



**Royal Canadian Legion   &   Port Elgin Branch 340**

# **Branch Line**

## **August 2021**

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street  
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0 519-389-9917  
Branch340@eastlink.ca    [www.Branch340.ca](http://www.Branch340.ca)

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. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line, please submit your articles to [Branch340newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Branch340newsletter@gmail.com).

As of July 16<sup>th</sup> Branch 340 was able to re-open under Phase 3. At present this includes our Club Room where all provincial guidelines will be adhered to. We hope that in the near future our weekly events can continue and the Games Room and upstairs hall will be available. We look forward to seeing you out and about.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Civic long weekend! Enjoy and stay safe!

If you no longer wish to receive the Branch Line newsletter, please leave a message at  
[Branch340newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Branch340newsletter@gmail.com)  
Accessible formats are available upon request



	<b>Port Elgin Royal Canadian Legion Branch 340</b> PO Box 359, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0 Phone: 519-389-9917 Fax: 226-453-3005 Branch340@eastlink.ca <a href="http://www.Branch340.ca">www.Branch340.ca</a>	
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## **2019 – 2020 BRANCH 340 EXECUTIVE**

<b>President</b>	Robert Harrison	<a href="mailto:bnrshow@eastlink.ca">bnrshow@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-4806
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Dan Kelly	<a href="mailto:dankelly@bmts.com">dankelly@bmts.com</a>	519-389-2352
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	Alex Taylor	<a href="mailto:alex.taylor@bmts.com">alex.taylor@bmts.com</a>	519-389-2616
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	Rhonda Harrison	<a href="mailto:bnrshow@eastlink.ca">bnrshow@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-4806
<b>Secretary</b>	Norma Dudgeon	<a href="mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca">Branch340@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-2876
<b>Treasurer</b>	Norma Dudgeon	<a href="mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca">Branch340@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-2876
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Mike Hobson	<a href="mailto:hobson@eastlink.ca">hobson@eastlink.ca</a>	519-386-6078
<b>Sports Officer</b>	Gord Kelly	<a href="mailto:gordonakelly1973@gmail.com">gordonakelly1973@gmail.com</a>	519-389-6057
<b>Chaplain</b>	Chuck Beaton	<a href="mailto:cjbeaton5@gmail.com">cjbeaton5@gmail.com</a>	519-797-5586
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	Tom Jacques	<a href="mailto:thjacques@bmts.com">thjacques@bmts.com</a>	519-832-6837
	Patty Kelly	<a href="mailto:gpkelly@bmts.com">gpkelly@bmts.com</a>	519-389-6057
	Gord Kelly	<a href="mailto:gordonakelly1973@gmail.com">gordonakelly1973@gmail.com</a>	519-389-6057
<b>LA Liaison</b>	Patty Kelly	<a href="mailto:gpkelly@bmts.com">gpkelly@bmts.com</a>	519-389-6057
<b>Bar Chairman</b>	Norma Dudgeon	<a href="mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca">Branch340@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-2876
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<b>Charity</b>	Rhonda Harrison	<a href="mailto:bnrshow@eastlink.ca">bnrshow@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-4806
<b>Hall Rental</b>	Norma Dudgeon	<a href="mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca">Branch340@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-2876
<b>Honours &amp; Awards</b>	Tom Jacques	<a href="mailto:thjacques@bmts.com">thjacques@bmts.com</a>	519-832-6837
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<b>Membership</b>	Dan Kelly	<a href="mailto:dankelly@bmts.com">dankelly@bmts.com</a>	519-389-2352
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<b>Sports</b>	Gord Kelly	<a href="mailto:gordonakelly1973@gmail.com">gordonakelly1973@gmail.com</a>	519-389-6057
<b>Veteran Services</b>	Mike Hobson	<a href="mailto:hobson@eastlink.ca">hobson@eastlink.ca</a>	519-386-6078
<b>Ways &amp; Means</b>	Tom Jacques	<a href="mailto:thjacques@bmts.com">thjacques@bmts.com</a>	519-832-6837
<b>Youth Education</b>	Patty Kelly	<a href="mailto:gpkelly@bmts.com">gpkelly@bmts.com</a>	519-389-6057
<b>Air Cadets Liaison</b>	Elizabeth Eby	<a href="mailto:bizebys@gmail.com">bizebys@gmail.com</a>	519-832-3133
<b>Nevada</b>	Andrew Reinhart	<a href="mailto:andyreinhart@hotmail.com">andyreinhart@hotmail.com</a>	519-708-0553
<b>Track &amp; Field</b>	Robert Harrison	<a href="mailto:bnrshow@eastlink.ca">bnrshow@eastlink.ca</a>	519-389-4806



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<b>2019-2020 LADIES AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE</b>	
<b>President</b>	Diana Tripp
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Marg Esplen (Servant of God)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	Anne Marie Kinsman
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	Sharen Maas
<b>Treasurer</b>	Diane Mills
<b>Secretary</b>	Vicky Taylor
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Anne Marie Kinsman
<b>Sports Officer</b>	Diane Mills
<b>Executive</b>	Meryl Cramp
	Linda Virgo



### President's Report



Another month has come and gone. Now we head into the dog days of summer.

As you might guess we don't have much happening at the Branch right now; but we are open and glad to see our Comrades once again. We are strictly following the Ontario guidelines for opening under Stage 3. Yes, you still have to sign in for contact tracing, wear a mask when not seated and the tables must be 6 feet apart.

We had our Executive meeting on last Tuesday night and all Branch business is up to date.

So if you are out and about on these hot summer days please drop by for a cold beverage in our air conditioned Club Room and share some stories with old and new friends.

Until then be safe and happy.

President Robert (Bob) Harrison  
bnrshow@eastlink.ca





## Bursary Report



Students are back to school as of September. Once on campus they can apply for a bursary. The bursary award for this year is \$750.00, the same as last year.

Application forms from Ontario Command can be downloaded at [www.on.legion.ca/rememberance/youth-programs](http://www.on.legion.ca/rememberance/youth-programs). If you have any questions or need assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cde Robert Harrison  
Bursary Chairman  
bnrshow@eastlink.ca



## Hall Rentals



### **NOTE: Hall rentals have been suspended until further notice.**

Once this COVID-19 pandemic is over we look forward to you booking our facility for your future social events.

Special consideration is given to the fee schedule when renting to non-profit organizations.

Please contact Norma Dudgeon at the Legion phone number (519) 389-9917 or email: [Branch340@eastlink.ca](mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca)





## Honours & Awards



Recognizing valued members for their contributions at our Legion is an important part of the Honours & Awards Chair.

When you nominate volunteer members, based on their efforts of ensuring our Branch functions continue, we build strong and continuous relationships, and we build a stronger Branch.

If you know anyone whom you feel should be shown appreciation, please contact me with this members particulars and confidentially the H&A Committee will evaluate the nomination.

Cde Tom Jacques  
Honours & Awards Chairman  
thjacques@bmts.com



### A Long Drive

A man had been driving all night to see his girlfriend at a university across the country and by morning was still far from his destination.

He decided to stop at the next city he came to and park somewhere quiet so he could get an hour or two of sleep.

As luck would have it, the quiet place he chose happened to be on one of the city's major jogging routes.

No sooner had he settled back to snooze when there came a knocking on his window. He looked out and saw a jogger running in place. "Yes?" "Excuse me, sir," the jogger said, "do you have the time?"

The man looked at the car clock and answered, "8:15." The jogger said thanks and left.

The man settled back again, and was just dozing off when there was another knock on the window and another jogger. "Excuse me, sir, do you have the time?" "8:25!" The jogger said thanks and left.

Now the man could see other joggers passing by and he knew it was only a matter of time before another one disturbed him.

To avoid the problem, he got out a pen and paper and put a sign in his window saying "I do not know the time!"

Once again he settled back to sleep. He was just dozing off when there was another knock on the window. "Sir, Sir? It's 8:45!"





## Membership



There are many benefits by becoming a Legion member. If you know of anyone that is not a member why not get them to sign up and become part of a community organization that supports our veterans and youth.

It is very rewarding to be part of this great organization. Some benefits are identified in the table below.

Benefits of Joining the Legion	Join your Local Branch	Call to Join 855-330-3344
Low annual fee	Dues vary by Branch. <i>Branch 340 fee \$ 55</i>	<b>\$ 55 Price includes taxes</b>
Support serving Military, RCMP Members, Veterans and their families	✓	✓
Help the Legion provide essential services within our communities	✓	✓
Meet new people and make friends within your community	✓	
Enjoy Branch activities and sports	✓	
Volunteer opportunities to help Veterans, your Branch and your community	✓	
Run for leadership opportunities within the Legion	✓	
Voting privileges at Convention (requires eligibility for Ordinary, Associate, or Affiliate Voting membership)	✓	
Receive a fully-paid subscription to <a href="#">LEGION Magazine</a>	✓	✓
Access great savings and deals through our <a href="#">Member Benefits Package</a>	✓	✓
Access to shopping at the <a href="#">members-only online store</a>	✓	✓
Join <a href="#">Legion Riders</a> , exclusively for Legion members	✓	✓
Receive your Official Legion Membership Card and Legion pin	✓	✓

\*To become a member of Canada's largest Veterans and community service organization, you must be 18 years of age or older; be a citizen of Canada, or a Commonwealth or NATO/Wartime Allied Country; and agree to The Royal Canadian Legion Terms of Eligibility.

There are four types of membership... Ordinary, Associate, Affiliate Voting, and Affiliate Non-voting. The information you provide at registration will determine your eligibility.



Branch 340 members are reminded to ensure their current information is up to date for the email address, mailing address and phone number. If you have recently had a change of address or other changes please leave the particulars with the Bar Steward and the Membership Register can be updated; or contact the undersigned.

It is no longer necessary to have any type of military background to become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion. We are always looking for new members and would like to see more people join our Branch. Please see the Bar Steward for applications.

Cde Dan Kelly  
Membership Chairman  
[dankelly@bmts.com](mailto:dankelly@bmts.com)



## CONTACT TRACING RECORD

**Please provide your name and phone number  
when entering the Club Room**

This information is necessary should we need to contact you as the Branch needs this information immediately for your health protection.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Branch 340 Executive





Renew your membership today!

The Legion's Early Bird Campaign is on until November 30th — don't miss your opportunity to maintain the many benefits of your Legion membership.

When you renew your membership by the early bird deadline, you:

- Keep your account in good standing
- Maintain years of continuous service
- Support the Branch and its programs
- Ensure delivery of LEGION Magazine

To renew your membership, visit our Branch before November 30th or mail your membership dues in the amount of \$50.00 directly to our address below.

For your convenience, you can also renew online at [portal.legion.ca](http://portal.legion.ca). Once registered online, you have the option to set your membership to auto-renew to be billed automatically each year.

Encourage a friend or family member to join, too! Every member makes a difference.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

#### **Branch Contact Information**

**Contact name:** Daniel Kelly

**Address:** 630 Green Street, P. O. Box 359

Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0

**Telephone:** 519-389-9917

**E-mail:** [Branch340@eastlink.ca](mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca)

**Renew today!**



*"You're late on the tee, John."*

*"Yes, well being a Sunday, I had to toss a coin to see if I should go to church or go and play golf."*

*"Okay, but why are you so late?"*

*"I had to toss it 15 times!"*





## Poppy



Starting to think about our 2021 Poppy Campaign and what will be required to have another successful campaign with COVID-19 is a significant concern. I suspect we will need a significant number of volunteers, especially, to support the work involved in an Ad Mail campaign which was very successful last year.

Our Veterans' needs are a year around endeavour and this year's Poppy Campaign success will mean that more Funds are available to be used to address their most urgent needs. We appreciate any donations made throughout the year. Each year we have Veterans and projects that need assistance.

As always, if any member is aware of any veteran, whether a Legion member or not, who may need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mike Hobson, our Branch Service Officer, who can contact the veteran directly to assess any support that may be required.

With the limitations put on us due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will look forward to seeing you, our members and friends, at what limited events we are able to participate in over the upcoming months. In particular, our Friday evening get together's at the Legion, when allowed, provide us with some social interaction as we continue to strive to assist and comfort our Veterans who have served us so well!

### Lest We Forget!

In Comradeship,  
Alex Taylor  
Poppy Chairman  
Home -519-389-2616 or cell 519-385-0816  
Email: alex.taylor@bmts.com



*Q: What did the bartender say after Charles Dickens ordered a martini?*

*A: "Olive or twist?"*





## Veteran Services



**Port Elgin Legion Branch 340**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

During this time of crisis any veteran that requires assistance including financial aid may contact the Port Elgin Legion Veterans Service Officer for assistance and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Contact: Port Elgin Legion Branch 340  
Veteran Service Officer  
branch340@eastlink.ca  
519-832-2903

Your Royal Canadian Legion is committed to making a difference in the lives of Veterans and their families, providing essential services in our communities, and remembering the men and women who sacrificed for our country.

**Legion** 



Golfer to caddie: "Why do you keep looking at your watch? I find it very distracting."  
Caddie: "It's not a watch, sir – it's a compass."



### **Willpower!**

*The fisherman can sit for 2 hours, looking at the float, without moving, and he does not have enough nerves to wait just for 5 minutes while his wife is dressing up.*



### **Youth Education**



The 2021 Youth Education Information package has already arrived at the Branch Office. This has me thinking about the students returning to school with their summer break half over.

There are no notable changes to the Rules and Regulations of the Remembrance Day Poster & Literary Competitions. Our school packages will only need some “polishing”. The Branch’s First Place entries must be forwarded on by November 30th to the Zone Level competition. Our deadlines will be set accordingly; to be announced next month.

Unfortunately the Ontario Command Remembrance Video Competition is not going to be offered for the next two academic years. This was disappointing news to receive as this form of competition had a modern edge appeal. As you would have read in last month’s bulletin Northport Elementary School proudly placed Third in the Group Video Junior Level Competition. One can only speculate that perhaps more schools in our catchment area may have been inspired to enter this media competition.

On a personal note, I am impressed that the Royal Canadian Legion announced a change to their literature to reflect gender neutral language. Why does this even matter? The Royal Canadian Legion will be demonstrating through their language that all gender equality is respected.

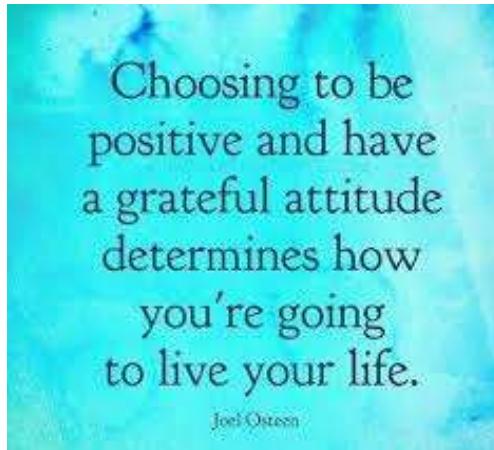
We will Remember Them

Patty Kelly  
Youth Education Chairman  
[branch340youthed@gmail.com](mailto:branch340youthed@gmail.com)



***Something to think about ... only here ...***

... can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.  
... are there handicap parking places in front of a skating rink.  
... do drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions.  
... do people order double cheese burgers, large fries, and diet coke.  
... do banks leave both doors wide open and then chain the pens to the counter.  
... do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars out in the driveway and keep useless pieces of junk in the garage.  
... do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place.  
... do we buy hot-dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight.  
... do we have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering.



**Raise**

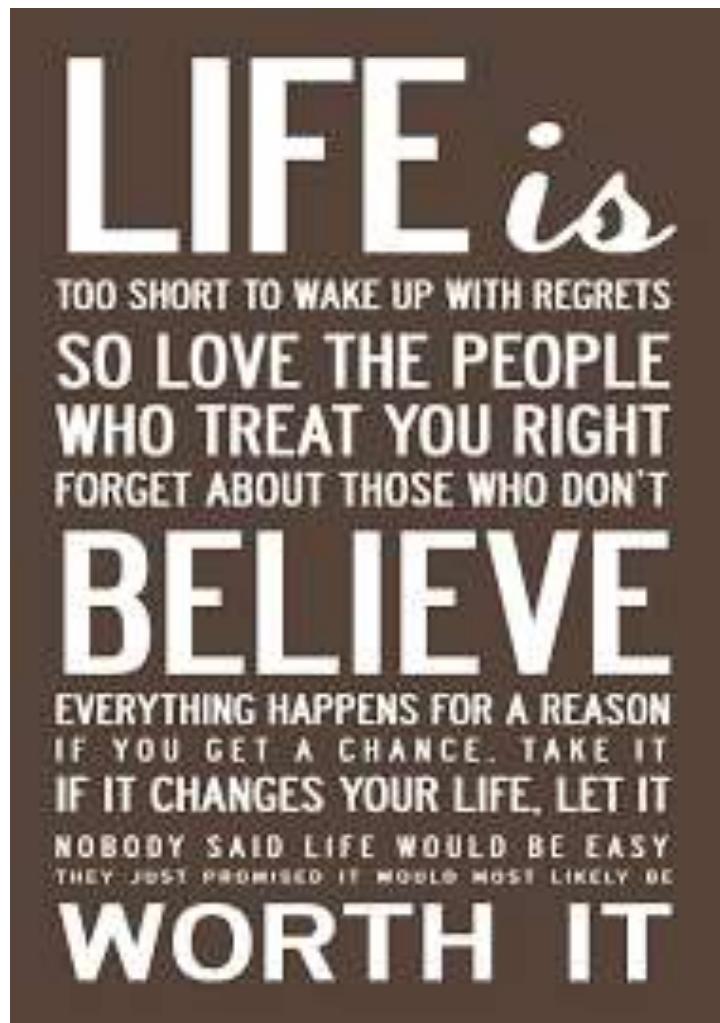
Jacob walks into his boss's office. "Sir, I'll be straight with you, I know the economy isn't great, but I have over three companies after me, and I would like to respectfully ask for a raise." After a few minutes of negotiating the boss finally agrees to a 5% raise, and Jacob happily gets up to leave.

"By the way", asks the boss as Jacob is getting up, "which three companies are after you?" "The electric company, water company, and phone company", Jacob replied.



### **Look Mom**

A boy was riding his bicycle and he sees his mom on the porch.  
He releases the handle and yells to his mom "Look mom, no hands!"  
His mom replies "Be careful, honey..."  
Then he releases his legs from the pedals and says "Look mom, no legs!"  
His mom replies more sternly "Be careful, honey..."  
The little boy then abruptly falls to the dismay of his mom.  
The boy slowly gets back up and says "Look mom, no teeth!"



The husband is going fishing, his wife grumbles at him: -  
Going fishing again, I bet you'll be back late, completely  
drunk and without fish.

The doorbell rings at 3:00 am in the morning. The wife  
opens the door and faces her drunken husband.  
He says - See, you jinxed me, are you happy now?



### Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary



We continue to make our way through this pandemic with no activities happening for us but, we just entered Stage 3 which includes indoor dining BUT our local Health Unit is requesting that we go into a modified Stage 3 which states NO indoor dining and only up to 5 people attending an indoor setting, this is just a request currently, not a requirement.

If you are like me, you're itching to get away somewhere, go out somewhere be with family and friends but, until this pandemic has passed we must be vigilant. Go with your heart but, do it safely.



On another topic it is with mixed feelings that I have to report that Diane Mills will be moving out of our zone September 15<sup>th</sup>, she is our Deputy Zone Commander and our Auxiliary Treasurer and will be resigning these positions immediately. In addition to those duties Diane was also the Sports Officer and Honors and Awards Officer she will be missed so, so much.

Having said that, your Auxiliary will require someone to take over these positions and this needs to occur quickly. Diane has advised me that she is willing to train the member in the Treasurers duties so please if you are able and willing to take on this position can you please let Diana or myself know so that we can move forward and be ready when we open up again.

Here is the list of positions/jobs that require a new leader:

1. Treasurer
2. Sports Officer
3. Honors and Awards Officer
4. Phoning List Updates – when required

Thank you.

Please stay healthy, looking forward to meeting up with all of you once again.

Cde Vicky Taylor  
vicky.taylor@bmts.com



#### **My dear friends in the Port Elgin Ladies Auxiliary:**

How do I say goodbye without tears? I say it with all of the good memories you've created to take with me. Cherished friendships and the wealth of knowledge and experience you've all shared with me. You helped me grow in confidence to accept the different positions within our auxiliary and as Deputy Zone Commander. I also say goodbye with excitement and joy because we're moving closer to family and downsizing our lifestyle.

I am moving to Goderich and will transfer my membership. I'm hoping their kitchen comradery will be as much fun as ours. What a blast we had sometimes!!!! Wherever I am, you'll all be in my thoughts and prayers. On parade, at meetings, sports nights, convention...we'll meet again I'm sure.

I found this inspiring story that conveys my sentiments to you....

Yours in Comradeship  
Diane Mills



### ***Be Thankful For the Journey***

Life is like a journey on a train with its stations, with changes of routes and with accidents.

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel at our side.

However at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.

As time goes by, other people will board the train. And they will be significant...such as siblings, friends, children and even Ladies Auxiliary comrades.

Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats.

This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, and farewells.

Success consists of having a good relationship with all of the passengers, requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is we do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So we must live in the best way – Love, Forgive and offer the best of who we are.

It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty; we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life without us.

I wish you a joyful journey for the future on your train of life. Reap success. Give lots of love and be happy. More importantly, be thankful for the journey.

Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on my train.



### ***Running Shoes***

Deciding to take up jogging, the man was astounded by the wide selection of jogging shoes available at the local sports shoe store.

While trying on a basic pair of jogging shoe, he noticed a minor feature and asked the Clerk: "What is this little pocket thing here on the side for?"

And the Clerk: "Oh, that's to carry spare change so you can call your wife to come pick you up when you've jogged too far."





**\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\***  
**Saturday**  
**September 4th at**  
**2:00pm**  
Municipal Office  
600 Tomlinson Drive  
Port Elgin  
**\*\*Proceeds if COVID-19 Protocols allow\*\***

## Celebrate Local History

### Ladies in Uniform Plaque Dedication

Come and join the Saugeen Shores Municipal Heritage Committee when an Interpretive Plaque that will pay tribute to the Ladies that served our community in WWI and WWII will be unveiled. The war time stories of these ladies, who served our country will be told.

Refreshments will be provided

### HERITAGE MATTERS

[saugeenshores.ca/heritage](http://saugeenshores.ca/heritage)



"Wake up. The cat's got your teeth."





## **MEMBERSHIP**



**Renewal dues will be increasing as of  
December 1, 2021 to \$55.00**

**Pay today to receive the  
Early Bird Discount - \$50.00**

*Dan Kelly, Membership Chair*

**Renew today!**



**Hoof'in It –Your Local Butcher**  
1199 Goderich St #A Port Elgin (519) 389-6328

Due to COVID-19 Hoof'in It would like to offer Branch 340 members  
a 10% discount.

Golf..... I play in the low 80's. If it's any hotter than that, I won't play.



## National Notable Dates August 2021

- 1 NORAD formed (1957)
- 6-8 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships
- 9 Canadian Peacekeepers Day
- 12-19 Dominion Convention
- 12 International Youth Day
- 15 Victory over Japan (1945)
- 19 Dieppe Raid (1942)



We may encounter  
many defeats,  
but we must not  
be defeated.

—MAYA ANGELOU



"Good friends are like stars.  
You don't always see them,  
But you know they're always there."



## What Are the Dog Days of Summer?

The term “Dog Days” traditionally refers to a period of particularly hot and humid weather occurring during the summer months of July and August in the Northern Hemisphere.

In ancient Greece and Rome, the Dog Days were believed to be a time of drought, bad luck, and unrest, when dogs and men alike would be driven mad by the extreme heat. Today, the phrase doesn’t conjure up such bad imagery. Instead, the Dog Days are associated purely with the time of summer’s peak temperatures and humidity.

## Why Are They Called the “Dog Days” of Summer?

This period of sweltering weather coincides with the year’s heliacal (meaning “at sunrise”) rising of Sirius, the Dog Star. Sirius is part of the constellation Canis Majoris—the “Greater Dog”—which is where Sirius gets its canine nickname, as well as its official name, Alpha Canis Majoris. Not including our own Sun, Sirius is the brightest star in the sky.

In ancient Greece, Egypt, and Rome, it was believed that the dawn rising of Sirius in mid- to late summer contributed to the extreme weather of the season. In other words, the “combined heat” of super-bright Sirius and our Sun was thought to be the cause of summer’s sweltering temperatures. The name “Sirius” even stems from Ancient Greek *seírios*, meaning “scorching.”

For the ancient Egyptians, the dawn rising of Sirius (known to them as “Sothis”) also coincided the Nile River’s flood season. They used the star as a “watchdog” for that event.

Of course, the appearance of Sirius does not actually affect seasonal weather here on Earth, but its appearance during the hottest part of summer ensures that the lore surrounding the star lives on today.

Article from The Old Farmer’s Almanac

