Missile

February 2019

Volume 2 Issue 6



COBOURG BR # 133

Royal Canadian Legion Cobourg Branch 133 136 Orr Street Cobourg, Ontario K9A 4J7

NEWSLETTER

Office: 905-372-2231 Fax: 905-372-3987 Club Room: 905-372-1996 br133rcl@eagle.ca Www.eagle.ca/legion

Club Room Hours Effective September 13' 2017

Sunday 1:00 pm-6:00 pm **Monday to Thursday** 11:00 am-10:00 pm **Friday** 11:00 am-12:00 pm; **Saturday** 11:00 am -10:00 pm

Hall Rentals and Catering available during construction .

We're open as usual during construction. Rent our Hall.

Catering available through Ladies Auxiliary

Rent the hall for Receptions, Weddings & Private Functions. The hall is air conditioned and wheelchair accessible.

Hall Rentals Contact: Nancy Turpin @ 905-372-0493 or turpin5@sympatico.ca

Catering Contact: Sue Poelstra @905-342-2087





Presidents Report

The branch is moving along in the New Year. The dart leagues are going on and Friday/Saturday meat draws are picking up. The month of February is fast approaching and with that we have a few events taking place. The first one being the Super Bowl party and Euchre tournament on February 3rd. Registration for the Euchre tournament starts at 1:00pm with play beginning at 2:00pm. \$10.00 per 2 man team. There will be food available starting at 12:00 noon & wings go on sale starting at 5:00pm. The new building is moving along and hopefully the new fundraising effort of 'Catch the Ace' will be starting soon. In March on the 24th we will be holding Legion Rock upstairs. Tickets are \$10.00 a person in advance or \$15.00 at the door. The Spirits and Small Town Justice will be taking the stage starting at 2:00pm and play until 7:00pm. This event is also a fundraiser for the new building. Young members are always looking for something aimed towards them, well here is an event just for them. Don't forget on the 1st of February you will be asked to show you 2019 membership card at the bar. So please make sure your dues are paid. Hope to see all members throughout the month of February.

R.L. Robison-President

1st Vice Presidents Report

Comrades

During the month of January Zone cribbage was held in Port Hope and Cobourg came home with a first place which means we will be the 2020 host. A congrats goes out to the team of John Anderson, Bob Robison, Jim Jubenville and Jamie Newton. I would also like to wish them good luck at District. If anyone would like to compete in a sport and do not see a signup sheet please contact me to get your team registered.

Over the next couple months we will be holding a number of fundraising events for the new building. I hope to see a lot of you out supporting these event as we will need a lot of money to help with the move.

Jennifer Robison-1st Vice President

Past President's Report

I hope you are keeping warm now that winter has finally come. Please, be careful walking on the sidewalks as many are covered in ice.

Not much to report other than I heard from one high school re: the reason why the young athletes did not participate in the Legion Track and Field Branch Program. It seems they prefer to join the professionally run Durham Dragons Track and Field Club in Oshawa. The good news is that the Durham Dragons participate in Legion sponsored sporting events. They have a very impressive web site. Just had the pub lunch that the Ladies put on; Shepherd's pie. GREAT STUFF!

LEST WE FORGET. LEST WE FORGET.

John Aitken, Past President, PRO, Track and Field, Br.133, RCL, Cobourg 905-377-1527 or johnandiris@cogeco.ca

Military Recognition Book

Calling on all Veterans who are Legion and non-Legion members to consider filling out an application to be entered into the Legion Military Recognition Book. This is for all members of the Military. W.W.I, W.W.II, Korea, Afghanistan, Regular Force, Reservists, Navy, Army, Air force, Merchant Navy, R.C.M.P. plus all and any allied forces.

I am also asking that any Associate members who have joined the Legion to consider filling out an application of their relatives who were in the Military, such as Great Grandfather, Grandfather, Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Uncles, Aunts, Cousins.

Applications can be picked up at any Legion or from Wayne McKinnon.

For more information you may contact me at--- cell **<u>376-8053</u>** or by e-mail **<u>ymckin-non@cogeco.ca</u>**.

Thank you Veterans for your service.

Wayne McKinnon

This month has been a tough one for our branch with the loss of so many. **Reginald Smith** -Jan 6/19, **Russ Coupland** -Jan 6/19, **Jack Wilcox** - Jan 21/19 **Mary Villanyi** - Jan 21/19

Also our longest standing member **Lorne Barton**, January 21/19. Lorne was a great no nonsense Sgt @ Arms & Parade Marshall for our branch for many years and a member of the branch he loved for 69 years.

To the friends & families of our fallen our thoughts & prayers are with you.

Shelley Thompson will be looking after Last Post, Sick & visiting for the month of February. Please give her a call if needed.

In Comradeship Judy Elliott



Email:judeelliott51@icloud.com Home: 905-372-9666 or Cell: 905-269-6057

Membership Report

Thanks to all the members that have paid their dues for 2019. If you are not one of them, just a reminder to you that as of February 1st, you will be asked by the bar staff to show your 2019 card or receipt. If you are approached by a member that has not paid please do not sign them in. They must pay their dues to enjoy the privileges of the Branch. Everyone if asked must show proof no matter what your status.

Please make sure all guests are signed in (any Non Legion Member) this includes players of darts, cards, billiards and visitors. This does not include those that come for the Ladies Auxiliary Pub lunches as this is an Open event. It would be great if those attending the Open event so that we know who is visiting with us.

Respectfully,

Josephine Upton-Membership Chair 289-251-3478

Veteran's Service Officer

For information or assistance with the Department of Veterans Affairs in regard to entitlement to any Disability Pension, Pension applications, re-assessment, VIP Services & Survivor Benefits please contact me.

Rod Ingersoll Branch Service Officer 416-618-6266 rod@ingersollpetroleum.ca

Ladies Auxiliary President's Message January 2019



General Meetings: February 4th @ 7:30

Executive Meetings: February 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

Hello Comrades.

Who else is done with winter and ready for warm sunny days? I am!

We will be selling beef pies this month as a fundraiser. Orders will be taken until February 17 with pick up on February 22 during Pub lunch hours. Come for lunch and get your pies at the same time!

Good luck to those playing in Zone teams darts on February 2nd.

Happy Birthday and Anniversary wishes to all those celebrating in February

In Comradeship Jennifer Young-President-Branch 133 Cobourg 289-252-2145

Building Committee Highlights from January Meeting

- Work has started on the south side; second floor should be installed in five weeks. The building is split with three stories on the south side (condo) and two on the Legion side.
- The flooring in the bar and kitchen coolers will be porcelain honed tile. The flooring everywhere else in the Legion will be vinyl plank.

Follow-Up

Need two committees - a space planning committee (headed by Bob T.) and a Move Planning Committee. This will be discussed at the February meeting.

Respectfully Submitted Stan Jarvis Building Committee Chair 905-373-8318



Loonie Loonie Dart

Tournament to raise funds for the **Building Fund.**

Summer Loonie darts went well. Thank you everyone for coming out. Starting in September when Legion hours are back to normal and the summer break is over we will have Loonie darts every second Sunday when time permits.

A dollar to play and a dollar for the Building Fund. Registration at noon, play starts at 1.

For more information contact Rod Ingersoll 416-618-6266

Ways & Means

Meat Draws



Every Friday @ 5 PM

Every Saturday @ 3 PM

Anyone that is able to help with the draws contact Bob

905-372-3896.

Only 1.5 hours Friday or Saturday.

R.L. Robison

Ladies Auxiliary

Friday Pub

Lunches



11:30am-1:00pm

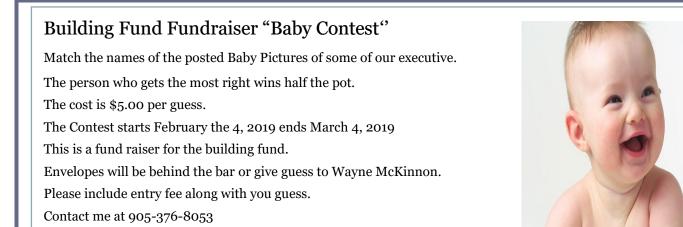
\$8.00

February 8-

Ham & scalloped potatoes

February 22-

Mac & Cheese



Legion Memorabilia

Hello Members. A team has been put together to sort out the storage room and clean up our items. We will be working in the card room so this room will be closed off mid-February so that we can work.

If you have a picture on the wall that you donated to the branch and would like it back please contact the Office and leave your name, phone number and details of the picture or insert a note with the information required into the Membership mailbox.

If this is a picture you are interested in please follow the same process as above and we will get back to you. We would ask that if you wish a picture and is available if you would make a donation to the Building Fund. Sorry, no tax receipts are issued for this donation.

There are so many items we would like to keep but space will be limited and we can only hope that when we move a group would be formed so that our items are rotated to show and not hidden away. A team will be coming from the Lindsay Branch, who have offered to list our Uniforms and Caps for storage at their Branch until such time as we may need them. The Executive agreed that this is the right approach to preserve these items of history. A copy of the paperwork will be held at both Branches to avoid issues in future years.

Josephine Upton

Wayne McKinnon



Padre Art King

905-372-6408

artking69@gmail.com



Missile Editor

Hello membership,

Thank you to all those whom submitted articles, pictures & reports by the 25th of each month to normaleemitchell@hotmail.com.

Your submissions keep our readers interested in the publication. Please continue to share your news, events etc. All submissions require contact information whereas you may be needed to be contacted.

Normalee Teskey-Missile Editor-Branch #133



We have raised \$24,984.90 for the Building Fund Comrades!!

Let's continue to dig deep and support our new Legion.



Over 55 Club

Hello Members.

I was unable to attend the January Luncheon and I did hear that you all enjoyed a lovely Roast Beef dinner.

In February, we will be having Chicken and the desert will be Valentine Cake. Please call Jenny to get on the list at 905-373-0923.

I received a call from Jean Harris's daughter informing me that her mother was leaving Legion Village and moving to the Golden Plough. If you happen to be visiting Golden Plough please drop in and say hello.

The Over 55 Club was started so that our age group could get together and enjoy a meal with others, meet new people and have a bit of fun. It does require some structure. I have heard some members complain about how those holding a position are not doing a good enough job. This is not a job, no one gets paid. Elections are coming up in the next few months to provide opportunities for those who are interested in stepping up to the plate.

Respectfully,

Josephine Upton, Chair Person

The Loss of HMCS Skeena; Chapter 5, Two Sisters Joined Together at Birth and at Death.

In 1931, the Canada government of the time took possession of two war ships. Although these two ships were built overseas in an English shipyard, they were the very first ships to be built for the still very young Royal Canadian Navy. These two ships, HMCS Saguenay and HMCS Skeena were built to new Canadian specifications and were fitted out with the latest naval warfare equipment of the time.

Both ships entered the war in 1939 and were immediately tasked with convey service escorting allied shipped across the Atlantic Ocean. They were the true first fighters of the Battle of the Atlantic. The fighting career of HMCS Saguenay ended early in 1942, when her stern was lost to a convey collision at sea. She was eventually towed to Halifax where her stern was sealed off and she remained as a training ship for the remainder of the war. The fighting career of HMCS Skeena also ended tragically as it was in the early hours of Oct 25, 1944, HMCS Skeena found herself floundering on the rocky shore of Videy island Iceland with the loss of 15 crew members. She was declared a complete loss at this time.

In 2004 the Icelandic Coast Guard dived on this site looking for hazardous wartime ammunitions, and located the propeller from HMCS Skeena. In 2005 I saw this propeller first hand and assisted with the selection of a proper spot to build a monument using the propeller in commemoration of the loss of HMCS Skeena. It is hard to explain the feeling seeing this huge relic setting in the shipyard, all covered in seaweed and mud, knowing that it is the only surviving part of the ship.

In the ship yard I borrowed a scrapper and a wire brush, as I wanted to clean up part of the propeller as I could faintly see some engraving on the bronze metal. To my amazement, the letters "H-M-C-S" appeared. Further work then revealed a "S "and my excitement took hold as I knew the word "S-K-E-E-N-A" would soon appear. Frantically working away expecting the next letter to be a "K" ... but the letter "A" appeared (??). Then followed by a "G". Further scrapping away uncovered the word "S-A-G-U-E-N-A-Y".

How could this be? Was this not the propeller from the Skeena? What was the propeller from HMCS Saguenay doing in Iceland on the ocean floor were HMCS Skeena went down in 1944? HMCS Saguenay left service in 1942 and was never in Iceland; a mystery needed to be solved. A frantic call back to Canada, it was discovered HMCS Skeena entered drydock in 1942 for some much-needed stern repairs. Work was performed on her propeller it is believed Skeena's propeller was replaced with a spare propeller from Saguenay, as Saguenay's was not needed due to her current condition.

In August 2006, I traveled back to Iceland to unveil the newly cleaned up propeller as a monument in memory of HMCS Skeena and in memory of the men who lost their lives. It was during the unveiling ceremony, to my amazement, looking at the cleaned-up propeller, right in front of me was the word "S-K-E-E-N-A". Now that the propeller had been sand blasted removing the debris that I could not take off with my wire brush, this procedure revealed the stamping "SKEENA" over top of the word "SAGUENAY". Two sister ships launched together, and although single propeller in memory of Skeena; the two ships were now joined together forever. The propeller sits on a very large flat rock, in a field on the north west part of Videy Island Iceland. The propeller is now a recognized Canadian War Monument in memory of those brave Canadians who fought in the Battle of the Atlantic 1939-1944, aboard HMCS Skeena.

October 2019 marks the 75th anniversary of the loss of HMCS Skeena. The local sea cadet corps is named after this ship, and it is the wish of the cadets of RCSCC Skeena to attend services in Iceland this year to commemorate the loss of their ship. To learn more about their fundraising campaign, follow them on Facebook at "Skeena Iceland" or email at <u>skeenaiceland@gmail.com</u> to learn more.

Next month; The Hospital Dressing Gown, a tribute to those who survived.

In Comradeship Lt(N) Christopher R. Barker, CD* RCSCC Skeena











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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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					1 Probus Mtg. (ETR) Meat Roll 5 PM Friday Night Darts	2 LA Zone Darts Meat Roll 3 PM
3 Super Bowl Cobourg Youth Darts (10am-12)	4 Over 55 Darts 12:45 PM Men's Darts LA General Mtg.	5	6 Ladies Darts	7	8 Pub Lunch Meat Roll 5 PM Friday Night Darts	9 Celebration of Life- Lorne Barton Meat Roll 3 PM
10 Cobourg Youth Darts (10am-12)	11 Over 55 Darts 12:45 PM Men's Darts	12	13 Ladies Darts	14 Br Exec Meeting Moonshot Euchre	15 Meat Roll 5 PM Friday Night Darts	16 Meat Roll 3 PM
17 Cobourg Youth Darts (10am-12)	18 Over 55 Darts 12:45 PM Men's Darts	19	20 Over 55 Club Luncheon Ladies Darts	21 Branch Gen. Meeting	22 Pub Lunch Meat Roll 5 PM Friday Night Darts	23 Meat Roll 3 PM Comedy Night
24 Cobourg Youth Darts (10am-12) Public Speaking	25 Over 55 Darts 12:45 PM LA Exec. Mtg. Men's Darts	26	27 Ladies Darts	28 Moonshot Euchre		

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