



The Banner



The Newsletter of the R.C.L. Norwood/St. Boniface Branch #43
134 Marion Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0T4
Office# 237-8728 Clubroom#233-2329

Spring 2016

Presidents Report – Faye Lavack

We had a nice winter and it is sure nice to see spring is arriving. I would like to thank the executive for a successful 2015 and look forward to working together again this year. We had a great 2015 and are looking forward to doing some more renovations and events in 2016.

We have had a few successful events this year, our New Year's Eve 2015, our Malanka 2016 and Louis Riel dinner and dance were all sold out events. We thank all the people that came out and supported the Branch.

Our Chase the Ace is on Fridays. Note we have changed the time from 4:00-5:00 p.m. with the draw at 5:00 pm. We also have a 50/50 that is managed by the sports chairman and also a meat draw with 4 different prizes. That draw is at 5:30. Come out and see if you are the lucky one.

GENERAL MEETING DATES: May 24, August 23 and Nov 22, 2016

2016 Officers and Executive	
President	Faye Lavack
Chairman	Bette Vance
1st Vice President/House & Property	Fred McGillivray
2nd Vice President/Special Events	Suzanne Parbery
3rd VicePresident/Membership/Publicity	Lou-Ellen Jeanson
Sergeant at Arms	Kevin Rhymer
Sports	Sandra Spring
Ways & Means	Laura Lucki
Sick & Visiting	Dorothy Burrell
Poppy	Gary Parbery
Honors & Awards	Don Rhymer
Secretary	Cheryl Ewanus
Service Officer	Leo Delaquis

Sargent at Arms – Kevin Rhymer

It has been a quick few months as the Sargent at Arms for me. There is so much to learn and not enough time to learn it all it seems. It seems that spring has arrived in Manitoba which means shorts and t-shirts one day and parkas the next. This also means that the Decoration Day Commemorative Parade is fast approaching. For those not aware of the meaning of Decoration Day let me provide some history.

“We Will Remember Them” as you are all aware is the official motto of the Royal Canadian Legion and is heard at many military memorial ceremonies and Parades. Back in 1931 Ottawa passed an act that declared an annual Armistice Day to be held on November 11th and “on no other date”. The name was changed from Armistice Day to Remembrance Day.

Prior to 1931 Canada had Decoration Day in which we commemorated our war dead with the laying of real flowers, not in the hopeless gloom of November but in the warm light and optimism of the late spring or in summer, often on the weekend closest to June 2nd which is the anniversary of Canada’s first modern battle. The Battle of Ridgeway in 1886.

The Battle of Ridgeway took place in the vicinity of the town of Fort Erie (near the village of Ridgeway, Canada West). Ontario. On June 2, 1866 between Canadian Troops and an irregular army of Irish-American invaders, “The Fenians”. It was the largest engagement of the Fenian Raids and was the first modern industrial-era battle to be fought only by Canadian Troops and led exclusively by Canadian Officers.

On Decoration Day, Canadians gathered at the war monuments to tend to soldiers graves after the ravages of winter. They decorated them with flowers, wreaths, and garlands and prayed that their sacrifices were not in vain and that we had come to be worthy of them. Veterans were showered in flowers as they passed by and escorted by groups of children. It was a popular communion of young and old with the souls of our fallen soldiers in celebration of Hope, Life and Rebirth. We remembered and we remembered well. Hopefully we will have a Beautiful Spring and have a large turnout To commemorate our comrades who have laid down their lives.

PARADE: May 29th 2016
Fall in 1:15 pm
March off 1:30 pm

Sources: <http://www.decorationday.org/>
<http://www.ridgewaybattle.com>

1st Vice President/House & Property – Fred McGillivray

I hope every member had a good winter and like us all looking forward to warmer weather.

We have tried to keep the branch in good working order with the usual maintenance and have also added a few items.

First of all we have a new awning in the front, which looks great and from the short time it has been up the reports have been favorable. Once the warmer weather comes the orange tiles will also have a new color so the whole front entrance will change. The awning cost was covered by a grant and the painting of the tiles is being donated by the Ladies Auxiliary.

New flooring has been put in the front entrance to match the flooring in the new washrooms.

The hall on the east side will be getting a bar makeover as the old one is beyond repair.

If you haven't been into your Branch lately maybe stop in and come see the improvement that have done in the last couple of years. We continue to improve the Branch to help make it a better place.

Hope you all have a Great Summer and PLEASE stop in and check thing out!!

2nd Vice President/Special Events – Suzanne Parbery

Hello everyone, we had a great Steak, Spud and Mug on March 18th. We will be having another one in September so watch for more information.

On July 1st,2016 we will be putting together a carnival day filled with 6 different carnival game like PLINKO, THE MILKING COW just to name a few. There will also be 4 table top games. The prizes will be small items for the kids and Canada Day items for the adults. We will be needing many volunteers to be able to pull this day off so PLEASE let me know if you are able to help!!! We need people to man the games and hopefully dressed up like clowns. There will also be BBQ hot dogs, hamburgers and bags of chips. Please call the Legion at 233-2329 and leave your name and number so I can phone back.

We will have a Fall supper on October 2th, dance to the music of Country Pride and the dinner will follow. Watch for more information

3rd Vice President/Membership – Louellen Jeanson

Our membership is increasing every year and so far this year I am proud to say that we have had 39 new members. Welcome and we look forward to seeing you at the Branch.

Also for those that might have forgotten, your 2016 membership is due so please come in soon to renew your membership.

Poppy – Gary Parbery

Hello Comrades

Hope everyone had a good winter and are looking forward to the warm weather coming.

This is my first term as the Poppy Chair. It will be a learning experience but am looking forward to the challenge and satisfaction of helping our veterans and their families. I think one of the perceptions most people have about veterans is that they are getting up in age and there are less and less veterans. This may be somewhat true but is only part of the story. We have a number of veterans in their 20's, 30's and up. A lot of them were involved in Afghanistan and Serbia and can use the assistance of the Poppy Fund.

In addition to our regular recipients from the poppy fund, we have added one more this year and that is the Veterans Transition Program.

It is a very worthwhile program to help our veterans' transition back to regular life.

Sick & Visiting – Dorothy Burrell

Greetings Comrades: Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Olga (Ollie) Shechosky and Ernie Agagnier who passed away on February 26th, 2016 and March 5th, 2016 respectively.

It has been my pleasure in visiting our members in Hospitals and Personnel Care homes these past four months; meeting and chatting with them and their family as well.

Our gifts bags with individual theme decor on each occasion were enjoyed by all and commented on positively by the Medical Staff on duty.

If you have a family member or friend in the hospital or nursing home that is a veteran/member from our branch, please let us know so we can pay them a visit. You can leave a message at our Branch or call me at 204-889-4475.

Summer is just around the corner! Enjoy

Sports – Sandra Spring

Hello from Sandra, the sports chairman of the Norwood Legion. It has been a fun filled year so far, with more to come yet. We had the 8 ball tryouts with the winners advancing to the next round at the Elmwood Legion on April 29/30 and May 1st.

On March 11, 12 and 13th were the Provincial tryouts for Cribbage in Roblin, Mb with Laura Lucki, Faye Lavack, Alex Lavack and myself advancing but to no avail, we didn't advance any further.

We host Sports Sundays the first Sunday of every month. We have a crib tournament, so bring your partner and come join us. Entry is \$10.00 per person and the pay-out is 100%. We serve lunch from 12 p.m to 1 p.m. and charge \$3.00. Foods good, company is good so come on out and join us. If you don't like crib, come try out our shuffleboards, or our snooker tables. It is all in fun, so come out and have some fun or just come by for a drink.

Our pool players and I have decided to put on a benefit social on June 3rd at the legion to raise money to purchase a new (or used) snooker table. We are having the Biivver Band playing, which is a great band to come and listen to. It will be starting at 7 p.m., with a silent auction, 50/50 draws, bottle draws and your ticket you purchase will be put in for a door prize. There are only 180+ tickets printed, so get yours early. They are available from the pool players, myself or at the bar. A light lunch will also be provided for all you party-goers. So, once again "COME OUT" and have fun and support your legion events. We are also looking for silent auction donations. If you would like to provide one to help us out, just let me or the legion know.

We are also going to be hosting Wednesday night weekly crib tournaments. We have been asked quite a bit to try it, so we will. Hope you can once again come out and join us.

Sports are a big thing at our legion. Everyone likes one kind of sport or another so if you have any suggestions or ideas on what we could try, please let me know. I am always open to new ideas. I really enjoy doing things that bring members /people into our legion for good times.

Here is to another fun-filled sports oriented year. Hope to see you come out and enjoy yourself!!!!

Ways & Means – Laura Lucki

Bingo is going very well. The special we held Tuesday the 29th of March was well received, however even with regular announcements and posters put up at Columbus Manor, we did not achieve quite the expected turnout. We will try another one in the fall.

Meat draw is also running smoothly, thanks to the volunteers from the various club sports teams.

Ladies Auxiliary Report – President Marilyn Kenny

In 2016, the Norwood St. Boniface Ladies, along with Branch Executive and members, we faced a number of big initiatives. Some of the fund raising aspects of our work will go to meet unusual or exceptional Branch expenses. Some will go to Veterans' support either through providing comfort and relief to those ailing or hospitalized, a portion to the Veterans Housing needs, or those less fortunate, students and youth in and around Manitoba, while finding ways to celebrate and laugh together. (My presidential "skills" give members a lot to laugh at!)

In discussion with our members and Branch president, Friday 50/50 draws were cancelled after March but continue on Saturdays following Meat Draws. We do bi-weekly meat draws which continued during Saturday Bingos. Prizes included Turkeys and Hams during the Easter season - Umm! Our members also work the Bingos on a schedule established with the Branch Bingo Coordinator.

We catered for two Funerals and Celebrations of Life held at our Branch. Feedback indicates that members, family and loved ones were pleased with this coordinated approach between ourselves and the Branch. We hope to continue this activity but not too often as our members are a precious group we don't want to leave us too soon. We know our prices are better than competitive and "our" hall can easily accommodate either a full service or just refreshments for mourners, with Branch assistance for active members. As we all get older, we begin to lose Legionnaires, their parents, friends and other family members. Knowing that the feedback has been excellent, members can keep us in mind if/when they are faced with the ordeal of funeral planning/coordinating, when it is stressful and difficult.

With a Herculean effort on the part of both our members and volunteers from the Branch, we hosted the Provincial Athletic Camp Fundraising Tea. This was a huge endeavor for which our ladies also set up and attended the White Elephant Table. The following day, all items not sold at the various tables were taken and donated locally with household items going to a "new refugee" arrival centre, books to a choir where they are sold to any/all groups which use the same facilities then the funds donated to time appropriate group endeavours. The miscellaneous knick knacks went to the local Salvation Army. We hope to have ½ fee camp sponsorships for our members' families. If not, we will contribute to the camp itself, for use among other areas where they are "oversubscribed". We don't want one bed empty! The Peace Garden(s) is a wonderful place, even for a day out, to see what a treasure, we share with our U.S. neighbours! It was one of our discussions at a recent District Rally we attended in Pine Falls.

Festival du Voyageur Breakfast was another huge task but one which is smooth as satin, with Branch members assisting with the preparations, cooking and cleanup. The Navy League "cadets" came and cleared tables with Dan Vandal and Shelley Glover helping us serve the food. We also were able to donate remaining pancakes and sausages for breakfast service at Agape table the following day. Dinners were purchased for Siloam Mission clients at Easter.

Easter gifts, flowers or snacks were delivered to sick auxiliary members and those who, having lost direct family members, identified where our donations were sent.

We do also find time for fun. At our Honours and Awards night, April 5, we recognized years of service and special volunteer contributions for the last year. Then we stuffed ourselves with pizzas. In March, we were happy to welcome three new members and hope that we will continue to attract new folks, as unfortunately we have lost several in the past year or two. Thanks to all who have assisted us this past season!

Entertainment - Faye Lavack

Our Saturday Dances are continuing to have a great turnout. We have tried a couple of different bands in the past few months and will continue to give a good variety of bands. Our dances are from 7:30- 11:00 pm. Come out and kick up your heels!!!

Below is the dance schedule for the next couple of months:

Apr 2/16 Nite Winds
Apr 9/16 Steve Ambrose
Apr 16/16 Ivan Spence & Burntwood
Apr 23/16 Buckskin & Satin
Apr.30/16 Universals

May 7/16 NO DANCE
May 14/16 Nite Winds
May 21/16 Hwy 6
May 28/16 Gemstar

June 4/16 Echo Valley Boys
June 11/16 Ivan Spence & Burntwood
June 18/16 Trailriders
June 25/16 Nite Winds

July 2/16 Hwy 6
July 9/16 Gemstar
July 16/16 Echo Valley Boys
July 23/16 Buckskin & Satin
July 30/16 Universals

Aug 6/16 Nite Winds
Aug 13/16 Trailriders
Aug 20/16 Ivan Spence & Burntwood
Aug 27/16 Gemstar

Sept 3/16 Steve Ambrose
Sept 10/16 Nite Winds
Sept 17/16 Buckskin & Satin
Sept 24/16 Starlites

Honors & Awards – Don Rhymer

I am looking forward to presenting our awards this year. The presentations will be on November 11, 2016 at 3 p.m. right after the Remembrance Day service. I hope you will stay to recognize our long time members and veterans.

Publicity - Lou-Ellen Jeans

Dates to REMEMBER!!!

MAY 29, 2016 Decoration Day Parade!! Fall in 1:15 PM

JUNE 3, 2016 Fund raising social to purchase new snooker tables. \$15.00 a ticket, Silent auction prizes, a 50/50 and we are dancing to The Biiver Band!!! Come out support our Billiards and snooker Teams and also the Norwood- St. Boniface Legion!!

JULY 1st, 2016 Carnival Day is happening at the Legion!! Come one Come all and try your hand at a few games and maybe win a few prizes. There will also be BBQ hotdogs and hamburgers for sale. For the adults there is lovely assortment of beverages. For the kids there will be pop and juice.

WEEKLY LIST OF EVENTS

*The Royal Canadian Legion Welcomes You!
Home of Legion House Museum*

**MONDAY - FREE SHUFFLEBOARD
TUESDAY - IN HOUSE SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE**

**WEDNESDAY - FREE POOL 5:30 PM TO CLOSING
CRIB 7 P.M. BRING YOUR OWN PARTNER \$10/PERSON
LEGION HOUSE MUSEUM—OPEN AT NOON - 4:00 OR BY APPT
CONTACT www.mhsm.ca
- SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE**

THURSDAY - BILLIARD LEAGUE, SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE

**FRIDAY - CHASE THE ACE 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
50/50 AT 5:30 p.m.
MINI-MEAT DRAW - 5:30 p.m.**

**SATURDAY - BINGO 12:30 TO 3:30 PM
MEAT DRAWS 1:00, 2:00, 3:00
DANCE 7:30 - 11:30 PM
50/50 DRAW LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Check out our website for Special Events and Calendar of Events,
www.norwoodstbonifacelegion.ca**

***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

