



CONTACT!

Volume 12 Number 5
May 2024

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

President's Report

Our Legion year is fast closing in on us. Congratulations to all our new elected officers. Your new President is busy organizing for the New Year. I'm certain your term will be productive and successful.

The Spring District G Convention was held at Branch # 560 Kingston from April 19-21, 2024, with five comrades attending.

The Dominion Convention is being held in Saint John, New Brunswick, from August 24-28, 2024. Our Branch is authorized to send five voting delegates.

This is my last President's Report. Comrade Mary-Jo Gauthier is your Branch 638 President Elect. She and her newly elected Executive will lead the Branch as of June 1, 2024. The legion year runs from June 1 to May 31 the following year.

I have enjoyed my year as President and wish to thank my Executive as well as all comrades from the membership who supported our Branch over the past year. Through all your dedication and working together the Branch is standing strong.

Thank you once again.
Jim Hemlin, President

Honours and Awards

I am very pleased to report that many award nominations were received before the April 22nd deadline. Thank you to those who submitted an award nomination. It makes a good difference when a volunteer/member is recognized for his/her contribution/s.

The Honours and Awards Committee is in the process of award and dinner preparations for the June 1st Presentations date. **The awards presentations and dinner will be by invitation only until the total number of award recipients attending is confirmed.**

Should you have any questions, etc., please do not hesitate to contact one of the Honours and Awards Committee members.

Lorraine Lapensée, Chair
2023/2024 Honours and Awards Committee

Remembrance

Greetings, All. To date, 91 Veterans have been remembered at our Kanata cenotaph. Sincere thanks to those branch members and community persons who have chosen to remember a Veteran. Please consider purchasing a stone to commemorate a Veteran friend or family member.

Applications are available online or from my mailbox at the Legion or from me directly. Contact me at 613 592 3376 or mmgreen@live.com. Please support this branch initiative and remember a Veteran. The cost is \$150.

Lest We Forget 🇺🇸
Maira

Legion
BRANCH 638

**Veterans Only
Coffee Club**

Get together to talk, pass on
information, reconnect with old
friends and meet new ones

**Mondays 10:30 AM
IN THE LOUNGE
Starting May 27th**

Contact Branch Service Officer
Ken Fleming 613-965-6589 for more info

Seniors Committee

We have continued to enjoy our weekly Complimentary Coffee Hour held every Wednesday morning from 9-11:30 am. Lots of good conversation and laughs are shared by all, making for a fun and interesting morning.

Last week, we had a very interesting speaker, Caroline Inman, the Executive Director of Solva. She spoke on the ABCs of Planning for Future Eldercare, something that we all need to be aware of not only for ourselves but for family and friends.

We continue to support the weekly Functional Exercise Program held on Mondays. Also, some of us have joined the morning walking group that meets at 9:30 am Monday to Friday, except in inclement weather.

I would like at this time to thank the current executive and all the members of the Kanata Legion for their support of this program.

Joan Hemlin
Legion Seniors Chair

Membership Report

Membership continues to grow at a steady rate and Branch 638 is definitely recovering from the COVID years. In the last 6 months alone, Branch 638 received and accepted 56 new members. The application numbers are as follows:

December 2023	18 applications
January 2024	6 applications
February 2024	14 applications
March 2024	0 applications
April 2024	7 applications
May 2024	11 applications

These membership numbers are attributed to a successful Early Bird Campaign, to Dominion Command and Branch Attraction, Recruitment, Retention Strategies, Programs and Policies. **Most of all, success is attributed to you - our very own members.** Activities such as your own personal efforts to encourage and attract new members are invaluable. Combined with Branch activities such as Public Relations, Promotions, Seniors Coffees, Ways and Means, Sports Activities, Exercise Classes, Veteran Services, Comforts and Resident Visit programs, Branch Catering, Fish and Chips Fridays, Poppy Campaign, Poppy Trust Fund, Bingo, Catch the Ace and Lottery Trust programs, Finance and Administrative activities, Bar Management, Branch Maintenance, Branch events, all contribute positively to our Attraction and Recruitment successes. Although I may have missed one or two committees, the point is that all of the aforementioned activities, committees and programs are conducted and managed by our members. Without you, success is not possible. Kudos for all you have done to

contribute to our membership growth. Keep up the good work.

Last Post

Comrade Gordon Walt, with 18 years of Legion service, passed away on May 6, 2024, at the age of 84 years. We Will Remember Him.

Membership Renewal

Membership renewal for 2024 continues and, for those members who have not yet renewed, please consider doing so soon. Dominion Command has implemented its Automated Renewal Outreach program, and it is showing some success for our Branch. Members may renew online using the Dominion Command's website (legion.ca).

Alternatively, you may renew at the Branch using cheque, cash, Point of Sale debit/credit card or ETF (membershipbr638@gmail.com). 2024 Renewal stickers can be collected from the bar on your next visit. For members without email addresses, your renewal stickers are mailed to you directly.

Early Bird Campaign 2025

Soon the 2025 Early Bird (EB) Campaign will commence. From the end of June to the end of November, annual membership payment is \$55.00 versus the annual payment of \$60.00. The EB Campaign reduction only applies to members who have paid their 2024 membership payment.

Changes In Member Personal Information

It is vital that whenever a member changes address, telephone number or email addresses, to please notify the Branch immediately at membershipbr638@gmail.com. This enables us to update your information and assists in our ability to contact and keep in touch with members.

The Branch is required to then submit an individual DATA CHANGE FORM to Dominion Command so that they too may update their Master Personnel Information Database.

Comrade Dennis Hearn
Membership Chair

April Gaming Report



Bingo (4 Bingos)

Total Deposit to Bingo Trust	\$ 3,795.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,381.05
Rent to the Branch	\$ 631.05
Building O&M (40% after expense)	\$ 965.58
Donatable Funds (60% after expenses)	<u>\$ 1,448.37</u>

This month Bingo continues to average 46-56 players every Sunday and are depositing approx. \$1,000 each Bingo.

Catch the Ace (4 Draws)

Total proceeds from draws	\$ 4,450.00
Total Expenses	\$ 445.00
Rent to the Branch	\$ 418.30
Building O&M (40% after expense)	\$ 712.00
Donatable Funds (60% after expenses)	\$ 1,068.00



Clay Weaton (left) devotedly runs the Catch the Ace draw. Here, he is standing with John Cher, who chose envelope #44 with the Ace of Spades.



This week's draw marked Week 43rd of Round 17 of Catch the Ace. We had 261 participants. A big thanks to the support of our 106 club members.

Jackpot Winner

The big winner today, May 17, was **John Cher** with envelope #44 the **Ace of Spades** with the **Jackpot of \$10,609.50**.

What a smile 😊 and what a day to remember! Below, standing behind Comrade Michael, John Cher is presented with a **big cheque** by First Vice President and President Elect, Mary-Jo Gauthier.



Total DONATIONS (to Lottery Trust)	\$ 2,516.37
Total RENT	\$ 1,049.35
Total O&M	\$ 1,677.58
Total EXPENSES	\$ 1,826.05

Gaming Committee

Sergeant at Arms' Report

The Battle of Atlantic Parade will be on May 26 in Almonte. It will be the first full parade since COVID in 2020. A number of us will be attending.

It will be my last act as Branch Sgt at Arms. Ken Fleming will be taking over the position as of June 1, 2024. I would like to thank those who over the past 12 years stepped up and participated in the Colour Party.

The Colour Party is a visible presence in the community of the Kanata Legion. Hopefully Ken Fleming will enjoy the support he needs. I know I will support him as best as I can.

Bob
John Robert (No P) Thomson CD
Sgt at Arms RCL638 Kanata
613-831-8221

Security Officer Report

The new Executive will be in place June 1st. I am short of keys. **I need the keys back from those who are giving up their positions.** There are too many keys out there. Every time someone opens or closes the legion I get an email. So I know who are using their keys.

Bob
John Robert (No P) Thomson CD
Security Officer RCL638 Kanata
613-831-8221

Ladies' Auxiliary

The Kanata Branch 638 Ladies' Auxiliary was well represented at the April 21st L.A. Zone G6 convention, with a total of 16 in attendance. It was a good experience for the L.A. members who attended as it was an opportunity to meet members of other Ladies' Auxiliaries, to learn how a zone convention is conducted, the organization structure and an awareness of how the Ontario Ladies' Auxiliaries are doing and what they have contributed to branches and elsewhere. The guest speaker was L.A. Provincial President, Kathy Moggy, who made an excellent presentation bringing the Zone G6 Ladies' Auxiliaries up to date on administration, operations and most significantly the many issues between Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries as well as within the Ladies' Auxiliaries. President Kathy said it like it is, was straightforward stressing if people continue to not get along, she can see the Ontario Ladies' Auxiliaries no longer existing in ten years.

Our L.A. presented a \$1,000 cheque to the Veterans Wish List at this Zone G6 convention.

Our annual elections took place at our May 1st general meeting. Many thanks to Branch President, Jim, 1st Vice-President, Mary-Jo Gauthier, and 2nd Vice-President, Denis Pelletier, for conducting our elections and to President Jim for conducting the installation of the new L.A. Executive 2024-2025.

Executive Committee 2024-2025
(June 1, 2024 - May 31st 2025)

Lorraine Lapensée	President
Betty Ann Pollock	Immediate Past President
Debby Holden	1st Vice-President
Rosanne Birtch	2nd Vice-President
Patricia (PJ) Rose	Secretary
Betty Ann Pollock	Treasurer
Bonnie Jessup	Executive
Sheila Taylor	Executive
Vacant	Executive
Johanna Walters	Sgt.@ Arms



L-R Johanna Walters, Sgt. @ Arms; Bonnie Jessup, Executive; Betty Ann Pollock, Immediate Past President/Treasurer; Rosanne Birtch, 2nd Vice-President; Lorraine Lapensée, President; Debby Holden, 1st Vice-President; PJ Rose, Secretary; Sheila Taylor, Executive (missing)

The Trinkets and Treasures Sale held on May 4 was very successful! Successful with the huge amount of items donated, the monies raised, the good turnout, comradeship, and donations of items left over made to the following:

The Branch's Book Sale, CDs to a branch member's upcoming music event, Matthew House, Habitat for Humanity, Hope Living and the Salvation Army.

A very SPECIAL THANK YOU to everyone who donated items, to those who shopped, and an EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU to all those who volunteered to make this event the success it was. The branch support is very much appreciated. Thank you!

The Ladies' Auxiliary is planning a **Strawberry Social and Dance** on Saturday afternoon, June 22, 2024. Everyone is invited! See poster to the right for details!

Wanted! Sunday Bingo Canteen volunteers to either work in the kitchen or at the canteen on a Sunday from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. approximately, but not every Sunday. We will train you. When you volunteer at a Sunday Bingo Canteen, you support the Ladies' Auxiliary, the Branch, Sunday Bingo, Veterans and our Community all at once! For further information, please contact Lorraine Lapensée at 613-831-8319.



Lorraine Lapensée
Ladies' Auxiliary President

CONTACT! Submission Deadlines

Due Sunday Noon

23 June

22 Sept.

No newsletter in July, August
and December 😊

Lorraine Elmas
Editor

Lest We Forget 🇩🇪

Photo Corner

Photo Website: <https://kanatalegionphotos.weebly.com/>
 Check out the first Cornhole event photos!

Walter Arksey
 Branch Photographer

Friday Fish & Chips

We are shutting down Fish & Chips for July and August to give the volunteers a rest and break for the summer.



CORNHOLE
 INDOOR EVERY TUESDAY STARTING
 MAY 7TH 1:30PM - 3:30 PM

PLEASE NOTE: CANCELLED MAY 21ST
 FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:
 KEN FLEMING - 613 965 6589

Everyone welcome!
 No charge!



Ongoing Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bingo & Book Sale 12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Veterans-Only Coffee Club 10:30 Functional Exercise 2:30 – 3:30	Euchre 7:00 p.m. Cornhole 1:30 – 3:30	Complimentary Coffee & Sweets 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Darts 7:00 p.m.	Fish & Chips & Book Sale 11:30 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. Until June 28	Saturday Social in the lounge Noon to 4 p.m. Drop in for a visit! Open Mic 1st and 3rd
Walking Club meets at the Legion at 9:30 every weekday morning beginning April 1.						
Pickleball 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact Ken Fleming (613) 965-6589						

- Tuesday Euchre – a fun league, and we teach how to play. For info, call Gaëtan Chartier 819-639-9343 or Debby Holden 613-271-2993.
- Saturday Social in the lounge - Open Mic the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month
- Friday Fish and Chips CANCELLED for the summer. Resumes September 6, 2024.

Branch Executive and L.A. Executive Members and Positions

If you wish to get in touch with a member listed below, please phone 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.

The 2024/25 Branch Executive positions will be updated in the June issue.

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
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	Bonnie Oostlander
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	Sylvia Monette
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 2024/25

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

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

CONTACT! is edited by Lorraine Elmas.

lorraine_elmas@yahoo.ca (613) 882-1240