



The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36

The Royal Canadian Legion
May – 2016

Branch 36 member receives Honour from France



Alexander Hunter proudly wears Knights Order of the Legion of Honour medal awarded to him by France for his airforce service in the D-Day invasion. It was presented to him at the Branch 36 Honours and Awards Banquet by Gord Sharpe, President, Branch 36 and John Murphy, Zone B6 Commander.



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

<http://www.br36dundas.org>

President's Report

Time for the spring edition but as I look out the window it looks more like February to me! Well I am sure that spring is coming - the Easter bunny has been here, so it must be on its way.



**Gord
Sharpe
President**

There have been lots of great events here at the Branch since my last report - what a busy place, isn't that wonderful! I have to give credit to the Entertainment Committee of Chris and Rob Turner for all the hard work they put in to ensure that we are all entertained - the Valentine's dance, the St. Patrick's dance, the Easter Egg hunt and the Trivia nights, etc. etc.. All well attended and enjoyed!

Our Annual Honours and Awards Night was a sold out affair and a great night for all who attended. Many thanks to the organizers and those involved in the set up and all the little details that make this night special. One of the highlights of the evening for me was when I had the honour of presenting Branch 36 member Alex Hunter with an award from France - Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour. Congratulations, Alex!

Marilyn Latchford was named "Legionnaire of the Year" for all of the hard work she does in the Branch, from organizing the monthly Fish Fry to helping out with the membership and the list goes on and on! Thank you Marilyn!

In upcoming events, I would like to remind you that our Branch election will take place on Wednesday, May 4th and I would encourage all of our members to attend that night, and also to consider becoming involved in the various volunteer roles which are necessary to keep our Branch running smoothly.

Please keep abreast of all upcoming activities by checking the Branch website often! Many thanks to Peter Whittaker, our Public Relations Chair, for doing such a great job on this newsletter and maintaining our Branch website - please, check it out.

Gord Sharpe - President Branch 36

Sports Report

We have had a busy sports season this year. Our snooker team made it all the way to the Provincial tournament. Congratulations to the team of Mark Johnston, Doug Lappin, Brian Stroud, Joe McDonald and Rick Okis.



**Stan
Sklepowicz
Sports
Chair**

The team of Elmer Cantello, Brad Shobbrook, Bettina Slaght and Sandra Pullman made it to the District Euchre tournament.

Two of our cribbage teams made it to the District tournament. They consisted of Jason Lewis, Stan Sklepowicz, Dana DiLabbio and Deb Cooley on one team and Brenda Glass, Janice Mancini, Sue Logue and Cathy Howlett on the second team.

Our men's dart team of Peter Martin, Bill Leckie, Stan Sklepowicz and Gary Logue participated in the District tournament.

The new senior's dart team of Andy Van der Schee, Gary Logue, Earl Lewis and Stan Sklepowicz made it to the inaugural District tournament.

We still have mixed darts, horseshoes and golf tournaments coming up as the temperature outside warms up.

Congratulations to all who participated and those who are going to join up.

Great participation by Branch 36 helps to make these tournaments a success.

Stan Sklepowicz - Sports Chair

You never miss the water until the well runs dry.

Grandfather had a farm, his son had a garden and his grandson has a can opener.

Veterans Services Report

Comrades, as your Branch Service Officer I can best assist the Veterans of our branch by identifying those of you 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

While the Entertainment is coming to an end this month for the Summer, Robert and I would like to say a thank you to all who attended.

We would also like to send out a special thank you to all those that volunteered their time to make these events a success, and to the Clubs, Members, and local businesses who also donated to our events.

We hope you've all enjoyed yourselves and you will join us in the fall when things ramp back up.

Please keep an eye on the club Facebook page and the Legion website for updates on added events.

Chris Turner - Entertainment Co-Chair



Rob Turner
and



Chris Turner
Entertainment
Co-Chairs

If in the course of the day some of your friends could be too tired to give you a smile, why not give them one of yours.

Those who criticize our generation forget who raised it.

The road to success is always under construction.

Bursary Report

Applications for Bursaries are now closed until September of this year. Many Bursary applications for the Provincial Bursaries were distributed to students. How many were successful? – we don't know and we haven't heard from these students.



**Mike Alkerton
Bursary
Chair**

Six Belec Bursaries were awarded this year. This was a one-time exception to allow for a sixth Bursary this year, but in the future there will only be 5. These six students all took to time to write and thank the Branch 36 Poppy committee.

Thank you!

Mike Alkerton - Bursary Chair

Banquet Hall Report

Be sure to check out our hall if you are considering hosting a larger event such as a wedding, stag and doe, birthday party or anniversary party.

If you are looking for a smaller more intimate setting, the "Wentworth" room with seating up to 65 persons may well suit your needs. We are currently reviewing our rental policy for the "Wentworth" room and details will be made available in the next issue of the Bullytin.



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

Please contact the Dundas Branch 36 office at 905-627-7221 for further information.

Doug Rivers - 1st Vice President and Banquet Hall Chair

Anything scarce is valuable, praise, for example.

Worry is like a fast getaway on a wooden horse.

Colour Party Report

On March 5th the Colour Party presented colours for the Honour and Awards Dinner. Greg Sherring received a Certificate of Appreciation for his work on the Poppy Fund.

Jim Byron, Colour Party Commander was presented with a sculpture by the Colour Party members as a thanks for his efforts with the Colour Party.

On March 29th 6 members of the Colour Party attended a Zone B meeting and presented the colours.

Our Colour Party always has openings for new members. A few extra members would make it easier in case of illness or unavailability. Training and help getting uniforms will be provided. At the moment Dundas has an Award winning unit and we'd like to make sure we keep it that way.

Our next practices will be: Tuesday evening April 12th at 7:00 pm
Tuesday evening May 10th at 7:00 pm.

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



James Byron
Colour Party
&
Sergeant at
Arms

Canada's Naval Forces

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) is the naval force of Canada. As of 2015 Canada's navy operates 1 destroyer, 12 frigates, 4 patrol submarines, 12 coastal defence vessels and 8 unarmed patrol/training vessels, as well as several auxiliary vessels. The Royal Canadian Navy consists of 8,500 Regular Force and 5,100 Primary Reserve sailors, supported by 5,300 civilians.

Founded in 1910 as the Naval Service of Canada and given Royal Sanction on 29 August 1911. The Royal Canadian Navy was amalgamated with the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Canadian Army to form the unified Canadian Armed Forces in 1968, after which it was known as "Maritime Command" until 2011, when the title of RCN was restored. Over the course of its history, the RCN has served in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the Persian Gulf War, the War in Afghanistan and numerous United Nations peacekeeping missions and NATO operations.

Membership Report

As this Issue of Bullytin there are still sixty members who have not renewed for 2016. I know some members are down south and some are a litty tardy, or maybe both. Please try to get into the Branch or mail in your dues.

Our membership is declining to the point that at the Dominion Convention this year we only had 8 votes. At one time we had 12.

Although our numbers are down the Branch has recruited fairly well. Thanks to those who have brought in a new member. Our membership strength gives us a louder voice in Ottawa when we deal with the Federal government.

Most of the benefits our veterans receive were fought for by the Royal Canadian Legion. World War two is seventy years in the past, but there are hundreds of thousands who served in “peace time”;. that is United Nations duty: in which hundreds were killed and maimed, to Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria where they now serve. They can use our support, so “Just Bring One”.

Mike Alkerton - Membership Chair “Just Bring One”

P.S. Don't forget the Branch Elections on Wednesday, 4th May, 2016 at 8:00pm.

Special Events Report

Our D-Day memorial church parade is on Sunday, June 5th, 2016. We hope to have a good turnout of Branch 36 members.

Fall in at the Legion at 09:30am. At 10:00 am we will march to St.James Church to take part in the service at 10:30am. Those unable to march are invited to join us at the church. The parade is open to all Legion members. We will return to the Legion after the church service.

Dave Hawthorne - Special Events Chair



Mike Alkerton
Membership
Chair



Dave
Hawthorne
Special
Events
Chair

Ladies Auxiliary Report

Happy Spring Everyone! (I say this with tongue in cheek as I wait for a 15 - 20 cm. snowfall this afternoon).

As happens every year at this time your Auxiliary is preparing for a few final events to round off our 2015 -16 schedule. On April 12th we will hold our annual Ladies Auxiliary elections, so ladies please think of where you would like to participate and step up to bat.

We also have a very important Zone Convention meeting coming up on the 17th April, where all the Ladies Auxiliaries in our Zone will report to Command about our many accomplishments throughout the past year.

We will start selling tickets for our annual Spring BBQ draw on 4th April. This draw has helped support our many charitable donations, so please help us help those that need our aid, and maybe get a new BBQ, utensils, meat order and condiments etc..

We have 2 Beef on a Bun nights left for this season on 22nd April and 27th May. The Spring BBQ draw will be held at the 27th May Beef on a Bun night. We hope to see everyone at both of these events. Good food and good fun will be had by all.

Yesterday (April 2nd) the dart team of Debbie Cooley, Marie Kobylinski, Stephanie Cooley and Janice Mancini went to Br. 622 Stoney Creek and came in 8th out of 32 teams. I'm not sure if it's enough to go on to Provincials in June but we had fun trying. This was just one of the perks of joining the Auxiliary - gathering together for good times with good people and not only exchanging good cheer but some great ideas as well.

We welcome any new-comers to participate, and bring any new ideas to our attention so that we may better serve our Branch and the surrounding community.

Hoping to see you around the Branch real soon.

Debbie Cooley - Branch 36 Ladies Auxiliary President



**Debbie
Cooley
Ladies
Auxiliary
President**

House and Grounds Report

Comrades, nothing has really changed since my last report except we have purchased a camera security system for the branch and will be installing it in the coming months when the weather is better for mounting cameras outside the building.

The Spring Work party is coming up on Sunday, 29th May to get the Branch in good shape for our Annual D-Day church service parade on Sunday, 5th 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**

Branch 36 Legionnaire of the year named



Marilyn Latchford accepts the Legionnaire of the year award for 2016 from Gord Sharpe, President Branch 36.

Legion Easter Egg Hunt a great success



The 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt held by the Dundas Legion had a great turnout and if you look closely you'll even see a baby panda bear searching for eggs. Contributions were also collected from those attending for the local food bank.

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 - 2016

11th - Barbara Patterson at St.Peter's
23rd - Bill McPhail at St.Joe's
25th - Bill McPhail at home
27th - Dale Edwards at St.Joe's for the day and then home



**Stan Hicks
Sick
and
Last Post
Chair**

March - 2016

1st - Fred Haddock at Juravinski
15th - Fred Haddock at home
24th - Paul Plante at St.Joe's – hip replacement
24th - Jeff Hodgson had a fall, is at home
29th - Doug Lappin out and about after hip replacement

Stan Hicks – Sick and Last Post Chair

Last Post
Ken Carmichael - 30th January, 2016
We Will Remember Them

Public Relations Report

I have been building and trying to improve the Branch 36 newsletter "The Bullytin" and find that I have come to a point where I need suggestions from you the readers.

The newsletter currently contains reports supplied to me by members of your Branch Executive responsible for various activities or areas at the Branch. It also contains photographs taken at Branch events and listings of events taking place at the Branch in the coming months. I am reaching out to you for suggestions to improve the newsletter. Please speak to me or submit your ideas for changes to the Branch office - we might be able to implement them. **Thank you.**



**Peter
Whittaker
Public
Relations
Chair**

Peter Whittaker - Public Relations Officer

Poppy Fund Report

We handed out 6 cheques of \$500 to University students as part of the Belec scholarship prior to the Honours and Awards Dinner.

At the Honours and Awards Dinner a cheque for \$15,000 was presented to the Helaine Ortmann for the Juravinski Clinic.

A cheque for \$15,000 was also presented to Maureen Ellis to the St. Joseph's Villa.

The current balance of the Poppy Fund is \$68,935.59

Jim Byron - Poppy Fund Chair - 905-578-2758



Jim Byron
Poppy
Fund
Chair

Canteen Report

After many inquiries we are pleased to announce that we now have the local brewery craft beer on tap for a trial period. Come out and try it. We are all for supporting local business but it is up to you to support it, by purchasing their product. Try it, let us know what you think. Give your comments to the bar staff so we can decide which way to go in the future.

Doug Rivers - 1st Vice President and Canteen Chair



Doug Rivers
1st Vice
President
and
Canteen
Chair

Sunday – 29th 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

Presentations were recently made to the Grade 1-12 students who achieved special recognition in the Royal Canadian Legion's annual national Poster & Literary Contests.

The fourteen Branch 36 winners earned 27 medals in the Zone B-6 and District B Contests with one of them winning Silver in the Provincial Command's Essay Contest.



**Tony
Bratschitch
Youth
Education
Chair**



*Thank you very much for
bringing me a prize.
From Anne* ♥



Home schooled six-year old Anne Roth of Copetown won two Golds and a Silver Medal from The Royal Canadian Legion's Poster Contest. While waiting for the Branch's representative to arrive one morning, she drew a cheerful picture of herself with a big "Thank You" note. Everything in her picture matched - her dress, her smile and her charm.

In its first year of participation, Grade 6 students from Fessenden Public School of Ancaster (see photo next page) won all four of the junior category awards judged by our branch's judges and four more medals at the Zone and District levels.

continued next page.....



Reheboth Christian School in Copetown has a 38-year history of supporting various Legion events including the Poster & Literary Contests.

Laura Elgersma, centre in photo, a Grade 9 student, earned a Gold Medal in the Legion's District B Essay Contest (Intermediate Division) and a Silver at Provincial Command. Besides



the above, other presentations were made to other students who excelled with their submissions focusing on Remembrance. In all instances, I also tried to convey a message of continuing service to our community and remembrance of our veterans.

The Branch 36 2015 Remembrance Poster & Literary Contest had 158 entries from Grades 1-12 students. This is an increase over the 139 that we received last year when we saw a flood of primary B&W posters most likely due to the two tragedies. Aside from the primary B&W posters, we actually had an increase of 40% of submissions for the other categories with the biggest increase in the Senior essay and poetry categories.

Tony Bratschitch - Youth Education Chair

If you haven't any wrinkles, you haven't laughed enough.



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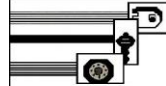


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Branch 36 - Upcoming Events

May 2016 Events

President's Meat Draw - Saturday 7th and 14th May - 3-4pm

Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 4:30pm

Wednesday - 4th May - Annual Branch 36 Elections - upstairs - 8:00pm

Tuesday - 12th May - Branch 36 Colour Party Practise - 8:00pm

Tuesday - 14th May - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00pm

Friday - 13th May - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Monday - 23rd May - Victoria Day - BRANCH CLOSED

Friday - 27th May - Beef on a Bun - 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday - 29th May - Annual Spring Work Party - 9:00am

June 2016 Events

Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 4:30pm

Sunday - 5th June - Branch 36 D-Day Parade and Church Service

9:45pm - Fall in at Branch 36

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

Tuesday - 14th June - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00pm

Sunday - 19th June - Family BBQ - Open 2:30pm - BBQ - 4:00pm

Tuesday - 21st June - Monthly General Meeting - 8:00pm

July 2016 Events

Friday - 1st July - Canada Day Good Neighbor BBQ - 2-7pm

Friday - 1st July - Dundas Modular Railway Open House - 2-6pm

Sunday - 17th July - Family BBQ - Open - 2:30pm - BBQ - 4-6pm

August 2016 Events

Monday - 1st August - Civic Holiday - Branch closed

Thursday - 18th August - Cactus Festival Legion float build and Parade

9:00am - 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

Sunday - 21st August - Family BBQ - Open - 2:30pm - 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