

Royal Canadian Legion

Riverside Branch 255 - December 2023 Bulletin



**This Bulletin is published by Royal Canadian Legion Riverside Branch 255
5645 Wyandotte St. E. Windsor, ON N8S 1M4 / 519.945.2012**

Visit our website at www.branch255.com

Editor - *Elaine Dunn* - December 2023



PRESIDENT REPORT



Greetings all.

Well we just finished our busiest and most important month of the year. November is the month of our Remembrance and our Poppy campaign to not only remember our Veterans through our services but also bring awareness to our community through the Poppy campaign and to bring in donations to support the ongoing support of Veterans in need. This is no easy task and I am very proud of the work done by Ron Marshall and his committee of Kathy Patterson, Dianne Vendrasco, and Ken Marshall to make this work. What they did during this campaign is exactly what I have always truly believed what a volunteer is. You give of your time, your effort, and so many times money out of your own pocket and you expect nothing in return except maybe a good nights sleep knowing what you achieved matters. Yet all the work they put in would not have been possible without the total commitment of our volunteer road warriors, who stepped up and put the time in to distribute the Poppies and bring awareness to the community. Bravo and thank you for all your effort. Your work made a difference as we had a very successful campaign.

Now we have December upon us and a lot of activities. To start the Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting our Breakfast with Santa which has become an annual event everyone looks forward to. We have a trivia contest and an ugly Christmas sweater party as well. Watch our Facebook and bulletin for times and dates. The New Years Eve party is ready to go and it looks like it is going to be a great time. Again watch our Facebook and bulletin for complete details.

In closing, this will be the last bulletin published by Elaine Dunn. Elaine has always been one of our unsung heroes who work behind the scenes and never truly gets her due recognition. She has always been there for me and our entire branch. I know I speak for our everyone in thanking Elaine for all you have done. Sit back and enjoy and good luck on all your future endeavors.

Thank you and please attend our general meetings.



Ken Dault / President Branch 255

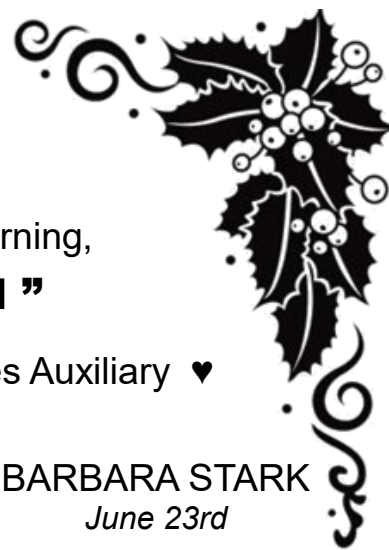
ATTENTION MEMBERS

There is NO General meeting the month of December.
Next General meeting is Thurs. January 25th at 7pm.





LAST POST



At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,

“WE WILL REMEMBER THEM ”

♥ Remembering Branch 255's Members and our Ladies Auxiliary ♥
who have passed in the year 2023.

JACK COWIE
Oct 23rd

DON HEWITT
Sept. 28th

BOB HODGINS
Sept. 20th

BARBARA STARK
June 23rd

TERRY ST. LOUIS
May 8th

JACK NICHOLS
May 12th

BEV ATKINSON
April 18th

DON BOUTETTE
April 18th

JOHN BEDARD
April 1st

RICHARD GATES
March 4th

LAWRENCE
SPINARSKY
Feb. 9th

WELDON LEACH
Feb. 14th

BRIAN DUNLOP
Jan. 15th

VERN CREW
Jan. 10th

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Ken Marshall / Chair

The current paid membership for Branch 255 is 531 as of November 23rd, 2023.
New membership for the year stands at 103 including transfers..

Early bird renewals have started and we will be doing a draw each month for a chance to win back your dues. Draws will be at the end of September, October and November.

The winner of October's draw was Richard Zangari.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH 255 is very excited to welcome our newest members:

Mark Hewer
Sean Hilmer
Diana Dampousse
Slobodan Stancic
Ronald Ellwood
Andre Gagnon
Daniel Maggee

Affiliate Voting
Affiliate Voting
Associate
Associate
Affiliate Voting
Ordinary
Ordinary

William Craig
William Alexander
Gary Patterson
Mark Prutchick
Moneen McIntyre
David Muir
Cecile Lafleur

Ordinary
Affiliate Voting
Associate
Associate
Associate
Ordinary
Associate

Be sure to give them a great **BIG WELCOME** and make them feel right at home
if you know them and see them in the branch.

BAR REPORT - Bruce Tribute / Chair

The bar continues to do very well. Sales are amazing due to all the events we have been hosting, as well as the everyday patronage of our members. The dart leagues we currently host contribute well to our bar, as do wakes and other parties. Our accounting and book-keeping staff have been working feverishly to figure out the ongoing inventory difficulties we have experienced.

We are also looking at different ways other Branches have dealt with this. We won't give up until we sort this out.

The new FOB System we had installed recently has been working well and we are not losing product when a keg runs out and has to be changed. Best wishes and Happy Birthday to our Bar Steward Vickie....

BINGO REPORT - Kathy Patterson / Chair

We had 3 assignments in October.

We received \$2,100.82 from Breakaway Gaming Centre for our October assignments. Donations totalling \$1,200 were distributed in the month of October.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT - Dave Jarvis / Chair

Our branch cenotaph parade was held on the 4th of November this year. The participation this year was even greater than last year. When the service was concluded all the parties returned to the branch for hotdogs and beverages. Thanks to our lady volunteers for putting on a great meal.

On the 5th of November we had our branch veterans dinner. The turn out this year was not as great as last year but those who attended had a good time.

We ended the festivities on the 11th November with our in house branch Remembrance Service. This service was very well attended by our veterans as well as others. The kitchen served 120 meals that day.

On November 14 our branch veterans as well as two other branches were invited to a buffet luncheon at Beach Grove Golf and Country Club.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION RIVERSIDE BRANCH 255

DONATIONS Month of October 2023

SPECIAL LOTTERY FUND

Seniors Program	1,100.00
Street Help	500.00
Big Brothers Big Sisters	1,200.00
Canadian Mental Health	1,200.00
Family Services	1,200.00
	= 5,200.00

NEVADA DONATIONS

Windsor Homes Coalition	1,200.00
Adopt A Vet	1,200.00
Seniors Program	1,100.00
	= 3,500.00

BINGO DONATIONS

The Welcome Centre	1,200.00
Windsor Goodfellows	1,200.00
Feeding Windsor 300x4	1,200.00
Feeding Windsor Soup Shack	1,000.00
	= 4,600.00

Branch 255 Legion supports our Community by using funds raised through clubhouse operations (events), meat draws, break open tickets, and bingo.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



Happy Birthday Comrades!!

DECEMBER 2023Joanne Bray - 1st, Leigh Anne Canniff - 6th,
Patti Windibank - 7th, Vivian Lehoux - 17th, Gerry Seeger - 20th,
Wendi Illi - 25th, Joey Morneau - 28th, Don Warner - 29th

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Share the true meaning of the Christmas Season by helping our local youth, men's and women's shelters.

Take a tag or two or three or more and return unwrapped gifts to the Branch.

What better way to get into the Christmas SPIRIT.



A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Having trouble finding the perfect gift to get for your loved ones? Give them the gift of a Riverside Royal Canadian Legion Branch 255 membership.

Must be a Canadian citizen or citizen of an Allied nation who is **18** years of age.



This Holiday Season be sure to toast to all our VETERANS.. "Canada without our soldiers would be like God without his angels."

Merry Christmas

to all the Soldiers who can't be with their families this Holiday Season.



Taken from a facebook post by Kathy Patterson

NOVEMBER 11
REMEMBRANCE
DAY
at Branch 255

"To Our Veterans"

Cheers!



**Linda's Dog Walking
& Pet Sitting**

Linda Choboter

905-967-0977
lindachoboter@gmail.com

****YOUR AD CAN GO HERE****

- Business Card Size \$50.00 a year
- 1/4 page \$100.00 a year
- 1/2 page \$200.00 a year

*thank
you*

Thank you Linda Choboter for your ad.

2828 CADET CORPS REPORT - Bruce Tribute / Chair

The The 2828 Cadet Corps has undergone a rapid increase in recruitment of late. Presently, there are 32 cadets from a membership of 7 of a year ago. This is amazing on the part of CO Brad Krewench who has been visiting the schools and putting out literature.

This fall the Cadet Corps was very active in the Poppy Campaign and much deserves our backing. Also, we were graced with 7 cadets who helped with the Veterans' Dinner, serving and clearing tables. They did a wonderful job for us.

I am proposing a sponsorship from Branch 255 of \$5000 to enable the corps to continue with its training programmes and equipment needs.

18 December has been chosen as the date for the Cadet Christmas party at Branch 255. At that time we shall present the Corps with this year's cheque. We wish the corps all the best in the following training year' The Cadet Corps is a valuable part of our community and needs our backing as a Legion.

Bright Lights Windsor Returns to Jackson Park

Bright Lights Windsor will once again illuminate Jackson Park 125 Tecumseh Rd.E with thousands of lights and displays!

December 1, 2023, to January 7, 2024:

Open nightly from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. / Admission is free!



KITCHEN REPORT - David Jarvis/ Chair

The kitchen has been very busy this month not only with the Remembrance activities but with normal day to day activities.

The veterans dinner went over well with 78 meals served. Thank you Bruce for arranging the attendance of the cadets who served the meal.

The next day Marco's crew put out 120 meals for those who attended the branches in house Remembrance Day Service.

Back in September I mentioned the need to replace the cooler in the kitchen on the recommendation of the board of health due to its poor condition. We are in the process to procure a used cooler at the cost of \$2300.00. This cooler comes with a 4 year warranty. Also the large freezer was repaired at a cost of \$200.00.

Finally Marco is going to start a Friday Buffet starting at 11 o'clock till 1 o'clock. More details to follow.



Taken from a facebook post by Kathy Patterson

Thank you!

Thank you very much to the employees from Enwin who volunteered their time to put up and take down all the veterans' banners. We truly appreciate it.

SANTA'S PUB CRAWL

was enjoyed by all. The pasta dinner sponsored by the Ladies' Auxiliary and cooked by Marco was enjoyed afterwards.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 399 welcomed Branch 255 to Belle River for their Santa bus tour.



Taken from a facebook post by Kathy Patterson



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MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK

Submission forms are available at the branch. Please see Jim Dunn



POPPY REPORT - Ron Marshall / Chair

The balance for the Poppy trust is \$74,074.48. The 2023 Poppy Campaign officially ended on Friday, November 10th but our team is still tying up loose ends. We should have the final tally in early December as some donations continue to trickle in. Overall, we had a successful campaign, but it was evident that inflation is hurting people's ability to contribute as they have in the past.

We were blessed to have so many volunteers, some from past years and a steady increase in new volunteers. We reached out to our three area high schools for student volunteers and they came through and covered many after school shifts as well as weekend shifts.

I want to thank Maureen Fracas and the Ladies Auxiliary for the steady flow of chili, soups and sandwiches. They were greatly appreciated.

New this year, we held a Volunteer Appreciation gathering for all our volunteers. We did not know what to expect but were presently surprised as how many came out to celebrate another successful Poppy Campaign. Thank you to Dianne and Kathy for putting together the taco bar and baked goods. Marco's Original for the donation and putting out more food than we expected in a timely manner.

Most importantly, I want to thank my Co-Chairs Kathy Patterson, Dianne Vendrasco and Ken Marshall for putting in 10 hour days these past three weeks and putting up with me. Your passion for our Veterans and the Poppy Campaign are greatly appreciated.

To date the Poppy Campaign has raised in excess of \$66,000 which is equal to what we raised last year.

The Poppy Fund Vets Comfort Disbursements to date, in 2023 are \$65,158.47.

SPORTS REPORT - Ron Marshall / Chair

The Branch held the Zone Senior's Dart Tournament this past Saturday. Branch 261 won the team event and will host the tournament next year.

Regular darts is this Saturday. Good luck to all.

I would like to thank member Joe Bourdeau for donating new pool balls for the members pool table. Joe also vacuumed the pool table. We have the best members at Branch 255.

It's Beginning to look a lot like Christmas!!

Hey there Trivia Fans!! Join Us for a **TRIVIA NIGHT**.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14th.

Registration starts at 6:30pm TRIVIA begins at 7pm.

Don't be a Grinch gather up some friends & family
and get ready for a FUN evening!!



UGLY Christmas Sweater Party

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16th at 8pm
Come ROCK your Ugly Christmas Sweater

\$\$
Cash
Prizes



A New Beginning to a New Year!!

NEW YEARS EVE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31st

Doors Open at 6:00 / Dinner at 7:00

Tickets: \$55 members & spouse
\$60 non members

Tickets on sale on Mon, December 4th (Cash only)

ALL ENTREES INCLUDE: Herb Roasted Fingerling
Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable, House Salad,
Bread & Butter

Choice of Main Course:

- * PRIME RIB - Topped with au jus
- * CHICKEN PARMESAN - topped with Mozzarella
- * HERB CRUSTED ORANGE ROUGHY - Topped
with Brushetta Tomatoes
- * VEGETERIAN OPTION - Can be made available

NYE 2024 Party



ENTERTAINMENT

Come Celebrate with the
CROWBAR HOTEL Band

- * Party Favours
- * Champagne Toast
- * Light Late Night Snack



As most of us sit down with family and friends this holiday
season, it's very important to remember those who are protecting
our freedom, and giving up the comfort and pleasure of being
with their loved ones in order to serve our country. For that, we
say thank you, and Merry Christmas wherever you are.





- Monday..... CLOSED
- Tuesday..... 2:00 - 8:00
- Wednesday... 2:00 - 8:00
- Thursday..... 2:00 - 8:00
- Friday..... 2:00 - 8:30
- Saturday..... 2:00 - 8:30
- Sunday..... 2:30 - 6:00

Check out Marco's
Weekly Specials
on our website ,
facebook or call

519-944-0101

MONTH OF DECEMBER

SENIORS DINNER & MUSIC / EVERY TUESDAY

MUSIC 3:30-6:30 / DINNER AVAILABLE FROM 3-6PM

All dinners are tax included / call 519-944-0101 Pick-Up / Delivery / Dine-In

**** NO SUBSTITUTIONS ****

Tuesday, December 5th - Music by Mickey

\$12.00 - Chicken Cordon Blue. Served with Roasted Potato & Vegetable

OR \$11.00 - 1 pc Fish & Chips. Served with Fries & Coleslaw

Tuesday, December 12th - Music by Sixties Live

\$12.00 - Meatloaf. Topped with Gravy. Served with Mashed Potato & Vegetable

OR \$10.00 - 2pcs Fried Chicken. Served with Fries & Coleslaw

Tuesday, December 19th - Music by Crowbar 2.0

\$12.00 - Cabbage Rolls. Served with Mashed Potato & Vegetable **OR**

\$11.00 - Spaghetti & Meatball. Topped with Meat Sauce. Served with
Bread & Butter

Tuesday, December 26th - Kitchen is CLOSED

.... You don't need to be a Senior to order our **TUESDAY SPECIAL**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Merry Christmas Comrades all.

From all of us at Branch 255.

We hope you have a safe and Happy Holiday
Season. May this Christmas end the present
year on a cheerful note and make way for a
fresh New Year of 2024.

Everyone Stay Safe!!

SUN

MON
































TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

<div>COME CELEBRATE NEW YEARS EVE Entertainment CROWBAR HOTEL</div> <div>DOORS OPEN AT 6PM DINNER 7PM</div> <div></div>		<div></div> <div>ATTENTION CARD & DART PLAYERS PLEASE CHECK WITH PERSON IN CHARGE TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS DURING THE HOLIDAYS</div>		<div>1 MARCO'S FISH FRY 2-9PM</div> <div>MEN'S DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>2 MEAT DRAW 2-5PM</div> <div>BAND POWER AND THE GLORY 8PM</div>	
<div>3 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA</div> <div></div>	<div>4 CUT THROAT PEPPER 6PM</div> <div></div>	<div>5 SENIORS DINNER & MUSIC MICKEY</div> <div>MENS DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>6 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div>6PM EUCHRE</div> <div>7PM MIXED DARTS</div>	<div>7 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div></div>	<div>8 MARCO'S FISH FRY 2-9PM</div> <div>MEN'S DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>9 MEAT DRAW 2-5PM</div> <div>BAND POWER AND THE GLORY 8PM</div>
<div>10 OPEN SPACE BOOK YOUR SPECIAL OCCASION HERE</div> <div></div>	<div>11 CUT THROAT PEPPER 6PM</div> <div></div>	<div>12 SENIORS DINNER & MUSIC SIXTIES LIVE</div> <div>MENS DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>13 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div>6PM EUCHRE</div> <div>7PM MIXED DARTS</div>	<div>14 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div></div> <div>TRIVIA NITE 7PM</div>	<div>15 MARCO'S FISH FRY 2-9PM</div> <div>MEN'S DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>16 MEAT DRAW 2-5PM</div> <div></div> <div>UGLY X-MAS SWEATER ELECTRIC BLUE 8PM</div>
<div>17 OPEN SPACE BOOK YOUR SPECIAL OCCASION HERE</div> <div></div>	<div>18 CUT THROAT PEPPER 6PM</div> <div></div>	<div>19 SENIORS DINNER & MUSIC CROWBAR 2.0</div> <div>MENS DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>20 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div>6PM EUCHRE</div> <div>7PM MIXED DARTS</div>	<div>21 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div>EXECUTIVE MEETING 7PM</div> <div></div>	<div>22 MARCO'S FISH FRY 2-9PM</div> <div>MEN'S DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>23 MEAT DRAW 2-5PM</div> <div>BAND ELECTRIC BLUE 8PM</div>
<div></div> <div>CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN 12-5PM</div>	<div>25 CLOSED</div> <div></div>	<div>26 WE ARE OPEN BOXING DAY</div> <div>NO SENIORS DINNER & MUSIC</div>	<div>27 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div>6PM EUCHRE</div> <div>7PM MIXED DARTS</div>	<div>28 1PM MIXED CRIBBAGE</div> <div></div>	<div>29 MARCO'S FISH FRY 2-9PM</div> <div>MEN'S DARTS 7:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>30 MEAT DRAW 2-5PM</div> <div>BAND CROWBAR HOTEL 8PM</div>
<div>31 NYE PARTY</div>						