

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BR. 148

LEST WE FORGET



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AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2020 BRANCH BULLETIN

Legion Mission Statement:

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.

MEETINGS:

Branch 148 Executive Meeting	2nd Monday of each Month	7:00 p.m.
Ladies Auxiliary Br 148 Meeting	3rd Tuesday of each month	7:00 p.m.
Branch General Meeting	4th Wednesday of each month	7:00 p.m.

**THERE WILL BE AN EXECUTIVE MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, AT 7PM.
PLEASE CONTACT THE BRANCH FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.**

The Branch does not have General Meetings the months of July, August and December.

COMING EVENTS:

Mark your Calendar!

*Legion Week Barbecue, Friday, September 25
~ Bacon on a bun ~*

More details to follow!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Hello Comrades – It is great to see everyone stopping in at the Branch, either in the Lounge, or to attend one of our fundraisers. We have had a successful barbecue on August 22, and we are planning one more near the end of Legion Week, on Friday, September 25. We have re-opened the Lounge and have been fortunate with the weather to welcome back live entertainment on the deck. Thank you to Fran Godin, our Entertainment Chair, for arranging for the entertainment. Many thanks to our Ladies' Auxiliary for their assistance in the kitchen and volunteering at our meals, and to Damon and Trevor, for being our "barbecue

chefs". A huge thank you to our Lounge Bar Stewards, Tim, Brian, and Kim, who have been volunteering their time in the Lounge so that the Branch can get some much-needed funds in the bank account before the weather changes. And a most sincere and humble thank you to everyone who has been attending our fundraisers and giving financial donations to help us keep our doors open. I hope everyone is well, and please keep safe. **Greg Walbeck, President**

LAST POST: Our Deepest sympathy is expressed to the family of Ordinary Member Bruce Pudsey.

"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."

If you hear of a member passing away, please contact the office and let the Secretary know so that we can be sure to include them in the next bulletin.

PROPERTY: The building is in good shape. Our Hall has a new coat of paint and the dartboards have been re-done. Thanks to all who helped.

Richard Fitzsimmons, Property Co-Chair

WAYS & MEANS: We are now having 50/50 draws on Fridays and Saturdays on the deck until we can open the inside of the Lounge. Please come out and support your Legion.

Richard Fitzsimmons, Ways & Means



PUBLIC RELATIONS: The Bonnechere Manor in Renfrew Ont., receives \$8,570.00 for the purchase of five state-of-the-art electric beds and accessories from the Ontario Command, Branches and L.A. Charitable Foundation. Accepting the donation from Renfrew Branch First Vice-President Bruce Ferguson is Shelley Sheedy, director of Long Term Care of Bonnechere Manor, with Wayne Bennett (District G Charitable Foundation Chairman and Zone G-7 Commander), and Rose LaFont, L.A. President.

Debbie McDermid, Public Relations

YOUTH EDUCATION: Due to meeting cancellations because of the pandemic earlier this year, some certificates and awards were not presented to Remembrance Contest winners at a Legion General meeting. Families will be contacted and given the option to pick up items or have them delivered. Winners names were listed in previous bulletins.

Congratulations to Alexandra Powell from St Thomas the Apostle School who placed 1st at the Public Speaking Competition in Eganville in March. The Youth Education chair did not receive information for the next level of competition or confirmation if there would be a continued competition. Congratulations to Trina Oates-Mee, a Grade 6 student at Central Public School, who was awarded the Legion Citizenship Award. Thanks to the Ways and Means Committee for supporting this award.

Jo-anne Caldwell, Youth Education

BURSARY: Renfrew Branch granted 13 Branch Bursaries of \$500.00 each to qualifying students at St. Joseph's High School and Renfrew Collegiate Institute. These funds were approved from the Poppy Trust Account. This year both graduation ceremonies were of the virtual format. The Provincial Bursary Program will open again in early September. We have received some thank you letters and notes from students expressing their gratitude in being granted this branch bursary and how it will help them to pursue their educational endeavors.

Ella Box, Bursary Chair

MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK: Ontario Command reported in spite of COVID -19 they were still able to obtain a good number of submissions for Volume V11. Presently plans are under way to publish the seventh book in late September or early October. Funds generated through the sales efforts of publisher, Fenety Marketing have allowed Branches across Ontario to assist Veterans and their spouses through various Veterans Transition programs that are supported by Ontario Command.

Ella Box

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS: Since the state of emergency was declared in early March, we received several memos and amendments to Legion by-laws. The amended By-Law booklets maybe viewed on line at the Legion's website. Some amendments are forth coming to the Awards and Ritual Manual in regard to Legion dress to include informal Legion dress; amendments will be updated on line by the end of September.

Ella Box

VETERAN'S SERVICES: The Royal Canadian Legion, Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries in Ontario Command continue to support our Veterans and their families through these trying times. Our Provincial and Branch Service Officers will help in completing any applications for assistance free of charge. We remain committed to provide the necessities for our Veterans. If any Veteran requires assistance they can contact their local Branch or contact direct to Ontario Command email rlontariocommand@on.legion.ca and if you provide your full contact information, someone will get back to you as soon as possible. We have Provincial staff, including Provincial Service Officers, working from home who are in contact with Veterans Affairs Canada on a daily basis.

For further information please contact email: rlontariocommand@on.legion.ca, or as listed below for individual staff:

Veterans Hot Line – 437-228-4747

Homeless Veterans Program – jkemp@on.legion.ca and/or psweeny@on.legion.ca

Service Bureau (Aurora) – mrohmann@on.legion.ca and/or adina@on.legion.ca

Service Bureau (North Bay) – sculling@on.legion.ca and/or rabud@on.legion.ca Service Bureau (Kanata) – proyle@on.legion.ca and/or shannon@on.legion.ca

Service Bureau (London) – rhyndman@on.legion.ca and/or dsnyders@on.legion.ca.

FROM THE OFFICE: The office is operating a reduced schedule until further notice. The phones, email and regular mail are still being checked regularly. Please leave a message and someone will get in touch with you. Please contact the office if you are thinking on booking our hall for an event in 2021. If you wish to receive your Bulletin by email, please contact the office to be added to the list. If you have recently moved, please notify the office so that your information can be updated.