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**Royal Canadian Legion**  
South Carleton Branch 314  
5550 Ann St, PO Box 123  
Manotick ON K4M 1A3

Vol 12 Issue 1

January - February 2023

*Lest we forget*

Branch hours are Tuesday to Saturday 1-5 pm.

Proof of vaccination is no longer required, but members are encouraged to continue wearing masks, washing hands, and social distancing.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Comrades,

Our Legion has been very busy. We had a float in the Santa parade but, unfortunately, didn't have too many members on board. We will plan it better next year. Breakfast with Santa went very well. Santa had the kids enthralled reading books and passing out candy canes. The kids especially loved *Bijoux*, **Chris Bradford's** dog who sat as Santa reindeer. Over \$300.00 was raised and went to the food bank. Thanks to all the workers who made this a success and to **Allen and Harvey** for preparing breakfast. The Saturday Concert on December 17th featuring the *UMACAW Band* was not well attended but all enjoyed the Christmas music. The Sunday Lunch Turkey Dinner in memory of **Karol Bilyj** was very well received. With 75 or so in attendance nearly \$800.00 was raised and this covered our costs and a donation of \$248.00 was donated to *Wounded War Veterans for Service Dogs*. Many thanks to all who helped prepare and serve the meal, decorate, set up and take down. Our Legion thrives on our volunteers who tirelessly give time and energy to making our Legion an asset to our community. Thank You!

In comradeship, **Shirley Spinks** [shirleyspinks48@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyspinks48@gmail.com)

### RECENT EVENTS

#### Manotick Santa Claus Parade, December 2

Photos by **Greg Newton**

We had a float in the Santa Clause parade. Despite only a few members aboard, we were part of a grand event.



#### Christmas Sing-along, December 17

Photos by **Simone Bachelor**

A small but very attentive crowd were in attendance to hear the *United MACAW Mojo Amateur Band* (UMACAW) play seasonal music.



The UMACAW band: (L-R) *Frank, Andy* (at the mic), *Phil, Roland, David*



The attendees

## Pennies for Homeless Vets

Drop off your pennies in the jar located in the lobby.  
The money collected will help veterans in need.

### Army Cadets



The 2958 RCAC Corps is open to youth of ages 12 to 18. Contact details are available at the Legion Office.  
Email address: [contact@2958rcacc.ca](mailto:contact@2958rcacc.ca)  
Website: [www.2958rcacc.ca](http://www.2958rcacc.ca)  
Corps phone: 613-599-3355

**Another year's over...and a new one's just begun!** Fr. Ed Montano †, Branch Chaplain, 613-355-4776, [rev.ed.montano@gmail.com](mailto:rev.ed.montano@gmail.com)

We've all heard the old sayings and clichés, such as “out with the old, in with the new”, as well as all the well-wishes from our family and friends, “happy new year”, “all the best in the new year”, etc. Sometimes we stop to wonder why we say those things to our loved ones. Is it because the year just ending has been a terrible year; did something bad happen in the just past year? Was something missed or lost? So, what if the previous year was a good one with mostly positive experiences and end results? Every year, we experience this same phenomenon, the year ends and the new year begins. I find it comforting that we, as human beings, feel the desire to gather with other people to celebrate this annual event of passing and birth, dying and being born. There is a renewed hope, of sorts, that the new year will give us new opportunities to get things done, to try new things, and sometimes, to mend certain things in our lives. It would appear that the new year is a new opportunity in our lives regardless of our age. This is the very nature of what we call hope. Our hope rests in the very nature of our humanity, which is one of collective and mutual support amongst our social circles. Another cliché says, “no man is an island”, meaning that we were created to live in groups of people, clans, societies, etc. Even the Bible itself expresses it clearly, “it is not good that man should be alone...” (cf. Genesis 2:18). In this sense all of us here can give ourselves a little pat on the back because the fact that we gather here as comrades means that we share a common bond, that we feel the desire to be and work in community for a (or many) common cause(s). That is very good, indeed. With this said, no one ever said that living with other people would be easy, even living in our own families is not always a bed of roses. We know and accept this as a fact of life. Do we recognize and accept the same fact when interacting with other people, friends, colleagues, comrades, and even strangers? One of the most difficult things we will ever do in our lives is to engage and do battle with our innermost selves. At times like this, I find it good and necessary to take a look at ourselves, but we must go deeper than the surface, to look at what the year has brought, how we have faced those challenges, and most important, what have we learned about ourselves, both personally and collectively. When we are able to do this with honesty and integrity, we find that there is a liberating conscience because becoming comfortable with our own vulnerability is a gift that makes us stronger, not weaker. Being completely honest with ourselves allows us to own our mistakes and adapt our lives so that we will not make the same mistake again. Being completely honest with ourselves also allows us to be honest with everyone we meet, recognizing the fact that we are intricately connected with others, and armed with that knowledge, we build a better world. Sometimes, though, it seems that we have fallen into the social conventions of saying something out of habit or societal norm. I'd like to invite everyone of you reading this piece to stop and think of one or two times when you've wished someone else a Happy New Year, and the best in the new year. What made you say that? What were you thinking when the words were spoken? My prayer and hope is that we take the extra couple of seconds to truly mean our spoken well wishes, and that this sentiment is not limited to special occasions throughout the year, but that this new perspective becomes our guiding principle for everything we do. Perhaps this could be a new New Year's resolution, one that is worth cultivating every day of the year, and every year going forward. Let us continuously look inwardly and evaluate our actions, motivations, and thoughts in order to clothe ourselves with what St. Paul calls the new self (cf. Ephesians 4:22- 25). So, yes, “out with the old, in with the new” has now become another battle cry of sorts. Our battle has begun, not with guns and ammunition, but rather with our very selves in order to continue growing in the finding of our true self, looking into ourselves more deeply every day, so we can liberate ourselves from the old chains of selfishness and arrogance, and start living in the freedom of all God's children. Indeed, living with other people is simply living with the rest of God's children, especially those who don't know they are loved and cared for. Let our honest and humble vulnerability be our strength and armor so that we can live in, work for, and defend this freedom for each of us and for the world. May God's blessing be with you now and remain with you always!



### Update on the Refugee Families

by Barb Blair, Chair of Afghan Committee



**Marjorie Toner** and I would like to thank all the wonderful donors and helpers that have attended our monthly drop offs with donations to help refugees arriving in our community in 2022. The support from the Manotick area has been outstanding! We are pausing the drop offs at the Legion until the first Saturday of April in the New Year (2023).  
Donations can still be dropped off at 729 Ridgewood Ave (across Riverside from Mooney's Bay) at the old Country Grocer store. Please check the "[From House to Home Ottawa](#)" Facebook page for the weekly hours. There is an ongoing need as more people arrive from Afghanistan, Ukraine and other places. Wishing you and yours peace, joy and safety in life!



## RECENT EVENTS

### Turkey Dinner in Memory of Karol Bilyj, December 18

Photos by Simone Bachelor

The Sunday Lunch Turkey Dinner in memory of **Karol Bilyj** had 75 or so in attendance. About \$800.00 was raised to cover our costs and donate \$248.00 to the *Wounded War Veterans for Service Dogs*. Kudos to all who helped prepare and serve the meal and those who set up and took down the hall.



Mike Schulz preparing the turkey



Kris Schulz sampling the turkey as Roy Blair and Judy McMillan look on



The volunteers (L-R) Peter Bachelor, Kris & Mike Schulz, Val Tuba, Judy McMillan, Simone Bachelor, Roy Blair





## RECENT EVENTS

### Christmas Bazaar, December 10

Photos by Simone Bachelor

A small crowd came to see the wares being sold. Surplus houseware donations for Afghan refugees were up for sale to raise money to purchase other items for the refugees. Thanks to **Val Tuba** and **Pat Whalen** for organizing the event.



Pat Whalen and Dinah Forrester at the jewelry table



The Bazaar



Kris Schulz made snacks



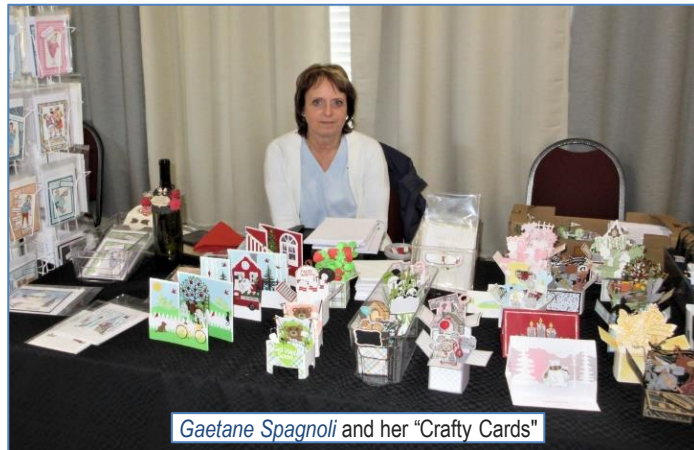
Barb Blair and Margery Toner raised money for Afghan refugees



Gladys & Terry Hunter. Gladys made Peruvian cookies



Author Mary Jane Maffini



Gaetane Spagnoli and her "Crafty Cards"



## RECENT EVENTS

### New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance, December 31

Photos by Kris Schulz

A good crowd for New Year's Eve dinner/dance. Probably one of the best yet! Fabulous food prepared by **Allen Galachiuk** and music by "Snap, Crackle and Pop". Kudos to **Kris Schulz, Louise Spratt** and **Val Tuba** for decorating the room.



Ross Urquhart and Helen Green, Sandra & Fred Demars



Chaplain Ed Montano and Louise Spratt



Garry Burke and Judy McMillan



Val Tuba preparing the centrepieces



Kris Schulz and members of the Barrhaven Legion





## RECENT EVENTS

### Breakfast with Santa, December 3

Photos by Simone Bachelor

About 70 people came. Santa did a fantastic job and had the children enthralled with his storytelling and candy canes. His reindeer, *Bijoux* (Chris Bradford's little dog), sat beside Santa for the whole event and the children just loved her. Many thanks to the chefs *Allen* and *Harvey* and volunteers who served and decorated the hall. Over \$300.00 was raised and went to the food bank.



Santa reading to the children



Chef Allen



Volunteer servers Peter Bachelor , Terry Hunter, Derk Duermeyer



A good crowd

### Ottawa Senators Honour Branch 314 Veteran

On December 6 at the Canadian Tire Centre, *Mark Phillips* was recognized and honoured for his 41+ years of service. Courtesy of *Lepine Apartments*, Mark was able to invite nine friends and family members to attend a Senators game in the "Hero's Ridge" suite. Former Senators superstar *Chris Phillips* presented Mark with an autographed Sens jersey, assisted by *Spartacat*.





**SPORTS CORNER**  
by **Dan Spitzig**  
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**Euchre Drop-in:** Thursday Night Euchre Drop-In starts between 7:00 and 7:30 pm.



**Bridge Drop-in:** Wednesday afternoon bridge is at 1:00 pm. All are welcome.



**Thursday Night Darts League:** at 7:30 pm. Spares always welcome – arrive by 7:15 pm.



2022/23 Zone & District **SPORTS** are open to all members in good standing.

The Zone Sports Schedule is posted on the Sports Bulletin Board in the Members' Lounge.

**District Cribbage** is being held on Saturday, January 7 in Smiths Falls, where we have qualified two teams to play. Good luck, teams!



**District Darts** is being held in Mallorytown on Saturday, January 14. We have one team representing our branch at this event. We wish them luck!



**District Senior Darts** is being held on Saturday, February 4 in Renfrew. We have two teams who have qualified for this event. Good luck to them!

**District Euchre** is taking place on February 11 in Petawawa. We wish good luck to the one team who has qualified for this event!



**Euchre Tournaments.** The Manotick Legion is hosting 4-hand Euchre Tournaments on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month, from January to May. (*January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27*)  
The cost is \$10, and play begins at 1:00 pm. No pre-registration is necessary, and everyone is welcome.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

(mark your calendar!)



## Robbie Burns Night

### Robbie Burns Dinner/Dance

Saturday, January 21

6 pm to midnight

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Menu: corned beef, haggis, neeps and tatties

Cocktails from 6 to 7 pm, Dinner at 7 pm

Entertainment: Highland entertainment from 8 to 9 pm

Champlain School of Dance - dancers

MacEoin-Ramsay Pipe and Drum Band

Live band: Gib Rozon Band 9 pm -12 am

Register at 613-692-3243 or drop into the Legion.



**St. Patrick's Day Dinner/Dance** in March. Details to come.

## REGULAR EVENTS

### Happy Birthday!!

Wishing all those whose birthday is in January or February a great day. We are optimistic for returning to our Birthday socials soon.



Birthday social convener,  
**Sylvia McDonald**

### Next Executive Meetings

(usually held the first Monday of the month)

Monday, **January 9**, 7:00 pm

Monday, **February 6**, 7:00 pm

### Next General Meetings

(usually held the third Monday of the month)

Monday, **January 16**, 7:30 pm

Monday, **February 20**, 7:30 pm

## YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As your new membership co-chairs, we ask for your patience as we continue to learn the procedures and all the work involved in our new positions. Now that 2022 is behind us, we can be more focused and available to help you with your questions as far as membership is concerned. We have done some training and continue learning and will each be in the legion office once a week. Tuesdays from 10 am – 2 pm and Thursdays from 1 pm – 5 pm.

We can be reached at [rcbranch314@gmail.com](mailto:rcbranch314@gmail.com) or by calling the legion at 613-692-3243 and leave a message.

Sincerely, Comrades **Susan Dufault & Cathy Spitzig** Membership Co-Chairs

Please renew your membership if you have not already done so.

If you renew online, there is an option to have auto renew. Should you choose this option, you will receive an email reminder one month prior to the annual auto renewal as well as two weeks prior. Should your credit card they have on file for your renewal be about to expire, you would receive an email to that affect also, so no worries.

When renewing your membership, however you do it, remember to check if you missed any years. You can pay for years you missed. That way there will be no lapse in your years of service.

Parents, guardians, spouses, and adult children of serving retired or passed CAF and RCMP members who have not yet joined the Legion can now receive a first free year of membership at the Legion. This must be done online through the legion.ca website.

### New Members

*Congratulations and  
Welcome to Branch 314!*

**Robert Killens**, Ordinary member  
**Richard Lemay**, Ordinary member  
**Antonio DeLuca**, Affiliate member

**Paul Slominski**, Ordinary member (transfer from Gatineau)  
**Lundert VanBurschotin**, Affiliate member (transfer from Renfrew)

## HELP WANTED

1. The youth education committee requires a member who speaks fluent French to communicate with the French language schools in our area. We have a volunteer who translates written communications, but nobody on the committee speaks French fluently.

2. Members are required for the Branch Colour Party. Volunteers will require a uniform. Experience in drill would be an asset, but not a requirement. Training will be provided.

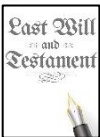
Interested members should reply to **Roy Blair**  
via e-mail at [royden.blair@yahoo.ca](mailto:royden.blair@yahoo.ca).



**March-April 2023 Issue**  
Deadline to submit material:  
**Friday, February 24**  
Publish and mail out:  
**Friday, March 3**

### On the lighter side

One of the shortest wills ever written:  
"Being of sound mind, I spent all the money."



A retired man now volunteers to entertain patients in assisted living homes and hospitals. He visited one hospital in Brooklyn and brought along his portable keyboard.

After telling jokes and singing songs at patients' bedsides, he said farewell and, "I hope you get better." One elderly gentleman replied, "I hope you get better, too."



A senior is sitting at a bar when a young woman walks in and sits down a few seats over.

The senior man gets up, shuffles over to her, leans in, and asks, "So... do I come here often?"



### PONDER THIS

My goal in life is to be as good of a person as my dog already thinks I am.



*Anonymous*



Three old guys are out walking. The first one says, "Windy, isn't it?"

The second one says, "No, it's Thursday!"

The third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a beer."

From <https://www.scarymommy.com/jokes-seniors>

Legionnaire co-editors: **Simone Bachelor & Mark Phillips**

If you have anything you would like published in the next newsletter, please e-mail it to [nurseladybee@gmail.com](mailto:nurseladybee@gmail.com)

We're always looking for photos, and we welcome suggestions for "Ponder This" and "On the Lighter Side".

[Editors' note: names in **bold blue** are Legion members (Comrades); other names are in *italic blue*.]

