



# The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36

The Royal Canadian Legion  
February – 2016



At the Dundas Memorial overnight on 10th November, a vigil was held by a guard made up of cadets from RCSCC Dundas Sea Cadets, 2865 Hamilton Wentworth Artillery Army Cadet Service Battalion and 735 Firebird Squadron Air Cadets. Branch 36 Dundas Legion provided overnight accommodation to the cadets during the vigil.

*Picture courtesy Paul Penney*



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

<http://www.br36dundas.org>

## **President's Report**

Happy New Year everyone! 2015 was a good year for our branch with many new members, and lots of participation in the great events that were offered throughout the year.



**Gord  
Sharpe  
President**

2016 looks to be an exciting year as we enter our 90th year of operation! Yes, that's right - 90 years and still going strong thanks to the insightful and strong leadership throughout the years and you, the membership, who have stuck with us through the many ups and downs along the way. Let's move forward with the same enthusiasm and determination this year and for many more!

There are many sensational events planned for this year starting with our annual Valentine Dance with Little Peter and the Elegants providing music in February. Be sure to get your tickets early as we had a sell-out crowd last year! Check out the event calendar often and don't miss out on any of the fun!

The branch is open all day every day, not just for special events. It's a great place to drop in and meet up with friends or make some new ones! A lot of exciting and invigorating conversations take place in the warm legion club room on a cold wintry afternoon.

I would like to thank my Executive and all of the other volunteers who work so hard to keep our branch running smoothly. It certainly makes my job easier. We continue to look for a member to take on the position of branch secretary. This position entails coming to the meetings to take minutes and also some correspondence. For more information on this position or if you would like to volunteer to help out in other areas please call Dale in the branch office at 905-627-7221 or feel free to contact me at 905-628-2393. Thank you.

On a final note I would like to add a word of caution. It is winter again and although we have seen a lot of mild weather so far, we are sure to get some wintry weather yet! We do our best to keep the walks and parking lot clear of ice and snow but the weather can be very unpredictable. Please tread carefully in all outside areas! Your safety is important to us. Thank you.

**Gord Sharpe - President Branch 36**

### Information Night

*A lot of people join the Legion for the Social Benefits; however, there is more than that.*

*Did you ever wonder?*

*How it works*

*What the rules are*

*Who operates the Legion*

*About the Poppy*

*About Charitable Donations*

*About why the Legion was created*

*You can get answers to all these questions on Wednesday 24th February at 8:00pm.*

*This will be an informal information night directed mainly at new members, but we urge all members - old or new to attend. If we don't have an answer we will get it for you.*

**Gord Sharpe** - Branch 36 President

### Bursary Report

I was disappointed in the number of requests we had for the Belec Bursary and the Ontario Command Bursary,

These two are closed for the 2015-2016 year, but maybe next year we will have more participation.

**Mike Alkerton** - Bursary Chair



**Mike  
Alkerton  
Bursary  
Chair**

### Public Relations Report

Public Relations Chair - What do I do? I let everyone know about events taking place at the Dundas Legion. When I volunteered to do this job I knew many in Dundas didn't know about all the events at Branch 36 and I knew that newspapers, radio and tv like to publicize local events.

I set up email templates for events at Branch 36. Now all I have to do is update event details and send the emails to the media and more people become aware and come to events at the Legion in Dundas.



**Peter  
Whittaker  
Public  
Relations  
Chair**

## **Poppy Fund Report**

We successfully passed our internal audit as well as the Provincial Audit of the Poppy Fund.

Starting on 14th December, 2015 - 176 poinsettia plants were delivered to our Veterans and widows who reside in retirement and nursing homes. Needless to say they enjoyed being remembered at this time of year.

The current balance of the Poppy Fund is \$106,205.11.

Before Christmas we distributed poinsettias for Veterans and or their widows residing at the following:

Chartwell Willowgrove (33) - Ancaster,  
Carrington Place (21) - Ancaster  
Meadows Long Term Care (20) - Ancaster  
Meadowlands Retirement Community (24) - Ancaster  
Highgate Residence (13) - Ancaster  
Blackadars (8) - Dundas  
Chartwells Georgian Retirement (7) - Dundas  
St. Joseph's Villa (29) - Dundas  
Wentworth Lodge (14) - Dundas  
Shalom Village Nursing Home (7) - Hamilton

I would also like to let everyone know that **Chris Slote** has agreed to be the co-chair of the Poppy Fund.

**Jim Byron** - Poppy Chair (905-578-2758)

## **Membership**

Again this year we had 4 "Early Bird Winners" – those members who renewed their 2016 memberships before 30th November, 2015 and each won a return of their dues of \$50.00

John Mattie  
John Murphy  
Peter Downey  
Darren Rust



**Jim Bryden**  
**Poppy**  
**Fund**  
**Chair**



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

*Continued next page*

To those members who have already renewed their dues for 2016  
– THANK YOU!

Now the hard work starts! We have approximately 225 members who have not yet renewed so we would urge them to get in to the Branch and renew, or mail in your dues.

We have lost too many members over the past year due to deaths, transfers, non-renewals, etc. and that has brought our numbers down. Recruiting has been good but not good enough. It is up to you to bring in new members. Our “Just Bring One” theme does seem to work so we all have to work harder.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please call me at the Branch or home (905-628-2822).

***Mike Alkerton*** - Membership Chair “**Just Bring One**”

### **Colour Party Report**

Instead of a practice on December 8th we had a Christmas Party to share our favourite moments and celebrate the season.

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.



**James  
Byron  
Colour  
Party  
Commander**

Our next practices will be:

Tuesday evening February 9th at 7:00pm

Tuesday evening March 8th at 7:00pm

Tuesday evening April 12th at 7:00pm

Tuesday evening May 10th at 7:00pm

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

## 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.



**Rick Valois**  
**2nd Vice**  
**President**  
**and**  
**Veterans**  
**Services Chair**

To take the first step to your possible VAC benefits contact the Branch for an appointment.

**Rick Valois** - Veterans Services Chair

## **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.**

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## Ladies Auxiliary Report

Happy New Year Everyone! May 2016 be a great year for Branch 36 members and all their families and friends.

As our (the Ladies Auxiliary's) monthly meeting isn't till the day after this report is due, this should be short and sweet.

Thanks to conveners **Judy Wright** and **Yvonne Palmer** and our volunteers, our Annual Christmas Extravaganza draw was a great success. This went to bringing many Veterans, seniors and others some holiday cheer. A huge amount of this "Thank You" goes to all the donations to the draw and the buyers of tickets. Congrats to all the winners too.



**Debbie  
Cooley  
Ladies  
Auxiliary  
President**

Beef on a bun nights will resume again on January 22nd. Here's a list of the Beef Nights to mark on your new 2016 calendars. - Jan. 22, Feb. 26, Mar. 18, April 22 and May 27. \*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Yes our Beef Nights are usually the 4th Friday of the month but because Easter is in March this year and Good Friday is the 4th Friday, we moved it to the 3rd Friday. Hope to see you all there.

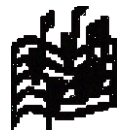
Ladies, if you would like to join our group and get this great feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction from serving our branch, our veterans and our community, please talk to any current member and we'll get you set up with an application a.s.a.p. Personally speaking, as a member of over 35 years, you really can't get a better feeling.

***Debbie Cooley - Branch 36 Ladies Auxiliary President***



**Valentine Dance - Saturday,  
13th February, 2016 with music from  
Little Peter and the Elegants**

**Tickets \$15 now at the bar, \$20 at  
the door.**



## Canteen Report

With a special thank-you to **Judy Hall-Wright** and a substantial donation from the Youth Dart program, we have purchased a video surveillance system. This was the result of an executive decision based on concerns raised by staff who often have to leave the premises well into the early hours of the morning.



**Doug Rivers**  
Canteen  
Chair

The system will enable us to monitor specific areas, and will also hopefully act as a deterrent towards any malicious activity. Now the biggest challenge is the installation, which we will be doing in-house.

Thankfully, one of our members, **Doug Lapin** has volunteered his expertise and will assist us in this daunting task. This project is going to take a little time, so please bear with us. Further updates will be forth-coming.

**Doug Rivers** - 1st Vice President and Canteen Chair



*Judy Shepalo*  
Real Estate Specialist

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## Entertainment Report

The annual Valentines Dance is almost upon us (February 13). There are limited tickets and the tickets will go fast so be sure to get your tickets in advance for \$15. If any tickets are still available they will be \$20 at the door, but the event sells out so I would not wait. The ONLY way to reserve a table is to purchase 10 tickets in advance. Tables will NOT be reserved otherwise. To reserve a table please leave a note with the Bar for Robert or Chris Turner noting that 10 tickets were purchased or email Robert at rturner@turnerfh.ca directly to arrange. Tickets will be available at the bar, but once they are sold out then it is sold out.



**Chris Turner  
&**



**Bob  
Turner  
Entertainment  
Co-Chairs**

A St Patrick's Day dance with free admission with a DJ will be held March 12th starting at 7:30pm. This is open to the public so please help pass along the information.

Trivia nights continue to be a great success. This is an event that is open to the public after the Fish Fry's. The cost is \$5/team member with teams of up to 6.

Lastly, the Legion's 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Turner Family Funeral Home, will be run Saturday March 26th with events beginning at 8:30am for Baby – 3 Year Olds, 9am for 4-7 Year Olds and 9:30am for 8-100+.

If you join the Facebook page for our Branch, you will be able to keep on top of any changes or additions to upcoming events

**Chris Turner** - Entertainment Co-Chair

**"The harder you fall, the higher you bounce."**

**Accept that some days you're the pigeon and some days  
you're the statue.**

## Sick Report

### October - 2015

5th - Bob Peters at St.Joes - heart mild  
8th - Visited Dale Edwards at Juravinski - looking better  
8th - Visited Bob Peters at home  
14th - Visited Dale Edwards at Juravinski - no change  
19th - Dale Edwards moved to Villa  
20th - Visited Dale Edwards at Villa  
27th - Bill Lowe at hospital - knee surgery  
29th - Bill Lowe at home.



**Stan Hicks  
Sick and  
Last Post  
Chair**

### November - 2015

5th - Peter Whittaker at Juravinski - knee surgery  
7th - Visited Dale Edwards at Villa - doing good  
10th - John Peters at home after stay at hospital  
10th - Rick Valois had shoulder surgery  
11th - Vivian Thornton at General  
17th - Peter Whittaker at home - coming along slowly  
25th - Visited Dale Edwards at villa - coming along slow  
25th - Phoned Rick Valois - still sore  
25th - Phoned Peter Whittaker - taking physio

### December - 2015

3rd - Vivian Thornton at home  
8th - Jim Sheering at St.Joes - test  
9th - Jim Sheering at home  
9th - Edna Hall at home -Yorkview  
18th - Dale Edwards at home  
27th - Joan Belmore at General ICU

#### **Last Post**

**George Ferguson - 10th October, 2015**  
**Bill Bury - 7th November, 2015**  
**Pauline Whittaker - 12th November, 2015** (L.A.Member)  
**John Westlake - 21st November, 2015**  
**Anthony McNulty - 26th November, 2015**  
**Joan Belmore - 1st January, 2016**  
**Bob Page - 4th January, 2016**

**We Will Remember Them**

## Honours and Awards Report

Our annual Honors & Awards and the Ladies Auxiliary's presentations Banquet will be held on Saturday, 5th March - the bar will open at 5:30pm with dinner at 6:30pm, followed by presentations of awards and service pins to members and volunteers.

Tickets for the banquet will go on sale at the bar on 15th February.

A listing of members who will to receive new membership service pins at the banquet will be posted on February 15th.

**Bill Ralston** - Honours and Awards Chair



**Bill Ralston**  
Honours &  
Awards  
Chair

## Banquet Hall Report

Inquiries and rentals for the banquet hall and the Wentworth Room have really picked up in January. If you or someone you know are looking for a venue for any type of event, please call 905-627-7221 to arrange for a viewing and to discuss our various options.

We also offer catering for events large or small. You can view our website for more information, including frequently asked questions at <http://br36dundas.org/hallrental/hallrental.html>

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



**Doug Rivers**  
Banquet Hall  
Chair

**A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you will look forward to the trip.**

**Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.**

## Fall Work Party Volunteers take a well-earned rest



Leo Shaidle, Fred Haddock and Bill Leckie worked on the Fall Work Party at the Branch and above they paused while their efforts were recognized by the cameraman.

*Picture courtesy Paul Penney*



*Kim Place*  
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## House and Grounds Report

What can we say about our HOUSE ? Even though she shows her age she's still standing strong, thanks to a lot of volunteerism over the years. Some major upgrades a few years ago, and since then just maintenance and upkeep. Sure we could use some new flooring etc., but just think how many people have walked in here and enjoyed their weddings, banquets and parties including my own wedding in 1966 - so she should show a little wear.



**Paul Penney**  
**Grounds**  
**Chair**

Our Fall Work Party was well attended and we accomplished quite a bit, including some fresh paint upstairs, and thanks to my friend **Neil Strome Trucking** for a good price break, so we saved money on our outside cleanup.

I'd like to give a shout out to **Ruth May** for stepping up to the plate and taking on the job of painting our ceiling tiles - a very important job. Thank you Ruth.

Currently we are also looking at security cameras for outside the branch to help keep the idiots at bay, and give our bar staff a little comfort when leaving at night.

As far as the building goes she'll be standing for a while yet, with a little help from everyone - thank you all who volunteer their time and services !!!

**Paul Penney** - House/Grounds Chair **"Many Hands Make Light Work"**

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**Paul Wright**  
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## Sports Report

Happy New Year to Everyone!

The 2016 Sport season has started with 3 teams representing Branch 36 at the Zone tournament. We have Zone Snooker, Darts, Cribbage and Euchre. Most of these Zone Sports will be completed by April, so if you are interested in tournament play please look at the Sports Bulletin Board for the sign-up sheets.

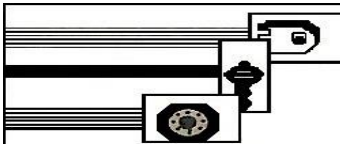


**Stan  
Sklepowicz  
Sports  
Chair**

Of note there are 2 new events this year - Seniors(over 55) Darts - Doubles and Team. So if you are interested please sign up early.

Thank you.

**Stan Sklepowicz** - Sports Chair



**DUNDAS  
LOCK & KEY**

**RICHARD DIX**

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### Christmas Food Contributions well received

Thank you for your contributions of food and a Turkey to our Christmas Food Drive. They were given to the Salvation Army for distribution. Your generosity shows that Branch 36 assists our fellow citizens, and it was greatly appreciated.

## Christmas Eve Carol Singing Contest at Branch 36



Gord Sharpe, Br.36 President and Mike Alkerton Br.36 Past President each lead their teams in Branch 36's Annual Carol Singing contest held each year on the afternoon of Christmas Eve. A great time was had by both contestants and the audience

*Picture courtesy Peter Whittaker*



*Country Candid's*  
PHOTOGRAPHY

*Karen Robillard*

905-628-1081

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## **Branch 36 - Upcoming Events**

### **President's Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 3-4pm**

6 chances to win every week

### **Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 4:30pm**

2 chances to win every week - put your Looney in an envelope at the Bar with your name and phone number

### **January 2016 Events**

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

Friday - 22nd January - Karaoke with Vern J. - 7:30pm

### **February 2016 Events**

Tuesday - 9th February - Branch 36 Colour Party Practice - 7:00pm

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

Friday - 12th February - Trivia Night - 7:30pm

Saturday - 13th February - Valentine Dance - music by Little Peter and the Elegants. Tickets \$15 at the bar now or \$20 at the door. Late night snack included. Public is Welcome. Doors Open at 7pm music at 8pm.

Friday - 26th February - Beef on a Bun - 5:30-7:30pm

### **March 2016 Events**

Saturday - 5th March - Honours & Awards and Ladies Auxiliary Presentations Banquet - Open - 5:30pm Dinner - 6:30pm Tickets on sale at the bar

Tuesday - 8th March - Branch 36 Colour Party Practice - 7:00pm

Friday - 11th March - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Friday - 11th March - Trivia Night - 7:30pm

Tuesday - 15th March - Bi-Annual General Meeting upstairs

Friday - 18th March - Beef on a Bun - 5:30-7:30pm

Saturday - 19th March - St.Patrick's Day Celebration - 7:30pm with music from DJ - Open to the Public and admission is Free.

Friday - 25th March - Good Friday - **BRANCH CLOSED**

Saturday - 26th March - 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt - 8:30am

Sunday - 27th March - Easter Sunday - **BRANCH CLOSED**

### **April 2015 Events**

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

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

Tuesday - 12th April - Branch 36 Colour Party Practice - 7:00pm

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

**New Legion Members are Always Welcome**

**Call or visit the Branch for more information**