



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BR. 148

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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024 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	4 th Wednesday of each Month	7:00 p.m.

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

UPCOMING DATES

Friday February 2 – Open Mic Night, 7-10pm, in the Lounge

Saturday February 3 – LA Pancake breakfast - pancakes, sausages, juice, tea & coffee for \$10/adults, \$5/kids

Friday February 16 – Open Mic Night, 7-10pm, in the Lounge

Saturday, February 24 – Branch Public speaking, at 9am in the hall

Thursday February 29 – Fun Darts Night, Blind Draw Doubles

Saturday March 2 - LA Pancake breakfast - pancakes, sausages, juice, tea & coffee for \$10/adults, \$5/kids, 8:30 – 11:00am (*note time change*)

Saturday March 9 – Zone Public Speaking

Sunday March 10 – Zone Convention

Saturday March 16 – St. Patrick's Day dinner and dance – more info to follow

Thursday March 21 – Ladies Auxiliary Music Trivia Night hosted by Jamie Cylbuski – registration \$10/person, teams of 6 – starts at 6:30

Mondays	Legion Seniors Darts are every Monday afternoon at 1pm – come out for an afternoon of fun and friendship!
Tuesdays	Foot Care Clinic, twice a month
Thursday Afternoons	In conjunction with Community Living Renfrew County South, we are having a drop-in pool afternoon, every Thursday from 1-2:30. Pool is free during this time, and the Lounge will be open. Please join us for fun and comradeship.
Friday afternoons	Please join us for our weekly meat draws, starting around 3pm in the Lounge. Tickets are \$2/draw, and there are 5 draws: Breakfast Box, Beef Box, Metro Card, Pork & Chicken Box, and an LCBO Card.

Fridays	Open Mic nights are back at the Legion! Our February dates are February 5 and 16. Please join us in the Lounge from 7-10pm for some great local entertainment – all skill levels are welcome!
Saturdays	Weekly entertainment - please check our Facebook page or our website, listen to Valley Heritage Radio Coming Events, or call the Branch for more information

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: 2024 should be a very exciting year for our branch as we celebrate the 95th anniversary of our Charter. On Saturday, June 15, we will be holding our anniversary dinner and dance, so please mark that date on your calendars. If you have any suggestions for other events during the year, please let myself or the Office know. Our nominations and elections for a new Executive will begin soon, so if and when the nominating committee calls, please say “YES” so our Legion can continue to serve our veterans and their families.

Comrade Bruce Ferguson, President

FROM THE OFFICE: We are continuing with our Furnace Fund, and If you wish to donate towards this, we are accepting donations, or if you have any ideas for a fundraiser, please contact the office (613-432-6450). If you have changed your email address, or wish to be added to our email list, please contact the office (rcclrenfrew@cogeco.net).

LAST POST: 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.

"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 anyone knows of any local senior veterans who are not Legion members, please let the office know.

GREETINGS TO OUR HOUSEBOUND MEMBERS: A warm hello to all of our members who are unable to visit the Branch:

Bonnechere Manor: Louise Snow, Gerald Coules

Arnprior Villa:

Ben Kane

If you know of someone who should be included, please contact the office and let the Secretary know so that we can be sure to include them in the next bulletin.

PROPERTY: The chair lift had to be fixed, as a wire came off. The handicapped door motor broke and had to be replaced.

Richard Fitzsimmons, Property Co-Chair

SPORTS: The next upcoming Zone sports events are as follows: February 24 – Zone Mixed Darts, Br. 72 Pembroke; March 30 – Zone Shuffleboard, Br. 353 Eganville. We will be holding a Fun Darts night, Blind Draw Doubles on Thursday February 29, 2024. Registration is from 6pm to 6:45, with play at 7pm. Registration fee is \$15.00/person. Come out and enjoy a fun night of darts and meet some new people.

Greg Walbeck, Sports Chair

ENTERTAINMENT: I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. We have some excellent entertainment for 2024.

Bands for February are: Feb 3 – Pitch Black; Feb. 10 – Tomgil Frank Band; Feb. 17 – Jerry Lee; Feb. 24 – Smooth Country. Bands for March are: March 2 – Silas; March 9 – Aces and Eights; March 16 – St. Patty's party in hall, band will be Pitch Black; March 23 – Lonesome Dreamers; March 30 – Lock Stock & Barrel. Remember new hours for Saturday's entertainment has changed to 3pm to 7pm.

Brian Snider, Entertainment Chair

OPEN MIC NIGHTS: Open Mic Nights have been booked for February & March. The dates are February 2 and 16, and March 1 and 15, from 7-10pm in the Lounge. Stop by the Lounge on the second Friday of the month, for some great local entertainment. We are always welcoming anyone who sings, plays an instrument or who just wants to have fun. ***Joel McCrea, Open Mic Coordinator***

1ST RENFREW SCOUTS: We are getting ready for more adventures. After the big snowfall we went sliding at Mat a Way. It is awesome sliding under the stars. Everyone had lots of fun and they want to do it again. Some things we are working on for the founder of Scouting Robert Baden-Powell's Birthday we will be going skating. Besides skating we will also have pizza and cake to celebrate. For March break we will go bowling. Stay tuned for more adventures.

Yours in Scouting, Susan Fleming

LADIES' AUXILIARY: We are hoping for another successful Pancake Breakfast on February 3rd and March 2nd. Come out and let us cook breakfast for you and your family. We have a couple of Trivia Nights planned March 21st and April 11th, come out and check your skills. We are also working on a Murder Mystery Dinner on May 11th. If you have an event coming up and would like to have it catered give me a call. We will work together and do the work for you. ***Susan Fleming, LA President***

POPPY PROJECT: the Poppy Project Committee is holding a meeting late February to start to plan out our next Remembrance displays. If you are interested in joining us, please either leave your name and number with office, or send an email to the office. ***submitted by Debbie McDermid***

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE: On March 31st we will again celebrate Easter. Easter, the Day of the Resurrection, comes to remind us of the love of a Perfect God for flawed humankind. Jesus Christ died on the cross, he was buried, and on the third day he rose again to bring hope to a broken world. As you celebrate this wonderful holiday remember that Christ gave his life for us willingly and unconditionally and so we should extend the same love to family, friends and others around us. This Easter take time to remember all those who sacrificially served, and continue to serve others, the Armed Forces, all First Responders, volunteers, teachers and all others who never count the costs of helping others. Say a special prayer for them and ask God to bless them and their loved ones. May the blessings of God and his amazing grace be with you as you celebrate this Easter with thanksgiving in your heart. Have a blessed Easter. ***Rev. Bruce Ferguson, Chaplain***

YOUTH EDUCATION: Our 2023 Remembrance Day poster/essay/poem contest saw Renfrew Collegiate Institute and Our Lady of Fatima School lead the way with 14 and 9 winning entries respectively. Six of our Branch winners have already won 1st Place at Zone competition and advanced to the upcoming District challenge, including three wonderful poems originally judged by Kate Windle. Our Public Speaking competition is next on the program with students' entries due by 13 February 2024. Come out to the Legion on Saturday 24 February 2024 and watch our excellent local Orators commencing with Primary and Junior students in the morning at 09h00 followed by Intermediate and Senior students in the afternoon. ***Pat Bryden, Youth Education Chair***

YOUTH DARTS: We took our Junior players to their district tournament in Kingston on January 20. Our junior players Nathaniel Lepage placed 5 in junior boys singles and Brooke Lepage who is a tyke player but got brought up to junior level got ninth in singles. They partnered up and played doubles

and placed second overall. They will now go to Provincials in on March 8, 9 & 10. Our tykes will play their tournament on Feb 16, 17. We are also waiting on a date for Branch Districts which is to be near the end of March.

Submitted by Rose Lafont

LEGION SENIORS: I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. Senior darts are going very well. On Monday January 8, 2024 we started back with 20 players. On the 22nd all enjoyed a pizza lunch followed by a fun afternoon of Darts with 14 players. Please come out and join us, even if you have never played before. We had two new players this season and are thoroughly enjoying themselves. We are still open for other ideas for seniors.

Tena Miller, Legion Seniors

CONSTITUTION & LAWS: Our revised Club House Rules were finally approved by Ontario Command on December 12, 2023. The Branch received a Certificate of Compliance; rules were framed and posted in the Lounge. In late November the Provincial Executive Council approved, several amendments to the Ontario Command General By-Laws. Some of the amendments will greatly assist Branches in their operations.

Ella Box, Constitution & Laws

BURSARY: Ontario Command Bursary Assistance Program is open to students of:
 Ex-Service personnel or currently serving members of The Canadian Forces
 (Regular, Reserve & Merchant Navy) & their children & grandchildren;
 Commonwealth war veterans & their children & grandchildren
 Ordinary & Life Members of The Royal Canadian Legion - children & grandchildren *
 Associate members of The Royal Canadian Legion & their children only *
 LA members & their children & grandchildren.

Applications are available in the Legion office or online @ www.on.legion.ca; applications must be into Ontario Command by March 29, 2024.

Ella Box, Bursary Chair

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION: The Ontario Command Branches and Ladies Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation, a registered Charity, is a partnership of the Branches of the Royal Canadian Legion and Auxiliaries in Ontario Command. Foundation funds are used to support programs such as the provincial bursaries, medical equipment, medical research and programs for aging veterans. This program is open to fund medical equipment for hospitals, not-for-profit homes, Hospices, Fire Stations. District G has representation on the Foundation Board. Renfrew Branch donated \$2,000.00 to assist this program. Deadline for applications is April 26, 2024.

Submitted by Ella Box

POPPY TRUST COMMITTEE: The Poppy year is now January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Our 2023 Poppy Campaign generated income of \$31,818.45 plus donations of \$2,354.65. The generosity of our members and the greater Renfrew Community will allow us to donate funds to the Ottawa Veterans Service Fund, District G Veterans Care Fund, Perley Heath Center, along with various other Veteran programs; Provincial Bursary Program, Charitable Foundation. Branch Bursaries will be available to grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Veterans. Veterans living in long term care homes or being care for in their own homes were given Christmas care gifts. We have some outstanding wreath/crosses invoices, which we hope to, recover soon. In early January a detailed Branch Poppy inventory was completed. All necessary reports and documents pertaining to the Poppy Campaign have been submitted to the Zone Poppy Chair.

Submitted by Ella Box

WAYS & MEANS: I am looking for volunteers to assist with the weekly Friday Meat Draws, and with Saturday 50/50 draws in the Lounge. If you would like to help with selling tickets, please contact me by email at joan.mcnulty@icloud.com, or call the office and leave your name and number.

Joanie McNulty, Ways & Means

NEVADA: Happy New Year all, Nevada sales are slow but hopefully will get better.

Ron Kilby, Nevada Chair

MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK: Comrades, we are in need of submissions to complete Volume X1. All veterans deserve to be recognized in this special book of Remembrance. And remember that both our traditional Veterans and our modern day Veterans, including current service Military who live or have lived in the Province of Ontario all qualify. Submission forms may be picked up at the Legion office or refer to the website www.legion.on - all completed submission forms must be submitted to the legion office for review by April 26, 2024; anyone needing assistance please contact Ella @ 613-432-6049. Also keep in mind Comrades that through our publisher, we have raised a lot of money for our Command through this program. And these funds are being utilized to give back to our Veterans through various Veteran transition programs that we at Ontario Command support. In this regard, our program has been most successful over the past ten years thanks to the efforts of our publisher, Fenety Marketing. As of the end of October, we had received a total net income in the amount of \$1,933,063.25 since we first introduced this program in 2013. And also remember that these funds assist us in not having to impose any increase to the Provincial per capita.

Ella Box Coordinator, 613-432-6049

PUBLIC RELATIONS: *Did you Know?*

- The Auto Renew process is now complete and has billed all members who have signed up for Auto Renew with valid credit card information on file. The Branch will be advised by National Headquarters of your renewal online. It is very easy to set up your profile on the legion.ca website.
- From National Headquarters - Help spread the word – Veterans' families get first year of membership free!

Do you know a spouse, child over 18 years of age, parent or guardian of a Canadian Veteran who has not yet joined the Legion? Let them know we offer the first year of membership free to Veteran Family Members. Encourage them to register and get to know their Legion!

- April 4th, 2024 will mark the [75th anniversary of NATO](#). Throughout the upcoming year, the NATO Association of Canada will be organizing various events across the country highlighting NATO's history and Canada's role in the alliance.

We are always looking for volunteers to assist at the Branch, for barbecues, meals, selling tickets, etc. It is only an hour or two of your time. Please contact the office at 613-432-6450 to let us know you are able to assist. If you know of any high-school students looking for volunteer hours, please let us know by contacting the office.

Please keep our monthly calendars handy for information, and feel free to review our Facebook page (Royal Canadian Legion Br. 148 Renfrew) or our website (www.renfrewlegionbr148.ca) for current information. If you have an email address, please provide it to the Office so that you may be added to our email lists.

Debbie McDermid, PRO

February 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm Lounge: Open Mic, 7-10pm	3 Hall: LA Breakfast, 8:30-11:30 Lounge: Pitch Black, 3-7pm
4 Hall: Youth Darts, 1:30	5 Hall: Legion Seniors	6 Hall: Cornhole League	7 Foot Care, 1pm	8	9 Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm	10 Lounge: Tomgil Frank Band, 3-7pm
11 Hall: Youth Darts, 1:30	12 Hall: Legion Seniors Executive, 7pm	13 Hall: Cornhole League	14 VALENTINE'S DAY / ASH WEDNESDAY	15 NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY	16 Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm Lounge: Open Mic, 7-10pm	17 Hall Rented Lounge: Jerry Lee, 3-7pm
18 Hall: Youth Darts, 1:30	19 FAMILY DAY – OFFICE CLOSED Hall: Legion Seniors	20 Foot Care, 1pm LA Meeting, 7pm Hall: Cornhole League	21	22 Hall Rented: Ontrac Job Fair	23 Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm	24 Hall: Branch Public Speaking, 10am Lounge: Smooth Country, 3-7pm
25 Hall: Youth Darts, 1:30	26 Hall: Legion Seniors	27 Hall: Cornhole League	28 GULF WAR ENDS (1991) General Meeting, 7pm	29		

March 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm Lounge: Open Mic, 7-10pm	2 LA Breakfast, 8:30-11:00 Lounge: Sillas, 3-7pm
3 WORLD HEARING DAY Hall: Joanne Ciphery Memorial Mixed Doubles Dart Tournament	4 Hall: Legion Seniors	5 Foot Care Clinic Cornhole League	6 Hall Rented	7	8 INT'L WOMENS DAY Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm Hall Rented	9 Hall: Zone Public Speaking Lounge: Aces & Eights, 3-7pm
10 Hall: Zone Convention	11 COMMONWEALTH DAY (RCEL SUPPORT) Hall: Legion Seniors Executive, 7pm	12 Cornhole League	13	14	15 LAST CDN. SOLDIERS RETURN FROM AFGHANISTAN (2014) Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm Lounge: Open Mic, 7-10pm	16 St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Dance – more info to follow – band: Pitch Black
17 Hall: Youth Darts	18 Hall: Legion Seniors	19 Foot Care Clinic LA Meeting, 7pm Cornhole League	20	21 Hall, 6:30pm - LA Music Trivia Night, hosted by Jamie Cylbuski	22 Lounge: Meat Draw, 3pm Hall Rented – Teen Dance	23 Lounge: Lonesome Dreamers, 3-7pm
24 Hall: Youth Darts	25 Hall: Legion Seniors	26 Blood Donor Clinic, 12-6	27 General Meeting, 7pm	28	29 GOOD FRIDAY – BRANCH CLOSED	30 Lounge: Lock Stock & Barrel, 3-7pm
31 Hall: Youth Darts						