



# The Lacombe Legion



Volume 14

Zone 3

District 4

Spring / Summer - 2006

## President Glen Miller



Left to right  
Secretary - Dierdre Hogarth, President Glen Miller,  
District Commander Bev' Gallagher

### Greetings Comrades

I am honoured to have been elected as your Branch President for the coming year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing president, Comrade Rod Oberg for his dedicated service over the past two years.

Becoming more active in the branch over the past 10 years has led me to believe that we as members have to become more responsive to changes in society, our members and the community.

Volunteering is the backbone of the Legion.

We must ask ourselves, "How can I serve the branch and assist our veterans and their dependents in times of need?"

New committee chairmen will be asking for your help over the next year for various projects. You may be asked to assist with the skills you have learned over a lifetime for a particular project. You may be asked to phone a few members

Please consider what the Legion does and can do for our community . . . with your help! Your contributions are needed to make our branch successful. You may be needing the Legion's assistance in the future.

As Branch President, I welcome your criticisms. There is a suggestion box in the Branch. Please use it. Responses will be posted for all to see.

Comrades Jim Pratt and Dwight Baird are the newly-elected vice presidents. They will assist me in welcoming guests and new members.

In my absence, please ask them for assistance on any Legion matter.

*Yours in Comradeship,  
President Glen Miller*

## National Silver Cross Mother - 2006

Mrs. Alice Murphy of Conception Harbour, Newfoundland, has been selected by the Royal Canadian Legion as the 2006 Memorial Cross (Silver) Mother.



She is the mother of the late army Corporal Jamie Brendan Murphy. Corporal Murphy was killed in Afghanistan on January 27, 2004.

Mrs. Murphy will lay a wreath at the National War Memorial during the annual November 11 Remembrance Day Ceremony on behalf of all Canadian mothers who have lost sons and daughters in the military or Merchant Navy services of the nation. The ceremony is organized and conducted by the Legion on behalf of the Canadian Government and in memory of all Canadians who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of freedom and peace.

Mrs. Murphy also attended a special National Ceremony in Ottawa on July 1, marking the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Beaumont Hamel during World War 1.

This was a World War I battle when a Newfoundland infantry regiment suffered heavy casualties caused by British Generals underestimating the enemy..

## 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      | Fun darts                  | 7:30 p.m. |
|              | Youth Council              | 4:30 p.m. |
| Wednesday    | Cribbage                   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Thursday     | Action Group               | 3:00 p.m. |
| Friday       | Meat Draws                 | 6:30 p.m. |
|              | Kinsmen meeting games room | 6:30 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 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)  
Web site [lacombeleion.com](http://lacombeleion.com)

## Legion Sunset Campground

Office (403) 748 2200

## Lacombe Branch Executive

June 2006 to May-2007

### EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

|                                |              |                     |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| President                      | Glen Miller  | 782 6896 / 357 0696 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | Jim Pratt    | 782 5047            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President | Dwight Baird | 782 7145            |
| Secretary                      | D Hogarth    | 782 7493            |
| Treasurer                      | Jerry Victor | 782 7646            |
| Past President                 | Rod Oberg    | 782 1646 / 302 2644 |

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

|                 |                |                |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Al Bunn         | Jim Rose       | Jim Brimacombe |
| Barbara Burnett | Dave Swarbrick | Roy Cleveland  |

### APPOINTMENTS

|                  |                     |          |
|------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Chaplain         | Shealagh McClelland | 784 3367 |
| Seargent-at-Arms | John Richardson     | 348 2190 |
| Service Officer  | Al Walushka         | 782 3273 |

### BRANCH COMMITTEES


|                              |  |   |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Membership                   | Barbara Burnett                                  | 782 7876 / 782 4088                         |
| Honours & Awards             | Rod Oberg  | 782 1646 / 302-2644                         |
| Campground                   | Al Bunn  | 782 5058                                    |
| Hall & Building              | Jim Rose   | 782 4105 / 346 5525                         |
| Lounge & Bar                 | Dwight Baird                                     | 782 7145                                    |
| Benevolent & Poppy           | Jim Pratt  | 782 5047                                    |
| Social & Ent                 | Jim Brimacombr                                   | 782 4204 / 346 5040                         |
| Sports                       | Dave Swarbrick                                   | 782 0921                                    |
| Bingo                        | Roy Cleveland                                    | 782 2442 / 782 3049                         |
| Pull Tickets                 | Glen Miller                                      | 782 6896 / 357-0696                         |
| Seniors Activities           | Tom Morrow                                       | 782 3529                                    |
| Publicity / Newsletter       | Al Walushka<br>Barbara Burnett<br>Doris Ahlquist | 782 3273<br>782 7876 / 782 4088<br>782 5099 |
| Sick & Visiting              | Herb Draney                                      | 782 3687                                    |
| Legion Lottery               | Rod Oberg  | 782 1640                                    |
| Campground                   | Al Bunn  | 782 5058                                    |
| Casino                       | Jack Thompson<br>Roy Cleveland                   | 782 6022<br>782 2442                        |
| Community Events Facilitator | Barbara Burnett                                  | 782 7876 / 782 4088                         |
| Legion Lottery               | Glen Miller                                      | 782 6896 / 357 0696                         |
| Casino                       | Jack Thompson                                    | 782 6022                                    |



### Legion Breakfast

will continue on  
Sunday, September 10 2006.  
Doors open to the public at 10:00 a.m.







**Ladies Auxiliary**  
News happenings in the Ladies  
Auxiliary are included within the  
body of this newsletter.



**Hospital and Convalescing**

**Veterans**  
Comrade Victor Szabunio  
Comrade Harry Cleveland



*Comrade Herb Draney  
Chairman*

### Dominion Command Convention

**A** Madoc, Ont., resident has been elected Dominion President of The Royal Canadian Legion. Mr. Jack Frost was acclaimed at the Legion's bi-ennial Dominion Convention in Calgary as the new leader of Canada's largest veterans'-based community service organization.

The Dominion Convention, held every two years, is the Legion's governing body that sets the policies and programs for the more than 400,000 member fraternal organization formed by World War 1 veterans in 1925 at Winnipeg's Marlborough Hotel.

On acclamation he became the 37th Legionnaire to hold the office in the organization's 80-year history and only the second associate member to have the honour bestowed upon him. Mr. Frost is a former President of Ontario Provincial Command and has been serving at the dominion level in various capacities for 10 years.

As the Dominion President he takes on the leadership of the Legion as it enters a new era of responsibilities to Canada's veterans and their families.

"The basic role of the Legion cannot change," said Frost following his acclamation by the more than 1,400 delegates to the Calgary Convention from across Canada, the United States and Europe.

"Our purposes and objects were set by the founders of this great organization and we will continue to attain them. And even though there are technological and social changes happening within our own structure, these will help us remain viable in the community and the nation," he noted.

**A report on the deliberations at the Convention will appear in the next newsletter.**

**If we don't pull  
together,  
then, surely,  
we will  
pull apart!**

### Red Deer Candlelight Tribute

Celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the  
Royal Canadian Legion  
and the role of the Navy, Army and Air Force Cadets in  
Canada.

The youth is our future and they will be paired with a Veteran. They will stand together to symbolize the passing of the torch on to the next generation.

When: Saturday, September 9 2006  
Where: RCL #35 28 Bremner Ave, Red Deer  
Fall in: 17:50 hrs  
Parade: 18:15 hrs  
Tribute: 18:30 hrs  
RSVP to (403) 342 0035

Transportation has not yet been planned.

## Field of Honour



A Cairn Restoration committee including Comrades Tom Morrow, Dierdre Hogarth, Barbara Burnett and Al Walushka have been working on ways and means to make improvements to the Cairn at the Field of Honour in the Fairview Cemetery.

The Cairn project was conceived by the Lacombe Branch on or about the year 1967.

It is being visited regularly by Branch members during November (Remembrance Week).

An additional Cairn is required in the new Field of Honour. The committee are working on this project as well.

*Note:*

All municipalities are required by law to provide a Field of Honour within a cemetery.

Qualified veterans are eligible for a burial plot at no cost.

Opening and closing the grave is a cost not included in this benefit.



## Veterans Last Post

### Comrade Alice Pomrenk

Born ??? 1913  
Died Apr 17 2006

### Comrade John Wm Cook

Born ??? 1929  
Died Mar 14 2006

### Comrade Jack Collett

Born Dec 23 1922  
Died Mar 8 2006

### Comrade Jacob Wiens

Born Sep 25 1923  
Died Feb 10 2006

The Lacombe Branch #79 offers heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the families.

**L e s t   W e   F o r g e t**

## The Lacombe Memorial Centre (L M C)

**Should the name of our Memorial Centre be change? If you disagree and you live within the boundaries of the County of Lacombe; please sign the attached petition and pass it around to others.**

**Please return Petition to the  
Lacombe Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.**

5138 49 Street  
Lacombe Alberta  
T4L 1J2







## The Royal Canadian Legion 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Legion was founded in November, 1925 in Winnipeg, Manitoba as the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Services League (BESL) and was incorporated by special Act of Parliament, Charter issued in July 1926.

The principal objectives of the Legion were to provide a strong voice for World War I veterans and advise the government on veterans' issues. These goals were maintained in the years leading up to 1939.

During World War II, the Legion increased efforts to help veterans and returned service members, provided education support and in-theatre comfort for serving personnel at home and abroad.

On October 14, 1949, The Great War Veterans' Association of Newfoundland amalgamated with the Royal Canadian Legion.

During the Korean War, the Legion again offered support and comfort to troops while continuing efforts at home to improve assistance for veterans.

Following the Korean War, the Legion became increasingly involved in community service.

The athletics program for youth, established in the early

1950s, has been one of the Legion's most successful programs.

It has produced many top Canadian international track and field contenders and other prominent athletes.

Supporting youth sports continues . . . !

The Legion also launched many other community programs, including the National Unity and Seniors Programs and medical fellowships to promote geriatric and gerontology specialties across the country.

In 1960, the Queen gave consent to attach the word "Royal" to the Legion's name.

The Legion has never faltered in its efforts to improve the lot of veterans and of ex-service members. Indeed, many of the benefits they enjoy today are largely due to the persistence of dedicated Legion members at all levels of the organization. These include the Veterans Independence Program, spousal benefits, appropriate recognition for Dieppe and Hong Kong Veterans, creation of the Pension Review Board and many others.

The most recent Legion contribution is the co-operation with the Federal Government in the passage of a Veterans Charter.

This will be of immense benefit for the 'new' members



In 1927, about twelve veterans attended a meeting at the Atlas Lumber Company in Lacombe operated by WWI veteran Thomas Wilkes. At this meeting, they formed the Lacombe Branch of the Canadian Legion British Empire Service League (B. E. S. L.).

The Branch was officially constituted on January 1, 1930 with fifteen veterans signing the Charter.

The comrades were: A. Lundie, H.E. Heath, J. Russell, W. Jardine, W.R. Barker, A. Sage, F. Marquardt, J. MacDonald, Thomas Wilkes, F.D. Locke, Chas. Duthie, Wm. Anderson, A. MacDonald, W. Butlin and

L. Green.

During this period and to the end of WW II, the 'Great War Veterans Association' (G.W.V.A.) always observed 'Armistice Day' on November 11 and enjoyed comradeship at the Empress Hotel. The proprietor, Claude Gillis and his wife, served the returned men with a much-appreciated buffet-lunch or dinner.

*The Lacombe Branch of the Ladies Auxiliary have been providing this 'special dinner' for many years since the the Gillis family left Lacombe.*

*Thank you, ladies!*

# Around the Lacombe Legion

Reporter - Comrade Barbara Burnett

## BEST WISHES ON YOUR SPECIAL DAYS

Happy Birthday

*Comrade Gordon Manson* who turned "39"!

**July 15** - Jeremiah, the son of Comrade John Richardson is 'tying the knot'.

**July 24** - Double birthday! Dave Swarbrick and Paulina Oberg turn ??? "I can't remember".

**July 29** - Special wishes and congratulations to Comrade Ron and Louise Cousins on their 62<sup>nd</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

**August 8** - Anniversary wishes to Rob and Heather MacKinnon on their 25<sup>th</sup> year of marriage.

**August 19** - Wedding bells will ring for Comrade Toni Swarbrick and Keith Kind of Red Deer.

## LOONIE POT WINNERS

☞ Doris McTavish \$2,500.00  
☞ Dave Kierluk \$1,360.50

Thanks to Ladies Auxiliary President Joan Robak for personally delivering the pens for the Dominion Convention in Calgary.

Comrade Barbara Burnett and L.A. President Joan Robak ordered pens in March with a firm lead time of three weeks. They did not arrive in time to get them to the Calgary Convention planning committee for distribution. Madame Joan personally delivered them.

The pens were inscribed, "*Hello from Lacombe Royal Canadian Legion #79, Branch and Ladies Auxiliary*". They are a Branch gift for the "goodie" bags that delegates receive at the Dominion Convention.

Madame Robak received a personal "thank you for the very nice pens". This is wonderful advertisement for our Branch. If you drop into the Legion during Lounge hours, sit a spell you may receive one . . . as long as they are available! .

A couple of the Ladies Auxiliary are on the move. Mrs. 'Mike' Simpson is in an apartment on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Past President, Ellen Glenn, has given up country living for the challenges of Lacombe. Welcome home, Ellen.

Did anyone hear the wedding bells ringing on Saturday, April 29? Comrades Penny Herschel and Jim Rose have 'tied the knot'.

Congratulations! Your Legion comrades and friends wish you a long and happy life.

On March 28 President Rod Oberg underwent heart surgery. He has recovered and is back to his usual joyful self.

On April 22 two vans filled with Legion Seniors visited branches in Wetaskiwin, Millet and Leduc. A good time was had by all.

Thanks once again to John Parsons of Parsons Holiday Tours for providing the transportation.

On June 9 comrade Jack Thompson participated in the "Relay for Life" (again). We are proud of you for your dedication to this worthwhile cause.

Comrade Cheryl Swarbrick has the flower beds looking good again this year. Thanks, Cheryl.



## News From the Legion Kitchen



Our Branch Sunday Breakfasts have been a great success! The response from our members and non-members has been very favourable.

The June breakfast was cancelled due to several volunteers being away on vacation.

The next breakfast will continue in September.

Comrade Barbara Burnett convened the Vimy Night / Honours and Award Dinner. Approximately 70 persons attended.

The head table dignitaries included: President Rod Oberg and his wife Paulina; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Glen Miller and his wife Barbara; Lacombe Branch Chaplain Shealagh McClelland and Ladies Auxiliary President Joan Robak.

Branch Chaplain McClelland asked the blessing . Comrade Jack Wallace was in charge of serving the "Baron of Beef". Assistants included Branch and Auxiliary members - Joyce Hunt, Sharon Pollard, Susan Churchill and Shannon Vanstone.

Sgt.-at-Arms Doug Handford poured the wine.

**Thank you to all my volunteers!.**

*Comrade Barbara Burnett*



## Memorium

With great sadness we mourn the loss of Ladies Auxiliary member

**Helen Peavoy**. She passed away suddenly on Monday July 3rd.

Funeral services were held on Friday, July 7.

Our sympathy goes out to Comrades **Roy and Min Richmond** on the passing of two family members.

They also their grand-son and Comrade Roy lost his brother Wes.

Both passed away on July 4, 2006.

## Branch Zone Commander

At the Zone Rally held in Ponoka this spring District Commander Bev Gallagher informed the Legion Branches that the position of Zone Commander is being phased out. This will eventually be applied to all Legion branches as a cost cutting measure.

With a declining membership across Canada more steps will be taken for Legion survival.

It is hoped that Branches in close proximity will 'keep in touch' through sports programs and other events. Perhaps the time has come to use the internet for contact with each other.

The Lacombe Branch has a website and includes a page for Branch events. It has been available and unused for about 2 years.

## National Silver Cross Mother - 2006

Ottawa—Mrs. Alice Murphy of Conception Harbour, Newfoundland, has been selected by the Royal Canadian Legion as the 2006 Memorial Cross (Silver) Mother.

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This was a World War I battle where a Newfoundland infantry regiment was decimated.

## We Are In The Community

### Outreach School

Mrs. Donna Benson, the Master of Ceremonies opened the celebration welcoming guests and staff. President Glen Miller presented two recipients with cheques for the 'most credits

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Congratulations to :

- ✍ Senior High in Semester I to Chris Bodmer
  - ✍ Senior High Semester II to Josh Butcher
  - ✍ Senior High male recipient for Academic Achievement Award was Josh Butcher
  - ✍ Governor General Academic Medal for grades over 80% earned by Josh Butcher
  - ✍ Josh Butcher also won the final door prize.
  - ✍ Ladies Auxiliary Jean Bruns' grandson Jack Bruns won the P.A.C.E. Award.
- Congratulations, Jack.

President Glen Miller, Comrade Barbara and Ervin Burnett attended the ceremonies. Only two service clubs were represented, The Lacombe Legion Branch and the I.O.D.E.

Some thoughtful businesses and service clubs did donate door



## Did You Miss It?

The Lacombe Branch held its first Annual Celtic event featuring the local (and famous) "The Boys of St. James.

The Red Deer Legion Pipe Band and the

Highland Dancers from Red Deer were special attractions.

The show of appreciation by those in attendance was exceptional.

Plans are being made for a return engagement this fall.

## Food Security

Comrade Barbara Burnett attended a 2-day course on food security / insecurity, occurring in Canada.

Some of the topics included were food preparation, food purchasing and food management within the kitchen. A computer CD of the program is available. Ask Barbara.

The Lacombe Legion branch was the only service club in attendance. Approximately 20 persons attended