



**Port Elgin Legion
Branch 340**

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



DECEMBER 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.

Special thanks to Cde Norma Dudgeon and her excellent co-ordination of the annual Remembrance Day activities and dinner. To everyone who helped in any way, we thank you too. Well done!

Our highlight this year was being awarded a wall plaque for achieving 1st Place in "C" Category for the District "C" Bulletin Competition. This is certainly another great honour and a very pleasant surprise. We are very grateful and we will continue to do our best for your Branch bulletin.

We are planning a Super Bowl Party for Game Day February 5th – this will be a pot-luck affair and we will let you know more details as the day approaches. Mark your calendar and plan to join us.

Another year is coming to close. We take this opportunity to thank our readers for your continued support and submissions to the Branch Line.

On behalf of our family to yours we wish you a very Merry Christmas, the happiest holidays and a prosperous New Year.

The Editors



LEST WE FORGET



President's Message

As the festive season draws upon us, we give thanks for a strong and healthy Legion year. We were sad to lose some of our Legion family, but pleased to welcome many new members who will help to continue our commitment to the Legion principals and values that we hold dear.

Our volunteer base remains as strong as ever, and to thank all those who work hard, we are pleased to host our 2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation on Sunday December 11th at 4 p.m. at the Branch.

While our Branch continues to be viable, it is still vulnerable and subject to forces outside of our control. Improvements can always be made and your chance to make suggestions for the good of your Branch will be on Sunday January 22nd at 1p.m. at our Branch Brainstorming. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Eric and I wish each and every one of you a joyous Holiday and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Yours in Comradeship,

Cde Kathryn

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Ladies Auxiliary President's Message

Quote by John Lennon:

When I was 5 years old, my Mother always told me that happiness was the key to life.
When I went to school they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up.
I wrote down "happy".
They said I didn't understand the assignment.
I told them they didn't "understand life".

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY

Diane Mills, President

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Brinda Smits, Don Rosart, Mike Hobson and Dan McMenemy who were initiated at the December General Meeting.

I am pleased to announce that Cde Doug Thede was the winner of the November Early Bird Draw. Congratulations!

Another Early Bird Campaign is complete and I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all of you who renewed your membership dues during this period. I am hopeful that our Early Bird Award will be an even higher percentage than last year. Thank you for your continued support.

LAST POST: Cdes Jack Earnest and Bev Wark

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS



President Eastwood is congratulating Cde Robert (Bob) Harrison for being awarded 1st Place for the Bulletin Competition for District "C", Category "C".

The award was presented at the Fall District "C" Convention in Elmira.

Well done!

Thanks are extended to my wife Rhonda who is an integral part in producing the monthly Bulletin. We are delighted to share this Award with our Branch and are very proud of our accomplishments. We strive very hard to make this Bulletin a document you enjoy reading and look forward to the next issue.

Robert Harrison
Public Relations Officer



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2011



I would like to thank everyone who helped me with the little details behind the scenes for Remembrance Day and there are so many details to look after but those many hands are so helpful and you know who you are.

A special thanks to the high-school band who as always does a superb job; the Tolmie Presbyterian Church and Ann Little with her choir; Terry Mills and the Shriners Club for the sound system.

The crowds were immense and again, we thank our teachers for taking the time to bring the students to observe the Cenotaph Service.

Our Parade Marshall, George Sicord and Color Sargeant, Bob Harrison did a great job and even the weather co-operated – the rain held off.

Thank you everyone.

Norma Dudgeon
Remembrance Day Chairman

INFORMATION NEEDED

Hello Canadian Veterans Advocacy!

My name is Steve Bandera; I'm an associate producer at CTV News and trying to track down veterans who served on Canada's submarine fleet who would be willing to speak about the current and future states of the fleet.

If you happen to know of any such veterans, kindly pass on my contact details. Alternatively, if you can provide me with any contacts, I would greatly appreciate them.

Thanks,

Steve Bandera, Associate Producer

sbandera@ctv.ca

PH: 1-416-384-6595

FAX: 1-416-384-5938

Christmas At Rock-Away Rest

'Twas the night before Christmas at Rock-Away Rest, and all of us seniors were looking our best. Our glasses, how sparkly, our wrinkles, how merry; our punchbowl held prune juice plus three drops of sherry.

A bedsock was taped to each walker in hope, that Santa would bring us soft candy and soap. We surely were lucky to be there with friends, secure in this residence and in our Depends.

Our grandkids had sent us some Christmasy crafts, like angels in snowsuits and penguins on rafts. The dental assistant had borrowed our teeth, and from them she'd crafted a holiday wreath. The bed pans, so shiny, all stood in a row, reflecting our candle's magnificent glow. Our supper so festive -- the joy wouldn't stop -- was creamy warm oatmeal with sprinkles on top.

Our salad was Jell-O, so jiggly and great, then puree of fruitcake was spooned on each plate. The social director then had us play games, like "Where Are You Living?" and "What Are Your Names?" Old Grandfather Looper was feeling his oats, proclaiming that reindeer were nothing but goats. Our resident wand'r'er was tied to her chair, in hopes that at bedtime she still would be there.

Security lights on the new fallen snow made outdoors seem noon to the old folks below. Then out on the porch there arose quite a clatter (But we are so deaf that it just didn't matter). A strange little fellow flew in through the door, then tripped on the sill and fell flat on the floor. 'Twas just our Director, all togged out in red. He jiggled and chuckled and patted each head.

We knew from the way that he strutted and jived our social- security checks had arrived. We sang -- how we sang -- in our monotone croak, till the clock tinkled out its soft eight-p.m. stroke. And soon we were snuggling deep in our beds, while nurses distributed nocturnal meds. And so ends our Christmas at Rock-Away Rest. 'fore long you'll be with us, we wish you the best!

Author Unknown



WHAT'S HAPPENING



ENTERTAINMENT

Sat. December 03 Dance to "Crippled Duck"

IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE
3rd Tuesday of each month
Games begin at 7:30 pm

JAMBOREE
Sunday, December 04
Cost \$5/person Start 2:00 pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE
Saturday, December 31st
Dance to the "Leask Brothers"
Upstairs Hall 7:00 pm – 1:00 am
Adults \$20/ Person
Tickets On Sale Now

LADIES CARD GROUP
Tuesday Afternoons
Upstairs Hall
12:30 pm

TURKEY RAFFLES & MORE

Friday, December 02 at 8:00 pm
Saturday, December 03, 10, 17 at 4:00 pm

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

DANCE CLUB
Friday Night
Upstairs Hall
8:00 pm

NEW YEARS LEVEE
Sunday, January 01st
The Branch will be open from
12 noon to 7:00 pm
Join us for Entertainment & Snacks
Ring in the New Year with your friends

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, BRANCH 340



CHRISTMAS WHEELBARROW DRAW



Draw to be held at the Branch
on Friday, December 23rd
at 5:00 p.m.

L.L.# M674234

Tickets \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

The Branch is encouraging everyone to purchase tickets for the Wheelbarrow Draw. The prize is in an actual wheelbarrow and will contain fixings for the best Christmas Dinner. Tickets are available at the Canteen and will also be sold by your fellow Comrades. This is our first endeavor and we hope it brings success and we will do it again another time. Proceeds to the Saugeen Shores Minor Hockey Association and a percentage to the Branch Building/Maintenance Fund.

Good luck to everyone and to the winner Enjoy your Christmas dinner!!

YOUTH EDUCATION



POETRY COMPETITION
Judges Alice Kemp, Jennifer Frankum
and Rhonda Harrison



ESSAY COMPETITION
Judges Dallas Brown, Glenda Szabo
and Jeffery Ormond

Judging for the annual Literary & Poster Contest was held on Sunday, November 06th. Judges reviewed the Poem, Poster and Essay submissions from our local school children. There were 405 entries from 4 schools and 10 entries will be advancing to the Zone level of competition.

Thanks to all the Judges for taking the time and supporting this program.

Lisa Exell
Youth Education Chairman

NOVEMBER 11TH PARADE & PRESENTATIONS



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2011

The Color Party is ready for their next instructions.

We welcome new flag bearers Evelyn Martin and Blair Eby.

Job well done, everybody.

Cde Robert Harrison
Sgt-At Arms



PORT ELGIN AIR CADET CORPS

The Cadet Corp and their leaders are waiting for the Parade to begin. Nice to see so many young faces joining the Corps and keeping the organization strong.



PRESENTATION TO SGT-AT-ARMS

(L-R) Cde Rob Atkinson and Cde Don Rosart present Sgt-At-Arms Robert Harrison with a cheque for \$200.

This donation is from the Friday Night Dance Club and is given in memory of our Late Sgt-At-Arms Alexina Atkinson. Proceeds will be used to purchase gauntlets and holsters for the Color Party.



Sgt Claude Gouin, Lt Colonel Wayne Bruce and Police Chief Dan Rivett joined the luncheon served at the Branch after the November 11th Ceremonies.



HONORS & AWARDS

50 Year Lapel Pin & Medal Recipients

Cde Mike Atkinson, Provincial Honors & Awards Chairman is standing with Cdes Norm Kaufman, Trevor Letang, Tom Steel and Branch Honors & Awards Chairman George Sicord.

Congratulations, Gentleman on your years of service with Branch 340.

A total of 25 pins for various Years of Service were handed out this day.

George Sicord
Honors & Awards Chairman



PRESENTATIONS TO BRANCH 340

L/A President Diane Mills presented Cde Norma Dudgeon with a cheque for \$1,000. Proceeds will be used for maintenance of Cenotaph Park.

Cde Dan Kelly, 1st Vice President accepts a cheque in the amount of \$5,000. for the Branch from L/A President Diane Mills.



WHO IS HE?

This gentleman joined us for the November 11th Services.

He was alone and needed a place to sit. Cde Norma offered the bench and her car blanket.

He looks so solemn as he watches the laying of wreaths...we can only imagine what is going through his mind on this day.

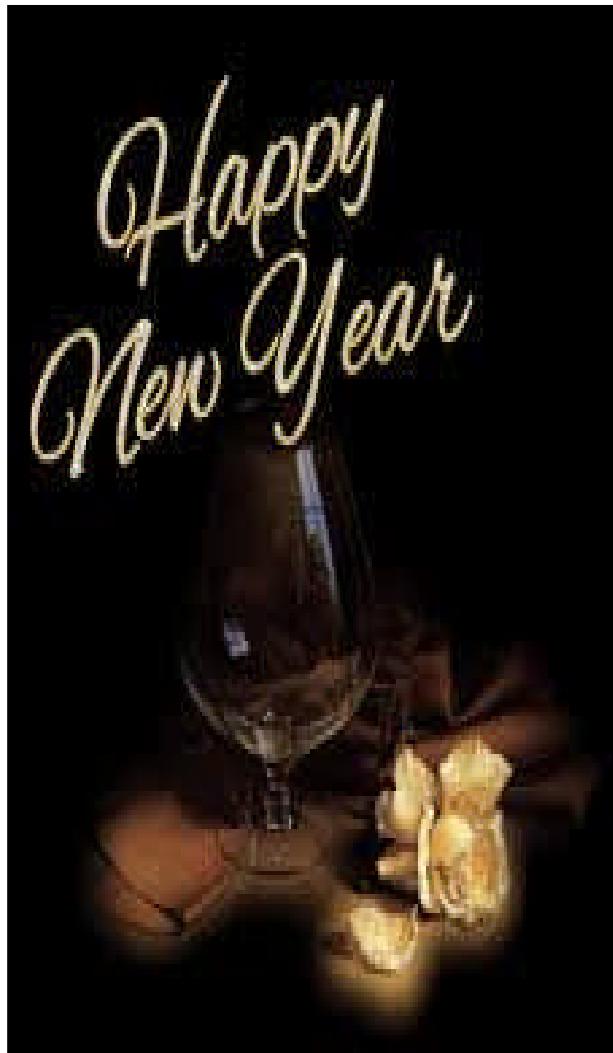
The picture was taken by Janice Sicord at the Remembrance Day services.

If anyone knows who he is can you please pass the information along?

Volunteer Appreciation Christmas Get Together

*Sunday, December 11th
4:00 to 8:00 pm*

*Refreshments will be provided
Join in the Comradeship*



NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

December 31, 2011
Port Elgin Legion, 630 Green Street

Entertainment by:
“LEASK BROTHERS”

7:00 pm to 1:00 am
\$20.00 per Person

Party Favours & Luncheon Included

Open to the Public
Tickets on Sale Now

QUESTIONS THAT HAUNT ME!!

Can you cry under water?

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a stupid song about him?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?



2011 CHRISTMAS HOURS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

Canteen Open 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

CLOSED

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Canteen Open 3:00 pm – Midnight

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

Canteen Open 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

Upstairs Hall Open 7:00 pm – 1:00 am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 01

**New Years Levee
12:00 noon – 7:00 pm**

*Wishing you and your loved ones
Peace, Health, Happiness and Prosperity
in the coming New Year*

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	2 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM MEAT ROLL 8:00 PM	3 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
4 JAMBOREE 2:00 PM	5	6 LADIES CARD GROUP 12:30 PM GEN. MTG. 7:00 PM	7 BINGO 7:30 PM	8 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	9 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	10 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
11	12	13 LADIES CARD GROUP 12:30 PM L/A GEN. MTG. 8:00 PM	14 BINGO 7:30 PM	15 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	16 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	17 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
18	19	20 LADIES CARD GROUP 12:30 PM IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE 7:30 PM	21 BINGO 7:30 PM	22 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	23 DANCE CLUB 8:00 PM	24 CHRISTMAS EVE
25 	26	27 LADIES CARD GROUP 12:30 PM EXECUTIVE 7:30 PM	28 BINGO 7:30 PM	29 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	30 DANCE CLUB 8:30 PM	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE
JAN 01/ 12 NEW YEARS LEVEE Everyone Welcome						

~ Please join us for our various events and help support your Branch ~