

President's Message

Jim Gyselinck

I know that this report will sound like a big THANK YOU letter but I have so many people to thank for their help and support. I would like to start my report by saying thank you to you the members for your confidence in re-electing me as President of this great branch. I have had a lot of support from my wife Terri, the executive and the membership. My first vice Wayne Powell has always been there to stand in for me and support me in all endeavours.

I look forward to serving the members and will endeavour to make this branch grow financially. Your new executive will; with your support make this year a better year and we hope a more cooperative one than last. I personally have learned a lot, have made some mistakes, but with your support and a greater number of volunteers we will bring this branch back to its' former place in our community.

The cost saving committee of Wayne Powell, David Adamson, Irene Stevens, Ron Skopyk and myself have spent a lot of time reviewing all our expenditures. We have come up with some continuous cost savings that will amount to over \$10,000.00 in printing and mailing costs of the Highlander, also over \$10,000.00 in entertainment costs and \$15,000.00 in maintenance costs. This committee will continue to search out further cost savings.

Irene Stevens is embarking on a number of fund raising events, for more special events please check your Highlander and the Branch bulletin boards. This will raise money for the branch, thanks Irene for all your input and long hours.

Doug Stevens and Erwin Boes continue to make Saturday's Meat roll a fun time event, thanks guys for all your help.

The Sunday Brunch crew, everyone knows that you do a great job preparing, serving and cleaning up, thanks ladies and gentlemen for helping out on Sunday mornings.

The L.A. Ladies, you work hard in the banquet hall and around the branch and especially for the Old Sweats Day. I look forward to working with your new executive and we will be reviewing the banquet hall rentals to start utilizing the hall on a more frequent basis.

A number of Donations have been received over the year from the L.A., Seniors', Monday night Euchre, the Probus Club, members Bruce and Jacqueline Doran and a number of other business that will be recognized in future reports. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL.

Yours in comradeship, Jim
President@rc1258.com

1st Vice President

Wayne Powell

Another year has gone into the books for Branch 258. It has been a roller coaster year to say the least. It has also been a pleasure to serve the membership of Br. 258 in the positions of 3rd, 2nd and 1st Vice President. As the incoming 1st vice president I look forward to continuing to serve the membership, and to be working together with the incoming executive toward turning the fortunes of the branch to the positive.

With the ups and downs of the past year, the greatest experience of the year was being a part of the “Old Sweats” Dinner in April. What a thrill, an honour and a privilege it was to bring greetings and a warm welcome on behalf of our branch to the distinguished veterans in attendance.

Verna Burness and her committee are to be congratulated for all their planning in making the day the success it was. Also, our own Ladies Auxiliary is to be praised and congratulated, for the preparation, presentation and serving of a fantastic meal. To all the volunteers who helped serve the meal a big “Thank You” from the Branch and the Veterans. The compliments were overwhelming.

“Canada Day Celebration” plans are coming along very nicely, thanks to a hard working, dedicated committee. Watch the bulletin board for complete details of the Canada Day events as they get finalized.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Comrade Bob Gurr for his generous donation of flowers and plants that adorn the front of the Branch and a great big thank you to Comrade Donna Orr for the planting of these plants and for her TLC in keeping them looking fantastic for the entire season.

The ‘Work Party’ has been working very hard to clear the property of the winter harshness. If you can spare a couple of hours on a Saturday morning –come out and see House Chairman John Zikovitz (Ziggy) or Ass’t House Chairman David Fowler to lend a helping hand. Don’t forget - if you have Canadian Tire Money kicking around, the work party can sure use it. There is a receptacle on the left wall as you enter the members’ lounge, and the donations are appreciated.

Let’s start this year on a positive upbeat note by coming out to support the “Canada Day Celebrations”

Have a great- happy-safe summer! Come out and support the Branch!

United we stand – Divided we fall

Yours in comradeship, Wayne

3rd Vice President

John Bow

Firstly, I would like to thank my nominator, as an 81 year old veteran, I think I may be a little too old for this strenuous position. How I can fit this position in with my busy legion activities may be a problem. I am already involved with the Colour Guard, Cribbage, Euchre, Living History, Poppy Campaigning, Scarborough Veterans, Senior's, Shrine and socializing.

At this writing, the President has not allotted me my duties and whatever they may be, I'll do my best to oversee them and work hand in hand with the various committees. As a former comptroller, one of the main things I would like to see is this branch return to its former status financially.

Yours in comradeship, John

Past President's Report

David Adamson

Comrades:

Honours and Awards:

By the time you get this report, I will have met with my Ladies Auxiliary counterpart, Verna Heath, in discussing our joint efforts for Branch 258 Honours and Awards presentation this September 23, 2007. Included in the Highlander is an application form for members to submit for their years of services pin. As a reminder, the pins are awarded for completed years of services. Additional details pertaining to the event will be posted at the Branch.

Convention:

These years Provincial Convention was held in London from May 13 – 16, 2007 and our Branch, Zone D5 and District D were well represented. We were fortunate to have had good weather for our parade and the only real sign of bad weather was the tornado threats on the evening of May 15, 2007.

Concern was expressed on the decreasing number of Legion members and the importance of maintaining the members we have and making a concentrated effort in bringing in new members. There had been a motion put forth to include Federal Correctional Officers as Ordinary Members but this was defeated.

L.A. Provincial President, Judy Stinson, addressed the convention outlining the good work the Ladies Auxiliary do and the financial contributions they make.

The Highlander

June/July/August 2007 3

It has always been my feeling that if there is a good working relationship and understanding between the L.A. and Branch this then would be a good measure of a successful joint operation. I was pleased to hear senior Provincial Executive members voice similar sentiments.

A non-concurrence Resolution from Branch 10 was discussed at our District caucus meeting and brought back to the floor as it pertained to initiating resolutions. The motion was approved with an amendment. All approved motions will be forwarded to Dominion Command for their review and it is expected that we should receive official approval by October 2007.

Overall the convention was well run. Most business was concluded on May 15, 2007 when we put in a long day starting at 8:00 a.m. and not finishing until about 5:00 p.m. This allowed us some free time to visit other branches.

Our outgoing Zone Commander, Bill Kinnaird, had a well-stocked hospitality room and greeted and entertained visiting guests. I believe now he knows the difference between ginger ale and sprite. Our District Commander, Lorraine Drake, as well hosted a hospitality room on the evening following Bill's and entertained many guests throughout the Province.

I had the privilege and opportunity to be appointed as the District D Whip along with Jim Gyselinck as Deputy Whip. I am sure Jim enjoyed this as much as I did.

The elected Provincial Officers for Ontario Command are as follows:

President: George O'Dair; 1st Vice President: Ed Pigeau;
Vice Presidents: Marg Emery, Ted Whan, Andre Paguette;
Treasurer: Don Hubbs; Chairman: Bill Chafe,
Vice Chairman: Ron Goebel.

Comrades, have a safe and enjoyable summer. All the best.

Yours in comradeship, David

House Chairman Report

John Zikovitz

The Work party has been busy getting items ready for Canada Day and all other items Dorothy Wells has asked. As always we are looking for able body members to help out around the Branch, so if you have any spare time and would like to help **your branch**, please volunteer on Saturdays or any time during the week.

Yours in Comradeship, John

Treasurer's Report

Ron Skopyk

Our financial position for the first 10 months of our fiscal year shows a net loss of approximately \$60k compared to last month's YTD loss of about \$34k.

Revenue and Expense Items (\$000)	June 2006 to Mar. 2007	June 2005 to Mar. 2006	Increase or (Decrease)
Branch Revenues	579.6	699.0	(119.3)
Branch Expenses	640.0	732.6	(92.7)
TOTAL Profit (Loss)	(60.4)	(33.7)	(26.7)

Year to date gross bar sales are down by approx. \$96k (18%). Catering sales are down about \$20k (17%).

The current forecast suggests that our 2006/2007 fiscal year loss position will be approximately \$50k. This is assuming that there will be no significant changes to the base forecast assumptions for that last 2 months of April and May 2007.

Bank balances (as of April 26, 2007):

General Account:	\$26,231	Lottery Account:	\$8,830
Charitable Account:	\$7,945	Building Savings Fund:	\$286

From time to time, I believe it is necessary that the Branch members be made aware of the financial activity within your Branch Poppy Fund. These are funds that are held in trust on your behalf and administered by your Poppy Fund Committee.

For the period of June 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007:

Balance as of June 1, 2006	20,898.46
Deposited	
Poppy campaign + donations	58,777.54
Paid Out	
Purchase of Poppies/Wreaths	9,448.50
Donations	24,511.00
Veterans' Assistance	19,605.07
Assessments	3,272.12
Youth Education	186.00
Administration Expense	3,936.60
Balance as of April 30, 2007	18,716.71

I regret that I will not be submitting my name for the position of Treasurer for the upcoming year. I have a number of matters that will be taking up a considerable amount of my time and, as such, I would not be able to provide the necessary commitment that this position requires. I will be involved with all the year-end financial reporting activities, which will carry on throughout the summer.

Lastly, I believe that the financial position for the next year should be somewhat healthier given a number of initiatives being undertaken by the current executive. As of May 1, 2007, bar prices were increased by 8% overall. The last increase was in June 2004.

As you read this edition of the Highlander, your newly elected executive will already be in place. I would like to offer my congratulations to this new executive and wish them all the best in the forthcoming year.

Yours in Comradeship, Ron

Sgt-at-Arms Report

Frank Freeman

Get on Parade. Up and coming Parades

Altonia Rd. "D Day Parade"

Form up at the Pickering Recreation Centre on Valley Farm Rd. south off #2 Highway and Kingston Rd.

Canada Day Parade

Form up on Morrish Rd. at the Salvation Army Citadel.
Form up at 12:45 P.M. Move off at 1:00 P.M.

Warriors' Day Parade

Form up on Gore Park south of Fort York Armoury.
Form up at 10:00 A.M. Move off at 10:30 A.M.
Notices will be posted on the Main Bulletin Board.

Yours in Comradeship, Frank

Fire Coordinator Report

John Zikovitz

All monthly inspections of the fire extinguishers and emergency lighting are all okay.

Yours in Comradeship, John

Edward (Andy) Andrews (1926-2007)

Edward (Andy) was a member of the RCN in WW11 and had been an ordinary member of Branch 258 since 1968.

Norman Graham (1920-2007)

Norman was a member of the RCAF in WW11 and had been an ordinary member of Branch 258 since 1986.

***They shall grow not old, As we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, Nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun, And in the morning,
We Will Remember Them***

Home	Larry Walker, Leslie Lauzon, Rita Wilson, John Honsberger
7 Oaks	Doug Rickey
Sunnybrook.	Margaret Carnell, Norman Carnell
Ellesmere Rd. Alexis Lodge	May O'Brien
Guildwood	Howard Mills
In Residence Tony Stacey Centre	John MacIndoe, Dorothy Roach, Gertrude May, Larry McArdle, Blair Parsons, Edith Robinson, Alexander Rokinicki, Anthony Shepard, Victor Truman, Frank Kane, Albert Wade, Irene Wessels, Merlin Elder, Mary Hallman

Respectfully Submitted – In Comradeship, Don
donwilson@rogers.com

LOST IN THE DARNDDEST PLACES:

An elderly Floridian called 911 on her cell phone to report that her car has been broken into. She is hysterical as she explains her situation to the dispatcher: "They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator!" she cried.

The dispatcher said, "Stay calm. An officer is on the way."

A few minutes later, the officer radios in. "Disregard." He says. "She got in the back-seat by mistake."

Service Officer Report

Les Goodwin

The VAC representative, John Lingenfelter will be present at the Branch for his usual counselling on Thursday June 14th. This will be his last visit before the summer break; next visit to the Branch will be on Thursday, September 13th 2007. Should you have the need to see him after June 14th I will be available to arrange for him to visit you at your home, provided that you live within the area for which he is responsible, which is basically east Scarborough.

I was present at the Semi-annual District meeting on April 29th at Branch 210, at which time I had the pleasure to introduce the chairman of "Operation Homefires" and "Operation Wounded Warrior's" Robert Rohrer. Robert gave the meeting an overview of these projects which supports our troops on active service as well as our wounded men in hospital's across the Country, he then requested that District "D" join Districts "E", "F" and "G" in this endeavour, this was followed by a motion from the chair to accept the invitation which was carried unanimously by the delegates to this meeting.

I later presented one hundred and seventy CDs to the chairman for our wounded warriors, these were purchased with a cash donation from a Br 258 member who donated \$300.00, and a cash donation from our old friends the Tam Heather Veterans (Venerables) who donated \$400.00, and got us a very good price on the CDs from the manufacturer. My appeal for donations from other Branch members yielded nothing!

A warning, to Veterans who are enrolled in the Veteran's Affairs VIP programme.

A veteran's widow was asked to sign a contract, and to prepay the costs for her snow removal last winter, (\$300.00) she asked my advice on this issue and I took it to VAC, I her advised not to pay the full amount since VAC had experienced contractors going out of business, or simply doing a disappearing act after they had received the fee.

I advised this client not to pay the full fee, but to pay in three \$100.00 increments which she did, shortly after the second payment the contractor disappeared, fortunately she did not lose all of her money, but did have to do a bit of snow shovelling herself to make ends meet.

You may sign a contract for a given sum of cash for the season, however, VAC advises you to pay the cash in three or four instalments, (not more than \$100.00 at a time) in other words don't let the contractor get too far

ahead with your cash, choose a reputable contractor, these can usually be found in the Yellow Pages of your phone book.

Comrades, please support our Branch this summer, our reserves are almost exhausted, and our continued existence rests entirely with you the member and your continued support. This could be a last call.

Have a good summer

Yours in Comradeship, Les

Penny Fund Report

Dorothy Wells

CANADA DAY GAMES AND ACTIVIES

As you know, a Great deal of planning goes into Canada Day and if my comments count. We must appreciate the Canada Day Committee for jumping in with their best intentions for the Branch. This of course includes our President Jim and our 1st Vice. Wayne from which, we personally have received their support and encouragement.

We are doing our utmost for a successful day and if mistakes are made they will hopefully be corrected next year. As of this report, I do not see any mishaps. We do not need negativity as we can do that ourselves for errors we make.

Our Saturday work party includes draftsman Jack Grieves, carpenters Jack and Grant, painter Henk, all professional men. The cost of their craftsmanship and labour would be an enormous amount to the Branch and we would not see fruition. So lets get on with it and put forth a optimistic point of view. Before I conclude this message and still have your attention. We would like to say a big Thank You to our Fire Fighters for their gifts. Some of which will be sent to Kandahar for the children in care of our man Sandi who is involved with orphans. We also would like to Thank Al Armstrong, Mave Kester, the Seniors Assoc. for their support. Lastly to our Saturday work crew who do not know the meaning of the word. No. Thanks Guys.

Yours in Comradeship, Dorothy

SENIOR DRIVING

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!"

"Heck," said Herman, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"

Sports Report

Bill Collins

Revenue from March 15 th - May 1 st .	
Snooker	\$1,726.00
Shuffleboard	\$ 40.00
8 Ball Table	\$ 24.00
Donation Monday night Euchre	<u>\$ 140.00</u>
Total	\$1,930.00

Alas the 8 Ball table has been sold for \$700.00, so there will be no more revenue to report from this table.

We had the Johnny Gallant Annual Snooker Tournament last month and Vela Emerged was the winner over Bob Thomas. All had a good time. Johnny was a long time member of the branch.

District Euchre was played on April 1st and Branch 258 had one team entered, but John Bow told me that the cards did not fall for the team. Better luck next year.

Zone Mixed Darts was won by the team of D. Norman,

S. McMurter, R. Skillicorn and L. Fowles. There were three other teams, two who made it through the District level and four doubles teams. Branch 258 will be the host Branch next year.

District Mixed Darts, D. Sullivan and Kim McEachern made it through the doubles and will play at the Provincial tournament on June 9th in Gananoque. Well played.

District Shuffleboard was played at Branch 258 on Sunday April 22nd with D. Stevens and N. Lockhart going on to the Provincial level in Kitchener. Sadly they lost in the final.

District Horseshoes and Golf. A sheet is posted in the games room with details.

There will be a Canada Day Horseshoes tournament but before this is held the pits have to be dug up. So I am looking for help to bring the pits in shape. The work party has enough to do so we need sports people to help.

Yours in Comradeship, Bill

"I CAN HEAR JUST FINE!"

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, "Windy, isn't it?"

"No," the second man replied, "it's Thursday."

And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a beer."



**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
HIGHLAND CREEK BRANCH 258**

45 Lawson Road, West Hill, On., M1C 2J1
Telephone: 416-281-2992

e-mail: rcl258@on.aibn.com
Fax: 416-281-8114

RCL BRANCH 258 – FUNDRAISER

SURF ‘N’ TURF DINNER & SHOW

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2007

45 LAWSON ROAD, WEST HILL

**A spectacular evening of music, comedy and impersonations
with the fabulous “NEWCOMERS”.**

Cost of Ticket: \$40.00 per person – no refund

For table reservations call Irene: 416-281-2992 Ext. 24

June 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Tony Stacey Bazaar Grant Smead
3	4 General Meeting 2000hrs	5 Seniors Exec Meeting 1330hrs	6	7 LA Exec 1930 hrs	8	9 Jim Devine
10	11 General Meeting 2000hrs	12 Seniors General Meeting 1330hrs	13 Scarboro Vets Meeting 1400hr	14 DVA 1400hrs Joint Exec 1930 hrs Scarboro Firefighters Meeting 1200pm	15	16 Ron Whitworth
17	18	19	20 Colour Guard Meeting 1930hrs	21 LA General Meeting 1930 hrs Board Mgmt 2000hrs	22 Surf'N'Turf 1900 hrs	23 Paul Evans
24 Korea Vets Meeting 1300hrs	25	26	27	28 Branch Exec 1930 hrs	29	30 John Sigvuldason

Regular Weekly Activities

	Euchre 1930 hr except Meeting nights	LA Bingo 7pm Cribbage 8pm East Group Sports 8pm	Mixed Darts 2000h	Colour Guard Drill Practice 7:30pm	Karaoke Lounge 8:30pm to 12:30 Dress Code in Effect 8 pm	Branch Work Party 0700-1200hr HI-LO Meat Roll 1430hr Dress Code in Effect 8 pm
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Canada Day 2007

Royal Canadian Legion

Highland Creek

Branch 258

45 Lawson Road, West Hill, M1C 2J1

Tel: (416) 281-2992



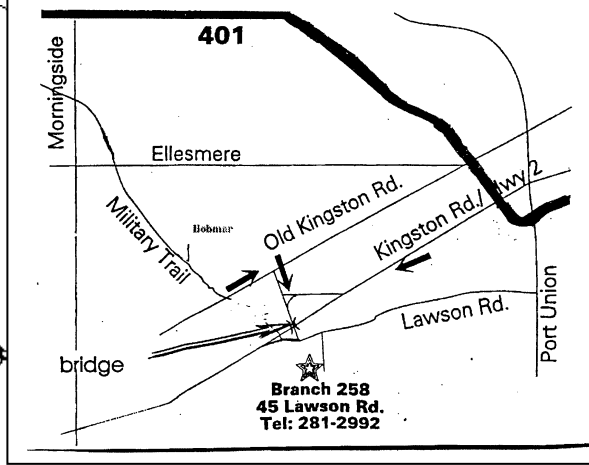
Everyone Is Welcome Join Us in this Celebration

Sunday July 1st - Canada Day

1PM - Parade from Salvation Army Parking Lot to the Legion.

Live Entertainment: 3pm - 7pm	Music for Everyone – Outdoor Stage
	Live Band - Peter Occhipinti
Refreshments Noon – 7pm	Outdoor Beer Garden
	Noon – 8pm In the lounge
Meat Roll 3pm	In the lounge
MINI-MIDWAY Noon - 4pm	Games for Children of all ages
All Day Food:	Bacon-on-a-bun, hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks
Bazaar / Craft show 1pm - 4pm	in the Banquet Hall
Horseshoe Tournament Entrance fee \$3.00 - all prize money distributed	

“Bring Your Own Chair” for added comfort



July 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Canada Day Parade 1300 hrs	2	3	4	5 LA Exec 1930 hrs	6	7
8	9	10	11 Scarboro Vets Meeting 1400hr	12 Scarboro Firefighters Meeting 1200pm	13	14 Paul Evans
15	16	17	18 Colour Guard Meeting 1930hrs	19	20	21 Ron Whitworth
22	23	24	25 Colour Guard Meeting 1930hrs	26 Branch Exec 1930 hrs	27	28 Jan Smead
29 Korea Vets Meeting 1300hrs	30	31				

Regular Weekly Activities

	Euchre 1930 hr except Meeting nights	LA Bingo 7pm Cribbage 8pm East Group Sports 8pm	Mixed Darts 2000h	Colour Guard Drill Practice 7:30pm	Karaoke Lounge 8:30pm to 12:30 Dress Code in Effect 8 pm	Branch Work Party 0700-1200hr HI-LO Meat Roll 1430hr Dress Code in Effect 8 pm
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August 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Paul Evans
5	6	7	8	9 Scarboro Firefighters Meeting 1200pm	10	11 Ron Whitworth
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Phelps Dinner
19	20	21	22 Colour Guard Meeting 1930hrs	23 Branch Exec 1930 hrs	24	25 Jim Devine
26 Korea Vets Meeting 1300hrs	27	28	29	30	31	

Regular Weekly Activities

	 Euchre 1930 hr except Meeting nights	 LA Bingo 7pm Cribbage 8pm East Group Sports 8pm	 Mixed Darts 2000h	 Colour Guard Drill Practice 7:30pm	 Karaoke Lounge 8:30pm to 12:30 Dress Code in Effect 8 pm	 Branch Work Party 0700-1200hr HI-LO Meat Roll 1430hr Dress Code in Effect 8 pm
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Note to members: Sometimes it is necessary to change DJ in the event they are not available due to illness. This calendar is made in advance



**Provincial Convention London Ont. May 12-16/07
Convention delegates show support for our troops.**



**Our hard working Ladies of the Ladies Auxiliary relax after
a full day at the Old Sweats Luncheon. Great job Ladies.**

Membership Report

David Morrison

Dear comrades one and all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of 258 for the past three years as Membership Chairman, it certainly has been a learning curve and I quickly discovered that one cannot keep everyone happy trying to perform one's duties. I have tried to be as open, honest and humorous in my approach to this job without the internal politics that can be an occupational sideline to any position on the Executive. I did not seek re-election due to new employment; it would be very arduous to accommodate both. I can state without hesitation that I completely support the President and his Executive one hundred percent, the climb to correct old issues will be a steep one and all of us must put our shoulders to the wheel to become a cohesive family, deeds speak, encouragement produces morale and morale is the engine that creates results.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my lovely wife Elaine for her understanding, tolerance and support during my endeavours.

Yours in Comradeship, David

Incoming Membership Report

Ian Pierson

It is with great sorrow that we say farewell to Comrade David Morrison. David, who has been your Membership Chairman for the last 3 years, has decided step down in order to spend more quality time with his family. David still has strong ties to Branch 258 and will continue to serve with your Colour Guard and with your Work Party.

As the incoming Membership Chairman, I look forward to picking up where David has left off. I have participated on the Membership Committee over the past year, working hand in hand with David. We will ensure that this changeover of responsibilities will be smooth and transparent to our membership.

Over the past week, I have received calls at home, from our Legion members regarding their missing 2007 Membership cards. If you have not received your 2007 Membership card, please contact me and leave your Name and Membership Number. I can be reached in one of the following ways: e-mail me at pierson@rogers.com

call me at the Legion (416) 281-2992 extension 28 - leave a message
visit me at the Legion I am in most afternoons Monday through Friday.

Yours in Comradeship, Ian

June/July/August 2007 17

VIMY 1917 - BIRTH OF A NATION

On Easter Sunday, April 9, 1917, 100,000 Canadian soldiers stormed and captured Vimy Ridge in France. It was one of the great victories of World War I. Although the cost to Canada was high – 3,600 dead and more than 7,000 wounded – historians say this victory marked the birth of Canada as a nation. It was the first battle in which all units of the Canadian Army fought together, and their success was overwhelming.

After the war the Canadian government determined the battle should always be remembered, and decided to build a monument at Vimy Ridge. Reaching 40 metres into the sky, the Vimy Memorial is made from 6,000 tons of white limestone. Resting on it are 20 figures that represent Canada's soldiers and the principles they gave their lives for.

This year marks the 90th Anniversary of that pivotal event. The Royal Canadian Legion is joining with their neighbours across the country to express our gratitude towards all members of the Canadian Forces, past and present, by celebrating the courage and commitment of those brave Canadians who fought and won the impossible victory at Vimy Ridge.

VIMY COMMEMORATIVE PIN - 600302



To recognize the 90th Anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge the Supply Department has commissioned the striking of this commemorative lapel pin. This 1 ¼" diameter pin is die-stamped, plated and enamelled with highest quality materials. It has been carefully designed with a jewellers' clasp so that it can be worn on any occasion, from everyday to the most formal.

VIMY BALL CAP – 600300



The Supply Department has designed and produced this embroidered ball cap in memory of the Battle of Vimy Ridge to show that we are committed to helping perpetuate the memory of the courage of Canadian Troops from another time. **MUST BE ORDERED**

VIMY T-SHIRT

Canada put forth a great effort in building the Vimy Memorial as an eternal reminder of the sacrifice for courage and principles. The Legion is renewing the memory of that great event, this year, by celebrating the 90th anniversary of Vimy with a selection of items including the Vimy t-shirt, made from 100% pre-shrunk 11 ounce cotton and durably printed. **MUST BE ORDERED**

S - 600304, M - 600305, L - 600306, XL - 600307, XXL - 600308



Yours in Comradeship Ian

Entertainment/Special Events

Irene Stevens

For the summer months June to August there will be no Pub Sunday's, as we will be taking a break. We will, however, have Karaoke and Jamming Sessions on Sundays to bring members into the branch; on both occasions we will fire up the BBQ's to provide food. Flyers will be posted on the board and tables in the Branch.

We are hosting a Fundraiser for the Branch on June 22nd a "Surf n Turf" Dinner & Show, the tickets are \$40 per person no refunds. For table reservations call me at 416-439-3089. The entertainers are the *Newcomers* from the Ole Scot House and it is a fabulous show! Please support your Branch and make this event a success.

Mother's Day was a real success. Rocky Bridges vowed the crowd with his music and the food was much enjoyed by the members, we served 42 dinners, many thanks to the members for their support. "Thank you" to the volunteers who helped to make the delicious meal - Marie and Barry Brown, Myrtle and John Cree, Carmie Black and to Vina Black who sold the tickets for the meal. Most of all thank you to all the members who came out and supported this event; we certainly had a good time.

Members have suggested that we discontinue the DJ's on Friday nights, the Executive have taken your views into account and have brought in a Juke Box as you suggested thus cutting our costs. Please use the Juke Box at any time; it plays 3 tunes for \$1.00. If you wish to have a party for not more than 40 people in the Lounge and would like to pay for your own DJ on a Friday night, that would be okay – just let me know.

We are going to try some new events to keep the members interested enough to bring them to the Branch with their friends. We will be running theme nights with food. We have a lot of planning to do. If you would like to volunteer your services, it would be most appreciated.

Our next Pub Sunday is May 27th. Have a nice summer and we will continue our Pub Sundays in September 2007.

Yours in Comradeship Irene

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answer: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

Colour Guard Report

Bill Kinnaird

The Colour Guard always supports the Executive, this has been our tradition and honour in the past and we will continue to do so for the present and future. Welcome to the new branch Executive, your tenure for 2007/2008 will be a hard, demanding road to travel, however I am confident that given the individual and collective spirit will rekindle the approach to having a vibrant branch.

As many of you know I have finished my tour as Zone Commander, a very time consuming worthwhile two years, which was a great honour. I would like offer Comrade Phil Richmond the very best on his new position as Zone Commander.

The Guard is re-building, both in personnel and representing the branch in new venues. Our goal is to put 258 on the map tending various parades and functions throughout the GTA and beyond. Expect to see more from your "ambassadors in kilts" in the next year.

Yours in Comradeship Bill

Living History

John Vassair

On February 20, 2007, Governor General Michaëlle Jean announced the appointment of Jan de Vries a Member of the ORDER OF CANADA. Jan, a member of the Living History Speakers Bureau and Branch 258, was honoured for, among other reasons, his dedicated endeavour to inform today's generation of students the history of the Canadian Army in World War 2 as he experienced it. Jan, a comrade of Cpl Frederick Topham, received national recognition for successfully leading the effort to have Topham's Victoria Cross remain in Canada.

As a Director of the Juno Beach Memorial Committee responsible for the funding and building of the Memorial, he represented Canadian Veterans at its unveiling by Queen Elizabeth and was awarded, at the same ceremony, the French Legion of Honour-By the President of France. A Veteran's Veteran, respected by his peers, he was an inspiration to the thousands of students he addressed during the last decade. The awarding of the Order of Canada is considered the culmination of his service and dedication to his community and to the country he served so well. We are most fortunate to have him not only as a member of Living History and our Branch but also a Comrade and friend.

Yours in Comradeship, John V/Chair

The Highlander

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Leo Steven CEO of Sunnybrook sent the following message.

Mr. Dwight Wilson, First World War veteran, will be remembered.

This is a tremendously sad day for Sunnybrook, for we have lost a very special person. Mr. Dwight Wilson, the last remaining Canadian First World War veteran living in the country passed away peacefully this morning. Today, we also remember all of the First World War veterans and nursing sisters who served in the Great War. To honour their memory, flags at Sunnybrook have been lowered to half-mast.

Mr. Wilson was a kind, gentle man who had a great sense of humour. He enjoyed life to the fullest and continued to strive to be independent right up to the end of his life. He interacted with the other residents and loved to go to entertainment programs in Warriors' Hall. He looked forward to his exercise class called "Bodies in Motion" and also the regular music therapy classes. He recently went on a city tour with the recreation therapy department. Last month, he attended the annual Royal Canadian Legion "Old Sweats" luncheon supported by District "D" at Branch 258 in Scarborough.

Sunnybrook was founded as a veterans' hospital in 1948 and remains the largest veterans' care facility in Canada. Kilgour wing and the George Hees wing provide leading care to more than 500 veterans and we are proud to continue in this tradition today.

Scarborough Vets Report

Dalton Moore

Comrades, since a number of you have asked about my wife's health, it grieves me to have to report that Barbara passed away at Providence Healthcare Centre on April 12th after a valiant battle with cancer. As we grow older, the spectre of death due to failing health increases dramatically, it touches us all; with that in mind, let us now concentrate on how to enjoy life.

One of the best ways to meet people and enjoy ourselves is to come out more often to functions at 258, you'll be pleasantly surprised at just how much is there for those who want to get involved. If you're a 'Vet' and have not as yet joined the Scarborough Vets, what's stopping you?

We recently enjoyed our annual Wine and Cheese party; although I couldn't make it, I understand we had a good turnout and everybody enjoyed themselves. (the price was right of course.)

I look forward to our next 'replacement' meeting on May 9th. (In case you forgot, it's a BBQ, and again the price is right.)

Yours in comradeship, Dalton

The Highlander

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District "D" Bursary Chairman ***Verna M. Burness***

The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Charitable Foundation and Royal Canadian Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Ontario Command Bursary Assistance Program is designed to assist students entering or continuing their post-secondary education including courses and programs of a technical and vocational nature, outside of and beyond secondary school. Approved bursary assistance is not based upon scholastic standing but rather on the successful admission status to a post secondary institution or successful completion of one or more years leading to a recognized degree, diploma or certificate.

Those eligible to apply are:

- (1) Canadian and Commonwealth Veterans and their children and grandchildren
- (2) Ordinary and Life members of the Royal Canadian Legion and their children and grandchildren
- (3) Associate members of the Royal Canadian Legion and their children
- (4) Ladies' Auxiliary members and their children and grandchildren.

Once a student has been accepted in a programme leading to a degree, diploma or certificate on completion of their program and have received their OSAP acknowledgement they can apply for a 2007/2008 bursary. All information is on the front of the applications dated Oct/06.

Yours in Comradeship, Verna M. Burness
District "D" Bursary Chairman

Senior's Association Report ***Rhea Martin***

Since this will be my last report, I'll use it for thanking people.

To Larry Walker who supported me when I went to him to start up the Seniors in 2005 after the previous executive walked away in December 2004. Many thanks Larry.

My heart felt thanks to the members who supported me for the last two years. Thanks to the Executive of the last two years and their exceptional work to get the Seniors going and finally, but not the least, to the members who volunteered to do the monthly lunches. Thanks.

We started out with less than \$1,000 and today we have \$3,500 and no bills. Also in the last 6 months, we donated \$2,000 to the Branch.

Thanks also for the donations for our troops that are overseas, I'm sure the troops greatly appreciate our efforts.

Dates to remember: June 5 – Executive Meeting
 June 12 - General Meeting (BBQ)

I wish a happy and healthy summer to all and thanks again for your support. Wishing all the best, to the new Executive that take over on June 5.

Yours in Comradeship, Rhea

L.A. President Report

Sandy Steele

Thank you for your support and confidence in election me as your L.A. President. I am looking forward to the year ahead and working with the Executive and the general body to make it a successful year.

Don't forget that July 1st, this year the branch has dedicated this Canada Day to celebrate our 60th Anniversary and the Grand Marshall's will be our Past Presidents of the L.A. Come out and volunteer or just to have fun. Hope you all have a safe and good summer and keep in touch

Dates to Remember

June 2nd	Tony Stacey Bazaar
June 5th	L.A. meeting Br 66
June 7th	L.A. Executive meeting
June 14th	Joint Executive meeting
June 21st	L.A. General meeting
July 5th	L.A. Executive meeting
Sept. 6th	L.A. Executive meeting

Yours in Comradeship, Sandy

L.A. Immediate Past President

Nancy Clark

I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to be your president last year. It will be a year I will always remember.

I would like to congratulate Sandy Steele and wish her well in her new position, as President. I would also like to congratulate all of the ladies that ran and were elected to an executive position.

Have a great summer

Yours in Comradeship, Nancy

Request for Service Pin

Name _____ Legion # _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Years of Service Pin requested: 5 10 15 20 25 30
Circle one number. 35 40 45 50 55

Life _____ Ordinary _____ Associate _____

Please return your form to David Adamson before July 31st, 2007

Commentary

William (Bill) Smith

At the General Meeting 9th April, I was permitted to address the meeting on one of my favourite subjects-FINANCE. It was kindly received and in the hope of reaching a larger audience than 50 or so that attended I am asking the editor to publish a condensed version of my 10-minute address. I do this in hope that I can tap into the professional skill of some other concerned members to give their expertise to the executive and the Branch.

I am referring to the proposal to increase bar prices and the Treasurer's Report regarding the deterioration to the finances of the Branch. It's not just excess Expenditures over Income but there is the effect of the mortgage principle repayment on the working capital.

All organizations and individuals have some things they can do without but there is one thing that none can do without and that is money. So! "What can be done to generate sufficient funds to cover the overheads and the mortgage?" The Legion affairs can rely mostly on Dues; the efforts of the Ways and Means; Canada Day and all activities run by the hard working volunteers. Their concern should be just that.

So my address is to the business side. I am confident that the decline is in no way because of mismanagement but circumstances of the times. What can be done?

For the short-term Raising Bar Prices is one avenue and increasing revenue is another. I agree wholeheartedly that the executive is justified in calling for an increase.

Another avenue is to generate more use of the premises by members. Sub-let to a professional in the business perhaps

No doubt there are other increases and efficiencies being looked at. Encouraging members to spend more of their entertainment dollars is another thing, I think that is rather difficult, the members have shown a palpable lack of interest in any input for the Executive. It must be realized that they are younger, more sophisticated in their tastes and there are many more attractive venues for their amusement and pleasure. Putting the idle space to use requires a skill in that direction.

In the long run, increasing membership is not a real possibility given the social make-up of the region? I firmly believe that the wise usage of the real Estate, by leasing; sale or partial sale to raise capital for an income producing investment is the avenue to a successful continuation of the branch. It appears shocking; just think of the possibility of the branch not being able to continue because of lack of funds. The property will pass to Command. Snapped up by a developer. Although the Legion will have the benefit of the money it will not be this branch.

Why not a think tank to explore all the possibilities? NOT A COMMITTEE, I believe this inefficient monstrosity is the result of a committee. Remember Churchill's attitude "A CAMEL IS A HORSE PUT TOGETHER BY A COMMITTEE ". If I have planted some seeds for thought in anybody's mind then my effort will not have been wasted. I won't hold my breath. Along with you I hope the Branch has a future. It won't just happen. I'm told that it's the members that run a legion. In that case it's up to all of us and not just the Executive and the few dedicated volunteers.

Yours in Comradeship, Bill

FAMILY

Three sisters, ages 92, 94 and 96 live in a house together. One night the 96-year-old draws a bath. She puts her foot in and pauses. She yells to the other sisters, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?"

The 94-year-old yells back, "I don't know. I'll come up and see." She starts up the stairs and pauses "Was I going up the stairs or down?"

The 92-year-old is sitting at the kitchen table having tea listening to her sisters. She shakes her head and says, "I sure hope I never get that forgetful, knock on wood." She then yells, "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door."

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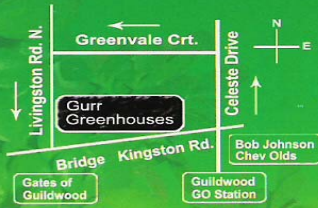
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Office Coordinator: Martin Welder (ext 21) E-mail: office@rcl258.com

Telephone Extensions: (Press * to redirect before pick up)

Office-ext 21 President-ext 22 Hall Rental-ext 40 Bar-ext 24 Kitchen-ext 26

BRANCH EXECUTIVE

President	Jim Gyselinck	416-265-1774
Past President (P.R.O., Honours & Awards)	David Adamson	416-281-7758
1st Vice-President	Wayne Powell	416-297-1535
2nd Vice-President (Regalia)	Pat Freeman	416-282-1731
3rd Vice-President (Legion Week)	John Bow	416-439-6085
Secretary		
Treasurer		

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Chaplain (Sick & Visitation, Tribute Services)	Don E. Wilson	1-905-623-3063
Membership	Ian Pierson	416-281-2992-X28
Entertainment, Special Events	Irene Stevens	416-439-3089
Sgt-at-Arms (Parades /Transportation)	Frank Freeman	416-282-1731
Service Officer	Les Goodwin	416-282-3885
Sports	Bill Collins	416-284-4344
House Chairman, Fire Coordinator, Track & Field	John Zikovitz	416-284-4811
Youth Education, Walkathon	Fern Regan	416-282-4944
Member-at Large	Carol Meere	416-284-9424
Ass't House Chairman, Newsletter Distribution	David Fowler	416-282-3013

STANDING COMMITTEES

Banquet Hall Coordinator, Special Events	Barbara Bredin	416-281-7683
Colour Guard	Chair Bill Kinnaird	416-284-9538
	Capt. Jack Scanlon	1-905-670-0673

External Groups

Living History	Al Armstrong	416-438-2664
Seniors Association Chairman	Irene Stevens	416-439-3089

Internal Auditors**LADIES AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE FOR 2007-2008**

President	Sandy Steele	416-286-4457
Past President	Nancy Clark	905-837-9117
1st Vice-President	Sally Norris	416-283-7923
2nd Vice-President	Shirley McMurter	416-282-4793
Treasurer	Audrey Maher	416-282-3337
Recording Secretary	Pat Fisher	416-282-5290
Sergeant-at-Arms		
Kitchen Convenor	Irene Stevens	416-439-3089
Hostess	Renee Kennett	416-282-5007
Bingo Convener	Donna Shepherd	905-665-0634
Sick Convener	Marie Buss	416-282-1046
Chaplain	Pierrette Emerson	416-284-0073
Sports Convener	Margaret Pearson	416-465-2238
Standard Bearers	Jackie LePage	416-431-6379
Standard Bearers	Kathleen White	416-284-8292
Executive	Ann Harvey	416-289-0704
	Donna Waite	416-298-1926
The Highlander	Verna Heath	905-839-7516
	Connie Marshment	416-439-1218