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Royal Canadian Legion

South Carleton Branch 314

5550 Ann St, PO Box 123

Manotick ON K4M 1A3

Vol 12 Issue 5

September - October 2023

Lest we forget

Branch hours are Tuesday to Saturday 1-5 pm.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Comrades! Summer is coming to a close, I hope everyone had a safe and happy one. Your executive has been busy these past few months. We presently have 274 members. Cathy Spitzig and Susan Dufault have been busy with the membership. Great job and thank you. Volunteers are always needed so please consider helping out your legion. Answering phones, secretarial duties are some of the ways to help. You will be trained. Helping out a legion events is also a good way to participate. We have a new cadet commander Captain Stephanie Bowman. Although the cadet corps has many members, they now hold their military parades at another location. The biathlon training in October will be held at our legion. Our banner program was well received and we have 21 requests for banners in memory of deceased veterans well as Joyce Lebeau who was a veteran and a valuable volunteer to our branch. We continue to have Friday BBQ's from 11:30 - 1:30. Dinner dances will begin in September. Call the legion to book your reservation. Hall rentals and the bar have been going well but we still need your support to continue these operations at the branch. Darts, euchre and

shuffleboard are available for a fun night out. Check the Legionnaire and the sports board in the bar for dates and times. Photography class, free of charge, are starting Monday, September 25 and the last Monday of the month from then on. Call the Legion to book. Our annual poppy campaign is getting prepared to begin the last Monday in October. Volunteers are always needed to man the various poppy stations in our zone including the EY centre. Please leave your name in the front office. Take care. We hope to see you Monday, September 18th, 7:30 pm at the return of our general meetings.

In comradeship, **Shirley Spinks** shirleyspinks48@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Honouring those who Served

Fr. **Ed Montano** †, Branch Chaplain
613-355-4776, rev.ed.montano@gmail.com



Sometimes when I'm about to start writing something, a sermon, an article, a blog, etc., I spend way too much time pondering what I'm going to write about. It is usually the case when I have to come up with a theme or topic. In this issue, we focus on Veteran's Week taking place in November. That got me thinking that the very reason for the Royal Canadian Legion to exist is to honour and assist all those who have served, and continue serving, sovereign and country; those whom we owe the very lives we are able to enjoy. Then I thought, "Why is it just one week in November that we celebrate our veterans?" Much like Christians are called to follow Christ's teachings in the building of the Kingdom/Reign of God here on earth, the Legion's members are called to work in the service of our veterans and the communities they live in. When I think about it, this is not unlike the commandment to love God and love neighbour as oneself. You see, when we do this loving thing that God calls us to do, we are, in fact, serving one another, ensuring that we are all taken care of equally and in a dignified way. When it comes to our veterans, we would do well to remember the words of St. Paul when he says, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge, will award unto me on that day." Our veterans have done this too, but somehow there are still challenges for too many of them who, for whatever reason, cannot access services and care. This is NOT the way of God's Kingdom! It falls upon us, as The Royal Canadian Legion, to be the eyes, ears, arms, hands and feet of a loving God who wants to make sure all of God's children are taken care of. While we as a legion, are not able to serve and support everybody in the world who needs it, we are able to serve, assist and support our veterans. We already do that, which is good and godly work, but there is still much work to be done, and not enough labourers are involved. My invitation and exhortation to you all is to remember the reason why we joined the Legion. Let us listen to and heed the words of Jesus calling us to be labourers of this Kingdom or Reign of God. A kingdom of peace, justice, and equity, especially for those less fortunate, as well as for those less able. With this in mind, let us also work so that Veterans' Week happens all year round, so that more people know and appreciate the sacrifice that ALL our veterans make, so that fewer and fewer veterans must endure unnecessary challenges and hardships. As a Legion, it is our DUTY to do this work. As people of faith, it is our CALLING to do this work. It is in performing our duty by answering our calling with a strong and grateful heart that this Kingdom of God is built here and now. These are our marching orders from the Highest possible command, and we are too happy to receive, acknowledge, and obey them. Amen!

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
Website: www.2958rcacc.ca
Corps phone: 613-599-3355

Branch 314 supports the gathering of household treasures to be distributed to refugees from Afghanistan and the Ukraine in particular, and any other refugees who need help furnishing their new Canadian homes.



Barb and **Margery** wish to thank you all for your incredible generosity of treasures for the refugees from Afghanistan, Ukraine and elsewhere. We always need toasters. What about curtains, teapots, chesterfields, living room chairs, mattresses? School supplies will be in great demand as children are enrolling for and returning to school. Please drop off any small items at our Legion Branch. If you have a chesterfield or living room chairs for donation, please phone **Suzie**, at "From House to Home", 613-261-9635 or 613-878-4235 for Suzie directly. They are really needed.

Thank you for all you have given.

by **Barb Blair**, Chair, From House to Home, Manotick



The Legionnaire is pleased to mention kind donations by members, families and groups. Please submit to nurseladybee@gmail.com or into **Simone's** mailbox.



Thanks to the Wednesday afternoon Bridge Club for a magnificent gift of \$500.00 to buy new tables.



Thank you to all those who have dropped off pennies for our homeless veterans.

Royal Canadian Legion Symbols

The blood red poppy of Flanders is immortalized as an emblem of sacrifice and remembrance for the honouring of the thousands who laid down their lives for those ideals which we, as Canadians, cherish. The poppy calls upon us to remember not only those who have died, but those they left dependent, and those who still suffer from honourable wounds and disabilities. The poppy challenges us to serve in peace, as in war, to help those who need our help, and to protect those who need our protection.



The torch shall remain symbolic of justice, honour, and freedom throughout our land. These were the principles for which our comrades fought and died. We of today and tomorrow covenant to hold it high lest we break faith with those who died. Justice, honour, and freedom are our charge for now and forever. We serve best by fostering these principles in our children, their children, and ourselves so long as the Royal Canadian Legion shall survive.

*Are you an active member,
The kind that would be missed,
Or are you just content
Your name is on the members list?*

*Do you attend the meetings,
And mingle in the crowd,
Or would you rather stay at home
And complain long and loud?*

*Do you give a little time
And help make things tick,
Or leave the work to just a few,
And talk about the "clique"?*

*There's quite a program schedule
That means success... if done
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.*

*So come to all our meetings,
And help with hand and heart,
Don't just be another member,
But take an active part.*

*Think it over member,
Are you right or wrong,
Are you an active member,
Or do you just belong?*

Anonymous

RECENT EVENTS

11th Annual Soapbox Derby, August 27

Photos by Tony DeLuca



Ottawa Mayor Mark Sutcliffe

**THE ALLAN HAAN
MANOTICK SOAPBOX DERBY**
BEAVERWOOD ROAD

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023

Bring your own cart
and experience the "Thrill of the Hill"

- FAMILY FUN
- FOOD & DRINK
- DERBY RACES

If you don't have a cart,
we may be able to provide one for you.



Allan Haan with the winner



Allen Galachuk flipping burgers



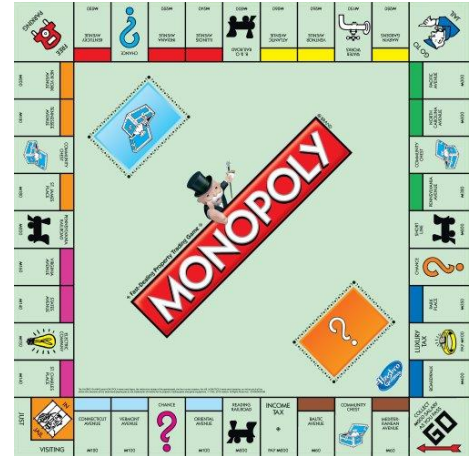
Hoppy Riddell

Did you know?

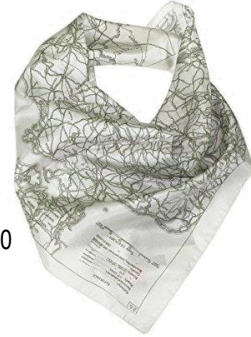
How Monopoly Helped WWII Prisoners Escape...

excerpts of an article written by *Ryan Unger of Boredom Therapy*, Submitted by *Simone Bachelor*

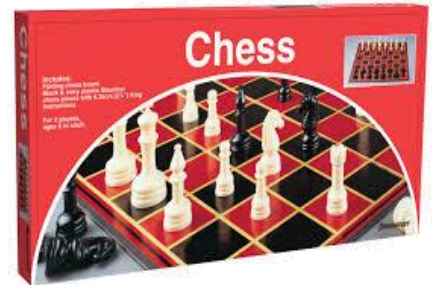
For over a century, Monopoly has been one of the most popular board games in the world. While it was invented to help friends and family members around the world spend quality time together, what nobody could have imagined is what a crucial role it would play in the Second World War. What role could a board game possibly have played in a war, you ask. Throughout WWII, thousands of British prisoners were held captive in camps with practically no hope of escape. However, the British intelligence forces realized one day that they actually had a huge advantage. This is because the Germans allowed British captives to receive care packages from humanitarian groups while they were in prison. Despite the knowledge that each care package would be thoroughly inspected before being passed to the captives, the British intelligence forces still managed to find a way to get around this... MI-9, the British intelligence organization, devised a simple plan. Before sending troops off on a mission, they informed them to be on the lookout for Monopoly games in the event of their capture. MI-9 teamed up with Waddington's, Monopoly's manufacturer in Britain, to masterfully hide tiny maps, tools, magnetic compasses and other supplies inside the game



itself to aid prisoners in their escape. Clayton Hutton, the British intelligence officer who came up with this plan, once said, 'My aim, right from the start of my association with the escape department, had always been to discover a foolproof system for introducing my "toys" into the camps themselves. One of the tricks used was to get the maps printed on pieces of silk to prevent them from wearing out over time, as well as to make them waterproof. It was an absolutely ingenious decision.' During the war, it's estimated that nearly 35,000 British soldiers escaped from imprisonment, and around 20,000 of them claimed to have used supplies found with Monopoly games to give them a hand.



What's more, Monopoly wasn't the only game that helped British prisoners of war during WWII. In fact, messages, bank notes, and maps were also routinely added to packs of cards and chess sets which all went right under the Germans' noses! Who would have ever thought that such an ordinary board game could have been responsible for saving the lives of so many people? Talk about a 'Get out of jail free' card!



Did you know?

Dominion Command's sitting executive members (key ones shown below) were chosen during the 48th Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Convention in August, 2021. This executive council will be in place for three years.

DOMINION COMMAND'S LEGION HOUSE 86 Aird Place Kanata



Larry Murray

Grand President



Bruce Julian

Dominion President



Owen Parkhouse

Dominion 1st Vice-President



Berkley Lawrence



Sharon McKeown

Dominion Vice-Presidents

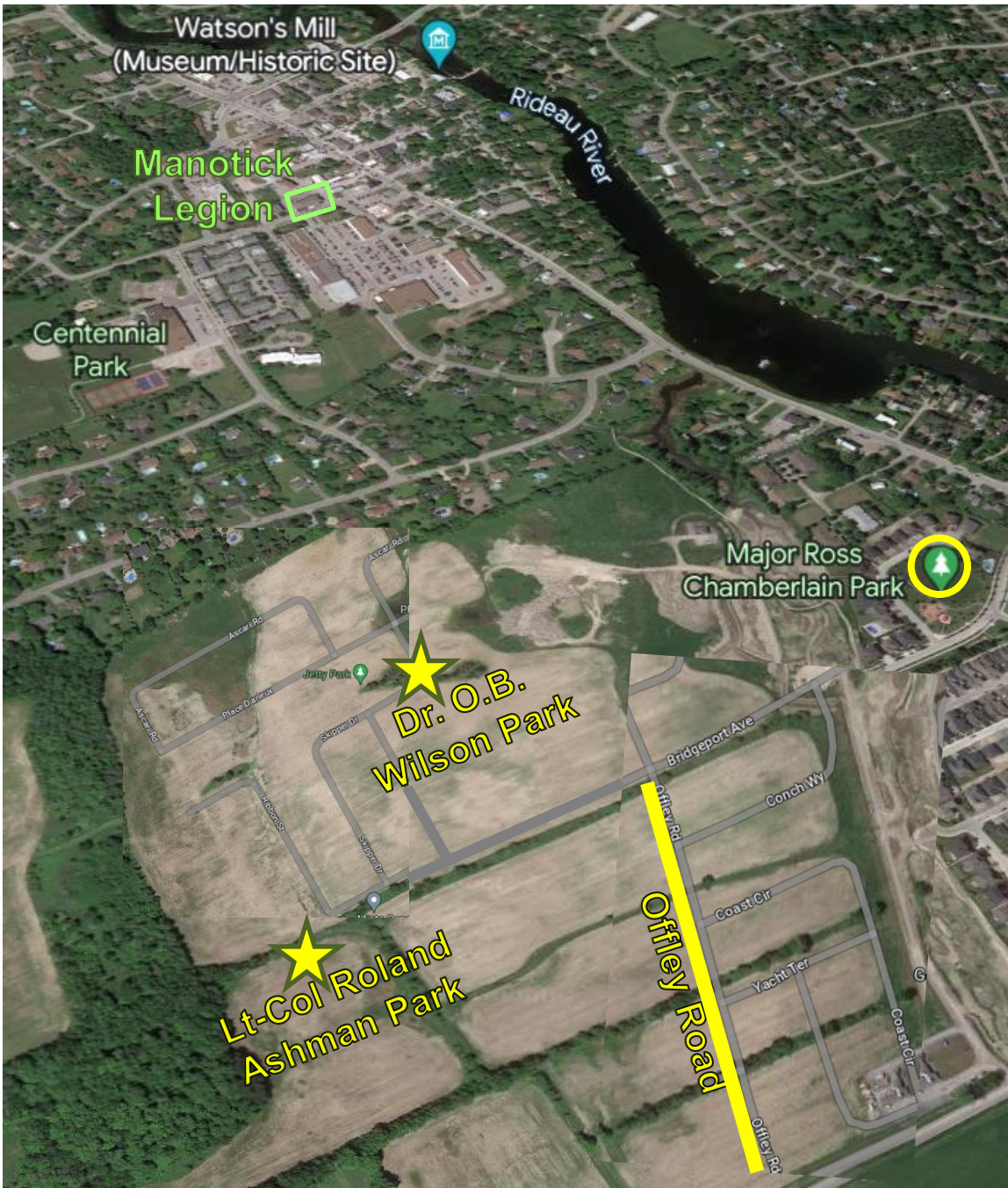


Brian Weaver

The Commemorative Naming Committee

by Dennis Osmond, Chair

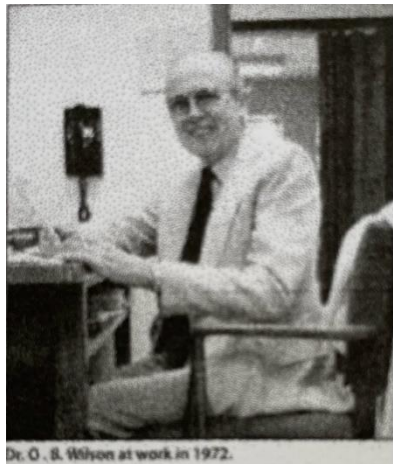
In 2013 we were successful in naming a large park in the Minto Mahogany community for *Major W. Ross Chamberlain* (see map below). Since then, our committee members (currently *Allan Haan*, *Peter Delaney*, *Richard McDonald*, *Roy Blair*, and myself) have worked to identify other members of our Branch who, because of distinguished military service and service to our local community, could qualify for the honour of having a public space (street or park) named for them. We have worked closely with Minto Corporation and the City of Ottawa. We have proposed three candidates for the city to consider the acceptability of their names and merit, processes that have been much delayed by COVID and municipal elections. Nevertheless, we are now pleased to report the approval of all three candidates: *George Offley*, *Dr. O.B. Wilson*, and *Lt-Col Roland Ashman*. The locations are shown below, and summaries of the individuals are given on the following page. We await further news from the city concerning dates for completing these projects and organizing official naming ceremonies.



NOTE: Photomap is a composite using older satellite imagery

Commemorative Naming Committee (cont'd)

George Offley had a remarkable military record in World War II, serving with distinction as a pilot in a succession of historic, hazardous, and far-flung theatres of war, from which his survival was little short of miraculous. In solo open-cockpit planes, he covered the evacuation of beaches at Dunkirk, participated in the torpedo attack on the Bismark battleship, flew in the North Africa campaign, and covered convoys and hunted submarines in the North Atlantic and on the notorious 'Murmansk Run', receiving many decorations for his exploits. Post-war, George was a tireless volunteer, the 'Heart and Soul' of our Branch 314. He campaigned for veterans' rights, promoted the welfare of senior citizens and youth, and held an almost unparalleled number of important positions in the Branch. Well known in the community, he was described as a 'beloved hero of Manotick'. A prominent road forming a main entrance into Mahogany, extending from Century Road to Bridgeport Road, has already been named 'Offley Road', and appropriate signage installed.



Dr. O. B. Wilson at work in 1972.

Dr. Orville Badham (O.B.) Wilson enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1942, serving as a radar technician attached to an R.A.F. Night Fighter Unit. He volunteered for overseas service in India and Ceylon where the R.A.F. contributed importantly to the defence of India. With financial support from the R.C.A.F., he later studied medicine at Queens University and interned in Ottawa, finding his true vocation as a family doctor in Manotick. Single handed, he worked around the clock seeing patients in his home office and travelled many miles in all weathers to see patients in their homes, often distant farms, including the home delivery of generations of Manotick citizens. His dedication endeared him to his patients who called him, simply, 'Dr. O.B.' He was prominent in the community, an active volunteer in local organizations and Board member of the Rideau Senior's Centre. As the village grew, he created the Manotick Medical Centre, a model clinic for comprehensive medical care. A delightful city park to be named 'Dr. O.B. Wilson Park' has been constructed in Mahogany. Featuring excellent play structures, many trees around the periphery and within the park, and interesting contouring, the park is already in active use by local families.

Lieutenant-Colonel Roland (Roly) Ashman enlisted in the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa (Machine Gun) in 1939 as a Private, subsequently commissioned as Lieutenant. In France, two days after D-Day, he showed exceptional bravery in leading his platoon under fire, becoming wounded, taken prisoner, escaping, being rescued, rehabilitated in England, and returning to fight with the Cameron Highlanders until the end of the war. His many decorations include the French Croix de Guerre with Silver Star for heroism. Post-war, he re-enlisted with the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa Militia, becoming Lieutenant-Colonel and Commanding Officer. He served tirelessly for veterans and was prominent in the Manotick community. President of our Branch 314, he was active in the wider organization of the Royal Canadian Legion as Commander of District G. He chaired the Manotick Village Board, the Library Board, and the Centennial Committee. An extensive area adjacent to the future school on Bridgeport Road will become a wonderfully equipped public park named 'Lieutenant-Colonel Roland Ashman Park'.



SPORTS CORNER
by **Dan Spitzig**
613-692-8607
danspitzig@gmail.com



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



Thursday Night Dart League. The league will be starting again on Thursday, September 7. Please be there no later than 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.



Euchre Tournaments. The Manotick Legion will be hosting four-hand euchre tournaments once per month. They will take place on the first Saturday of each month from October to June. The next two tournaments are October 7 and November 4. The cost for each tournament is \$10, and all entry fees will be paid out. Registration is at 12:30, and play will begin at 1:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

2023/24 Zone & District **SPORTS** are open to all members in good standing. Stay tuned for the upcoming schedule.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Legion Branch 314 Veterans Dinner

Coming Soon! - September 19, 2023

All Veterans Welcome



- Time:** 12:00 p.m. until finished
- Cost:** Free
- Where:** Royal Canadian Legion Branch 314 (Manotick) 5550 Ann Street, Manotick, ON, K4M 1A3
- Dress:** Casual; uniforms optional
- Why:** To thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your contribution to our freedom and security
- Registration:** ASAP (not later than September 08, 2023) Call the Branch at (613) 692-3243 or e-mail the Branch at rclbranch314@gmail.com to register to inquire about the dinner.

Interested in Photography?

Free tutorials and information sessions
7.00 pm to 9.30pm at
The Legion, 5550 Ann Street, Manotick
Starting September 25th 2023 and the
fourth Monday of following months

Free entry
All welcome
Varied programming

For more details email: tony44foto@gmail.com

A comment from Tony, the coordinator of this event:
"This is a non-judgmental group. A sincere interest in photography, and a desire to improve your images is all that is required. We don't care about fancy reputations or equipment."

September Dinner-Dance

Saturday, September 30, 6:00-11:00 pm
\$30 per person

Menu: Brochette chicken, Coconut chicken, Curried chicken,
Rice with edamame, Vegetables, Dessert
Band: Snap, Crackle & Pop

Attendees need to call 613-692-3243 or sign in at the Legion. 4 days notice required to sign up or cancel. Payment at the door.

October Dinner-Dance

Saturday, October 28
Hallowe'en Theme
Band: Arc of Fire

November Dinner-Dance

Saturday, November 25
Turkey and fixin's menu
Band: TBA



REGULAR EVENTS




Friday BBQs Come and enjoy a BBQ lunch on our patio.
Every Friday from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm.



Happy Birthday!!

Wishing all those whose birthday is in September or October a great day. We hope to return to our Birthday socials very soon – stay tuned!

Birthday social convener,
Sylvia McDonald



Next Executive Meetings
(usually held the 2nd Monday of the month)
Monday, September 11, 7:00 pm
Monday, October 2, 7:00 pm

Next General Meeting
(usually held the 3rd Monday of the month)
Monday, September 18, 7:30 pm
Monday, October 16, 7:30 pm

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

'Tis the Season for Membership Removal.

Hello comrades, It is time for early bird membership renewal. Renew between September 1 and November 30 for 2024 and pay \$55, saving you \$5 on your membership. You can renew at the legion during regular office hours, or preferably online at www.legion.ca. If renewing online, enter the website then click member login, then create a profile (if first time renewing online), then click on renew membership and follow the instructions.

When renewing 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 effect also, so no worries. There is a program called MemberPerks® that provides legion members discounts on all kinds of things. Travel, medical, health, food, entertainment and more. If you sign up and take advantage of these offers, your membership can pay for itself with the savings through this program. There is also an app that can be downloaded to your phone. When renewing your membership, however you do it, remember to check if you missed any years. You can pay for any years missed so there is 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.

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

New Members
Congratulations and
Welcome to Branch 314!

John James, Ordinary member (transfer from Deep River)
Donald Whitehurst, Ordinary member (transfer from Barrhaven)
James Stubbs, Associate member
Joe Reitano, Associate member

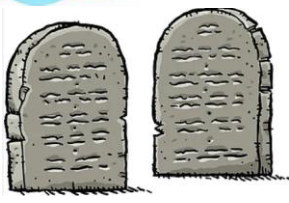


Our Legion survives on volunteers, and can't thrive without them. Please contact the office if you are able to help out in any capacity – large or small. Thank you!!



November - December 2023
Deadline to submit material:
Monday, October 30
Publish and mail out:
Friday, November 3

On the lighter side



Twelve Commandments for Seniors

1. Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice.
2. "In Style" are the clothes that still fit.
3. You don't need anger management. You need people to stop making you mad.
4. Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.
5. The biggest lie you tell yourself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
6. "On time" is when you get there.
7. Even duct tape can't fix stupid – but it sure does muffle the sound.
8. It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller?
9. Lately, you've noticed people your age are so much older than you.
10. Growing old should have taken longer.
11. Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.
12. You still haven't learned to act your age, and you hope you never will.

PONDER THIS
The more you try to argue with someone, the less likely you are to convince them of your perspective.



And one more: "One for the road" means going to the bathroom before you leave the house.

From <https://www.allaboutestates.ca/12-commandments-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

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.]