



The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36

The Royal Canadian Legion
May - 2025

St. Joseph's Villa gets \$69,925.96 from 2024 Catch the Ace



Mieke Ewen, St Joseph's Villa Campus of Care, Peter Howerd, Branch 36, Jennifer Morrith, Margaret's Place and Don Davidson, President, CEO of St Joseph's Villa Foundation with 2024 Catch the Ace cheque.



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

<http://www.br36dundas.org>

President's Report

Now that we have survived another winter, it's time to look forward to the spring and summer months just ahead of us. Spring cleanup is just around the corner! A signup sheet will be hung in the clubroom in the next few weeks. Bring your rakes, blowers, and of course your appetites!



**Janice Mancini
President**

Sadly, our first Catch the Ace of 2025 has ended after a short 5 weeks!! Have no fear, we are applying for the license for CTA 4.0. We will be back up and running before you know it. If you come into the Legion, check out our new sign out front, new flooring in the canteen, new computer systems, and new cash registers for the Bar Stewards. Without Catch the Ace, none of this would have been possible!

Watch for the next upgrades we are working on in the near future. Maintaining and cleaning up the front gardens, re-painting the picnic tables, updating the patio again with a new overhang and a new barbeque. I would also like to paint the outside of the building as it is looking pretty lame. Anyone interested in the job can inquire within.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of Volunteers, we will not be holding our Wing nights this summer. We are always in need of more Volunteers to help with Fish Fry's, Catch the Ace, BBQs, and other special events. If you can spare a few hours once or twice a month and would like to help, sign up at the Legion.

Be sure to watch for the release of our new website that's in the works! Graciously donated by our friends at St. Joseph's Villa, we are working hard to update and make our website more user friendly. They have provided us with a co-op student who is designing the new site at no charge to the Legion. (valued at \$10 - \$60,000) that's a huge savings for us all.

Enjoy your summer holidays! We will look forward to seeing you at one of our 4 summer Barbeques, Music provided by Al Jordan, Mike Woods, John DeMarchi, & Matt Gauthier. Everyone is Welcome!!

Stay safe, stay healthy, be kind!!

Janice Mancini - President Branch 36

St. Patrick's Day Celebration



Branch 36 members and guests celebrated St. Patrick's day at the Branch having a good time wearing the Green and dancing.

Cadet Liaison Report - May 2025

On 25th March, 2025, Colour Party Commander Greg Sherring and myself attended the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Dundas, Change of Command Parade and ceremony.

Congratulations to SLt Kyle Au Coin on his new Command. The presiding officer was Major M. Stacey Officer Commanding Southwestern Ontario area Regional Cadet Support Unit (Central).



**Mark
Mainprize
Cadel
Liaison
Chair**

Mark Mainprize - Cadet Liaison Chair

Bursary Report

Comrades

The Gerry Belec Bursary ended in January with six bursaries given out to students who qualified. This was a very significant increase over the last few years.



Charlie Parsons
Bursary Chair

As of the end of March the Legion bursaries have finished as well. These bursaries will resume again in the fall.

Charlie Parsons - Bursary Chair

Canteen Report

Welcome to Conner Broadbent, our new bar steward. Coinnor attends Mohawk College and is studying Computer Engineering Technology - Mechatronic Systems. He's in his 2nd semester.



Janice Mancini
Canteen Chair

There was a breakdown of the main Canteen cooler. A new motor was required at a cost of \$4,500.00.

Janice Mancini - President and Canteen Chair

An advertisement for SEEPLUS Nursing & Home Healthcare Services. The ad features the company logo on the left, which includes a stylized eye and a heart with a cross. To the right is a photograph of two hands clasped together. The background is a gradient of blue and green. At the bottom, there is a blue banner with contact information and a QR code.

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Banquet Hall Report

The Banquet Hall is available for rental. For details, please email rcibr36@cogeco.net

You will receive a response within 12-48 hours. You can also call 905-627-7221.

Space is filling up fast for the spring and summer months in 2025. Don't miss out!! Book rentals now.

Janice Mancini – President and Banquet Hall Chair



**Janice
Mancini
Banquet Hall
Chair**

Colour Party and Special Events Report

The “Catch the Ace 3” draw was won on 9th April, 2025. See you all back for “Catch the Ace 4” in a few weeks.

Monday, 5th May, 2025: “Liberation of the Netherlands” service at St. Elizabeth’s Village in Hamilton at 10:30am

Wednesday, 7th May, 2025: Branch 36 Elections. Upstairs Banquet Hall at 7:00pm.

Sunday, 1st June, 2025: “D-Day” and Annual Church Service at St. James Anglican Church on Melville Street, Dundas - 10:30am

Thursday, 3rd July, 2025: “House of Providence” parade and picnic. At St. Joseph’s Villa in Dundas in the parking lot on the east side off Overfield Street on the west side of the Villa.

Friday, 22nd August, 2025: The 50th Anniversary of the “Dundas Cactus Festival and Parade”. The **Parade will be Thursday, 21st August, 2025 at 4:30pm** starting from the Dundas Driving Park.



**Greg Sherring
Colour Party
Commander
and Special
Events Chair**

Continued next page....

Tuesday, 11th November, 2025: Remembrance Day Parade and Service. Parade steps off from Memorial Square at 10:15am and will proceed west on King Street to the Cenotaph at King Street and Market Street for the service.

The Colour Party is always ready to have new members join them, so if you would like to know more about this award-winning group call the Legion Office at 905-627-7221 or myself at 905-537-5995.

Greg Sherring - Colour Party Commander and Special Events

Always Remember: They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. We will remember them.

Membership Report

Comrades

Membership is progressing very well, but we can do better. Comrade Mike Alkerton was often heard saying “Just bring one”. His hope was that if everyone brings one new member this branch would not only maintain its numbers but grow as well.



Charlie Parsons
Membership
Chair

Help Branch 36 to continue to be the largest by membership in the Hamilton area.

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

“Just bring one”

Charlie Parsons - Membership Chair

Ladies Auxiliary Report

Greetings from the LA as we enter the Spring Season

Due to the hard work of our Ladies Auxiliary members during all of our fund-raising events, we have been able to increase our donations to Ontario Command for both the Charitable and Bursary Foundations as well as the Veterans Wishlist.



**Sue
Sklepowicz
Ladies
Auxiliary
President**

We are working with our Branch Veterans Affairs Officer, Rick Valois to help support any local veterans in need.

Our Spring Community event is our Purse Campaign. We will be accepting donations of any large gently used purses and/or any of the following items to place inside the purses (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush, hair brush, hand sanitizer, body/hand lotion, deodorant, body wash or socks). We will be collecting any donations throughout the month of May. A large white bin will be available under the shuffleboard table for your donations. All purses collected and filled will be donated to 2 local women's shelters.

The Spring BBQ raffle is back. A Mastercraft BBQ has been donated by our Local Canadian Tire.

Tickets are available 1-\$5 or 3-\$10 from any LA member. The Draw will take place on Friday, 23rd May 23 during our Beef Night event.

Our monthly meeting has been moved back to the second Tuesday of each month (Sept – June)

We are always looking for new members. Please contact me if you are interested.

Sue Sklepowicz - President Ladies Auxiliary - (905) 537-7862

Ways and Means Report

Comrades,

As I write we are in week 5 of Catch the Ace 3.0. and the Ace has been found!! Our local winner received \$33,993.



Peter Howard
Ways and
Means Chair

Although only lasting for 5 weeks we saw the jackpot grow quickly and the attendance at our Wednesday evening winner reveal has been fantastic. We are live on Facebook for the winner reveal and are seeing over 2,000 views for the live stream.

We will be applying for a new license and hope to start Catch the Ace 4.0 in May.

Peter Howard - Ways and Means Chair

Poppy Fund cheque presented to St. Joseph's Villa



On Wednesday, 9h April, 2025 Don Davidson, President and CEO of St. Joseph's Villa thanked Jim Byron, Branch 36 Poppy Fund chair and Sgt.-at -Arms, for a Poppy Fund donation of \$20,824.77 to help pay for a Therapeutic Spa Bath replacement at St. Joseph's Villa.

Poppy Fund Report

On February 25th we received approval from Provincial Command to make a donation to St. Joseph's Villa in the amount of \$20,824.77 to help pay for a Therapeutic Spa Bath Replacement.



**Jim
Byron
Poppy Fund
Chair**

At the March 18th Board meeting pictures were taken of Don Davidson, President and CEO of St. Joseph's Villa thanking the Poppy Fund for the donation with Jim Byron, Poppy Chairperson and Sgt-at-Arms.

The current balance of the Poppy Fund as of 31st March, 2025 is: \$94,107.68.

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

Entertainment Report

Valentine Dance was a sellout crowd, dancing the night away to the golden oldies.

We also got our green on for St Patrick's Day with DJ Jane Watson. A small crowd attended and had a good time.



**Janice Mancini
Entertainment
Chair**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday BBQ's:

15th June - featuring Johnny (DeMarchi) Guitar

20th July - featuring Al Jordan

10th August - featuring Johnny (DeMarchi) Guitar

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS - Tuesday - 1st JULY -

Come out and celebrate 158 years of our beautiful country. Entertainment featuring Matt Gauthier on keyboard.

Janice Mancini - President and Entertainment Chair

Branch 36 gets its cheque from 2024 Catch the Ace Draw



Stan Sklepowicz, Dundas Branch 36 2nd Vice President, Peter Howard, Branch 36 Ways and Means Chair and Bill Ralston, Dundas Branch 36 Sick and Last Post Chair hold Dundas Branch 36's 2024 Catch the Ace Draw.

Public Relations Report

Sponsors with their contributions help to defray the costs of The Bullytin newsletter.

This month we have added 2 new Sponsors - the new Sponsors are Angelo Fezzari of REMAX and Neil Gentle of BAS Contracting Limited.

if you have need of their services, contact them.

Peter Whittaker - Public Relations Chair



Peter Whittaker
Public Relations 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.



Rick Valois
Veterans
Services Chair

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

Rick Valois - Veterans Services Chair

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Sunday - 25th May - Spring Work Party - 9:00am

Volunteer some time to help spruce up the Branch.
Bring your brooms, rakes and blowers.
There will be both inside and outside tasks.

Add your name to the sign-up sheet next to the side door.

Fall Work Party doing their job



Branch 36 Fall Work Party Volunteers helped to gather and remove mountains of leaves and garbage from Branch property so that it looked neat and tidy for the Remembrance Day Parade held on 11th November, 2024.

Paul Wright Photography

pwright.photo




905-928-2087

paul@pwright.photo

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Last Post

Allan Magson - 29th January, 2025

William (Bill) Leckie - 18th February, 2025

Don Smith - 18th February, 2025

Richard Michael (Mike) Empey - 3rd March, 2025

John Murphy - 17th March, 2025

Joan Alkerton - 19th March, 2025

William (Bill) Saint - 1st April, 2025

Merton Hambly - 3rd April, 2025

James Sherring - 8th April, 2025

We Will Remember Them



Bill Ralston
Sick / Last
Post Chair

Youth Education Report

For over fifty years, the Royal Canadian Legion has held the Remembrance Literary and Poster Contest for Grades 1 to 12 students. Every year, our Branch receives their essays, poems, and posters describing their feelings about what they feel Remembrance is about.

Guided by their parents and teachers, these young Canadians invariably write or illustrate the sacrifices made on our country's behalf and its values.



Tony
Bratschitch
Youth Education

While the youngest group of students (Grades 1-3) commonly draw pictures of poppies, tombstones, and uniformed soldiers, the older ones frequently write about the soldiers' fears and anxieties.

Throughout my fifteen years as the Branch 36 Youth Education Chair, I have seen and read stunning submissions from students that continuously show that remembrance is alive and well. Often, I have visited schools and, sometimes homes to have discussions with the students.



This is a file photo taken at Rehoboth Christian School in Copetown during a presentation in front of 200 senior students and faculty. These students were winners in their categories and received certificates, medallions, and cash awards from the Legion.

During these discussions, we do not talk about politics or war. Instead, we dwell on the young Canadians, who were very similar in age to them and were called upon to do their duty during times of conflict. We also discuss the impact on their families and communities.

The exchange of ideas and their feedback demonstrates that Canada's youth is aware of the importance of Remembrance Day. They solemnly commemorate the sacrifices made for all Canadians, past, present, and future.

“Lest we forget”

Tony Bratschitch - Youth Education Chair

Branch 36 Upcoming Events Report - May 2025

President's Meat Draw - Every Saturday up to 14th June - 3-4pm
Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 3-4pm
2 chances to win every week

May 2025 Events

Thursday - 1st - Thursday "Progressive Euchre" - Sign u1:30pm
Wednesday - 7th - Annual Branch Elections - Upstairs - 8pm
Friday - 9th - Fish Fry Night - 4:30-6:30pm
Tuesday - 13th - Branch 36 Colour Party Practice - 7:00pm
Wednesday - 14th - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00pm
Thursday - 15th - Thursday "Progressive Euchre" - Sign - 1:30pm
Friday - 16th - TRIVIA NIGHT - Signup 7:00pm Start 7:30pm
Monday - 19th - Victoria Day - Branch Closed
Friday - 23rd - Beef on a Bun Night - 5:30-7:30pm
Friday - 23rd - Progressive Euchre - 7:15pm
Sunday - 25th - Spring Work Party - 9am

June 2025 Events

Sunday - 1st - Annual D-Day Church Parade and service
Thursday - 5th - Summer Mixed Dart League Registration 7pm
Wednesday - 11th - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00pm
Sunday - 15th - Family BBQ - Bar open 2:30pm - BBQ-4-6pm
Tuesday - 17th - Branch 36 General Meeting - 8:00pm

July 2025 Events

Tuesday - 1st - Canada Day Good Neighbor BBQ - 2-6pm
Sunday - 20st - Family Day BBQ - Bar open 2:30pm - BBQ - 4-6pm

August 2025 Events

Monday - 4th - Civic Holiday - Branch Closed
Sunday - 10th - Family BBQ - Bar opens 2:30pm - BBQ - 4-6pm

Legion members are always Welcome
Call or visit the Branch for more information