



Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

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



November 2012

Branch Line

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast, and he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past. Of a war that he once fought in and the deeds that he had done, in his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbours his tales became a joke, all his buddies listened quietly for they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer, for old Bob has passed away, and the world's a little poorer for a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife, for he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life. He held a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way, and the world won't note his passing, 'tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state, while thousands note their passing, and proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories from the time that they were young, but the passing of a Soldier goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land, someone who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man? Or the ordinary fellow who in times of war and strife, goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?

The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives, are often disproportionate, to the service that he gives. While the ordinary Soldier, who offered up his all, is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small.

It is not the politicians with their compromise and ploys, who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys. Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand, would you really want some cop-out, with his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier--his home, his country, his kin, just a common Soldier, who would fight until the end? He was just a common Soldier, and his ranks are growing thin, for when countries are in conflict, we find the Soldier's part, is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honour while he's here to hear the praise, then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days. Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say: "OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, A SOLDIER DIED TODAY."



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Author Unknown
Article Submitted by Cde Norma Dudgeon



Never Argue with a Woman

One morning, the husband returns the boat to their lakeside cottage after several hours of fishing and decides to take a nap.

Although not familiar with the lake, the wife decides to take the boat out. She motors out a short distance, anchors, puts her feet up, and begins to read her book. The peace and solitude are magnificent.

Along comes a Fish and Game Warden in his boat.

He pulls up alongside the woman and says, 'Good morning, Ma'am. What are you doing?' 'Reading a book,' she replies, (thinking, 'Isn't that obvious?') 'You're in a Restricted Fishing Area,' he informs her.

'I'm sorry, Officer, but I'm not fishing. I'm reading.'

'Yes, but I see you have all the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment.'

'I'll have to take you in and write you up.'

'If you do that, I'll have to charge you with sexual assault,' says the woman.

'But I haven't even touched you,' says the Game Warden.

'That's true, but you have all the equipment.'

'For all I know you could start at any moment.'

'Have a nice day ma'am,' and he left.

MORAL:

Never argue with a woman who reads.

It's likely she can also think.

President Diane Mills
Ladies Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP

We have 2 more members in our Branch – Darryl Mullen and Charlie Kelly, welcome!

Last Post: Cde Charlie Collins, Ron MacArthur and Maxine Hyde

A reminder that the Early Bird Campaign will end on November 30th. The 2013 Annual dues are \$45.00, but as of December 1st they will increase to \$50.00 – pay now and save!

Last year our Branch won the Early Renewal Award with 65+% so with your support we can achieve an even higher Award. Please remind your fellow Comrades to renew if they have not already done so.

Sharen Maas
Membership Chairman
519-389-2412
jsmaas@brucetelecom.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS

September was a very good month for events: Labour Day Dance, Legion Week and Pumpkinfest Weekend. The Branch was extremely proud to host the “Portraits of Honour” travelling Exhibition, which was well attended. Cde Mike Atkinson conveyed his thanks to the Branch for the support and donation also on behalf of Ken MacDonald who was instrumental in bringing the Exhibition to Port Elgin.

Ways & Means

Bingo nights are going well, please come out and support your Branch.

Trivia Nights begin on Friday, October 19 and will continue on the 3rd Friday of each month until Spring.

Meat Raffles

There will be two Raffles in November, 3rd and 17th, and then we will begin our Turkey Raffles in December. The dates to mark on your calendar are December 7 at 8:00 p.m.; and December 8, 15 and 22 will begin at 4:00 pm. There is a variety of other meat prizes that can be won.

We look forward to seeing you at these events and your support helps us to support our community.

Dan Kelly
Public Relations Chairman
519-389-2352
dankelly@bmts.com

PROPERTY

To date, we've painted the hall, updated the receptacles and outlets and some lights. We've rearranged the wall hangings and moved them to where we thought they would be more visible to our members and veterans. Always making certain that all branches of the armed forces were represented, especially our younger veterans.

We've installed a new security shutter for the kitchen, installed 2 new windows and continued maintenance on the stove.

We will obtain a maintenance schedule for the heating and a/c unit on the roof. A “Still-To-Do-List” has been compiled for the larger repairs i.e. shingles, carpets and freezer room and these will take time, please be patient.

George Sicord
Property Chairman
519-832-5143
sicordg@eastlink.ca

"2-Minute Wave of Silence" Revives a Time-honoured Tradition

The Royal Canadian Legion is asking all Canadians to pause in silence for two minutes at 11:00 a.m. The “2-Minute Wave of Silence” will sweep across Canada starting in Newfoundland like a wave as the clock strikes 11:00 a.m. in each time zone. The Legion is asking people to stop whatever they are doing, wherever they are, and quietly reflect on war, and peace, and those who gave up everything for us.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



LADIES CARD CLUB
Tuesday Afternoons
Upstairs Hall
Start 1:30 pm

EUCHRE
Thursday at 7:30 pm
Canteen

IN-HOUSE CRIBBAGE
2nd Tuesday of each month
Start 7:30 pm
Canteen

DANCE CLUB
Friday at 8:00 pm
Upstairs Hall

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

EUCHRE
Saturday at 1:30 pm
Canteen



If you are a Snow Bird, why not an Early Bird?

Before you fly south for a winter's relaxation, become an Early Bird by paying next year's dues before November 30th. Then you can preen in the sun, knowing you've ensured there'll be no loss of Legion service or membership privileges. Remember, if you wait it may be your feathers that are ruffled later.

We appreciate your support and look forward to your return in 2013.



2012 POPPY CAMPAIGN

This years Campaign began on Friday, October 26th and will end on November 11th. Your support in volunteering is greatly appreciated, however there are still locations to be canvassed; so please remember your oath to your Legion and sign up today to lend a couple of hours for the Campaign.

Mary Alexander
Poppy Chairman
marylousunset@bmts.com
519-832-9053



BARBECUE at the BRANCH

Friday, November 23rd
5:00 – 7:00 pm
Proceeds to the Building Fund

**Thanks to "Hoofin' It" – Your Local Butcher
as our sponsor this month.**

ANNUAL ZONE VISITATION – OCTOBER 02, 2012

Zone Commander Patty Sargent-Gibson and Deputy-Zone Commander Chris Blondin visited Branch 340 at the October General Meeting.

Zone Commander Patty commended Cde Norma, Office Manager/Treasurer and Cde Rhonda, Secretary, for both doing an excellent job in keeping the Branch business and Minutes in good order. The President was thanked for doing a great job since the last visit.

The Meeting had good discussion and member participation with the business at hand. She announced that Cdes Robert and Rhonda Harrison will be a part of District Color Party later this month.

Congratulations to the Branch, Cde Mike Atkinson and Ken MacDonald for enabling the "Portraits of Honour" Exhibition to visit in Port Elgin.

Deputy Zone Commander Chris thanked the Branch for the invitation to attend our Meeting and be a part of the Annual Inspection.

Both thanked Sergeant-at-Arms Robert Harrison for the excellent job by his Color Party.

Social time was had after the Meeting.

EVER WONDER

Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?

Why women can't put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?

Why is "abbreviated" such a long word?

Why is it that doctors call what they do "practice"?

Why is it that to stop Windows 98, you have to click on "Start"?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why the man who invests all your money is called a broker?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?

When dog food is new and improved tasting, who tests it?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why do they sterilize the needle for lethal injections?

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal?

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JAMBOREE

The first Jamboree will be held on Sunday, November 4, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the upstairs hall. These events will be the 1st Sunday of each month until Spring. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the music and friendship.

BRANCH BARBECUE – Friday, October 26, 2012

It was another great turnout for our monthly barbecue. We have had lots of positive comments and we will continue this event in the months to come.

Thanks to Larry aka the “Burger King” Dudgeon for the feeding of the masses. The weather was a little unpredictable, but he persevered and everyone was provided for.

A shout-out to Pam Smith and Bob Harrison for assisting with the condiments, set-up and clean-up and special thanks to Cde Dan for the use of your barbecue – once more.



Cde Ray Burke patiently waits for his burger.
Last seen he was enjoying his burger and offered his compliments to our newly dubbed “Burger King”.



Our two ladies, Shirley Jacklin and Marg Caloren are happily enjoying their burgers.



AIR CADETS
340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin



POPPY CAMPAIGN 2012

The Annual Poppy Campaign is underway and our Air Cadets help the Legion as their official Sponsor.

Pictured is Cpl Jackson Weber and 2Lt Laurie Laur as they have just returned from their appointed duty to canvass poppies.

**PORT ELGIN LEGION
BRANCH 340**

**REMEMBRANCE
DAY**

Sunday, November 11

Assemble at Legion at 10:30 a.m.
Parade to Cenotaph Park
Service at 11:00 a.m.
Laying of Official Wreaths
Church Service at 11:45 a.m.
Tolmie Presbyterian Church

Current and ex-service personnel are most welcome to join us

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
& BAKE SALE**



Saturday, November 24, 2012 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Hepworth Shallow Lake Legion
9 Legion Road, Hepworth, Ontario**

Lunch Available - 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

To rent a Craft table, call 519-935-2341 or 519-935-2902

**DISTRICT "C" FALL CONVENTION
October 13 & 14, 2012**

The District "C" Fall Convention was held the weekend of October 13 & 14, 2012 and hosted by Tobermory Branch 290. The Convention was informative and good to see "old" Comrades and meet new friends. Thanks to Branch 290 President Rick Lane and L/A President Jo Ann Lane for their hospitality and friendship.

Honorary Grand President Ontario Command Jack Frost was the Guest Speaker and certainly very nice to see him again. The Branches were very generous in their donations to the Charitable Foundation, Bursary, District "C" Hospital Fund, Homeless Vets Program, RCEL and Track & Field.

It was our privilege to carry flags as part of the District Convention Color Party.

Robert & Rhonda Harrison



DISTRICT "C" CONVENTION COLOR PARTY

(L-R) Zone Sergeant-At-Arms Colin Hodson, Cdes John Funston, Steve Rice, Tony Bell, Robert Harrison, Rhonda Harrison, Ron James and Mo Boire.



REMEMBRANCE DAY



Sunday, November 11, we again meet to pay our deepest respect and honour our brave men and women who have paid the supreme sacrifice; we will stand beside our Veterans and thank them for all their sacrifice and pain so that we may live in freedom. God bless our Veterans!

10:30 a.m. Parade will form up at the Legion
10:55 a.m. Cenotaph Service & laying of Official Wreaths
11:30 a.m. Parade will march to the Tolmie Presbyterian Church for a service
12:45 p.m. Informal lunch will be served in the Canteen and the Main Hall for our Veterans and Family, Widows of our departed Veterans, Police & Fire Department, Town of Saugeen Shores Mayor & Council, Branch Members and Air Cadets

If you need further information, please contact Norma Dudgeon at 519 389-2876 or ndudgeon@eastlink.ca

Norma Dudgeon
Remembrance Day Chairman

LAST POST

November 2011 – November 2012



Bev Wark
John Gorwill
Jack Lambert
Robert Minke
Robert Craig
John Moore
Stan Pieza
Noreen Introcaso
Basil George
Charles Collins
Ron McArthur
Maxine Hyde



**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.**

~ Lest we Forget ~

In Flanders Fields Poem

By: Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae



In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch, be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, BRANCH 340 CHRISTMAS WHEELBARROW DRAW



Austin Graphics Inc. • 519-389-4402

L.L.# M674289

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

Must be 19 years of age to purchase
Tickets \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00



The Branch is once again selling tickets for the Christmas Wheelbarrow Draw. The prize is in an actual wheelbarrow and holds a variety of goodies for you to enjoy. Tickets are available at the Canteen and will also be sold by your fellow Comrades. Partial 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 goodies!!

Three men walked in to a bar. You think one of them would have seen it!

A Remembrance Day Story

He was very old now, but could still hold himself stiffly at attention before the monument. His war, the one to end all wars, now just a fading part of history. Very few could remember, first-hand, the savageness of the ordeal that had sent millions of young men to their deaths. Cannon fodder, they'd called them, sent before the guns to be mown down -- blown apart by chunks of metal which had decimated their frail bodies. The cream of a generation; almost wiped out. He was haunted by the faces of the boys he'd had to order into battle, the ones who'd never come back. Yet one nameless ghost was able to bring a measure of comfort to his tormented mind. At the sound of the gun signaling the eleventh hour he was mentally transported back to the fields of Flanders.

The battle had raged for over two hours, with neither side gaining any advantage. Wave after wave of soldiers had been dispatched from the muddy trenches and sent over the top. So many had died already that day that he decided he could not afford to lose any more men before reinforcements arrived. Perhaps they'd give the remnants a few more days of life. There came a slight lull in the battle due to the sheer exhaustion of the men on both sides.

During this interval, a young soldier came up to him requesting that he be allowed to go over the top. He looked at the boy who couldn't have been more than nineteen. Was this extreme bravery in the face of the enemy or was the soldier so scared he just needed to get it over with?

"Why would you want to throw your life away soldier? It's almost certain death to go out there."

"My best friend went out over an hour ago, Captain, and he hasn't come back. I know my friend must be hurt and calling for me. I must go to him, Sir, I must." There were tears in the boy's eyes. It was as if this were the most important thing in the world to him."

"Soldier, I'm sorry, but your friend is probably dead. What purpose would it serve to let you sacrifice your life too?"

"At least I'd know I'd tried, Sir, he'd do the same thing in my shoes. I know he would."

He was about to order the boy back to the ranks, but the impact of his words softened his heart. He remembered the awful pain he'd felt himself when his brother had died. He'd never had the chance to say goodbye.

"All right soldier, you can go." Despite the horror all around them, he saw a radiant smile on the boy's face, as if a great weight had been lifted from his shoulders.

"God bless you, Sir," said the soldier.

It was a long time before the guns fell silent for the last time and each side was allowed to gather their dead and wounded. The Captain remembered the young soldier. He looked through the many piles of bodies. Young men. So many as to give an unreal quality to the scene before him.

When he came to the makeshift hospital, he looked carefully through the casualties. He soon found himself before the prone body of the soldier, alive, but severely wounded. He knelt down beside the young man and gently laid a hand on his shoulder.

"I'm so sorry, son. I knew I was wrong to let you go."

"Oh no, Sir. I'm glad you did and I'm glad you're here now so I can thank you. You see Sir, I found my friend. He was badly wounded, but I was able to comfort him at the end. As I held him dying in my arms, he looked me in the eyes and said: 'I knew you'd come.'

The young soldier faded between consciousness and oblivion for some time before he finally slipped away. The Captain stayed by his side until the end, tears streaming quietly down his cheeks. Only in war could the happy endings be so terribly sad.

As the bugle sounded "Taps", the old Captain envisioned once again the young soldier's face. Looking up, he could almost hear the stone monument calling out to him: "I knew you'd come."

TURKEY & MEAT RAFFLES

**PORT ELGIN LEGION
630 GREEN STREET
519-389-9917**

Friday	December 7	8:00 pm
Saturday	December 8	4:00 pm
Saturday	December 15	4:00 pm
Saturday	December 22	4:00 pm

Variety of other meat prizes to be won

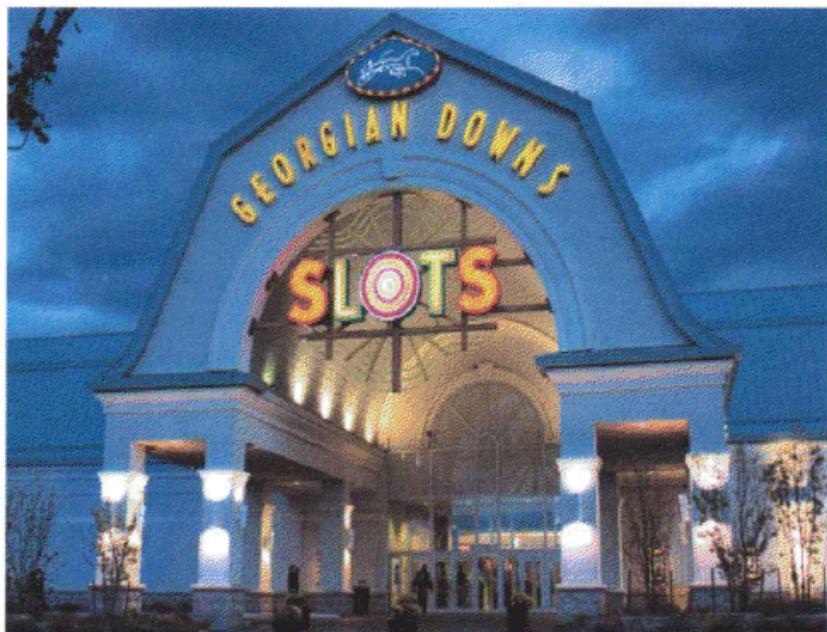
Everyone Welcome

**Bring your friends for a great time
We hope to see you there**



BUS TRIP TO GEORGIAN DOWNS CASINO

Monday November 19th



COST : \$25. PERSON

**DEPARTING FROM THE PORT ELGIN PLEX AT 9:30 AM
RETURNING FROM BARRIE TO PORT ELGIN APPROX. 8:00 PM**

RECEIVE \$10. IN CASINO BONUS

**Stop at Collingwood Legion on Return
where Pizza will be made available to purchase**

**Purchase your tickets in person at
Port Elgin Legion Canteen**



Port Elgin Legion Branch 340
630 Green Street
519-389-9917

TREE TRIMMING PARTY & CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Saturday, November 24, 2012



Be one of Santa's little Helpers and make a child's Christmas morning a little brighter by leaving a new unwrapped gift (to age 16) under our Christmas Tree.

**Or, let us do the shopping for you.
By placing your donation in one of the Toy Drive Jars
Special Elves will purchase the gifts with the proceeds.**

**Deadline for contributions is December 6th.
All gifts will be donated to the
Iota Phi Society for packaging and distribution.**





Port Elgin Legion – Branch 340
P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0
519-389-9917

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	2 BALLROOM DANCING 8:00 PM	3 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
4 JAMBOREE 2:00 – 5:00 PM	5 MONDAY NIGHT DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM	6 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM GEN. MTG. 7:30 PM	7 BINGO 7:30 PM	8 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	9 BALLROOM DANCING 8:00 PM	10
11 REMEMBRANCE DAY 	12 MONDAY NIGHT DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM	13 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM L/A GEN. MTG. 7:30 PM IN-HOUSE CIBBAGE 7:30 PM	14 BINGO 7:30 PM	15 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	16 BALLROOM DANCING 8:00 PM TRIVIA NITE 8:00 PM	17 MEAT ROLL 4:00 PM
18 ZONE CRIBBAGE HOSTED BY BRANCH 340	19 MONDAY NIGHT DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM	20 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM	21 BINGO 7:30 PM	22 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	23 BARBECUE 5:00 – 7:00 PM  BALLROOM DANCING 8:00 PM	24  TOY DRIVE & TREE TRIMMING
25	26 MONDAY NIGHT DART LEAGUE 8:00 PM	27 LADIES CARD GROUP 1:30 PM EXEC. MTG. 7:30 PM	28 BINGO 7:30 PM	29 EUCHRE 7:30 PM	30 EARLY BIRD CAMPAIGN ENDS	

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