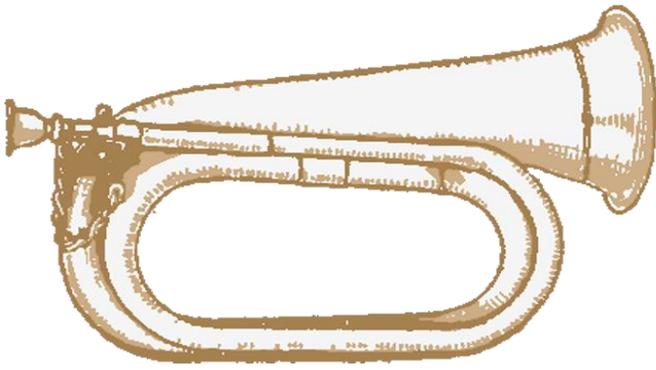


Royal Canadian Legion – Branch 532
65 Boullee St., New Hamburg, ON
N3A 3E3 519-662-3770



The BUGLE

Hello Comrades! It has been a very long time since there has been a Bugle. Things at the branch have been a bit slow but events have been well attended. We will try to report on all of the events since November.



POPPY CAMPAIGN

The Poppy Campaign is one of our best stories. As in other years, we now do a postal campaign. Thanks to the many volunteers that helped stuff the 8,000 plus envelopes that are distributed to the residents of Wilmot Township. Thanks also goes out to the many members that distributed the poppy boxes to the many businesses in the area. This year we raised over \$24,000. Donations will be made to the Military Family Resources Centre (\$1500.); St. Mary's Hospital (\$2500.); Grand River Hospital (\$2500.00) and our largest donation of \$10,000 will go to the Homeless Veteran Fund. This donation makes it \$61,500.00 we have given to this very worthy cause over the past 5 years. Great job for a small branch. We will have enough monies in our account to purchase all the supplies we will need for next year as well as any possible support a veteran that needs assistance may request. Great job everyone!

YOUTH EDUCATION

Posters, Poem and Essay Contest

Comrade Mike Disney, chair of this committee organized an excellent participation of the students at our local schools. We must get our information to the local schools in spring so they can put this program into their agenda. Hopefully this year, we will have all schools participating. The entries we receive are posted for all the veterans to view the night of the Veterans Appreciation Dinner which is held the Saturday before Remembrance Day. Students placing in the top 3 levels received a monetary amount of funds for their efforts. The winners of our contest have their submission forwarded to the District Youth Education for the next level of competition. We were lucky and had 3 of our students win at this level. These winners at this level receive a certificate and a prize. These entries are then forwarded to the Provincial level of competition. Unfortunately, our winners were not chosen to proceed to the Dominion level. The students work hard on their entries and if you get the change next year, come back to the legion after the Remembrance ceremony and take a look at the entries. You will truly be amazed to see the thoughts and hard work goes into the finished products.





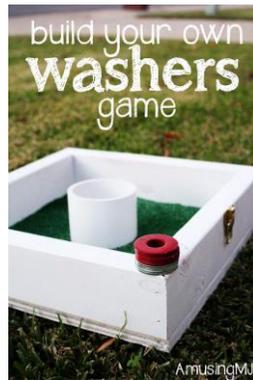
The Annual Sweetheart Tournament was again a hug success.

There were many teams on hand looking for a big win. The winners of the tournament were Jack Robinson and Katie as well as Tony and Bianca. Sorry, but last names were unavailable at the time of publishing.

Join the fun next year.

Washooooo !!!

After you make your washoo game, start practising. The competition is rough. The tournament is always held the first Saturday in March. The tournie fills up real quick. This year's winners were Doug Holborn and Paul Starr.



The Ladies Auxiliary worked very hard to make the St. Patty's Day dinner successful. The attendance was great this year, the auction items were many and the proceeds were FANTASTIC. This is the only fund raiser the ladies host in support of Parkwood Hospital. This is a hospital that takes care of our veterans. The ladies also collect items that may be sent to the hospital. Kleenex, toothpaste, tooth brushes, soap, etc. etc. If you would like to donate some items, please bring them to the branch. The auxiliary will make sure the products are delivered. Thanks to everyone that makes all these events successful.

For many years now, our branch has supported the local food bank. We have found a great partner for this event. Bill Fleming of Sobey's does a fantastic job of assisting the legion in purchasing products that are needed. The staff contact the organizer at the food bank and they come up with a list of items. This year was one of our better years. We raised nearly \$2500. After sharpening up the pencil, ordering food and giving us an additional discount, Sobey's order 2000 lbs. of food that we delivered March 28th.



Thanks to Allen Taylor and Barry Hallman for the use of their trucks to transport the food.



A big thank you goes out to the organizers of the fundraisers. You did a bang up job. Hope you will be available for next year.



Here we have some very happy people!

KITCHEN NEWS!!



The kitchen has been steaming and smelling delicious. Comrade Gail McMullen has been kept busy with Service Club Dinners, Darts Dinners, Bowling Banquets, etc. etc. She has had a lot help from her friends and that has helped make things successful. The season is drawing to a close so don't miss out on the upcoming events.

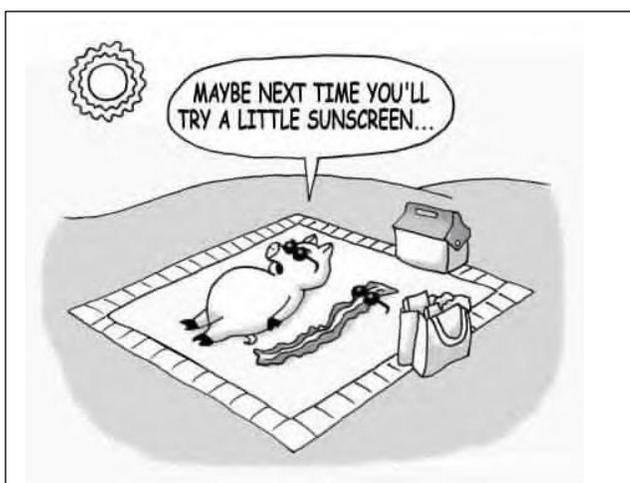
A **TURKEY DINNER** will be held **Friday April 26**. There will be one sitting only **at 6:00 p.m.** and **Advance Tickets Only** for the price of \$15.00 Call the Branch at 662-3770 for tickets.

Gail has also been hosting **Express Lunches**. The next lunch will held **Friday, May 3rd at noon**. The menu is Roast Beef on a Bun, Salad, Soup, Dessert and Coffee. **Advance ticket \$6.00 OR \$8.00 at the door**. Take out service is available at 11:30 a.m. for pick-up.

The Department of Health notified the branch that there must be one certified food handler in the kitchen when the kitchen is in use. Gail took it upon herself to get several people from the branch, optimists, lions clubs, and more to sign up for the course. She was happy to report that everyone that took the course passed.

The Ladies Auxiliary also attended a food handling course and they also are certified. Great job to everyone who attended the courses and are now qualified to use the kitchen when called upon.

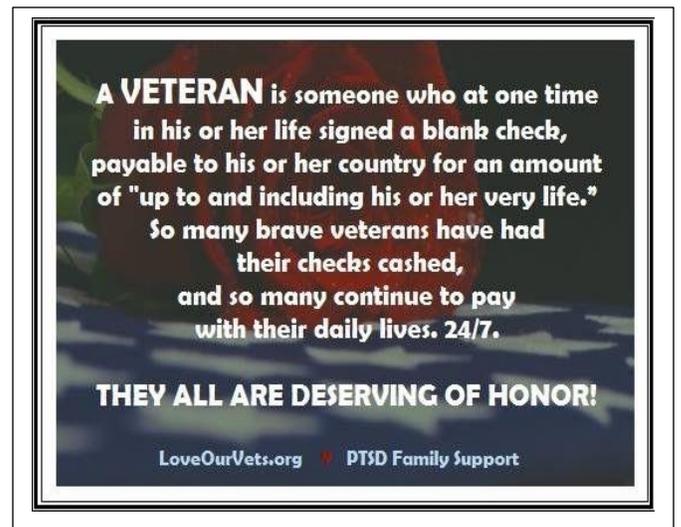
The branch is happy to host the annual Past Presidents Crib night. This group begins the first Wednesday in April and plays for 10 weeks. We have a barrel of fun. This year has been one of the better years. There are 40+ people that show up every Wednesday night. Thanks to all the NEW players we have this year. We were sorry to hear that about 8 former players did not return this year. Holy Cow! That would have been one large group. We have our fun night on June 12th at which time the prizes will be handed out. Thanks again to everyone that has made this fun event even better this year.



NOTICE: A bus tour of ladies from Cobourg will be visiting our branch on **May 25th**. We hope that everyone will welcome them ladies and make them feel at home. They have requested a meal and I know members will step forward to assist the kitchen staff with the prep, cooking and serving. Please let us know if you are available to help!
This is the same day as the Relief Sale.

ZONE & DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Having just attended a District Convention in Owen Sound, it is surprising just how much you can learn about what the legion does. Yes, there is a lot of information and you may get a little bored but if you really listen and read the reports, it is very informative. Some things talked about were changes to the liquor license renewal procedures. It is done on line now. Application completed, payment made and you get the permit immediately and can print it when the transaction is complete. The Recognition Book is a huge fundraiser for the legion. This is way to keep per capita down. Volume 6 is still in need of submissions before it can be published. If you know of or are a veteran please complete the form and submit it. You give a short profile of your military life. This book is distributed to schools, libraries, military resources, etc. Since this program began we have received \$916,582.24. At these conventions various branches make donations to such funds as the District Hospital Fund, The Bursary Foundation, Track & Field, Youth Education, PTSD Dogs, Homeless Veterans, just to name a few. At this convention a total of \$161,420 was donated. Great job District C. This was an election year which means we have a new District Commander, Comrade Eric Ross and his deputy Comrade Dean Weir. Zone C2 also had elections this year. Our Zone Commander is Comrade Jim Meyers and his deputy is Comrade Paul Baker. Changes have been made for new veterans to receive a pension for life, either in a monthly payment or lump sum. The District also hold seminars to update the various chairperson of any changes upcoming. If you joined this organization to support our veterans, you should be attending these conventions to see just how successful the Legion really is. There is a veteran somewhere thanking us for our hard work.



Membership – There are still a few members that have not renewed their membership for 2019. Please drop by the branch, say hi to everyone, pay your dues and enjoy the comradeship of the branch.

Now back the Branch 532 Business.

As everyone is aware, last month at the general membership meeting, nominations were held. Many comrades were nominated. **YOUR HELP** is needed by accepting your nomination and to serve on the executive committee. **We need a FULL EXECUTIVE to be successful.** Many branches are finding that members would to join the legion, but don't want to belong as a serving executive members. Be the first to step up and take on that important role. There are many experienced members willing to step forward and assist in training you in that position. The jobs are not that difficult. If you are willing to learn, we are will to teach. **The elections meeting will be held on Thursday May 2nd. 7:30 p.m. Following the meeting, the installation of officers will be held with Past Presidents will do the ceremony.**

BE THERE!

Remembrance Day



Parade and Service

This year was a very successful event. Added success to the parade was the attendance of the Waterloo Regional Police. Several officers join in our parade. Thanks for their participation. We think that possibly 500 citizens were in attendance. Chaplain Bob Thaler had a fantastic address this year as always. He even had the audience participating. Great job! It sure made us think. The glee club of Waterloo-Oxford with their musical selections did a great job.



Youth Darts

The youth darts league has been operating for many years but nobody seems to know about the young players. Shirley and Steve Bailey have been organizing this group for a lot of years. They stayed with the group even after their own children did not play. We have had many winners at the Ontario tournaments. This year we have a few players advancing again.



"Nice shot, Stan ...
you hit a primary pressure point."



Our branch dart players have been very successful this year. We had several players win at the various levels of competition in singles, double and teams. Branch 532 has some players we are proud of and give us bragging rights, on their behalf of course.

Our team competing at Port Credit Legion consisted of Jack Robinson, Brad Sword, Matt Parsons and Randy Moffat. They won the Provincial level of darts and now they are on their way to the Dominion Level. Our branch players are representing the Province of Ontario for all of Canada competition to be held in Dominion, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia the first week in May. Good luck guys. Make us proud and please bring home the trophy. Our fingers are crossed!

