The Brandon Legionnaire NEWSLETTER Branch#3

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

MARCH 2014 Volume XXXIV : 3

The Legion has been entrusted with the significant task of safeguarding the sacred Poppy, protecting it from misuse and commercializing. Our Veterans bravely accepted the duty and responsibility to protect our rights and freedom; it is now we who must accept the duty and responsibility to protect and honour them. We will ensure that the Poppy remains the symbol of Remembrance for their sacrifices.

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.

Lest We Forget

Legion

The Legion is a strong organization and membership is the foundation for everything we do. To help us grow, we are holding a Canada-wide membership drive, and we need your help! Share your pride in the Legion and encourage a family member or friend to sign up today. With every member you sign up, you receive a contest ballot towards our grand prize of a Caribbean Cruise! And every new member enters your branch in our monthly draws for a gift certificate to the winning branch. Participating in One By One benefits both you and your branch!

Why One By One? Imagine if each of us brought in just one new member…we'd double our ranks! That would see The Legion ranks grow like never before. Imagine how much stronger the Legion would be. Our role in supporting Veterans and their families would be enhanced. The Legion would be engaging in our communities with renewed vigour, and there would be tens of thousands of new members upholding the traditions of Remembrance.

ONE BY ONE
MEMBERSHIP
CAMPAIGN

2014 EXECUTIVE BRANCH #3

Past President—Bingo (part-time), Maintenance, Staffing, Poppy Chairman	Garry Andrew	204-727-3054 bjandrew@wcgwave.ca
President— Maintenance, Grievances	Colin Biel	204-727-3879 cbiel@westman.wave.ca
1st Vice President— Treasurer, By-Laws, Resolutions	Cindy Strumme	204-727-0948
2nd Vice President—Membership, Honours & Awards	Barb Andrew	204-727-3054 Email: bjandrew@wcgwave.ca
Sgt-at-Arms	Maureen Farrant	204-727-8958
Secretary/Publicity	Joan Wright	204-728-7081 thief@westman.wave.ca
Service Office, Cadet Liaison,& Education	Richard McDonald	204-726-5486 macduck@mymts.net
Catering	Russell Legge	204-720-0488
Meat Draw	Paul Casselman	204-571-6639
Sports	Cam Balance	
Cemetery	Frank Worsley	204-727-0948
Bingo	Ed Farrant	204-727-8958
Sick & Visiting	Bob Riddle	204-728-3910

APPOINTMENTS (Non Elected)

Ladies Auxiliary Liaison	Linda Biel	204-278-3879
Editor Brandon Legionnaire	Linda Wakefield	204-728-6546 mrswakes@mts.net

It's official! The Legion has its own motorcycle units . . . LEGION RIDERS.
Become a Legion Rider and share your pride in the Legion!

Motorcycling is more than just a means of transportation; ***it's a way of life***. Join a group of individuals who are fiercely proud of Canada's Veterans and serving military. Wear your Legion Riders crest, show your pride in the Legion and help promote all that the Legion stands for. The aim of Legion Riders is to help generate more awareness about the Legion, strengthen support for Veterans, RCMP members and their families, and engage Canadians in community service and fundraising for Veterans and local communities.

SHOW YOUR PRIDE WHILE ON A RIDE! BECOME A LEGION RIDER.

Membership in Legion Riders is exclusively for Legion Members and offers a great opportunity for our members to express their pride in the Legion and support their community while enjoying their passion for mot0rcycling. You don't have to own a motorcycle . . . you just have to love the ride and support the Legion!

Royal Canadian Legion Brandon Branch #3
560-13th Street East
Brandon, Manitoba R7A 7C1
Office - 204-728-5026
royalc3@mts.net
Lounge– 204-728-2881
Banquet Hall– 204-727-4825

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The Brandon Legionnaire is printed monthly with the exception of July & August

Article & pictures may be submitted electronically to: mrswakes@mts.net or leave in the Branch office one week prior to month end.

Article may be edited for length , etc. The editor is not responsible for the source of submitted articles.

FRank - It - UP

Lounge Dance Music

March 1 & March 22, 2014

$10

On Saturday March 15, 2014, our very own "Chef Erik" will be creating Schweinepfeffer as the main dish; with choice of mashed potatoes or pasta and a special cauliflower dish. The dessert he calls " ?????????" and it will be "mmmmm good"

Tickets are $13.00 Available at Lounge Bar

Ticket sales limited to 110. Served following the drawing of "Chase the Ace"

VETERAN'S AFTERNOON

3RD THURSDAY 2:00-3:30 PM

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	BRANCH CLOSED			Banquet Hall		1
2	3	4 LA March Meeting	5 Ladies Shuffleboard	6 BINGO 5:30	7 Lounge Meat Draw Friday & Sat 4:30	8 CHASE The EVERY Sat
9	10	11 Branch Executive Meeting 7:30	12 Ladies Shuffleboard	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Ladies Shuffleboard	20	21	22
23	24	25 Branch General Meeting 7:30	26 Ladies Shuffleboard	27	28	29
30	31					

LADIES CORNER

The Ladies held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 with 14 members in attendance.

We didn't have meeting in January and since Maureen Farrant was unable to attend the December meeting she was initiated as the Ladies President.

There were no new members and no applications.

There was a discussion of ladies birthday supper to finalize preparation.

Cindy Stumme gave a report about menu and plans for the Ladies Hawaiian Night on April 5, 2014. The price will be $15 per person which includes a supper and dance and 50/50 draw.

The Ladies discussed plans for the Zone meeting which was held February 15, 2014 in Rivers. They also discussed plans for District meeting in Rapid City on March 15, 2014.

The was also a discussion about spring tea preparations in May. Someone else will be in charge of silent auction this time.

The committee chairpersons gave their reports and were discussed as needed, also correspondence was read and dealt with.

It was discussed and voted on that the Ladies would donate money needed to pay for the remainder of kitchen cupboards which will be paid to Branch in installments.

That`s all for now, keep warm. *Linda Biel*

Happy Belated Birthday to our Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary

LADIES AUXILIARY 2014 EXECUTIVE

Past President: *Lois Lougheed 204-727-6579 ASF, Sick & Visiting*

President :*Maureen Farrant 204-727-8958*

1st Vice President, Funeral Teas– *Betty Persian 204-725-2691 Funerals, Houselady*

Secretary 2nd Vice President- *Linda Leckie 726-8946*

Sgt-at-Arms: *Barb Roberds 725-1864*

Treasurer: *Pat Simmons 727-4591*

Membership: *Jackie Jarvin 725-2538*

Publicity: *Joan Madill 728-5374*

Bulletin & Branch Liaison: *Linda Biel 727-3879*

D DAY REMEMBERED

June 6, 1944—June 6, 1999—Fifty-fifth Anniversary D Day

6 June 1944

06:20 am—733 plane and gliders (355) dropped 7,990 men of the 3rd and 5th British Airborne Brigades on Ranville, Touffreville and Varavoville.

06:30 am– The D day fleet of some 6,900 vessels began unloading 57,500 American troops, 75,215 British and Canadian assault troops, 21,400 Canadian troops landed on Juno Beach area.

The Western Infantry Brigade, the 7th, consisted of The Royal Winnipeg Rifles, The Regina Rifle Regiment, and the Canadian Scottish (Victoria B.B.)

Hobart's Funnies: Major-General Percy Hobart of the British 79th Armoured Division had invented many invasion weapons which saved thousands of lives in the assault on the Second Front of Europe.

* D.D. Tanks—Sherman tanks with skirts and inflation devices and twin propellers that allowed them to float
* The flair or crab tanks to clear minefield paths
* A.V.R.E. Churchill tanks with mortars that could throw a 25 lb. 'flying dustbin'
* Charge MK VII Crocodile tanks with 400 gal. trailer of flame throwing fuel
* Tanks equipped with bridge sections
* Bobbin tanks that layed canvas mats to get over a mine filed or other obstacles

The Mass of Materials: By June 11, 1944—367,142 personnel, 50,228 vehicles, 59,961 tons of stores by June 30, 1944—861,838 personnel, 157,633 vehicles, 501,834 tons stores had been delivered to the Second Front area.

Objectives reached: None of the assaulting Allied Troops reached their objectives the first day. The first Regiments to succeed on D Day plus 1 were elements of the Regina Rifles and the Royal Winnipeg Rifles late on the afternoon of D Day plus 1.

STRANGE HARVEST

(A tribute to the 3rd Canadian Division by H/Capt. Stanley E. Higgs)

To the oft unhonoured dead.
I have seen the hell where a hundred fell
At Rots and Grey Le Vey
Midst the reeking corn all mortar torn
From Gazelle to Carpiquet.
Les Buissons is the resting place
Of men who cannot die,
Glengarrians, Novas, Camerons,
Hussars and H.L.I.

They learned to fight midst the fetid stench
??uron and Periers,
They pitted their youth 'gainst the war-learned craft
Of the Panzer Grenadiers.

So honour the men of the western plains,
Black Devils, Reginas too;
The Queens, North Shores and Chaudiers,
And Scots from the Western blue.
Victoria, Winnipeg, Ottawa
Sent sons for the treacherous trail,
Who must feed the guns and the tanks and the men,
The men who dare not fail.

They were gunners and sappers from homes which range
From the East to the setting sun,
And they lie where the ripening rye
Danced to the devil's fun. They do not ask a golden casque,
Or a tower of graven stone.
But that men may live in a world set free
From guilt by their blood atoned.

Dip gently your scythe, good reaper now
O,er the fields of the hallowed dead,
For young men fought and young men died
Near the sea, where the earth is red.

Note from the Editor- The subject and information relating to D Day is enormous. I would like to cover local Brandon stories such as on page 7 of this issue, so please submit if you have similar personal stories. In the article above I have taken, I believe an article written by D Day Veteran Jack Hamilton (RCLegion #3 Archivist) and copied it for our 2014 members to read. I encourage you to read the book by Mark Zuehlke titled *Juno Beach; Canada's D Day Victory : June 6, 1944*.

Source: Jack Hamilton "D Day Remembered June 6, 1944-June 6, 1999-Fifty-fifth Anniversary D Day", *The Brandon Legionnaire, XIX,* 5 (May 1999) pp. 10-11

D-Day 70 Years - June 2014

We lost three Brandon boys that day...

D-Day saw a big change in Europe and also in Brandon. Brandon had losses all during the war but now things went into high gear. We lost three Brandon boys that day.

Rifleman KENNEDY ,ALLAN JOSEPH H/103100. A Manitoba service number but we do not know how he ended up in the Regina Rifle Regiment. Many Brandon boys served in units from all over Canada. Brandons former alderman of the 50' and 60's- J.M. Shurb was a Sgt. with the Regina Rifle Regiment having been transfered from the Royal Winnipeg Rifles to teach rifle shooting. There are many reasons for serving with more distant units.

Rifleman WORONCHUK, EUGENE J. B/142310 (the B is probably a typo and it should be an H) Royal Winnipeg Rifles. This stocky fellow was also a wrestler which was popular in Brandon at that time. He showed up on evening at his girls home to say goodbye as they were shipping the RWR out the next day. He said that he would not return. The girls there all said for him not to take that attitude but he had already lost his nieghbor on Eighth Street North to an ammunition accident in training and had a bad feeling. That neighbour Rifleman PURPER ,WILLIAM H/41015 Royal Winnipeg Rifles, had died at Shilo 11 May 1940. In June of 1944 the girls including his gal were spending a warm evening singing. Another girl ran over saying "The family just got news and Woronchuk has been killed". The girls never sang again during the war.

Corporal KLOS ,WALTER JOHN H/41048 Royal Winnipeg Rifles. Raised on Twelfth Street North Klos had ended up as a mucker in the mines of Flin Flon. This is copied from the book Juno by Ted Barris and tells of Cpl. Klos's last moments on Juno beach. The Winnipeg's 'B' Company, and the Royal Canadian Engineers 6th Field Company assault team working with them, had one of the highest beach casualties of the day. The company had lost almost three-quarters of its men. Their courageous company commander, Captain Gower, was left with only twenty-six men. A pillbox on the west side of the Seulles River contained a 75 mm field gun and a very large anti-tank gun. A story of unimaginable courage took place near this pillbox. It concerned Corporal W.J. 'Bull' Klos. "Rushing the enemy, 'B' Company encountered heavy enemy fire. Corporal Klos, badly shot in the stomach and legs while leaving the assault boat, made his way forward to an enemy position. Men fell all around him as Corporal Klos thrashed through the deep water. Klos was a big, powerful man. Thus the nickname “Bull”. The corporal’s rage was greater than his pain. He staggered to the beach and shot an enemy gunner. Despite being wounded, he engaged in hand-to-hand combat with three German soldiers he came across in a pill box. He knifed two of them and was strangling the third with his bare bands when he was killed. His hands still gripped about the throat of his victim produced a chilling sight!"

A lady that lost her brother, a Flying Officer told me what it was like on Tenth Street North where the family lived at that time. In the summertime with windows open the sound of the telegraph boys bicycle bell could be heard. The shout went out and was spread street to street in all directions. The mothers or wives walked to the front gate to wait. Where would the telegraph boy go? For the unlucky ones he turned onto their street and then stopped at their gate. With a telegram coming for every injury, every sickness, every wound, every "missing in action", every "taken prisoner", and every death began a time of much increased dread for the families on the home front. And so it was from D-Day until after the war and the boys came home.

Written by Tad Krasicki (26 Fd Regt RCA—XII Dragoon Museum Volunteer

The Bulletin Board

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Every Saturday in-between

Meat Draws!

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Saturday 8 to 5
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728-3023

26th Field Regiment RCA / XII Manitoba Dragoons Museum
1116 Victoria Ave Brandon MB R7A 1B2

204-717-4579

www.26fdregmuseum.com

26fdregmuseum@wcgwave.ca

Museum Open Tuesdays 0900-1130 &1300-1530hrs Free Admission

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