



CONTACT!

Volume 11 Number 7
September 2023

Tel: 613-591-5570
www.kanatalegion.ca

President's Report

Your new Executive is hard at work. At times it has been challenging getting established, but with everyone's help the organizational chart is now complete and your Legion is well postured for the upcoming year.

Your committees are planning activities and fundraising events to be enjoyed by all. Check upcoming events sent out via email. Come out and support your Legion.

Comrades: We do need volunteer help. Fish and Chips on Fridays, Sunday Bingo, help with general maintenance, sports, activities, fundraising activities just to name a few. Anywhere you can give a few hours of your time, would be gratefully received.

On the upside, come out to your Legion for a fun place to be, meet new comrades and friends. Join us in the lounge on a Saturday afternoon.

Have an enjoyable autumn!

Yours in comradeship,

Jim Hemlin

Poppy Campaign 2023

The Poppy Campaign for 2023 is underway and, behind the scenes, the Poppy Planning Committee has commenced planning. Supplies have been ordered to cover all current Kanata Sectors; Sector Captains have been established, and with the growth of Kanata, more sector Captains may be needed; a call for volunteers will be issued soon and; a Poppy Campaign Kick Off event is being organised.

The Poppy Campaign is the most important and biggest fundraising event of the year and all donations received throughout the Campaign go directly into the strictly controlled Poppy Trust Fund. This Fund allows Royal Canadian Legion Branches to financially support all Veteran, Senior, Community, and Youth activities which Legion Branches financially contribute and support.

To achieve these goals, each Branch needs the volunteer support of all Branch members who are able to contribute their time and effort. Therefore, when the Branch issues a Call for Volunteers, each member is urged to contribute where they can.

Yours in Comradeship,

Comrade Dennis Hearn
Poppy Campaign Chair

Remembrance Day Ceremony & Parade Committee

The 2023 Remembrance Day Ceremony and Parade Committee has been formed and the planning stages for this year's Kanata Remembrance Day Ceremony are underway.

The ceremony will be held at the cenotaph on Colchester Square, which is at the intersection of Campeau Drive and Teron Road, on Saturday, November 11, 2023.

Thanks to the Russian Orthodox Church on Colchester Square, the formation and dismissal of the parade will take place in the church's parking lot. There will be a variety of groups marching in the parade and the committee is hoping for a good representation of Veterans on parade.

Letters of invitation to organizations, individuals and schools are being drafted. Contacts are being made. Notice of parade and ceremony details will be announced via email, the CONTACT newsletter and the Community Voice local paper mid-October / end of October.

The committee needs a co-chair. If you are interested in learning more about this very important role, please contact me at lmlapensee@sympatico.ca or by phone at 613-831-8319.

Lorraine Lapensée, Chair
Remembrance Day Ceremony & Parade Committee

Remembrance Services

To date 6 out of 12 services have been booked at our long term and Seniors' residences. The dates are November 6 through November 10. **A person is needed to accompany anthems and hymns on keyboard**, please, as unfortunately surgery will not permit me to play. If you can help, please contact me.

This endeavour is a vital part in our community outreach effort and greatly appreciated by our Veterans and spouses in Kanata.

Yours in continued service,
Moira 🌸 ~ 613-592-3376 ~ mmgreen@live.com

Cenotaph Memorial Stones

Sincere thanks to those members and community persons who purchased a memorial stone to honour a Veteran. To date, 91 stones will have been engraved.

If you have not honoured a Veteran in this manner, please consider doing so next year.

Lest we Forget 🌸 Moira

Remembering Mary Wallace (nee Sweeney)



Mary and her husband Charles (Chuck) were long time members of our Legion. There was no published obituary for Mary and the graveside funeral service was a private event at Old St Mary's Church, Pinhey's Point. Mary was 95, a published author, historian and wonderful friend.

The WWI uniform displayed in our lounge belonged to Mary's Dad, Harry Sweeney, a WWI veteran.

Rest in Peace, Harry, Chuck and Mary.
Lest We Forget ~ Moira 🌸

Seniors Committee

The Seniors coffee mornings are continuing to be very popular with twenty to over thirty attending. We have a full slate of Residences providing the treats on a rotational basis as well as our own Ladies' Auxiliary.

Our regular committee monthly meeting was held this past Wednesday and we discussed possible speakers for upcoming mornings. Everyone enjoys the conversation, camaraderie, and laughter and it certainly makes for a fun filled couple of hours.

Joan Hemlin
Legion Seniors Chair

Sergeant at Arms Report

The Colour Party participated in two events in August. The opening ceremony for the Scott Tokessy Memorial Baseball Tournament and later the North Lanark Highland games. Earlier in the summer we participated in three Legion Tributes for three of our Veterans.

There may possibly be a Kanata Santa Claus parade this year. The last one was in 2019 because of COVID-19. We have been asked if we can provide a Colour Party. That brings up an issue. **We are desperately in need of new Colour Party members.** Age and what comes along with that has taken its toll.

I say if you are interested in traveling the world (!) and meeting interesting people, joining the Colour Party is for you. No experience needed, no about turns or advance in review order. We will train.

Let me know.

John Robert (No P) Thomson CD
613-831-8221
dieseljohn@rogers.com

August Gaming Report

Bingo Report (4 Bingos)

Total Deposit to Bingo Trust	\$ 2,307.00
Rent to the Branch	\$ 662.85
Building Operations & Maintenance	\$ 495.06
Donatable Funds	<u>\$ 742.59</u>

Catch the Ace Report (4 Draws)

Total proceeds from draws	\$ 2,525.00
Rent to the Branch	\$ 214.63
Building Operations & Maintenance	\$ 404.00
Donatable Funds	<u>\$ 606.00</u>

Total Donations (to Lottery Trust)	<u>\$ 1,348.59</u>
Total Rent & Building Reserve	<u>\$ 1,776.54</u>

Gaming Committee



Public Relations Committee

I have recently been appointed as the Branch Public Relations Officer and I am also the Zone G6 Public Relations Officer. I have held both of these positions in the past. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Branch Public Relations Team:

Bruce Judge	Branch Public Relations Officer
Helen McKiernan	Co-Chair
Jackie Terris	Community Voice Newspaper
Lorraine Elmas	Branch CONTACT! Newsletter
Walter Arksey	Branch Photographer
Terry Jacobs	Military Service Recognition Book

Our responsibility is to ensure that every opportunity is taken to publicize the activities of the Branch in order to enhance the image of the Branch and The Royal Canadian Legion within the community and the surrounding area.

On 15 September we set up a booth at the Kanata EXPO 55. It was a very successful show. The team of Margaret Judge, Terry Jacobs and I showcased Branch Membership, Activities and the Military Recognition Book.



We were fortunate to have World War II Indian Veteran Gurbachan Sing Bedi spend some time at our booth drawing people to our location. Born in 1917 he will be celebrating his 106th birthday on 26th September. He also spent 19 years service with the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires in Ottawa. Terry has signed Gurbachan up for an insert in the Legion Recognition Book and he is also interested in becoming a member of our Branch.

As Branch Public Relations Officer I was able to discuss our Branch with many of the local Community Associations including the Police Community Service Officer, Fire Prevention Officer, local service clubs, The Seniors Council Inc., our City Councillors and our newly elected MPP, Karen McCrimmon, who is a member of our Branch. Margaret and Terry looked after our display booth talking with many people who were showing interest in our Branch activities.

Bruce Judge
Branch Public Relations Officer

Membership Report

Early Bird Campaign Membership Annual Renewal Reminder

The Early Bird Campaign is an opportunity for Kanata Branch 638 members to renew their annual membership dues at a reduced rate. The Campaign runs from 01 September to 30 November annually. During the Campaign, the annual membership fee is reduced from \$60 to \$55.

Payment may be made using cash, cheque, debit, Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and online.

- **Cash payment** may be dropped off at the Legion using the mail slot located near the main doors or at the office or the bar (when open).
- **Cheques** may also be dropped off at the Branch mail slot, at the office or at the Bar (when open). Please make cheques out to the RCL Kanata Branch 638 and ensure you indicate "Membership" on the cheque memo line.
- **Debit payment** may be made using one of the Branch 638 Point of Sale debit devices. Please ensure you write your name on the back of the debit slip and indicate membership.
- **Electronic Transfer Funds** payment may be made to membershipbr638@gmail.com. Please ensure you indicate the member or members renewing in the ETF Subject Line. Passwords are not required.

Online renewal may be made through legion.ca using the Members Section. You may have to register to make online payments. Members may also pre-pay if they so wish.

Upon receipt of annual dues payment, it will take approximately one week to process. Your renewal stickers will then be ready to be picked up at the office or the Bar (when open). Keep in mind that all office staff are volunteers and are not always in the office if you drop by.

If you are unable to pick up your card(s), kindly provide a self-addressed envelope with postage and your renewal stickers will be mailed out to you.

Digital card holders will be updated electronically by Dominion Command.

Lastly, if your personal information has changed, please forward the changed information to the Branch office so your files can be updated.

Comrade Dennis Hearn
Membership Chair

Ways and Means Committee

This past summer, the Ways and Means Committee held the following fundraising events:

- Ribs and Chicken and Karaoke Night - July
- Family Fun Fair - August (photo at the bottom of the page)
- Summertime Fish and Chips - Fridays

We truly appreciate the help of all our volunteers and the support of the community for making these events a success.



The next upcoming event is a Halloween party! The best way to celebrate and enjoy the Halloween holiday is by making memories with friends and family. Now is the time to plan! Consider making these good, fun memories at the Kanata Legion's Halloween Party on October 28.

Sylvia Monette,
WAM Committee Chair
s.monette@hotmail.com



Linda
McEwen
and
Marie Bean

Ladies' Auxiliary

For most of us, September means back to school and back to planning and preparing for the numerous fall and winter events and activities, and the Ladies' Auxiliary is no exception.

Over the summer months, the Ladies' Auxiliary continued to fulfill their mission by:

- Fundraising - Hosting a very successful Trinkets and Treasures Sale, June 24th. A very special thanks to all those who donated items, came out to support our fundraiser and an extra special thanks to the Branch and L.A. volunteers as well as family members who all worked very hard. Your support is very much appreciated. When you support the Ladies' Auxiliary, you support the Kanata Branch and veterans. Most items left were donated to the Salvation Army and Matthew's House.
- Fundraising - Dinner and Drag Comedy Show, August 19, 2023. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal - sausage, corn on the cob and much more! The entertainment was provided by Diverse Identity; a team of four featuring Dynasty, Lulu, Sydney and Cleo. Lots of costumes, songs and comedy! Diverse Identity are very supportive of the Legions and the Ladies' Auxiliaries in the community and area. Although the event was not sold out, those who attended contributed towards the success that it was. Thank you!
- Catering - The Ladies' Auxiliary catered to a variety of catering requests including Celebrations of Life.
- Supporting Branch Functions - volunteering at the annual President's Canada Day BBQ, Fish N Chips, Wednesday Coffee Club, Sunday Bingo Canteen and most recently an excellent luncheon served at the Zone G6 Council and Convention held on September 10th which our Branch hosted.
- The Ladies' Auxiliary Executive and the Branch Executive together are moving forward building the relationship to its fullest potential.

The Ladies' Auxiliary held their first general meeting on September 6th after the summer break. Two new members were initiated, Susan Martelle and Solange Sakalauskas. Both have already volunteered at the Sunday bingo canteen and one other catering event.

The Ladies' Auxiliary took over the Sunday Bingo Canteen on June 11th and has been providing the bingo players with a menu of choices from French fries to grilled cheese sandwiches. Our goal is to have eight teams of three, so a volunteer need only volunteer once every eight weeks. Only a handful of volunteers are still needed. Volunteers can be Branch members, L.A. members, friends and family. On the job training! A schedule is out requesting volunteers for the months of October to January to sign up for the Ladies' Auxiliary's weekly Sunday Bingo Canteen. A reminder, all

Branch and L.A. members and friends can volunteer at the Sunday Bingo Canteen. Please consider joining our Bingo Canteen Team. Those interested, please contact Lorraine Lapensée, Sunday Bingo Canteen Volunteer Coordinator, at 613-831-8319 or email at lmlapensee@sympatico.ca.

Upcoming L.A. Events and Activities

- October 7th – L.A. Apple Pie Sale – Sold out! Thank you to everyone who ordered a pie or two. Special thanks to Debby Holden for organizing this fundraiser and to the team of volunteers for making this fundraiser the great success that it is!
- December 2nd – L.A.'s annual Vendor Extravaganza Sale with a L.A. baked goods table. More details coming soon.

The Ladies' Auxiliary continues to provide an excellent catering service as requests are received. The latest catering service was for the September 10th Zone G6 Council and Convention. I congratulate Debby and her team, which included L.A. and Branch members on a job well done.

Invitations to the Ladies' Auxiliary's biennial Honours and Awards Ceremony and Dinner on September 30th have been distributed.

The annual financial review was conducted on August 15th by Marianne Wilkinson and Ken Major. The reviewers gave a very good report. The original review was sent to the L.A. Zone commander and a copy was given to the Branch President.

The fall Joint Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for September 27th, 2023.

Lorraine Lapensée
Ladies' Auxiliary President

**THE LEGION BRANCH 638 AND
THE LADIES' AUXILIARY
ARE GROWING!**

JOIN A GROUP OF COMMUNITY MINDED PEOPLE SERVING
AND SUPPORTING VETERANS, YOUTH, SENIORS, COMMUNITY
AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF OUR TEAMS,
CONTACT SYLVIA 613-986-3520 FOR THE LADIES AUXILIARY
OR DENNIS HEARN 613-836-5592 FOR THE LEGION

NOT READY TO JOIN? REACH OUT AND SEE HOW YOU CAN
VOLUNTEER

facebook

Comrades, I would like to report, that effective immediately, **Comrade Pat Cher** has taken on the Branch Facebook Page. I'll be hanging on for a bit while she gets familiar with the page, but I know that she will work her magic -- after all, she was the one who originally opened the page in 2015! 😊

Thank you very much for the support that you've given me over the years, I know that you'll give Pat the same great support. I think you'll find it much more convenient with someone living in the area, than someone living 3 time zones away!

Angie Jacklin
Legion Facebook



RCSCC Centurion

Cadet Liaison Report

Kanata Branch Legion continues to support four cadet corps in the Kanata region. They are:

- Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps (RCSCC) Centurion
- Royal Canadian 2870 Dragoons Army Cadet Corps
- 872 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Kanata Kiwanis Squadron
- 706 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Snowy Owl Squadron

After a very busy post-COVID period all cadet corps resumed normal training year plans in 2022-2023. The training year lasts from September to May and concludes with very impressive Annual Ceremonial Review (ACR). These ACRs highlight the accumulated accomplishments and achievements of the training year and are a chance for parents, families, and supporters to see exactly how their sons and daughters have progressed throughout the training year. It is surely a proud moment for the cadets, their families, the Cadet Corps or Squadron Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) and, last but certainly not the least, the Sponsoring Committees of each cadet unit.

During the summer months selected cadets attend national summer camps where they learn advanced education and

training qualifications. After summer training cadets then return to their units and commence their annual training plan for the next year.

Kanata Branch 638 supports all four cadets units with an annual donation from the Poppy Trust Fund and offers other non-financial support where needed. If you ever have the inclination, attend the next ACR for any or all these cadet units and you will undoubtedly be impressed with, and proud of, our Canadian youth.

Yours in Comradeship,

Comrade Dennis Hearn
Branch Cadet Liaison Officer

Input from Branch Photographer

President's BBQ

The President's BBQ on July 1st was enjoyed by all and was very well attended. Jim greeted people at the door and even sang later with the band.



The cake was cut by Garry Fancy (wearing the white shirt) and Gerry Dore.



PR Slideshow in Lounge

Jim requested that Walter create a slideshow on the Lounge TV to publicize what the Legion does to support our Veterans. It was well received and includes pictures of fund-raising activities, Legion promos and event posters.

Colour Party

The Legion was asked to lead the march at the opening ceremonies to this year's Scott Tokessy ball tournament of 63 teams and then again at the opening of the Almonte Highland Games.



Pictures and Plaques

Our team will go to great heights to find room for more pictures on the walls.



WWI Harry Sweeney keeps watch over the Lounge.



Kanata Legion Photo Website

Initially this website was set up as a means to distribute pictures of the latest events. It has evolved. It now includes pictures, videos and news clippings of past events also. My thanks to Moira Green, Pat Cher, Angie Jacklin, Garry Fancy and others who have provided so much to me. You can visit the website at: <https://kanatalegionphotos.weebly.com/>
Notice the different tabs across the top of the Home page. –

Walter Arksey
Branch Photographer

Sound System

Investigation is ongoing as to how we can better use our sophisticated sound system. Did you know that you can supply your own music for a party, luncheon, or solemn gathering. You can bring it in on a CD, USB drive or your cell phone. With a cell phone you can sit any where in the Hall and control which music is played and the volume. Its like being a DJ at a party. Training of more members is planned in the future.

Walter

Ongoing Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bingo & Book Sale 12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.		Euchre 7:00 p.m. Pickleball 1:30-3:30 p.m. Legion back parking lot	Complimentary Coffee & Sweets 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Darts 7:00 p.m.	Fish 'N Chips & Book Sale 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Saturday Social in the lounge Noon to 4:00 p.m. Drop in for a visit!
	Walking 9:30 a.m.	Walking 9:30 a.m.	Walking 9:30 a.m.	Walking 9:30 a.m.	Walking 9:30 a.m.	

- Tuesday Euchre – a fun league and we will teach how to play. For info, call Gaëtan Chartier 819-639-9343 or Debby Holden 613-271-2993.
- Pickleball will remain outside as weather permits 0900 -4:00 PM and will move inside every Tuesday 1:30-3:30PM starting 03 Oct 2023 (once weather doesn't allow outside play).
- Saturday afternoon Open Mic resumes in September
- Walking Club - Meet at the Legion. Dress appropriately and don't forget your water!

Notes

CONTACT! Submission Deadlines

Due Sunday Noon

22 October
19 November

Lorraine Elmas
Editor

No newsletter in July, August
and December 😊

Branch Executive and L.A. Executive Members and Positions

If you wish to contact a member listed below, please contact the Kanata Legion office at 613-591-5570 and provide your name and contact information as well as the name of the person you wish to contact, and the subject.

2023-2024 Branch Executive

President	Jim Hemlin
Past President	Bill Molnar
1 st Vice-President	Mary Jo Gauthier
2 nd Vice-President	Denis Pelletier
3 rd Vice-President	Dennis Hearn
Treasurer	Nila Bronkhorst
Interim Secretary	Brenda Grant
Poppy Chair	Dennis Hearn
Lottery Trust Fund	Mary Jo Gauthier
Veterans Services	Ken Fleming
Cadet Liaison	Dennis Hearn
Membership	Dennis Hearn
Poppy Trust Fund Chair	George Pollock
Leadership Development	John Beard
PR & Marketing	Bruce Judge
Branch Bursaries	Bill Mercer
Chaplain	Rev. Canon Dr. William Prentice
Bldg. Grounds & Maintenance	George Royle
Sgt-At-Arms & Security & Housing	Bob Thomson
Sports Officer	Ken Fleming
Ways and Means Committee	Sylvia Monette
Legion Seniors Chair	Joan Hemlin
Volunteer Coordinator	Debby Holden
Youth Education	Brenda Grant

Other

Regulations & Website	Ann Ervin
Facebook	Pat Cher
Bar Manager	Mary Jo Gauthier
Foot Clinic	Betty Ann Pollock
Gaming/Lottery	Brenda Grant/Ann Ervin
Hall Rental	Andy Shinnan
Branch Archivist	Doug Rowland
Honours & Awards	Lorraine Lapensée
Kitchen Manager	Gaëtan Chartier
Newsletter Editor	Lorraine Elmas
Military Service Recognition Book	Terry Jacobs
Photographer	Walter Arksey
IT Computer	Walter Arksey
Cenotaph Memorial Stones	Moira Green

Ladies' Auxiliary

President	Lorraine Lapensée
Past President	Betty Ann Pollock
1 st Vice-President	Suzanne St. John
2 nd Vice-President	Debby Holden
Treasurer	Rosanne Birtch
Secretary	PJ Rose
Executive Committee	Bonnie Jessup
Executive Committee	Sylvia Monette
Executive Committee	Sheila Taylor
Sgt-At-Arms	Johanna Walters

CONTACT! is published monthly (except July, August and December) by RCL Branch 638 in Kanata, Ontario. Views expressed in the newsletter are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Canadian Legion or Branch 638. CONTACT! is edited by Lorraine Elmas.

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(613) 882-1240