



BRANCH 127 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- *Richard Steele, President*

Well, the summer has come and is but a memory now. The club has had a very successful summer with our Fridays staying fairly steady and our theme dinners being a success. Just recently, we were able to get a new fridge in order to make it easier for patrons to see what we have in stock. One thing that we all noticed is that the building does get quite stuffy and the fan in the club room did not work. After some investigation, we found that it was a remote control fan and we did not have the remote around (probably thrown out during the renovation phase). The end result is that we took down the old fan and replaced it with a fan with lights which has substantially changed the quality of air in the club room. A BIG thanks goes out to the George Pazecnak and Conn Smythe who took the time to install the fan.



Coming up in the very near future is our annual Poppy Campaign and we are looking for volunteers to help out. If you can, help please let the Victoria Poppy Office know (250 386-2533). In the past, Branch 127 has led the way in poppy stuffing. This year continued the tradition with approximately 15 members helping out at least one shift if not several — quite a percentage for our small membership compared to the turnout from other much larger branches.

As a reminder, the Rotunda Service is coming up as well and we would appreciate any members who would like to take part in this service to speak to your president as he will once again be leading the service.

Coming up very shortly is the annual election of the executive and if you think you can help out in any capacity, we would like to hear from you. In the past we have experienced some problems with filling some of these positions — let's see if we can do a better job this year.

On behalf of the executive we would like to thank all the volunteers who have faithfully given of their time and in some cases, money to help make things run smoother.

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MEMBERSHIP

-Jenny Fossum/Bal Sekha

General

Since our last newsletter, we have been fortunate to have had a considerable increase in membership. Membership is generally down in most branches but 127 is defying the trend. Even with a handful of members transferring out and a similar number passing away, we have a net increase and membership now stands at approximately 125. It was not that long ago, our membership was hovering around 108.

At this time, we would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members (new and transferred) who have joined us since the last newsletter: Alice Albert, Janet Baggott, Blaine Beck, Steven Bourgon Rod Brooks, Barry Cowan, Charles Desmarais. Paul Duckett, Cindy Eder, Ellen Edmonstone, Valerie Harlton, Dolores Heeley, Jack Hohmann, Sylvia Kerr, Jeanette Lanthier, Antony Legdon, Geoff Lind, Jackson Meyers, Blair Phelps, Bonny Smythe. Rudy Vermaning, Gary Walker, John Yankoski. It is great to have our newest members become a regular part of our Friday socials family.

Please let us know if you have a change of postal/ email address so that we can update our records as well as forward the information to Dominion Command. If address changes are not forwarded to Dominion Command, the Legion Magazine will cease to be delivered - even after one undelivered issue.

2015 Membership Dues

Membership cards for 2015 have arrived for members who paid their 2014 dues before last year's deadline. At the September General Meeting, membership dues were approved as follows: \$55.00 per year with a \$5.00 discount applied if dues are received before November 30 to qualify for an Early Bird rate. This increase is a result of the Dominion and Provincial Command per capita going up. Next year, dues for 2016 will be increased by the same amount.

The breakdown of the 2015 membership dues is as follows:

BC/Yukon Command - \$16.00
 Dominion Command - \$10.65
 Legion Magazine - \$9.96
 Branch 127 - \$13.39.

Lapsed Memberships

At one time, if a membership was not renewed before the period of grace passed (March 31), the person would have to reapply as a new member. Lapsed memberships can now be reinstated with no loss of continuity if the arrears are paid up. If membership continuity is not important to you, you can rejoin and keep the same membership number and just pay the current dues.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

For the past two or three years, membership pins earned for 25, 30, 35 etc years were presented at our AGM, a major event, delivered or as a last resort, mailed. It seems we were not exactly correct in presenting them at the beginning of the year because Dominion Command gives each new member one year credit to start with so for these pins to be valid, they should be presented at the completion of a full membership year. We have the pins which we would have presented at the 2015 AGM but will now have to wait until the 2016 AGM to present them. Our sincere apologies for this misunderstanding and delay of presentation of the current year's pins.

PHONING COMMITTEE

Len Anderson is now co-ordinating our team of callers to keep members without email access in the loop regarding upcoming events and/or other matters of interest. If you would prefer not to be called or would like to be called more often, please let Len know at (250) 658-4749. If you now have email access and would rather just get email updates, you can also let Len know by email at andersonsl@shaw.ca

ZONE

First of all, it is good to have high powered representation of our branch at the Zone - our president is the Deputy Zone Commander. If you have any issues you would like raised at Zone, he will be more than happy to hear from you.

This zone has reverted to its former name - South Vancouver Island Zone.

At the September meeting, it was reported that zone membership was down by 333 members this year, which averaged about 21 members per branch.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Although we hadn't anticipated another major event this year such as our 80th Anniversary banquet last year, we did experience a somewhat out of the ordinary event which has cost us in time, money and effort but according to our members and visitors, the results have been well worth it. Because the property at 521 Superior was sold, we were asked to move to another building, close by but considering the amount of work involved, we may as well have moved to another town. We did experience some unexpected expenses like new furniture and appliances. We have not yet finished replacing appliances - the most expensive one is yet to be ordered. A commercial dishwasher will be ordered early in the new year. Other than this, our finances have been doing well thanks to our well attended Friday socials, Astrid's very successful theme dinners and to the generosity of our members and friends who have donated their time and finances to help with the move and equipment. At our AGM, we hope to present a comprehensive list of all those who helped with the move and make 514 such a desirable address to call home.

Vic Marshall, who served as Treasurer for the past few years, had to step down for family health reasons so the position was temporarily handled by Bal Sekha until Rudy Vermaning was elected and could take over. Many thanks to Vic for doing an excellent job as Treasurer — as well as for taking on many other jobs that came along the way.

Rudy is bringing us slowly but surely into the modern age with a laptop computer and appropriate software so stay tuned.

GAMING GRANT DISBURSEMENTS

The 2014 Gaming Committee consisted of Len Anderson, Vic Marshall, Mel Smith and, Norm Simmons as chair.

Again, we were fortunate to receive a gaming grant of \$9500 to distribute to organizations that met the Gaming Branch's eligibility criteria and applied to us for financial assistance.

At the October General Meeting, funds were approved for distribution to the following organizations:

Legion Foundation (Cockrell House)
Broadmead Care Foundation
89 Pacific Squadron RC Air Cadets (Support Association)

Sooke Branch, Navy League Cadets Corp (#207 Admiral Girouard)
9-10 Club (St Andrew's Cathedral)
ALS Society of BC, Victoria Chapter
Beacon Hill Little League
British Columbia Aviation Museum
Garth Homer Foundation
James Bay Community Project
Mustard Seed Street Church (Christmas Fund)
Our Place Society
St Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Christmas Fund)
Salvation Army (Christmas Fund)
Victoria Ostomy Association, Victoria Chapter 29
Victoria Women's Transition House

In addition, a bursary will be presented to Sara Peterson at the November General Meeting.

The Interview

A mathematician, an accountant and an economist apply for the same job.

The interviewer calls in the mathematician and asks "What do two plus two equal?"

The mathematician replies "Four."

The interviewer asks "Four, exactly?"

The mathematician looks at the interviewer incredulously and says "Yes, four, exactly."

Then the interviewer calls in the accountant and asks the same question "What do two plus two equal?"

The accountant says "On average, four - give or take ten percent, but on average, four."

Then the interviewer calls in the economist and poses the same question "What do two plus two equal?"

The economist gets up, locks the door, closes the shade, sits down next to the interviewer and says; "What do you want it to equal?"



REMEMBRANCE DATES TO REMEMBER – 2014

<u>Envelope Preparation</u> (David Slater Room)	Starting Wednesday, October 8, 9, and 10, 9:00 am and resuming Tuesday, October 14
<u>Tray and Wreath Preparation, Replenishment and Return</u> (Trafalgar Room)	Wednesday, October 15 to Friday, November 21
<u>Poppy Tray Deliveries</u>	Monday, October 27 to Friday, October 31
<u>Flag Raising</u>	Friday, October 31 at Victoria City Hall at 12:00 noon
<u>Man the Malls</u>	Saturday, November 1 until Monday, November 10 excluding Sunday, November 2, and Sunday, November 9
<u>Cadets in Malls</u>	Saturday, November 1 and Saturday, November 8
<u>Fairmont Empress</u> (RCL Branch #292)	Canvass Saturday, November 1 and Saturday, November 8
<u>Cash Reconciliation</u> (Pro Patria Room)	Monday, November 3 to Friday, November 28
<u>Rotunda Service</u>	Friday, November 7, 10:45 am, Rotunda
<u>REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE</u>	<u>TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014 – 11:00 am</u>
<u>Poppy Tray Pick-Ups</u>	Wednesday, November 12 to completion.
<u>Poster and Literary Contest</u>	Deliver entries to Trafalgar/Pro Patria Branch #292 by Friday, November 28. Judging will take place Tuesday morning, December 2.
<u>Campaign Wrap-Up Meeting</u> (Trafalgar Room)	Wednesday, December 3 at 10:00 am

BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION

2014 EXECUTIVE

President - Richard Steele - rstee42@gmail.com
 Vice President - Len Anderson - andersonsl@shaw.ca
 Secretary - Bal Sekha - bsekha@shaw.ca
 Treasurer - Rudy Vermaning - Pentro@telus.net
 Past President - Wayne Fisher - wjf4214@gmail.com
 Entertainment - Astrid Doidge - astridge8@shaw.ca
 Membership - Jenny Fossum - jennyfossum@hotmail.ca
 Newslettter/Web Site - Bal Sekha - bsekha@shaw.ca
 Service Officer - - Bob Sears - (250) 479-0118
 Sick and Visiting (Visits) - Bob Sears (250) 479-0118
 Sick and Visiting (Cards) - Maeva Gillespie - gillm42@hotmail.com
 Social - Rudy Vermaning - Pentro@telus.net
 Sports - Len Anderson - andersonsl@shaw.ca
 Zone - Mel Smith - Mel-Smith@shaw.ca

REGULAR RECURRING EVENTS

Executive Meetings Last Friday of each month, 2:30 pm unless advised otherwise
 General Meetings 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm unless advised otherwise
 Theme Dinners Usually one Saturday per month, date depends on the theme and availability of volunteers; check bulletin board, contact Astrid Doidge (astridge8@shaw.ca or 250 995-2128) or check it on the online Legion calendar (<http://www.br127.ca/webcal>)
 Sports 5-Pin Bowling - 1st Thursday of the month from October to April at Miracle Lanes, Sidney, at 3:30 pm; contact Len Anderson for information or check the online calendar
 Remembrance Activities See page 4 for schedule

Postal Address: Public Service Branch 127
 c/o Parliament Buildings
 Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Location Address: 514 Government St

Tel: (250) 386-3325

Email Address: rcl292@shaw.ca or admin@br127.ca

Web Site: <http://www.br127.ca>

Online Calendar: <http://www.br127.ca/webcal>

SOMETHING NEW FOR US

We are so very pleased to share this news with our members. We recently received a 5 year tenancy lease signed by both us and the Province of British Columbia, with an option to renew for another five years. The price was right too - \$1.00 per year. This is the first time we have had such a document for our tenancy so we are as protected as we can possibly be for the next few years.

Nothing to do with the lease but members might be interested to know that the Branch does carry liability insurance for anyone serving on the executive and as volunteers at Branch events. In the past, there have been instances where people did not want to volunteer because of possible liability issues. To those members, we say, "hesitate no more".

We now have an online calendar that is kept current for branch events as well as other Legion events. It has replaced the calendar that was on the website but there is a link to it on the website. The link to this calendar is: <http://www.br127.ca/webcal>

This building has an alarm system which was installed by the landlord who is also paying for monitoring it. Beginning in November, it will be armed and only those who have keys will be able to disarm with the code to enter.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATIVE LAPEL PIN AND CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Many thanks to Jack Rossiter for bringing this item to our attention.

To mark the 75th anniversary of Canada's engagement in the Second World War, beginning September 10, 2014, living Canadian Veterans of the Second World War may request a special commemorative lapel pin and certificate of recognition.

Here is a link to information on how to apply for these items (individuals can apply for them):

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/history/second-world-war/faq#q3>

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/medals-decorations/commemorative-medals/second-world-war-tribute>

SPORTS

- *Len Anderson*

Our present Sports Chairman, Len Anderson, is trying to encourage more members, new and old, to participate in our golf and bowling programs.



The golf runs from May to September at various courses on the third Thursday of each month, usually in the afternoon. Some of the events are Nine and Dine at local courses.

There is also golf played at Mt. Doug Golf Course on Blenkinsop Road, twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays). Please phone Bert Soutar at (250) 477-8818 for Mt Doug golf outings.

Our golf season ended September 18, with nine holes at Cedar Hill Golf Course, followed by a meal at J.J. Morgan's at the University Heights Shopping Centre.

The five-pin bowling runs January to April and October to December at Miracle Lanes in Sidney. We bowl 2 games starting at 3:30 pm on the 1st Thursday of each month (except in January which will be on the 2nd Thursday) with a meal after if you sign for it. Guests are welcome to join us for the meals after the golf and bowling.

Bowling will start on Thursday, November 6, 3:30 pm with a meal following at Sherlock's (Waddling Dog, Mt. Newton X Road).

Anyone interested in the monthly golf and/or bowling can be added to our list by getting in touch with Len Anderson, Sports Chair or by signing up on the Sports board at the Legion or phone Len Anderson at (250) 658-4749 and/or leave a message.

Remember
you can donate
\$5.00 to the Poppy
Campaign by texting
"Poppy" to 20222 year
round 24/7.

CENOTAPH

- *Claude and Kim Fortin*

Wreaths have been changed more often this summer due to the amazing sunshine we've been getting - about every 14 to 16 days.

When we hear that there will be a celebration at the Cenotaph, we make sure there are fresh new ones in place.

Flowers that others have placed at the Cenotaph are also removed when they are wilted.

So far this summer, there has been no broken glass and over the past several months, only two wreaths have vanished due to theft or unknown reasons.

Kim and I will keep taking care of it for the coming year, if the Branch so wishes.

MEMORIES

- *Gerry Gerrard*



I was reminded recently of a couple of amusing incidents while in POW camp and thought the following may be of interest.

Due to the heavy bombing, we were moved from our Kawasaki POW Camp 3D near Yokohama for the last six months of the war to the iron mines in the mountains of

Ohara Ohassa.

I don't know how I was picked for a job in the blacksmith shop - there were five fires in the shop but I was the only prisoner. Half of the building was a machine shop. I was told the Americans were running the place as all the Japanese machinists were called to the military. I was not allowed into their end of the building nor did I see them going or coming to and from work.

My job was to swing the various hammers as the blacksmith worked the red hot steel and on this day, we started a big job making a connecting rod for a donkey engine.

We started with a piece of steel 3 inches in diameter and 4 feet long which of course was too big for an open fire so we had to build up the fire then put one end of the steel in the flames, then build an oven around it with wet coal dust; it looked like a beehive; periodically we had to pull the steel out to stoke the fire. This took four men. While waiting for the fire to build we were making small hammer

heads out of truck axles. As we were doing this, I notice a guard came in and was standing close to the steel bar which had just cooled enough to lose its red glow; my boss noticed what I was looking at and gave a smirk as we carried on.

Suddenly there was a great yell from the soldier as he was jumping around trying to hang onto his rifle and get his boots off. The last we saw of him he was doing the bunny hop out the door, you could say he hotfooted it out. Of course the other men in the shop didn't know what his problem was.

LAST POST

ALDRED, Ronald Wesley (1927 - 2014)

It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of a wonderful man, Ron on January 1, 2014 at Royal Jubilee Hospice surrounded by his four daughters. Ron is survived by his wife and best friend of 32 years, Jean (Jeanie) and children Carole Denton (Kirk), Eileen Barron (Glenn), Linda Story (Jim), Lori Spoor (Mike), step-children David of Toronto and Diane of Parksville. Together they have 14 grandchildren and 4 great-grand daughters. Ron is survived by his sister Barb Fieldhouse and many loving brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. Ron was predeceased by his parents, Sadie and Boots, son, Ron and his first wife, Lorna with whom he had 5 children. Ron was born in Toronto and moved to Victoria at the age of 2. He grew up in Vic West and kept many of his childhood friends throughout his life. Ron worked as a draughtsman for the B.C. Water Rights Branch and later the Department of Environment for 36 years. He thoroughly enjoyed his 31 years of retirement. He and Jeanie travelled many times to Washington State and also enjoyed gardening, pub lunches with dear friends and walking their neighbourhood.

The family would like to thank Victoria Hospice for their kindness, caring and compassion during Ron's short stay.

In lieu of flowers donations may be directed to Victoria Hospice or Our Place Society, 919 Pandora or a charity of your choice.

A service will be held at 1:00 PM on January 18, 2014 at St. Philip Anglican Church (2928 Eastdowne Road, Oak Bay, Victoria)

My life needs editing.

- *Mort Sahl*

BONDESEN, Walter Peter Bondi July 30, 1920 -

March 26, 2014

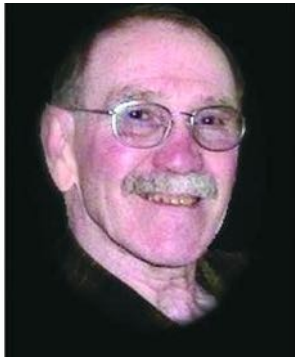


Died peacefully at Selkirk Place. Walter was predeceased by his son, Mark in 2010. Dad will be fondly remembered by his wife of 68 years, Joan; son, Jim (Carmen); daughter, Kerry (Norm) Wiens; 6 grandchildren, Sam (Leslie), Shelley (Pat),

Brett (Tracy), Matthew (Nicole), Ashley and Danny and 6 1/2 great-grandchildren. Dad, although physically challenged in his later years remained a ray of sunshine to all his caregivers. We extend many thanks to all the Selkirk Staff for their care and compassion. No service by request. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.mccallbros.com

CARROLL, Ronald Dennis

Our much loved Ron Carroll has left us. Ron died Sunday Sept. 7th at 11:10 pm in the arms of his wife Diane after a long hard struggle with heart disease. He is also survived by daughter Laureen and partner Keng, (Keng's sons Kyle and Cody) from Vancouver, daughter Rhona, son-in-law Steve and only grandchild Bailey from



Ottawa, brother Bill, wife Adele nephew Chris and wife Jenn and great-nephew Daniel from Winnipeg. Also missing him are Diane's brother Barry Granger, wife Erma, nephews Sean partner Debbie, from Victoria and Jim partner Cindy from Royston, BC. and Diane's sisters Judy Ring, Janice Roy and Marilyn Geske, and their families in Winnipeg. Friends from Winnipeg, Pender Island and Victoria will remember him from happier times. A sincere thank you to Dr. Lora Morrice for her many years of outstanding compassionate care, staff at Family Medical in Brentwood Bay and to the Doctors, Nurses and Care Aides on 8S RJH for their wonderful care of Ron and his family. Ron will host friends at Happy Hour Saturday, Oct. 18th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in The Harbour Lounge at 50 Songhees Rd, Victoria, BC. In

lieu of flowers and in memory of Ron please consider a donation to a charity close to the hearts of the Carroll family, The Times Colonist Christmas Fund. Donations can be made at www.canadahelps.org/dn/14772. Cremation has taken place under the auspices of Earth's Option Cremation and Burial Services. You can view Ron's tribute page at www.earthsoption.com.

SPRING, Gordon Allan July 6, 1921 - January 11, 2014

Loving husband of Doreen and loving father of Alan, Eunice (Dave) Johnson, Jim (Aleda) and Marilyn (Eric) Spurling. Gordon also leaves 12 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank Dr. Bailey and the staff of the 3rd floor of Sunset Lodge. [A Celebration of Life will be on Saturday, January 18, 2014 at 1:30pm at Sands Funeral Chapel - Colwood.](#) In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation to Sunset Lodge at www.salvationarmy.ca

WOODWARD, Kenneth Buxton January 20, 1926 - May 30, 2014

It is with much heartfelt sadness that we announce the passing of Kenneth Buxton Woodward on May 30, 2014. He was born in Edmonton, Alberta and was the seventh son of John Buxton Woodward and Miriam Woodward. He is lovingly remembered by his wife Myrtle (Mimi); his three sons, Kevin, Douglas, and David (Shirley); and his daughter-in-law Judy Newman. He was extremely proud of his seven grandchildren; Rose, Maggie, Alyson, Caitlin, Brandon, Rachel, and Foster. During [World War II](#) he served with the R.C.N.V.R. and spent the majority of his service time aboard the HMCS



Vegreville based in Plymouth, England. He took part in Operation Overlord, which was the bombardment of German held Bordeaux in France. After discharge, he spent 16 years at the Empress Hotel in Victoria, followed by stints at the Royal Caribbean Hotel in Jamaica, and the Banff Springs Hotel in Alberta. He left the Canadian Pacific Hotel system in 1960 to become part of Tourism British Columbia Government in the promotion of visitors to British Columbia, until his retirement in 1984. In 1993, he was honoured by his peers when he was selected to receive the first Visionary Award for his promotional efforts in Japan. Ken has requested no service be conducted on is behalf. No flowers by request. If so

desired, a donation to the B.C.S.P.C.A., 3150 Napier Lane, Victoria, B.C., V8T4V5, in his memory would be greatly appreciated. We will all miss Ken very much. In respecting Ken's wish, we are using his previously prepared words which were left in my care. Ken and I enjoyed a happy, loving and wonderful marriage and celebrated our 36th wedding anniversary on April 28, 2014. God speed, Mr. Sunshine, You are always in my heart.

Wright, Rodger Thomos

Rodger was a member of our executive several years ago but was not currently a member. He and Al Fleury were partners in crime when it came to going all out for theme dinners/parties, e.g., our Halloween, Hawaiian and Hillbilly dinners. They could transform a place into a totally unrecognizable theme with very little expenditure. The food they served was equally great. The following obituary is copied from the Victoria Fish and Gaming Protection Association's newsletter:



WRIGHT, Rodger Thomos

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Rodger, on Aug.11, 2014, after a valiant battle with cancer. He served proudly in 3PPCLI from 1979-1991 and was a retired security officer for Securiguard with more than 20 years of services. Family and friends were important in Rodger's life.

He wore many hats in his community, such as Santa Rodger, for 23 years, he sat in the big chair for West shore Mall, and the Island Farms Parade. He was member of the Fish and Game Club including being President in 1997 & 1998, and he volunteered for Victoria Adoptable to name a few. Survived by his sweetheart Rita; his estranged wife Teresa; sons Rodger Jr. and Christian; his grandsons Rodger Dorrian and Korben Lee; and many family members. There was Celebration of Life at the Esquimalt Legion on August 23 at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the CFA Santa Anonymous Society. We are thinking of his family at this difficult time.

"We will remember them."

Sadly, a couple of our members lost their spouses who were important to us as well.

MARSHALL, Joyce Lillian (nee Price) 1941 - 2014



Passed away peacefully in the Royal Jubilee Hospital September 20, 2014 after a battle with cancer. Born August 27, 1941 in the same hospital. She lived her entire life in Victoria. Predeceased by her parents Cy and Lillian and sister Geraldine, and survived by her husband Victor and sister Maureen (Butch) Behn and extended family.

Her early life in Langford included working at Prices General Store owned by her parents. Later she worked for several Real Estate firms retiring from Newport Realty in 2003. She met Victor at a square dance and they had 20 wonderful years together. They enjoyed travelling, especially cruising. Thanks to the doctors and medical staff who gave her the best of care. A Celebration of Life will be held at McCall Bros. Floral Chapel, Johnson and Vancouver Streets, on Monday, September 29, 2014 at 2:00pm. Condolences may be offered at www.mccallbros.com.

MARGETTS, Walter R. (1927 - 2014)



Walter passed away comfortably and quietly after a very difficult but short medical illness. Husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Donna, mother of their 5 children, Wayne (Malley), Lisa, Laura Nadeau (Rene), Richard, Andrea Kopeck (Kelvin), 6 grandsons, 3 granddaughters, 2 great grandsons, sister

Doreen Lyle, and several nieces and nephews. After graduating from Victoria High School in 1945, he started working on the west coast of Vancouver Island in the fishing industry, as both a buyer and seller of seafood products. He moved on as Vancouver Island representative of the Carnation Company and then joined the BC Electric Company promoting the sale and use of electrical products. Retiring in 1998 from BC Hydro as a Customer Service Representative, he quietly volunteered in fund raising

campaigns for local organizations. After winning the Victoria Toast Masters Golden Gavel he was often asked to be MC at weddings, business, and social functions. He was a fitness trainer and a swimming and scuba instructor at the Victoria YMYWCA. He trained for and completed the Royal Victoria Marathon, also twice winning on Easter Sunday the Cowchian River Swimming Endurance Race. Walter's wife and family members were his best friends, enjoying decades of fun and sun on and in the water. Although his favorite activities were windsurfing, water skiing, scuba diving, long board surfing, long distance swimming and alpine skiing, he found everything in life interesting. His mind was like a sponge, continually soaking up information, retaining it, and staying sharp as a tack until his last breathe. Walter would like to thank the great medical team at RJH for their support and kindness, as well as the many business and social contacts that he made over the years. No service by request.

POPPY OFFICE UPDATE

- *Astrid Doidge, Secretary, Victoria Poppy Committee*



We are getting ready at the office for our busiest time of the year. Help has always been given freely by the members of our branch and is appreciated by the Poppy Office volunteers. I am sure we can count on your help again this year.

We would like your attendance for the following:

- Delivery and Pick-up of the Poppy Trays - October 15 - November 15
- Rotunda Service - November 7, 10:45 am, in the Rotunda of the Parliament Buildings. This is a long tradition where members of our branch (expanded in the past few years to include members of other branches) march to the Rotunda for a brief but moving service. In the past, a very nice reception has been hosted by the Province following the service. After this reception, everyone comes back to our branch for socializing.
- Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph, Parliament Buildings - November 11, 10:30 to 10:45 to march, gather at Government and Humboldt (north end of Fairmont Empress). Fingers crossed for good weather but never fear, a warm reception including chilli awaits those who come to the Branch following the ceremony.

There are many other ways you can assist us so please give us a call at (250) 386-2533 if you are able to spare some time.

PARKING FOR REMEMBRANCE WEEK

Concern has been expressed about parking for the upcoming activities. For these two days, please note the following arrangements:

Robbins will not be monitoring the parking lots around our building nor the one at Menzies and Kingston for up to about 2:00 pm due to participation by veterans at Remembrance Day events.

The parking lot next to our former building is probably safe to park in because they do not expect workers to be using it. It should be safe to use on Remembrance Day and if there is space on November 7 (Rotunda Service), you can use it.

As mentioned elsewhere, the calendar of Remembrance events is on page 4.

ENTERTAINMENT

- *Astrid Doidge, Chair*

The Theme Dinners are continuing as they have proven to be popular and financially successful at the same time. When I put the sign-up sheets on the Board, volunteers are slow to sign up, but they do always come through on the Friday before the planned dinner. THANKS FOR ALL THE LADIES (AND GENTS) WHO HAVE HELPED TO MAKE THESE DINNERS POSSIBLE. Unfortunately, the same people volunteer most of the time. It would be good if others would put their names forward to give our regulars a much deserved rest.

Our themes have been varied and often appropriate for the month in which they are held. In the past, we have had Valentine's, Scottish, Irish, Hawaiian, Back to School, May Day (Queen Victoria's Birthday), New Year's, BBQ's, and even a Hippo Tour themes, and several of our members and friends dressed appropriately for the occasions. They are a lot of fun – you should plan to attend one in the future. Everyone enjoys the meals which consist of snacks, the main course, dessert, tea and/or coffee – and fun prizes for the contests. The doors open at 4:00 and most people have left by 8:00 if they want.

The September Dinner's theme was "Labour Day"; it was held on September 13 and organized by Chef Steve Whittaker. Everyone had been asked to wear their work clothes – the dirtier the better!

The October Thanksgiving Dinner was on Saturday, October 11th with a full course turkey dinner with all the trimmings. This dinner was prepared by President Richard, his wife Jan and Steve Whittaker.

If we make a profit, it goes into purchasing needed supplies and equipment for our Legion.

November is the big month in our Legion – it is open on November 7th after the Rotunda Service and again on November 11th after the Cenotaph service. Come and meet the many visiting Legionnaires after these two very impressive services.

In December, we are again going to the Trafalgar/ Pro Patria Branch 292 for our Christmas Dinner. For those who were at the dinner last year, you can attest to the success of the evening. It is on Saturday, December 6th, with the doors opening at 6:00 p.m.

This is a served meal with a choice of 2 different entrées (turkey and salmon) at a cost of \$25.00. Sign up for this dinner has already started.

That's all, folks!

SICK AND VISITING

For the past year, this portfolio has been handled by Maeva Gillespie and Bob Sears. Maeva sends cards for various occasions while Bob visits members at the hospitals, nursing homes or in their home if required. If you know of anyone who needs a visit or have their day improved by a visit or phone call, please call Bob at (250) 479-0118.

Bob does double duty because he is our Service Officer as well and with his experience and expertise, he can help you or find someone who can. Please do not hesitate to call him if you think he can help or provide some answers for you.

Our thanks to Maeva and Bob for doing these very important services for our members. Members are very appreciative of hearing from us.

*Always remember that you are
absolutely unique.*

Just like everyone else.

- Margaret Mead

WANTED

VOLUNTEERS

- to help serve beverages and snacks on Friday socials
- to clean up after Friday socials (load dishwasher, wipe tables, and chairs in main hall, clean kitchen counters and appliances (can be done on the weekend or any other day prior to the next social or event)
- to help with food preparation, decorating, set up or clean up for theme dinners - as and when required

CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE

- to fill vacancies
- to provide a fresh new perspective

Please contact any member of the executive if you are interested. If you are interested in serving on the executive, please contact Mel Smith who is Chair of the Nominating Committee (250) 386-6069.

The Beer

Two elderly church ladies were shopping in a food store and happened to be passing the beer and liquor section.

One church lady asks the other if she would like a beer.

The other lady answered that would be good, but that since they have a reputation for being pillars of the community, she would be queasy about purchasing it.

The first lady said that she would handle it and picked up a six pack and took it to the cashier.

The cashier had a surprised look and the woman said, "This is for washing our hair."

The cashier without blinking an eye, reached under the counter and put a package of pretzel sticks in the bag with the beer saying, "Here, don't forget the curlers."

FREE B&B ACCOMMODATIONS ON REMEMBRANCE DAY TO HONOUR VETS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL

BBCanada.com is proud to be assisting Canadian Bed and Breakfast owners in launching the 2014 B&Bs for Vets campaign to celebrate Remembrance Day.

Canadian B&B owners would like to honour and say THANK YOU to our veterans and active military personnel and for this reason they are joining hundreds of B&Bs across North America in the "B&Bs for Vets" initiative. This unique program allows veterans and military personnel to stay at a participating B&B, FREE OF CHARGE for either the night of Monday November 10th or Tuesday November 11th, 2014.

We hope that we can count on your support to get the message out to Canadian veterans and military personnel about the B&Bs For Vets annual event. In order to publicize this event, attached is a press release in both English www.bbcanada.com/bb_demo/eneews/2014/october/Vetsposter.pdf and French www.bbcanada.com/bb_demo/eneews/2014/october/Vetsposter_f.pdf and a link to our English and French posters. Please feel free to print and display or hand out these posters as needed.

BBCanada has dedicated a web page to the campaign B&Bs for Vets. Your members will be able to view all participating B&Bs, and link to their homepage, <http://www.bbcanada.com/bbforvets> , which offers a full description of the B&B, along with their policies and contact details in order to make a reservation. Last year, many B&B owners were disappointed that no one booked their FREE rooms. This year, we would like to make a special effort to get the word out to our "Vets" so they can enjoy being treated ~ they certainly deserve it!

If you require any additional information, please feel free to contact Lisa by email or call 1-800-239-1141 ext. 6679.

Thanking you for your support.

Best regards,

Cathy
Lisa

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PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

The branch recently received a few publications that you may find of interest.

2013 Synthesis of Life After Service Studies

This is a Veteran Affairs Canada publication about transitioning from military to civilian life. It is 24 pages and builds upon previous editions.

PTSD and Stigma in the Australian Army

This is an Australian study on PTSD published by John Bale in October 2014 and is 41 pages. It includes experiences of a handful of other countries' experience (including Canada).

If you are interested in seeing either or both of these, please let me know at (250) 595-6362 and I can email them to you or, after the Remembrance Day rush, I will post them on the branch web site for you to read.

HMCS Bonaventure: Canada's Last Great Warship

The following is a description by the author.

I collaborated on this project with my father, Lt John Hadrill RCN (Ret'd), who served on BONAVENTURE from 1959 to 1961 and wanted to document this very special period in his naval career. It is a colourful and detailed celebration of a great era in Canada's naval operations, exploring the historical, geographical, and technological aspects behind HMCS BONAVENTURE's achievements as Canada's flagship from 1957-1970. My father hopes that this document will keep alive the memory of the outstanding performance that BONAVENTURE and its crew gave to Canada over 50 years ago.

An online version of the booklet can also be viewed here:
<http://bonaventureaircraftcarrier.wordpress.com/>

We hope that members of Royal Canadian Legion Public Service Branch #127 will enjoy it!

Sincerely,

Lisa Birrell and John Hadrill
 North Vancouver, BC
 email: jhadrill@telus.net
 tel: 604-987-4476

Lisa would enjoy hearing from you for feedback or if you have any questions for her.



Main Hall at 514 Government