



The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36

The Royal Canadian Legion
November – 2017



Lest We Forget



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

<http://www.br36dundas.org>

President's Report

I would like to welcome everyone back from summer hiatus to the many fall/winter activities which are offered here at our branch. Please take a look at what is offered and come out to support the sports leagues, activities, dinners etc. Come out and enjoy all that your branch has to offer!



**Gord Sharpe
President**

This Fall we celebrate the 91st anniversary of the inception of this branch. 91 years of service to our veterans, our members and our community. We will be marking this occasion with a special evening on Friday, November 3rd. The evening will feature music from “Little Peter and the Elegants”, always a favorite! Come out and join us for an evening of entertainment, celebration and lots of fun!

Remembrance Day is fast approaching and it would be wonderful to see as many members as possible signing up to distribute poppies. It only takes a couple of hours of your time to make this campaign successful. This is a very important time of the year to show your support and respect to all of the Veterans that have sacrificed so much so that you and I can enjoy the life and freedoms that we do. You do not need a Legion uniform to volunteer. All of the money collected by our Branch stays in our area to support local hospitals, long term care facilities, and Cadets, etc. If you don't feel that you can volunteer in this way there is also a need for in house help. Contact our Poppy Chairman, Jim Byron to see how you can make a difference. Thank you.

Always keep in mind that our Branch is fueled by volunteers. If it wasn't for these hard-working individuals we wouldn't have the great Branch that we have. If you are interested in helping out with any of the events that are held, please leave your name and phone number with the bar steward on duty or speak to any member of the executive.

It's that time of the year again! Time to renew your membership. Our Membership Chair, Mike Alkerton or any of the bar stewards will be happy to accept your dues for next year. Renew by November 30th and be eligible for the “Early Bird” draw.

We have been pleased to welcome several new members to our branch over the past year. It is good see our numbers growing. If you see new faces please take some time to get to know them and help get them acquainted with all that Branch 36 has to offer.

This is your Branch. Yours to enjoy all of the wonderful events offered throughout the year, comradeship with other members and the pride of being part of an institution which has lasted 91 years! Come out and bring your friends! Invite them to join! There is always room for one more! I look forward to seeing you at the Branch.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to speak to any member of your executive. We were elected by the members to work for you.

Gord Sharpe - President Branch 36

Food Banks and YOU

Food banks have always existed in one form or another to help our fellow Canadians.

Branch 36 has over 700 members and we should be able to make a good collection of food for a local Food Bank during this giving season.

You might easily have to use a Food Bank some day, so why not make a contribution to a food bank now. Branch 36 has a box in the clubroom for your food bank contributions NOW.

Each time you come into Branch 36 please bring a non-perishable food item with you and make a contribution to the food bank.

Please make your contributions NOW !

Sports Report

This is going to be different from my usual sports report. If you need any sport information please check our in-house board or online.

Keeping with the type of sports and the Legion/Military I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Invictus Games last month. What an inspiring event to see these wounded warriors overcoming their injuries and returning to physical activity was amazing.



**Stan
Sklepowicz
Sports
Chair**

The Invictus Games were originated with Prince Harry three years ago. He felt that it could be a way for injured soldiers to have a physical outlet and goal that would help in their recovery both physical and mental.

When it was announced that the Games were coming to Toronto I knew I had to try to become a part of the games. I felt that this was a wonderful opportunity to show some support and gratitude to our military family.

Throughout the games the Royal Canadian Legion had a visible presence at the games and in the media. It would be wonderful if the Legion could carry on the momentum generated by these Games and find further ways to support our wounded, ill and injured military personnel and veterans.

Overall the Invictus Games were a life changing event, not only for the participants and also us - the volunteers.

Stan Sklepowicz - Sports Chair

***** Upcoming Event*** The Veterans Christmas dinner is coming up on Wednesday 6th December with the Bar opening at 5:30 and the Dinner starting at 6:00pm.**

Get tickets at the bar

Canteen Report

We are pleased to welcome back Candace to our bar staff. She is a great addition and much appreciated for coverage since Pam has retired.

Fall sports are up and running and there are more events coming up.

Please support YOUR LEGION and remember to tip the bartender.

Dave Hawthorne - 2nd Vice President and Canteen Chair



**Dave
Hawthorne
Canteen
Chair**

Special Events Report

Remembrance Day Parade and Service Schedule

Preparations are well under way for this year's Remembrance Day Service on 11th November. This year's event falls on Saturday and we hope to have a great turnout. Gord Sharpe, Branch 36 President even says he may even prepare a speech this year.



**Dave
Hawthorne
Special**

The parade starts at Sydenham Square by the Firehall at 10:15am and proceeds up King Street to the War Memorial. Please make an effort to attend and honour those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Dave Hawthorne - 2nd Vice President and Special Events Chair

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Membership Report

To those members who have renewed - Thank You ! There are 550 members who have not renewed yet.

This is the last Bullytin before Christmas so please make an effort to drop by and renew. You can pay by cheque, debit card or my old favourite CASH !

“You cannot pay Ottawa direct”.

Our numbers still remain high as opposed to other branches in our zone. We finished 2017 with about 715 members. This was due to recruiting by our members who **“Just Brought One”**.

If you can get in to pay your dues as an “Early Bird” it makes our job that much easier and contributes to the financial health of the Branch. So please bring in a friend and sign them up.

The Branch dues remain at \$55.00. If your dues are not paid by 31st December I have to spend a lot of time and money to track you down.

Thanks

“Just Bring One”

Mike Alkerton - Past President and Membership Chair
(Home 905-627-2822 / Branch 905-627-7221)
P.S. Please call me with any concerns or questions.



**Mike
Alkerton
Membership
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 can be used for retirement parties, memorial services, meetings, birthdays, and any other party you can think of.
Just call the office to book the room (905) 627-7221

”Lest We Forget”



Annual Poppy Day Fund Campaign For the Relief of Veterans, their Widows and Orphans

Poppy Fund Committee

Jim Byron

Wayne O'Connor

Faye Kielty

Stan Hicks

Chris Slote

Dear Comrades and Friends,

May I take this opportunity to bring your mind to our Annual Poppy Day Campaign.

One day each year we ask the people of Canada to wear a Poppy in remembrance of the thousands of brave men and women who gave their lives so that we may live in freedom with the right to worship God in our own way.

Throughout the country thousands of Canadian service men and women have returned to their families, and, due to the ravages of war suffer from disability, sickness, unemployment and the penalty of growing old, and need assistance.

In 1926 we assumed an obligation to assist Veterans, their widows, and their wives and families in the many difficulties which constantly confront them - such as sickness, death, and pensions.

We, your Dundas Poppy Committee, remember 365 days of the year, so we ask that on November 11th, you will remember the sacrifices made by Veterans for us, and wear a Poppy.

Any donations to our Poppy Fund will be gratefully received and acknowledged by a receipt.

We welcome you to join us in our Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph, at 10:45 a.m. on November 11th to remember.

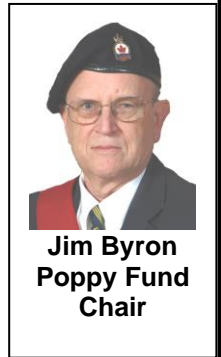
Please forward your donation to:
Branch 36, Royal Canadian Legion,
280 King Street West,
Dundas, Ontario, L9H 1W1

Cheques should be made payable to The Dundas Poppy Fund.
An official receipt will be forwarded for Income Tax purposes.

“A Poppy is easier to carry than a Cross”.



Yours Sincerely
Jim Byron (905-578-2758)
Chairperson
The Poppy Fund Committee



***** 2017 Poppy Campaign *****

Poppy Distributers Needed

Campaign Dates: October 27th, 28th, 30th and 31st, November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th.

A sheet has been posted in the Branch asking you to supply your name and date(s) available and your phone number.

Jim Byron - Poppy Campaign Chairman (905-578-2758)

Youth Education Report

Entry forms for three Legion student contests have been mailed to almost forty schools. The competitions are the Poster & Literary, Video and Public Speaking Contests and are based on Remembrance.

Two of them, the Poster & Literary and the Public Speaking Contests are open to students in Grades 1-12 in four separate grade categories. The Video Contest is available to students in Grades 4-12 in two categories.



**Tony
Bratschitch
Youth
Education
Chair**

This year we have received a substantial amount of "Remembrance Memorabilia" from two sources: Veterans Affairs Canada and The Royal Canadian Legion via our Branch's Poppy Fund. The memorabilia, consisting of postcards, bookmarks, replicas of historical newspapers and posters, have been made available to the schools upon their request.

Our Branch's Poppy Fund has also arranged to donate generous cash awards to the top place finishers in each of the fifteen categories of the Poster & Literary Contests that are judged at the first level of competition within our branch. Student winning entries at the local level, then have opportunities to garnish even more awards at four other levels including the Dominion Contests. A few years ago, we had a student's colour poster that went as high as 2nd place in the country, earning much recognition and many awards along the way.

These student contests have been important as a useful method of promoting Remembrance to the students, their families and teachers. Through these contests, we are also able to promote the values of The Royal Canadian Legion regarding service to our veterans and to the democratic principles of Canada.

Tony Bratschitsch - Youth Education Chair

If the toothbrush had been invented anywhere other than Saskatchewan it would've probably been named the teethbrush.

Poppy Fund Report

The Poppy Fund Campaign will start this year on the 27th October and I'm hoping that all our volunteers will be marking this on their calendars.



**Jim Byron
Poppy Fund
Chair**

Donations have been received to honour the memory of Alan Keith Hayward.

On 19th August Chris Slote and I attended a Poppy seminar at the Stoney Creek Legion branch.

On 19th September Peter Whittaker and I attended the official ceremony to announce the building of the St. Joseph's Villa Hospice.

A cheque in the amount of \$500 was submitted to Provincial Command towards the Youth and Education Program.

The Poppy Fund Campaign will start this year on 27th October and I'm hoping that all our volunteers will be marking this on their calendars.

On Remembrance Day I'm hoping to have permission from Provincial Command to hand out cheques in the following amounts:

Sea Cadets - \$3,000, Army Cadets - \$3,000, Air Cadets - \$3,000, Branch Storage - \$350, Elevator Maintenance - \$5,000, Blackadar Retirement Residence - \$2,000, Highgate Retirement Residence - \$2,000, Wentworth Lodge Retirement Residence - \$2,000, Shalom Village Retirement Residence - \$1,500, Meadowland Retirement Residence - \$1,000, Chartwell Willowgrove Retirement Residence - \$1,000, Meadowland Long Term Care - \$1,000, Salvation Army - \$4,000

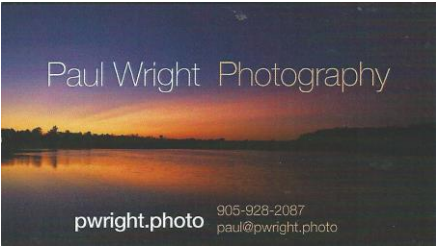
Total Expenditures - \$28,850

In addition the Poppy Fund will now be supplying monetary awards to the winners of the Legion Literary and Poster contests – 1st Place - \$50, 2nd Place - \$35, 3rd Place - \$25, Honourable Mention - \$10

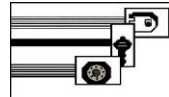
Our Current Poppy Fund bank balance is \$76,143.59

Jim Byron - Poppy Chairman (905-578-2758)

Paul Wright Photography



pwright.photo 905-928-2087
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Ladies Auxiliary Report

Hello Comrades,

Hope this finds you enjoying our beautiful “fall” weather. Seems we go straight from summer to winter these days.

We are now fully back into the swing of things in the Auxiliary. We started with a phenomenal win in Singles and Doubles Darts. Terry Kobylinski took 1st in singles in the morning, then with her partner Janice Mancini took 1st in doubles in the afternoon. The rest of our players were no slouches either as we were placed within the top 10 all round (I think). We’ll know better when the Zone Sports Officer knows who will be going to Districts.



Debbie Cooley
President
Ladies
Auxiliary

Our October Beef Nite will have an extra item on the menu for this month. Octoberfest sausage served with sauerkraut and fries. This was really well received last year so we like to keep our patrons happy. That’s Friday, 27th October folks. Hope you’ll all be there.

Continued next page.....

And last but NEVER least, Judy Hall-Wright has given the heads up for our Annual Christmas Fund Raiser draw. Tables will be set up with fabulous prizes displayed for you to drop the tickets that will be for sale starting 2nd November and right thru to the Branch Christmas Turkey Roll on 1st December. Our sellers will be able to serve you on any Monday night (snooker and darts), Thursday night (darts upstairs and down), Friday night (Fish Fry and Beef Nights), Saturday afternoons and a couple of Sunday afternoons. Top prize this year is Android box for your TV AND a tablet. All proceeds go to our Vets, Seniors and community to ensure they have a great Christmas Holiday Season.

Thank you in advance

Debbie Cooley - President Ladies Auxiliary

Sick Report

August 2017

18th - Joe Freelove moved to Immanuel Hospice

28th - Kathy Sturrup doing good after knee surgery

September 2017

1st - Roy Gunn had eye surgery - now at home

6th - Brett Taylor at General Hospital

29th - Jim MacLean at General

October 2017

1st - Dale Edwards at Juravinski - seizure

10th - Dale Edwards at home



Stan Hicks
Sick
and
Last Post
Chair

Stan Hicks - Sick and Last Post Chair Phone 905 627-7445

Last Post

Laurence Vipond - 27th July, 2017
Alan Hayward - 12th September, 2017
Joe Freelove - 15th September, 2017
Dave Patterson - 1st October, 2017
Ken Moore - 5th October, 2017

We Will Remember Them

House Report

I don't have any serious issues this month, but I would like to extend a big Thank You to Judy Hall-Wright and Rob Wright for building the ramp at the back door. They also carried out the upgrade in the Wentworth Room and built a bookcase in the club room. It's all greatly appreciated.



**Paul
Penney
House
Chair**

For our Fall Work party on Sunday, 5th November we'll have a painting crew, a furnace crew, and an outside clean-up and weed whacking crews, etc. Hopefully our ladies will help us also with inside tasks as they always do a bang-up job. We'll see you all here on 5th November.

Thank You !

"Many hands make light work!"

Paul Penney – House Chair

Banquet Hall Report

We are getting a lot of use for the Wentworth Room, mainly for celebrations of life, birthday parties, showers etc. These events are important to us and we appreciate everyone for considering Branch 36 for their events.



**Doug Rivers
Banquet
Hall
Chair**

Bookings for the Banquet Hall have been slower than in previous years. We will be looking at all aspects of the hall rental to see if we can make any improvements, or changes that could help increase the number of bookings.

If you are considering a hall rental, please call us at (905)627-7221 for information, and check out our website at <http://www.br36dundas> or the Banquet Hall pages on the website at <http://br36dundas.org/hallrental/hallrental.html>

Doug Rivers - 1st Vice President and Banquet Hall Chair

Bursary Report

Any full time post-secondary school student who has a parent or grandparent who served in the allied forces and is a Canadian citizen may be eligible for a Royal Canadian Legion Bursary.

If you have any questions "PLEASE" contact me. The people in Toronto (Provincial Command) have lots of money to award.



**Mike
Alkerton
Bursary
Chair**

Mike Alkerton - Past President and Bursary 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 - Veterans Services Chair

Christmas Food Drive

Attention Comrades: Each year we collect CANNED GOODS for needy families, and this year is no different. There are people in our community that we can help by donating food at this festive time of year, when we are giving thanks for what we ourselves enjoy. Bring your Donations to the Branch until December 20th.


Thank you for your support !!!


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Entertainment Report

During this past summer everyone enjoyed 3 BBQ's and 3 Wing Nights. There was also a good turn out in July when we had Karaoke with Anne. In September The Liverpool 4 tribute band performed and entertained all who attended.



**Janice
Mancini
Entertainment
Chair**

On Friday, November 3rd Little Peter and the Elegants will provide music to help us celebrate the Legion's 91st birthday - come out and see this great band and dance the night away to the music of the 50's & 60's !

On Wednesday, 6th December the Veteran's Christmas dinner will be held with Jane Watson and her Swing Band providing music from 7:00 to 8:00pm.

On Sunday, 10th December you can have Breakfast with Santa from 8 to 12noon. We will be serving pancakes, sausages, juice & coffee. There will also be a colouring contest for the kids. Tickets are \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 for a family of 5. Tickets will be on sale at the bar starting in mid-November.

On Sunday, 24th December from noon to 5pm we will hold our Christmas Eve celebration and the popular Christmas Carol singing contest - DJ Jane Watson will provide music.

On Sunday, 31st December at 8pm come to our New Year's Eve celebration with music supplied by DJ Donny Lovering. Bring your favorite snack to share and ring in 2018 with your Legion family.

On Saturday, 10th February, 2018 we will hold our popular Valentine's dance with music supplied for the 6th year in a row by the popular Little Peter and the Elegants - this 8-piece band dance band helps everyone dance the night away to the music of the 50's & 60's!

Janice Mancini - 3rd Vice President and Entertainment Chair

Volunteer and Distribute Poppies

Need a gift for a Legion member ?

Why not a jacket, tee shirt or other item with the Legion crest. A catalogue is kept in the office that contains a multitude of items that can be easily ordered. I have a case in which I carry my computer with the Legion crest. The catalogue even has jewelry and other items. Ask to see the catalogue.

Colour Party Report

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 practises will be :

Tuesday 7:00pm, 10th October in the Banquet Hall

Tuesday 7:00pm, 7th November in the Banquet Hall

Tuesday 7:00pm, 12th December in the Banquet Hall

Next Parade - Saturday, 11th November - Remembrance Day in Dundas

James Byron – Colour Party Commander - 905-578-2758

Fall Work Party Volunteers Needed

Fall is here and we are asking for volunteers for our Fall Work Party to get the building and grounds ship-shape in time for Remembrance week and show our veterans that we care.

A sign-up sheet will be posted and everyone is welcome to come as we have various jobs to be done. This year's work party starts at 9:00am on Sunday, 5th November, 2017 and a light lunch will be served to all those who attend.

Paul Penney - House Chair

Upcoming Events

October 2017 Events

Friday - 27th October - 2017 Poppy Fund Campaign Kick Off Day

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

Friday - 27th October - Progressive Euchre - 7:30pm

November 2017 Events

Friday - 3rd November – Legion's 91st Birthday dance with Little Peter and the Elegants 8pm

Sunday - 5th November - Fall Work Party - 9:00am

Volunteer some time to help spruce up Branch for Remembrance Week.

Lunch will be served to those who participate.

Saturday - 11th November - Remembrance Day Parade and Service

All Legion members and veterans in the community are invited to take part.

10:15am - Parade falls in at Memorial Square/Dundas Firehall

10:30am - Parade marches to Memorial at Community Centre

10:45am - Memorial service commences

Program to follow after service

Parade marches to Branch 36 site

Reception 12 noon

Poppy Fund Presentations 12:30pm in Banquet Hall upstairs

Friday - 17th November - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Friday - 17th November - Trivia Night - Sign up at 7:30pm - Starts at 8:00pm

Friday - 24th November - Beef on a Bun - 5:30-7:30pm

Friday - 24th November - Progressive Euchre - 7:30pm

December 2017 Events

Friday - 1st December - Sports Turkey Roll, Early Bird Draw & Ladies

Auxiliary Annual Draw

Doors Open at 7pm for purchase of tickets and draws start at 8pm.

Saturday - 2nd December - Dundas Modular Railway Flea Market - 10-3pm

Wednesday - 6th December - Veterans Christmas Dinner - 5:30pm

Get your ticket ahead of time and the \$5 will be refunded at the Dinner.

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

Friday - 8th December - Trivia Night - Sign up at 7:30pm - Starts at 8:00pm

Sunday - 10th December - Breakfast with Santa - 8am to 12noon

Pancakes, Juice and Coffee. There will also be a colouring contest for the kids. Tickets are \$5 each of \$20 for a family of 5.

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

Sunday - 24th December - Carol Singing Contest - Noon-5pm with DJ

Monday - 25th December - Christmas Day - Branch Closed

Tuesday - 26th December - Boxing Day - Branch Closed

Wednesday - 27th December - Branch Closed

Sunday - 31st December - New Year's Eve Celebration - 8pm with DJ

January 2018 Events

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

Tuesday - 9th January - Ladies Auxiliary meeting - 8:00pm

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

Friday - 12th January - Trivia Night - Sign up at 7:30pm - Starts at 8:00pm

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

Friday - 26th January - Progressive Euchre - 7:30pm

**Saturday and Sunday - 27th January - Tony Lambert Memorial Snooker
Tournament – 10:00am**

February 2018 Events

Friday - 9th February - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Friday - 9th February - Trivia Night - Sign up at 7:30pm - Starts at 8:00pm

Saturday - 10th February - Valentine Dance with Little Peter and the Elegants

Fulfill your Legion Oath – Distribute Poppies

Volunteering to distribute Poppies in the Dundas Poppy Fund campaign is a small part that you can play and make a big difference. Last year your efforts in distributing Poppies resulted in contributions of \$15,000 to the Juravinski Hospital for Cancer Research, and \$15,000 dollars to St. Joseph's Villa in Dundas for use in care of veterans residing at the Villa.

You don't have to take time off work to do it, just volunteer a few hours in one evening and you will make a difference to veterans and the community in which you live. The community out there wants to contribute to the fund, we just have to get out there and receive the contributions and in return a Poppy to recognize the donation.

The sign-up sheet for volunteers to distribute Poppies is now posted, add your name and fulfill the oath you made when you joined the Legion.

Peter Whittaker - Public Relations Chair