

THE MAPLE LEAF

Newsletter of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270

2 Michael Anne Drive, P.O. Box 89, Coldwater, ON L0K 1E0 • Email: branch270@rogers.com • www.coldwaterlegion.com



February 2017

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FROM THE BOARD

A word from your Board of Management

February is already upon us with its Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, and Family Day reminding us that we should be half-done with the winter. Sort of. Just don't put your boots away yet. In recent weeks you may have noticed a few improvements around the branch, including repaired doors and washroom facilities, alarm and monitoring system, an additional and safer location for the security key pad, a camera above the bar, a more convenient location for some of the activities supplies, and on most days a comfortable temperature in the club room and upstairs hall. There are also some less visible improvements, such as security and backup software for our office computer. That said, there are more improvements to be made, and they will get done at a reasonable and sustainable pace in order to ensure that the finances of the branch remain sound.

In the area of training, there will be a T.O.D. Seminar - Training and Organizational Development - held in the upstairs hall on Saturday, March 4, 2017 - registration is at 8:30 a.m. and will run until approximately 2 p.m. Coffee and a light lunch is included. Please register with the office if you would like to attend. We encourage anyone interested in helping on a committee or the executive to attend this session. These seminars are important, very informative and will outline the roles of the various committees operating within our branch. Please attend. And on that note, we remind you that we are still looking for volunteers for executive positions at the branch, mainly those of president and vice-president. Please contact a member of the Board if interested.

This being Canada's 150th birthday, there is more cause to celebrate. If you have any ideas to celebrate this birthday, please bring them to us. We hope to make it a very special year and need your suggestions.

POPPY CAMPAIGN

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Jean Murray, Poppy Chairperson

No recent activity for the Poppy Chair, however, our wreaths and poppies have a new home where they currently are lounging in comfort awaiting their next starring role. Remember that Decoration Day is in June and volunteers will be needed to help place crosses at all of the veterans' graves. Anyone interested in helping with this 'chair' please speak to one of the board of management members. There is a lot of work involved in this role, however, the rewards far outweigh the effort. For me it was truly enjoyable.

YOUTH EDUCATION

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Jean Murray, Youth Education Chairperson

Comrades, Friends and Neighbours -- lend me your ears for those who have not read the signs around the branch the date for the **Students' Public Speaking Competition has been changed to Sunday, March 5, 2017 at 1 p.m.** This will give you another opportunity to watch and listen to some earnest students at their best. The topics are their selection, something in which they have a substantial interest. Please join us on that date to encourage these young people in their efforts to proceed on to the next level of competition. If you would like to volunteer to help on this day, please let me know. I promise you an enjoyable afternoon.

ENTERTAINMENT

Submitted by Comrade Debbie Robitaille, Entertainment Chairperson

Hi everyone. Our next large event is the St. Patty's Day celebrations. Preparations are already on the way. I am looking for volunteers to help make this a success. The parade will start at 1 p.m. Our entertainment for the day will be The P.T. Cruisers. The jars for the king and Queen will be put out on February 1st (the names will be drawn at the March 11 meat draw). Everyone can be nominated. If you accept the nomination you must be available for March 17. There are some other ideas floating around like continuing the party in the evening from 7 to 10ish. This is for everyone and those that can't be present during the day due to work or scheduling commitments. For this we need a DJ who is willing to donate his services for the few hours. Feedback is always welcome. Other entertainment events lined up are:

February 25th, the Penny Love Band;

March 25th, Jim McCarthy Guitar-y-oki; and

April 29th, Wendy Whelan Band.

For the months of May and June, I need suggestions for entertainers.

February 6th, we will be joining the BIA group to discuss our contributions etc., for our 150th Canada Day celebrations. I am looking for volunteers to form a committee and of course Ideas, suggestions, themes would be very welcome.

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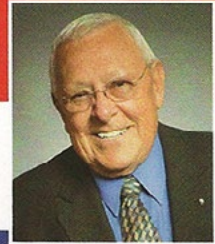
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WAYS AND MEANS

Submitted by Comrade Debbie Robitaille, Ways & Means Chairperson

The tree of warmth was a great success. We delivered all the donated items on January 30th. We thank each and every one of you for your generosity. We could not have done it without your enthusiasm. I look forward to other ideas for the tree. Saturday February 11th, the County of Simcoe will be hosting their Save a Life day. Together with the Heart and Stroke Foundation they are offering all residents of Simcoe County a free CPR level A training course. It will be held at the Legion in the upstairs hall. It starts at 9 a.m. and finishes at noon. Again, it's free for everyone. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to the Coldwater Food Bank. Our Dime Jar is going well. Thank you for your dimes. Let's continue to get her filled.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Submitted by Comrades Dave & Debbie Robitaille, Branch & L.A. Sergeant-at-Arms

We are always willing to practice drills, marching etc. Please let us know if you would like to review. We have booklets available with basic drill information for you to take home.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Public Relations Officer

In addition to maintaining the Branch's Facebook page and website, much energy was spent recently on producing – and enhancing - the Maple Leaf. For those of you who are receiving your monthly ML by email, you will have noticed that we have moved to a colour version. The upgrade will offer nicer and more dynamic images, and open-up all kinds of new possibilities for a more attractive layout. We will keep working on it. Until now, the higher cost of colour printing was the reason for continuing to produce the newsletter in black-and-white only. So, we have struck a balance: we now have full colour for the electronic version at no extra cost, and we still distribute a black-and-white printed version for those of you who prefer walking away with a printed copy in your hands. Only two colour copies will be printed and presented (in protective sleeves) in binders as "in-house" copies, for your reading pleasure. These copies will be archived after they are replaced by the latest issue. Note that the Maple Leaf is also available in .pdf format on our website in the News Room section. Please check it out at www.coldwaterlegion.com Of course, enhancing the look means nothing without relevant content, so please continue to submit your

monthly reports and other material through the Branch email at branch270@rogers.com , with "Maple Leaf" in the subject line.

COLLECTION MANAGER

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Collection Manager
Our collection continues to grow with donations of artefacts related to local military history and veterans. A recent donation by Don Hawke of Orillia included the Second World War tunic of his dad, Sergeant Bill Hawke, who served as a Flight Engineer with the RCAF. It also included a few photographs of Sergeant Hawke in uniform, one of which revealed interesting information about the unit and location where it was taken. This is exactly the kind of material and background information we need so we can build a collection that is both relevant and meaningful to the Coldwater community. Thank you Don and the Hawke family.



Sergeant Bill Hawke, born and raised just outside Coldwater, served as a Flight Engineer on Canso aircraft with the RCAF in the Second World War.

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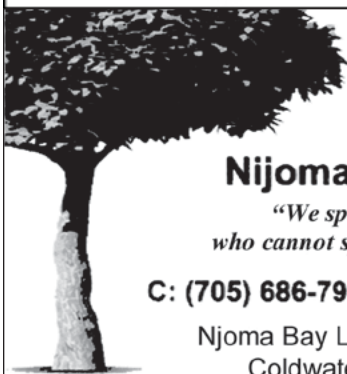
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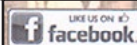


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SPORTS

Submitted by Comrade Bob Gourlie, Sports Chairperson

Comrades, on Jan 7 we had our Zone Dart Tournament in Orillia. Coldwater was represented by Greg Stout, Dan O'Hara, Billy Russell Jr. and Jeremy Peden. Congratulations are to be send out to Greg Stout as he has made it to the District Darts that are to be held in Orillia in Feb. Good Luck Greg!

The Zone Mixed Darts Tournament will be held on Mar 4. These teams must have two men and two ladies. Watch for the notice on the Sports board. We would like to see at least a couple of teams in this one. We are also currently setting up for our Annual Ladies vs Men's Dart Tournament. The date will be Apr 22. Again watch for the posting. This tournament is open to anyone that likes to play darts and have fun. Don't forget that we are trying to start a pool league on Saturdays starting at noon! If you have any questions about any of our Branch or Zone Sports, email or call me!!

Bob Gourlie

Cell: 705-715-2368 Email: robertgourlie@gmail.com



Our Dart Team in Orillia, left to right: Jeremy Peden, Billy Russell Jr., Dan O'Hara, and Greg Stout.

SENIORS

Submitted by Comrade Eleanor Schull, Seniors Chairperson

I would like at this time to offer condolences to all who have suffered the loss of a loved one. The loss of someone you love is very traumatic. The Legion family has suffered a number of losses in recent weeks, so to you all I say "We will remember them." On a lighter note, we have been having an extended January thaw and there are many events to look forward to in February. On the 2nd the groundhog will do his annual prediction. I'm hoping for an overcast day so he doesn't see his shadow and spring will come early. There is also Valentine's Day and Family Day. Soon it

will be time to get an early start on planting some seeds so they can turn into plants ready for your garden in May, LOL. This may be wishful thinking on my part but today my neighbours came to call with two little guys already riding their tricycles and it's only January 23rd.

SICK AND VISITING

Submitted by Comrade Eleanor Schull, Sick & Visiting Chairperson

Cards were sent to those who are ill, those who have lost a loved one and those who just needed cheering up. The privacy law says I can't name names, so if I've missed anyone, I apologize. To the members, please let me know if someone is ill or in need of a sympathy card, and I will send them one.

CONSUMERS

Submitted by Comrade Rosalie J. Pratt

We are living in challenging times. We are forging forth and writing the next chapter in mankind's history. Imagine... the opportunity to revisit these times one hundred years from now; would we rejoice or cry?

No matter where we look on our planet, people are enduring some sort of strife. Creed, religion, ethnicity, affiliation to any group or sector does not negate that man is an insatiable consumer.

What is a consumer? There are many explanations delineating the meaning of a consumer depending on your source of edification.

A consumer is the end of an economic activity where man satisfies a need, be it for food or shelter and all appendages related thereto. Therefore, it is the consumer who is in charge of all economy and since every man is a consumer, it is every man who contributes to production and distribution.

It is because of man that economies exist. Economies are a social construct and as such each capable person must be able and allowed to participate in the production of goods and services. It is the productive individual who can best express their needs as a consumer. It is the consumer who has the means and capacity of expression. It is people not markets who create the need for product and services; it is people who buy, not markets.

Regardless of identification with the right or left in the political arena, we should remember we are the consumers. In the end people are the consumer, and therefore, have the power to instigate and communicate change into reality.

We reflect on history to guide us for the future – one thing has remained constant, the consumer and their need to satisfy their demands for goods and services.

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The Tree of Warmth

By Norm Marion, Branch PRO

Over the years, members and guests at the Coldwater Legion have seen quite a variety of items hanging on the walls or standing in corners, everything from seasonal festive decorations to significant war memorabilia. But in recent months, a new feature has taken centre stage, one with branches and articles of clothing hanging from them. It's called The Tree of Warmth. And it all started when someone at the Branch was inspired by an on-line video about homeless people and their obvious need for warm clothes. "The idea of setting up a Tree of Warmth at the Legion was first proposed at a meeting of the Branch Executive," says Comrade Debbie Robitaille, the Entertainment Chairperson at Branch 270 Coldwater. "It was initially suggested as a means to gather warm clothes for homeless Vets, but after discussion it was decided that in a small village like

Coldwater, it would be better to focus on our local community first, at least for this campaign."

And that is how Debbie got to approach local schools and local organisations to eventually find one particular group of people who, although not homeless, were very much in need of warm clothes. "A survey was done, a wish list was made, and a makeshift tree was setup in the club room at the Legion to try to attract donations of the needed clothes", she explains.

The project was an immediate success among members and guests and soon the branches of the tree began to fill with donated toques, mitts, scarfs, socks, and pretty much all types of warm clothing. To Debbie's surprise, donations sometimes came from unexpected sources. "At one point a representative of a brewery [the Horseshoe Valley Brewing Coy]

noticed our initiative and offered to contribute by raising funds through the auctioning of older promotional material. I was amazed when they called me later to say that they raised more than \$800, which would cover pretty much the rest of the wish list."

Although she is quite proud of the success of her initiative, Debbie doesn't want the focus to be on her, but rather on the members and supporters of the Legion who donated the clothing items to the cause. "I just planted the seed, and I'd like to see it grow," she says. "The feedback has been amazing. I'm overwhelmed. I didn't expect such a response. I hope somebody else will pick up the idea and adapt it to other needs. It's called the Tree of Warmth, but it doesn't have to be limited to warm clothing."



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SPORTS AT BRANCH 270

TUESDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE

December 20

High Hand – Marg Marchant
Lone Hands – Pat King
Low Hand – Nancy Barron
Sunshine – Nancy Barron

January 3

High Hand – Bev Richards
Lone Hands – Jean Carson
Low Hand – Shirley Giles
Sunshine – Shirley Giles

January 24

High Hand – Shirley James
Lone Hands – Brian Strong
Low Hand – Nancy Barron
Sunshine – Jackie Lennox

THURSDAY SHUFFLEBOARD

December 22

First – Heather & Lloyd
Second – Maggie & Dean
Third – Betty-Ann & Brian
Sunshine – Lloyd

December 29

First – Maggie & Betty-Ann
Second – Dean & Lloyd
Third – Heather & Larry
Sunshine – Maggie

January 12

First – Maggie
Second – Brian
Third – Betty-Ann
Sunshine – Maggie

January 19

First – Roger & Betty-Ann
Second – Lloyd & Rose
Third – Rose & Maggie
Sunshine – Rose

JAMMING SESSION

We thank all those who participated in our Jammin' at the Legion session on January 21. We had the chance of listening to George Sinclair on keyboard and guitar; Doug Mills on guitar; Joe Barron on fiddle; Ivar Johnson, David Correy, Doug Roush, George Anderson, and Barbara Curran, all on guitar and vocals; and Willard Marshall on harmonica. Thank you all for joining us.

TUESDAY NIGHT CRIBBAGE

December 20

1. Bill Kinnear
2. Janet Hamilton
3. Doug Bennett
4. Gary Hamilton – Ross Pipher
Sunshine – Frank Peck

January 3

1. Gary Hamilton
2. Debbie Robitaille
3. Janet Hamilton
4. Ross Pipher
Sunshine – Janet Hamilton

FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS

December 23

1. Sue
2. Jeremy
3. Monica
4. Gail
5. Gail
6. Dianne
Sunshine – Kari

January 6

1. Debbie S
2. Dean
3. Dean
4. Chris
5. Chris
6. Cathy
Sunshine – Monica

January 13

1. Dorothy
2. Nancy
3. Nancy
4. Kari
5. Sue
6. Phyllis
Sunshine – Grace

January 20

1. Albert
2. Jeremy
3. Lori-Lynn
4. Ellen
5. Penny
6. Cathy
Sunshine – Cathy



1. Tammy Morano
2. Pat Sinclair
3. Rick Yule
4. Tom Dearman
5. Gene Birgie
6. Jane Lauder
7. Lorne McKay
8. Lorne McKay
9. Dianne Sauve
10. Carol Worgan
11. Doug Bennett

MAPLE LEAF SUBMISSIONS

For the March 2017 Maple Leaf, please send your reports and submissions no later than Tuesday, February 21. Kindly submit by email to **branch270@rogers.com** with "MAPLE LEAF" in the subject line, addressed in the body to Branch PRO Norm Marion.

While we strongly encourage submissions from the membership, some items may not be published due to various reasons including lack of space, poor quality of original document, infringement of copyright laws, or other reasons as determined by the editorial board. Note that the Suggestion Box will be cleared every month on the submission due date.

LADIES AUXILIARY REPORT



Greetings Comrades:

Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work. (Vince Lombardi)

My thanks to all members who helped make our January catering events successful. Your commitment to the Ladies Auxiliary is what makes us a strong organization.

We continue to receive many cards and phone calls from Veterans who received their Veterans ball caps. Their appreciation is heartwarming and it is so nice to hear from them.

Following our January meeting, we have collected \$50,000 in Foodland tapes. Thanks to all those who continue to bring in their receipts.

Anne McArthur has now been appointed Treasurer of the Ladies Auxiliary. I know she will do an excellent job as Treasurer and my thanks to Anne for taking on this position.

We are looking at various fundraising functions to do over the next few months. Your input and suggestions would be most welcome. I urge all members to attend our meetings and voice your opinions and ideas. If you need a ride to attend our meetings, please let us know and we will arrange it.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are ill.

The Ladies Auxiliary also wishes to extend our deepest sympathy to Bernice King on the passing of her husband Don and also to Brenda Yule on the passing of her mother Monica Cardona.

Our next meeting is on February 16 at 6:30 pm. I hope to see many of you there!! Yours in comradeship,

Donna Packer, President

Royal Canadian Legion Coldwater Ladies Auxiliary

Meat Pies For Sale

\$4.00 ea



**Cooking Instructions:
Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 min.**

**Made by the Ladies Auxiliary
Sports Team
Can be purchased at the Legion**

LADIES' AUXILIARY

HOMELESS VETERANS JAR

This donation jar is located on the bar
at the Coldwater Legion.

The funds collected by all Ladies Auxiliaries
across Canada go to providing
housing and the necessities of life
for homeless veterans.

PLEASE HELP US FILL THE JAR!!!

Thank You!!
Ladies Auxiliary, Coldwater



**PARAMEDIC
SERVICES**



**HEART &
STROKE
FOUNDATION**

SAVE-A-LIFE CPR DAY

County of Simcoe Paramedic Services and the Heart and Stroke Foundation are partnering to offer residents of Simcoe County a free CPR Level-A training course.

There is no cost to attend the event, but participants are asked to bring non-perishable food items for donation to the food bank.

WHEN: Saturday, February 11, 2017

WHERE: Coldwater Legion Branch 270
2 Michael Anne Drive
Coldwater, Ontario L0K 1E0

TIME: 9 a.m. to Noon

Join the County of Simcoe Paramedic Services at the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Level-A CPR course. Certification includes adult and child CPR, choking, and how to use a Public Access Defibrillator.

REGISTER ONLINE:

simcoe.ca/cpr

REGISTER BY PHONE:

Contact County of Simcoe Customer Service at 705-735-6901 or toll-free at 1-800-263-3199

Be prepared to save a life today

simcoe.ca



the Penny Love Band

INFO:
pennyloveband@gmail.com
705-229-9704

Performing at the Coldwater Legion
Saturday February 25, 2017
Starting at 1 p.m.
2 Michael Ann Drive, Coldwater
email: branch270@rogers.com

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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270

705-345-3878 cell
705-686-3878 office
cathy@cathycleary.tel

Cathy Cleary

Art Director | Graphic Designer



Pine Cove Gallery

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Darts 7:30	2 Shuffleboard 1:00 Darts 7:00	3 Steak Darts 6:00	4
5 CLOSED	6 CLOSED	7 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00	8 Darts 7:30	9 Shuffleboard 1:00 Darts 7:00	10 Steak Darts 6:00	11 Save-a-Life CPR Day 9:00 - 12:00 Meat Draw 3:00
12 CLOSED	13 CLOSED	14 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00	15 Darts 7:30	16 Shuffleboard 1:00 LA Meeting 6:30 Darts 7:00	17 Steak Darts 6:00	18 Jammin' 2:00 - ?
19 CLOSED	20 CLOSED	21 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00	22 Branch General Meeting 6:30 Darts 7:30	23 Shuffleboard 1:00 Darts 7:00	24 Steak Darts 6:00	25 Entertainment by The Penny Love Band 1:00 - 5:00
26 CLOSED	27 CLOSED	28 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00				