



Port Elgin Legion
Branch 340

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



April 2011

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.

One more reminder, that the Annual General Meeting and Elections will be taking place on Tuesday, April 05th and the Meeting starts at 7:00 pm. All members are encouraged to attend this very important meeting. You will be voting for your 2011-2012 Executive.

The Nomination Board will be located in the Canteen for you to consider one of the positions on the Executive Committee. Your consideration in becoming a committee member is appreciated. Even if you are not planning a position on the Executive, please plan on attending the Meeting and have your vote count. All members are encouraged to attend this very important evening.

Be prepared to show your membership card or if you are a new member, please bring your paid receipt with you. If you have any questions, please contact your Elections Officer Mike Atkinson at 519-832-5542.



The Editors



MEMBERSHIP

Our Branch was awarded with a 65% Early Bird Award for 2011 Membership Renewals. Thanks to the Comrades who participated in the Campaign and as your Membership Chairman – I really appreciate it. With everyone participating in the 2012 Campaign I am sure we can do even better. So let's try.

Membership Register: Life – 13 Ordinary – 97
Associate – 321 Affiliate Voting – 105

Total Membership: 536

If you have not paid your 2011 Dues, I encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience. We value your support and encourage you to continue your membership. If you have already paid, please check with the Bar Steward to pick up your card.

If you have recently had a change of address or your contact information, please leave the particulars with the Bar Steward and the Membership Register can be updated; or, contact the undersigned.

Rhonda Harrison
Membership Chairman
519-389-4806
harrisonconst@bmts.com

EASTER BRANCH HOURS

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Good Friday | 3:00 pm to Midnight |
| Saturday | 1:00 pm to Midnight |
| Sunday | CLOSED |
| Easter Monday | 3:00 pm to Midnight |



WHAT'S HAPPENING



ENTERTAINMENT – 7 TO 11 PM

April 9 – Second Line
April 23 – John Heaman

TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday, April 15 at 8:00
Sign Up Sheet at Bar

MEAT ROLLS at 4 PM

Saturday – April 9 & 23

BINGO EVERY WEDNESDAY

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Bingo at 7:30 p.m. \$700.00 Jackpot



I took two poppies, one for each of the Legions I have been a member of. (Huntingdon QC & Port Elgin ON).

One I put on the memorial to where the Galahad went down and the other I gave to a Customs & Immigration Officer. She will put it on the Town Cenotaph next Remembrance Day for me. Everyone in Stanley goes to that ceremony.

An emotional day - the Tour of the Battlefields.

Picture and Editorial submitted by Cde Mike Crossling

For those of us with Brit ex-squaddie blood still running through our blood – it was a very emotional experience – touring the Falklands battlefields. There are memorials to those who died liberating The Falklands, all over the place.

One (wind-swept bleak) place our mini-bus stopped at was one of the Argie defence positions – a machine gun sanger set-up – I couldn't figure out how on earth the Brits could even get close enough to take a shot never mind getting their boots (& blades) on the ground. The natural 'rock-fields' around the island are so horrendous I didn't even try to walk on them. The Brit squaddies (in darkness) carried 112 lbs on their backs over these rock fields to get into position for their attacks. (Helicopter cargo carriers had been destroyed).

Although I was trained in a recce regiment (cavalrymen ride to work) I do have some past experience of being a PBI. In the end, after all the 'other' arms have had their go, it still comes down to PBI boots & blades to winkle the enemy out of their positions. In the Falklands environment I guess the Argies made the ultimate mistake – Brit squaddies. Their basic Brit field craft was, as usual, magnificent.

Although Mother Nature is fixing man's stupidity – 30 years of filling the trenches with water – you still have to be careful not to walk on ground plants and then suddenly become neck deep in peat water!

Then there are the still vast areas of fenced in terrain – "Mines. Keep Out." As the tourist money comes in, the Falklands then hires 'de-miners' but it will take forever at this rate. And, on ground that could be producing food crops – that's the hard part to understand.

I just cannot understand. We can make better and better machines of war whose sole purpose is to kill. Yet, we still cannot resolve disputes with our neighbours. I hate war.

Just to add; we toured other areas of South America including some in Argentina on this trip. I must say the tourist guides & ordinary people we meet in Argentina were most respectful of The Falklands - when the subject came up. (They didn't know we had ex-pat Brits in our group). When naming the islands they did call them "The Falklands" and not "Las Malvinas" as had been done in the past. The feeling amongst them seems to be this was a **militarily political** fiasco and should never have happened. 'Twas ever thus!

"The Battlefields of the Falklands" was a very emotional day – as I said before. But, if I ever have the honour of touring the Afghanistan battlefields (where our Canadian boys & girls are still dying), I'm not sure I could handle it.

Lest we forget.



The Zone Spring Convention was held on Sunday, March 13, 2011 and hosted by Owen Sound Branch 006.

Cde Patty Sargent-Gibson is your newly elected Zone Commander.



Cde Chris Blondin is the newly elected Deputy Zone Commander.

We welcome Cde Patty and Cde Chris and wish them best of luck in their new positions.

A man was blissfully driving along the highway, when he saw the Easter Bunny hopping across the middle of the road. He swerved to avoid hitting the Bunny, but unfortunately the rabbit jumped in front of his car and was hit. The basket of eggs went flying all over the place. Candy, too. The driver, being a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulled over to the side of the road and got out to see what had become of the Bunny carrying the basket. Much to his dismay, the colorful Bunny was dead. The driver felt guilty and began to cry.

A woman driving down the same highway saw the man crying on the side of the road and pulled over. She stepped out of her car and asked the man what was wrong.

"I feel terrible," he explained, "I accidentally hit the Easter Bunny and killed it. There may not be an Easter because of me. What should I do?" The woman told the man not to worry. She knew exactly what to do. She went to her car trunk and pulled out a spray can. She walked over to the limp, dead Bunny and sprayed the entire contents of the can onto the little furry animal.

Miraculously, the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up the spilled eggs and candy, waved its paw at the two humans and hopped on down the road. 50 yards away the Easter Bunny stopped turned around, waved and hopped on down the road another 50 yards, turned, waved, hopped another 50 yards and waved again!

The man was astonished. He said to the woman, "What in heaven's name is in your spray can? What was it that you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?

The woman turned the can around so that the man could read the label. It said: "Hair Spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave."



WALK-ABILITY CLINIC

Wednesday, April 27 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Upstairs – Legion Hall

This Clinic will focus on “Walkable” Communities. It will assist our community to identify ways to improve the walking conditions for local residents. This will lead to enhanced:

- Opportunities for daily physical activity
- Environmental health
- Pedestrian safety
- Accessibility for all
- Community cohesion
- Economic vitality for the community
- Traffic flow
- “Age friendly” environment

Collectively, these improvements will make a significant difference to the quality of life in Saugeen Shores.

This session is organized by “Play” in Bruce Grey and CAN Play in partnership with the Canada Walks Department of Green Communities Canada, all volunteer Committees.

Please note this date on your April calendar and plan on attending.

For more information contact: Shanna Reid, Aquatic Supervisor
Town of Saugeen Shores
519-832-2627
reids@saugeenshores.ca

While shopping for vacation clothes, my husband and I passed a display of bathing suits. It had been at least ten years and twenty pounds since I had even considered buying a bathing suit, so I sought my husband's advice.

'What do you think?' I asked.. 'Should I get a bikini or an all-in-one?'

'Better get a bikini,' he replied 'You'd never get it all in one.'

He's still in intensive care.



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|---|--------|---|------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 GEN. MTG. 7:00 PM ELECTION FOR EXECUTIVE | 6 BINGO 7:30 PM | 7 EUCHRE 7:30 PM | 8 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM | 9 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM ENTERTAINMENT 7 – 11 PM DISTRICT CONVENTION |
| 10 DISTRICT CONVENTION | 11 | 12 L/A GEN. MTG. 8:00 PM | 13 BINGO 7:30 PM | 14 EUCHRE 7:30 PM | 15 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM TRIVIA NITE 8:00 PM | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30PM | 20 BINGO 7:30 PM | 21 EUCHRE 7:30 PM | 22 GOOD FRIDAY OPEN REGULAR HOURS BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM | 23 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM ENTERTAINMENT 7 – 11 PM |
| 24 EASTER SUNDAY LEGION CLOSED | 25 | 26 EXEC. MTG. 7:30 PM | 27 BINGO 7:30 PM | 28 EUCHRE 7:30 PM | 29 BALLROOM DANCING 8:30 PM | 30 |
| <p>~ Please join us for our various events and help support your Branch ~</p> | | | | | | |