



THE MAPLE LEAF

Newsletter of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 • **AUGUST 2017**

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A CENTURY AGO: HILL 70

By Comrade Norm Marion

This month will mark the one hundredth anniversary of the assault on Hill 70, a 1917 battle much less known among Canadians than Vimy Ridge, but certainly equally significant and heroic. The battle took place just ten kilometres from Vimy, only four months after the Canadian Corps' triumph at "The Ridge".

The assault on Hill 70 - named after the height of the hill in metres - was part of a strategic offensive around the city of Lens, an attempt to relieve pressure on Allied troops fighting in Flanders, near Passchendaele.

Rather than launching a frontal assault on the heavily fortified city of Lens, as was proposed by British Expeditionary Force commander Field Marshal Haig, General Sir Arthur Currie, then in command of the Canadian Corps, convinced his superiors to let him first capture Hill 70 to the north of the city. Gaining control of this dominating hill, Currie argued, would force the Germans to counter-attack, committing significant resources, and suffer heavy losses.

The assault on the hill was launched by Canadian troops on August 15. The attack was successful in terms of reaching its objectives and capturing the high ground. Canadians successfully fought off a series of large scale German counterattacks over the next several days, but ultimately failed at their subsequent attempts to take Lens. Nevertheless, General Currie's troops had inflicted severe casualties to German forces and gave the Allies control of the high ground overlooking Lens.

Although Canadians inflicted to the Germans more than 25,000 casualties – killed or wounded – and held-on to the high ground, there was a heavy cost to pay for the victory. More than 9,000 Canadian soldiers fell at or around Hill 70.

Indeed, for us at the Coldwater Legion, commemorating the battle for Hill 70 means remembering two of our Fallen. On August 19 and 29, Coldwater will remember Private Charles Henty Orr and Private James Murray Langley, who were killed on those dates a century ago in the battle for



Private James Langley was killed in France on August 29, 1917

Hill 70 and its aftermath. Our flags at the Coldwater Branch will be lowered on the 100th anniversary of their passing, and a short biography for each one will be posted on our Facebook page and website.

We Will Remember Them.

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FROM THE BOARD

Greetings Comrades

I hope everyone is having a good summer despite the rain and cool temperatures. Summer is always slower at the Legion than any other time of the year and it makes it all that much more important that members continue to support the Branch as much as possible. I'd like to thank all members who were able to help out on Canada Day as well as all members of the Ladies Auxiliary who spent time selling pop and water and helping where they could. There were some concerns raised and lessons learned but all in all it was a successful day.

I'd like to make sure all members know about the **Legion Seminars coming up on August 26, 2017 at the Bala Legion**. These seminars are put on by the District E Chairmen of the various committees to provide information for our branches in District E. They are open to any branch member to attend and are put on at no cost. I recommend that all executive members attend these seminars as there is a lot of useful information passed out and this is where you can get answers to any questions you may have. I would also recommend to any member, who is interested in how the various chairs are supposed to be run or what is involved in a committee, that they attend these seminars. You do not have to be on the executive. The registration for the seminars start at 8:30 am and the seminar starts at 9:00am.

The executive is working on some improvements to the branch as time and money allow with the facelift to the upstairs hall one of our main goals to try and improve on hall rentals. We have started small and hope to keep the costs to a minimum but will be asking for volunteers when the time comes to paint. Watch for that in the near future.

Bob Ladouceur, Board of Management Chairman

POPPY CAMPAIGN

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Jean Murray, Acting-Poppy Chairperson

We are still searching for a new Poppy Chair to replace Carl Swanson who has submitted his resignation. **Please put up your hand – commit to assist your LEGION!**

If anyone is interested in attending the Warriors' Day Parade at the Canadian National Exhibition, Saturday, August 19, please let us know. There is a poster and sign-up sheet in the entrance at the branch.



GENERAL MEETINGS

We remind you that there will be no General Meeting in August. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday September 27. Enjoy your summer.

MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by Comrade Wayne Tutt, Membership Chairperson

As a result of leaving membership applications at the tent entrance on Canada Day, we have six completed applications. There were also applications taken, and I hope that they will be returned completed at a later date. We're also looking into a potential transfer to our branch. The September General meeting should have a good turnout for initiations.

Comrades, Legion Week runs from Sunday, September 17 to Saturday September 23 and we have some interesting ideas for the week. Think about bringing your friends or neighbours in to introduce them to your branch. Watch your branch notice boards to keep up to date. Early Bird begins September 1, so be ready to be the first to pay your 2018 renewal. The fee is \$55 during Early Bird, \$60 after Early Bird. More to come. Watch the notice board for this update too.

ENTERTAINMENT

Submitted by Comrade Michele Russell, Entertainment Chairperson

As mentioned earlier, there won't be any special entertainment at the branch for August, but we will resume our monthly entertainment in September. Wendy Whelan and the Rubber Band is booked for Saturday, September 23, in the afternoon.

Continued on page 4

THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Leaf is the newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater, published each month in the first week of the month. It is primarily an internal communication tool through which the Branch Executive and Committee Chairpersons disseminate information and report to the membership on their respective activities. Opinions expressed in feature articles are those of the writers and do not imply endorsement by the Branch or the Legion.

Committee reports and pre-arranged article submissions must be received no later than the 21st of each month in order to be published in the following month's issue. Please submit by email addressed to: Branch PRO – Maple Leaf at branch270@rogers.com.

Entertainment • Continued from page 3

Also, congratulations to our **CANADA 150th raffle winners!** The first prize, a barbecue, was won by Elaine Mount; the second prize, a bird feeder & thermometer, went to Rheese Henwood; and Comrade Randy Rice walked away with the third prize, a Canadian Tire gift certificate. Congratulations to the winners, and thank you all who participated.

YOUTH EDUCATION

Submitted by Comrade Debbie Robitaille, Youth Education Chairperson

The calm before the storm ... I am slowly getting organized for the Remembrance Day activities. I cannot do anything further until the schools have reopened. In the meantime I have been invited by the Coldwater library to do a presentation about our Legion to their reading group. I will be doing a 15 minute presentation, in August, to a small group of children about the history of the Legion and our Coldwater Branch. If anyone has old pictures of our previous locations, I would really appreciate them.

I have had the opportunity to meet with Paul Beach, a representative of Community Safety Net. The program is very interesting and does not cost the legion anything. After discussing the needs and requirements from both myself and our community I have decided to hold off for now and pursue this program in the spring. The largest challenge for this program is to get the sponsorship from our local merchants (that a rep from this program would approach). I am willing to discuss this program further along with all the "courses" they provide. The main focus is on children, but there are some other training courses for the older teens and seniors.

SERVICE OFFICER

Submitted by Comrade Randy Rice, Service Officer

If you know of any Veteran or members of their family who have questions or need information please contact me. I can be contacted via the Coldwater Branch office or my home phone (705) 739-0062 between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., or by email at ricerandolph@gmail.com

TREASURER

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Jean Murray, Treasurer

We now have the required three volunteers to form a Finance Committee to do a Financial Review of the Branch records for our year ended May 31, 2017. The review will take place in the next few weeks.



Three of our Canada Day volunteers, left to right: Bob Gourlie; Randy Rice; and Bob Ladouceur (Photo by Brenda Yule)

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Public Relations Officer

In my previous report I included a generic thank you to the members who helped with our CANADA 150th event on Canada Day. I mentioned that I intended to list the names of all who volunteered to help with the event, but realized that the list would be too long and I would probably still miss some. Well, I'm going to give it a try this month. My apologies if I missed some of you, but here are the people that I have seen at some point standing on a ladder to decorate the tent, setting-up or dismantling the security fence, moving chairs and dressing-up tables, manning the bar or the pop & water table, rolling or unrolling extension cords, cleaning tables, selling raffle tickets and Legion memorabilia, and doing whatever needed to be done before, during, and after the event. Once again, a sincere **THANK YOU** to Jim Pearson, Michele Russell, Brenda Bartlett, Sharon Tarr, Jennine Crowe, Marcia LeBlanc, Donna Packer, Alida Turner, Lydia Terek, Cathy Larkins, Brenda Yule, Bernice King, Heather Gable, Diane Sauvé, Larry Liscoumb, Dean McArthur, Anne McArthur, Dave Kavanagh, Wayne Tutt, Carol Tutt, Jeb Bartlett, Larry Hutchison, Betty-Jean Murray, Roger Pratt, Rosalie Pratt, Betty Anne Burnie, Maggie Murphy, Garry Lovelace, Randy Rice, Bob Ladouceur, Debbie Robitaille, Dave Robitaille, Marie Langley, Linda Tucker, Bob Gourlie, and Doug Bennett. **Thank you all.**





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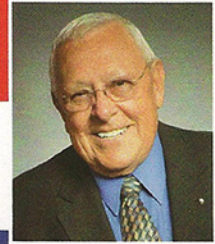
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COLLECTION MANAGER

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Collection Manager

We will honour two more of our Fallen Soldiers in August. Private Charles Orr was killed in action on August 19, 1917, during the Battle for Hill 70, and Private James Langley of Lovering was killed in the aftermath on August 29. Our flags will be lowered on the 100th anniversary of their passing, and a short biography for each one will be posted on our Facebook page and website.

Quote of the Month

"Canadians are an ambivalent lot: One minute they're peacekeepers, next minute they punch the hell out of each other on the ice rink."

– By Ken Wiwa (1968-2016), a Nigerian journalist and author who lived in Canada.

SENIORS

Submitted on behalf of Comrade Eleanor Schull, Seniors Chairperson

Seniors and Medication Safety: Are You At Risk For An Overdose???

Do you take medications as a regular part of your daily routine? Did you know that most seniors take at least 5 drugs and that number tends to increase as you age? You may have been prescribed opioid pain medications to deal with chronic pain. Taking opioids like codeine, morphine, percocets, hydrocodone, or fentanyl can lead to dependence and the development of tolerance (you need more to relieve the pain). Both of these increase the risk of an overdose. You and your family should be aware of the signs of an overdose and what to do. Talk to your Health Care Provider or Pharmacist. For more information, call Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520.

Information provided by Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit



INVICTUS

The INVICTUS GAMES are coming in September.

The Royal Canadian Legion, Dominion Command is one of the sponsors of these games. Ticket prices are reasonable and some of the events are even free. So please take the time to check out the schedule and perhaps make a trip down to see some of the events.

There is a website where you can find all the information on scheduling, event locations and ticket prices (see invictusgames2017.com/tickets).

The Golfing event is being held at St. George's Golf Club in Islington/Toronto (one of the loveliest courses you will ever walk) and it is one of the **FREE** events. Please support these Veteran athletes who are struggling against illness and injury to re-establish their place in life.

LADIES AUXILIARY REPORT



Greetings Comrades:

Hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer even though we have had so many rainy days. Let's hope August brings us lots of sunshine and warmth!

My thanks to all the ladies who volunteered to man the Pop and Water table on Canada Day. We sold a lot of pop and water and I know the Branch appreciated the help. Thanks also to the Branch for doing an amazing job on Canada Day. The tent looked great and everyone seemed to have a good time. I know I did!!!

Not much new to report at this time. So far we have nothing scheduled for August but Fall will be very busy.

The Ladies Auxiliary Appreciation Luncheon / Honours & Awards is on Sunday September 10, from 1-4 p.m. Your phone committee will be calling you late August to confirm your attendance. I look forward to seeing you there!

On Saturday September 23, we will again be doing a Fall Fair Breakfast and serving out of the canteen. Last year's breakfast was a great success, so let's try to do even better this year. We will be posting a help sign-up sheet on the L/A bulletin board early September, so please sign up to help.

Our next meeting is on Thursday September 21, with a Pot Luck dinner at 6:00 p.m., followed by our general meeting.

Wishes of good health go out to members who are ill. You are always in our thoughts and prayers.

And in closing, in the words of Tim McGraw, "Always be humble and kind".

Yours in comradeship,
Donna Packer, President

LADIES AUXILIARY

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
AND HONOURS & AWARDS

Sunday
September 10, 2017
1-4 pm

All Ladies Auxiliary members are invited to attend and may bring a guest.

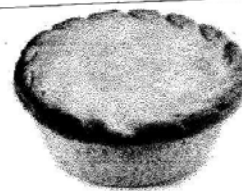
A fun afternoon to enjoy, celebrate and honour comrades for their years of service and commitment to our Ladies Auxiliary.

Hosted by Branch 270 Coldwater
Royal Canadian Legion

Royal Canadian Legion Coldwater Ladies Auxiliary

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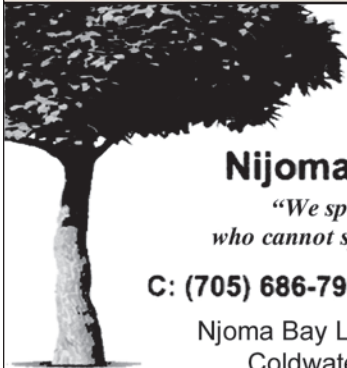
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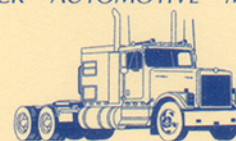
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INTRODUCING OUR VETERAN...G. DEAN MCARTHUR

Submitted by Comrade Rosalie J. Pratt

Born in 1965, Dean is one of four children. At age 18, Dean was one of 52 persons who took advantage of the Youth Training and Employment Program (YTEP). By the end of the first year, 50% chose another career path. Dean opted for the Land section which offered the most opportunity to travel in a non-threatening role. Dean was chosen to serve in the Special Service Force which allowed him to travel throughout Canada, the Arctic, Central Europe, and Scandinavia and participate with the Ten Mountain Division (U.S.A.).

At times, the troops were offered the opportunity to live off barracks and as such, many took advantage of enjoying the local cuisine and culture.

While their United Nations deployment assignments were non-combat, they did encounter local nuisance difficulties protecting local granaries or with providing security services during the rebuilding of a hospital. As Dean recalls, 'they just wanted to see our reaction and track



Comrade Dean McArthur on parade.

whatever information they could about us'.

During a particular live fire exercise, Dean did administer first-aid. Dean is the recipient of two United Nations tour medals for service in Cyprus and Bosnia.

Corporal Dean (an infantryman) has no complaints about his job in the military. "The food and living accommodations were fine and even

our IMPs (Individual Meal Packages) offered opportunities for the development of an entrepreneurial spirit."

After 20+ years in the military, and with diminished Federal financial support for the military, Dean chose to leave the military and pursue civilian life relocating to Ontario to work in local industry.

Our Veteran Dean reminisced about keeping in touch with family, 'in those days, via ham-radio and by letters. Those Care Packages were always welcome.'

No interview would be complete without taking the opportunity of bringing this meeting home to Branch 270.

Dean's wish list: more consistent transparency. Comrade Dean is proud that our Branch is an integral part of the Coldwater fabric and most excited to start Chapter 5 in his life...and you have the 270 Family to support you. We thank you for your service.

LADIES! PARTICIPATE IN OUR FIRST ANNUAL

'No Reason Whatsoever Luncheon'

TUESDAY 29 AUGUST, 2017 • CLUB ROOM - BRANCH 270 • 1 PM - LUNCH

This is an opportunity for ladies (members and non-members) to visit our Branch, order lunch from our Canteen and enjoy refreshment served by our friendly Bar Steward. Lunch* and refreshment costs plus gratuities are your responsibility. Children** welcome! Please don't forget to 'sign-in' your guest(s).

Entertainment: Plan to enjoy games of shuffleboard, pool, or darts. If you have never played any of these games, you're in luck! Three ladies have volunteered to teach us darts, pool, shuffleboard.

A Special Request: If possible, bring your dessert plus one or two portions to share. All desserts will be offered at no charge from the Community Table in the Sports Room. We have 3 donated prizes. You will receive 1 free ballot per adult person. The draw is planned for 3:45 PM. As a courtesy, please complete the Sign-Up Sheet left in the Sports Room so that our Michele has an idea of how many to expect for lunch. If possible, preselect your food choice. Thanks.

See you on TUESDAY the 29th of August between 1 and 4 PM. Yours in Comradeship

*Lunch arrangements not cast in stone. Regular Menu but two Specials of the Day: Lasagna & Toast \$10; Soup & Sandwich \$7.50

**Please provide children's ages on sign-up sheet.

75 YEARS AGO: DIEPPE

Source: Veterans Affairs Canada

In addition to the 100th anniversary of the Battle for Hill 70, this month of August also marks the 75th anniversary of the Second World War ill-fated Dieppe Raid. The following is a summary of the events that took place on the coast of France on August 19, 1942, courtesy of Veterans Affairs Canada.



Canadian soldiers who took part in the Dieppe raid returning to England, 19 August 1942 (Dept. of National Defence / Library and Archives Canada / PA-210153)

Many factors contributed to the decision to mount a large raid into occupied Europe in 1942. The Soviet Union was pressuring the Allied forces to open a second front in Western Europe. The Allies, however, needed more time to build up their military resources before undertaking such a massive effort. They felt that a large raid on the coast of France, however, could force the Germans to divert more of their military resources away from the Soviet Union and also help in the planning for the full-scale Allied assault that would eventually have to take place.

The Dieppe Raid, code-named "Operation Jubilee," saw more than 6,000 men come ashore at five different points along a 16 kilometre-long stretch of heavily defended coastline. The raiding force was made up of almost 5,000 Canadians, approximately 1,000 British commandos and 50 American Army Rangers.

Things immediately went wrong for the landing force on the eastern flank. They encountered a small German convoy and the ensuing firefight alerted the enemy. The soldiers that came ashore at Berneval

and Puits consequently were met with overwhelming fire and some of the heaviest Allied losses took place there.

Some objectives on the western flank were achieved and the enemy gun batteries at Varengeville were destroyed. In Pourville, the South Saskatchewan Regiment and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders came ashore and pushed towards their goals. The mounting German resistance, however, would force them to withdraw with heavy losses.

Running behind schedule, the main force going ashore at Dieppe landed as daylight was breaking. The German troops, now alerted to the raid, cut down many Canadians as they waded in the surf. Nevertheless, many of our soldiers fought their way across the cobblestone beach to the relative protection of the seawall. The same cobblestones and seawall made it hard for the Allied tanks to move off the beach and the fierce enemy fire prevented engineers from clearing the way for them to push their way into the town.

Small groups from the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and the Essex Scottish Regiment were able to fight their way into the bullet-swept streets of Dieppe. It was clear, however, that the raid could not continue and the retreat soon began. Trying to evacuate everyone, however, would mean the probable destruction of the Allied naval force. Through great courage, many men were taken off the beaches under heavy fire, but by early afternoon the last boat had departed. Left in a hopeless situation, the remaining Canadians were forced to surrender. The raid was over.



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TUESDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE**July 4**

Ladies High Hand – Nancy Barron
 Ladies Lone Hands – Pat King
 Ladies Low Hand – Dianne Reid
 Men's High Hand – Larry Hutchison
 Men's Lone Hands – Brian Strong
 Men's Low Hand – Ted Baker
 Sunshine – Bev Richards

July 11

Ladies High Hand – Pat King
 Ladies Lone Hands – Vicky Scott
 Ladies Low Hand – Bev Richards
 Men's High Hand – Fred Reid
 Men's Lone Hands – Nancy Barron
 Men's Low Hand – Gary Whidden
 Sunshine – Nancy Barron

July 18

High Hand – Brian Strong
 Lone Hands – Fred Reid
 Low Hand – Ted Baker
 Sunshine – Nancy Barron

July 25

Ladies High Hand – Vicky Scott
 Ladies Lone Hands – Shirley Giles
 Ladies Low Hand – Sandy Sibley
 Men's High Hand – Gary Whidden
 Men's Lone Hands – Ted Baker
 Men's Low Hand – Bev Richards
 Sunshine – Nancy Barron

THURSDAY SHUFFLEBOARD**July 13**

First – Roger & Lloyd
 Second – Rosalie & Dean
 Third – Maggie & Heather
 Sunshine – Lloyd Sibley

July 20

First – Lloyd & Betty Anne
 Second – Rose & Brian
 Third – Maggie & Ellen
 Sunshine – Maggie

July 27

First – Rose & Brian
 Second – Heather & Lloyd
 Third – Maggie & Roger
 Sunshine – Brian

TUESDAY NIGHT CRIBBAGE**July 4**

1. Gary Hamilton (Perfect Game)
 2. Janet Hamilton
 3. Bill Kinnear
 4. Ross Pipher
 Sunshine – Tom Dearman

July 18

1. Robert Carter (Perfect Game)
 2. Carl Swanson
 3. Jackie Lennox
 4. Marie Kinnear
 Sunshine – Gary Hamilton

July 25

1. Maggie Maynard
 2. Diana Emo
 3. Gary Hamilton
 4. Rob Carter
 Sunshine – Ron Simkin

TUESDAY NIGHT POOL**July 4 (wins)**

Ron Simkin (4)
 Louise Dearman (2)
 Tom Dearman (2)
 Larry Hutchinson (2)

July 11 (wins)

Tom Dearman (4)
 Larry Hutchinson (3)
 Dorothy Gerrard (1)
 Kari Malmstrom (1)
 Rosalie Pratt (1)
 Marcie Wilson (1)

July 18 (wins)

Dorothy Gerrard (3)
 Tom Dearman (2)
 Larry Hutchinson (2)
 Ron Simkin (2)
 Cathy Larkins (1)

July 25 (wins)

Ron Simkin (3)
 Dorothy Gerrard (2)
 Larry Hutchinson (2)
 Rosalie Pratt (2)
 Louise Dearman (1)

FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS**July 7**

1. Kari
 2. Cathy
 3. Brian
 4. Lorne
 5. Angie
 6. Debbie S.
 Sunshine – Rose

July 14

1. Chris
 2. Debbie S.
 3. Chantal
 4. Lorne
 5. Aileen
 6. Jeremy
 Sunshine – Dianne

July 21

1. Angie
 2. Rick
 3. Chris
 4. Angie
 5. Diane
 6. Rick
 Sunshine – Dorothy

July 28

1. Jeremy
 2. Grace
 3. Grace
 4. Gail
 5. Phyllis
 6. Frank
 Sunshine – Diane

CANTEEN SUMMER HOURS

TUES., THURS. & SAT.

11:30 – 14:30

WED. & FRI.

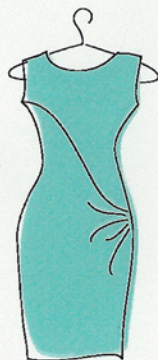
11:30 – 18:30

Michele Russell, Proprietor

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00 Pool 7:00	2 Fun Darts 7:00	3 Shuffleboard 1:00	4 Steak Darts 6:00	5
6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00 Pool 7:00	9 Fun Darts 7:00 Branch Executive Meeting 7:00	10 Shuffleboard 1:00	11 Steak Darts 6:00	12 Coldwater Steampunk Festival
13 CLOSED	14 CLOSED	15 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00 Pool 7:00	16 Fun Darts 7:00	17 Shuffleboard 1:00	18 Steak Darts 6:00	19
20 CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00 Pool 7:00	23 Fun Darts 7:00	24 Shuffleboard 1:00	25 Steak Darts 6:00	26
27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED	29 Ladies Luncheon 1:00 - 4:00 Euchre 1:30 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Cribbage 7:00 Pool 7:00	30 Fun Darts 7:00	31 Shuffleboard 1:00		