




Newsletter of the
Steinbach Branch #190
Nov/Dec 2016

Contact Information

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Tuesday, December 20: 7:30 pm *Branch Executive Meeting*

Monday, January 2: 7:30 pm *Ladies Auxiliary Meeting*

Tuesday, January 3 7:30 pm *Branch General Meeting*

2016 Branch Executive and Committee Chairs

President.....B. Richards	Bar & CanteenR. Giesbrecht
Past President.....K. Duncan	BookingsJ. Tourond
1 st Vice President.....C. Borkowsky	Honours & AwardsB. Richards
2 nd Vice PresidentD. Duncan	MaintenanceL. Dyck
TreasurerL. Bilbey	Quartermaster.....L. Borkowsky
SecretaryA. Harder	Service OfficerB. Richards
Sgt.-at-Arms.....M. Lackey	SportsK. Duncan
Sick & VisitingW. Trapp	Ways & Means.....J. Brown
Poppy & RemembranceC. Borkowsky	Communications & Media A. Harder
MembershipD. Duncan	

We Have a New Executive!

While most members allowed their names to stand, we do have a few changes.

Bill Richards remains as President, also looking after Honours & Awards. Mark Lackey moves from Sgt-at-Arms to the role of 1st Vice President, with Darryn Duncan continuing on with his dual roles of 2nd Vice President and Membership Chair. Lauren Bilbey will stay on as Treasurer, and Audrey Harder continues as Secretary. She also has a new role taking on Communications and Media relations. Keith Duncan stands as Past President, but will also be our Sgt-at-Arms for the upcoming year. Rene Giesbrecht, Juanita Brown, Jen Tourond, Len Dyck and Werner Trapp have all agreed to stay on. We welcome new Executive member Rob Bilbey.

We want to send a heartfelt Thank-you to both Christie and Lori Borkowsky, who have made real contributions especially during some very difficult times for the Branch. Your extensive knowledge of the workings of the RCL and the history of our Branch are appreciated and you will both be missed.

Due to the poor weather on Tuesday, December 6th, the General Meeting was canceled, and therefore installation of Officers didn't take place. Hopefully we can make it happen at the January 3rd meeting. We will also confirm committee chairs and other roles, and get that information out as soon as possible.

They're Here! They're Here!

We have received 25 new tables and 185 new chairs, thanks to the Community Services Grant. They look fantastic, not to mention easier to clean. Come on out to an event at the hall to get a look. The old tables and chairs will be sold – more information on that will be released soon.



Sick & Visiting

Our Branch Pastor, Werner Trapp, recently underwent heart surgery and we want to wish him a speedy recovery. Best wishes also go out to Ken Pauls on continuing improvement as you recover from your mishap. Get better soon wishes go out to Cde. Len Dyck – we miss you already at the hall! While Cde. Trapp is recovering; the Branch would like to hear of any local veterans or branch members who are ill or shut-in. Please contact any member of the executive, and we will arrange a visit or send a card to those who might appreciate it.

Now that winter is well and truly here, please be careful and stay safe out there!

Remembrance Day



This was a special day for many who attended the service at the Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church. Thank you to President Bill Richards for emceeing, Father Gerry Sembrano (Christ our Savior Catholic Church), Melissa Frankland (St. Paul's Lutheran Church), George Feenstra (Steinbach United Church) and everyone else who participated. Thanks also to Cde. Christie Borkowsky for coordinating the Poppy Campaign – a huge undertaking, but a very important one! Members of the Stoneybrook Air Cadets, Steinbach Cubs & Scouts and Girl Guides and their leaders all helped, as did Branch members who drove out to deliver and also collect the poppy boxes. Much appreciation goes out to the Ladies Auxiliary who provided a tasty luncheon of soup and desserts in a beautifully decorated hall – the hall hosted about 165 people after the service. The Luncheon was accompanied by a slide show of local veterans.



Ways and Means

Wow – has it been busy! The annual **Fall Supper** was really well attended – so much so that we ran out of food. Please accept our apologies if you didn't get a meal, or only a partial meal. There were about 100 more folks this year than attended last year, about 320 in total. We promise to do better next year. In the end, the Fall Supper was a fabulous fundraiser and many members also took the opportunity to renew their memberships. Thank You to all the volunteers and members who came out! We couldn't do it without you!

The **Cash Calendars** weren't as big a seller as last year, but we still made a profit. Appreciation goes out to Canadian Tire, who set up a table for us right at the front entrance. We sold an additional 30 calendars. The good folks at Canadian Tire even went so far as to make a big sign out of a poster to attract customers to our table. Next year we may consider getting the calendars out earlier and making the draws in December.

Cash Calendar Winners:

NOVEMBER 2016		1 M. Naherniak	2 A. Wiens	3 C. Budd	4 E. Martens	5 M. Hornan
6 A. Wiens	7 D. Foreman	8 M. Goulet	9 H. Brandt	10 D. Foreman	11 T. Spicer	12 G. LeBrun
13 M. Forest	14 P. Bernard	15 C. Borkowsky	16 C. Richardson	17 S. Wall	18 C. Duncan	19 A. Reimer
19 A. Reimer	20 J. Harder	21 E. Doerksen	22 L. Goertzen	23 S. Klassen	24 M. Lackey	25 G. Schroeder
26 J. Brandt	27 C. Doerksen	28 J. Wiebe	29 K. Sabatier	30 M. Hornan		

Grey Cup Tickets sold out! Another successful fundraiser!

Winners:

1st Quarter – S. Kamula & Reverse – B. Penner

2nd Quarter – N. Curtis & Reverse – M. Brown

3rd Quarter – N. Gervais & Reverse – G. Bird

Final – J. Friesen & Reverse – T. Eckstein



The **Paint Night on Wednesday, October 26th** was a big hit. Colleen Watchorn was a great 'teacher' and we had 29 poppy-themed paintings at the end of the evening. Those of us who came out had so much fun, we immediately called for another one, this time Christmas/Winter themed.

On Thursday, December 8th, Colleen came out again for a wonderful evening that included an open bar, light lunch and taking home our own snowman masterpieces! 36 people attended and the event was a complete success!



We also hosted a Halloween Youth Dance on October 29th. The younger kids who came out really enjoyed the decorations and music, and we received great feedback from parents.



Sargent Wilson Army Show



This event was an outstanding success! The hall was packed with 165+ people for a sold-out performance by this group from the Netherlands. Thank you to Cde. Bill and Cindy Richards for hosting the performers overnight and to all the volunteers who worked very hard to make this a great evening. We started off with a wine and cheese, then the hall was swinging with the music of the 40's and 50's. The performers took a short intermission, and then returned for more fun. They also graciously

stayed for autographs and pictures following an awesome show that had attendees singing and tapping their feet. Many folks stayed for dainties and coffee afterwards.

Special thanks must go out to Dan Guetre of the Dawson Trails Dispatch who contributed so much to the success of this event with free advertising, tickets and amazing posters! We could not have reached the audience that we did without his support. And all that good karma came back to him as he won the 50/50 prize of \$132.50. We would love to have this event again, or other shows. Some of the comments were – “saw some people that I haven't seen in a long time”, and “I can't believe how many of the songs I knew”.

Membership

If you haven't already renewed, please contact Cde. Darryn Duncan ASAP, as the cost will go up from \$40 to \$45 on January 1st.

Legion Supply Orders

Are you still trying to find that perfect gift for a Legion member on your list? The Poppy Store has some great options including hoodies and sweatshirts, mugs, umbrellas, and more! Take a look through the catalogue or go to the Poppy Store at: <http://www.legion.ca/members/shop/>. You can place your order directly with them, or give a member of the executive a call for assistance. Please see this link (<http://steinbachlegion.ca/standard-legion-uniform/>) if you are looking for uniform items.

Ladies' Auxiliary News

The Ladies' Auxiliary wrapped up the last of their meetings for 2016 by holding a surprise potluck dinner before their December 5th meeting. Turns out everyone had unique ideas and no two dishes were exact repeats.

Once again, the Ladies' brought groceries for the local food bank and some also chose to donate new toys for the Community Christmas program. These donations came from the members themselves and this has become a tradition for our last meeting of the year. The Ladies' approved a number of donations from their Auxiliary funds to local charities (e.g. Soup's On), hospital foundations (e.g. Bethesda, Deer Lodge, Children's Hospital, etc.), other health related groups (e.g. STARS Air Ambulance, CancerCare Manitoba) and programs that directly assist veterans (e.g. Veterans Transition Program, Military Family Resource Centre).

Cookbook orders continue to be received, it is amazing that after all these years they are still in demand. We hear people are buying replacement copies for themselves or ones for children, grandchildren and friends. Some Auxiliaries are purchasing orders of 25 or more for their own fundraising efforts, which we fully support. The Auxiliary is indebted to all our members who organized this cookbook more than 30 years ago.

Best wishes to everyone in our Legion family for a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year!

Bookings



The Christmas season is always a busy time for bookings.
Book now to reserve your spot for your family gathering in 2017!
Branch members get a 20% discount.
Don't forget that the boardroom is available too.

Send an email to Steinbach190RCL@outlook.com or leave a message for Jen Tourond at 204-326-5335. Here is a link to the rental area of the website as well - <http://steinbachlegion.ca/facility-rentals/>



We wish you all a safe, healthy and happy holiday season! Drive safely and please keep in touch. To all you lucky snowbirds, have a great green Christmas and you are welcome to 'raise a glass' to those of us shovelling our way out of the first big snowfall of the year. To all you folks doing the shovelling, just a reminder to take your time.



Wow – there's a lot of snow out there!

*'Twas the night before Christmas,
he lived all alone,
in a one bedroom house made of
plaster and stone.*

*I had come down the chimney
with presents to give,
and to see just who
in this home did live.*

*I looked all about,
a strange sight I did see,
no tinsel, no presents,
not even a tree.*

*No stocking by mantle,
just boots filled with sand,
on the wall hung pictures
of far distant lands.*

*With medals and badges,
awards of all kinds,
a sober thought
came through my mind.*

*For this house was different,
it was dark and dreary;
I found the home of a soldier,
once I could see clearly.*

*The soldier lay sleeping,
silent, alone,
curled up on the floor
in this one bedroom home.*

*The face was so gentle,
the room in such disorder,
not how I pictured
a United States soldier.*

*Was this the hero
of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho,
the floor for a bed?*

*I realized the families
that I saw this night,
owed their lives to these soldiers
who were willing to fight.*

*Soon round the world,
the children would play,
and grownups would celebrate
a bright Christmas day.*

*They all enjoyed freedom
each month of the year,
because of the soldiers,
like the one lying here.*

*I couldn't help wonder
how many lay alone,
on a cold Christmas Eve
in a land far from home.*

*The very thought
brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees
and started to cry.*

*The soldier awakened
and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry,
this life is my choice;*

*I fight for freedom,
I don't ask for more,
my life is my god,
my country, my corps."*

*The soldier rolled over
and drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it,
I continued to weep.*

*I kept watch for hours,
so silent and still
and we both shivered
from the cold night's chill.*

*Then the soldier rolled over,
with a voice soft and pure,
whispered, "carry on Santa,
its Christmas day, all is secure."*

*One look at my watch,
and I knew he was right.
"Merry Christmas my friend,
and to all a good night."*

- a Marine stationed in Okinawa, Japan