



The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36

The Royal Canadian Legion
May – 2015



At the Br 36 Honours and Awards Banquet, Alison McDonald gave a Quilt of Valour to Rick Valois, a Veteran of Canada's Armed Forces and currently 2nd Vice President of Branch 36. The Quilts are created by volunteers and presented to Veterans.



Phone: (905) 627-7221 Email: rclbr36@cogeco.net

<http://www.br36dundas.org>

President's Report

Well we have made it through another long and bitterly cold winter. Hopefully the weather will soon realize that "spring has sprung" and give us some warmer weather!



**Gord
Sharpe
President**

We've had a lot going on in the Branch since the last Bullytin. The Valentine's dance was very successful with Little Peter and the Elegants again providing live dance music for everyone to enjoy. We had a record attendance at this event and everyone attending had a great time! Don't forget to put it on your calendar for next year!

We held our Honours and Awards Banquet and L.A. Birthday Party. We had several members receive Years of Service pins and other members of the Branch were recognized with certificates of appreciation and merit for their contributions to the Branch. Our students again brought home honours for their literary and artistic efforts. Many congratulations to them and best wishes for the next stages of the competition.

The Legionnaire of the Year this year is Wayne O'Connor. Along with the title and plaque comes the honour of being in control of can crushing and recycling in the branch for the next year - just another little perk. Congratulations Wayne !

St. Patrick's Day brought another celebration to the Branch which was a great success and everyone who attended had a great time at this dance.

Our 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 4th. It was directed at the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of our members and was also open to all of the children in the community. The Easter Bunny was there, of course! The kids enjoyed meeting him and having an Easter Egg Hunt.

There are so many wonderful events that take place at Branch 36
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throughout the year. I would like to thank all of the executive and their committees for all of the great work they do to plan and implement these events for our membership and the community.

Branch Elections will be held on Wednesday May 6th, 2015 at 8pm in the banquet hall at the Branch. Please plan on attending. The people you elect will be responsible for making and keeping your Branch a place of which you can be proud. If you would like a voice on the executive, please make sure that someone is aware so you can be nominated. This is your Branch and your vote matters.

Please remember to bring your family and friends into the Branch and encourage them to become members. A strong membership makes a strong Branch. If you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a member please see Comrade Mike Alkerton or pick up a membership application at the bar. You do not have to be a veteran to become a Legion member and the benefits of membership are worth it to you and the community that we serve.

Gord Sharpe - President Branch 36

Ways & Means Report

Like all of you, I am dreaming of summer and BBQs, although as I type this on April 5th, there are very large snowflakes dancing outside my window. Winter Fish Fry's have been very well attended and we are now focusing on our Family BBQs. They will be held 4pm to 6pm, with the first one Sunday June 21st, which also happens to be the "1st Day of Summer!" AND "Father's Day".

A BBQ will be held on Sunday, 19th July and the August BBQ will close out the "Cactus Fest" weekend on Sunday August 23rd.



**Cheri
Harrington
3rd Vice
President
and Ways
& Means
Chair**

Now if I could get a line-up for volunteers, like I get a line-up for burgers, that would be FANTASTIC ! Slicing, dicing, serving,

continued page 4.....

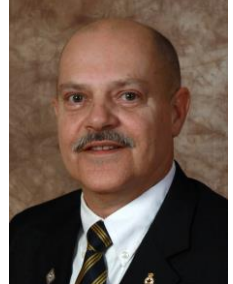
food ticket cashiers and manning the barbecue is more than a 2 person job.

If you would like to lend a hand on any of those dates, please let us know. Let's keep these Family Barbeques going!

Cheri Harrington - 3rd Vice President and Ways & Means Chair
Veterans Services Report

Comrades, as your Branch Service Officer I can best assist the Veterans of our branch by identifying those with unmet health needs and possible benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada(VAC) and all referrals are kept confidential. To take the first step to your possible VAC benefits contact the Branch for an appointment.

Rick Valois - Veterans Services Chair



Rick Valois
2nd Vice President and Veterans Services Chair

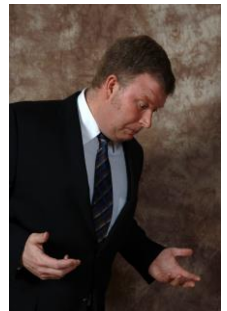
Entertainment Report

We would like to thank all of you who continue to make the Legion Valentine's Dance such a success. For the first time we were able to sell out the event so be sure to get your tickets early next year. We get rave reviews about Little Peter and the Elegants, so we have already booked them for next year's Valentine Dance.

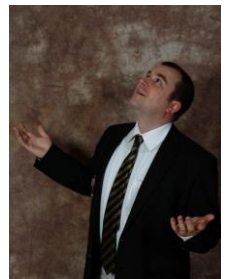
Our St Patrick's celebration was a great party that was enjoyed by all. Our 4th Annual Easter Egg hunt was enjoyed by children of all ages and continues to grow.

Trivia Nights are very successful, but after May's Fish Fry they will wrap up for the summer, but we hope to see you all again in the Fall!

Chris Turner - Entertainment Co-Chair



Rob Turner
and



Chris Turner
Entertainment Co-Chairs

Bursary Report

Again this year the Poppy Trust Fund awarded 5 bursaries in memory of Gerry Belec our long time Poppy Fund chairman.

I don't know how many young people received bursaries from Ontario Command. This is because command doesn't tell us and the students don't let us know either.

Bursaries are closed for the 2014-2015 school year but re-open in the fall.

Contact me then for more information.

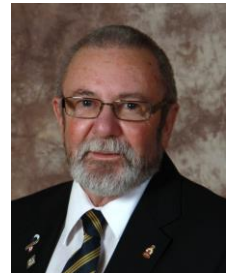
Mike Alkerton - Past President and Bursary Chair



Mike Alkerton
Bursary
Chair

Banquet Hall Report

We want you to know that we are continually striving to make the rental of the Banquet Hall, be it for a wedding, stag and doe, birthday or anniversary party or a gathering of any sort, a pleasurable experience. We have in the past year modified the stage wall, purchased new banquet tables, purchased new chairs, and are now looking at replacing our silverware. If you are considering an event, please call at 905-627-7221 and staff will be happy to discuss details. You can also check out our website for more information.



Doug Rivers
1st Vice
President and
Banquet Hall
Chair

We also wish a speedy recovery to our caterer Sandy Jordan. Sandy is unable to provide her service for the next while, and we hope she is soon back on her feet and looking after our clients needs once again.

Doug Rivers - **1st Vice President and Banquet Hall Chair**

Colour Party Report

On February 24th the Colour Party provided Zone with their services during opening ceremonies. At this meeting I was asked to take over the duties of Sgt.-at-Arms for the Zone which I accepted.

On March 7th the Colour Party provided their services for opening ceremonies for the Branch 36 Honours and Awards dinner.

Our Colour Party always has openings for new members. Training and help getting uniforms will be provided. At the moment Dundas has one of the better units and we'd like to make sure we keep it that way.

Our next practices will be on Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 pm and Tuesday, May 12th at 7:00 pm.

Jim Byron - Colour Party Commander - 905-578-2758



**James Byron
Colour Party
Commander
&
Sergeant at
Arms**

Poppy Fund Presentation



Jim Byron, Br. 36 Poppy Fund Chair and Rick Valois Br. 36 Cadet Liason Chair, present a Poppy Fund cheque for \$2000 to Capt. John Arthur, Commanding Officer of the 2865 Hamilton-Wentworth Artillery Army Cadet Battery, based at the James Street Armouries in Hamilton.

Membership Report

The good news is that our numbers are well over 700, but they are lower than 750. Thank you to those who have renewed, and to those who have “Just Brought One”. We have recruited 47 new members who we welcome to the Branch and hope they take an active participation in the Branch.



**Mike Alkerton
Membership
Chair**

To those members who have not renewed their Legion members yet, this is the last Bullytin that you will receive so please make an effort to get into the Branch and re-new.

Our Branch elections are to be held on Wednesday, 6th May, 2015 at 8:00pm. Any member of the Branch may stand for election. This means ordinary, associate and fraternal affiliate members.

The Branch needs new people and new ideas, so please try to attend and allow your name to stand for office.

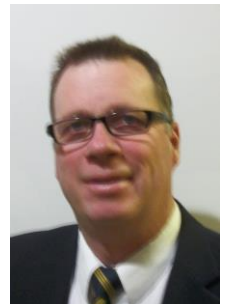
If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

Mike Alkerton – Past President and Membership Chair

Special Events Report

There will be a church parade Sunday, June 7th. We are hoping to have a good turnout! Please fall in at the Legion at 09:45 a.m.

We will march off to St.James Church at 10:00am and take part in the morning service at 10:30am. Those unable to march with us may join us at the church instead.



**Dave
Hawthorne
Special
Events
Chair**

Dave Hawthorne - Special Events Chair

Ladies Auxiliary Report

Hello Comrades All,

Your Auxiliary has been keeping pretty busy.

Congrats to all the recipients of years of service award pins at the Honours and Awards dinner. It was also the Auxiliary's 70th Birthday party, and a special congrats to Kay Southall for her 50 years of service pin and to Sue Sklepowicz for receiving the Trillium pin.



**Debbie
Cooley
Ladies
Auxiliary
President**

The Beef on Bun nights are doing very well.

We've recently added Poutine to the menu. Only \$3 for a plate of fries with gravy and mozzarella cheese on top. \$5 if you want shredded beef added (this is a great meal in itself). Our Beef Nights are soon coming to an end for this season. Only April 24th and May 22nd left to get your fill of our delicious beef or lasagna, then you'll have to wait until September 25th.

Sports wise we are doing great. Terry Kobylinski will be heading to Provincial Singles Darts on the weekend of our Beef Night on Friday, 24th April, so be patient with us as one of our chief cooks goes to Smith Falls to represent us all. (Not to worry, Terry has been training a few more volunteers to cover for her.)

Both of our dart teams are going on to District darts on April 11th in Georgetown. So good luck to Terry, Terrie, Dana and Sue AND also to Debbie, Marie, Janice and Stephanie. Provincials for this event are going to be in London.

In Cribbage, our team of Debbie, Gerry, Terry and Terrie came in 3rd at Districts in Ridgeway on March 14th so will be going to Kirkland Lake for Provincials on June 6th. The best of luck to all teams representing Dundas Branch 36 of the Royal Canadian Legion. And have loads of fun too.

Debbie Cooley - Branch 36 Ladies Auxiliary President

ATTENTION! Help Wanted

**Office Assistant Desperately needed for
Weekends and Holidays**

**Responsibility to count and reset cash trays
Post daily cash to computer.
Balance daily cash
Answer phone and other miscellaneous items.**

This is a Paid position

**Anyone interested should contact the Branch Office any
weekday after 10:00am as soon as possible.**

House Report and Grounds Report

Comrades, nothing has really changed since my last report except for my friend, Houdini the squirrel. I managed to relocate him to his new home where there's lots of trees and a nice creek nearby.

We are currently checking out the roof fan units to make sure they are okay, as it won't be too long before we'll need to turn them on.

The Spring Work party is coming up on Sunday, 31st May to get the Branch in good shape for our Annual D-Day church service parade on Sunday - 7th June.

There will be a signup sheet for the work party on the board in the branch and it always helps keep our club in good shape.

Thank you all for taking part. **"Many hands make light work!"**

Paul Penney - House and Grounds Chair



**Paul
Penney
House
Chair**

Children Enjoy Hunting for Eggs



Children in the youngest age group hunt for chocolate treats at our 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Bunny looks on to make sure everyone finds the treats that were distributed.

Banquet Hall Rental

The Banquet Hall is available for rental.

For details call the office at (905) 627-7221.

The Wentworth Room downstairs is available at no charge for use on a first come basis and will accommodate from 5-65 people.

It is used for memorial services, meetings, birthdays, retirement parties, and any other party you can think of.

Just call the office to book the room (905) 627-7221.

Sick Report

January 2015

29th - Joan Belmore in and out of hospital, now home
29th - Stan Kobylinski surgery - knee - at home

February - 2015

5th - Jim Thornton at Juravinski - surgery
6th - Jim Thornton at home
7th - George Buhlman at hospital for tests
9th - George Buhlman at General
10th - Randy Kynast had knee surgery - at home
12th - Brian MacLean - gall bladder at hospital -
now home
22nd - Visited George Bohlman at General
22nd - Bill Taylor fell at home - hip sore
27th - Visited Bill Taylor at home - slowly coming along

March 2015

2nd - Visited George Buhlman at General
4th - George Buhlman moved to St.Pete's
12th - Ron Belmore at Juravinski
15th - Visited Ron Belmore at Juravinski - looking good
17th - Ron Belmore at home
18th - Ron Kenyon at Juravinski - surgery
28th - Lloyd Hannis at Juravinski

Stan Hicks - Sick and Last Post Chair



**Stan Hicks
Sick
and
Last Post
Chair**

Last Post
Geoff Pittman - 1st February, 2015 Al Wilson - 2nd February, 2015 Ken Harrison - 4th February, 2015 James Hill - 21st February, 2015 John David Nicholson - 28th February, 2015 Roy Holmes - 13th March, 2015
We Will Remember Them

Poppy Fund Report

I received approval at the General Meeting in March for permission to distribute \$2,000.00 from the Poppy Fund monies to 735 Firebird Squadron Cadets in Dundas.

I am awaiting approval from Provincial command to distribute \$500.00 from the Poppy Fund monies to Quilts of Valour.

The current balance in the Poppy Fund Trust is \$77,608.00

Jim Byron - Poppy Fund Chair

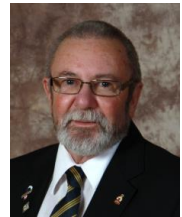


Jim Byron
Poppy
Fund
Chair

Canteen Report

Everything is running smoothly on the Canteen front thanks to all the help I get from our staff.

Our “bar mix” dispenser needs to be replaced and we are looking at various options to supply a better product. We wish to send a big welcome to Elaine Leroux and Candace Blayney on joining our bar steward group. They will be working the Banquet Hall upstairs as well as support in the Canteen. Welcome to the team ladies!!!!



Doug Rivers
1st Vice
President
and
Canteen
Chair

Doug Rivers - 1st Vice President and Canteen Chair

Sunday - 31st May - Spring Work Party - 9:00am

Volunteer some time to help spruce up the Branch for the Branch 36 Annual D-Day Church Parade.

Both inside and outside tasks are available - Add your name to the sign-up sheet next to the smoking entrance doorway.

Youth Education Report

Gold Medals

Local students have once again demonstrated a passion and a flair with their submissions to the 2014-2015 Poster & Literary Contest.

At the branch level in November, our judging team carefully selected fifteen winners from four age groups for essays, poems, colour and black & white posters. Once again, we found the selection process to be very challenging because of the generally high quality of the entries.

With the next round of judging at Zone B-6, eleven of our branch winners placed in the top three of their categories with six obtaining first place. Considering that Branch 36 is just one of seven branches in the Zone, our students' 40% first-place finish was remarkable.

Then, at District B's competition, half (three) of our District winners won Gold for their work. Those students are Srinidhi Shaw (Senior Colour Poster), Mark Elgersma (Senior Poem) and his sister, Laura (Intermediate Essay).

Mark and Laura Elgersma are pictured in this photo.



We recently learned that both Srinidhi and Laura won Gold Medals at Ontario Provincial Command's contest. Both are now in the running for Dominion awards.

This is Srinidhi's second consecutive year in the Dominion finals, having won Silver in the Dominion finals last year.



**Tony
Bratschitch
Youth
Education
Chair**

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Srinidhi is pictured here with myself and her principal at Westdale Secondary School.

No matter the results, the exercise of being involved with the students, their parents, teachers and schools has been extremely enjoyable and heart-warming.



Over 125 students submitted 147 entries and they were all winners.

Tony Bratschitch - Youth Education Chair

Sports Report

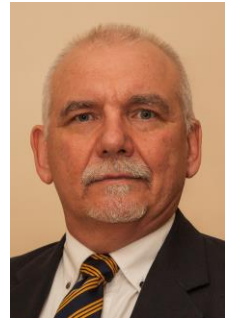
Congratulations to Brian Stroud's Branch 36 team placing second in the Provincial Snooker Tournament held here at Branch 36 on March 7th. Well Done Guys!

We had multiple teams participating in the Zone and District 8-Ball, Darts, Cribbage and Euchre Tournaments. Thank you to all the players who participated.

Upcoming events include District Horseshoes and Golf. Please take a look on the Sports Bulletin board if you are interested in taking part.

There are also rumors that a Duffer's Golf league may be returning and a tournament is in the early planning stages. If you are interested let us know and stay tuned for further updates on the Sports Bulletin board.

Stan Sklepowicz - Sports Chair



**Stan
Sklepowicz
Sports
Chair**



Judy Shepalo

Real Estate Specialist

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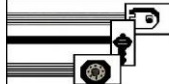


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Owner/Esthetician

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Branch 36 - Upcoming Events

President's Meat Draw - Each Saturday 3-4pm until May 23rd - 3pm

Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 4:30pm

May 2015 Events

Wednesday - 6th May - Annual Branch Elections Upstairs - 8pm

All Legion members should come vote, and even stand for election for your new Branch executive for 2015-2016

Friday - 8th May - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Friday - 8th May - Trivia Night - 7:30pm

Tuesday - 12th May- Branch 36 Colour Party Practices - 7:00pm

Monday - 18th May - Victoria Day - BRANCH CLOSED

Friday - 22nd May - Beef on a Bun - 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday - 31st May - Annual Spring Work Party - 9:00am

June 2015 Events

Sunday - 7th - Br.36 D-day Church Parade 09:45am - Fall in at Branch

10:00am - March off / 10:30am - Church Service at St.James, Melville Street. All are welcome to take part in parade or attend service

Friday - 12th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Tuesday - 16th - Monthly General Meeting - Wentworth Room - 7:30pm

Sunday - 21st June - Family BBQ - Open for chilled refreshments and socialization - 1:00pm Family BBQ - 4-6pm

July 2015 Events

Wednesday - 1st July - Canada Day Open House and BBQ - 2-7pm

Friday - 10th July - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Sunday - 19th July - Family BBQ - Open for chilled refreshments and socialization - 1:00pm Family BBQ - 4-6pm

August 2015 Events

Thursday - 13th August - Cactus Festival Parade

10:00am - Come to the Branch and help build and decorate the Legion float for the Dundas Cactus Festival Parade

5:30pm - Come and ride on the Legion Float in the Parade

6:45pm - Parade leaves Dundas Driving Park

Friday - 14th August - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Sunday - 23rd August - Family BBQ - Open for chilled refreshments and socialization - 1:00pm Family BBQ - 4-6pm

Invite your friends and relatives to Legion events !

New Legion Members are Always Welcome

Call or visit the Branch for more information