

Branch #123 Waterford 2015-2017

Executive

President/Nevada/Sick and Visiting	Ruth Anne Masecar
Past President/Seniors/Bar	Sharon Anderson
1 st Vice President/Honours&Award/ Co House and Grounds	John Toms
2 nd Vice President/ Poppy/ Public Relations	Norma-Jean Kennedy
3 rd Vice President/Finance Chair/ Treasurer	Wayne Jenkins
Sgt.-at-Arms	Sueli Heise
Secretary/Membership/Bylaws/ Artifacts/LA Liaison	Barb Taylor-Gagné

Executive Committee

Sports/Bulletin	Herb Taylor
Co House and Grounds	Henry Zalefski
Veterans' Services	Bill Arthur
Youth Education/T&F	Peggy Taylor
Training, Organizational Development Officer	Louise Turner
Hall Rentals	Barb Runions
Web Master	Matthew Taylor
Padre	Rev. Adolph Hahn
Entertainment	Bill Danyluk

Ladies' Auxiliary Executive

President	Mary Hipson
1st Vice President	Sharon Whitehead
2nd Vice President	Lynda LaPlante
Secretary	Abby Gerber
Treasurer	Elaine Woloshyn
Sgt.-at-Arms	Corrie Judge
Sick/Visiting Convenor	Evelyn Babineau
Social Convenor	Anne McSherry
Sports Officer	Dianna Vranken

The Royal Canadian Legion Waterford Branch #123

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“They serve till Death! Why not we?”

**News Bulletin and Calender
April/May 2017**

President's Report

This will be my last Bulletin report for this term. I can definitely say that it has been a learning experience and I want to thank the current Executive for their hard work and support. This is definitely not a one person job and it takes a unified team to be successful.

With that being said, again I remind you to come out on April 27th at 6 P.M. to hear all the annual reports and then to remain for the elections of "your" future Executive. Your support makes a difference!

On March 19th three of our Executive attended the Zone Meeting and elections in Port Rowan. Your new Zone Commander is Doreen Oates from Simcoe , the Deputy Commander is Dennis Tryell from Delhi and Don Biggs becomes our Past Zone Commander. We as a Branch are proud of Don and how hard he has fought for the welfare of Branches during his term in Office. I am sure his voice will not disappear.

As we enter into April, we must take time to remember the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge on April 9th. The battle began on this day and was one of our country's most significant battlefield victories. It is a shame that in achieving this victory, some 3,000 Canadians lost their lives and more than 7,000 were wounded. This is what Remembrance is all about! Our flag will be lowered on April 9th and our Brunch will honour all of these courageous men and women. No matter where you are on that day, try to take time to pause, reflect and be thankful!

We Will Remember Them!

In closing, a reminder to all of our members, that we are again entering into a very busy time with banquets and weddings, as well as our own events. We will be looking for cooks, dishwashers, kitchen helpers, servers, barbecuers etc. Please don't hesitate to volunteer. Just remember- it is a lot easier, than walking onto a battlefield (food for thought)!

President,
Ruth Anne Masecar

Nevada Report

Our Nevada sales continue to progress at a faster rate than most Legions in our Zone. The thanks must go to our faithful supporters of the program. It is my understanding that only 60% of Legions across Ontario sell Nevada and this is mainly due to the difficulties involved with licensing and the percentages that we are allowed to keep from the profit. Our current license is ¾ completed and the following is a list of donations made from it:

\$50	South Coast Special Needs
\$50	Waterford Minor Hockey
\$50	Fresh Air Fund(Simcoe C.A.S.)
\$550	Seniors' Spring Fling
\$120	Wed. Suppers for shut-in members/Veterans
\$200	Seniors' Foot Clinic
\$375	Simcoe & District Youth Soccer
\$1000	St. Bernard's Gr.8 Outdoor Experience
\$300	Bowl for Kids Sake
\$1000	Stedman Hospice
\$300	Last Post Fund
\$250	South Brant Youth Darts
\$200	Windham Optimist Sports League

Again, thank you to all who helped support these worthy donations.

Nevada Chair, Ruth Anne Masecar

Membership

There are some members who will unnecessarily be receiving a direct mail from Dominion Command. You may have paid your 2017 dues at the club but the final paperwork has yet to be processed at Command when the computer generated mailing list is developed. These letters are directed to members who have yet to renew for 2017.

Command has approved a new plastic membership card for the 2018 membership year. These new cards will be available for the 2018 Early Bird campaign in September.

Membership Chair, Barb Taylor Gagné

Zone B1 Sports

Feeling sporty! Darts, cards and crib boards are available in the bar. Just ask the Bar Steward. Don't forget about the pool table! Zone Sports are still rolling Sign up sheets are in the foyer of the Club Room for Golf, horseshoes and washer toss..

Great news on the Darts front. Our Senior team won the Zone tournament in Cayuga and thus our Branch will host the event next year. Mike Bishop will be representing us at the Provincial Dart Tournament in singles play in April. Good Luck!

Our Cribbage team gave it a good try but lost out at Provincials in Thorold. Had to have a sub for Cribbage star Louise (Shuffle Demon) Turner who was unable to attend.

Next up is Horseshoes, Washer Toss and Golf. Sign up sheets are in the foyer.

Sports Chair, Herb Taylor taylorhe@hotmail.ca

Poppy Report

On February 23rd, the Branch General Meeting was held. At that time, donations from the Poppy Trust Fund were presented.

Norfolk General Hospital Nursing Home	\$1000
Stedman House Hospice	\$1000
Norview Lodge	\$1000
Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre	\$1000
Simcoe Cadet Corp.	\$500
Educational Bursary	\$500

These donations and bursary are made possible through the efforts of our Branch members and the Ladies Auxiliary, Thanks to all who volunteered

Poppy Chair, Norma Jean Kennedy

Youth Report

Congratulations to our Zone Public Speaking winners.

Jonathan Waskwaabiish,	1 st	Grades 1-3
Grace Giles	3 rd	Grades 4-6
Maddie Bard	2 nd	Grades 7-9

Youth Chair, Peggy Taylor

Senior's Report

The "Canada 150 Seniors' Party" will be over when you read this bulletin. At the time of writing, all those involved with planning the party are becoming very excited about the many happenings that will take place. Lots of music from both kids and Seniors, dancing, a "Canada 150 Challenge", a "Reds and Whites Forever" Fashion Show, food and lots of fun! If you missed this one, don't worry, another will take place in September. Watch for news about that one.

Any Senior requiring "Foot Care" assistance should contact Sharon at 519-443-7567.

Senior's Chair, Sharon Anderson

Bar Report

The Branch 123 Bar continues to keep busy. Weekends keep us hopping quite often with the many extra events.

We wish those staff who have left us, the very best with their future endeavours.

We thank those who have worked for us in the past, for returning to help us whenever available. We welcome our new bar employees and thank them for fitting into our team so easily. We thank our Regular Part-time Staff for their dedication and their co-operativeness with Branch 123.

Thank you Members for treating all our Bar Staff courteously and respectfully. They deserve it!!

Please read the minutes from the March Executive Meeting if you're interested in learning the latest WHMIS amendments to which we must comply.

If you have any bar concerns, please contact Sharon for immediate remediation.

Bar Chair, Sharon Anderson,

Mother's Day L.A.Brunch!
Delicious omelettes, pancakes,
bacon, sausage, eggs, goodies!
Sunday, May 14th



TERRY ANDERSON MEMORIAL GOLF



Saturday, May 27th
Springview Farm Golf Course
Registration covers Green Fees and
Steak Dinner
Register at the Bar
Carts (prepaid at Legion)
Steak Dinner Only/No Golf \$TBD
Cut Off Date-Monday, May 22nd

Honours & Awards

Congratulations to Barb Taylor- Gagne on receiving her Life Membership and also to those who received Branch Medals and Appreciation Certificates at the Awards Banquet.

Membership year pins were passed out to those present and anyone who has a pin coming to them can get it at the bar. The list of names is included in this bulletin.

Honours & Awards Chairman John Toms

We're on the Web

Check out the Branch #123 web site at www.waterfordlegion.ca for all of the latest pictures, events, news and more!

Vimy 2017

With the upcoming 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge we are once again reminded of the sacrifices of our veterans past and present. Recent research has revealed that the war trophy, a German mine thrower, which is located on the front lawn of Waterford District High School, was the first enemy gun captured by Canadian soldiers during the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Norfolk men who fell during the battle will be remembered in a special light show put on at the Carillon Tower by the Norfolk museums.

Vimy 1917-2017

After the initial German advances of the war, the battle on the Western Front quickly turned into a stalemate of trench fighting. By the spring of 1917, neither side was able to make significant gains. As part of an Allied offensive, a major attack was planned for April in the area of Arras, France. In this attack, the Canadians would be tasked with capturing Vimy Ridge.

The Canadians moved to the front lines across from Vimy Ridge in late autumn 1916. The Battle of Vimy Ridge would be the first time all four divisions of the Canadian Corps worked together as one formation. The planning and preparations for the battle were extensive.

Extensive "mining" operations were undertaken in which the Allies dug tunnels beneath the German lines and set huge explosives to be detonated when the time for the attack came. Elaborate tunnel systems with train tracks, piped water, lights, and huge underground bunkers to stockpile supplies and arms were also established to aid the Canadians in the battle.

The Battle of Vimy Ridge began at 5:30 a.m. on Easter Monday, April 9, 1917. The first wave of 20,000 Canadian soldiers, each carrying up to 36 kilograms of equipment, attacked through the wind-driven snow and sleet into the face of deadly machine gun fire.

The Canadians advanced behind a "creeping barrage." This precise line of intense artillery fire advanced at a set rate and was timed to the minute. The Canadian infantrymen followed the line of explosions closely. This allowed them to capture German positions in the critical moments after the explosions but before the enemy soldiers emerged from their underground bunkers.

Battalions in the first waves of the assault suffered great numbers of casualties, but the Canadian assault proceeded on schedule. Most of the heavily-defended ridge was captured by noon. Hill 145, was taken on the morning of April 10. Two days later, the Canadians took "the Pimple,". The Germans were forced to withdraw three kilometres and the Battle of Vimy Ridge was over. The cost: 3,600 fatal casualties and 7,400 wounded. At Vimy Ridge, regiments from coast to coast saw action together in a distinctly Canadian triumph, helping create a new and stronger sense of Canadian identity in our country..