



## Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street  
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0  
519-389-9917

[branch340@eastlink.ca](mailto:branch340@eastlink.ca)  
[www.branch340.ca](http://www.branch340.ca)



# DECEMBER 2013 BRANCH LINE

Inside this issue you will find.... what is happening this month... Committee Reports.... general information and a wee bit of humor too. We welcome your articles and will be more than glad to insert them in future issues. Thanks to those who have submitted in the past.

I would like to thank the Legion members and our community for joining us on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Special thanks to Cde Norma for her hard work and diligence again this year. Thanks are also extended to our Sergeant-at-Arms Robert Harrison for organizing the Colour Party to parade in the Main Hall.

Just to let you know that we did have a lot going on and lots of pictures were taken on Remembrance Day....so there will be more pictures in the January newsletter from November 11<sup>th</sup>. Many Comrades were honoured with Years of Service Pins and a few will be featured in next month's issue.

Please check inside for the hours of operation for the holiday season. I am happy to say that Branch 340 will be hosting a New Year's Eve Dance and the New Year's Day Levee....information also inside. We look forward to seeing you!

All the events happening at the Branch are open to the public so please bring your friends and join in the camaraderie.

At this time Bob and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our readers for your continued support and submissions to the Branch Line. We are very pleased with our accomplishments last year, as you will read further in the newsletter.

Also, the Toy Drive has been extended to Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please drop off an unwrapped gift to place in the Toy Box or a Donation Jar is located on the Canteen Bar. Thank you for your generosity.

On behalf of our family to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas with your family and loved ones, a very prosperous New Year and health and happiness throughout.

The Editor



LEST WE FORGET





## Ladies Auxiliary President's Message



This has been a busy year for our Auxiliary. We had our Spring Zone Convention, Weddings, Funerals and lots of Christmas Dinner parties we cater to.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Branch members who have been helping us.

On behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Joyce Chapman  
L/A President  
[chappy@bmts.com](mailto:chappy@bmts.com)

### MEMBERSHIP

Another Early Bird Campaign is complete and I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all of you who renewed your membership dues during this period. I am hopeful that our Early Bird Award will be an even higher percentage than last year. Thank you for your continued support.

Sharen Maas  
Membership Chairman  
519-389-2412  
[jmaas@brucetelecom.com](mailto:jmaas@brucetelecom.com)

### LAST POST



Ralph Stewart



### REMEMBRANCE DAY

There is a lot of preparation that goes into Remembrance Day for our members and the community so that they can parade to Cenotaph Park to pay tribute to our fallen Comrades – unfortunately, Mother Nature wasn't on our side this year and we had to move our service to the Main Hall of the Branch.

This is the first year we have had to do this – maybe 20 years ago, we would have stood in the drenching rain but we are at a time of life that cannot risk the health of our Veterans.

Next year, we will prepare a venue that hopefully will accommodate Legion and community members if we have to make a similar decision.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Shriners' Club for the loan of the PA system and to Terry & Colin Mills for all their hard work in assembling the equipment and dismantling it. There are many other volunteers to thank but if I started listing names, I would definitely miss a fellow Comrade.

This year, we joined the Tolmie Presbyterian Church for their Sunday Remembrance Service and we had a good showing of Legion members to again, thank our Veterans.

On Remembrance Day, we received \$1000 donation from our Ladies Auxiliary towards Cenotaph Park and we sincerely thank them for we all know how hard they work to make this happen. They also had a very nice lunch prepared for us after our service.

Notwithstanding the weather, we had another successful Remembrance Day and it's a time for everyone to say a silent thank you – something we should do everyday for what our Veterans have done for us many years ago and for what our Veterans are doing today. There aren't enough words to express our gratitude.

Remembrance Day Chairman  
Norma Dudgeon

## SPORTS COMMITTEE



The Branch is once again selling tickets for the Christmas Wheelbarrow Draw. The prize is in an actual wheelbarrow and holds a variety of goodies for you to enjoy....various sundries, spirits, homemade craft items and lots of other treats.

Proceeds to the Legion Pee Wee Hockey Team and a percentage to the Building Maintenance Fund.

Draw will be made on Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the Legion. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Mary Alexander  
Sports Committee  
[sunsetcottages@eastlink.ca](mailto:sunsetcottages@eastlink.ca)

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## TOD (Training/Organizational Development)

As a follow up to the previous article, in this month's newsletter we are going to identify resources available to members so that the rules and regulations governing the Branch can be recognized and followed. At the Legion level there are manuals that cover every general subject from Legion Dress, Flag Protocol, Meeting Procedures, Executive Duties, Election Rules and Complaint Procedures to name a few. There are also other individual manuals for the Chairs of Standing Committees, such as Poppy and Membership, as well as for the Service Officer and Chaplain.

The Zone Commander and individual Officers are always on hand to help and there is a District Advisory Council available for advice should a situation arise that needs careful consideration. Ontario Provincial Command has a wealth of knowledge and experience and can be contacted for help, but the protocol is to go through the Branch first, then Zone. All the Manuals, By-laws, etc. are kept in the Office and are available to members.

Seasons Greetings and all the Best for 2014.

Kathryn Eastwood  
Branch 340 - TOD Chairman

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## SENIORS REPORT

### Seniority Counts

As we are now getting a taste of winter it may be tougher to find things to do. We are blessed in Saugeen Shores to have many options for our Seniors. Clubs such as the Monarch Club at Elgin Lodge, Chantry Senior Centre and PARC provide opportunity for people to get out and be exposed to new adventures. Branch 340 is a leader as well as the Euchre games on Thursday night and Saturday afternoon are well attended. There is still room for more people if you wish to have an enjoyable time of cards. Stay tune to your Legion newspaper for future events for Seniors.

Yours in Comradeship,

Dan Kelly  
Seniors Chairman  
[dankelly@bmts.com](mailto:dankelly@bmts.com)

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Two hunters were dragging their dead deer back to their car. Another hunter approached pulling his along too. "Hey, I don't want to tell you how to do something ... but I can tell you that it's much easier if you drag the deer in the other direction. Then the antlers won't dig into the ground." After the third hunter left, the two decided to try it. A little while later one hunter said to the other, "You know, that guy was right. This is a lot easier!" "Yeah, but we're getting farther from the truck," the other added.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY – 2013



The Colour Party participated at the Remembrance Day Church Service on November 10<sup>th</sup>.



Piper Joan MacIntosh joined us for Remembrance Day. A welcome addition to our service.



Branch President Kathryn Eastwood receives \$5,000. from L/A President Joyce Chapman



Cde Mike Atkinson receives \$1,000. for the Cenotaph Park Maintenance Fund from L/A President Joyce Chapman.



(L-R) Cde Don Turner, Mike Hobson and Dan McMenemy join us for Remembrance Day.



(L-R) Cdes Mike Atkinson, Chris Kemp, Clay Cutting and Blair Eby. Cdes Chris and Clay were presented with their Korean War Pin.



This year the service was held indoors due to the weather. The hall was filled capacity and the Canteen Lounge was opened to the public so all could join us.



We are very appreciative of the generous luncheon which was served by the Ladies Auxiliary. Thank you Ladies...it was delicious!



(L-R) Cdes Don & Ruth Clemmer and Joan MacIntosh. It is nice to see the Clemmer's and now, our new friend Joan.



Cde Norma Dudgeon, Remembrance Day Chairman, with Mayor Mike Mayor, Town of Saugeen Shores.



**The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command**  
89 Industrial Parkway North  
Aurora, ON. L4G 4C4

Ontario Command of The Royal Canadian Legion is proud to announce the publishing of a "Military Service Recognition Book" to help identify and recognize many of our Veterans within the Province of Ontario who have served their country so well during times of conflict and peace. This initiative was introduced and approved at our most recent Provincial Convention held in Kingston in May 2013, and is being introduced to you for its official launch to take place during Legion Week this year.

**NOTE: Where reference is being made to "Veteran" within the program's various documents, members of the R.C.M.P, other police forces and firefighters who assisted our military in UN/NATO Peacekeeping operations are also to be included.**

The book will go a long way in assisting us in our job as the "Keepers of Remembrance" so that none of us forget the selfless contributions made by so many who have served or still continue to do so.

This project relies on our Branches for the timely submissions of individual photos, and personal stories that will be published in this book. We ask you to support this initiative at your Branch by increasing awareness of this project to your Executive members, the Branch membership, staff, and the public in general.

There will be 15,000 copies of this book printed and supplied to participating Branches in Ontario Command free of charge for local distribution by September 2014. Proceeds raised from this project will be utilized to assist Branches

financially through various programs initiated by Ontario Command. These books are not to be sold, but rather are to be distributed as complimentary promotional copies.

We are suggesting that the Branch President appoint the Branch PRO or some other Branch member to set up a committee and collect the stories of Veterans within their communities, and to see to the distribution of these books when they arrive at the Branches. This is a great opportunity for interested members of the Branch to get involved in the collection and distribution of these stories and photos. Support will also be supplied by your Zone and District PRO's.

We cannot expect those who have served or are still serving to write their own stories for publication, and therefore we must accept the responsibility and fulfill our mandate to do this on their behalf. They are a very modest and selfless group and we should not ask, nor expect them to compose and submit stories of themselves.

Branches can use the completed publication for presentation to school libraries, your local public library, and business offices or for prizes or awards at Branch level. There is no doubt it would be a good item to give to the local municipal authorities when asking them for a break in property taxes, or when you present the first poppy for the annual poppy campaign in your community. They could also be given to those in your community who have provided submissions for the book.

In order to have the books in the hands of Branches by September 2014, we need the cooperation of all members in submitting pictures and information in a timely manner.

We have contracted the services of Fenety Marketing to help us complete this project. Representatives of Fenety Marketing will be conducting a Command Telephone Appeal to private citizens and the business community throughout Ontario. We ask for your Branch's endorsement and support for this very important project, and request that if you receive any calls from citizens in your area to please verify the legitimacy of this Legion funding appeal in promoting Remembrance.

I would like to clarify how the funds for this project will be raised. We are not targeting Legion members for this appeal - but the general population and business community within the Province of Ontario. Your members may be contacted as part of this general appeal, as the solicitation will be done randomly from provincial telephone lists once the program is launched during Legion Week. If any member should be contacted, they simply have to state that they are currently a member of The Royal Canadian Legion. The telephone solicitor will then thank the member for their contributions and end the call. It is not our intent to fund-raise through our own membership even though some members may wish to make a financial contribution towards this project.

We can access recordings of all calls from Fenety Marketing. If a member has an issue, we will investigate and have the tape of that person's call played for us.

This Branch information package contains examples of Veterans pictures and their stories, as well as a poster and other information that will assist your Branch in becoming involved in this project. Recognition for our Veterans both past and present should be very important to us all. So let's get behind this project and make it a successful and memorable publication!

I have been appointed as the Coordinator of this project and I will be assisted by our Provincial Correspondent, Mary Ann Goheen.

Our method of receiving submissions is by mail. Due to the anticipated high volume of submissions, Mary Ann and I will be sharing the responsibilities. Submissions from Districts A-D-G-H-K are to be sent by mail to Carolyn McCaul at P.O. Box 202, 3243 Lake Dore Road, Golden Lake, ON K0J 1X0. Should you have any concerns or questions, I may be contacted either by e-mail at [carolyn.mccaul@sympatico.ca](mailto:carolyn.mccaul@sympatico.ca) or by telephone at 613-625-2767. Submissions from Districts B-C-E-F are to be sent by mail to Mary Ann Goheen at P.O. Box 308, Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1T7.

Any concerns or questions from Branches that are the responsibility of Mary Ann may be directed to her at [magoheen@sympatico.ca](mailto:magoheen@sympatico.ca) or by telephone at 705—687-0761.

When mailing submissions, **do not use staples, paper clips or tape on the photo or write on the back of it as this could damage the photo. Faxed copies will not be accepted.**

Yours in Comradeship,

Carolyn McCaul  
Ontario Command Coordinator

**TRIBUTE TO .....Cde Eric McLeod**



Eric McLeod has been a familiar face at the Branch for many years. He has been a very active and dedicated volunteer and can most often be seen helping with the Meat Draws and at the Bingo selling tickets.

When Fred Knibb retired from chairing the Bingo after several years, Eric stepped willingly into the position; an action typical of the volunteers we are so fortunate to have.

Thank you Eric for always willing to lend a hand!

**BURSARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**



\$500.00  
BURSARY IS AVAILABLE



The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Charitable Foundation and the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Ontario Command:

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- War Veterans and their children and grandchildren
- Ordinary and Life Members of the Royal Canadian Legion and their children and grandchildren
- Associate Members of the Royal Canadian Legion and their children
- Ladies' Auxiliary members and their children and grandchildren

**APPLICATION:**

- Application Forms are available from the following:
- Secondary School Guidance Offices
- Awards Offices of Colleges and Universities
- Provincial Service Bureau Offices of the Royal Canadian Legion
- Your Royal Canadian Legion Branch and Ladies' Auxiliary

Cde Robert Harrison  
Bursary Chairman  
519-389-4806  
[harrisonconst@bmts.com](mailto:harrisonconst@bmts.com)



Cde Gord Kelly, pictured with wife Patty, celebrated his 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday with family and friends!  
Happy Birthday Gord, from your Legion Family!

What is the favourite food of Elves? Answer: "Elf-aghetti"  
How did elves climb up to the top of Santa's castle? Answer: Using an Elf-evator  
What's the first thing learned by Elves in school? Answer: "The Elf-abet"  
Where do you find Elves? Answer: "Wherever you left them"  
What would you call an elf who just has won the lottery? "Welfy"  
What did the reindeer say when he saw an Elf? Answer: "Nothing, reindeer can't speak"  
Which Elf was the best singer? Answer: Elfis Presley



**Thank you to the Thursday Night Card Group who has generously donated \$500. to our Branch from their weekly card events.**

**Monies will go towards the Building Fund.**

**Your donation is greatly appreciated... Thank You!!**

## **DISTRICT "C" FALL CONVENTION**

October 19 & 20, 2013



District "C" Colour Party

(L-R) Wayne Laycox, Ron James, Robert Harrison, Steve Rice, Tony Bell, Rhonda Harrison, Moe Boire and Sergeant-at-Arms Colin Hodson



President Eastwood presents Cde Rhonda Harrison with the District "C", Category "C" Bulletin 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award for 2012 – 2013.

A blonde goes to the local restaurant, buys a small drink for herself, and sits down to drink it. She notices a peel-off prize sticker on the side of her cup while she is drinking. After pulling off the tab, she begins screaming, "I won a motor home! I won a motor home!"

The waitress runs over and argues, "That's impossible. The biggest prize given away was a stereo system!"

The blonde replies, "No. I won a motor home!"


By this time, the manager makes his way over to the table, and he too argues, "You couldn't possibly have won a motor home because we didn't have that as one of our prizes."

Again the blonde says, "There is no mistake! I won a motor home!"

The blonde hands the prize ticket to the manager and he reads, "WIN A BAGEL."

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## A Bright Christmas Day



They All Enjoyed Freedom Each Month Of The Year,  
Because Of The Soldiers, like The One Lying Here.  
I Couldn't Help Wonder How Many Lay Alone,  
On A Cold Christmas Eve In A Land Far From Home.  
The Very Thought Brought A Tear To My Eye,  
I Dropped To My Knees And Started To Cry.  
The Soldier Awakened And I Heard A Rough Voice,  
"Santa Don't Cry, This Life Is My Choice;  
I Fight For Freedom, I Don't Ask For More,  
My Life Is My God, My Country, My Corps."  
The Soldier Rolled Over And Drifted To Sleep,  
I Couldn't Control It, I Continued To Weep.  
I Kept Watch For Hours, So Silent And Still  
And We Both Shivered From The Cold Night's Chill.  
I Didn't Want To Leave On That Cold, Dark, Night,  
This Guardian Of Honor So Willing To Fight.  
Then The Soldier Rolled Over, With A Voice Soft And Pure,  
Whispered, "Carry On Santa, It's Christmas Day, All Is Secure."  
One Look At My Watch, And I Knew He Was Right.  
"Merry Christmas My Friend, And To All A Good Night."

Written by Lance Corporal James M. Schmidt



### REINDEER ROMP

Join us for the 9th Annual Reindeer Romp  
Wear your best reindeer outfit... or just come dressed in your favourite Seasonal colours!  
Meet new friends! Have fun!  
Christmas Eve - Tuesday, Dec. 24 – 9:00 am  
Fitness Corner – 737 Elgin St., Port Elgin

COST: \$5. (Students), \$10. (Adults) and \$20. (Family Rate)  
ALL Donations will go to Bruce Shoreline, the local branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association  
(If you wish a receipt, please pay by cheque made out to CMHA - Bruce Shoreline)

Distances: Walk, Jog or Run – 2k, 5k, 10k  
Refreshments, treats and social time to follow at Fitness Corner!  
EVERYONE WELCOME! NO TALENT REQUIRED!

[www.stfc.org](http://www.stfc.org)  
519-832-6886

[www.fitnesscorner.ca](http://www.fitnesscorner.ca)  
737 Elgin St. Port Elgin  
519-832-6651

Earl Farrell  
Track & Field Chairman  
[Farrell@bmts.com](mailto:Farrell@bmts.com)



## AIR CADETS 340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin



The Port Elgin Air Cadets have had a very good November, seeing up to 37 Cadets on parade on some evenings. This is a substantial improvement over last year and we are working on retaining those Cadets and recruiting more. Any young person who is a minimum 12 years old can join the program at any time during the year. Tell your neighbours and friends about this fantastic program.

Cadets and Officers supported the Poppy Campaign and the November 11<sup>th</sup> ceremonies. Cadets participated in two different dates to support the Campaign. Two Cadets and one Officer attended the Tolmie Presbyterian Church service on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and 18 Cadets attended the November 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial activities. Cadets also assisted with the Poppy Campaign and Memorial Service for Southampton Legion.

Ridley Gillmore, a retired music teacher with the Bluewater District School Board and conductor of several bands in the local area has become a Civilian Instructor with the Squadron and now has 5 Cadets in our new band. Ridley's enthusiasm for music and for young people will encourage our young musicians and will surely lead to more Cadets joining the band. We hope this will become a major focus of the Squadron in the years to come.

Most of the renovations of the "Griffin" (formerly the Sea Cadet trailers in Southampton) are finished and it is now available for use by the Cadets. The Griffin is being used for band practice on Thursdays, Range on Saturdays, and Rifle Guard practice on Sundays. We'll also have Flight Simulator Training combined with some of these other activities.

The last two Sundays of November were also dedicated to preparation of the Squadron Christmas Parade Float. Under the guidance of several Officers, the Cadets did a commendable job on preparing their Bristol Fighter 2A, the plane flown by LCol Andrew McKeever DSO, MC & Bar, DFC, a WWI flying ace born in Listowel. 340 Squadron is now part of the newly named Andrew McKeever Air Wing that encompasses squadrons from Kincardine, Hanover, Listowel, Mt Forest, Goderich, and Wingham.

All Legion members are cordially invited to come out to one of our Tuesday Parade Nights starting at 6:30 pm at the High School to see the Cadets involved in their various activities. I'd be delighted to show you around.

Steven Pellow, Squadron Director  
Member of the Ontario Provincial Committee of the Air Cadet League  
Branch 340 Air Cadets Liaison  
[Steve.pellow@gmail.com](mailto:Steve.pellow@gmail.com)

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What song do the guests generally sing at Eskimo Christmas parties?

Answer: Freeze a jolly good fellow.

What you can call a polar bear which wears ear muffs?

Answer: Anything you want. He can't hear you!

What a chicken is called at the North Pole?

Answer: Lost.

What type of pine has the sharpest needles?

Answer: A porcupine.

What is the best key to get at Christmas?

Answer: A turkey!

# TURKEY & MEAT RAFFLES

PORT ELGIN LEGION, 630 GREEN STREET  
519-389-9917

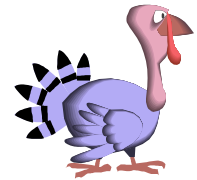
Friday	December 6	8:00 pm
Saturday	December 7	4:00 pm
Saturday	December 14	4:00 pm
Saturday	December 21	4:00 pm

**Variety of other meat prizes to be won**

**Everyone Welcome**



Bring your friends for a great time  
We hope to see you there



CLIFF SEAMAN MEMORIAL CHILI  
COOK-OFF



*Saturday, January 25, 2014*

Enter your favorite chili recipe - Awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Saturday Events will include:

Meat Raffle at 4:00 pm

Judging Results

Chili Deals will be available after the Judging

*\$10.00 Entry Fee*

*Please pay when you Register*

Proceeds will be donated to the  
Oncology Unit - Gray Bruce Health Services

*Participants please deliver your Entry by 2:00 pm*

Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S HOURS

Tuesday, December 24

Canteen Open 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm



Wednesday, December 25

**CLOSED**



Thursday, December 26

Canteen Open 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Tuesday, December 31

Canteen Open 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Dance Upstairs 8:00 pm – 1:00 am



Wednesday, January 01

**New Year's Day Levee**

1:00 pm – 7:00 pm

*Wishing you and your loved ones Peace, Health, Happiness and Prosperity in the coming New Year*





**Port Elgin Legion Br. 340**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**DANCE**

Entertainment by  
**“Crippled Duck”**

**Doors Open at 8:00 pm**  
**Dance 9:00 pm to 1:00 am**  
**Luncheon and Party Favours**

**Tickets on sale at Branch**  
**\$20.00 per Person / \$35.00 per Couple**  
**Everyone Welcome**

**Port Elgin Legion Branch 340  
630 Green Street**

# **New Year's Day Levee**

**Wed. January 1st  
1:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

**Entertainment by:**

**“THE DANN’S”**

**Please join us as we welcome in the  
New Year with Family & Friends**

**You are Welcome**



**Port Elgin Legion – Branch 340**  
 P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street  
 Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0  
 519-389-9917

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 <b>JAMBOREE</b> 2 PM – 5 PM	2	3 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM GEN MTG 7:30 PM	4 <b>BINGO</b> 7:30 PM	5 <b>EUCHRE</b> 7:30 PM	6 <b>DANCE CLUB</b> 8:00 PM MEAT ROLL 8:00 PM	7 <b>EUCHRE</b> 1:30 PM MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
8	9	10 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM L/A GEN MTG 7:30 PM IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30 PM	11 <b>BINGO</b> 7:30 PM	12 <b>EUCHRE</b> 7:30 PM	13 <b>DANCE CLUB</b> 8:00 PM TOY DRIVE ENDS	14 <b>EUCHRE</b> 1:30 PM MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
15	16	17 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM	18 <b>BINGO</b> 7:30 PM	19 <b>EUCHRE</b> 7:30 PM EXEC MTG 7:30 PM	20 <b>DANCE CLUB</b> 8:00 PM	21 <b>EUCHRE</b> 1:30 PM MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
22	23	24  <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	25  <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>	26  <b>BOXING DAY</b>	27 <b>DANCE CLUB</b> 8:00 PM	28 <b>EUCHRE</b> 1:30 PM
29	30	31 <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE</b> 	JAN 01/ 14 <b>NEW YEAR'S LEVEE</b> Everyone Welcome 			

~ Please join us for our various events and help support your Branch ~