



Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street

Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0

519-389-9917

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MARCH 2015 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.

We welcome 4 new members, please say Hello when you see them in the Branch.

A Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner is being planned for Friday, April 17th. See inside for details. We hope you will be able to attend. This is "new" event and its coordinators are looking forward to serving you.

There will be Zone, District and Provincial Conventions in March, April and May respectively.

The April General Meeting is also when we hold our annual elections for the incoming Executive. The Nomination Board is located in the Canteen. Please sign today as all Executive positions need to be filled.

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

The Editor



LEST WE FORGET





PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As I am writing this letter I am thinking of our Comrades that are still fighting this winter.

Many people are having trouble with frozen water pipes. Our Branch is no different as we have frozen pipes in our bathroom upstairs. Our Property Chair is doing a commendable job trying to fight this (thanks Don). He has a handle on the fix and the washroom should be back in operation early next week. Many of our Comrades are dealing with the same issue and we hope you are getting back to 100%.

We are coming into an exciting time in our Branch as our elections are coming up next month. All positions are open for election and we need the following:

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Executives at Large (6 required)

Please attend the Annual General Meeting on April 7, 2015 and have your voice heard on how you want the Legion to move forward. We are looking for people to step up and support our Branch by helping out with the Executive.

Thanks you for all your assistance this year and let us get out and vote to make this Legion the best Legion around.

Yours in Comradeship

President Dan Kelly
dankelly@bmts.com



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



We welcome new members Jeff Carver, Betty Ann Guillett, Brian and Karen Johnston to Branch 340.

We are always looking for people to join this great organization and application forms are available at the Bar. Bring a friend and sign up today.

If you or anyone you know would like a copy the newsletter sent to them, please leave the email address or mailing address with the Bar Steward and I will ensure that your name is added for future Branch Line editions.

Remember to keep your contact information current and inform me if there are any changes as soon as possible.

Sharen Maas
Membership Chairman
jmaas@brucetelecom.com



LAST POST

Grant Grieve





PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT



Another year has come and gone. It is time to elect a new Executive. It is very important to get some new people with new ideas in order for us to go forward. If you would like to make some new friends and help us run the largest charitable organization in Canada, please consider running for the Branch Executive.

Elections will be held at the April General Meeting. The date is Tuesday, April 7th and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Robert Harrison
PRO Chairman
harrisonconst@bmts.com



YOUTH EDUCATION



As I write this I'm peering out my office window with great aspirations of Spring! The snow still has that horizontal slanted approach and I'm certain all of you are keen for the 'melt' anytime soon!

Our Branch Youth Education projects have been finalized for this term. Much like the anticipation of Spring, I'm very thankful to be looking at the completion of it.

Our Branch Public Speaking competition was held on Sunday February 22 in our hall. My gratitude to our members that provided great assistance. Kathryn, well let's just say I certainly breathed an enormous sigh of relief to have you as our emcee through it all. Eric, it was a real treat for the children to receive their awards from you. The parents were delighted to see a WWII Veteran delivering the trophies/awards to their children. Quite a moment for them and likely for yourself as well.

Our judges consisted of Deb Sullivan, Laurie Laur (Air Cadets) and Blair Eby (Poppy/H & A) and again, a marvellous job to all of you. Thank you to our Scrutineer, Rhonda Harrison; our Time Keeper, Jack Chapman and to Bob Harrison and Donelda Thede for their consistent efforts with the project. Thank you Momma Anne Eby for the most delicious potato salad and to Betty Fraser for organizing the kitchen. Of course, I would be remiss if I didn't thank Pam for tidying up the hall after our youth projects and to Norma for all her knowledge and for not swatting me every time I jammed her office copier!! There has been a lot of paper involved with Youth Ed!

We recognized 18 students from 3 Elementary Schools and promoted our top 3 speech winners to the Legion Zone Competition in Hepworth-Shallow Lake on March 1, 2015. Naturally, there were a few tears from some as there were only three 1st place trophies; however all of the children won a 1st place in our hearts for their tremendous effort. All of the students were well spoken on quite a variation of subjects and we were very proud of each and every one of them. In fact, I may have to take a page out of their book and some pointers as well when giving a formal address!!

The Youth Education Chair this term has been filled with many interesting and rewarding moments. I recognize the absolute importance of our 'Legion' presence within our schools on Remembrance Day. The Primary children truly believe that when they see us in our dress uniforms and dark sunglasses that we really are all 'pilots'!! Regardless of their age, race or religion the children really are in tune with the true meaning of 'Remembrance'. They understand that we have Canadian soldier's abroad working in very dangerous conditions so that we may continue to live with our freedoms and liberties in Canada. I've been most impressed this year with all the questions from the children about 'what we really do' at the Legion and just how old 'do I have to be to join'?? I think there is going to be quite a revitalization to our organization with young people joining down the road. Our Youth programs are key to the long term stability of this honourable organization and we should welcome the next generation with open arms.

In closing, my husband Blair and our little darlings have been most understanding with the time involved this term. I am truly blessed with the love of my family.

The Youth Education Chair is delighted to report that 2 of our students took a 1st Place in the Zone Public Speaking Competition this past weekend at the Hepworth - Shallow Lake Branch. Miss Chelby Morris in Primary and Miss Sasha Morano in Intermediate. Both of these students are from Ecole Port Elgin Saugeen Central School.

The District competition will be held at the Mount Forest Branch on March 28 with a snow date of March 29th starting at noon. We wish these young ladies every success at the next level of competition!



Story Tellers

1st Place: L. Abbott - Northport
2nd Place: A. Clarke – Saugeen Central



Primary Winners

1st Place: C. Morris – Saugeen Central
2nd Place: S. Qureshi – Saugeen Central
3rd Place: M. Ballard – Northport



Junior Winners

1st Place: M. McNeil – Saugeen Central
2nd Place: S. Flarity – Saugeen Central
3rd Place: E. Dereli – Northport



Intermediate Winners

1st Place: S. Morano – Saugeen Central
2nd Place: C. Morris – Saugeen Central
3rd Place: D. Parikh – Saugeen Central

Elizabeth Eby
Youth Education
bizebys@gmail.com

Charles Dickens walks into a bar and orders a martini. The bartender asks, "Olive or twist?"



WHAT'S HAPPENING In March



LADIES CARD CLUB
Tuesday Afternoons
Upstairs Hall
Start 1:30 pm

IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE
2nd Tues. each month
Start 7:30 pm

BINGO every Wednesday
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Bingo at 7:30 pm
\$700. Jackpot

EUCHRE
Thursday at 7:30 pm
Canteen

DANCE CLUB
Friday at 8:00 pm
Upstairs Hall

EUCHRE
Saturday at 1:30 pm
Canteen

JAMBOREE
Sunday, March 1
Upstairs Hall - 2:00 – 5:00 pm

TRIVIA NIGHT
Friday, March 20
Canteen – 8:00 PM



AIR CADETS 340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin



WO1 Hayley Laur receives her Cadet Medal of Excellence from the Port Elgin Legion by Zone C4 Honours & Awards, Norma Dudgeon and Branch 340 Honours & Awards, Blair Eby.

The Cadet Medal of Excellence recognizes endeavours in citizenship which meets or enhances the aims & objectives of the Cadet movement.

WO1 Laur has demonstrated a high degree of participation and leadership in the area of citizenship, community involvement, volunteerism with the Port Elgin Legion and is overall a most deserving cadet for this award

Hayley - congratulations on the honour that has been conferred upon you & wherever your future paths take you, we sincerely wish you all the best.

Norma Dudgeon
Zone C4 Honours and Awards

Blair Eby
Branch Honours and Awards



The Royal Canadian Legion
Ontario Provincial Command Service Bureau

***** NOTICE OF ITINERARY VISIT *****

Kim Dolan, Provincial Service Officer, will be available for interviews during the week of April 20 – 24, 2015. Please contact the undersigned if you would like to set up an interview time.

Donelda Thede
dthede@eastlink.ca
519-832-2807

A bar is empty except for two patrons. One of them staggers over to the other and says, "How's it going? Where you from?"

The other guy says "Ireland."

The first drunk says "That's cool! I'm from Ireland too! Let's have a round for Ireland!" They both drink merrily. Then the first guy says "So where in Ireland are you from?"

"Dublin."

"Dublin? Awesome! I'm from Dublin too! Let's have another round for Dublin!" Once again, they both drink merrily. Then the first guy asks, "So where did you go to school?"

"St. Mary's, class of '62" answers the other guy.

"Incredible! I graduated in '62 from St. Mary's, too! Let's have a round for St. Mary's!" Once again, they suck down another round.

Just then, one of the bar regulars walks in and sits at the bar. He asks the bartender, "So what's going on today?" The bartender answers, "Nothing... The O'Malley twins are drunk again."

Q: How can you tell if an Irishman is having a good time?

A: He's Dublin over with laughter!

Q: Why did St. Patrick drive the snakes out of Ireland?

A: He couldn't afford plane fare.

Q: What's Irish and stays out all night?

A: Patty O'furniture!

Q: How did the Irish Jig get started?

A: Too much to drink and not enough restrooms!



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and ELECTIONS

**Tuesday, April 7, 2015
at 7:30 pm**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend to vote for your incoming Executive.

The Nomination Board will be located in the Canteen; please consider becoming a member of the Executive.

Please be prepared to show your 2015 Membership Card at the door, or receipt of paid membership.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Thanking you for your consideration.

***Mike Atkinson
Elections Chairman***



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Spaghetti & Meat Ball Dinner

Salad, Bun and Dessert

Friday, April 17

\$10.00 /person

\$5.00/ 12 and Under

Dinner served at 6:00 pm





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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 JAMBOREE 2 – 5 PM	2	3 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM GEN. MTG 7:30 PM	4 BINGO 7:30 PM	5 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	6 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	7 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
8	9	10 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM L/A GEN. MTG 7:30 PM IN HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30 PM	11 BINGO 7:30 PM	12 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	13 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	14 EUCHRE 1:30 PM MEAT RAFFLE 4:00 PM
15	16	17 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM Happy St. Patrick's Day!	18 BINGO 7:30 PM	19 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	20 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM TRIVIA NIGHT 8:00 PM	21 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
22	23	24 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM	25 BINGO 7:30 PM	26 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	27 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	28 EUCHRE 1:30 PM
29	30	31 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM EXEC. MTG 7:30 PM				

Please join us for our various events

Event Times and Dates Subject to Change