

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

Vet's Gazette

October 2025

At the Volunteer Appreciation event, 101 year old World War II veteran George Ferguson made a special presentation. The flag that he had framed with a letter and certificate was sent to him after a visit to Juno Beach. The flag had flown at Juno Beach during 2024. He is shown here with Branch 34 President Rick Purcell.



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 Pres- Bob Thomas	705-325-4695
1st Vice-President Rob McCron	705-687-7390
2nd Vice -President Chuck Penny	705-955-2548
Treasurer - Charon Varty	289-259-0546
Secretary - Brian Robertson	705-327-1825
Cathy Carde	705-350-0126
Jane Lawson	705-330-1056
Bill Madigan	705-619-1110
Dorothy Cotter	705-955-1884
Padre Gerry McMillan	705-329-0338
Padre Terry Bennett	705-329-0289
Padre James McKean	705-325-3859
Sergeant-at-Arms - Sean Cousens	705-330-6993
Colour Sergeant -	
Service Bureau – Peter DeVillers	705-326-2198

Committee Chairs

Poppy – Bob Thomas
 Membership - Cathy Carde
 Sports - Bill Madigan
 Ways and Means - Dorothy Cotter
 PRO - Rob McCron
 Leadership - Chuck Penny
 Seniors / Sick & Visiting - Jane Lawson
 Youth Education - Kate Palmer
 Bingo, Air Cadets, Minor Ball – Rick Purcell

Office Personnel

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

Special Events

Scottish Festival Carrie Dunn	
Angela Paylor	705-323-9759

Special Committee Chairs

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	Debbie Stanton	705-325-4240
2 ND Vice President	Susan Swinton	705-796-0755
Secretary/ Treasurer		
	Laury McCullough	705-717-9643
Sports Officer	Brenda Watt	705-325-8104
Sgt at Arms	Izzy Broughton	705-323-3708

Executive Committee & Chairs

Membership	Stacie Swinton	705-826-2108
Banquet convenor-	Dorothy Cotter	705-955-1884
Ways & Means - Craft Sale - Darts		
	Sherry Dallimore	705-715-8861
	Candy Cashen	705-826-7907
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:
royalcdnl34@rogers.com

Our Web Site is
<http://www.orillialegion.com>

President's Report

Things are quite a bit quieter during the summer at our branch.

The Scottish Festival is our big summer event and this year's festival was a great success. The weather was great and the turnout was tremendous.

Thanks go out to Angela Paylor and Carrie Dunn who are the co-chairs of the event. And a lot of thanks goes out to the Scottish Festival Committee who did an outstanding job, and to the many volunteers who jumped in and made this year's festival

Bands provided entertainment during the summer and we thank Dorothy Cotter and her volunteers who work hard to bring the exciting bands to the branch.

We have had barbecues every second Friday during the summer, and most were sold out. We thank Nic, Darlene and Olympia and their volunteers for the hard work making the barbecues successful.

We had 50/50 draws during the summer as well as fun darts Friday evenings. They have been a success and help the legion throughout the summer.

We have also had quite a good turn out with members playing pool every day and the pool league on the weekends.

September sees the three dart leagues starting up. We have ladies on Mondays, mens on Tuesdays, and mixed on Thursdays. If you are interested in darts, check with the three dart Presidents to see if you can be added to a team.

I hope everyone has seen the Veteran's crosswalk that has just been put in. The painters did a super job painting the crosswalk. Thanks to Dorothy Blackshaw and Chuck Penny for their hard work to get this project initiated and thanks to the City for approving it.

Next year is the 100th Anniversary for the our branch. There is a committee headed up by Kate Palmer working on having some exciting events planned for

2026. The committee is hoping to have many special events throughout the year.

September is also the start of the Early Bird Registration for the 2026 legion year. Memberships are cheaper in September with the Early Birds. Come out and sign up and get an Early Bird Membership.

Our membership is declining due to members getting older and some passing away. Try to encourage a neighbour or friend to join. We are one of the largest legions in Ontario, and we would like to keep our numbers high. Membership helps the legion financially.

Thanks very much to our hardworking Ladies Auxiliary for their contribution towards the upgrades of our kitchen.

Welcome back to those who have been away for the summer. Come out and enjoy the branch.

Yours in Comradeship:

Rick Purcell,

President Branch 34

Last Post

Lest We Forget

Don Wilkie, veteran

Ron Clark

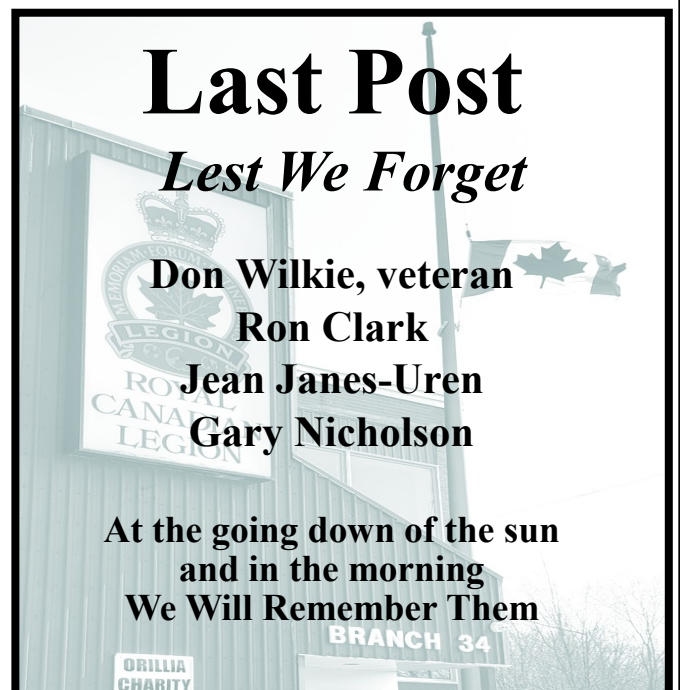
Jean Janes-Uren

Gary Nicholson

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

BRANCH 34

**ORILLIA
CHARITY**





Upcoming Entertainment

Saturday, October 25

***Hallowe'en Dance with
The Renaissance Band***

Come in costume for a chance to win a prize!

Cost is \$7 for members \$10 for non-members

Doors open at 7 p.m

New Year's Eve,

Wednesday, December 31

Even Steven

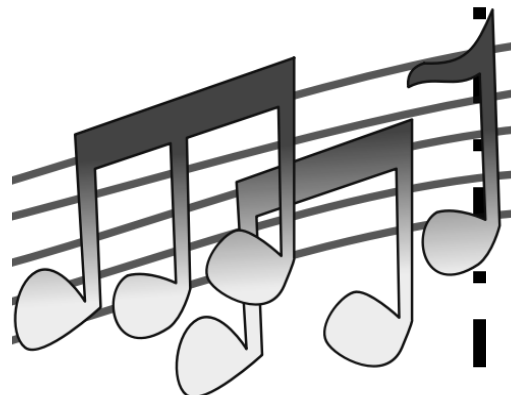
(price to be determined)

Saturday, January 31

Big Band 50's Dance

100th Anniversary Kick-off

(price to be determined)



Ladies Auxiliary President's Report

Comrades

The Auxiliary ladies have been very busy since my last report. We have catered Celebrations of Life, Birthday parties, Baby showers and Retirement parties. We have been a busy bunch.

We had a social day and visited the Town of Gravenhurst. We went to their Farmer's market which is exceptional, had a great lunch at Frosty's Pint Pub, we recommend you visit if you have the chance. We visited the downtown and shopped before returning to Orillia. Our most recent outing was to the movies to watch Freakier Friday. It was a blast.

Sports are gearing up and we have sign up sheets on the bulletin board.

Our kitchen went through a renovation in June. Lots of storage and it looks fantastic.

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.

Yours in comradeship

Bev Brennan

President

Branch 34 Ladies Auxiliary



Upcoming Dinners

Steak BBQ's are over for the year but don't miss out on these monthly dinners

Friday, October 24

Lasagna

with Caesar salad, garlic bread and dessert

Friday, January 16

Roast Pork

with roast potatoes, vegetables and dessert

Friday, February 20

Fish and Chips

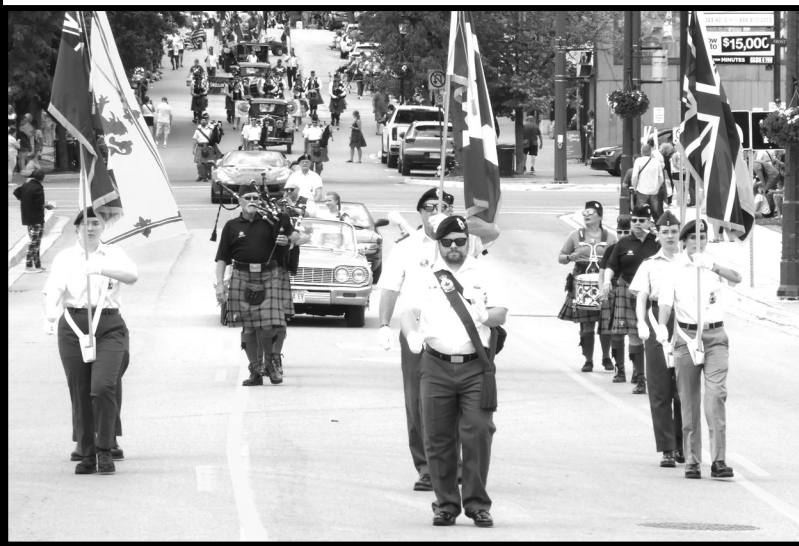
with cole slaw, buns and dessert

Friday March 20

Shepherd's Pie

with salad, buns and dessert

All meals are \$23.00 and will be served at 6 p.m.





Scottish Festival

What another incredible festival! The Orillia Scottish Festival Committee is so thankful for everyone who sponsored, attended, entertained and volunteered to ensure the weekend was another memorable experience. Highlighting some new additions to the weekend, was a surprise "pop up" choir performance of Sing-It Orillia in the festival pub, a new duet competition for novice Pipers and Drummers, sponsored by Ontario Fire Service Pipe Band, the return of the drum salute during closing ceremonies and a variety of diverse vendors. While we work to recap this year to make notes of our successes and challenges, we want to extend our thanks to the Dunkley Charitable Foundation, City of Orillia, Orillia Junior C Terriers Hockey Club, and Branch 34 for financial support for the weekend, in addition to the list of supporters below. If you have a chance to support one of these businesses, please seize the opportunity. They have been incredibly kind to us, and we appreciate their support.

Dunkley Charitable Foundation * City of Orillia * Branch 34 Orillia Legion * Orillia Terriers Junior C/ Turf Tech * Orillia Chevrolet Tok Transportation * Orillia Matters * Orillia Lake Country * Country Produce * MidOntario Disposal * St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church * Saint James Anglican Church * Scottish Highlands Golf Orillia * Ontario Fire Service Pipe Band * Quayles Brewery * Trailside Cafe * Mariposa Folk

Festival * TripVia * Layzee Acres RV * Ampot * Antiques on 11 * Good Things * Tatham Engineering * Orillia First Aid * Eclectic Cafe * Orillia Bakery and Deli

A weekend of festivities does not happen without a crew of volunteers, and we have one of the best around! From set up to tear down, hustling for button and 50/50 sales, stocking the bar and serving our guests, coordinating vendor arrivals, mustering the parade, and keeping our festival grounds looking as pristine as possible, our volunteers are the stars of the weekend. Thank you is nowhere near sufficient to say how incredibly impressive you all are.

Lastly, we hope you will circle the weekend of July 17, 18, 19, 2026 on your calendar as we come together to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Find us on:

- Facebook - @orilliascottishfestival
- Instagram - @orilliascottish
- Twitter - @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

Open Mic Music Jam

October 12 & 19
November 9 & 23

December 14

January 11

2 to 5 p.m.

In The Vimy Room

Admission

\$5.00 per person

More Scottish Festival Photos



B I N G O

Wednesday Nights

*Doors open at 5 p.m.
Sales start at 5:30 p.m.*

*Games start
at 6:30 p.m.*

B I N G O



Christmas Craft Sale

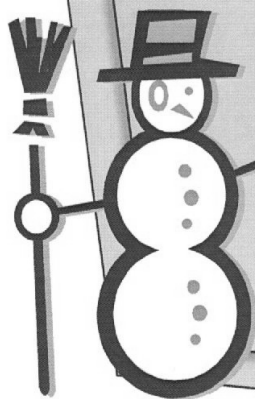
Ladies Auxiliary
Of The Royal Canadian Legion,
Branch 34 Orillia

Saturday, November 22, 2025

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

215 Mississauga St. E., Orillia

- Check out our AWESOME vendors
- Toonie Draw Table
- Light Lunch is available





ATTENTION VETERANS

(Anyone who has served in the military including WWII, Korea, SDA, Militia/Reserve Forces, RCMP, still serving and dependents)

***The Royal Canadian
Legion's Service Officer***

Sherry Culling

***will be in Orillia
the week of October 20***

**For anyone wishing
information, advice or
assistance regarding:**

***Veterans Affairs Canada
Disability Pensions***

***Treatment for
Entitled Veterans***

***Application for
Poppy/Benevolent Funds
Appeals against unfavorable
VAC Decisions***

Widows' Entitlement

***You do not have to be a
Legion Member to
request an interview***

***To book an appointment.
Call Sherri at 705-325-8442
by October 15***

**A free service offered by
the Legion**

Membership

Comrades,

At the time of writing this report our membership stood at 1006 members. We continue to accept new members and transfers from other branches. Please make them feel welcome at our branch.

The Early Bird campaign has started and although there have been increases by both Dominion and Provincial Commands over the past two years our dues have remained the same. If you renew before November 30th the price is \$60.00. This increases to \$65.00 for the month of December and then raises to \$70.00 on January 1, 2026.

**Be and Early Bird and pay your
2026 dues now!**

Yours in comradeship

Cathy Carde,
Membership chair

Bingo

Bingo numbers were quite good during the summer. Bingo is held every Wednesday with sales starting at 5:30 p.m. and games at 6:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy a fun evening playing bingo and possibly win some money. Bring a friend. The Trail Walk Café is also open on Bingo nights to sell food for snacks.

We need your help

**Volunteers are need to help
with Bingo on the first
Wednesday of every month.
Please contact the office if
you can give us some time.**

Poppy Report



The Poppy Committee met during the summer to discuss the upcoming Poppy Campaign and take inventory of stock on hand. Poppies, wreaths and other supplies were ordered.

Dates for the upcoming Poppy Campaign were set. The campaign starts on Friday, October 31 with the distribution of counter top boxes to area businesses. The official raising of the Poppy Flag at the Orillia Opera House will be held on Monday October 28th at 11 a.m. Poppy Tag Days will be held on Friday, November 7 and Saturday, November 8. The campaign is a little shorter this year as it always starts on the last Friday of October which, this year is 31st. Please remember that when you became a Legion member you pledged to take an active part in the Poppy Campaign. We only ask for an hour of your time to help with our Tag Days.

The committee wants to offer special thanks those who assisted with the Veteran's Dinner: James LeBlanc for preparing the great meal, our Ladies Auxiliary for the set-up and serving (Bev, Brenda, Diane, Sharon, Pam and Laury, the volunteer dishwashers (Jane and Diana) and volunteer wine server Janette.

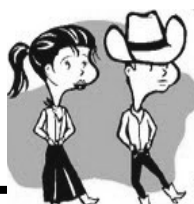
Respectfully submitted by
The Poppy Committee



***Sunday, October 5
2 to 3 p.m.***

***Bring a friend,
make a new one!***

\$5.00 per person



**Be An
Early Bird
Pay your 2026 dues
*NOW!***

***The membership office is
open Monday to Friday
from noon to 4 p.m.
Early Bird Rate, paid until
November 30
\$60.00
Paid between December 1
and December 31
\$65.00
After December 31
\$70.00***

The Legion is committed to supporting Veteran research.

Through research, we can better understand the scope and nature of the challenges our Veterans and their families are facing.

The Legion supports research initiatives such as:

Provides an annual **\$50,000 Royal Canadian Legion PhD Research Scholarship** through the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research (CIMVHR) towards Veterans' research, helping train a future generation of researchers.

Committed \$599,700 over a 3-year period to Heroes in Mind Advocacy and Research Consortium (HiMARC) to support the development and evaluation of early intervention resilience training programs.

Donated \$75,000 to the Concussion Legacy Foundation Canada to fund concussion awareness, brain-related research and recovery in the Veteran community. **Sponsors** the annual Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research Forum, aimed at sharing new research, exchanging ideas, learning and collaboration. Plus providing additional **funding to host a student event** at the CIMVHR Forum called SPEC – Student and Postdoctoral Engagement Committee.



99 Lynx Air Cadets Euchre Nights



November 7, 2025
February 20, 2026
April 24, 2026

Doors Open at 6 p.m.

Games start 7 p.m. sharp
in the Branch 34 Normandy Room

*Tickets are being pre-sold by Staff Members
of 99 Lynx Air Cadets \$15.00 per ticket*

Contact at 249-385-5697

cacole99lynx@gmail.com



Join us for a
Halloween Dance

with the
Renaissance Band

Saturday, October 25

Doors open at 7 p.m.

Dance from 8 to midnight

\$7 members

\$10 non members

\$10 at the door

Prizes for best
costumes



**City of Orillia and
Royal Canadian Legion
Branch 34**

**Remembrance
Day
Parade and
Memorial
Service**

***Tuesday
November 11***

***Fall In 10:40 a.m.
(at hospital parking lot)
March off at 10:50 a.m.
Reception at Branch 34
following service***

***Watch the bulletin boards
for details regarding
parade etc.***

**Poppy
Campaign**

**POPPY TAG
DAYS**

Will be held this year on

**Fri., Nov. 7 and
Sat., Nov. 8**

**The sign up board will
be on display shortly so
please remember
your pledge and
volunteer an hour of
your time to assist with
this very
important
campaign.**

Thank You

Air Cadets

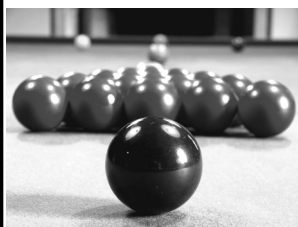
The 99 Lynx Squadron Air Cadets have started their 2025-2026 year. If you know of a young person aged 13 to 18 who would like to join a very active youth organization please get in touch with them. They meet Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. at 105 Wyandotte Street.

Navy League

The Navy League program has also started for another training year. This program is aimed at younger students than the Air Cadet program. If you know a young person who would like to join please give them a call.

Open Snooker Tournament *Every weekend*

**Doubles on Saturdays
Singles on Sundays**



**Registration
each day at
10:30 a.m.
*Everyone
welcome***

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

**Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday and
Holidays**

From 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Sides

Side Fruit	\$1.50
Scallop Potatoes	\$4.75
Cheese Potatoes	\$4.25
Mashed Potatoes	\$3.75
Home Fries	\$3.75
Cheese	\$1.75
Swiss, Cheddar, Mozzarella	
Mushrooms	\$1.00
Trio of Sweet Peppers	\$1.00
3 Bacons, 3 Hams or 2 Sausages	\$3.95
3 Peameal	\$4.50
Toast	\$2.95
Plain Bagel	\$2.95
Gravy	\$1.00
Tomatoes	\$1.50

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

***Please inform your server of any food allergies
or dietary restrictions.***

Trail Walk Café At The Legion

Breakfast

2 Eggs Your Way	\$7.25
Add Bacon, Ham or Sausage	\$10.50
Add Peameal	\$11.00
Add Steak	\$16.50
Add Scalloped Potatoes	\$3.00

Big Breakfast \$15.00

3 Eggs Your Way, 2 Bacon
2 Sausage, 2 Ham

Cheesy Breakfast \$13.50

2 Eggs, Ham, Bacon or Sausage
with Fried Scalloped Potatoes

Corn Beef , Hash & Eggs \$14.00

Corn Beef, Caramelized Onion
Home Fries, Eggs

Waffles \$10.10

with fruit \$11.25

Pancakes \$10.10

with fruit \$11.25

3 French Toast \$10.10

With fruit \$11.25

All Breakfasts include
Fresh Home Fries, Toast,
Coffee or Tea

TAXES NOT INCLUDED

Omelettes

Vegetarian	\$11.50
Spinach & Feta	\$10.75
Meat Lovers (Ham, Bacon and Sausage)	\$12.95
Classic Western	\$10.25
Mushroom Swiss	\$10.85
Mediterranean	\$12.95

Eggs Benedict

Salmon	\$12.75
Peameal	\$11.50
Ham	\$10.95
Bacon	\$10.75
Sausage	\$10.75
Spinach	\$10.75

Lighter Options

Bagel with cream cheese	\$5.99
Smoked Salmon, Red Onion Capers, Cream Cheese	\$10.99

Sandwiches

Steak	\$15.50
Western	\$10.25
Bacon & Egg	\$7.95
Clubhouse	\$12.50
BLT	\$8.95
3 Cheese Grilled	\$6.50
Reuben	\$12.95

Veteran's Dinner 2025



Approximately 55, veterans, spouses and caregivers attended the 21st Annual Veterans' Dinner held at Branch 34 in mid-September. The first dinner was held in 2005 to celebrate the United Nation's "Year of the Veteran". This dinner is one of the ways that Poppy funds are used to support our veterans. Thanks to James LeBlanc for a great meal and our Ladies Auxiliary for the set up and serving. We were pleased to have Sheila Clayton, a veteran, and the District E Veteran's Initiative Chair in attendance to speak about that program



Veteran's Dinner 2025



Treasurer's Report

Financial Summary for the year ending August 31st, 2025

	3 months ending August 31st,2025	3 months ending August 31st,2024
Bar Revenue	\$ 73,579	\$ 62,567
Cost of Goods Sold	<u>30,854</u>	<u>28,447</u>
Gross Bar Profit	<u>\$ 42,726</u>	<u>\$ 34,120</u>
Gross Profit %age	58.1%	54.5%
 Committee Revenue	 \$ 48,611	 \$ 42,935
Committee Expenses	<u>36,260</u>	<u>39,720</u>
Committee Profit (loss)	<u>\$ 12,352</u>	<u>\$ 3,214</u>
 Revenue—Ways & Means	 \$ 9,740	 \$ 10,182
Expenses— Ways & Means	<u>515</u>	<u>1,368</u>
Ways & Means Profit	<u>\$ 9,226</u>	<u>\$ 8,814</u>
 Revenue - Normandy Room	 \$ 14,336	 \$ 13,150
Expenses - Normandy Room	—	—
Normandy Room Profit	\$14,336	\$ 13,150
 Member Fees—net	 \$ 629	 \$ 1,914
 Other Income	 \$ 12,055	 \$ 6,474
<u>Expenses</u>		
Building	\$ 21,730	\$ 13,505
Payroll	\$ 47,953	\$ 41,612
Administration	<u>\$ 14,459</u>	<u>\$ 10,404</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 84,141</u>	<u>\$ 65,520</u>
 Net Profit (loss)	 \$ 7,182	 \$ 2,167
 Cash and GICs less payable reserves	 59,210	
Bingo Bank Account	14,574	
Nevada Bank Account	9,218	
Raffle Bank Account	3,635	

Financial Statement

August 31st, 2025

Profit & Loss June 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025: Detailed financial statements are available at the Branch, Financial highlights are listed below:

1. Bar revenue for the 3 months ending August 31, 2025 was \$73,579. Other revenues for the year ending August 31, 2025 were Ways & Means net revenue of \$9,226, net Membership Fees of \$629, Bingo/Kitchen rent of \$14,336, Scottish Festival and Regalia net profit of \$12,352, and Other Income of \$12,055. Bar Gross Profit was 58.1% of bar revenue and amounted to \$42,726.
2. Geneva Bingo is held every Wednesday. Trail Walk Catering is open from Friday through Sunday and Holiday for Breakfast in the Vimy room from 8:00a.m. to 11:30am.
3. Building and Administration costs were \$36,189. Wages were \$47,953 so far this year.
4. The Legion's profit for the 3 months ending August 31, 2025 was \$7,182 as compared to a profit of \$2,167 for the 3 months ending August 31, 2024. Balance Sheet - August 31, 2025: 1. Retained earnings at August 31, 2025 were \$99,154. 2. Cash on hand was \$144,809. 3. Accounts payable & reserve liabilities was \$85,600 leaving a net cash balance of \$59,209 at August 31, 2025. 4. The Bingo, Nevada and Raffle bank accounts have a balance of \$27,427.

ONTARIO SENIORS GRANT- The Legion has filed a 2025 Ontario Seniors Grant of approximately \$40,000, for replacement of the Legion's two outside and 2 inside front doors, partial replacement/repair of driveway around the entries to the front of the Legion to make it more accessible, accessible toilets and Seniors programs.

NEW HORIZON GRANT – The Legion is filing a 2025 New Horizon Grant in September, 2025 for \$25,000, to replace the

2 Cooler Thermal Doors, painting outdoor siding & replacement /repair signs.

LEGION KITCHEN - The renovation of the kitchen has been finished with a cost of \$17,650.42 which the Ladies Auxiliary has generously donated \$12,000 to.
 PIB/AVIVA INSURANCE -The Orillia Legion's lawsuit for a Business Interruption Claim is on going.

Respectively submitted,

Charon Varty

Treasurer

Eating in The Fifties....

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

All Chips were plain.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not recognized as food.

"Kebab" was not even a word let alone a food.

Prunes were medicinal.

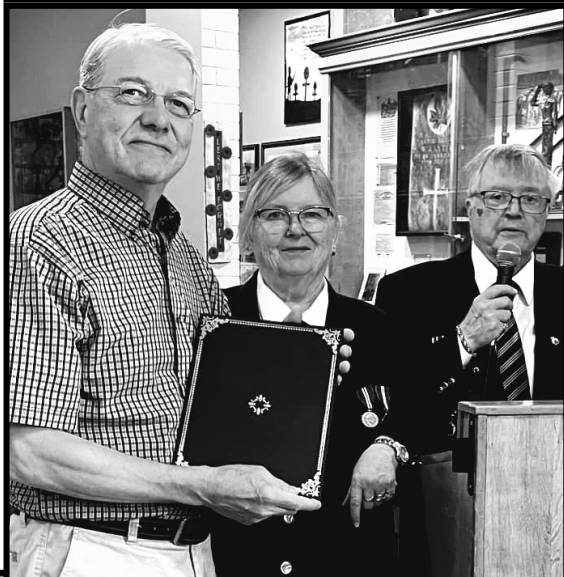
Surprisingly muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin, we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of a tap. If anyone suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it they would have become a laughing stock.

The only thing we never ever had on/at our table in the fifties was... elbows, hats and cell phones.

Volunteer Appreciation



Organizations like Branch 34 cannot operate without the help of volunteers and our branch is lucky to have so many people who will step up when help is needed.

Each year we take time to honour and give thanks to those who help. In September a Volunteer Appreciation event was held in the Vimy Room. There to accept Certificates of Appreciation were Robert Chapman, Glenn Thompson and Rick Elliott. Others receiving C of A's but not present are: Diana Hancock, James LeBlanc, Ian Zinn, Dave Dawson, Jayne Turvey and Judy Shanahan. Past President Bob Thomas was there to receive a Certificate of Merit. Larry Fenton, though not in attendance was also honoured with a C of M. Sean Cousens and Rob McCron were both presented with the Branch Service Medal. Nicole King was present to receive a special Media Award on behalf of CTV—Barrie. Branch President, Rick Purcell presented the President's Award to Kate Palmer. A special award was also presented to 101 year old World War II veteran George Ferguson.

Long service pins were also presented to many members.

Ladies Auxiliary President Bev Brennan brought greetings from our ladies auxiliary who prepared a wonderful lunch for us.

Volunteer Appreciation



Art that Inspires



"Maintain the Right" and "Holding Ground" by Andrea MacLeod.

Does art shape us or do we shape art?

We often discover favourite pieces of art based on the emotion it provokes in us. How it connects to something familiar - a friend, a family member or ourselves. A memory of a time or place.

When Barbara Brown started The Steel Spirit - a platform for military, first responder and hospital practitioners to share their artwork and their personal stories - she soon realized that each piece of art on display connected each of the artists involved in the gallery. Many of the stories were parallel in resilience.

"My time in the military was transformative, fundamentally altering how I view the world and engage with its complexities. It equipped me with a unique filter through which to interpret life, allowing me to reflect with greater insight and, in turn, create artwork that tells richer, more profound stories." - LeeAnn LeMesurier.

Many people go into first responder or military services because they want to help others or be in the first line of defence to protect our country. Yet also in these services, they encounter frequent reminders of how fragile life is.

"My first piece [submission to The Steel Spirit gallery], One Zero Eight, is a collection of anonymous sketches of my fellow soldiers' eyes from my tour in 2008. It was hard for me to put myself out there. Yet it is also important to connect with the other artists and realize you are not alone." - Trisha MacLeod.

The Steel Spirit galleries have grown over the last nine years. Initially locally and then with pop up galleries in Nova Scotia and Alberta. These galleries have now connected more than ninety artists across Canada.

"[Art] drives emotion, construction, a meeting point of health, meditation, curiosity, intensity. Fear no judgement, because no one is judging." - Brian Lintner.

Brian has been a contributing member to The Steel Spirit galleries since 2017. Initially he didn't consider himself much of an artist. Now one of his pieces is on permanent display at Base Borden and he has amassed a large collection of artwork that has captured his evolving style.

"Many [of my] pieces have meaning because they meant something to other people. For me, the greatest gift is giving, and seeing people's eyes light up because I make them happy. There is nothing to replicate this emotion. My personal military experience - stay in the background, help others." - Brian.

"Once I met a man who didn't think much of art. He attended one of our gallery receptions out of kindness. To his surprise, one painting in that gallery deeply resonated with him. He spoke about it often after he returned to work. That painting was eventually purchased and gifted to that man at his retirement party." - Barbara.

It's fair to conclude that art definitely shapes us and we shape art as well. Inspiring art creations often reflect a story deep in textures and colours. The more compelling question is...which side of the story do you want to be on?

The Steel Spirit Gallery is currently on display at Barrie City Hall's First Floor Gallery until October 29th.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the gallery, visit www.thesteelspirit.ca for more information.



Annual Turkey Shoot

**Sat. Dec. 13
at 12:30 p.m.**

*Come out and
enjoy the fun*

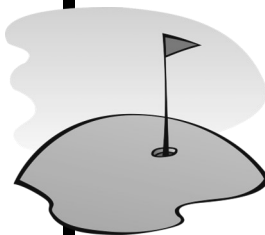
Golf Tournament

**At Trehaven Golf and
Country Club
Saturday,
October 11**

**Shot Gun Start 9 a.m.
Lunch at Branch 34
at 2 p.m.
\$110 per person**

*Join in for a fun day of
golf and comradeship*

*Sign up with your list of team
members by cheque or
e-transfer
by September 10
4 Legion Members
per team*



Fun Darts

**Every
Friday Night
at 8 p.m.**

**Only \$6.00
per person**

Please register by 7:45 p.m.



Everyone welcome!



Enjoy a game of **Euchre**

**Bid Euchre
Mondays at 1 p.m.
Euchre
Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
*Everyone welcome***



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

*Bring them to the branch.
They will be collected and taken
to a scrap yard. The money
received is then
donated to*

**Soldiers' Memorial
Hospital**

100th Anniversary

The 100th Anniversary Committee has been working hard to plan special events to celebrate this huge milestone. Here are some things to mark on your calendar.

Saturday, January 31st

Big Band Dance Featuring the music of the 50s



Tuesday, March 17

**Ladies Auxiliary Soup
and Sandwich Lunch**



Saturday, April 25

Millionaires Night (in the afternoon)



Saturday, June 20

Dart Tournament



Thursday, July 1

Canada Day Parade Float



July 17 to 19

Orillia Scottish Festival

Honouring our 100th Anniversary

Saturday, October 17

100th Anniversary Dinner



**THE CITY OF ORILLIA WILL AWARD BRANCH 34
"FREEDOM OF THE CITY"**

to commemorate our anniversary.

We hope it will take place in May and will keep you posted.

*Details for all events will be made available as they get closer. Watch for
Information on the bulletin boards, on the website, Facebook and in The Gazette*



Royal Canadian Legion Orillia Branch 34



ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!

Recruiting new members for the Branch 34 Colour Party!

In an effort to rebuild the Branch 34 Colour Party we are looking for interested individuals who:

1. Can dedicate one night per month, for one or two hours of practice;
2. Can participate in most if not all parades and events as a Branch 34 Colour Party member (e.g. Remembrance Day, Santa Claus Parade, Canada Day, Scottish Festival, etc.); and
3. Can learn colour party drill movements and follow commands given on parade.

* Drill experience IS NOT required.

* Must be a strong team player and able to work with existing members.

INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS PLEASE CONTACT
SEAN COUSENS AT: rcl34paradecommander@outlook.com

100th Anniversary

In 2026 The Royal Canadian Legion turns 100. This is a huge milestone for any organization and Dominion command will be finding ways to celebrate, especially at the Dominion convention being held in Winnipeg, Manitoba (where it all started) in August.

Closer to home, Branch 34 also turns 100. Our charter was signed in October of 1926 and like Dominion Command, we plan to celebrate.

But this won't be just a one day celebration. A committee has been struck and we're planning a number of events to take us through the whole year.

We're starting with a dance on January 31st featuring the music of the 50's by the Orillia Big Band (you remember what a great job they did earlier this year with 30's and 40's music).

Other events we are bringing back include a Ladies Auxiliary Soup and Sandwich lunch, a Millionaire's Night - this time held in the afternoon, a dart tournament and a float in the Canada Day parade.

The City of Orillia is going to grant our branch The Freedom of The City which will allow us to parade through the city. A date for this has not been set but we are hoping it will be in May.

In July, the Scottish Festival will honour our 100th Anniversary.

The festivities will also include a dinner on October 17th with a Dominion Command guest in attendance.

We also plan to have special 100th Anniversary merchandise available to mark the occasion.

Keep watching as more details become available and if you can help in any way please reach out. Help is always needed to make these activities a success.

Yours in comradeship,

Kate Palmer

100th Anniversary Committee Chair

The Cynical Philosopher.....

I find it ironic that the colours red, white and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you every looked at your X and wondered Y?

Money talks..... All mine ever says is good-bye

If you think nobody cares if you are alive..... try missing a couple of payments

If you think you might be crazy, you're not; because crazy people don't think they are crazy.

Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch.

My 65 year kindergarten reunion is soon and I'm worried about the 175 pounds I've put on since then.

My therapist said that my narcissism causes me to misread social situations. I'm pretty sure she was hitting on me.

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw fish at them?

My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that!

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Hallowe'en Dance Saturday, October 25 The Renaissance Band			1 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting Bingo	2 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	3 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	4 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
5 <i>Breakfast 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Line Dancing 2 p.m.</i>	6 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	7 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts LA Meeting	8 Afternoon Darts GENERAL MEETING 7 P.M. Bingo	9 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	10 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	11 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>Golf Tournament 9 a.m.</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
12 <i>Breakfast 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Music Jam 2 to 5 p.m.</i>	13 <i>Happy Thanks giving</i>	14 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	15 Afternoon Darts Bingo	16 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	17 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	18 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
19 <i>Breakfast 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Music Jam 2 to 5 p.m.</i>	20 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	21 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	22 Afternoon Darts Bingo	23 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	24 <i>Breakfast</i> Meat Draws Lasagna Dinner Fun Darts	25 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Hallowe'en Dance</i> <i>Renaissance Band</i>
26 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>	27 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	28 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	29 Afternoon Darts Bingo	30 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	31 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Come and Meet John and his Service Dog "Poppy" Nov. 2 at 1 p.m.		POPPY TAG DAYS NOVEMBER 7 & 8 <i>Please give an hour of your time</i>		Remembrance Day Tuesday November 11 <i>Lest We Forget</i>		1 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
2 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>	3 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	4 Euchre 1 p.m. LA Meeting	5 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting Bingo	6 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	7 TAG DAY <i>Breakfast</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	8 TAG DAY <i>Breakfast</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
9 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30 a.m.</i> <i>Music Jam 2 to 5 p.m.</i>	10 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	11 REMEMBRANCE DAY	12 Darts GENERAL MEETING 7 P.M. Bingo	13 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	14 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	15 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
16 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>	17 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	18 Euchre 1 p.m.	19 Afternoon Darts Bingo	20 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	21 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draw Fun Darts	22  Craft Sale <i>10 am to 2 pm</i>
23 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>	24 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	25 Euchre 1 p.m. LA Executive	26 Afternoon Darts Bingo	27 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	28 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	29 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>
30 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>						

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	2 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	3 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting Bingo	4 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	5 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	6 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Pool 10:30 a.m.
7 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Children's Christmas Party 1 p.m.	8 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	9 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts.	10 Darts GENERAL MEETING 7 P.M. Bingo	11 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	12 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	13 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> TURKEY SHOOT 12:30 p.m.
14 <i>Breakfast Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> Music Jam 2 to 5 p.m.	15 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	16 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	17 Afternoon Darts Bingo	18 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	19 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	20 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Pool 10:30 a.m. .
21 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Pool 10:30 a.m. .	22 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	23 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	24 Afternoon Darts Bingo	25 Merry Christmas BRANCH CLOSED	26 Boxing Day BRANCH CLOSED	27 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Pool 10:30 a.m. .
28 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Pool 10:30 a.m. .	29 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	30 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	31 NEW YEARS EVE	Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Branch and Ladies Auxiliary Members <i>Have a safe and happy holiday season!</i>		

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Enjoy a Roast Pork Dinner Friday, January 16 at 6 p.m. 100th Anniversary Dance Saturday, January 31st				1 <i>Happy New Year</i> BRANCH	2 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	3 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> .
4 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>.Pool 10:30 a.m.</i>	5 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	6 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts LA Meeting	7 Afternoon Darts Executive Meeting Bingo	8 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	9 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	10 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> .
11 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30</i> <i>Music Jam 2 to 5 p.m</i>	12 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies Darts	13 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	14 Darts GENERAL MEETING 7 P.M. Bingo	15 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	16 <i>Breakfast</i> ROAST PORK DINNER Meat Draws Fun Darts	17 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> .
18 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> .	19 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	20 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	21 Afternoon Darts Bingo	22 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	23 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	24 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> .
25 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> .	26 Yoga 9:45 Bid Euchre 1 p.m. Ladies' Darts	27 Euchre 1 p.m. Men's Darts	28 Afternoon Darts Bingo	29 Yoga 9 & 10:15 a.m. Mixed Darts	30 <i>Breakfast 8 to 11:30</i> Meat Draws Fun Darts	31 <i>Breakfast</i> <i>Pool 10:30 a.m.</i> Anniver-sary Dance



Children's Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 7th at 1 p.m.
In the Tri-Service Room**

Children 10 years old and under will receive a gift from Santa and must be accompanied by an adult. The child must be the child or grandchild of a branch or ladies auxiliary member.

THE CHILD MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED

**Please fill out the form below and drop it in the box
outside of Sherri's office.**

**A separate form MUST be submitted for each child
and must be returned by
NOVEMBER 26, 2025**



PLEASE PRINT

Child's name _____

Age _____ **Male** _____ **Female** _____

Member's Name _____

Member's Phone Number _____

Relationship to Child _____

