

METRO NEWS

Metropolitan Branch 594 Serving Tecumseh, LaSalle, Windsor & Amherstburg

VOLUME 52 ISSUE 3.1

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March 2023

<u>Canadians Serve in Afghanistan</u> <u>2001-2014</u>

The United Nations, NATO, and ISAF provided support to stabilizing Afghanistan after the fall of the Taliban. Beginning in October 2001, Canadian ships would see ongoing duty in the waters off the region supporting and defending the international fleet operations. The Aurora patrol aircraft and Polaris transport planes of the Canadian Forces Air Command were also active in Afghanistan. Later there would be transport planes, helicopter squadrons, and fighter jets. Canadian soldiers started arriving in December 2001 with a group of commandoes from the elite Joint Task Force, followed by other soldiers in January 2002 stationed in Kandahar. In the summer of 2003, more than 700 Canadian Forces members were stationed in Kabul. Task Forces were developed, and the mission changed to focus on Kandahar in 2005. Canada's combart oles ended in 2011 and shifted back to Kabul in supporting training and stabilization of the Afghanistan Military and Police Forces.

The Canadian Mission was finished in March 2014.

More than 40,000 Canadian Military personnel served in Afghanistan. Several Canadians have earned the Star of Military Valour for their distinguished and brave service. Canada's efforts in Afghanistan have made a difference, but this has come at a great cost. Sadly, 158 Canadian Armed Forces members died in the cause of peace and freedom in Afghanistan.



Sale Martin

A Local Hero - Corporal Andrew Grennon



Legion 🥮

Cpl. Andrew Grenon, or G-Man, as he was affectionately referred to by his comrades, was a lighthearted 23-year-old who made friends wherever he went. After his basic training he joined the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Light Infantry Battle Group at the ripe age of 19. His first tour of duty in Afghanistan was in 2006. Throughout his first tour, Cpl. Grenon saw humanity in the communities he spent time in and became a supporter of those who sought peace despite the injustice around them. During his second tour in 2008 he received a Canadian Expeditionary Force Commander's Commendation Award for bravery by preventing a local riot and saving the lives of two soldiers. On September 3, 2008, near the end of his second tour, he was killed in action. Thousands lined the streets of Windsor during his funeral procession. He was laid to rest at Heavenly Rest Cemetery. Our cherished local hero who died in the cause of providing freedom and security to the people of Afghanistan.

The Tan Coloured Canadian Flag

The emblazoned names on the tan-coloured Canadian flag are those 158 Canadians who gave the supreme sacrifice in protecting the rights and freedoms of the Afghanistan people. Many Afghanistan people served alongside the Canadians to develop their right to autonomy and the freedom that most countries in the world enjoy. Throughout the history of our country, we have many times come to the aid of those in need around the world. Their sacrifice was not in vain!









Your Legion at the Crossroads Serving Veterans & the Communities of Tecumseh, LaSalle, Windsor & Amherstburg!

Royal Canadian Legion Metropolitan Branch 594 2023-2024 Executive and Key Chair and Appointed positions

Executive

Past President	Tom Friesen	519-992-8303	tomfriesen57@gmail.com
First Vice President	Jim McGhie	519-979-8904	jim.mcghie@hotmail.com
Second Vice President	Konrad Boehler	519-966-7794	kboehler@cogeco.ca
Third Vice President	Larry Williams	519-726-4043	gorc52@icloud.com
Secretary/ Treasurer	John Antaya	519-965-0580	jantaya4@bell.net
Recording Secretary	Fran Friesen	519-948-1259	franfriesen@hotmail.com
Sgt At Arms	Janet Ciurysek	519-969-9109	jciurysek@live.ca
Executive Member	Beth Abson	519-980-9639	absont@uwindsor.ca
Executive Member	David Woodman	519-566-8745	dfwoodman@gmail.com
Executive Member	Brian Robinson	519-734-1086	membershipbr594@gmail.com
Executive Member	Randy Soulliere	226-280-2591	randysoulliere64@gmail.com
Executive Member	Matt Beasley	519-551-7615	fireundermywings@yahoo.ca
	Standing Committee Chair		Γ
<u>Position</u>	Name	Phone Number	email address
Branch Chaplain	Rev Dr Catherine Collins-Barker	519-969-3333	<u>cjcb19@gmail.com</u>
Leadership Trg Chair	Konrad Boehler	see above	see above
Membership Chair	Brian Robinson	see above	see above
Poppy Chair	Gerry Ciurysek	519-817-3604	rclbr594poppytrust@gmail.com
Public Relations Officer	Mathew Beasley	see above	see above
Seniors Committee Co-Chair	Sue Robinson	519-734-1086	szgrobinson@hotmail.com
Seniors Committee Co-Chair	Beth Abson	see above	see above
Sports Officer	Wayne Fortin	519-300-5357	waynefortin1@yahoo.ca
Track and Field Officer	Jeff Morrell (Senior)	519-972-6171	jmorrell@cogeco.ca
Youth Ed and Bursary Officer	Tom Friesen	see above	see above
Veterans Services Officer	Archie Neilson	519-890-4959	<u>neilson1812@cogeco.ca</u>
Position	Special Committee Chairp	ersons Phone Number	email address
Bar	Name Randy Soulliere	see above	see above
Branch Property (In/Out)	,		see above
Branch Regulations	Larry Williams Konrad Boehler	see above see above	see above
Colour Party Commander	David Woodman	see above	see above
Entertainment	Bob Hart	519-984-1544	bobhart59@hotmail.com
Face Book Page Coordinator	David Woodman	see above	see above
Finance Committee	Jim McGhie	see above	see above
Finance Review Cmte	James Sparrow	519-978-2806	jsparrow375@cogeco.ca
Honours and Awards	Konrad Boehler	see above	see above
Kitchen Convenor(s)	Randy Soulliere and Jim McGhie	see above	see above
Legion Week	Konrad Boehler	see above	see above
Lottery	Beth Abson	see above	see above
Remembrance Branch Coordinator	Konrad Boehler	see above	see above
Seniors Committee Co-Chair	Sue Robinson	519-734-1086	szgrobinson@hotmail.com
Seniors Committee Co-Chair	Beth Abson	see above	see above
Ways and Means	Veroncia Friesen	519-992-8384	vlfriesen59@gmail.com
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	Stand Alone & Liason	<u>n</u>	
Liaison to Cadets	Jim McGhie	see above	see above
Newsletter Editor	Tom Friesen	see above	see above
Parkwood Institute Liaison Offr	Dave Woodman	see above	see above
Pool Tables	John Greer	519-915-6140	none
Volunteer Coordinator	Shirley Jinkerson	519-257-3785	myfutureishope@gmail.com
Windsor Vets Memorial Cmte	Ron Bisnaire	226-340-9611	ronbisnaire@gmail.com
	D day D data a	see above	see above
Webmaster	Brian Robinson		
Webmaster			
	Billie's Bunker Kitche	<u>n</u>	
Webmaster Kitchen Owner Manager/ Bookings			thebunkerkitchen@gmail.com

An Irish Limerick, or two, or three...

At times I'm so mad that I'm hopping. My angriness sets my veins popping. I yell and I curse, With swearwords diverse, But my wife does much worse: she goes shopping".

There was a young lady named Harris, Whom nothing could ever embarrass, Till the bath salts one day In the tub where she lay Turned out to be plaster of Paris.

There once was a man from Nantucket, (no not that one) Who kept all his cash in a bucket. His daughter, named Nan. Ran away with a man, And as for the bucket, Nantucket.

An Englishman, a Scotsman, and an Irishman each order a Guinness in a pub. Upon being served, each finds a fly in their beer. Repulsed, the Englishman sends his back. The Scotsman gently flicks the fly out of his mug and begins drinking. The Irishman carefully lifts the fly up by its wings and screams, "Spit it out! Spit it out!"

Walking into the pub, Patrick said to the bartender: "Pour me a stiff one, Sean. I just had another tiff with the little woman." "Oh yeah?" said Sean. "And how did this one end?" "Well, I'll tell ya now when it was over," Patrick replied, "herself came to me on her hands and knees, she did." "You don't say? Now that's a switch! What did she say?" She said, "Come out from under that bed, you gutless weasel!

McQuillan sat in a bar and began ordering martinis, each time taking the olives out and putting them in a jar. When the jar was filled with olives and all the drinks consumed, he got up and headed towards the bar's door. "Sir, excuse me," said a customer, "What was that all about?" "Nothing," said the Irishman, "my wife just sent me out for a jar of olives."

Paddy visited the doctor and received disturbing news. "I'm sorry lad," the doctor said. "I can't be certain about the problem. It must be the drink." "That's ok Doc," said Paddy. "I'll come back when you've sobered up!"

The phone rings and Father O'Reilly answers. An official voice on the other end of the line says: "Is this Father O'Reilly?" "It is." "This is the CRA. Will you please help us?" "I'll try." "Do you know a Seamus O'Doul?" "I do." "Does he attend your church?" "He does." "Did he make a large donation to your church?" "He will."

An Irishman was flustered not being able to find a parking space in the parking lot of a large mall. "Lord," he prayed "I can't stand this. If you open a space up for me, I swear I'll give up drinking me whiskey, and I promise to go to church every Sunday." Suddenly the clouds parted, and the sun shone on an empty parking spot. Without hesitation the man said "Never mind! I found one!"

We have the perfect recipe for Irish stew: Get meat, a few potatoes and a lot of Guinness Stout. Drink all of the stout. Forget about the stew.

Finnegan is drunk as usual. He walks into the church and goes straight to the confessional box. There is silence. The priest waits for Finnegan to start talking. He waits and waits. Finally, the priest pounds on the wall of the confessional box. "Ain't no use in knocking," Finnegan yells back. "There is no paper on this side, either!"

IRISH TOASTS

May you have food and rainment. A soft pillow for your head May you be many years in heaven Before the devil knows your dead!

"May your troubles be less and your blessings be more. And nothing but happiness come through your door."

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Ten years ago this month, I returned from my last overseas mission. In many foreign countries, I saw the dedication and proud service of fellow Canadians. It was this last mission that ended a 40-year career in the Infantry, that had the most profound personal effect. I was stationed in Kabul Afghanistan and had the honour of serving there from June 2013 until near the end of February 2014. I met many Afghanistan people who simply wanted to live in freedom, not



under tyranny, and enjoy their culture and faith. One of the most profound and emotionally moving experiences was to witness the homemade sweaters, mittens, and socks that were sent to orphans living in Afghanistan. We had the pleasure of delivering them to many young people during the winter. They were made by Canadian wives or mothers whose husbands or sons were killed in action in Afghanistan – yet they gave to honour their dignity of service for those in need! We did our best to plant the seeds of peace and show fellow human beings how Canadians help others.

In becoming a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, I learned more about what this wonderful organization does across this Country to help Veterans and their families. I have witnessed outstanding support for our nation's youth. I have seen senior leadership in the Legion represent our serving troops and fight for the rights of military personnel. Our Branch does extraordinary work for our community. With over 250,000 Legion members, we are a powerhouse that demonstrates citizenship, loyalty, and love of community and country. We proudly welcome everyone who lives in this fair country to join us and be part of this marvelous experience. Encourage your family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues to join and support this fantastic organization. Stand up and volunteer! Be part of a winning team. For those who are, thank you for your service!

When you see a Veteran – thank them. When you see a family member of a Veteran – also thank them and remember the loneliness and concern they had / have when their loved ones are in harm's way.

We have a proud Canadian History – Lest We Forget!

Comrade Morris President RCL Branch 594



Metropolitan Branch 594 Serving Tecumseh, LaSalle, Windsor & Amherstburg

HOSPITAL

We request that members or their families contact Linda Ross at the branch if you are hospitalized and would like us to post your name and possible visitation or flowers.

Branch Pastor, Rev. *Catherine (Cathy) Collins*-Barker our Branch Chaplain has agreed to visit our hospitalized members if they agree. Visitations could be in person or by phone, email, Facebook... as the situation requires and Covid protocols allow.

If you can help, we would love to hear from you! Please contact us in person or through email, website, or a note in the comment box in the lobby.

Note we can only report after families give us permission.

MEMBERSHIP

As of Feb 27th, we had a 2024 Membership of 476

Consisting of: Life 5, OR 105, Associate 261, Affiliate Voting 103, Affiliate-Non-Voting 2

NEW MEMBERS

A Big Legion WELCOME to our newest members accepted by the executive and our membership!

Ordinary: Shawn Howard, and Tony Busuttil.

Associate:

Hayden Fox, Bob Davidovich, Tom Fields, and Elena Bourgue.

Affiliate Voting

Dennis Pare, Bruce Rodgers, Chuck Johnson, and Elaine Johnson.

2024 Dues: \$55.00 per person at Branch or Online. Retired Members \$50 per person, at Branch Only!



New Members welcomed at the Feb 27th Membership Meeting. Brian Robinson (Membership Chair), Tony Busuttil, Dennis Pare, Elaine Johnson, Chuck Johnson, and Morris Brause (Br 594 President)

The Legion is pleased to extend a 1-Year Free Membership for Veterans AND their Families.

The Veteran Family Welcome Program is open to spouses and adult children of CAF or RCMP serving members and Veterans who have not yet joined the Legion. This program is a great way to get to know the organization and share your support for Canada's Veterans.

Being a Legion member offers opportunities to improve the lives of those who served, remember the Fallen, and support your community — and every member makes a difference. To get more involved with Legion activities in your community and to add your voice to our advocacy efforts and the future of the Legion, apply through Dominion Command's Veteran Welcome Program and bring your membership card to <u>any Legion</u> <u>Branch</u> to request a transfer to that Branch.





To apply, please complete the Veteran Welcome Program <u>Registration Form http://www.legion.ca/welcome</u>

Membership can use the help. So, if you, as a member, are comfortable using a computer for data entry and / or helping to prepare application kits and welcome kits let me know. There is a position open for Volunteer committee person too.

Brian Robinson, Membership Chair

Changed your address, phone number, email address? Please send changes, by email to: membershipbr594@gmail.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

The month of January proved to be very interesting for Legion Branch 594.

We did have a lot of expenses, and our patronage was also down.

I attribute this to the spending done for Christmas, and the people heading south for the winter, which all helped in bringing our bar income down with it. Because of this we had to unfortunately take a loss for the month.

On the brighter side, we are looking for a better February report once all facts and figures are available.

Thank You All for helping to keep Branch 594 going in a forward motion.

Yours in Comradeship, John Antaya, Treasurer

LEGION RIDERS

Metropolitan Legion Branch 594 At the Feb 27th Membership meeting approval was given to start a chapter of the Legion Riders Club. More details will be shown in our website in the near future.



FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

The Town of Tecumseh has recently advised us that our portion of the sanitary sewer connection project will be \$132,000.00. This does not include costs associated with connecting to our Legion building and decommissioning our existing septic system. We have been advised the project will not get to our site until at least 2032. Your Finance Committee is currently working to determine the best way to finance this upcoming project.

A letter from the New Horizons for Seniors Grant program advising of our successful application for funding. More details to follow.

Jim McGhie Finance Committee Chair

PROPERTY

In the **main foyer** we are adding to our **Afghanistan memorial**.

So far, we have a large Canadian flag with the names of our Canadian Forces members killed in action in Afghanistan, a framed photo of Cpl. Andrew Grennon, provide by his mother Theresa Charbeneau, a framed picture of 3 Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan, the memorial poster, presently hung in the lounge, that holds the names and pictures of our Canadian Forces members killed in action in Afghanistan. We have also created a storyboard (see front page), describing Canada's involvement in Afghanistan, and will be hanging it on the wall to the right of the kit shop.

DIEPPE ROOM. A meeting was held on Jan 24th to consolidate input on the mural that will be over the entrance door to the Dieppe Room (Hall B). Part of the plan will include new lighting to bring it to life.

Com Larry Williams, Property Chair

YOUTH EDUCATION & BURSARIES

Poster & Literary

District A (Southwestern Ontario) awards have been presented to our Branch winners. Formally the winners are announced at the Spring District Convention April 12-14.

Two of our students won first prize at District and their entries were sent Provincial judging! Names will be in upcoming Newsletters.

Public Speaking

The Zone A1 Public Speaking competition contest will be held at our Branch (594) on Saturday March 2nd, 2024. Divisions are Gr 1-3, Gr 4-6, Gr 7-9 and Gr 10-12.





The speakers may select their own topics. All speeches are to be the original work of the speaker. The topics chosen by the individual speakers do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Royal Canadian Legion. The speaker will credit authors and sources of material, if referring to another person's work. Speeches that repeat verbatim another person's original work will not be accepted.

Provincial Bursary The 2024 details are posted on the corkboard between the washrooms and can also be obtained on the www.legion.on.ca website. Applications will also be at the "Veteran and Community Lounge"

RCL Br 594 Youth Education & Bursary Committees: Tom Friesen (chair), Patti Brause, Gerry Ciurysek, Jim McGhie, Dave Woodman & Morris Brause.

KITCHEN REPORT

Our Bunker Kitchen has planned some great events in March.

St Patrick's Day is upon us on Sunday March 17th. A full day of entertainment planned and the menu has been set. Please see the flyer in the newsletter with food pricing for the day as well as on the monitors in the branch and on our website.

Good Friday is on March 29th this year. We are expecting a very busy day again this year and our seating will be limited. Please see the flyer in the newsletter with our menu and pricing as well, it will be posted on our monitors in the branch and on our website.

Takeout orders will only be available from 12 noon- 3pm and pre orders are greatly encouraged.

Dinner times in the banquet halls will be available and reservations ahead of time are also encouraged. Seating times will be as follows: 3pm-430pm / 430pm-6pm / 6pm-730pm / 730pm-9pm Please call, in advance, to reserve your time as the number of guests for each time slot will be limited.

Saturday March 23rd, Billie Jo and her staff are planning a Pancake Breakfast (with juice, coffee & tea) with Face Painting, a Photo Booth, and Goodies for the kids. (There is a rumour the Easter Bunny may be stopping in too!).

This event is for members only and their immediate families and tickets must be purchased prior to March 18th. This event will run from 9am -12 noon. Tickets are \$10.00. Children 12 and under are \$5.00.

As per past years, we need volunteers for all of these events. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer to help make these events successful, please reach out to Billie, Trisha or Randy.

Just a reminder that the bunker does offer takeout services as well as catering services for your outside events. Give Billie or Tricia a call and see what they can do for you.

Thanks to all for your support.

Randy Soulliere and Jim McGhie. Co-Kitchen Convenors

GOOD FRIDAY March 29th MENU Lightly Battered Fish with Fries & Coleslaw Halibut 1pc \$19 - 2 pc \$29
GOOD FRIDAY TAKEOUTPerch (5pc) \$17Available only from Noon till 3PMPickerel (1pc) \$16Haddock (2pc) \$15
DINE IN, SEATINGS or call 519-969-0551 Or 3:00-4:30 CHICKEN Fingers & Fries \$ 12 4:30-6:00 Basket of Fries \$ 7 6:00-7:30 Side of Gravy \$1 7:30-9:00 No Substitutions Today - HST Extra

WAYS & MEANS

The Branch hosted two very successful spaghetti dinners in February, on the 6th and 20th. The following is a chart with the financial results from the February spaghetti dinners:

	February 6	February 20	FEB. Totals
Numbers Served	179	174	353
Total Sales	\$1,765.00	\$1,721.00	\$3,486.00
Total Expenses	\$782.54	480.48	\$480.48
Net Sales	\$982.46	\$1,240.52	\$2,222.98
Inventory			\$500.00
Net Revenue for Feb. 2024	\$982.46	\$1,240.52	\$2,722.98

Our attendance seems to have increased with the help of the LaSalle Friendship Club (LFC).

The LFC used to run these specials for their members prior to Covid and it really helped boost our spaghetti attendance numbers. A big thank you to Paul and his group for setting this up again for everyone. And, thanks to all of the regular supporters of these fundraising dinners along with the volunteers who make them successful.

Our spaghetti dinners are becoming more popular and seem to be the place to be every other Tuesday of the month.

Please mark your calendars and bring your friends out to the March spaghetti dinners being held on Tuesdays March 5 & 19th

Veronica Friesen, Ways & Means Chair

WEBSITE

Lots of information on www.rcl594.com

Brian Robinson, webmaster

SPORTS

Anybody can play our In-Branch Sports

<u>Note:</u> We Have Cornhole at the Branch every Tuesday night so come on out and join us. If you want to learn, feel free to join us as well. It is a fun activity for those winter evenings. Bring a friend,

Darts:	Wednesday Night Men's League	<u>Pool:</u>	Monday Night Mixed 8Ball League
	Thursday Night L.O.D. Play		Thursday Night L.O.D. Play
	Friday Night Mixed League		
	Saturday Night 1 League		L.O.D. (Luck of the Draw)
	Saturday Night 2 League	Teams are	made from those who show up to play.

<u>Cards:</u> Monday Night Euchre Every other Monday - Starting at 7PM Monday Night Cribbage Every other Monday – Starting at 7PM

<u>Cornhole:</u> Every Tuesday Night – Starting at 7PM

ZoneA-1 Sports (Legion Members Only)

9-Ball will take place March 10th at BR644. The starting time is 10:00am. Registration starts at 9:00am.

CORNHOLE will take place March 30th at BR644. The starting time is 10:00am. Registration starts at 9:00am.

Sign-up sheets for both events are on the Sports Board. Branch Registration Deadline for each is 1 week prior.

District Sports (Legion Members who qualify at Zone)

Mixed Team Darts: Nancy Mountain, Jay Mountain, Beth Abson, and John Antaya have qualified for District Mixed Team Darts at Br.317 in London on March 23rd.

Mixed Doubles Darts Phil Magri and Raegan Dennis qualified for Mixed Doubles Darts at Br.317 in London on March 23rd.

District 9-Ball will take place April 7th at Tilbury Br.206. Starting at 11:00. Registration begins at 10:00am for those who qualify at the Zone competition.

Provincial Sports (Legion Members who qualify at District)

8Ball: Brad McLellan, Don Collard, Bill Anderson, and Lou Driessen have qualified for Provincials which take place at Br43 in Oshawa March 16th. Good luck to you guys.

SPORTS INFORMATION

Please visit the SPORTS board periodically to see upcoming events here at the Branch. Also posted on the board is a list of contact people for all the events here at the Branch should you be interested in joining. The list will be updated as contacts change.

The District Sports Meeting will be held March 23^{rd.} in Wallaceburg. Com W Fortin to attend.

Wayne Fortin, Branch 594 Sports Officer.



2715 RCACC

Our Cadet Corps Marksmanship Team placed Second overall in the Zone air rifle shooting competition held on Feb 24th. One of our junior Cadets, Cpl. Brown, placed second overall in the individual competition. Well Done to all of our champion shooters!

A big thank you to everyone that supported our Winter fundraising campaign by purchasing chocolate bars and pepperoni sticks. This money will be used to fund our year end trip to Canada's Wonderland.

Our Cadets will be participating in a Canadian Armed Forces familiarization day at the Tilton Armoury in Windsor on March 2nd. A field training exercise will be held on the weekend of Mar 22-24 at Camp Henry inside Point Pelee National Park.

2715 Cadet Corps requested approval to install a commemorative plaque recognizing their 50th anniversary at Branch 594 in the front garden area. The request was approved at the Feb 27th Legion membership meeting.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Cadet Corps.

SENIORS COMMITTEE

At our last Senior Committee meeting of January 25/24, we discussed the lack of attendance during these winter months, although there were some new faces in the crowd. Several regulars are snowbirds and spend from 2-4 months in warmer climate. We do expect the numbers to change in the coming month.

Our Valentine celebration on February 12th went well. We had asked that we Flood the dance floor with RED and the patrons did not fail to do so. It was great to see. Daryl Muscat stepped in to DJ and did a wonderful job. Kensington Court was also present with a beautiful door prize to give away and sponsorship for the DJ.

Kensington have been very generous with their giveaways lately. THANKS

A delicious dinner was served to approximately 85 patrons with 23 staying for the dance only. Our drink special of Strawberry daiquiri (sign at the bar with price) did not go over very well, but in the future, we need the cooperation of the bartenders on duty to help promote this idea.

At our next committee meeting of February 29, we will discuss further other themed dances planned for the next few months. Eg: St Patrick's Day, Caribbean Day, Senior Prom and Beach Party.

We have several sponsorships for the remaining year, 7 from Kensington Court and 2 from Season's Retirement.

Every other week Free dinner draw to all who attend is also ongoing, with appreciation from the crowd.

We look forward to your views, wishes and advice. If you wish to join the committee, please contact Sue or Beth

LOTTERY COMMITTEE

<u>Our Attendance Draws (Loonie-Toonie) are "Progressive Raffles."</u>

The Loonie, Toonie membership draw is alive and well.

As required by the AGCO 50% of all Progressive Raffles must be donated to a registered charity approved by the municipality.

Branch 594 has been approved to work BINGOs beginning in April

After receiving approval from the Town of Lakeshore to qualify to work Bingos at the Power Play Gaming Centre (PPGC) at 446 Advance Blvd., we have now received confirmation from the PPGC that our Branch will be scheduled to work bingos beginning in April.

We have been actively recruiting volunteers to work Bingos on behalf of our Branch over the past few weeks and to date have received 14 people who have agreed to volunteer in this capacity.

An email has been sent to those 14 folks with a link to on-line training which is mandatory to complete before anyone can be scheduled to work. The training takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. Even if you have already taken on-line training for bingos in the past, if you are volunteering for our Branch, you MUST take this training again. Once the training is completed an electronic confirmation of this completion is sent to our bingo representative, who will in-turn forward the confirmation to me for record keeping.

To be able to work bingos as a revenue stream for the Branch is a wonderful opportunity. It will allow us to support other groups who come to us for financial assistance without using revenue from our general account. We will also be seeking approval from the Township to allow us to use some bingo revenue for Branch maintenance expenses.

Typically, charities are scheduled to work 3- two hours sessions per month, with 2 volunteers at each session. And, for 6 man-hours per month our Branch could receive upwards of \$2000 per month. This is a wonderful opportunity, even though it is a bit of a distance away from our Branch, the PPGC is the gaming centre that is accepting new charities. It is understood that there is a ten-year waiting list for any Windsor charities.

We continue to recruit volunteers so if anyone is interested, please contact Veronica Friesen at vlfriesen59@gmail.com.

What does a Bingo Volunteer do?

In "the old days" volunteers sold Bingo cards, did cleanup and most anything the players asked. Today all money, setup and major cleaning is handled by the Bingo operator staff. Volunteers' welcome players as they arrive, remove discarded Bingo sheets (ask player first if its ok to remove) and remove empty food and beverage containers. The Bingo hall also has a slot machine gaming area, and volunteers typically wipe down games after customers are done and straighten chairs for the next customer.

Beth Abson Lottery Chair

BAR REPORT

We have hired 2 new part-time bar stewards, and they are currently doing their necessary training.

We would like to welcome Jen and Cynthia to our staff and please welcome them when you see them.

We are in the process of implementing a new point of sale system in the lounge and banquet hall and are hopeful will have the new system up and running in the next week.

With March upon us, we are looking forward to celebrating St Patrick's Day and Good Friday with all of you. We expect a full house for both days so get there early.

Look for special pricing on our new draft on tap. We have added Laker Lager too!

Randy Soulliere, Bar Chair

LOUNGE NAME

At our February membership room, a new name was selected for our Lounge. After 3 ballots the new name is "Veterans and Community Lounge" A new sign will be created and installed.

Thanks to all those who attended the meeting and participated in the process.

Branch Members Celebrating MARCH Birthdays

John Antaya, Lisette Belanger, Debbie Boehler, Laurie Callander, Jim Collard, David Damm, Sue Desjarlais, Joe Farrugia, Wayne Fortin, Tom Friesen, Yvonne Gagnon, Christopher Gall, Matthew Gee, Cortland Graham, Mary Gulak, Bridget Lindsay, Phillip Magri, Bradley McLellan, Terry Miller, David Mimnagh, Edward Noakes, John Brooks Pattison, Ashley Poonia, Joseph Reidy, Gordon Robinson, David Ross, Robert Saul, Lawrence Serre Sr, Florence Shepley, Les Slaght, Gregg Strong, Andrew Sulyok, Henry Thomas, Brian F Thompson, Frank Veldhuis, and Lee Vinten

Hope your birthdays are great!

ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS PROGRAM

Com Bob Hart, Entertainment Chair

A GREAT LINEUP has been planned for March!!! Note entertainers will be starting at 4:30 and playing until 7:30pm

Friday Mar 1st Friday Mar 8th Friday Mar 15th Sunday March 17

Friday Mar 22nd Friday Mar 29th Ty and Dan Joe & Sharron Crystal Gage & Ryan St Denis (5:30 - &:30pm) St Patrick's Day, Murphys Boys 2-6, Ardan Academy of Irish Dance approx. 4-5pm. Al Fazio in the Lounge 7pm... Al Fazio returns Good Friday, Packed House People watching.













SATURDAY APRIL 20TH



8-Midnight \$10 entry

Bunker kitchen open for orders till 9pm





2023 Colour Party: Dave Woodman (Commander), Flag bearer Sue Whitehead, Colour Guards; Pat Westfall, Gerry Ciurysek, Dan Leonard, and Flag bearer Bob Hart.

Join the Colour Party

A chance to represent your Legion. Join the team, maybe meet some new friends, learn a new skill, and have some fun. Drill training Mondays 7pm (after Sr Dinner Dance) Contact Dave Woodman, <u>dfwoodman@gmail.com</u> 519-566-8745

All are welcome. No experience required.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Branch Events, Membership, Provincial & Dominion information are now posted in the foyer in the 3 glass doored cases below the monitor.

The Lending Library is still in the foyer but across the hall.

Matt Beasley, Public Relations Officer

<u>Military Service Recognition Book</u> <u>MSRB</u>

As the "Keepers of Remembrance", Ontario Command is proud to publish an annual Military Service Recognition Book to identify and recognize many of our Veterans in Ontario, who have either served or are still serving in our Canadian Armed Forces, the Commonwealth or Allied Forces.

To date we have 14 entries in the 10 editions published so far.

Veterans who have identified as 594 members as follows (number behind the name is the MSRB Edition) Konrad Boehler (10), Richard Dawson (10) Dan Leonard (10) Jim Mitchell (10) Yvette Montague (10) Archie Neilson (10) Doug Nevin (10) Mike Akpata (9) Cliff Capnerhurst (9) Lawrence Evoy (8) Bill Greaves (7)

Armand Rock (7) Ron Bisnaire (6) and Henry Bow (6)

Thanks for these submissions and we look forward to many more.

The following page is the form required for submission.

I would be pleased to assist with entries.

Tom Friesen

Link below: <u>Military Service Recognition Book</u> (legion.ca)





The image on this Introductory Poster is from a poster that was entered in a recent Ontario Provincial Command Youth Education Poem, Poster and Essay Competition. The Poster was the third-place winner in the Senior Black and White Poster category at the Provincial level. It was designed by student Mariane Shved of the Philip Pocock Catholic Secondary School in Mississauga, Ontario. She represented the Colonel Tom Kennedy Branch #582 in Mississauga, Ontario in District B in the Legion Branch competitions.

Military Service Recognition Book

The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command

We are proud to be introducing year eleven of our annual publication that will help identify and recognize many of Ontario's Veterans who have served their country so well during times of war and peace.

- Our eleventh book will be available at all Legion Branches by October 2024.
- Books are gifted to Branches, Veterans, Schools, Libraries, Military Bases, Museums, local Municipal Buildings and Community Resource Centres.
- We invite you to submit stories of Veterans and Military Service Personnel who have touched your life. Submission forms and guidelines are available from your local Legion Branch or at <u>www.on.legion.ca</u> for those wishing to submit a Veteran story and photo.
- A provincial telephone appeal is underway to private citizens and businesses requesting support to publish this book each year and to support our Veterans.





Remember, share, donate today.

For more information:



Ontario Provincial Command Military Service Recognition Book – Submission Form

Downloadable at www.on.legion.ca

Information Required for Story Submission	Please ensure all information is accurate				
Name of Military Person being recognized Place of Birth Date of Birth (m/r)	First name Middle Name d/y) Date of Death (m/d/y)				
	(if applicable)				
Resides/Resided in which Ont. Community	Date of Residency				
Service: Regular Force Reserve Force Primary Reserve Cadet Instructor Cadre Officer Canadian Rangers RCMP (Tick applicable area)					
Branch of Service: ONavy OArmy OAir Force (Tick applicable area)	○ Merchant Navy ○ Ferry Command ○ Other				
Service Unit: Date of Enrollment Date of Release e.g North Shore, Carleton York, CWAC, names of Ships, Date of Release Squadrons, etc.					
Deployments (Mission, Area/Region or Conflict) e.g WWI, WWII, Afghanistan, Canada, High Seas, England, etc.					
Killed in Service? Yes No Date of Death	Where Killed				
Was/Is a Member of Legion (Name & #): (Tick applicable area) Yes ONO	Branch How many years?				
This Section MUS	T be completed.				
Submitted by (Name)	Date: Tel #				
Email Branc	h Name & #				
Was permission given by individual or family to use submis (Tick applicable area)	sion? OYes ONo (Signature of Veteran or Family Member)				
Additional Information: Please attach a paragraph if you wish, maximum 200 words. Should there be more than 200 words of information, the submission could be edited and reduced for inclusion into one of the books. Include, for example: special things the veteran did in the service, was he/she wounded, POW, special unusual awards, awards for bravery, e.g., VC, OM, SC, SM, MMV, MB, MSM, etc., or perhaps what the veteran did upon return to civilian life.Only actual and digital photos will be accepted by Please see Fact Sheet for further information regarding photograph submissions.Include, for example: special things the veteran did in the service, was he/she wounded, POW, special unusual awards, 					
Please submit entries to Tom Friesen, Branch 594 MSRB Chair for review and submission.	 Please return your completed Submission Form and photograph to your local Legion Branch if you are not sending it electronically as indicated in the Fact Sheet. If you indicated 'other' in the Branch of Service above, please explain as additional information and attach to your submission form. PLEASE NOTE: WE DO NOT RETURN PHOTOGRAPHS THAT ARE 				







Spring Fling

27 April 2024

Please Join us when we visit Parkwood hospital to celebrate the arrival of spring. Visit with and enjoy the company of our veterans.

Transportation to be arranged depending on the number of people going.

Either a bus or carpool.

Contact David Woodman

dfwoodman@gmail.com

if you can come.





LAST POST

Robert (Bob) Morency

Feb 17, 2024, 85 yrs. Bob served in the US Armed forces. Bob was a member of Branch 594 for 41 years. Bob Morency Obituary - Windsor, ON | Families First

We Will Remember Him!

<u>In Memoriam</u>

Jennie Greggs

Jan 29, 2024, 79 yrs.

Our condolences to Gerald Greggs on the passing of his wife.

Jennie Greggs Obituary - Windsor, ON | Families First

WINDSOR VETERANS MEMORIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

Funeral Services are being performed at the request of the Veteran's family through the funeral homes.

From June 1^{st,} 2023, *until Feb 29th* we have lost: 59 Veterans, 34 Comrades & have performed at 15 funeral services.

The next meeting will be Wednesday March 20th at Branch 255.

Note that Legionnaires are welcomed / encouraged to attend funeral services. Most service dates and times are included in obituaries in Windsor Star and online at www.windsorveteransmemorial.com

Ron Bisnaire, Branch 594 Liaison to WVMSC







POPPY

As of Jan. 31, 2024, we accumulated \$8.32 in interest to give us a balance of \$98,784.68.

The 2023 Branch Status Poppy Report was reviewed, signed off and sent to Ontario Command.

I created a spreadsheet tallying all monies that were collected from the various Poppy Coin Boxes & other areas i.e. Costco, Walmart, Zehrs, Tap Boxes, Starbucks, etc. The spreadsheet was sent to all Coin Box Volunteers & the President. The result was a much better accounting of funds, with only around \$700 that we could not determine which location it had come from compared to nearly \$5,000 just a year ago.

The following recommendations for contributions were presented and recommended by membership at the Feb 27th General Meeting..

Once Command approval is received these will be presented at the District A Convention in April.

TRADITIONAL DONATION WE WILL AGAIN SUPPO	<u> </u>	

DISTRICT A HOSPITAL FUND	\$3,500.00
DISTRICT A YOUTH EDUCATION \$3,	500.00
ONTARIO COMMAND SERVICE DOGS PROGRAM	\$5,000.00
ONTARIO COMMAND LEAVE STS BEHIND	\$5,000.00
ONTARIO COMMAND BURSARY PROGRAM	\$3,500.00
ONTARIO COMMAND CHARITABLE FOUNDATION	\$3,500.00
ONTARIO COMMAND POPPY FUND	\$3,500.00
DOMINION COMMAND RCEL	\$3,500.00
NEW DONATIONS TO SUPPORT	
Parkwood Veterans Comfort Fund \$3,	500.00
Veterans Transition Network <u>\$3</u> ,	<u>500.00</u>

<u>TOTAL:</u> \$38,000.00

In addition membership agreed to donate \$10,000 to our 2715 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps for this year.

Gerry Ciurysek, Br 594 Poppy Chair



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MAI	RCH			Feb 29 TH Open 12-10 "The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	1 Open 12-10 "The Bunker" Open 11-8pm	2 Zone A1 Public Speaking
Legio	on			Luck of Draw POOL & DARTS	Entertainment Ty & Dan 4:30-7:30 Mixed Darts	Open 12-10 "The Bunker" Open 12-7pm DART NIGHT 1
3 OPEN 12-7	4 Open 12-10	5 Open 12-10	6 Open 12-10	7 Open 12-10	8 Open 12-10	9 Open 10-10
"The Bunker" OPEN 12-5PM	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm
	Dinner Dance 3-7 POOL League Euchre	Pepper ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI 4:30-6:30	CADETS Mens Darts	Luck of Draw POOL & DARTS	Entertainment Joe & Sharron 4:30-7:30	DART NIGHT 2
10	11	Cornhole	13	14	15	16
Daylight	Open 12-10	Open 12-10	Open 12-10	Open 12-10	Open 12-10	Open 12-10
Saving Time Starts	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm
OPEN 12-7 "The Bunker" OPEN 12-5PM	Sr Dinner Dance 3-7 POOL League Cribbage	Pepper Cornhole	CADETS Mens Darts	Luck of Draw POOL & DARTS	Entertainment Crystal St Denis 4:30-7:30 Mixed Darts	DART NIGHT 1 Good Luck at Provincials to Br 594 8 Ball Pool Players
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
OPEN 12-7	Open 12-10	Exec Mtg	Open 12-10	Open 12-10	Open 12-10	Open 12-10
St Patricks Day	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	10am Open 12-10	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm
Murphys Boys Ardan Irish Dancers	Seniors Dinner Dance 3-7	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	CADETS	Luck of Draw POOL &	Entertainment Al Fazio 4:30-7:30	DART NIGHT 2 Good Luck at
Al Fazio	POOL League	Pepper	Mens Darts	DARTS	4.30-7.30	District A to
"The Bunker" OPEN 12-5PM	Euchre	ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI 4:30-6:30	WVMSC mtg. Br 255			Br 594 Mixed Darts: Doubles & Team Players
		Cornhole				
24 OPEN 12-7	25 Open 12-10	26 Open 12-10	27 Open 12-7	28 Open 12-7	29 GOOD	30 Open 12-7
"The Bunker" OPEN 12-5PM	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	"The Bunker" Open 12-7pm	Open 12-10 "The Bunker"	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	FRIDAY Open 12-?	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm
	Seniors Dinner Dance 3-7 POOL League	Pepper Membership Meeting 7pm	Open 12-7pm CADETS Mens Darts	Luck of Draw POOL & DARTS	"The Bunker" Open 12-8pm	<mark>DART NIGHT 1</mark>
	Cribbage	Cornhole				