



# The Lacombe Legion



Volume 11 Number 03 / 04

Zone 3 District 4

March / April 2003

## **Provincial Command Biannual Convention**

This year the convention will be held in Vermilion on June 8 - 11, 2003.

It is the *members* who will decide the direction in which the Legion will go. If we do not attend the convention, then we do not have a vote.

There has been very little response from Branches on their intentions of attending and there is a **panic situation** developing.

It has been recommended that two active members attend. The Legion is at a crossroads and its existence is in jeopardy. It is extremely important to keep the this organization alive!

### **Adjusting To The Times**

**A**lthough the Legion was founded to advance the cause of veterans, its grassroots structure led naturally to community service.

The "Foster Fathers Program", founded in the 1940<sup>s</sup> to help boys who had lost fathers in the war, stirred the imaginations of members who recognized the Legion's enormous potential to serve Canada.

Soon branches across the country were responding to needs in their communities; an ambulance here, a sports program there; and eventually large scale provincial and national projects, such as housing for the elderly, and the track and field program for young Canadians.

Today, with over over 400,000 members, the Royal Canadian Legion is the largest veterans based community service organization in the country contributing millions of dollars and voluntary hours to help Canadians, particularly veterans, seniors and youth.

## Vimy and Awards Night



**Come and celebrate**  
the reasons for your freedom,  
and  
honour  
deserving  
Legion  
supporters!



### Lest We Forget

Date	April 9
Time	5:30 p.m. Get acquainted 6:30 p.m. Dinner

*Members and Guests*



### **Congratulations, Comrade Ole Halberg**

On Vimy Night, April 9, 2003 Comrade Ole was presented with the prestigious and deserved **Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal.**

Thank you, for your contribution to the Legion and community! You are an example for us all!

### **Branch Events**

<b>May 4</b>	<b>District Rally Ponoka</b>
<b>May 6</b>	<b>Poster &amp; Essay Awards</b>
<b>May 14</b>	<b>Vet's Night</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>Branch Elections</b>

**Watch the bulletin board for other events.**

## Branch #79 Elections

Branch elections will be taking place on June 5.

All officer and executive positions are "up for grabs" each year. New members are encouraged to become actively involved.

Please come to the Branch and vote for your candidate who will carry out the responsibilities of a leader. They need your support!

### Welcome

#### New Members

Ken Hulse                      LaVerne Lowry  
 Beverly Missler              Lawrence Missler  
 Charles John Braithwaite  
 David Wilson

## Lacombe Legion Branch #79

### Branch Hours

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

### Weekly Activities

Monday	Bingo	7:15 p.m.
Tuesday	Darts	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Cribbage	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Action Group	Afternoon
Friday	Meat Draws	6:30 p.m.
Saturday	Meat Draws	4:30 p.m.

### Whist Party

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	Fist 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](mailto:rcl79@telusplanet.net)  
**Website**   [lacombelegion.com](http://lacombelegion.com)

## Membership

The Legion is inviting guests to become regular members. We need your support to help keep our Legion a place you want to visit.

Guests who visit our Branch on a regular basis obviously enjoy the friendship and other amenities.

Membership in the Royal Canadian Legion has many benefits, not only in Lacombe, but in every Branch in Canada and Posts in the U.S.A.

Invite your guests to become members.

Application forms are available in the lounge.

## The Legion

### ... in the community!

"Dear Legion Members:

Re: Donation for Equipment for New Unit

*On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff of the Lacombe Municipal Ambulance Service Association I want to express our thanks for your generous donation. As specified the donation will be applied towards the equipment needed in the new ambulance.*

*In the past there have been times when only one ambulance was available as the other one was in for servicing, inspections, etc. The new ambulance gives the Service the capability of better serving the residents of Lacombe and surrounding communities by always having at least two units available for transfers, illness or accidents.*

*Thank you for your contribution to the betterment of pre-hospital patient care.*

*Yours truly,*

*R. Ronnes for*

*Mike/Sandra Craig*

*Ambulance Supervisors".*



## Electric "Chopper"

Treat your young 3-8 year old child /grandchild with this electric motor cycle!

Draw will be made when tickets are sold, but no later

than June 30, 2003.

**Only 1500 tickets will be sold.**

**Tickets are only \$2.00 each!**



*Elsie Suter, Reporter*

**March 9** - The Ladies' Auxiliary cooked a hot meal for those in attendance at the Zone Rally. We had eight ladies present; four in the kitchen and four at the meeting.

**March - 23** Our District Commander, Gloria Rogers, hosted an informal tea party for Ladies' Auxiliary members in our Zone. It was held here at our Branch with approximately 60 guests. It was a very nice get-together.

**March 24** - Bingo at the Lodge again. Always a good turn out, and everyone seems to enjoy it. Thank you to the 8 ladies who assisted those who do not hear or see too well. I believe they really appreciate us coming.

**April 8** - The Ladies' Auxiliary gathered at the Nursing Home for an hour of entertainment with the patients. Jean Stock led us in a sing-along with Elaine Topich at the piano. Thank you to both ladies.

**April 9** - Vimy Night. Our ladies were busy in the kitchen preparing roast beef, baked potatoes plus 'veggies' for the eighty hungry Legion members and invited guests at the banquet. A delicious meal! Congratulations to Comrade Ole Halberg on receiving the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. There were no April birthdays to celebrate this year, but we still served our cup cakes plus ice cream in the form of dixie cups. Our President, Joan Robak presented a cheque for materials to be used in the hospital Arts & Crafts room for patients' use.



**Mission Statement  
Veteran's Services & Senior's  
AB/NWT Command**

Our mission is to ensure that the needs of the veterans and their dependants of the AB/NWT Command are met in regards to Health Care, Housing, Finances, and social needs.

To achieve our mission we must:

- ?? Focus on the care given in long term care facilities.
- ?? Make information available regarding where and what services can be obtained.
- ?? Assist with making care-givers available where applicable.
- ?? Provide Service Officer support from all three levels. i.e. VAC, Provincial, and Branch.
- ?? Encourage Legion branches to work in cooperation with other voluntary organizations to help:
  - a) establish drop-in facilities.
  - b) locate suitable housing according to their financial means.
  - c) provide transportation to and from appointments
  - d) establish programs to enhance veterans' and seniors' quality of life to assist them in staying independently in their own homes, such as:
    - i. meals-on-wheels.
    - ii. handyman maintenance,
    - iii. telephone contact (assurance),
    - iv. transport to social gatherings,
    - v. recreational day programs, etc.



**Introducing a new Legion service for  
Branch members and the community**  
<http://www.lacombelegion.com>

**Zone Rally**

The Spring Zone Rally was held in the Lacombe Branch on Sunday, March 9. Over 20 members in the Zone 3 attended.

*Growing old is like a pudding.  
You get lumps if you don't stir.*

**E.J.Fessey  
Dart Shoot**

**Innisfail Branch**

April 26, 2003

Registration: 10:00 a.m.

Start: 10:30 a.m.

Mixed Triples

First 16 teams

Phone

Legion: - 227-3622

Heather - 227-5404

## The Legion

### The Services and Programs

This issue of the Lacombe Legion newsletter tries to show how the Legion serves the youth in our communities.

Many Branches have their own special events and programs not included in this newsletter.

Students and parents are requested to contact the Branch and learn more about these programs.

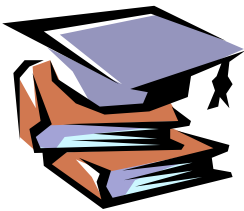
For example, the Lacombe Branch financially supported:

- Big Brothers and Big Sisters
- Lacombe Youth Bowling
- Girl Guides of Canada
- Legion Track and Field (3 students)
- Youth for Christ
- Lacombe Dolphin Swim Club
- Lacombe Youth Curling Club
- Memorial Awards
- Legion Awards
- Encounters with Canada (2 students)
- Lacombe Outreach School Awards

**and more!**

**Donations in year 2002 \$21,600.00**

### Bursaries



Selection of the recipients is performed by the institutions of learning using guidelines provided.

The awards are to be based on financial need

provided the applicant has a satisfactory scholastic record and is a first or second year student.

The following priorities must also be considered:

- ??the son or daughter of deceased or disabled War Veteran, or
- ??the son or daughter of War Veteran, or
- ??an ex-Service Man or Woman, or
- ??the son or daughter of Ex-Service or Serving Personnel, or
- ??grandson or granddaughter of Ex-Service Personnel, or native-born or naturalized Canadian domiciled in Alberta, or the N.W.T.

## Lacombe Legion Bursaries/Awards

### Branch #79 Awards

#### Memorial Bursary

#### One (1) Award - \$500.00

The selection is made by Lacombe Composite High School Scholarship and Awards Committee, based on a member of the graduating class who has participated in school and/or community activities and has shown to be well-rounded student and showing support for others.

The student must have achieved a satisfactory standing in their Grade 12 year.

Post-secondary education is preferred but is not mandatory.

#### Royal Canadian Legion

#### Two (2) Awards - \$500.00

The selection is made by Central Alberta Christian High School Scholarship and Awards Committee, based on members of the graduating class who have participated in school and/or community activities and have shown to be well-rounded students and showing support for others.

Awarded to a student related to a serving or an ex-service person, or a RCMP officer.

The student must attend a post-secondary institution within 16 months of graduation.

The cheque is issued at that time.

#### Royal Canadian Legion

#### One (1) Award - \$500.00

This award is presented to the student with the highest academic average, who is a relative of a serving or an ex-service person, or a RCMP officer. The student must attend a post-secondary institution within 16 months of graduation.

### Ladies Auxiliary Branch #79

#### Memorial Bursary

#### Two (2) Awards - \$300.00

The selection is made by Central Alberta Christian High School Scholarship and Awards Committee, based on members of the graduating class who have participated in school and/or community activities and have shown to be well-rounded students and showing support for others.

Awarded to a student related to a serving or an ex-service person, or a RCMP officer.

## Youth Programs

### Cadet Medal of Excellence

A Legion Medal of Excellence is offered to outstanding cadets. Last year 41 medals were awarded by The Alberta - N.W.T. Command. The local Legion President presents the medal to cadets who have been recommended by their group.

A former member (army cadet) of the Branch Colour Party earned this award in year 2002.

### Pilgrimage of Remembrance

Each year in July the Legion organizes an annual Pilgrimage of Remembrance to perpetuate the remembrance of those Canadians who fought and died for our country. The Pilgrimage visits World War I and World War II battlefields, the cemeteries where our fallen are buried and the monuments to their valour.

Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion sponsors 10 youth leaders, each of who is selected by a Provincial Command. Individual branches, commands and government departments are encouraged to sponsor additional persons. The participants are selected on the following basis: age of majority and a Legion member; activities as leaders of; youth groups, such as teachers, instructors, coaches; and the willingness and ability to pass on the experiences gained not only to their own group, but also to other groups, especially youth.

This year's Pilgrimage of Remembrance will be July 13th to July 17th. This year's representative is from Spirit River Branch #72 is Blaine Riding, a 33 year old teacher.

### Encounters With Canada

(Terry Fox Centre)

The Legion supports the Terry Fox Centre "Encounters with Canada" program. This is a one-week program of Canadian studies held in Ottawa for 15 - 17 year old students from across the country. Local Legion branches sponsor students to attend the Terry Fox Centre and contribute to the financing of this program.

### Bursaries

(Legion and Ladies' Auxiliary)

Both the Alberta - N.W.T. Legion Command and The Ladies' Auxiliary offer bursaries to qualified individuals. Please refer to the respective pages for details.

### High School Rodeo

A saddle worth \$1,500.00 is provided as a prize each year for the Championship Rodeo.

### The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Legion is a strong supporter of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which is an international program and operated in more than 45 countries.

The awards were established in Canada in 1963 and since that time, over 100,000 able, disabled and disadvantaged youth have participated in the program.

There are three Award Categories:

Bronze for those over 14,  
Silver for those over 15, and  
Gold for those over 16.

To earn an Award, a participant must undertake a balanced program of activities in four important areas of self-development: voluntary service; skill development; physical recreation and expeditions. In each case a series of realistic challenges must be seen by the individual and overcome through individual effort.

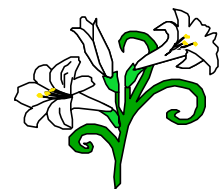
### P.A.R.T.Y. Program

The Royal Canadian Legion Alberta - N.W.T. Command is proud to be a sponsor of this worthwhile program. This program increases awareness amongst teenagers of the behaviours which put them at risk of injury and the consequences of their actions.

This program reaches thousands of youth; approximately 5,000 in Calgary, Edmonton and St. Albert. There are another 18 areas with programs around the province.



**For more information about these and other programs please contact your local Legion Branch or the Alberta - N.W.T. Command Office.**



## The Royal Canadian Legion 2003 Track & Field Information

The Royal Canadian Legion, with support from the Ladies Auxiliary, will once again be conducting a Track & Field Camp at the University of Calgary, July 13-18, 2003. This will be a co-ed camp with both females and males attending at this time.

The program is open to any male or female born between 1986 and 1990 inclusive and still attending school. The registration fee has been set at three hundred (\$300.00) dollars per student, payable with the application. If accepted, no refunds will be made except in very special cases.

Application Forms and Medical Forms can be obtained by contacting your local school, local Legion or by contacting Mr. Ron Rivard at telephone (403) 284-1161 or Fax (403) 284-9899. The information provided will be treated as strictly confidential.

The Head Coach again this year is Les Gramantik who will have a group of qualified coaches to provide instruction. An interesting and challenging timetable is being planned for those attending. Some specialization in events of their choice will be provided.

A feature of this year's clinic will be the selection of a team of males and females to attend the National Midget and Juvenile Track & Field Meet and Clinic at Kitchener, Ontario, August 7-14, 2003.

Expenses involved in attending this clinic will be paid by this command and Dominion Command.

Any parent, guardian, Legion Branch, Auxiliary, service club, recreation or sports organization, church group, lodge group or anyone else may sponsor a student to the clinic.

It is suggested that a portion of the registration fee be paid by the athlete and his parents so as to give them some responsibility in the sponsorship. Should an athlete be unable to locate a sponsor, please contact Mr. Rivard as for above.

120 females and 120 males will be accepted at the Camp. The Camp will run six (6) days for the entire group. They will be housed at the University of Calgary and all meals will be provided.

This Legion program has been sanctioned by Athletics Alberta.

### THE PLACE:

The University of Calgary at Calgary, Alberta

### THE DATE:

July 13 - 18, 2003

### THE EVENT:

The Royal Canadian Legion Track and Field Camp

### THE THEME:

A Week to Remember

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS JUNE 1ST, 2003.

## Feeling Lucky?

People are not born lucky!

Research shows they create their good fortune as they go through life.

Psychologist Richard Wiseman spent 10 years investigating luck and trying to understand the psychology behind good fortune. He studied the lives of 400 of the luckiest and unluckiest people.

He found that those leading charmed lives are without realizing it, using some basic principles to create

good fortune. They maximize their opportunities; are skilled at creating, noticing and acting upon chances through networking, adopting a relaxed attitude and being open to new experiences.

They tend to make effective decisions by acting on their intuition and gut feelings. And lucky people go through life expecting good fortune. These expectations become self-fulfilling prophecies when lucky people persist in the face of failure.

## Zone 3 Membership Discussion Meeting, January 25, 2003

### Current Problems:

- a) lack of interest in branch activities
- b) new members not made to feel welcome
- c) petty bickering amongst members
- d) cliques
- e) lack of leadership
- f) uninformed membership and public
- g) negative environment in the branch
- h) Legion image
- i) smoke problems

### Suggestions from the meeting:

- ?Membership benefits -  
Investigate members reduced prices from retail store(s). Mirror started this a year ago, after the last membership meeting.
- ?Investigate members reduced prices at Legion functions. Ponoka has had only one function using this idea.
- ?Discount from local stores if a Legion member.
- ?More social events.
- ?It seems that the Legions are only interested in the sports aspect - need to broaden the interests.
- ?Need to change image, 'not an old man's (nor a young persons) drinking club'.
- ?The public needs to be made more aware of what the Legion stands for, and what the Legion does for the community. We need to blow our own horn.
- ?Hold joint community events with the other clubs etc. (Lions, Kinsmen) e.g. Halloween party.
- ?Junior membership card (Mirror started this program 2 or so years ago and it is going very well. President Comrade Eugene Hunt will share the information with anyone that is interested.  
There is a time restriction, rules outlined, forms

### Seniors Activity

On March 15 a Bus Tour with Branch members aboard visited the "West Country" (Rocky Mountain House, Caroline and Innisfail).

25 Branch Members attended.

A good time was had by all.

Thank you, Tom Morrow for making the arrangements.

- signed by parents, free pool and darts).
- ?Open House for community.
- ?Open House for families. Maybe a 'no smoking, no drinking, no gambling' event. Free shuffleboard, pool, etc.
- ?Need to become more family orientated.
- ?Taxis or member service for those who need a ride after a function.
- ?Brochure to promote membership and also a brochure to go in the Welcome Wagon basket. (Ponoka - Comrade Darcy Boyce is willing to share his idea with anyone).
- ?Newsletter Lacombe and Ponoka. Lacombe will advertise any function in their newsletter. (Contact Comrade Al Walushka). Maybe can be distributed as a flyer with the local newspaper.
- ?Change day/time of meeting to see if any more members will attend.
- ?Have a lunch after meeting. (Bashaw does this.)
- ?Have the Branch and L.A. meeting the same night and meet for lunch afterwards.
- ?Have a promotion during a town promotion e. g. Trade Fair, Sunday in the Park.
- ?Need consistency in advertising.
- ?Form a committee from the Zone Branches to have a common float for parades.
- ?Ask a youth club to help as volunteers at a function e.g. Air Cadets, 4-H club.
- ?Target an area for the 2003 memberships e.g. RCMP, town business people, Firemen, etc. Maybe it is better to start with a small group of people to inform them of the benefits to being a Legion member etc.

### Seminar Results

The seminar for seniors was well attended and much was learned from five speakers, including Alberta NWT Command Service Officer Jack Parker. The information provided is of importance to everyone, but especially for those over 50 years of age.

Information packages were given to all persons attending.

Another similar meeting is being planned.

**AB/NWT Command  
Bursaries and Awards - \$500.00**

<i>No.</i>	<i>Institution</i>
3	University of Alberta - Academic/Physical Education Course
3	University of Calgary - Academic/Physical Education Course
2	University of Lethbridge - Academic/Physical Education Course
2	Olds College - Academic/Physical Education Course
2	Lakeland College (Vermilion) - any course
2	Fairview College - any course
2	Grande Prairie College - any course
2	Red Deer College - any course
5	Northern Alberta Institute of Technology - any course
4	Southern Alberta Institute of Technology - any course
1	Southern Alberta Institute of Technology - Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Technology
1	Mount Royal College - Nursing Program
1	Mount Royal College - any course
2	Medicine Hat College - any course
2	Lethbridge Community College - any course
1	Alberta College of Arts (Calgary)
1	Grant MacEwan Community College (Edmonton) - any course
1	Augustana University College (Camrose)

Application forms are available from the respective university or school.

[www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)

[www.schoolfinder.com](http://www.schoolfinder.com)

[Studentawards.com](http://Studentawards.com)

**Sports**

Comrades Herb Draney, Yvonne Rajchert, Bill McAdam, Madeline Babiuk and Faye Chomoway represented Branch #79 at Command Senior Darts in Brooks, March 14 and 15. They reported that they had a great time . . . !

The Branch also had some success in Zone 3 Cribbage play and Legion Darts, but did not move on to the Provincial Command level.

On March 22, the Branch hosted the annual Bunkie Dart Shoot in which ten teams participated. Winners this year were Cheryl and Dave Swarbrick - again!

The Dart season is almost over for this year. Members are welcome to come in and “practice” for the next season. The new season will begin in September.

Horseshoe and Golf are planned for this summer. Drop by the Branch to check out future Zone, District and Provincial tournaments.

The Lacombe Branch Golf Tourney is always fun and well attended. Plans are in the works for one in August.

*Sports Chairman, Dave Swarbrick*

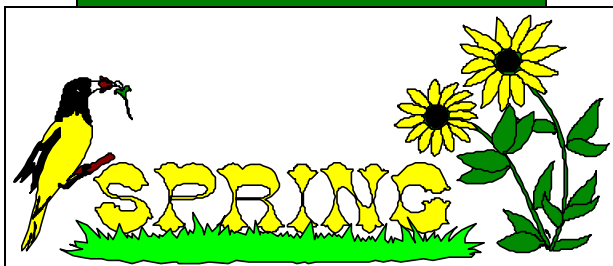
**Zone Commander**

Dorothy Houghton attended the February 6, 2003 Branch General Meeting. The main topic was to report the findings of a Membership Committee meeting recently held in Ponoka. Commander Houghton spoke about the declining membership across Canada and how to reverse this trend.

It was agreed that all Branch members should become a “recruiter” and promote the Legion’s benefits.

There were many excellent suggestions for the branches to implement.

*Spring at last!*



**Condolences**

☞ To Comrade and Life Member John King on the loss of his wife Mary “Lou” King.

☞ To Comrade Harvey Allen on the recent passing of his wife Olive Allen.