

The Royal Canadian Legion, Orillia Branch 34
215 Mississauga St., E Orillia, Ontario L3V 1W2

Vet's Gazette

January 2024



Congratulations

*Diane Craig, Barb White, Sandra Evans and Sandy Robertson are shown with the trophy they won in the Ladies Auxiliary Zone Dart Tournament. Because of their win the Ladies Auxiliary will host the 2024 tournament and their team along with the team of Pam Webb, Sharon Monahan, Dorothy Cotter and Izzy Broughton, who placed 4th, will compete in the District tournament in the spring. **Well done ladies!***

In Flanders Fields

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.

Col John McCrae

Branch Officers

President - Rick Purcell	705-330-4815
Immediate Past President - Bob Thomas	705-325-4695
1st Vice-President Chuck Penny	705-955-2548
2nd Vice -President Rob McCrone	705-687-7390
Treasurer - Brian Robertson	705-327-1825
Cathy Colwill	705-350-0126
Sandra Evans	705-826-8977
Michel Rousseau	705-241-6302
Barry VanKoughnett	705-350-0261
Jane Lawson	705-330-1056
Padre Gerry McMillan	705-329-0338
Padre Terry Bennett	705-329-0289
Padre James McKean	705-325-3859
Sergeant-at-Arms	
Colour Sergeant -	
Service Bureau – Peter DeVillers	705-326-2198

Committee Chairs

Poppy – Bob Thomas
Membership - Cathy Colwill
Sports - Barry VanKoughnett
Ways and Means - Michel Rousseau, Sandra Evans
PRO - Rob McCron
Youth Education - Kate Palmer
Bingo, Air Cadets, Minor Ball – Rick Purcell
Soldiers' Memorial Hospital - Chuck Penny
Seniors - Jane Lawson

Office Personnel

Administrator	Sherry Bloodworth
Office	705-325-8442
Bar	705-325-1266

Special Events

Scottish Festival Carrie Dunn	
Angela Paylor	705-323-9759

Special Committee Chairs

Legion Crest Complex	Peter DeVillers	705-326-2198
Pipe Band Manager	Heather Shelswell	705-484-5433
Sick & Visiting	Jane Lawson	705-330-1056

Ladies Auxiliary Officers

President	Beverly Brennan	705-331-3195
1 ST Vice President	Brenda Watt	705-325-8104
2 ND Vice President	Pam Webb	705-796-0755
Secretary/ Treasurer		
Laury McCullough	705-717-9643	
Sports Officer	Pam Webb	705-796-0755
Sgt at Arms	Sandra Evans	705-826-8977
Membership	Stacie Swinton	705-826-2108

Executive Committee & Chairs

Banquet convenor-	Dorothy Cotter	705-955-1884
	Brenda Watt	705-325-8104
Ways & Means - Craft Sale - Darts		
	Sherry Campbell	705-715-8861
	Candy Cashen	705-826-7907
Sick & Visiting	Jane Lawson	705-330-1056
Social	Sharon Monahan	705-826-4190
	Sandy Robertson	705-259-0512
Phoning Captain	Sharon Ross	705-727-9654
Monday Cards	Sandra Evans	705-826-8977

Address Vet's Gazette Correspondence to:
Kate Palmer,

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 34
215 Mississauga St. E., Orillia ON. L3V 1W2
Phone (705) 325-8442 Fax (705) 325-3758

Our email address is:
royalcdnlg34@rogers.com
Our Web Site is <http://www.orillialegion.com>

President's Message

I hope everyone had a happy and safe Christmas and I hope you all have a very Happy New Year.

2023 was an interesting year after the COVID scare. Things slowly tried to get back to normal. Bingos started up, sports started to come back, And events tried to restart.

The Scottish Festival had to move to Tudhope Park because of the construction around the Legion and around Couchiching Park.

There were no events at Couchiching Park this past summer and the Legion events struggled with the construction and lack of parking.

With our Remembrance Day, we were able to bring back the parade from the hospital to the Legion. Many members were pleased to see the parade brought back.

The construction around the Legion is now completed with Centennial Drive now open, and the road beside the Legion now open. This means you can now park beside the Legion down towards the skate park.

The City has agreed to name the road beside the Legion as 'Veterans Way' due to the hard work of comrade Len Thorne. Unfortunately comrade Len Thorne passed away before seeing his dream come true.

Friday's Meat Darts and Draws and Fun Darts are one of the Legion's regular events every Friday evening. Come out and bring some friends and have some fun social time. If numbers increase we can get back to the way Meat Darts and Fun Darts used to be.

The Orillia Legion had a very successful Santa Claus kids party in December. We thank Kate Palmer and all the volunteers who helped make this event a success.

We also gave out veteran gift bags prior to Christmas to all the veterans we know of. This is a well received event by our veterans just ahead of Christmas. We had some veteran boxes donated which included some snacks and personal items, and the

Legion purchased small items for the veteran bags. Again we thank the thoughtful people who donated as well as the volunteers who put the packages together and delivered them to the veterans, most in senior homes or nursing homes.

The Early Bird memberships started in September and have been going well. The regular price returned in January. If you have not already renewed your membership, come in to the Legion Monday through Friday between 12 and 4 when the membership office is open and renew your membership for 2024.

As always we are very grateful for the support of our Ladies Auxiliary who celebrated their 95th Anniversary this year and made a very generous donation to the branch.

On a sad note we had to say goodbye to our administrator Laura Simpson who left after almost five years of dedicated service. She will be missed and we wish her good luck in the new chapter of her life. We welcome Sherri Bloodworth as our new administrator.

Come back and support the Legion. We need your support to be successful.

Yours in comradeship:

Rick Purcell,

President, Branch 34

Last Post *Lest We Forget*

Gifkins, Hubert Douglas, Home Guard,
World War II, Ordinary Member Branch 34
11/11/23

Thorne, Lennard Elliott CD., Canadian
Regular Forces, Ordinary Member Branch 34,
83 years old, 11/13/23

**At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We Will Remember Them**

Service Officer's Report

Do you qualify for Disability Benefits?

Veteran Affairs Canada (VAC) provides financial payments through the Disability Benefits Program to individuals who have a service-related illness or injury. To receive a disability benefit, you must have a diagnosed medical condition or disability and show that the condition or disability is related to your service.

There are two types of disability benefits both are-tax free. The Disability Award provides financial support, in the form of a lump-sum payment or as annual instalments over a period of years. The Disability Pension provides this support through a monthly payment.

Who qualifies for the Disability Award?

Canadian Armed Forces members or Veterans who served between 1947 and today (excluding Korean War services).

Who qualifies for the Disability Pension?

Veterans who served in the Canadian Armed Forces or the Merchant Navy in the Second World War or the Korean War:

Civilians who served in close support of the military during the Second World War

Current and former members of the Royal Mounted Police RCMP)

How to apply?

Contact Royal Canadian Legion Branch 34 phone 705 325 8442 and ask to speak to Peter DeVillers

Submitted by

Peter DeVillers

Service Officer

Branch 34

Upcoming Dances to look forward to

Saturday
January 20
Charlotte and the Dirty Cowboys

Saturday
February 17
Bob Taylor

Saturday
May 18
Dinner Dance with Even Steven

**Watch the
bulletin boards
for details**

Ladies Auxiliary President's Report

Comrades

On October 14 we celebrated our 95th Anniversary with dinner followed by honours and awards presentations. The past president's committee outdid themselves. Dinner and presentations went perfectly. What was very special is that the families of past presidents attended as well. Yolanda McKenna 3rd Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary Ontario Command presented two life memberships and Trillium pins. There were Certificates of Merit given out as well as two very deserving members received the President's Award. The Deputy District E Commander Betty Smith and Zone Commander Helen Smith were in attendance as was our local politicians MP Adam Chambers, MPP Jill Dunlop and Mayor Don McIsaac. Finally, the Ladies Auxiliary donated \$10,000.00 to the Branch at this dinner.

We held the annual Christmas Craft show in November and was a huge success. The Tri Service Room and the Vimy Room were full of vendors and their wares. Thank you to the Ways & Means Committee in charge.

The ladies did very well in sports taking first and fourth place in team darts. We will be hosting team darts in 2024. A popsicle stick dart tournament was held and was well attended and is always a lot of fun.

Brenda and I treated the ladies to a Christmas Dinner at our December meeting, and it was delicious. Just a little pat on the back to the cooks. Thank you to all the ladies that volunteered to set up and clean up. There was a great response to donations to the food bank. The staff at the food bank were very happy and appreciative to see all the food donations.

We do not hold meetings in January and February, we take a break. Although we

will continue to keep busy with luncheons and we did lunch for the Branch's New Years Eve Party.

Our general meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month starting at 7 p.m. For our executive members our meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. We are always looking for new members please come and join us.

I hope you all had a safe and Merry Christmas and offer best wishes for a Happy New Year

Yours in comradeship

Bev Brennan

President Branch 34 Ladies Auxiliary





Christmas 2023



Open Mic Music Jam

January 14,
February 11,
March 10
April 14
2 to 5 p.m.
In The Vimy Room

Admission
\$5.00 per person



Sandra Evans, Jane Lawson and Cathy Colwill attended a combined Zone E4 and E5 workshop at Coldwater Branch 270 in the fall. Seminars and workshops are great tools for anyone interested in getting more involved with the branch.

Come to the *Trail Walk Café* *At The Legion*

Every Friday, Saturday
and Sunday
(and holiday Mondays)
From 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Sides

Home Fries	\$3.75
Cheese	\$1.75
Swiss, Cheddar, Mozzarella	
Mushrooms	\$0.95
Trio of Sweet Peppers	\$0.95
3 Bacons, 3 Hams or 2 Sausages	\$3.95
3 Peameal	\$4.50
Toast	\$2.95
Plain Bagel	\$2.95

Drinks

Canned Pop	\$1.40
Bottled Water	\$1.25
Hot Chocolate	\$2.25
Milk (Chocolate or White)	\$1.90
Orange Juice	\$2.50
Apple Juice	\$2.50
Coffee	\$2.50
Tea	\$2.50

TAXES NOT INCLUDED

Trail Walk Café At The Legion

Breakfast

2 Eggs Your Way	\$6.25
Add Bacon, Ham or Sausage	\$8.95
Add Peameal	\$9.50
Add Steak	\$14.50

Big Breakfast	\$13.25
3 Eggs Your Way, 2 Bacon	
2 Sausage, 2 Ham	

Cheesy Breakfast	\$11.50
2 Eggs, Ham, Bacon or Sausage	
with Fried Scalloped Potatoes	

Corn Beef and Hash & Eggs	\$12.50
Corn Beef, Caramelized Onion	
Home Fries, Eggs	

Waffles	\$8.95
with fruit	\$9.95

Pancakes	\$8.95
with fruit	\$9.95

3 French Toast	\$8.50
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All Breakfasts include
Fresh Home Fries, Toast,
Coffee or Tea

**PLEASE ASK FOR
YOUR BREAKFAST CARD**

Buy 9 breakfasts, get the 10th one free!

Omelettes

Vegetarian	\$7.95
Spinach & Feta	\$7.95
Meat Lovers (Ham, Bacon	\$10.95
and Sausage)	
Classic Western	\$9.25
Mushroom Swiss	\$9.85
Mediterranean	\$10.75

Benedict

Salmon	\$11.75
Peameal	\$10.50
Ham	\$9.95
Bacon	\$9.75
Sausage	\$9.75
Spinach	\$9.75

Lighter Options

Bagel with cream cheese	\$4.99
Smoked Salmon, Red Onion	\$8.99
Capers, Cream Cheese	

Sandwiches

Vegetarian	\$11.95
Steak	\$14.95
Western	\$8.95
Bacon & Egg	\$7.95
Clubhouse	\$11.50
BLT	\$7.95
Grilled Cheese	\$6.95
Reuben	\$11.95

Sick and Visiting

Hello Comrades :

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas & 2024 is one of your best years ever.

I've learned a lot as your Sick and visiting representative, chatting with you has given me clarity when I needed it. You've dried my tears more than a few times. I just wanted to thank you all for your support. My hope is moving forward we can do even better

There are many care homes in Orillia. Thankyou, Brian Robertson for helping us revise our list. Hopefully we can get enough volunteers to service them all but for now we hope to visit Birchmere, Trillium, Oak Terrace, Hillcrest, Leacock and Sundial. They have been identified as homes with vets as residents. So lets begin there.

Volunteers will be asked to visit a home monthly following any restrictions they have in place (masking, handwashing and covid rapid tests are the requirements at time of writing.) Also hoping to have volunteers for visits to Soldiers' Memorial Hospital - we are working out details.

Please consider joining our Sick and Visiting group. I'm certain our comrades would be delighted to see you.

Sincerely,

Jane Lawson

Acting Sick and Visiting Committee Chair

Thank You

To Santa and his "helpers"

Many thanks for the Children's Christmas Party. It was wonderful. Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

*Shirley Samarelli
and the Wimpory family*

2024 District Sports

8-Ball

Saturday, February 3rd
Angus Branch 499

Deadline for registration January 12

Snooker

Saturday, February 17
Barrie Branch 147

Deadline for registration February 2

Seniors Darts

(55 years or older)

Saturday, March 2,

Victoria Harbour Branch 523

Deadline for registration February 16

Eucre

Saturday, March 23,

Newmarket Branch 426

Deadline for registration March 1

Shuffleboard

Saturday, April 13,

Mount Albert Branch 382

Deadline for registration March 28

Mixed Darts

Saturday April 27,

Victoria Harbour Branch 523

Deadline for registration April 12

***Registration times and fees are
posted on the bulletin board.***

**Payment must be made in full at
time of registration. All team
members must be Legion
members . You need to show your
card the day of the tournament.**

***For more information contact
Barry VanKoughnett
705-350-0261***



Join us for a Trivia fundraiser

Join us at the Orillia Legion on Jan 28 as we raise a pint to Rabbie Burns and celebrate pieces of knowledge you either know or call a friend in hopes they know. While the trivia will be general knowledge, you may be tested with a question or two on Scotland's most famous Baird. Save the date and follow us on social media for more details like how to register yourself or your team!

Orillia Scottish Festival

Planning for the 46th Orillia Scottish Festival is well underway. We are looking forward to hosting everyone during the weekend of July 19, 20, 21, 2024.

This year we are excited to announce the clan we will be honouring is Clan Fleming.

The Committee is seeking volunteers to participate in the planning of the event as well to help run activities on the day. If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to us at the email below.

As always, we can be reached at Orilliascottishfestival@gmail.com. Visit the Orillia Scottish Festival website www.scottishfestival.ca and our social media platforms to stay up to date with fundraising events and information for the festival weekend.

Be sure to circle July 19, 20, 21,

2024 on your calendar so you don't miss out!

Find us on:

- Facebook - [@orilliascottishfestival](https://www.facebook.com/orilliascottishfestival)
- Instagram - [@orilliascottish](https://www.instagram.com/orilliascottish)
- Twitter - [@orilliascotfest](https://twitter.com/orilliascotfest)

Web: scottishfestival.ca or scan the QR code to go to the website here:



Until we see one another, SOCIABLE!

Angela Paylor and Carrie Dunn

Co- chairs, Orillia Scottish Festival
orilliascottishfestival@gmail.com

Membership

After a successful Early Bird campaign we have 1,047 members (as of December 6/23) and continue to attract new members. The Early Bird campaign is over so the membership fee for 2024 has returned to \$70.00.

If you know anyone who wants to join the branch they can see me in the Membership Office Monday to Friday from noon to 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cathy Colwill

Membership Chair

Random Shots

There's always someone around with a camera (usually Rob McCron or Kate Palmer). Here are a few extra pictures taken over the past few months. **Top left**, Santa with Sandra Evans one of the elves assisting with the Children's Christmas Party, **Centre left**, two of the players of the Orillia Terriers Junior C Hockey club assisting with the Poppy Tag Days. **Bottom picture** shows Mayor Don McIsaac, left and Councillor Jay Fallis, right with branch members Bob Thomas (Poppy Chair), Kate Palmer, Rick Crouch, and Brian Robertson at the raising of the Poppy Flag at the start of Legion Weeks in the City of Orillia. **Picture below** shows it takes three people to wrap some gifts - Cathy Colwill, Barb Thomas and Linda Bristow got the job done.



Poppy Report

wish all members of Branch 34 and especially all Veterans a happy and healthy New Year.

Comrades

It's now January and the 2023 Poppy Campaign seems so long ago. To acknowledge everyone who contributed to the success of the campaign would be impossible. For the assistance of the taggers, those who distributed counter top boxes, and the money counters we are eternally grateful. When the two Tag Days started there were only a couple of empty spots on the Tag Board. Special thanks has to go to Barb Hird who kept track of where the taggers were going and to Marg Robertson and Angela Paylor who took charge of the counting room. Unfortunately Covid hit a few of our Tag Day money counting volunteers but they were able to return for the counting of the counter top boxes two weeks later. Thanks also to the volunteers from the Orillia Terriers Junior C Hockey team, the 99 Lynx Squadron Air Cadets and the Navy League Cadets for assisting with Tag Days. It is always so nice to see young people involved in anything to do with Remembrance Day.

Just four days before Christmas volunteers gathered to fill 130 bags of "goodies" that were later delivered to veterans in long-term care and retirement homes. We hope we made the holidays a little brighter with this small gift.

Our Service Officer, Peter DeVillers continues to get calls from veterans in need of assistance. Please call him if you or anyone you know needs help.

Members of the Poppy Committee

Respectfully submitted by

The Poppy Committee



*Volunteers who assisted with the Veteran's Christmas Bags shown above are from the left: Peter Gould, Marg Robertson, Linda DeVillers, Jane Lawson, Peter DeVillers, Bob Thomas, Barb Thomas and Brian Robertsom. **Thank you for your help.***





Mil and the Thrills entertained a sold out crowd at Branch 34 on New Year's Eve and by all accounts a wonderful time was had by all. Thanks to our Ways and Means Committee for organizing such a great event.



DARTS

**Come out to
Branch 34 every
Wednesday at 1 p.m.
for a fun
afternoon of darts and
comradeship.**

*Any skill level acceptable
- just a fun way to pass a
Wednesday afternoon -*



Save your beer can and pop can tabs

and bring them to the branch.

*Branch 34 member
Gary Nicholson*

*collects them from the branch and
other restaurants in the area and
takes them to a scrap yard. The
money received is then donated to*

Soldiers' Memorial Hospital

*(It would be appreciated if you would
separate coloured tabs from
the silver ones)*

These are real notes written by parents

Spelling has been left intact.

My son is under a doctor's care and should not take PE today. Please excuse him.

Dear school: please excuse John being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and also 33.

Please excuse Gloria from Jim today. She is administering.

Please excuse Roland from p.e. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.

John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.

Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He was hurt in the growing part.

Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.

Chris will not be in school cuz he has an acre in his side.

Please excuse Ray Friday from school... He has very loose vowels.

Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea, and his boots leak.

Irving was absent yesterday because he missed his bust.

Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his father's fault.

I kept Billie home because she had to go Christmas shopping because I don't know what size she wears.

Please excuse Jennifer for missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it Monday. We thought it was Sunday.

Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.

My daughter was absent yesterday because she was tired. She spent a weekend with the marines.

Please excuse Jason for being absent yesterday. He had a cold and could not breathe well.

Please excuse Mary for being absent yesterday. She was in bed with gramps.

Gloria was absent yesterday as she was having a hangover.

Please excuse Brenda. She has been sick and under the doctor.

Maryann was absent December 11-16, because she had a fever, sore throat, headache and upset stomach. Her sister was also sick, fever and sore throat, her brother had a low grade fever and ached all over. I wasn't the best either, sore throat and fever... There must be something going around, her father even got hot last night.

Now we know why parents are screaming for better education for our kids



Remembrance Day 2023



Artist Spotlight Dan Houghton



Dan Houghton posing in front of Operation Presence-Mali crest (Courtesy of The Steel Spirit)

Dan Houghton, originally from Saskatoon, sought out on an adventure and journey, to see life as he had never seen it before. In 2004, Dan joined the Royal Canadian Navy where he became a Naval Electronic Sensor Operator, and was posted to HMCS St John's, in Halifax. However, there was one element of Dan's life not yet fulfilled.

When Dan's three-year commitment to the navy concluded, he returned to Saskatoon to catch the butterfly in his heart, Christine. Their relationship blossomed, they fell deeply in love, and married in 2007.

Still, Dan missed military life. In 2009, with Christine's support, he enrolled into the Royal Canadian Air Force as an Aviation Technician and was posted to 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron in Edmonton.

Christine knew in words what military life would be, and she recognized the dynamic journey that military members and their families travel. Dan and Christine's family then grew – between Dan's deployments in Afghanistan, Iraq, Mali, and Operation Lentus's (the Canadian Armed Forces response to natural disasters in

Canada).

Dedicated to each other, Christine became the springboard and motivation in Dan's art. To celebrate their annual nuptial, he has honoured their commitment to each other by creating traditional gift art work in theme with that anniversary year. The first year's bestowal is paper. Dan learned calligraphy and wrote a book of poems dedicated to Christine.

Since then, he has experimented with different mediums and discovered favourites along the way.

Prior to their third anniversary, Dan was deployed to Afghanistan. When bits of spare time were available, he created a tooled leatherwork for Christine. During his out of country reunion with Christine, he was able to present this gift in time for their anniversary.

Dan and Christine were married in the month of December, and the fourth traditional gift is flowers. Dan painted a red rose set on a backdrop of snow. This work reveals remarkable shading, stark contrast, and detail. It was this piece of art that Dan articulated expression through the complex movement of paint.

On their fifth anniversary, he created a tree of life fashioned from twisted wire. In year nine, Dan created a stained-glass willow tree, symbolizing the growth of his supportive family.





A fellow technician, Nicole Reid, wrote, "I met Dan on a deployment to Gao, Mali in 2018. Being my first deployment, I learned a lot from Dan and respected how he could communicate with all sections. I viewed him as a mentor to better myself as a technician, so it came as a complete surprise for us to learn that we both love art. That mutual enthusiasm has fostered an ongoing wonderful friendship and was an outlet during our tour."

Dan's service to the Canadian Armed Forces is drawing to a close and he, Christine, and their children will remain in the Edmonton area. His schedule is less hectic, he is able to spend more time with his family – and is able to pursue fresh art ideas, such as portrait and figure drawing with charcoal.

Dan's most meaningful gift to Christine is titled "Coming Home," following his last deployment to Mali. It is a self-portrait of him and Christine, in a silhouette of wire, contained within a shadow box. This challenging project bares the sentiment of returning to a loved one after being away far too long.

Welcome home, Dan!

This article was written by
Dan Lintner
(Retired Military Police)
A Steel Spirit Volunteer



The Steel Spirit is a platform for artwork submissions by Military, First Responder and Hospital Practitioners. They are always looking for new and emerging artists with and without experience, from every background and every age. For more information or if you would like to be involved, please visit: www.thesteelspirit.ca

Youth Education

This year over 350 students from schools in Orillia and surrounding area participated in the annual legion sponsored Poster and Literary Contests. Students in grades 1 through 12 are encouraged to submit posters (in black and white or colour), poems and essays on the theme of Remembrance. Funds from the Poppy Trust fund are used to award the top students in each category with small monetary prizes and certificates. The first place winner's entries are then forwarded to Zone E5 for judging at that level. I am so happy to say that of the 10 entries Branch 34 sent to Zone we ended up with six Firsts, two Seconds and two Thirds. The first place winners have been forwarded for judging in the District E contest. **Congratulations to all of the students.**

The branch will host a Public Speaking contest on Sunday, February 25.

Yours in comradeship

Kate Palmer

Youth Education Chair

**Branch 34 Poppy Trust Fund
Balance Sheet
January 1 through December 4, 2023**



	<u>Dec 4, '23</u>	<u>Dec 4, '22</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
RBC chequing	81,632.80	63,749.41
Total Chequing/Savings	81,632.80	63,749.41
Total Current Assets	81,632.80	63,749.41
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>81,632.80</u>	<u>63,749.41</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	9,495.63	9,499.63
Retained Earnings	56,941.40	57,394.27
Net Income	15,195.77	-3,144.49
Total Equity	81,632.80	63,749.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>81,632.80</u>	<u>63,749.41</u>

Military Service Recognition Book

The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command

We are proud to be introducing our tenth publication that will help identify and recognize many of Ontario's Veterans who have served their country so well during times of war and peace.

- ♦ Books are gifted to Branches, Veterans, Schools, Libraries, Military Bases, Museums, local Municipal Buildings and Community Resource Centres.
- ♦ We invite you to submit stories of Veterans and Military Service Personnel who have touched your life. Submission forms and guidelines are available at your local Legion Branch or at www.on.legion.ca for those wishing to submit a Veteran story and photo.



**Submissions are being accepted
for the 11th edition
Contact the office
for more information**

Branch 34 Poppy Trust Fund Profit and Loss January 1 through December 4, 2023

	Jan 1 - Dec 4, '23	Jan 1 - Dec 4, '22
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Revenues		
Poppy Tag Days	20,818.29	18,546.95
Poppy Boxes	26,404.36	25,981.55
Poppies Schools	1,509.85	672.20
Wreaths & Crosses	2,825.00	2,575.00
Total Revenues	51,557.50	47,775.70
Donations Revenues		
Personal/Business Donations	8,098.03	8,605.30
Legacies & Bequests	370.00	1,075.00
Total Donations Revenues	8,468.03	9,680.30
Total Income	60,025.53	57,456.00
Expense		
Uncategorized Expenses	0.00	0.00
Disbursements		
Veterans Dinner	1,885.00	0.00
Youth Education	1,321.58	675.00
Service Bureau	105.38	0.00
Veterans' Comforts	2,000.00	1,500.00
Bursaries	0.00	3,750.00
Welfare Assistance	3,058.95	3,095.47
Charitable Don & Special Use	29,500.00	39,690.00
Lifeline	0.00	2,250.00
Total Disbursements	37,870.91	50,960.47
Campaign Supplies Expense		
Supplies Expense	6,922.85	9,600.02
Total Campaign Supplies Expense	6,922.85	9,600.02
General & Administrative		
Bank Charges	36.00	40.00
Total General & Administrative	36.00	40.00
Total Expense	44,829.76	60,600.49
Net Ordinary Income	15,195.77	-3,144.49
Net Income	15,195.77	-3,144.49

Treasurers Report

Financial Summary for the 6 months ending November 30, 2023

	<u>6 Months ending November 30, 2023</u>	<u>6 Months ending November 30, 2022</u>
Bar revenue	\$ 129,944	\$103,051
Cost of goods sold	<u>58,480</u>	<u>47,186</u>
Gross profit	\$ <u>71,464</u>	\$ <u>55,865</u>
Gross Profit %age-bar	55.0%	54.2%
 Committee revenue	 \$ 34,820	 \$ 47,107
Committee expenses	<u>35,488</u>	<u>37,761</u>
Committee profit(loss)	<u>\$ (668)</u>	<u>\$ 9,346</u>
 Revenue-Ways & Means	 \$ 16,108	 \$ 19,503
Expenses-Ways & Means	<u>3,597</u>	<u>6,309</u>
Ways & Means profit	<u>\$ 12,511</u>	<u>\$ 13,194</u>
 Revenue-Normandy Room	 \$ 24,779	 \$15,937
Expenses-Normandy Room	<u>---</u>	<u>----</u>
Normandy profit	<u>\$ 24,779</u>	<u>\$15,937</u>
 Member Fees-net	 <u>\$19,242</u>	 <u>\$17,702</u>
 Other Income	 <u>\$27,845</u>	 <u>\$18,298</u>
	<u>Expenses</u>	
Building	\$36,359	\$32,256
Payroll	80,083	77,252
Administration	<u>25,156</u>	<u>23,532</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$141,598</u>	<u>\$133,040</u>
 Net Profit(loss)	 <u>\$13,575</u>	 <u>\$(2,698)</u>
 Cash and GICs less payables/reserves	 <u>\$47,850</u>	
Bingo Bank Account	<u>\$ 1,500</u>	
Nevada Bank Account	<u>\$ 4,000</u>	
Raffle Bank Account	<u>\$ 1,600</u>	

Treasurer's Comments

January 3, 2024
Financial Statements
November 30, 2023

Profit & Loss June 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023:

Although the Orillia Branch was not shut down for the Covid-19 Pandemic after January of 2022, trying to return to before Pandemic operations was slow and, as a result, some operation financial numbers are not comparable year to year. Detailed financial statements are available at the Branch as well as a comparable Financial Summary. Financial highlights are listed below:

1. Bar revenue for the six months ending November 30, 2023 was \$129,944. Other revenues for the six months ending November 30, 2023 were Ways & Means net revenue of \$12,511, Net Membership Fees of \$19,242, Bingo/Kitchen rent of \$24,779, Scottish Festival, Regalia and Sport Committees net loss of \$668, Lacrosse/Terriers Booster net profit of \$845, Nevada Commission of \$3,239 and Donations of \$23,316 Including \$10,000 from Ladies Auxiliary. Bar revenue Gross Profit was 55.0% of bar revenue and amounted to \$71,464.
2. Geneva Bingo reopened on March 29, 2023 and is held every Wednesday. Trail Walk Catering is open for Friday, Saturday and Sunday breakfasts in the Vimy room.
3. Building and Administration costs were \$61,515. Wages were \$80,083.
4. The Legion's profit for the six months ending November 30, 2023 was \$13,575 as compared to a loss of \$2,698 for the six months to November 30, 2022.

Balance Sheet-November 30, 2023:

1. Retained earnings at November 30, 2023 were \$93,386.

2. Cash on hand was \$111,960.
3. Accounts payable & reserve liabilities were \$64,110 leaving a net cash balance of \$47,850 at November 30, 2023.
4. The Bingo, Nevada and Raffle bank accounts have a balance of \$7,100.

HORIZON SENIORS GRANT- The Legion is applying for a 2024 Horizon Seniors Grant of \$25,000 for replacement and automatic openers for Vimy entrance double doors and replacement of the Legion's elevator door.

PIB/AVIVA INSURANCE- The Orillia Legion filed notice of a Business Interruption Claim with limits up to \$50,000 and Dominion Command's class action lawsuit was approved to go forward. No further news as to lawsuit or arbitration outcome.

Respectively submitted,

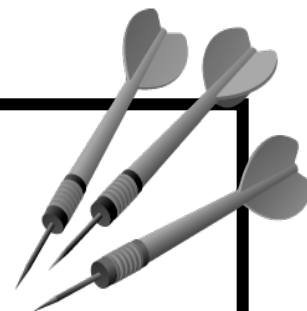
Brian Robertson

Treasurer

Fun Darts

Every
Friday Night
at 8 p.m.

Only \$6.00 per person
Please register by 7:45 p.m.



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30	2 Euchre 1 p.m Mens Darts	3 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting	4 Mixed Darts	5 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws Fish/Chips Fun Darts	6 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
7 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 .	8 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	9 Euchre 1 p.m Mens Darts	10 General Meeting 7 p.m.	11 Mixed Darts	12 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws	13 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
14 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>Music Jam</i> 2 to 5 p.m.	15 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	16 Euchre 1 p.m Mens Darts	17 Afternoon Darts	18 Mixed Darts	19 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	20 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>DANCE</i>
21 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30	22 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	23 Euchre LA Executive Mens Darts	24 Afternoon Darts	25 Mixed Darts	26 Break- fast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	27 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>LA Popsicle</i> <i>Darts</i>
28 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>Robbie Burns</i> <i>Trivia</i> <i>afternoon</i>	29 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	30	31 Afternoon Darts	<div> Dance Saturday January 20 <i>With</i> <i>Charlotte and</i> <i>the Dirty Cowboys</i> </div>		
	<div> Jam Session Sunday, January 14 2 to 5 p.m. </div>					

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dance Saturday, February 17 <i>with</i> Bob Taylor				1 Mixed Darts	2 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 Meat Darts & draws Fun Darts	3 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
4 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30	5 Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	6 Euchre 1 p.m. Mens Darts	7 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting	8 Mixed Darts	9 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 Meat Darts & draws Fun Darts	10 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
11 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>Music Jam</i> 2 to 5 p.m.	12 Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	13 Euchre 1 p.m. Mens Darts	14  General Meeting 7 p.m.	15 Mixed Darts	16 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 Meat Darts & draws	17 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 DANCE
18 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30	19 Family Day Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	20 Euchre 1 p.m. Mens Darts	21 Afternoon Darts	22 Mixed Darts	23 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	24 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
25 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>Public</i> <i>Speaking</i>	26 Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	27 Euchre 1 p.m. LA Executive Mens Darts	28 Afternoon Darts	29 Mixed Darts	Jam Session Sun. Feb. 11 2 to 5 p.m.	

March 2024

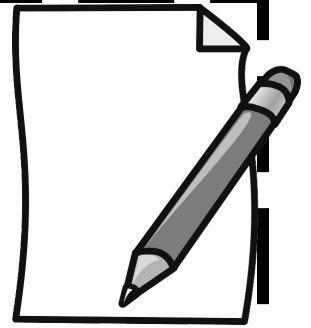
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Jam Session Sunday, March 10 2 to 5 p.m.				1 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	2 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>
3 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i> <i>Childrens</i> <i>party</i>	4 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	5 Euchre 1 p.m LA Meeting Mens Darts	6 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting	7 Mixed Darts	8 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	9 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>
10 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i> <i>Music Jam</i> <i>2 to 5 p.m.</i>	11 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	12 Euchre 1 p.m Mens Darts	13 Afternoon Darts General Meeting 7 p.m.	14 Mixed Darts	15 Break- fast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	16 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>
17  <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>	18 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	19 Euchre Mens Darts	20 Afternoon Darts	21 Mixed Darts	22 Break- fast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	23 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>
24 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>	25 Bid Euchre 1 p.m, Ladies Darts	26 Euchre Mens Darts	27 Afternoon Darts	28 Mixed Darts	29 Good Friday Breakfast Branch Closed	30 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>
31 EASTER <i>Breakfast</i> <i>8 to 11:30</i>						

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30	2 Euchre 1 p.m. LA Meeting Mens Darts	3 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting	4 Mixed Darts	5 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws	6 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
7 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 .	8 Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	9 Euchre 1 p.m. Mens Darts	10 Afternoon Darts General Meeting 7 p.m.	11 Mixed Darts	12 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws	13 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
14 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30 <i>Music Jam</i> 2 to 5 p.m.	15 Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	16 Euchre 1 p.m. Mens Darts	17 Afternoon Darts	18 Mixed Darts	19 Breakfast Meat Darts and draws Fun Darts	20 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30
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28 <i>Breakfast</i> 8 to 11:30	29 Bid Euchre 1 p.m., Ladies Darts	30	31 Afternoon Darts			
Jam Session Sunday, April 14 2 to 5 p.m.						

*The Royal Canadian Legion, District E
invites you to enter the 6th Annual*

Seniors 55+ Literary Competition



Do you like to write? Exercise your imagination?

WRITE A POEM, ESSAY, SHORT STORY, MEMOIR

- ♦ Open to all seniors aged 55+
- ♦ Must be original, written by the contestant and be unpublished
 - ♦ Must be submitted in English or French
 - ♦ Must not exceed the line or word count specified
 - ♦ Must be **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY:**
Name on application and title page only
- ♦ Contestants may submit only one entry in any/each category
- ♦ Submission must include a cover page stating the title, author's name and entry word count
- ♦ Biographies that are submitted must include written consent of the subject, if living

**Competition Opens January 1, 2024 and closes
at midnight March 17, 2024 at**

Submit entries to: districtEseniorsliterary@gmail.com

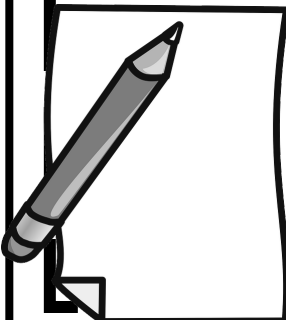
ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY

POETRY - maximum 32 lines

SHORT STORY - word count maximum 4,000

ESSAY - word count maximum 1,000

*MEMOIR - includes biographies, autobiographies and travel writing
- word count maximum 5,000*



**For more information contact
Betty-Jean Murray at 705-528**

