



**Port Elgin Branch 340
Royal Canadian Legion**

Branch Line

February 2019

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0 519-389-9917
branch340@eastlink.ca www.branch340.ca

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. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line, please submit your articles to branch340newsletter@gmail.com

Happy Groundhog Day; Valentine's Day and Family Day to everyone. Enjoy yourself with family, friends and loved ones.

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

If you no longer wish to receive the Branch Line newsletter, please leave a message at branch340newsletter@gmail.com
Accessible formats are available upon request.



The Editor







Port Elgin Royal Canadian Legion Branch 340
 PO Box 359, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0
 Phone: 519-389-9917 Fax: 226-453-3005
 branch340@eastlink.ca
 www.branch340@eastlink.ca



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 340 EXECUTIVE 2018-2019

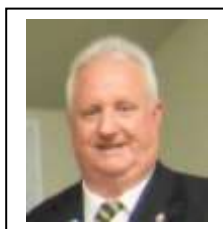
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2018-2019 LADIES AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE	
President	Marg Esplen
Immediate Past President	Brenda Collins
1st Vice President	Diana Tripp
2nd Vice President	Elaine Esplen
Treasurer	Diane Mills
Secretary	Vicky Taylor
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ann Marie Kinsman
Sports Officer	Diane Mills
Executive	Meryl Cramp
	Bernice Ellis
	Betty Earnshaw
	KC Lawson
	Sharen Maas
	Carolyn Russell



President's Report



Well, Christmas is done and we are already through the first month of 2019. Happy New Year everyone.

In my January report, I was remiss by not adding thanks to Elizabeth Eby for setting up our 2019 News Years Day Levee before she went on vacation. Thanks Elizabeth.

Before I review our events in January, I would like to identify I will be stepping down as President when our term is over on May 31, 2019. When our elections are run in April this year, I will not be running for President. I have been in this position for 5 years and have enjoyed being part of this great organization. It is time I step aside and let someone else take the roll and bring in new ideas. Thank you all for your continued support over my term as President and I look forward to supporting our new President and Executive as they begin their term.

January is normally a quiet time for us as many people head south for the sunshine and others just take a break after the holidays. In Branch 340 there were many activities that people took part in.

January events:

1. The year started off with our traditional Levee Day celebration. Something new this year was having a DJ for entertainment. DJ Joseph J was very entertaining and many of the old videos brought back memories for all of us. The Club Room was busy the entire afternoon. Garry and Sherry Winnitoy made sure things went as planned throughout the day and provided us with a delicious luncheon. Thanks to all of you for making our Levee Day another success.
2. We held 1 Meat Draw this month. Tom and his crew were well prepared and are ready to continue for the remainder of this year.
3. Our Wednesday night Bingo events are starting this year the same as they finished last year. They are busy and are always looking for people to participate. Sharen has a good crew there to provide a good night of entertainment. Thanks Sharen.
4. We had three sports teams participating in January:
 - a. 8-Ball Team of Craig Bell and Jim Fleming came in second in the Zone C-4 competition held in Owen Sound on January 6th. They moved on to the District competition on January 19th in Hespeler where they once again finished second. They now move on to the Provincial finals in Burlington in March. Good Luck fellows.
 - b. Our Euchre teams participated in the Zone C-4 competition on January 20th. They were not successful this year in moving on to the District competition. The two teams were
 - i. Mary Galliher, Shirley Dadswell, Jim Mahon and Brad Davies
 - ii. Mary Alexander, Sharen Maas, Dana Hastings and Paul Galbraith
 - c. Our Cribbage team of Mary Galliher, Sharen Maas, Jim Mahon and Brad Davies participated in the District C competition on January 5th and were not successful in moving on to the Provincial competition. Nice try gang.

On a sad note we lost one of our Comrades. Dick Coulter passed away after a short illness in January. Dick was always there if we needed someone and was our mainstay as our Meat Draw Caller. Our sympathies go out to Louise, Derrick and Carrie and their families in this time of grief. Rest in Peace Dick.

I wish you all good health for the rest of the winter. Many of our patrons have arranged holidays in the South. Hope your travels are uneventful.

We will remember them.

Yours in Comradeship

President Dan Kelly
dankelly@bmts.com

The Puzzle

An owner of a bar sees a group of blondes walk in, they are holding a child's jigsaw puzzle and chanting and congratulating each other.

Curious, the bar owner walks over and asks the blondes why they are so happy.

They replied, "because we finished this puzzle in 3 months, when it says 3-4 years on the box."



Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary



Happy Valentine's to one and all

The Ladies Auxiliary is looking for new members to share in our endeavors and to join us for laughter and camaraderie so come out to one of our meetings and find out what we're all about.

We do much more than cater delicious home cooked meals for functions. We also assist in the delivery of meals for Meals on Wheels, we canvas for Heart and Stroke, speaking of which, **February is Heart Month**, come out and canvas or give a donation, anything you can do is appreciated. We also have members attend the Zone Sport Fun Night for Euchre, Cribbage and Darts once a month. We visit our local veterans; support our Branch during the Poppy Campaign and much more.

Winter is in full force now but it's only 7 more Fridays until Spring.

Have a great month.

Vicky Taylor
vicky.taylor@bmts.com



*What did the French chef give his wife for Valentine's Day?
A hug and a quiche!*





Bursary Assistance Program



Just a reminder that the bursary application deadline is the last Friday in March each year. It does take time to get the information prepared so I suggest that any applications should be submitted as soon as possible. This is a \$750.00 per year program. If you need any help with the paperwork please feel free to contact me. Download the application form at bursary@on.Legion.ca

Cde Robert Harrison
Bursary Chairman
bnrshow@eastlink.ca



Hall Rental



Rental of our spacious, air conditioned hall with its beautiful hardwood floor, ideal for dancing is available for both public and private use. We can cater for a wide variety of uses including meetings, anniversaries, weddings, birthdays, Stag and Does, etc.

Our facility includes a wheelchair accessible washroom and a baby change station and is conveniently located in the building for access by both males and females.

Our hall rates vary for each occasion and Legion Bar Staff is provided by the Branch. In certain circumstances, use of the kitchen is offered at \$50 per occasion. The Ladies Auxiliary is available to cater selected menus to your event.



Special consideration is given to the fee schedule when renting to non-profit organizations.

Please contact Norma Dudgeon at the Legion phone number (519) 389-9917 or email: branch340@eastlink.ca





Honours and Awards



Honours and Awards wants to award merit to valued members of our Legion family. Do you know a member that works really hard to make our Legion great? Do you know a member that worked really hard in the past?

If so, we have lots of awards to give out and it makes our Committee pleased to do so. Our Port Elgin Legion is busy with volunteers and it's YOUR job as members to recognize them.

Please submit nominations to the H and A Committee. Trust me; it is anonymous to the rest of membership.

Cde Elizabeth Eby
H and A Chairman
bizebys@gmail.com

What day is today?

Over breakfast one morning, a woman said to her husband, "I'll bet you don't know what day this is."

"Of course I do," he answered as if he was offended, and left for the office.

At 10:00 a.m., the doorbell rang and when the woman opened the door, she was handed a box of a dozen long stemmed red roses. At 1:00 p.m., a foil-wrapped, two-pound box of her favorite chocolates was delivered. Later, a boutique delivered a designer dress.

The woman couldn't wait for her husband to come home.

"First the flowers, then the chocolates and then the dress!" she exclaimed.

"I've never had a more wonderful Groundhog Day in my life!"





Leadership Development



Please take the time to review the following document regarding Branch Operations Information.

Cde Elizabeth Eby
Leadership Development
bizebys@gmail.com



The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Leadership Development

BRANCH OPERATIONS INFORMATION

Every member makes a difference

The Legion's future will depend on dedicated knowledgeable members leading it in the right direction.

This brochure provides a basic overview of the operational and administrative procedures that are needed to ensure the success of a Legion Branch. It provides guidance and needs to be read in conjunction with existing Legion Manuals to understand the big picture. Chat with your Branch Leadership Development Chairman if you have questions.

Local branches are the heart of the Legion, a place known and respected in your community. With so many ways to get involved within the organization, there is something for everyone.

Being a Legion member is a great way to support our Veterans and our community. With members sharing their life skills - they have much to offer as we work together to improve the lives of those who served and their families and to help maintain our Legion Branch and its activities. Members may be shy at first about getting involved or asking questions, this is normal.

What can members do to help?

Attending Branch meetings will give Members an opportunity to meet the Officers and committee chairmen – exercise their right to take part in the decision making and keep them updated on upcoming Legion news and branch events which might be of interest.

All Legion branches exercise autonomy with regard to their own affairs provided they are within the area under their jurisdiction and within the provisions of the General Bylaws. The Legion is a non-profit dues-supported organization. A per capita tax from dues paid by the members supports the operation of Provincial and Dominion Commands and the Legion Magazine.

The method of nominating and electing Offices is described in the General Bylaws for Branches (GBLB) section of the Provincial Bylaws.

THE BRANCH PRESIDENT: exercises General supervision and control over the Executive Committee and the business of the Branch. Must be a voting member in good standing and have served at least one term on the Branch Executive Committee to be eligible to be elected President. Presides at all meetings of the Branch unless the Branch has a Branch Chairman, enforces order and strict observance of the bylaws. Has the deciding vote on any matter that has resulted in a tied vote. Is an ex-officio member of all committees except complaints and nominations. More detail of the duties of the President can be found in the Legion Officers Manual.

THE BRANCH VICE PRESIDENTS must be voting members in good standing and have served at least one term on the Branch Executive Committee to be eligible to be elected Vice President. They assist the President in the performance of his duties, upon request, accept Chairmanship of a Standing Committee if appointed. Attends other meetings and Conventions when requested. A Vice President is "President in training"

THE BRANCH SECRETARY is elected or appointed according to Branch Regulations and is unpaid. If paid, other provisions in the GBLB must be met. Keeps Minutes of all meetings and have on hand the minute book, correspondence and any other documentation likely to be transacted at meetings. Is responsible for the maintenance, retention and safekeeping of all records and be the custodian of the Branch Seal. Receives all complaints against Branch Members excluding those lodged against the Secretary and completes the duties detailed in Article III of the General Bylaws - ensures that all members receive the required document and Legion badge. Further details of this position can be found in the Legion Officers Manual and the Branch Secretary Handbook. The Branch Secretary is the key person to the organization and the right-hand person to the Branch President and is the scribe, the organizer and the coordinator of the Branch

THE BRANCH TREASURER keeps an accurate record of all monies received or paid out by the Branch records all financial transactions. Deposits funds into a Bank(s) approved by the Branch, keeps the books and records at the Branch to be open for inspection of the Executive committee at all times, provides detailed monthly financial report to the Executive and Membership as required. Processes daily cash income, allocates the receipts into their appropriate accounts, balances the cash and deposits at the bank. Codes and checks invoices for payment approval and if cash flow is a problem, chooses which bills to pay and which to hold. Reviews payroll time sheets and authorizes payroll and oversees the preparation of Government payments, and all other responsibilities as listed in the Legion Officers Manual. Because of the complexity of this position, many branches are hiring a part-time qualified bookkeeper to assist the Treasurer. This person would have knowledge of government reporting, payroll, and usually computerized accounting

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE is formed with elected officials who are assigned Standing Committee chairmanships. This is the Branch Management Team which comprises the senior elected Officers per 501 (1) GBLB and six elected Executive Committee Members - or the number authorized by Branch Regulations – plus Branch Secretary and Branch Treasurer and a Branch Chairman (if applicable). All appointments must be made and approved by the General Membership at its first Meeting after 01 June.

THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: may be appointed by the Executive Committee or elected by the general membership of the branch. He is not a member of the branch executive committee by the authority of office, unless authorized by Branch Regulations. Assists the President in maintaining order during General meetings and ensures that only those eligible are permitted to attend the meetings; is responsible for the colours and branch insignia, ceremonial duties and to perform other duties assigned to him by the President. His duties do not include that of surveillance of the licensed premises or social events. This is the responsibility of the Elected Officers and the Executive Committee

BRANCH CHAPLAIN: A branch may appoint a Chaplain or Chaplains who look after the spiritual leadership of the branch. The Chaplain officiates at dedications, memorial services, funerals of our comrades, and carries out such other duties compatible with the office, as the President may request.

Standing Committees: (Executive)

TRACK & FIELD COMMITTEE: promotes the sport of Track & Field to the local schools and athletic clubs in the community and within the Branch to participate in the Legion's Track & Field Program at all levels.

VETERANS SERVICES/SERVICE OFFICER: Operates in accordance with the Veterans Services Handbook and deals with all inquiries and provides assistance to all Veterans not only Legion Members and their dependents in a complete and absolute confidential manner. The Committee becomes familiar with all aspects of Veterans Legislation and ensures that all veterans in the area are receiving the benefits to which they are entitled, particularly those that are housed in Seniors Residences Homes or Hospitals and may not be aware of their entitlements. The sick/visiting sub-committee reports to the Veterans Services Committee which also works closely with the Legion Seniors Chairman

SPORTS COMMITTEE: Organizes internal sports activities for members - such as darts, cards, snooker, etc. and arranges participation in Legion tournaments.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: establishes recruiting methods, processes new applicants and arranges welcome ceremonies, processes membership renewals and advises members about all Legion benefits. The duties related to membership (i.e., recruitment, renewals, administrative functions, etc.) cannot be performed by one person. Dominion Command uses a computerized membership system to maintain accurate membership information and to process and produce membership cards. Information manuals are available assist branch secretaries and membership chairmen who are involved in membership processing.

YOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Organizes and promotes the Legion's literary, poster and public speaking contests with local schools and youth community.

POPPY & REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE: Ensures the Poppy Campaign and all its duties are carried out in accordance with the Poppy Manual. Administers the Poppy Trust Fund. Plans and organizes all events connected with Remembrance Day. Ensures that adequate records are maintained in accordance with Poppy Trust Fund Committee requirements and that all reporting deadlines are adhered to.

LEGION SENIORS COMMITTEE: Develops and maintains a program to aid, assist and support any activity which will benefit the seniors in the Branch and surrounding area. Organizes seniors' activities within the Branch allowing seniors' meetings, providing meals to seniors groups etc.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: functions as the educational arm of the Branch to its members on all aspects of the Legion and Branch operations and activities as approved by the Executive. Organizes seminars and workshops for Branch Officers, members in general and new members in particular through the New Member Orientation program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE: ensures that every opportunity is taken to publicize the activities of the Branch through whatever media is available in order to enhance the image of the Branch and The Royal Canadian Legion within the community and the surrounding area, will be the contact point for any community inquiry. If decided by the Branch a Branch Bulletin is published and distributed regularly to Branch members utilizing email when possible and that a Branch Scrapbook is maintained to preserve the history of the Branch and to enter these into District or Provincial competitions. Ensures that all significant activities of the Branch are communicated to the Legion Magazine through the Ontario Correspondent.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES (not executive)

Financial Review committee: conducts regular checks on the Branch's Financial Systems and procedures - checks that the Branch's internal controls and procedures and the laws of the land are in compliance. No experience is required. Training and information is available including an easy to follow handbook available on the Ontario Command website. www.on.legion.ca

The following are other Special Committees that can be appointed by the Branch and these committees' functions are defined by the Branch as needed...

- Honours & Awards Committee
- Cadet Liaison Officer
- Bar Services committee
- Constitution & Laws Committee
- Charitable Foundation Committee
- Ways & Means/fundraising Committee
- Lottery administration
- House & Property Committee
- Entertainment Committee

LEGION DRESS

Details of Legion Dress can be found in the Ritual Awards & Protocol Manual. The Executive Committee Members and Sergeant at Arms are required to wear Legion Dress for formal and ceremonial occasions and at General Meetings.

LEGION PROGRAMS & MANUALS

For a more detailed description of Legion the above named Executive positions and available programs please refer to one or more of the following manuals available at the Branch:

The General Bylaws
An Act to Incorporate: The Royal Canadian Legion
Provincial Command Bylaws
Ritual Awards & Protocol Manual
Rules of Procedure for Legion Meetings
Sports Guide
Membership Manual
Public Relations Manual
Service Officers Handbook
Chaplains Manual
Branch Regulations
Real Property Development
Poppy Manual

The Royal Canadian Legion - Mission and Vision

"To serve veterans, which includes currently serving military and RCMP members, and their families, to promote Remembrance and to serve our Communities and our Country."
Our Vision Statement serves as a long-term and aspirational goal for the organization. It is:
"Our vision is to be the most highly respected Veteran and Community Service organization."
The Mission and Vision Statements go hand in hand and should always be used together.

Core Values

The core values that define Legionnaires are:

•
Service

We provide dedicated support and compassionate assistance.

•
Integrity

We behave ethically and in a manner which inspires trust, mutual understanding and confidence.

•
Respect

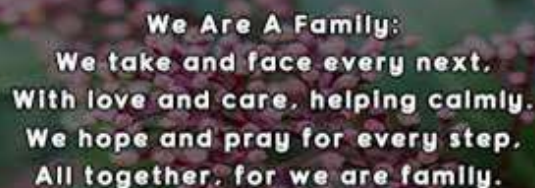
We are supportive, inclusive, courteous and fair to all, honouring the dignity and worth of every person.

•
Loyalty

We are steadfast in our patriotic allegiance to the Sovereign, to our Country, to The Royal Canadian Legion and to our Comrades.

•
Teamwork

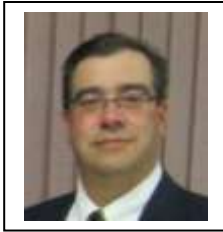
We cooperate and work together selflessly, in Comradeship, to achieve our shared Mission



We Are A Family:
We take and face every next.
With love and care, helping calmly.
We hope and pray for every step.
All together, for we are family.



Membership



If you know anyone who may be interested in joining, please bring them by the Branch and show them around. Applications can be obtained from the Bar Steward.

Cde Blair Eby
Membership Chairman
bizebys@gmail.com



Last Post



Ernie Seaman	Associate
Dick (Barney) Coulter	Associate

**THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD,
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN,
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.**

Just One Day

*If I could come back for just one day
I know exactly what I would say
To my family and friends and those who I loved
As a message from God who speaks from above.*

*I would say it's okay to be sad for a awhile
But what I really want most is to see your smile,
And for you to go on and live once again –
Allowing the Lord to comfort your pain.*

*I know that you loved me with all of your heart
And that none of you wanted for me to depart.
I don't quite understand it myself
But I know you'll get by with a little help.*

*Yes, I would say to be sad for a day
And to do what you need to do.
And then lift up your eyes
to the wonder of the sky
And know that I loved you too.*

- by Wanda M. Wolfe



Poppy



Poppy is a year around endeavour to help our Veterans at home and abroad in their time of need. If any member is aware of any veteran, whether a Legion member or not, who may need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Gregg Briggs, our Branch Service Officer, who can contact the veteran directly to assess any support that may be required.

The needs of our Veterans are not limited to October/November when we have our Poppy Fund Drive. We appreciate any donations made throughout the year. Each year we have Veterans and projects that need assistance.

We look forward to seeing every one of you, our members and friends, participating in events over upcoming year as we continue to strive to assist and comfort our Veterans who have served us so well!

Lest We Forget

In Comradeship,
Cde Alex Taylor
Poppy Chairman
Home -519-389-2616 or cell 519-385-0816
Email: alex.taylor@bmts.com

Exercise For People Over 50

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can.

Try to reach a full minute, and then relax. Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato sacks. Then try 50-lb potato sacks and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level.)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each of the sacks...



Visitation and Hospital



Our hearts are with those that are in hospital just now. Please know we are all thinking of you and wish you back home with us and look forward to seeing you soon.

If you know of one of our Legion family that is under the weather or in hospital, please let either myself or Blair know. We like to circulate a card for member signatures or make a personal visit to see them.

Our member's board in the lounge has a category for 'Hospital' and it's important to keep everyone aware of who is hospitalized. If anyone would like our Padre to visit, please call me and I will see that Chuck receives the message.

Cde Elizabeth Eby
Visitation
bizebys@gmail.com

My girlfriend told me she hoped I had something special planned for Valentine's Day.

I said, "I'm working on it." and she smiled.

Which was weird; I thought she'd be upset that I have to work on Valentine's Day.



Ways and Means



Christmas has come and gone and people are stepping back for some relaxation. January was slow as people got over the Christmas season and worked their way back into their routine.

Our team of volunteers continued to work along this month though. Activities completed last month are:


1. Thursday night Euchre continued with many people coming in to participate.
2. Saturday Afternoon Euchre has the same effect as the Thursday night with a continuous support of many people.
3. Bingo continued weekly. Numbers were down this month as many people were off on vacations. Thanks to all that take part.
4. There was 1 meat draw this month. Attendance was down but all enjoyed the afternoon.

This month we will continue with these events. We will be having 2 meat draws this month on February 2nd and February 16th.

Thanks for supporting Branch 340.


Let's keep our Branch active.

Dan Kelly
Ways & Means Chair
dankelly@bmts.com

Life is a  on Valentine's Day!


and to my  I just
wanna say...


Please don't  at my silly
rhyme,

and we'll celebrate
with a  of a time!

I wouldn't
trade you
for...



Because You're 
and my best friend.

You probably think this gift is funny,
But I'll always be your... 

So let's have  of fun today,

and have a Happy Valentine's Day!



Commemorative Banner Program James Clyde Foster



James Clyde Foster was born in Southampton on November 22, 1894. Parents Peter and Margot welcomed him as he was a brother to their son John. They had arrived in Southampton from Buckhaven, Fifeshire in Scotland. He was called Clyde at the Southampton school that he attended. Sometime prior to 1916 Clyde moved with his parents to Bears Paw in the bush of North Western Ontario.

Later Clyde moved to Fort Frances and was working there as a fisherman when he made the decision to join the military. On February 28, 1916, he joined the 141st Overseas Battalion at a recruiting station in Fort Frances. He gave his height at 5' 6 ½" and his weight at 150 pounds. He had a "fresh" complexion with green eyes and brown hair. He and his Scottish born parents were of the Presbyterian faith.

What is a little interesting is that he gave his name as Clyde James Foster. It wasn't until July 7, 1918 that he provided a letter to the Command Office declaring that his name was really James Clyde Foster. All of his military records show the stroke out and correction as of that day.

After signing up and being declared "fit" it was off to Winnipeg to become part of the 18th Reserve Battalion (Manitoba Regiment). Training continued in the Manitoba Capital throughout the remainder of 1916 and into 1917. In February 1917, he and his colleagues started to get their affairs in order prior to shipping out. For Clyde this meant preparing his "will". He left both his real estate and his personal estate to his father Peter who was now living in Fort Frances. His will was witnessed by two fellow soldiers, Messrs. Bowman and Marten.

In April 1917 the 141st left Winnipeg, with 17 officers and 465 other ranks, for Halifax. They boarded the R. M. S. Olympic on the 28th of April in Halifax. The Olympic was the sister ship of White Star Lines Titanic and was only slightly smaller and had been the largest ocean liner in the world from 1911-1913 before Titanic was launched. They arrived in Liverpool on May 7th and immediately went to the Shorncliffe Military Camp in Kent.

Clyde had been promoted to Acting Sergeant in Halifax prior to departing Canada. Immediately upon arrival in England the 141st was transferred to the 18th Reserve Battalion and Clyde reverted to his previous rank of Private only to be upgraded to Acting Corporal on May 25th. Training continued in the English countryside up to September 12th when they were ordered to ship out for France. Clyde was again demoted back to Private and assigned to reinforce the 52nd Battalion.

The 52nd Battalion was known as the New Ontario Battalion and included recruits from Port Arthur, For William, Kenora, Fort Frances and Dryden. They received Battle Honours at Mount Sorrel, the Somme, Arras, Vimy, Hill 70, Passchendaele, Scarpe, Cambrai, the Hindenburg Line and others. From September 1917 to September 1918 Clyde Foster played a part in a number

of these battles. On February 2, 1918 he was promoted to Corporal and held this rank for the remainder of his service.

The 100 Days Offensive was the final period of WWI. The start of the Offensive was August 8th and it ended the war on November 11th. The Allies launched the offensive in the city of Amiens on the Western Front and the battles that followed pushed the Germans past the Hindenburg Line and out of France resulting in the signing of the Armistice. The 52nd Battalion played a role in this undertaking being part of the 3rd Canadian Division.

The Battle of Scarpe was a major battle and a significant turning point. The battle was fought from August 26th to 30th in North Eastern France close to the city of Arras. On the 26th the Canadians advanced over 5 kilometers and captured two small towns. On the 27th there was a pause due to heavy rains but when the rain stopped they pushed the Germans back another 3 kms. from their heavily defended positions. The 28th marked a major turning point in the battle and the Canadians, including Clyde's 52nd Battalion drove the enemy back further and seized a large portion of the German-Fresnes-Rouvroy defense system capturing 3,300 prisoners, 53 field guns and 115 machine guns. The 29th and 30th of August marked cleaning up the last of the resistance in the area as the Germans had abandoned all of the heavily defended areas. The use of Gas by the Germans was widespread by this time and James Clyde Foster was caught by the use of this depilating chemical.

Clyde lay in a Field medical station suffering the effects of the gas until September 8th when he was taken to a base hospital in Abbeville France, well away from the fighting. The hospital notes on the 8th indicate that serious issues prevailed using the word "dangerously" describing his condition. On the 11th it read "now seriously ill". On the 15th "no change" and on September 18th they read that he had "Died of Wounds received in action."



The 23-year-old James Clyde Foster was laid to rest in the Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension Section IV Row F Grave 4. This grave yard holds 1,775 of the more than 660,000 soldiers of the Commonwealth that died in WWI. Clyde is amongst the 109 Canadian soldiers buried there. Unclaimed pay funds totally \$351.17 was forwarded to his father Peter, in Fort Frances. His brother John, then living in Detroit, received his Medals and Decorations.

Lest We Forget




















Researched and Written by: G. William Streeter

Photo: Southamton School WWI Memory Plaque



February 2019



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM 	2 EUCHRE 1:30 PM MEAT DRAWS 4:00 PM GROUNDHOG DAY
3 SUPER BOWL POT-LUCK KICK-OFF 6:30 PM 	4 DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM 	5 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM GENERAL MEETING 7:30 PM	6 BINGO 7:30 PM 	7 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	8 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM 	9 EUCHRE 1:30 PM 
10	11 DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM 	12 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM LA GENERAL MEETING 7:30 PM	13 BINGO 7:30 PM 	14 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	15	16 EUCHRE 1:30 PM MEAT DRAWS 4:00 PM 
17	18 DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM Celebrate Family Day! 	19 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM 	20 BINGO 7:30 PM 	21 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 	22	23 EUCHRE 1:30 PM 
24 PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION	25 DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM 	26 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM JOINT EXECUTIVE MEETING 7:00 PM	27 BINGO 7:30 PM 	28 EUCHRE 7:30 PM 		

Please join us for our various events

Event Times and Dates Subject to Change