



The Lacombe Legion



Volume 12

Zone 3 District 4

Fall - 2004

Presidents Message

The Royal Canadian Legion keeps the tradition of Remembrance alive in Canada by carrying out the Poppy Campaign and the Remembrance Day Programs each year.

The 'blood-red' poppy is the symbol of Remembrance in Canada and in most Commonwealth countries.

It is with sincere respect and gratitude for our freedom that we wear the poppy each year. During this brief period of Remembrance we honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving up their lives and those who survived the wars of WWI, WWII, the Korean War and Peacekeeping Missions.

At all our meetings and functions we carry out

The 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.

As Legion members, we strive to maintain our role as Canada's voice to keep this tradition alive.

By reminding Canada's citizens of the sacrifices made, we acknowledge our appreciation and are thankful for our freedom.

President Rod Oberg

If you appreciate your freedom . . .



Thank a Veteran !



We Will Remember Them

Lieutenant (N) Christopher Saunders

The Royal Canadian Legion mourns the loss of **Lieutenant (N) Christopher** Saunders who died following the tragic accident of October 5th, 2004.

In conjunction with the Canadian Government decision, the Dominion President has authorized the half masting of flags at all branches across the country. Flags may be half masted immediately and may remain so until further notice. We are awaiting further guidance from the Government when flags will be returned to full mast.

At this moment, The Royal Canadian Legion would like to offer our support and condolences to the families and friends of **Lieutenant (N) Saunders**, those injured in the accident, as well as the complement of HMCS Chicoutimi and the greater submariner community.

It is requested that you give this email widest distribution.

Lest We Forget

Remembrance Day Events

November 11, Thursday

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Pancake Breakfast |
| 10:30 a.m. | Parade
(meet at the Legion) |
| 11:00 a.m. - noon | Remembrance Day
Service at the Lacombe
Memorial Centre
(LMC) |
| Noon 5:00 p.m. | Socialize at the
Legion. |
| 5:00 p.m. | Potluck Supper. |

Please bring food to share with others.

Coming Events

November 11 Remembrance Day Services

December 31 New Years Eve' Party

Band - Soundman

Phone 782-6441 for details.

Come in and check the Bulletin Board for dates of future events. Suggestions (and your help) are welcome!

Year 2005

Will be:

☞ the 60th Anniversary of the end of WWII
- a time to celebrate our freedom!

☞ The 75th Anniversary for Lacombe Branch #79 !

Lacombe Legion Branch #79

Branch Hours

Monday to Saturday inclusive 3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Weekly Activities

Monday	Bingo	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Youth Council	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Cribbage	7:00 p.m.
Friday	Meat Draws	6:30 p.m.
Thursday	Action Group	3:00 p.m.
Saturday	Meat Draws	4:30 p.m.
1st Saturday	Court 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 Thursday	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
Web site lacombeleion.com

Sick and Visiting



☞ **President Rod Oberg**

Foothills Hospital

☞ **Comrade Les Mullins**

Lacombe Hospital

(Extended Care)

☞ **Comrade John King** (Life Member)

☞ **Comrade Curly Ellis**

Seniors Home

*Comrade George
Damant,*

Mission Statement

To serve veterans
ex-service personnel
their dependents
the community
and Canada

LEST WE FORGET

**This Mission Statement describes
the true purpose of the
Royal Canadian Legion**

Important Phone Numbers

(For All Veterans)

It is recommended that these telephone numbers
are included with your
"Important Phone Numbers" list . . .
and call when you need support!

Veterans Affairs Canada

Client Toll-free Contact Number

English 1-866-522-2122

French 1-866-522-2022

Royal Canadian Legion

Service Officers

Lacombe Branch (403) 782-6441

AB NWT Command (780) 426-1252



Ladies Auxiliary

Elsie Suter, Reporter

At our October meeting it was decided (by vote) that we continue hosting Vets' Night in May of each year.

All veterans are most welcome to attend.

October 19th. Our annual Membership Appreciation supper was held at the Green Orchid.

Year-pins were given to deserving members.

November 6th Bazaar and Bake Sale.

Drop in for coffee and "Beef on a Bun" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at our Legion Hall.

November 11th The Branch will be asked to assist in the making of sandwiches. As usual we will be selling raffle tickets all day long.

November 29th The ladies will be hosting a Bingo for the residents of the Nursing Home at 2:30 p.m. Lunch will follow.

A big "thank you" to all our volunteers.

Sports

Lacombe Branch is hosting Zone Mixed Darts December 4, 2004.

Our branch is hosting Alta/NWT Command Mixed Curling February 10, 11, 12, 13, 2005. Volunteers are needed to help host this event. Contact Dave Swarbrick at the lounge.

Dart season has started again every Tuesday at 7:30 pm sharp. Everybody is welcome.

The Lacombe Branch hosted two golf tournaments this summer. In June the Zone Tournament was held at the Nursery Golf and Country Club. Everyone who attended had a good time and the day ended with a dinner at the Legion.

In August there was a fun tournament also held at the Nursery. It lived up to its name and everyone who attended had a good time. There was a barbeque at the Legion following a great day of golf.

Special thanks to Dave Swarbrick and to all the people that helped to make the tournaments a success.

A Letter From The Lacombe Composite High School

October 5, 2004

We are pleased to inform you that **Nicole Bergen** is the winner of the Royal Canadian Legion Award for the 2003-2004 school year. Nicole's grandfather Frederick Higginbottom served in the Second World War. Nicole, in her application, wrote, "Although I did not get a chance to meet my grandfather, I am well aware of the importance of his role, and the sacrifice he made, having studied the war in school and hearing stories from my grandparents." Nicole is currently attending the University of Alberta studying a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition.

The winner of the Lacombe Legion Memorial Award is **Meredith Easton**. Both of Meredith's grandfathers served in the Canadian Armed Forces. Meredith was very active in the Lacombe Composite High School Student Council. She has also been a volunteer with Girl Guides of Canada. Meredith is currently attending Augustana University



in Camrose, studying a Bachelor of Science.

The LCHS Academic Awards Night will be held in the High School Auditorium on Friday, October 22nd, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. Please confirm your attendance, or the name of the presenter on your behalf by October 14th, by phoning the school at 782-6615.

We would be delighted if you would join us for an informal time for refreshments and fellowship following the Awards presentation.

We are looking forward to seeing you on October 22nd and thank you for your support of the **LCHS Scholarship Program.**

Yours truly,

Christine Mather
Counsellor CM

The “Canloan” Story

Early in 1944 Canadian Army officers (Lieutenants and Captains) were asked to go on loan to the British Army (Canloan). The British were short of officers and Canada had a surplus.



Word went out across the country asking infantry and ordinance officers to volunteer. Eventually 6,223 infantry and 50 ordinance officers were attached to the British army for all purposes. The pay was retained according to Canadian pay standards.

These officers went through a month of special training and assessment at Sussex, New Brunswick (Canada) before being dispatched to Britain.

The first of the officers on loan arrived in the British Isles early in April 1944. The last group arrived late in July.

The infantry officers were attached to about 60 different British regiments. They had the opportunity to choose the regiment to which they wanted to belong. Some of the volunteers chose a regiment in which their fathers had served during WW1. A few landed in Normandy on D Day, June 6, 1944.

Most of them went into Normandy Campaign during the summer and fall of 1944.

There was a concentration of Canadian officers in the

1st and 6th Airborne Divisions with the glider-borne brigade.

One hundred and twenty eight were killed in action and many more were wounded. Thirty-two were captured and taken prisoner. Most of the captured were with the Airborne Division at Arnhem. Many were decorated for bravery.

Following the end of WWII the Canloan officers formed the Canloan Army Officers Association and organized reunions that continued until about the year 2000.

Most of the survivors maintained an interest in the association and there were a few who preferred to forget the whole business. For the most part the survivors had successful careers. One stayed in the army and rose to the rank of Major General. A couple became vice presidents of companies of note. Three became clergymen; one became

Lieutenant Martin Kaufmann (Canloan)
 Comrade Martin Kaufmann, served as a Platoon Commander with the 7th Battalion King’s Own Scottish Borderers in the air landing (glider) brigade of the British 1st Airborne Division. The Division was wiped out at Arnhem (The Bridge Too Far) in September of 1944. Comrade Martin was wounded and taken prisoner due to this costly error in planning by the Generals in charge of the campaign!

Dominion Archivist etc. etc.

In 1992, a book was published about the group of Canadian officers who volunteered to serve in the British Army and was titled “Code Word Canloan”.

There is a copy in the Legion Library and one in the Town Library.

Submitted by Comrade Martin Kaufmann



What does the "D" in D-Day stand for?

The "D" in D-Day stands for "designated." D-Day, or the Designated-Day, is a general term for the unspecified day when a military operation or offensive is to be launched.

**“Those who don’t remember the past
 . . . are condemned to relive it”**

Poster & Literary Contest Winners from Zone 3

Zone Winners

Intermediate Poem		
1 st	Travis Young	Lacombe Christian School
Senior Essay		
1 st	Elesha Evelyn Winters	Lacombe Outreach High School
Senior Poster (Black & White)		
1 st	Jessica Klopstra	Central Alberta Christian High School
Junior Poster (Black & White)		
1 st	Aaron Bomback	Lacombe Upper Elementary School
2 nd	Richard Ellens	Lacombe Christian School
Junior Poster (Colour)		
1 st	Marita Florijn	Lacombe Christian School
District Winners		
1 st	Marita Florijn	Lacombe Christian School
1 st	Aaron Bomback	Lacombe Upper Elementary School
1 st	Jessica Klopstra	Alberta Christian High School

Membership

New Members

- ✍ *Donald Waunch*
- ✍ *Fred Jackson*
- ✍ *Kelly Davick*
- ✍ *Leo Flynn*
- ✍ *Donald Law*
- ✍ *James Bailey*
- ✍ *Ted Davick*

Transferees

- ✍ *Barry Pattullo*
- ✍ *Ken Hollington*

**Welcome to
Lacombe Branch**

Earlybird Draw

Congratulations to



Penny Henkel
on winning
the September
free Legion
membership draw for
year 2005!

Draws will be made
for October and
November.

**Have you
paid your dues?**

Branch Community Contributions (September 2004)

Encounters Canada

Kelly MacKinnon \$150.00

Junior Minor Hockey

Jr. Minor Hockey \$500.00

Lacombe Ringette

Ringette Group \$500.00



Did you Know?

- ☞ **1.1 million Canadians served in WWII, including 106,000 in the Royal Canadian Navy and 200,000 in the Royal Canadian Air Force .**
- ☞ **42,042 were killed and 54,414 wounded.**
- ☞ **14,000 Canadians landed on D-Day.**
- ☞ **450 jumped by parachute or landed by glider.**
- ☞ **10,000 sailors of the RCN were involved.**
- ☞ **340 killed, 574 wounded, 47 taken prisoner.**
- ☞ **During the first six days of the Normandy campaign 1,017 Canadians died.**
- ☞ **By the end of the Normandy campaign, about 5,020 Canadians had been killed.**
- ☞ **About 5,400 Canadians are buried in Normandy.**
- ☞ **During the two and a half months of the Normandy campaign, Allied casualties, including killed, wounded and captured totalled 210,000.**
- ☞ **Canadian casualties totalled more than 18,000 including more than 5,000 dead.**
- ☞ **German casualties were 450,000.**



D-Day: Canada's Role

Robin Rowland, CBC News Online

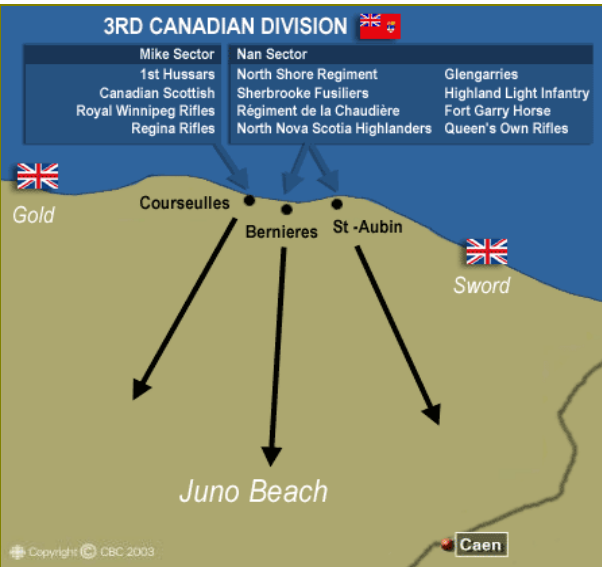
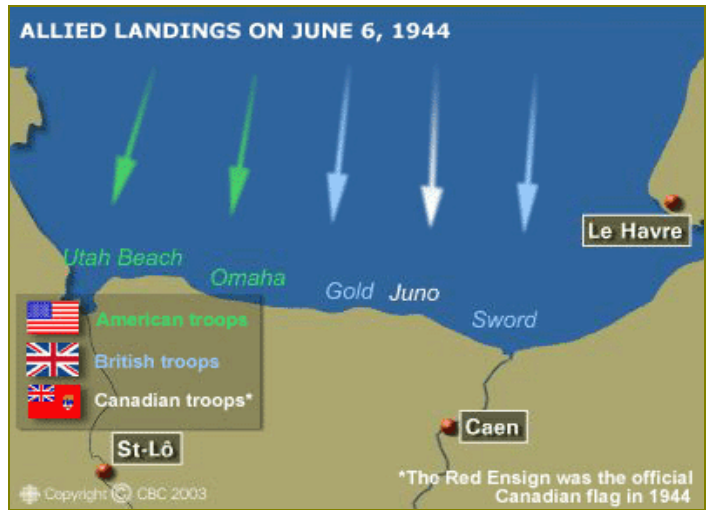
The sun was just coming up over the Normandy coast at about 5 a.m. on June 6, 1944 . . . D-Day.

The Allied navies—Canadian, British, American – had brought a huge invasion fleet from England to France in total darkness. For men on the ships, first light showed the black shapes of other nearby vessels. For the Germans on shore, the dawn revealed a vast armada poised to invade occupied France.

The military planners had given Canada a major role on D-Day: to take one of the five designated beaches where Allied forces were to land to begin the liberation of Europe from Nazi Germany.

The Americans had Utah and Omaha beaches in the west, then came the British at Gold, then the Canadians at Juno Beach and finally the British at Sword on the east.

The greatest seaborne invasion in history was aimed at 80 kilometres of mostly flat, sandy beach along the Normandy coast, west of the Seine River, east of the jutting Cotentin Peninsula. Canada's objective was right in the middle.



There were about 155,000 soldiers, 5,000 ships and landing craft, 50,000 vehicles and 11,000 planes set for the coming battle. For Canada, 14,000 soldiers were to land on the beaches; another 450 were to drop behind enemy lines by parachute or glider. The Royal Canadian Navy supplied ships and about 10,000 sailors. Lancaster bombers and Spitfire fighters from the Royal Canadian Air Force supported the invasion.

The Canadians who landed on Juno Beach were part of Britain's Second Army, under the command of British Lt. General Miles Dempsey, who had served in North Africa and Italy with the overall British commander, Bernard Montgomery. The Canadian assault forces were the Third Canadian Infantry Division, commanded by Major General R. F. Keller and the Second Canadian Armoured Brigade, with Brigadier R.A. Wyman in charge.

The units were from across the country; from east to west, from the North Nova Scotia Highlanders, to the Canadian Scottish from Victoria.

The bombardment of the beaches began at 6 a.m. Within an hour the lead landing craft were away from the ships. Two hours later, the German defences at Juno Beach had been shattered and Canada had established the beachhead.



Branch #79 Officers and Executive Members June 2004 - June 2005



Standing - (left to right)
Jim Brimacombe *Dave Swarbrick*
Jack Wallace *John Robinson*
Joyce Bradford *Jim Pratt*
Roy Cleveland

Seated - (left to right)
Al Bunn *Barbara Burnett*
Rod Oberg *Glen Miller*

Branch Officers

President	<i>Rod Oberg</i>	782-1640
1st Vice President	<i>Al Bunn</i>	782-5058
2nd Vice President	<i>Glen Miller</i>	782- 7567
Secretary Treasurer	<i>Barbara Burnett</i>	748-2060
Past President	<i>John Robinson</i>	782-4946

Executive

<i>Jim Brimacombe</i>	<i>Dave Swarbrick</i>
<i>Jack Wallace</i>	<i>Roy Cleveland</i>
<i>Joyce Bradford</i>	<i>Jim Pratt</i>

Appointments

Chaplain	<i>Shealagh McClelland</i>	784-3367
Sergeant-at-Arms	<i>Doug Handford</i>	342 - 6171
Service Officer	<i>Al Walushka</i>	782 3273

Committees

Hall & Building	<i>Glen Miller</i>	782-6896
Benevolent & Poppy	<i>Rod Oberg</i>	782-1640
Lounge & Bar	<i>Jack Wallace</i>	340-3846
Membership	<i>Joyce Bradford</i>	782-2886
Social & Entertainment	<i>Jim Brimacombe</i>	782-4204
Bingo	<i>Roy Cleveland</i>	782-2442
Sports	<i>Dave Swarbrick</i>	782-6441
Publicity	<i>Jim Pratt</i>	782-5047
Sick & Visiting	<i>George Damant</i>	782-6518
Legion Lottery	<i>Rod Oberg</i>	782-1640
Campground	<i>Al Bunn</i>	782-5058
Newsletter	<i>Al Walushka</i>	782-3273
Web Design	<i>Al Walushka</i>	782-3273
Branch Representative	<i>Rod Oberg</i>	782-1640
Casino	<i>Jack Thompson</i>	782-6022



Did you get a “Poppy Coin”?

The Royal Canadian Mint, in partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion, unveiled the world’s first coloured circulation coin.

The 25-cent coin features a blood-red poppy, the symbol that pays homage to the 117,000 gallant Canadians who died in the service of the nation.

The Lacombe Branch has been giving the 25 cent coin to customers in the lounge as ‘change’.

A free holder for the commemorative coin is available from the Legion website.

Tim Hortons is also a major distributor of this very special coin.



Veteran Licence Plates

Alberta will be the 4th province to produce a special vehicle licence plate for veterans.

It will be available in February 2005 from the local agent.

Details will be received later.



Visit us on the Web

The Lacombe Branch # 79 at
www.lacombelegion.com

The Royal Candian Legion at
www.legion.ca

Help ~~Wanted~~ Needed

Are you interested in producing
the Branch newsletter?

Please call President Rod Oberg or any executive
member for information.



This mural is located on the east wall of Lacombe Branch #79. It was painted by Tim Giles (from Vancouver B.C).



Working at the Trade Fair

Left President Rod Oberg
Right Past-President John Robinson



Comrade Al Bunn presenting a \$1, 000.00 cheque to Ed Svederus, President of the Seniors Slo' Pitch Ball team following a game at Linden, Alberta .

Lacombe Legion Sunset Camground

New playground equipment has been installed.

Members are invited to bring family and friends to this special facility. Bring on the kids!

*Thank you,
Comrade Al Bunn, chairman*

The Legion cares!!!

