



The Lacombe Legion



Volume 10 Number 9-10

Zone 3 District 4

September/October 2002

Remembrance Day



We sit in the assembly hall,
 We sit in the assembly hall,
 All is quiet, all is still
 The Two Minutes of Silence,
 Began to cause a chill,
 The coldness sweeps across us
 For knowing that soldiers had given their lives,
 Leaving children, loved ones, wives . . . !

But then I realize why they left their
 warm beds for cold, hard ground,
 Left protection for Death
 Left good meals for camp food.
 They did it for our safety, comfort and freedom.

So as I stand here remembering those who died for us
 I realize why
 They chose to die
 for us and our country.

They were loyal, and proud
 They would yell out loud
 Their battle cry

"For Canada and country,
 We'll fight 'till we die, for we are loyal
 And proud and willing to die for our country!"

As I think of them
 I know why we have
 This day to remember
 This day to mourn.
 That's why it's called
 Remembrance Day.

*Fiona Anderson,
 Mirror, Alberta*

Note -

Read more about this young lady on page three.

The cold winds blow and the snow begins to fall, reminding us that winter is on its way once again. But November also means red poppies on display all over the place.



Looking back, our hearts may feel somewhat cold and sad because of the thousands killed in war. The death of such potential, dreams unfulfilled, survivors scarred for life - what a high cost!

So we give thanks for the sacrifice and thanks for freedoms won. We glimpse those poppies coming out of the blood stained earth with such gentle strength.

Today the world seems on the verge of war and our blood runs cold at the thought. Our children and grandchildren have been almost untouched by war but what if . . . !

And then again we see those poppies - a reminder that the human spirit is strong. The coldness of winter is warmed by fellowship with family and friends. The coldness of our hearts can be warmed by the love and promises of our Heavenly Father.

At war, at peace, we put our trust in our God. So yesterday, today, tomorrow, and forever our God is in control.

Yesterday, today, tomorrow and beyond, the poppies shall grow as a reminder of our past, a support for each today, and a shared vision of each tomorrow.

Thanks be to God.

*Shealagh McClelland, D. M.,
 Branch Chaplain*

Lest We Forget

Coming Branch Events

Nov 2	Bazaar and Bake Sale 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Nov 24	Grey Cup party
	Christmas Party
Jan 11, 2003	Mixed Senior Darts

Veterans' Week

Once again Veterans' Week is fast approaching. Veterans' Week is held each year from November 5th to 11th. The week provides us with the opportunity to honour and remember the achievements of Canada's veterans. It also gives us the occasion to celebrate the accomplishments of our peacekeepers around the world.

Lacombe Legion Branch #79

Branch Hours

Monday to Saturday inclusive 3 p.m.-10 p.m.

Weekly Activities

Monday	Bingo	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Darts	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Cribbage	7:00 p.m.
Friday	Meat Draws	6:30 p.m.
Thursday	Action Group	Afternoon
Saturday	Meat Draws	4:30 p.m.
1st Saturday	Whist	7:00 p.m.
3rd Saturday	Military Whist	7:00 p.m.
Phone	Ruth Hoppus	782-5365
	Marie Long	782-2186

Meetings

Lacombe Branch #79

General Meeting	1st Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Executive Meeting	Last Thursday	7:30 p.m.

Ladies' Auxiliary

General Meeting	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
Executive Meeting	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion

5138 49 Street

Lacombe Alberta

T4L 1J2

Phone	(403) 782 6441
Fax	(403) 782 2077
Kitchen	(403) 782 7888
E-mail	rcl79@telusplanet.net



Lest We Forget

Comrade and veteran

Russell William Henley

Born October 14, 1918

Died October 14, 2002

Comrade Russ was a past-President of the Lacombe Branch and a staunch member.

The Lacombe Branch #79 offers heartfelt condolences to the family.

We welcome

?? **Rob McKinnon**

?? **Pauline Oberg**

as members of the lounge staff.

They join Cheryl Swarbrick who has served the Branch for several years.

Donations to Our Community

(January 15 to September 5 inclusive)

- ?? Victims' Services
- ?? Lions Club
- ?? Lacombe Outreach
- ?? Big Brothers and Big Sisters
- ?? Lacombe Hospital
- ?? Senior Activity (2)
- ?? Salvation Army, Red Shield Appeal
- ?? Meals on Wheels and Home Support
- ?? Lacombe Youth Bowling
- ?? Lacombe Diabetes Support Group
- ?? Girl Guides of Canada
- ?? Legion Track and Field
- ?? Canadian Cancer Society
- ?? Lacombe Chamber of Commerce
- ?? Lacombe Seniors
- ?? Bursary - Joanna Lee Neufeld
- ?? Bursary - George DenOudsten
- ?? Youth for Christ
- ?? Lacombe Dolphin Swim Club
- ?? Lacombe Youth Curling Club

Donations total \$16,350.00



Ladies Auxiliary Notes

Elsie Suter, Reporter

Ladies Auxiliary members in hospital.

Jean Bruns Royal Alex Hospital,
Edmonton.

Olive Boice Lacombe Hospital.
We wish them a speedy recovery.

Bursaries

Ladies Auxiliary Lacombe Branch 79

✂✂ Taryn Stuart

✂✂ Steven Schweneker

Ladies Auxiliary Command

✂✂ Heather Gullekson

Nov 2 (Saturday) Bazaar and Bake Sale
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Congratulations

Ponoka Branch #66

The Ponoka Branch is now providing their members with a newsletter - "**Branch #66 News**".

We wish them success in this important communication medium.



Did you notice the new, tall, bright and straight flag pole in front of the Branch building?

Many thanks to **J.C. Welding** and **Comrade Brian Brant** for making and installing it!



Welcome

New Members

✂✂Zach Kenney

✂✂Robert Muise

✂✂Danny Johnson

✂✂Gordon Hanson

✂✂George Pierson

The poem on page one was written by Fiona



Fiona Anderson

Anderson (a 10-year old student from the Mirror school) for the junior category in the Royal Canadian Legion's annual picture, essay and poetry contests. It was selected for first prize among thousands of entries from schools across the country.

Her poem describes her feelings, she says, after seeing several television shows that were featured during last year's Remembrance Day activities.

Fiona thinks schools don't know teach enough about Canada's history. "I think it's important that war history doesn't get lost," she says!

Her interest in things military comes naturally. Her father Andrie and mother Judy served in the Canadian Forces.

Fiona concludes her poem, after explaining that the soldiers gave up their warm beds, good meals and in many cases their lives for the safety, comfort and freedom of future generations:

Act of Remembrance

*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them.*

Laurence Binyon

Leave of Absence

Bernice Daze, the Branch bookkeeper is leaving for a few months to care for a family member. The position is presently being advertised for her replacement.

We wish you well and please return when you are able.



Attention Grads!

Do you live within the Town of Lacombe School System?
Are you a child or grand child of an Ex-service person?

If you are attending, or planning to attend university, college or technical school and require financial assistance, you may apply for a Legion bursary.

The bursary is based on financial need, provided the applicant has a satisfactory scholastic record and is a first or second year student.

Application forms are available from any institution of advanced education in the Province of Alberta/NWT Command.

Bursaries

The Lacombe Branch

is pleased to present Bursary Awards to Grade 12 students graduating from the Lacombe Christian High School.

☞☞ They are

☞☞ George Den Oudsten

☞☞ JoannaLee Neufeld.

Congratulations! We wish you well as you continue your education away from Lacombe.

Legion Awards

Royal Canadian Legion

☞☞ Sarah Russell

Lacombe Legion Memorial Award

☞☞ Ashley Ainsworth

These deserving students are relatives of veterans in Lacombe area and were selected by the teachers of their school.

**In peace,
sons bury their fathers . . .**

**In war,
fathers bury their sons!**

Sick and Visiting



☞☞ Lloyd Penrice
☞☞ Murray MacKenzie



Poppy Facts



During the Napoleonic Wars, the poppy drew attention as the mysterious flower that bloomed over the graves of fallen soldiers.

In the 20th Century, the poppy again was widely noticed after soils in France and Belgium became rich in lime from rubble during the First World War. The little red flowers flourished around the graves of the war dead as they had 100 years earlier.

In 1915, Guelph, Ontario native John McCrae, a doctor serving with the Canadian Forces Artillery, recorded this phenomenon in his famous poem "In Flanders Fields".

Two days before the Armistice, Moina Michael, an American woman from Athens, Georgia, read the McCrae poem and was inspired to wear a poppy year-round in memory of the war dead.

In 1920, Madame E. Guérin of France visited the United States and happened to meet Miss Michael at the YMCA at Columbia University, where the latter was a volunteer. Mme. Guérin then resolved to sell handmade poppies around Armistice Day to raise money for poor children in the war-torn areas of Europe.

In 1921, Field-Marshal Earl Haig, the former Commander-in-Chief of the British Armies in France and Belgium and the principal founder of the British Legion, was sold on Mme. Guérin's fundraising idea and approved organization of the British Poppy Day Appeal by the Legion to raise money for poor and disabled veterans.

The same year, Mme Guérin visited Canada, and convinced the Great War Veterans Association (predecessor to the Royal Canadian Legion) to similarly adopt the poppy as a symbol of remembrance in aid of fundraising.

Today, the Poppy Campaign is one of the Royal Canadian Legion's most important programs. The money raised from poppy sales provides direct assistance for ex-service people in financial distress, as well as funding for medical appliances and research, home services, care facilities, and numerous other purposes.



The Legion in the Community

The Royal Canadian Legion is one of the foremost non-government agencies working for the well-being of Canadians in virtually every community across the country. Although well known as Canada's pre-eminent non-profit veterans support organization, relatively few Canadians realize that the Legion is also active in many other areas and its programs benefit people throughout society.

The Legion annually provides the following levels of community support activity:

- ?? The Legion spends \$2,600,000 on direct support to veterans in need and contributes 721,000 hours of volunteer time assisting veterans, ex-service members and their families;
- ?? The Legion commits \$3,700,000 to veterans and seniors housing projects;
- ?? The Legion spends \$2,130,000 on direct support to seniors and contributes over 515,000 hours of volunteer time and has 395,000 senior citizens participating in programs;
- ?? The Legion spends \$5,600,000 on direct support to youth activities (cadets, Scouts Canada, sports, bursaries, scholarships) and contributes 391,000 hours in volunteer time with countless numbers of young Canadians;
- ?? The Legion contributes \$14,100,000 to charities and 674,000 hours in volunteer time to community service activities. The Royal Canadian Legion offers members of Canada's military community the opportunity to share in good fellowship while at the same time providing invaluable assistance to their less fortunate comrades and serving the communities in which they live;
- ?? The Legion pays some \$7,200,000 in property taxes;
- ?? The Legion employs 2,600 full-time and 3,800 part-time employees paying wages in excess of \$73,000,000;
- ?? Legion branches pay out \$17,400,000 in maintenance and service costs;
- ?? The Legion's economic impact on the country is

The Poppy & Remembrance Campaign

Every year, for about two weeks prior to Remembrance Day - November 11th - The Royal Canadian Legion conducts the Poppy & Remembrance Campaign.

Poppy emblems were first made in 1922 by disabled veterans under the sponsorship of the Department of Soldiers Civil Re-establishment. Until 1996, Poppy material was made at sheltered workshops run by Veterans Affairs Canada in Montreal and Toronto. The work provided a small source of income for disabled ex-service persons and their dependants, allowing them to take an active part in maintaining the tradition of Remembrance. That mandate has now ended and the manufacturing is being done by a private company.

The Poppy & Remembrance Campaign is intended to remind Canadians of the debt they owe those who died in the military and merchant navy service of Canada during two world wars, the Korean War and elsewhere. Donations received during the campaign are placed in trust accounts and used throughout the year to assist needy veterans, ex-service members and their families. Former members of the Commonwealth and allied military services may also be eligible to receive benefits from these funds.

Donations are not mandatory and in some case - as for example with school children - poppies are distributed solely to perpetuate the tradition of Remembrance among Canadians without any expectation of remuneration.

During the annual campaign some 15 million poppies are distributed across Canada. Activities supported by donations to Poppy Trust Funds include:

- ?? Assisting veterans in need, ex-service members and their families;
- ?? Purchasing medical appliances;
- ?? Funding medical research and training;
- ?? Providing bursaries to the children and grandchildren of veterans and ex-service members;
- ?? Funding accommodation and care facilities for veterans, seniors and disabled persons.



Visit the Legion site on the Web

<http://www.legion.ca>

From the Minutes

- ?The next Zone Rally will be hosted by Branch #79 on March 9, 2003 commencing registration at noon with the meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m.
- ?Branch #79 will also host a banquet on the first Tuesday in May for the District Poster, Poem and Essay contest.
- ?October 24th is the start of the Poppy Campaign.
- ?Awards Night will be held in Clive on October 26th beginning with cocktails at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m.
- ?The cost is \$12.50 per person.

Thank you again, Bill!

As per the Branch Bylaws, the Policy Manual was developed. This was done over quite a period of time. There were many hours of volunteer time put into this manual. Special thank you needs to be given to Comrade Bill Suter who was my main source of information. He willingly went through all the old minutes, researched old policies, rules and regulations. As well he was always available for me to answer my many questions.

If anyone wants to know something about the Legion, he is the man to ask, a wealth of information. Comrade Suter was also my main proofreader, I am sure that he proofed 5 or 6 drafts, which was greatly appreciated.

After final proofing by Comrade Joyce Bradford, the Policy Manual was finally completed and ready for the August Executive Meeting. Copies were distributed to all members of the Executive.

When I undertook the project, I never realized how much time and involvement there was in drafting the Policy Manual. It was a great learning experience.
Respectfully submitted,

Comrade Faye Chomoway

Sports

Rule changes for the year 2003

- ?? That L.A. members be eligible to participate in all sports (excluding Men's events - Shuffleboard, Bowling).
- ?? That membership cards must be shown for the year of the Command Playoffs and the previous year or transfer records (excluding new members).
- ?? That spares be allowed to rotate in and out in all categories at the beginning of each new round.
- ?? In the event of a tie for second place a play-off will be held to determine which team will advance.
- ?? That bowlers not having an established average will enter the first level of competition with no average. During this 8 game event whether at Branch, Zone, District or Command level, the official in charge of the event will randomly select any three of the eight games to be played prior to the beginning of play. All competitors in the event will use three games as their average for this particular event. Following this event the total of the scores obtained in all eight games will be used as the competitors' average for all subsequent events up to and including the command finals.
- ?? A member in arrears as of January 31st of that year is not in good standing for any purpose. Once the yearly membership dues have been paid, the member is considered to be "in good standing".
- ?? "Member in Good Standing" means a member who has been initiated and who is not under suspension or is not in arrears in payment of dues.
- ?? This is also on the new sports entry form.
"I hereby certify that the above branch members, Ladies Auxiliary of Affiliates have belonged to this branch as of January 31st for the preceding year in which these Command Playoffs take place. New members and Ladies Auxiliary must have been initiated.
- ?? Stony Plain Branch #256 has put forth a resolution concerning the game of Euchre, and they would like to make this a Provincial Command sport. What are your feelings about this?
- ?? All correspondence from Provincial Command should be passed along and read out at all general meetings. This information is for all the members and the best way for them to learn is at a general meeting.



MSO Melissa Shilling

Master Warrant Officer Schilling



is an example of what military training can do for a young person with a lot of energy, but without a purpose or a direction!

Her parents 'home schooled' this active teenager and discovered she needed a greater challenge. She accepted the challenge and became the best first-year female cadet, best shot female for three years

and best all-round cadet for two years. A part of her training included climbing and rappelled down mountains, flying gliders, learning to sail, . . . and the list goes on!

She has earned the Royal Canadian Legion Medal of Excellence.

She was encouraged by her mother to enlist in the Army Cadets. This was the the beginning of the self-confident, self-disciplined and skilled young lady we know today.

Melissa was the smallest person in the 1390 member Red Deer Cadet Squadron for several years.

Melissa and her family travelled to Winnipeg for a very prestigious award presented by Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh on Oct. 8, 2002. She was the recipient of the gold-level Duke of Edinburgh Award. The prestigious award is open to all young Canadians who perform public service, keep physically fit and do volunteer work.

Melissa has been in the army cadet corp about six years.

The Lacombe Branch #79 thanks you Melissa, for your dedication and the manner with which you fulfilled your responsibilities as a person, a cadet and an integral member of the Colour Party at Legion meetings.

We wish you the best in your education and your choices in Life!

We will miss you!

Membership

The Royal Canadian Legion was formed in 1925 with a membership of 50,000. The Legion's commitment to the Remembrance of those who gave their lives for peace and freedom, is as valid today as it was then. Today the Legion is one of the largest community service organizations in Canada with more than 450,000 members and approximately 1,600 branches in Canada, the USA and Germany.

As well as service to veterans and the community, the Legion has a strong and continuing commitment in promoting Canada's contribution to world peace, the protection of Canadian sovereignty and the preservation of national unity.

As the years take their toll on Canada's veteran population, the Legion needs the infusion of new blood in order to maintain the many services provided by The Royal Canadian Legion to communities across Canada.

Membership was originally restricted to those who had served in Canada's Armed Forces and Merchant Navy.

The Royal Canadian Legion is proud of its military heritage and still maintains close ties with the Armed Forces today; however, over the years, categories of membership have evolved to include other members of the community.

Classified Ad Blunders

A superb and inexpensive restaurant. Fine food expertly served by waitresses in appetizing forms.

Dinner Special -- Turkey \$2.35; Chicken or Beef \$2.25; Children \$2.00.

Now is your chance to have your ears pierced and get an extra pair to take home, too.

No matter what your topcoat is made of, this miracle spray will make it really repellent.

Have several very old dresses from grandmother in beautiful condition.

Tired of cleaning yourself? Let me do it.

Dog for sale: eats anything and is fond of children.

If you think you've seen everything in Paris, visit the Pere Lachasis Cemetery. It boasts such immortals as Moliere, Jean de la Fontain, and Chopin.

The Royal Canadian Legion Alberta - N.W.T.Command Sports Calendar 2003					
SPORT	BRANCH	ZONE	DISTRICT	COMMAND	DOMINION
Cribbage Legion Teams		15 December #171 Clive	25 January # 59 Stettler	21 - 23 February #8 RL Zengel VC Rocky Mtn House	25 - 28 April Abbotsford, BC
Cribbage Pairs		15 December #171 Clive	25 January # 59 Stettler	28 Feb, 1 - 2 March #39 Vegreville	
Cribbage Seniors		15 December #171 Clive	25 January # 59 Stettler	28 Feb, 1 - 2 March #39 Vegreville	
Curling Legion			15, 16, 17 Nov. # 56 Eckville	5 - 9 February #22 Drumheller	22 - 29 March #154 Ogden Calgary, AB
Curling Senior			15, 16, 17 Nov. # 56 Eckville	5 - 9 February T.B.A.	22 - 29 March #154 Ogden Calgary, AB
Curling Mixed			15, 16, 17 Nov. # 56 Eckville	12 - 16 February # 108 Leduc	
Darts Mixed Seniors		23 November # 38 Bashaw	11 January # 79 Lacombe	14 - 16 March # 63 E.I.D.Brooks	
Darts Mixed		14 December # 66 Ponoka	18 January # 66 Ponoka	21 - 23 March # 150 Stathcona	
Darts Legion		7 December # 79 Lacombe	15 February # 35 RRed Deer	7 - 9 March #280 Fox Creek	16 - 19 May # 362 Nutana Saskatoon, SK
8-Ball Pool Singles				4 - 6 April # 4 General Stewart Lethbridge	
8-Ball Pool Doubles				11 13 April #103 Athabasca	
5-Pin Bowling			12, 13 April # 86 Wetaskiwin	9 - 11 May #285 Centennial Calgary	
Shuffleboard Men's/Ladies Doubles			5 April # 59 Stettler	2 - 4 May # 54 Grande Prairie	
Shuffleboard Mixed/Seniors Doubles			5 April # 59 Stettler	25 - 27 April # 105 Olds	
Golf		June # 38 Bashaw	June # 8 Rocky Mtn House	6 July RedCliff	