



# The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36 - 750 Members

The Royal Canadian Legion  
May – 2014

## Dawn Lewis 1958-2014



This Bullytin issue is printed in honour of Dawn Lewis, a Legion member for over 33 years. She volunteered and worked as President, Ways & Means Chair, Canteen Chair and Youth Darts. Dawn's smiling face and hard work will not be forgotten and she is sorely missed.

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<http://www.br36dundas.org>

## President's Report

This report comes at a sad and difficult time in the Branch with the passing of our Branch President Dawn Lewis. Dawn played a very integral part in the Branch and will be sadly missed by myself, all of the executive and the membership at large.



**Gord  
Sharpe  
President**

Dawn worked very hard to maintain the high standards and harmony of the branch that we have all come to expect. It is my hope to continue the good work that she has done over the past year.

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. Everyone in attendance had a great time.

We held our Honours and Awards Banquet and L.A. Birthday Party and Sandy Jordan and her team did another excellent job of cooking and serving a delicious roast beef dinner. 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. Srinidhi Shaw, a student at Westdale Highschool was presented with District and Provincial awards for her entries in the Legion Poster/Literary competition. Her colour poster won Gold at the Zone, District and Provincial levels and now goes on to competition at the national level.

The Legionnaire of the Year this year is Dave Howlett. Along with the title and plaque comes the honour of being in control of the remote for the TV in the canteen for the next year. Just another little perk. **Congratulations Dave !**

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.

*Continued next page*

Our 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 19th. It will be directed at the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of our members and will also open to all of the children in the community. The Easter Bunny will be there, of course! The kids will enjoy meeting him and having an Easter Egg Hunt. A special thanks to the Easter Bunny, Bob and Chris Turner, Doug Rivers, Peter and Mary Whittaker and everyone else involved in the planning and implementation of this much anticipated event.

Branch Elections will be held on Wednesday May 7th, 2014 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**

Fish fry's will continue throughout the summer as usual on the second Friday of each month.

The Family BBQ's will be back again this summer with the first one being on June 22nd.

We will again be holding our annual Canada Day  
***Continued next page***



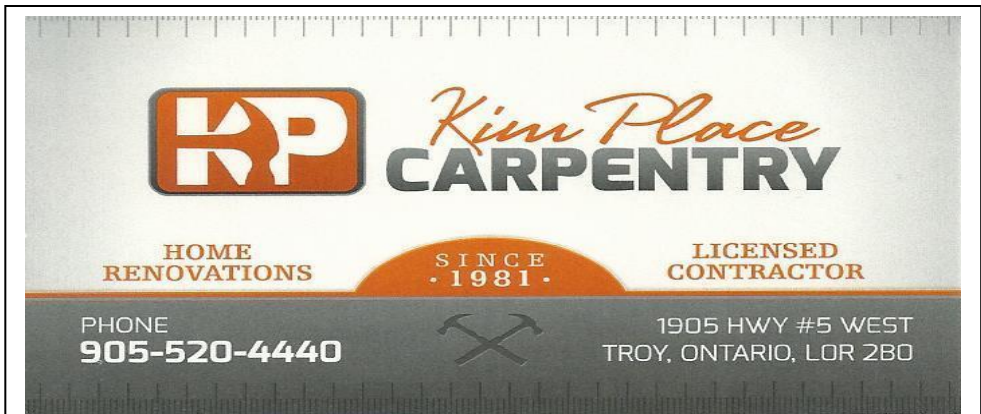
**Gord Sharpe**  
**Ways & Means**  
**Chair**

Barbeque on July 1st, with a special program being put on by the Dundas Modular Railway Club.

The remaining summer barbeques will be held on July 20th, and finally on August 17th. We will have all of your favorites including steak, chicken and hamburgers along with all the regular side dishes. If you would like to help out at the BBQ's please see me at the Branch or leave me a message. I'll be sure to get back to you.

Remember if ever you are unhappy with your meal for any reason we want to make it right. If you don't tell us we don't know. Please don't be afraid to let us know that we didn't deliver to your satisfaction. It's you that make the Fish Fry's successful and we would like hear from you if you're not.

**Gord Sharpe - Ways & Means Chair**



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## **Bursary Report**

I am very disappointed in the number of applications for the "Belec Bursary". We had only four(4) applications for these Bursary's. The Poppy Fund was offering five(5).

Congratulations to Ryan Turner, Mercedes Hicks, Courtney Cornell and Rachel Harrington. These students all received \$500.00 from the Poppy Bursary; help them continue their post secondary education.



**Mike  
Alkerton  
Bursary**

In the fall the Branch will accept further applications for the "Belec Bursaries" for the 2014-2015 school year. The Royal Canadian Legion's Ontario Command Bursary Fund also hands out Bursary funds for students that apply for them.

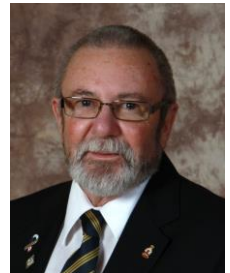
See me in the fall if wish to make a Bursary application

***Mike Alkerton*** - Past President and Bursary Chair

## **Banquet Hall Report**

Rentals for the Banquet Hall have been doing very well. We have made many improvements to the Banquet Hall in the last few years - including new ceiling lights, new tables, new chairs, changes to the stage area and the bar was also rebuilt.

If anyone has any suggestions how we can further improve on the hall or our services, please contact myself via the Branch 36 office.



**Doug Rivers  
Banquet Hall  
Chair**

***Doug Rivers*** - Banquet Hall Chair

**Last night, I lay in bed looking up at the stars in the sky and thought to myself, "Where the heck is the ceiling?"**

## Colour Party Report

On March 8th, 7 members of the Colour Party were proud to take part in the Honours and Awards ceremony that took place upstairs in the Branch.

We have been invited to participate in the Allan Cup ceremony on April 14th as well as the 69th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands taking place at St. Elizabeth Village at 10:45 am on May 5th.

Our next practices will be held Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00pm and Tuesday May 13th at 7:00pm.

As with most things, many hands make light work. Our Colour Party always has room for new members. Training and help getting uniforms will be provided. At the moment Dundas has one of the better units and I'd like to make sure *we keep it that way*.

**James Byron** - Colour Party Commander (905-578-2758)

## Special Events Report

There will be a church parade Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. We are hoping to have a good turnout! Please arrive at the Legion by 10:15 am.

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

**Gord Sharpe** – Special Events Chair



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



**Gord Sharpe**  
**Special**  
**Events**  
**Chair**

**Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.**

## Membership Report

The 2013-2014 renewal year has gone not too bad. I expect that we will be down by about 30 members not good, but better than most Legions in our District, which is cold comfort. This does not mean that we should not be recruiting new members, so if you “Just Bring One” new member into the Branch we will remain a Branch with a healthy membership in the future.



**Mike Alkerton**  
**Membership**  
**Chair**

At this time I would like to pass on my sympathy and condolences to the Lewis family. The passing of our President, Dawn Lewis has hit all of us very hard. Most members have no idea how hard, nor how much work Dawn put onto this Branch. She will be very sadly missed.

Two important dates to remember: Branch General Meeting on Tuesday, 15th April at 7:30pm, and the Branch General Elections on Wednesday, 7th May at 8:00pm where nominations for positions are made by those Legion members in attendance.

This Branch needs members to stand up and accept positions on the Branch Executive.

As always if you have any concerns or questions contact me.

**Mike Alkerton** - Membership Chair

**“Just Bring One”**

**Did you know that the Royal Canadian Legion has a membership of nearly 400,000 members in well over 1500 Branches, that those Branches employ nearly 4000 people and have a payroll of \$58.8 million dollars?**

**Our mission is to serve Veterans, which includes serving military and RCMP members and their families; to promote Remembrance; and to serve our communities and our country.**

## Ladies Auxiliary Report

The last two beef nights for this season will take place on Friday April 25th and Friday May 23rd. Come on out and enjoy a night with family and friends.

We are having our first LA Spring Draw this year. The draw consists of a Master Chef Barbeque, Box of Meat, Barbeque Utensils and Barbeque Sauces. You can buy 1 ticket for \$2.00 or 3 tickets for \$5.00. The draw will run from March 28th through to May 23rd. We will have the draw at our final beef night. Please come out and help us help our community!!!!

In February we once again sent out Valentines for Vets to our local Veterans. It is our way of saying we Remember throughout the year.

We have two teams participating in the LA District dart tournament in Waterford. Good luck to both teams.

Congratulations to Dana DiLabbio on receiving her Trillium pin at the Honours & Awards/LA Birthday banquet. A well deserved accomplishment. Thanks for all your hard work.

We are always looking for new members. If you are someone who loves to help your community then come on out and help us do just that. If you need any information or have any questions regarding the LA please contact me. We have contributed back to the Dundas community in numerous ways and we are always looking for new and innovative ideas.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support.

Yours in Comradeship,

**Terrie Gubbins** – Branch 36 Ladies Auxiliary President



**Terrie  
Gubbins  
Ladies  
Auxiliary  
President**

## Branch 36 Entrant in Poster Contest wins Gold and Silver



At our Honours and Awards Banquet Tony Bratschitch, Youth Education chair presents Srinidhi Shaw with the Provincial Gold medal for her Colour Poster entry in the Legion Poster Contest. The poster went on to win a Silver medal at the Dominion level.

### House Report

Since the Bullytin we have replaced the chairs in the Wentworth room and disposed of the old chairs. Many thanks to all those who came out to help with this task.

Please put Sunday, May 25th on your calendar. We need as many volunteers as possible starting at 9:00 a.m. for the spring cleanup that day. The agenda will include general maintenance tasks inside and out and are badly needed after a long winter and free lunch will be served to participants.



**Gord  
Sharpe  
House  
Chair**

**"Many hands make light work!"**

***Gord Sharpe*** - House Chair

## Poppy Fund Report

The Poppy Fund distributed the cheques to the following at the Honours and Awards dinner on March 8<sup>th</sup>:

Juravinski Clinic - \$15,000.00

St. Joseph's Villa - \$15,000.00

Salvation Army - \$2,000.00



**Jim Byron**  
**Poppy Fund**  
**Chair**

Our request for a donation to "Soldier On" was rejected.

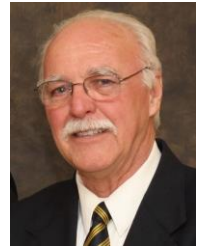
As some of you may already know, Poppy Fund Co-Chair Cheri Harrington has resigned this position. This means there is an opening for anyone interested in doing this type of work on a part time basis. I will be happy to explain the duties of this paid position to anyone who might be interested.

The current balance of the Poppy Fund was \$108,551.79  
These expenditures will decrease the Poppy Fund to \$76,551.79

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

## Grounds Report

Spring is upon us once again and in preparation for the Sunday June 1st D-DAY Church Parade. The annual Spring Work Party will be on May 25<sup>th</sup> this year. I am asking for volunteers to help with projects inside the branch, and on the grounds and gardens outside. The start time is at 9.00am and lunch will be served to all the work party members.



**Hal Hamilton**  
**Grounds**  
**Chair**

So if you have a leaf rake, shovel, or wheel barrow feel to bring them along with you. A signup sheet will be posted on the notice board and please indicate your choice for inside work or outside work. Thank you for your support of the Branch

**"Many Hands Make Light Work"**

**Hal Hamilton** - Grounds Chair

## Youth Education Report

### 2014 Legion Contest Branch 36 Winners

#### Dominion Winner

2nd Place Colour Poster (Senior): Srinidhi Shaw

#### Ontario Command Winners

1st Place Colour Poster (Senior): Srinidhi Shaw

3rd Place Poem (Senior): Mark Elgersma

#### District B Winners

1st Place Colour Poster (Senior): Srinidhi Shaw

1st Place Black & White Poster (Senior): Srinidhi Shaw

1st Place Poem (Senior): Mark Elgersma

2nd Place Essay (Senior): Kayla Merkus,

3rd Place Poem (Intermediate): David Elgersma

#### Zone B-6 Winners

1st Place, Colour Poster (Senior): Srinidhi Shaw, Westdale High, Grade 10

1st Place, Black & White Poster (Senior): Srinidhi Shaw

1st Place, Poem (Senior): Mark Elgersma, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 11

1st Place, Essay (Senior): Kayla Merkus, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 12

1st Place, Poem (Intermediate): David Elgersma, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 8

2nd Place, Essay (Intermediate): Sarah Elgersma, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 9

2nd Place, Black & White Poster (Intermediate): Christopher VanDoodewaard, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 8

2nd Place, Essay (Junior): Sarah VanDoodewaard, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 6

2nd Place, Poem (Junior): Erika Ehrenberg, C.H. Bray School, Grade 6

3rd Place, Black & White Poster (Junior): Sarah Van Doodewaard, Rehoboth Christian School, Grade 6



Tony  
Bratschitch  
Youth  
Chair

*Tony Bratschitch* - Youth Education Chair

## Sick Report

### January 2014

- 14th - visited Barry Stoltz at General - slowly getting better
- 14th - visited Jim Russell at General - slowly getting better
- 15th - Jim Kielty - had surgery
- 19th - Peter White at St.Joe's ICU

### March 2014

- 13th - Flip Floyd at St.Joe's - chest pains
- 17th - Jim Russell at General - rehab
- 17th - Rick Valois at home after surgery
- 20th - Jim Lewis at St.Joe's
- 25th - Jim Lewis at home
- 31st - Rick Valois at home

***Stan Hicks*** - Sick and Last Post Chair



**Stan Hicks  
Sick  
and  
Last Post  
Chair**

### **Last Post**

- Elsie Mitchell - L.A. 69 years member - 1st February, 2014**
- Ann Hayes - 19th February, 2014**
- Betty Stevenson - 26th February, 2014**  
(wife of past president StanStevenson)
- Robert Kent Bates - 22nd February, 2014**
- Peter White - 6th March, 2014**
- Dawn Lewis - 30th March, 2014**

**We Will Remember Them**

## Canteen Report

Things have been going very well in the canteen with several parties booked into the Wentworth room and events happening in the canteen as well. The Saturday afternoon meat draws continue to draw good crowds and the various sports that take place are also very successful.



**Doug Rivers**  
**Canteen**  
**Chair**

Sports are winding down now and the Branch will soon be going back on summer hours. If you would like to book something (baby shower, birthday party, anniversary, etc.) in the Wentworth room please check with the Bar Steward on duty and they will be able to tell you if the date is available. If there is something that you would like to do at the Branch on Saturday night we can arrange to have the Branch open. This is your Branch. We have been closing early during the summer to keep costs down. The Bar Stewards get pretty bored being at the Branch alone all evening but if you would like to book something we will do our best to accommodate you. Please either see the Steward on duty or call the Branch at (905)627-7221.

This is your Branch and if you have any questions or concerns about what is happening at your Branch please do not hesitate to speak to me or any other member of your executive. We are all here to make our Branch the best that it can be.

***Doug Rivers*** - Canteen Chair

### **Perennial Plant Propagation Party – 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2014**

If you are dividing or thinning any of your perennial plants - Hostas are a great example, whether sun or shade loving, please bring these divisions to the Branch **from 9am to 11am** to help us spruce up our gardens. Just put them in a labelled pot or bag and we will ensure they have many more years of life in our gardens. You can also come out on this day and help with the planting! Hope to see you then !

## Legion Branch Elections

The Legion has always managed to exist with the help of Legion members who volunteer in the running of their Legion Branches, and also with Legion members who run for election and serve their Branches as officers of their Branch Executive. Some Legion members do not know how their Branch Elections are done so I will try to explain it a little and in doing so, maybe make more of YOU, the Branch 36 membership take part and run for office in the Legion.



**Peter Whittaker**  
**Public**  
**Relations Chair**

Every year Branch Elections are held at the beginning of May. Branch elections are supervised and run by Legion members from an outside Legion branch. They cannot be run by Branch members where the election is taking place.

Branch 36 elections are held and YOU the member should attend and take part by voting for your Legion Executive, getting nominated yourself or nominating someone as an Executive member to run the Branch. To be nominated for election to the Branch 36 executive tell any your President or any member of the current executive and they will make sure that you are nominated at the election.

The Election meeting is called to order by the Legion members from the outside branch and they get the Election underway by calling for nominations from those present for Branch Officers. Branch Officers are the following: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms.

If you do not wish to serve as a Branch Officer you can still serve your legion by standing for election to the Branch Executive Committee which helps the Branch President with the following: Bursary, Colour Party, Honours and Awards, Membership, Poppy, Property – House, Property - Grounds, Public Relations, Sports, Veterans Services/Seniors, Youth Education Committee.

Nominations for each Branch Officer position are made by those members present and the people nominated can agree to stand for election, or gratefully decline. All names are placed on a large easel and those nominated are asked to leave the room while the outside Legion members running the election call for votes for each nominee and record the totals. The nominees can then return to the hall and are informed of the results of the voting.

After the Branch Officers are elected, a slate of people are nominated who wish to serve on the Branch Executive Committee and those nominated leave the hall, voting takes place, they return and are told the results of the vote when they return.

Dundas Branch 36 has a total of 740 members, and at this time has a higher membership than any other Legion in the Hamilton area. This can only continue if you, the member, attend your Branch election. Legion Branches have closed because no one stepped forward to serve on their Branch Executives. Don't let this happen at Branch 36. Come out and serve your Branch by attending your Branch Election.

**Peter Whittaker** - Public Relations Chair

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## **Branch 36 - Upcoming Events**

**President's Meat Draw - Every Saturday until May 20th - 3pm**  
**Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 4:30pm**

### **May 2014 Events**

Wednesday - 7th - Annual Branch Elections Upstairs - 8pm  
Friday - 9th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm - TRIVIA Night - 7:30pm  
Monday - 19th - Victoria Day - BRANCH CLOSED  
Tuesday - 20th May - Monthly General Meeting - 7:30pm  
Friday - 23rd - Beef on a Bun - 5:30-7:30pm  
Saturday - 24th - Perennial Plant Propagation Day  
Bring in unwanted perennials for the Branch - 9:00-11:00am  
Sunday - 25th - Annual Spring Work Party - 9:00am  
Clean up Branch for D-Day Parade and Church Service next week

### **June 2014 Events**

Sunday - 1st - Br.36 D-day Church Parade - 09:45am - Fall in at Branch 36. All Legion members take part in parade and service.  
Friday - 13th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm  
Tuesday - 17th - Monthly General Meeting - 7:30pm  
Sunday - 22nd - Family BBQ - Open 1:00pm BBQ - 4-6pm

### **July 2014 Events**

Tuesday - 1st - CANADA Day BBQ  
Friday - 11th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm  
Sunday - 20th - Family BBQ - Open 1:00pm BBQ - 4-6pm

### **August 2014 Events**




Monday - 4th - CIVIC Holiday - Branch CLOSED  
Friday - 8th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm  
Sunday - 17th - Family BBQ - Open 1:00pm BBQ - 4-6pm

***Invite your friends and relatives to Legion events !***  
***New Legion Members are Always Welcome.***

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