

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Two piggy's walk into a bar, get drunk and ask, "Where's the bathroom?" The bartender points to the door and they rush in.

Two more piggy's walk into a bar. They soon get drunk and they ask, "Where's the bathroom?" The bartender points to the door and they rush in.

One piggy walks into a bar. He gets drunk out of his mind and then heads for the exit. "Hey, buddy! Do you want know where the bathroom is?" asks the bartender.

"No thanks," the piggy slurs, "I always go WEEWEEWEE all the way home!"

Scooter Available

The Branch has acquired a Scooter which is free to a good home. Please contact Cde Don Dudgeon at 519-832-7016 for more information.



Q: How does a man show that he is planning for the future?


A: He buys two cases of beer.



FEBRUARY



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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 JAMBOREE 2 – 5 PM 	2 Happy Groundhog Day! 	3 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> GEN. MTG 7:30 PM	4 BINGO 7:30 PM	5 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	6 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	7 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
8	9	10 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> L/A GEN. MTG 7:30 PM <hr/> IN HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30 PM	11 BINGO 7:30 PM	12 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	13 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	14 EUCHRE 1:30 PM <hr/> MEAT RAFFLE 4:00 PM 
15	16 Family Day! 	17 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM	18 BINGO 7:30 PM	19 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	20 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM <hr/> TRIVIA NIGHT 8:00 PM	21 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
22	23	24 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM <hr/> EXEC. MTG 7:30 PM	25 BINGO 7:30 PM	26 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	27 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	28 EUCHRE 1:30 PM <hr/> MEAT RAFFLE 4:00 PM

🎶 Please join us for our various events 🎶

🎶 Event Times and Dates Subject to Change 🎶