Royal Canadian Legion 👀

Riverside Branch 255 - December 2024 Bulletin



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Visit our website at www.branch255.com

Editor - Elaine Dunn - December 2024





PRESIDENT REPORT

Remembrance Day and the Poppy campaign were a huge success this year, with the Branch raising over \$78,000. Much thanks goes out to all who participated in the campaign this year. The Branch Cenotaph Service at the Miracle Park went very well and the weather co-operated. It was very well-attended, followed by a get-together with complimentary hot dogs at the branch after.

Remembrance Day saw a very good turn-out for our in-Branch service. Many Veterans and branch members showed up for a sandwich lunch and camaraderie.

With the Christmas season just around the corner, many parties and events are starting to happen. I would suggest if you are planning a Christmas event, that you do it soon, as available spots are filling up.

New Years Eve, featuring the Black Orchid Band is shaping up to be a great event, so, as soon as tickets come available you should purchase them.

There will be a Pub Crawl 30 November, put on by the Ladies Auxiliary as well as Breakfast With Santa Sunday, 8 Dec.

The events calendar is filling up. If you wish to attend any up-coming events, we suggest you get your tickets early. Go out and have fun!!

New armchairs have been ordered for the Branch to accommodate our more senior members who have difficulty getting out of the armless ones. I trust these chairs will be a welcome addition to the Branch.

On a sad note, Branch 255 has lost some long-time members. Wilma Rice, Harry Arpan (106 yrs old WW11 Veteran), our beloved Bar Steward, Vickie Tighe, who passed suddenly 1 November, Ian Mason, 8 November, and more recently, long-time Colour Party member, Omay Drouillard who left us 27 November. They will be missed.

One final note: We at RCL Branch 255 are a Family and each of us deserves love and respect. Please do your part to make our "home" a place where everyone feels welcome.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.... Bruce

Thank you

Bruce Tribute / President Branch 255





















LAST POST

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.

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of VICKIE TIGHE, WILMA RICE, IAN MASON, HARRY ARPAN AND OMAY DROUILLARD who were known by all. "Our condolences to their Families"

They will be missed by all of us at Branch 255.



▼ Remembering Branch 255's Members and our Ladies Auxiliary ▼ who have passed in the year 2024.

Feb. 21st - JOYCE BORRI Feb. 22nd - RAYMOND OZORIO April 8th - JAMES FITZSIMMONS April 14th - DONALD WARNERr July 27th - RICHARD DAWSON Aug. 23rd - PETER REMDENOK

REMEMBRANCE WEEK REPORT - Marty Flanagan

Veterans Dinner We had 81 folks for the Remembrance Dinner with 25 Veterans attending. The dinner was fantastic. Next year we will be looking at having a guest speaker as we have done in past years.

Remembrance Ceremony at the Cenotaph There were approximately 150 people who came out as we held our Ceremony at the Cenotaph at Miracle Park. Many of those joined us at the Branch afterwards for comradeship.

Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Branch We had approximately 50 people attend our service on the 11th with many staying at the branch afterwards.

Remembrance Week is only successful as the efforts of the volunteers to help put this on and this year is no exception. I'd like to thank the following for their help and support starting with the senior leadership at #255, President Bruce Tribute, 1st Vice Ron Marshall and 2nd Vice Ken Marshall. Jim & Elaine Dunn, Dennis Holmes, Tim Copland, Ken Dault, Keith Bremner, Scott & Dordan Beach and Olga Schutz also deserve thanks.

Appreciations to Maureen Fracas & Day: the Ladies Auxiliary for their support and to Linda Faubert for the sweets on Remembrance Day. Kudos and thanks also go out to Marco and his kitchen staff for the dinner, light lunch and cooking the hot dogs on Saturday.

Appreciations to Tracy Ward, Mike O'Hara & Nick DeGroot for helping with the hotdogs and to Chantale's kids, Julie and Kegan for distributing the programs at the Cenotaph.

Thanks to Metro and Wonderbread (Cecil) for the donation of hot dogs and buns. A shout out and Bravo Zulu to the Commanding Officer, Officers & Dave; Cadets of 2828 Army Corps who helped and paraded over the Remembrance week. To the Bartenders, a most sincere Thank You for their hard work especially after the loss of Vickie. The upfront efforts of Dave and Sharron Jarvis helped me immensely as was Dave's mentorship throughout this whole time. I can't say thank you enough to them both as well as how much I appreciated the help from Dianne Vendrasco and Kathy Patterson. Even though they were going all out with the Poppy Campaign they had my back in many efforts and for that I am forever thankful. I'd also like to finally thank all the Veterans, Legion Members and the Public for their involvement. Ceremonies such as these cannot fade away and your attendance and the efforts of the above mentioned make sure of that... Thank You all so very much. If I forgot anyone, I sincerely apologize.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DISTRICT A 3RD ANNUAL SENIORS 55+ LITERARY COMPETITION

Write a Poem, Essay, Memoir, or Short Story ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY - NO HARD COPIES ACCEPTED Competition Deadline Saturday, March 22, 2025.

- 1. Open to all seniors aged 55+
- 2. Must complete and attach official registration form
- 3. Must be original, written by the contestant and unpublished
- 4. Must be submitted in English or French
- 5. Must not exceed the line or word limits specified
- 6. Must be ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION Name on application and title page only
- 7. Contestants may submit only one entry in any / each category
- 8. Submission must include a cover page stating the title, author's name, and entry word count if a family member or volunteer types the entry, please indicate in body of email
- 9. Biographies that are submitted must include written consent of the subject, if living.

Entry forms are available upon request. EMAIL mr70@live.ca and submit entry form to the above marked clearly.

VETERAN BANNER REPORT - Marty Flanagan

The Banners came down on Sunday Nov. 17th . Thanks to the ENWIN Volunteer crews for their efforts and to Branch #255 for hosting them afterwards. The banners were handed back to the sponsors on Saturday November 23 rd. Information for the 2025 Veteran Banner Program will be announced in the New Year.



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 2025.
Everyone Stay Safe!!

SPORTS REPORT - Dan Crockett / Chair

We had two teams qualify at Zone Darts earlier this month!, Congratulations to the team of John Troy Todd Kavanaugh Peter Coyles and Mark Prutchick also the team of Al Williamson, Norm Campeau, Don Elwood and Steve Murphy. In addition Todd Kavanah and Peter Coyles qualified for doubles. Excellent job and a great day was had by all!

Congratulations also go out to Joe Balyo and Chris Maisonneuve for qualifying at Zone 8-Ball great job!

The Branch 255 Gift Card Contest is coming to a close and has been well received and people are having fun with it. We will have another new contest in the new year!

We are looking into fixing and upgrading both Pool tables and have received an estimate to fix the rails, bumpers, and re carpeting both tables, which will benefit our Pool League as well as for those who come in and enjoy a game of Pool

To the Brave Men and Women we wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!

It's **Christmas** time! As the year comes to an end, we prepare to bid it farewell by celebrating with our friends and loved ones, but unfortunately, there are people who won't be home for the holidays.

Our troops work so hard to keep our country safe and they won't get to spend Christmas with their family. To the men and women of the Military, thank you for your sacrifices and the hardships you endure on our behalf.

Thank you for the many holidays you have to spend away from home so that we can enjoy our time here, with our friends and families.

BRANCH 255 DONATIONS REPORT - Sue Yablonsky / Chair

Month of November \$1200.00 each was given to four charities total of \$4800.00

November

- Hiatus House
- Street Help
- Autism Windsor Essex County

December

- Salvation Army \$500
- Street Help \$1000
- Goodfellows \$1000
- Seniors \$1200

Thank you to all who come out and support us.

We could not make these donations to our community without your presence.

POPPY REPORT - Ron Marshall / Chair

Current Poppy Bank Balance is \$100,955.72.

Our Campaign was a long one 17 days compared to next years 10 days. I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time, our drivers, our money counters, our Poppy Distributers at our many locations, the Ladies Auxiliary for the daily soups and sandwiches they provided for our volunteers. I especially want to thank my Poppy Committee Kathy Patterson, Dianne Vendrasco and Ken Marshall for the long hours they put in these past few weeks and for always making the work FUN.

I want to thank Dianne Clinton for her recent \$700.00 donation. Diane crochets Poppies and donates the sales to our Poppy Fund in honour of Branch Member / Pass President and WWII Juno Beach survivor Charles Davis. What a nice and well deserved tribute. Much appreciated.

We still have donations coming in but as today our Campaign total is \$79, 663.69.

BAR REPORT - Ron Marshall / Chair

The bar continues to do well and our inventories have been spot on. We are experiencing troubles ordering Labatt products especially Blue and Blue Light. Even the Beer Stores are under stocked. I have called Beer to Businesses and complained as well as a call to our Labatt Rep. No one seems to have a fix.

Our bartenders have been doing a great job filling in for there lost of our beloved Vicki who passed away unexpectedly. Vicki was a long time bartender here and a friend to all. She will be greatly missed. Thank you to all who came out to the Legion service at Families First. I know Vicki's family appreciated the love you showed them.

We are currently looking at resumes to hire a new partite bartender and possibly 2. This should be completed in the next 2 weeks.

I want to remind everyone that the bar is now equipped Debit but not Credit Cards.



Next General meeting is Thursday January 25th at 7:00pm. The general meeting gives you a chance to let us know how we are doing and what we can do to make it better for you the members. Must show your membership card.



SANTA PUB CRAWL / JINGLE & MINGLE

Held on Sat. Nov. 30th.Thank you Ladies
Auxiliary Maureen Fracas and Kelly Campeau
for putting together this FUN event.
Thank you to all you came out, and to Branch
338 Harrow, 241 Comber and 261 Tecumseh.
for your hospitality. A memorable holiday event
was made to all.





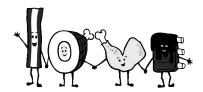
BINGO REPORT - Kathy Patterson / Chair

In October we had 2 bingo assignments. We received \$965.58 from Breakaway Bingo for these assignments.

I wish to thank the additional people who reached out to me and said they will volunteer for the Bingos. Your help is greatly appreciated. If you anyone who would like to take over as the co-ordinate for the Bingos please let me know. Thank You.



Support the Legion Branch 255 Charities fund by going to bingo. There's a new place to be every Wednesday! Win it BIG without breaking the bank playing HALF PRICE BOOKS for all sessions on Wednesdays! Location: 655 Crawford Ave. Windsor, Ontario.



Meat up for our Raffle" Enjoy some comradeship!!

MEAT DRAW & 50/50 DRAW Every Saturday 2-5pm

"The friendliest Legion where everyone knows your name."...

2828 ARMY CADETS CORPS REPORT - Olga Schutz / Liaison

The November 3rd Veteran's dinner here at Branch 255 was a great success with 7 Cadets volunteering their time to serve our Veterans, their spouse, and friends. They also cleared the tables and were all given dinner afterwards.

Likewise the November 9th event at Miracle Park, had 2 Cadets sentries at the monument as requested, as well as having a number of 2828 Cadet Corps on parade.

The Cadets also helped where needed during the 2 weekends on the Poppy Campaign.

The area office is still looking to plan a new ADA training outing to replace the one that was cancelled in October 2024.

The Support Committee along with the Cadets sold \$1600 worth on the Crafty Candles Fundraiser giving the Cadets a profit of \$300.00.

Per Brad; the Cadets are excited and eager to be a part of the 2828 Cadet Corps. We have over the pass 2 weeks recruited another 10 Cadets and look to do more in the coming weeks. We went to present at Marlborough School and got 8 new Cadets from that school alone.

Our next Support Committee meeting will be on Monday, December 2nd, 2024.



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.



OLDE RIVERSIDE BIA REPORT - Marty Flanagan / BIA Liaison

The Branch had a Holiday mural done on the front doors compliments of the Olde Riverside BIA. Many thanks the BIA and artist Mia Desu for her great work. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting the Branch on Saturday Dec.7 th from 12 till 3 for pictures. Free Hot Chocolate will be available to all those who attend, compliments of Branch #255. For more information, see the Post on Facebook and flyers within the Branch. Please note that this is not the same Santa event as Breakfast with Santa.



A BIT OF (HRISTMAS HUMOR!









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.



90th ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT ... SALE Branch 255 Legion Fundraiser

(Red T-shirt white logo) or (Navy Blue T-Shirt gold logo)
Short sleeve \$15 tax included OR
Long sleeve \$20 tax included
Unisex sizes small. medium. large. XL. XXL XXXL





PARKWOOD HOSPITAL

The new bus for Veterans at Parkwood has arrived. Legion branches in Ontario donated the money to buy this and it will give the Vets more flexibility to travel for day outings.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS ~ HAPPY BIRTHDAY COMRADES

Joanne Bray - 1st, Russ Gray - 3rd, Leigh Anne Canniff - 6th, Patti Windibank - 7th, Stephanie Gallagher 14th - Vivian Lehoux - 17th, Darcy Perry - 18th, Gerry Seeger - 20th, Bob Gatti - 23rd, Wendi Illi - 25th, Joey Morneau - 28th





BRIGHT LIGHTS WINDSOR

Experience the magic of Bright Lights Windsor as it returns to Jackson Park! Bright Lights Windsor will be open nightly from November 29, 2024, through January 7, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

TREE ANGEL

What better way to get into the Christmas spirit.

Let's help our shelters! Here is a list of some of the items needed for our local shelters: Men's, women's and children's: underwear, socks, hats, gloves, slippers, pjs, sweatshirts, bus tickets (Shoppers) \$10 gift cards for Tim Hortons or McDonalds, Tylenol, cough drops, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, body wash and cleaning supplies.

Come on in and get a Angel and help the ones in need.



Our Poppy Campaign total is rising.
We have received a generous donation of \$700 from Diane Clinton.
Diane is a friend of the daughter of Terri Davis-Fitzpatrick.

She crocheted poppies in honour of Charlie Davis and donated the money raised to the Poppy Fund. Thank you so much Diane and Terri.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Ken Marshall / Chair

Riverside Branch 255 is very excited to welcome our newest members as follows:

Michelle Polsinelli	•	Ordinary	Robert Truscott	•	Associate
Candace Spencer	•	Ordinary	Larry St. Antoine	•	Associate
Cameron McPhee	•	Ordinary	Edgar Mousseau	•	Affiliate
Fiona Jubenville			Colleen Gaudet	•	Associate
Ronald Swift			Mike Parkolab	•	Ordinary
Margaret Truscott	•	Associate	Terry Clifford	•	Associate

October winner of dues back for renewing early was Carol Ann Zavitz...



NEW YEARS DAY LEVEE 2024



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1st, 2025
New Year's Day levee, a long tradition in
Canada affiliated with the Armed Services.
Branch 255 Legion welcomes members and non-members
alike for an afternoon of camaraderie.

BOOK YOUR NEXT EVENT AT BRANCH 255 LEGION

Thinking of throwing a party? Need food?
We have our fabulous in house kitchen, Marco's Original Italian Diner, available to cater all of your parties, fundraisers, anniversaries, shin digs, showers, grad parties, office parties, seminars, work shops, and all events. We are also available for wakes and funerals. Call Marco's 519-944-0101 today!

MILITARY RECOGNITION BOOK REPORT - Jim Dunn

We have finished with volume number 11 of the MSRB and have started on volume number 12. It is important to keep this program going so I will be approaching our new members to help with the recruitment of new Veteran submissions. It is very important that permission is given by the Veteran or a family member. Applications will be behind the bar.

The Military Recognition Books Volume 11 have arrived. Anyone who submitted a story can now pick-up a book at the Branch .Please ask the bartender for one. Any questions call Jim Dunn at 519-945-0671.



Linda's Dog Walking & Pet Sitting

Linda Choboter

905-967-0977 lindachoboter@gmail.com













Ronald Monaghan Owner

> Office: 226-221-9559 Cell: 226-787-2276

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r.monaghan@bintheredumpthat.com

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Olivia Ryan

olivia@riversidepiecafe.com www.riversidepiecafe.com

RIVERSIDE

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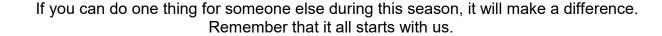
THANK YOU Riverside Pie Cafe for your generous donation to our Poppy Campaign.



Your continued support to help Veterans in need is much appreciated.

From Riverside Branch 255 Legion









THERESA LECOURS

FABR Sales Representative (519) 816-1362 teelecours@gmail.com

JIM LENGYEL

Broker

(519) 816-1495

jleng1955@gmail.com Off/Pgr: (519) 972-1000



www.jimandtheresa.com

BURSARIES REPORT - Sharron Jarvis / Chair

The RCL Br 255 **Poppy Fund Bursary** has been revised and is now behind the bar. Revisions have been made so please read the criteria for eligibility. The next dead line is February 1, 2025 and bursaries will be handed out at our February general meeting.

The deadline for the Mary Turner Bursary is for 2nd yr students and up at the University of Windsor. The deadline has been extended to January 31, 2025. The application and verification form for this bursary is online through the University of Windsor Student Awards Office. A notice about this bursary is on the membership bulletin board.

The **Ontario Command Bursary** is open from November, 1, 2024 to the last Friday in March 2025. The application is behind the bar or online.

Be sure to read the criteria for each of these bursaries as they are different for every bursary.



To our men and women in uniform past, present and future

Hey there Trivia Fans!! Join Us for a **TRIVIA NIGHT**. **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5th.**

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!!



SMILES WITH SANTA & MRS CLAUS

Sat. December 7th at 12 - 3pm

- Prepare a donation for Children's Aid Society
- Gather your family members together
- Drop of donation and take your photo with Santa and Mrs Claus
- Savour a cup of complimentary hot chocolate and go explore what the Olde Riverside BIA has to offer!



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Sun. December 8th at 9am

Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary
Tickets still available. If you wish to purchase any please
email la.rcl255@ gmail.com



NEW YEARS EVE PARTY Tues. December 31st

Doors open at 6pm / Dinner at 7pm
Entertainment: Black Orchid Band
Chains of Mank *Prime Bib *Chicken F

Choice of Meal: *Prime Rib *Chicken Parmesan

* Orange Roughy *Vegetarian

Tickets per person:

\$60 for members / \$65 for non-members

Includes: * Dessert * Party Favours

*Champagne Toast * Light Late Night Snack

TICKETS GO ON SALE

Wed. Dec 4th (12-2pm) Thurs. Dec. 5th (12-2pm)and Fri. Dec. 6th (2-4pm)



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21st at 8pm Come ROCK your Ugly Christmas Sweater with the POWER AND THE GLORY Band .. Make it a Night to Remember!! \$\$ Cash Prize for UGLIEST Sweater





Legion 255 DECEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

SUN MON **TUES WED THURS** FRI SAT 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 **V**:> *** Q OPEN SENIORS SPACE** 1PM MIXED 1PM MIXED FISH FRY **CUT THROAT DINNER & MUSIC CRIBBAGE CRIBBAGE** 3-8:30PM **BOOK** PEPPER 6PM TRIVIA 7PM TRAXX YOUR **6PM EUCHRE** MIXED POOL 3:30-6:30 MENS ANGLO **SPECIAL LEAGUE 6PM** MIXED DART DART LEAGUE OCCASION MEN'S DARTS LEAGUE 7PM 7:30PM **HERE 7PM WOMENS** LEAGUE 7:30PM ▼ DART LEAGUE 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 *** BREAKFAST** WITH SANTA 9AM **CUT THROAT SENIORS** 1PM MIXED 1PM MIXED FISH FRY PEPPER 6PM **DINNER & MUSIC CRIBBAGE CRIBBAGE** 3-8:30PM B.B.& THE J'S MIXED POOL **6PM EUCHRE** 3:30-6:30 MENS ANGLO **LEAGUE 6PM** MIXED DART DART LEAGUE MEN'S DARTS **7PM WOMENS** 7:30PM LEAGUE 7PM LEAGUE 7:30PM DART LEAGUE 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 29 1. **OPEN** FISH FRY **SPACE CUT THROAT SENIORS** 1PM MIXED 1PM MIXED **BOOK** PEPPER 6PM **DINNER & MUSIC CRIBBAGE CRIBBAGE** 3-8:30PM YOUR SIXTIES LIVE MIXED POOL **6PM EUCHRE SPECIAL** 3:30-6:30 **MENS ANGLO LEAGUE 6PM OCCASION** MIXED DART DART LEAGUE MEN'S DARTS **7PM WOMENS** LEAGUE 7PM **HERE** 7:30PM LEAGUE 7:30PM DART LEAGUE 22 23 24 25 CLOSED 26 **22**7 28 **BOXING DAY OPEN** Herry WERE OPEN SPACE **CUT THROAT** FISH FRY **BOOK** PEPPER 6PM **CHRISTMAS** 3-8:30PM 2-5PM **EVE OPEN** YOUR MIXED POOL MENS ANGLO **SPECIAL** 12-5PM **LEAGUE 6PM** DART LEAGUE OCCASION 7:30PM **HERE 7PM WOMENS** DART LEAGUE 29 30 31 JAN. 1ST () 20 × () 20 × ***** OPEN Legion **SPACE** CUT THROAT ATTENTION

BOOK YOUR **SPECIAL** OCCASION **HERE**

PEPPER 6PM

MIXED POOL **LEAGUE 6PM 7PM WOMENS**

DART LEAGUE

COME CELEBRATE **NEW YEARS EVE** BAND BLACK ORCHID DOORS OPEN

AT 6PM

WERE OPEN **LEVEE** 2025

MEAT DRAW 2-5PM **SMILES WITH SANTA & MRS** CLAUS 12-3PM

B.B.& THE J'S BAND 8PM



MEAT DRAW 2-5PM

B.B & THE J'S BAND 8PM

MEAT DRAW 2-5PM



POWER & THE **GLORY** BAND 8PM

MEAT DRAW

POWER & THE **GLORY** BAND 8PM

CARD & DART PLAYERS PLEASE CHECK WITH PERSON IN CHARGE TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS DURING THE HOLIDAYS