

The President's Message



Bert Boehme

As we close another successful year at the branch, I would like to thank all our members and especially our many volunteers for making this such a great place to belong. We all can be proud of what we have accomplished supporting our Veterans and community; providing cash donations, picking up the trash along Fallowfield Road, visiting our seniors in the area retirement homes, supporting three cadet corps, or conducting remembrance services, among many, many other activities. I hope everyone also took the opportunity to enjoy the many excellent and fun activities offered by our branch from Friday night dinners and other special events, line dancing classes, and the dart and euchre leagues nights. It is with your support that we can continue as a vibrant branch, and I thank you for your confidence in your Executive Committee to ensure we continue to serve our members, our Veterans and our community. With your help and support, I look forward to another great year ahead.

Santa came to visit the branch again this holiday season to spread some cheer, listen to the children's wishes, and share lunch. A large number of children and family attended with fun had by all. Thanks again to our Hospitality crew for hosting this great event.

I would also like to make special mention that our Socks for the Homeless program was another great success this year – over 18,000 pairs of socks were collected and given to local charities. A special thank you goes out to the Rattrays and Seredas for a job well done.

In closing, Alice and I would like to wish everyone the best for the Holidays! Please have a great holiday season with family and friends, and come out and join us at the New Year's Levée on New Year's Day starting at 11 a.m.

Bert Boehme, President
Supporting Veterans and Community



REFLECTIONS –

December 2018 – God Bless Us Everyone



Ray Desjardins

Tiny Tim's blessing from Charles Dickens' immortal "Christmas Carol" surely rings true to all of us as we now look forward to 2019. We've just celebrated once again, the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and since the beginning, the entire world stood still and man reflected on that happening in a stable in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. I pray that each one of us took time to do likewise. Thank goodness that whatever happens to us the world is in the safe hands of God who sent His son Jesus to provide us a way to re-establish a personal relationship with Him. My personal blessing to you.

Now comes the time to look forward and determine both our personal and Branch 641 priorities. We have achieved so much and yet the branch is facing critical decisions such as the issue of a permanent location, a new executive effective June 1 and how we will celebrate special events, and remember our beloved Veterans, especially those from WWII, Korea and our early Peacekeepers: these are big issues awaiting clear direction for 2019 and for the next four years or so. As I think on these things, I am always reminded of the fact that this is the branch that faced the scepticism that it could not be done, that it would fail, yet our history shows we have accepted each challenge, embraced it and then over achieved. This is the branch that did it and has developed a "can do" attitude, pulling more than our weight most of the time. So, Barrhaven, we are in this community, of this community, and contribute significantly to what makes Barrhaven the loving, caring "small town" we are, in spite of our nearly 90,000 residents. Quite a change from the 2,700 or so when I moved here in 1977!

Let's never take on the attitude of what's happening in the broader community. We need to remain positive, and involved to the best of our abilities and resources. 2019 looks like a really challenging year and we will be up to the challenge because that's who we are.

See you at the President's Levée on January 1st, 2019. May God grant you and yours a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

God bless you all.

In His Service

R.E. (Ray) Desjardins
Branch 641 Chaplain





Highlights of Reports from Chairs for December Meetings

President's Report – December 2018

I wish to extend my thanks to all our volunteers and a generous community for another successful Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Ceremonies. The Campaign raised a record level of money this year. We are still counting, but we should exceed \$70K – money urgently needed by veterans and our community. In addition, our Remembrance Dinner, Remembrance Ceremony and Open House were all well attended and a great success. There are too many to all name here; but, I wish to especially thank our 1st Vice President and Poppy Campaign Chairman, Comrade Stephane Guy, the store and trap-line captains, the Parade Commander, Comrade Dave St Amand, our Sgt-at-Arms, our Hospitality Team, our cash counters, led by Comrade Maureen Wheeler, our cadets, and all the other many Branch volunteers that made the extra effort to help ensure that the Campaign and ceremonies were such a success this year. Also, a special thank you must go to Comrade Al Gullen, who was the sole member that offered poppies at the Park and Ride station on Fallowfield Rd. Regardless of the weather, Al showed up bright and early to be at the station for rush hour and collected, on his own, over \$2100.00 in donations. A special thanks also goes to our community of Barrhaven for their generosity and local business sponsors. We can all be proud of our Branch and its members that have generously helped to ensure our remembrance of those that have sacrificed and those that continue to sacrifice for our freedoms. Regrettably, I was unable to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony this year; but, together with friends from B.C., Alice and I visited the Las Vegas Post 8 of the American Legion on their American Veteran's Day, also held on 11 November, 2018. We gave our greetings from the North and presented a Branch 641 ribbon and commemorative coin to the Post Commander, Robert Morris. The Post Commander gave us a warm welcome, and we had a great afternoon visiting with members of the Post.

I wish to thank our Hospitality Chair, Angele Guy for organizing this year's Grey Cup Party. Although the Redblacks didn't win the Cup, a small crowd at the branch did enjoy a great meal prepared by Angele, and thanks to our generous wine and beer providers, lots of prizes were given out.

A special thank you must also go out to Comrade Jason Kelly and Dwayne Hordij for their efforts in recognizing our Hong Kong veterans by securing a commemorative plaque that we now have proudly on display on our Branch historical wall. I would also like to highlight the many great entertainment activities happening at our Branch in the coming months as we celebrate the Christmas and New Year's. I would encourage everyone to come out and enjoy the President's draw, Santa's visit and the New Year's Ball – mark your calendars and get your reservations in, available seats are going fast and don't forget the New Year's Levee and Friday night Dinner/Dances.

Alice and I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! Please have a great holiday season with family and friends.

President Bert Boehme

Membership Report - December 2018

New member	Jacques Leboeuf (affiliate)	
Transfer out	Fred Gillis	To Westboro
	Joy Gillis	To Westboro
	Don Stansbury	to Nova Scotia
Earlybird Winners	September	Mike Harrietha
	October	Beatrice Cormier
	November	Butch Whitlaw

2018 Membership Total	635
Renewals for 2019	420

Lately, Dominion Command has been pushing for our members to renew online. Unfortunately, some of our members have tried repeatedly to do so, but the computer system won't allow it.



Dominion Command is aware of the problem, but it still hasn't been rectified. One of our members has tried 3 different platforms, but none of them work. (Computer/tablet/cell phone). This member was able to renew online this week.

David St Amand
Membership Chair

Leadership and Development Report – December 2018

Four Ways to Define Leadership

Leadership critical to every organization, people need someone to look to, learn from and thrive with. Every leader has their own style and strategy. Further, leadership styles and methods vary because of outside influences and personal challenges.

While leadership is unique to everyone, there are some common ways to define the term.

Leadership embodies some of the following, "Decisiveness, Awareness, Focus, Accountability, Empathy, Confidence, Optimism, Honesty. And Inspiration".

Some common leadership styles from research published in [Harvard Business Review](#) in 2000 and an article on [Mind Tools](#) listed:

Coercive: Leaders demand immediate compliance.

Authoritative: Leaders mobilize people toward a vision.

Affiliative: Leaders create emotional bonds and harmony.

Democratic: Leaders build consensus through participation.

Pacesetter: Leaders expect excellence and self-direction.

Coaching: Leaders develop people for the future.

Bureaucratic leadership, whose leaders focus on following every rule.

Charismatic leadership, in which leaders inspire enthusiasm in their teams and are energetic in motivating others to move forward.

Servant leadership, whose leaders focus on meeting the needs of the team.

Transactional leadership, in which leaders inspire by expecting the best from everyone and themselves.

More specifically, leaders share similar goals and standards to abide by. Here are four ways that good leaders achieve success: abridged and adopted from Sammi Caramela, B2B Staff Writer, and my notes as past Leadership Training Chair with the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Victoria BC.

1. Leaders better their environment

Leaders do not exist to order their volunteers around. While they oversee their team, a true leader takes initiative and trusts their volunteers to perform efficiently and independently.

Leaders are coaches with a passion for developing people, not players; they get satisfaction from achieving objects through others. Leaders inspire people through a shared vision and create an environment where people feel valued and fulfilled.

When an organization has a positive culture, members are more motivated and confident in their work. It's through supportive leaders that an organization finds the most success. Leaders are responsible for setting the tone for their team and organization. As a leader, it is your responsibility to establish goals, innovate, motivate and trust. A passionate and compassionate leader can energize an organization.

2. They know their team and themselves well

Good leaders want their entire organization to succeed, including everyone involved. They take the time to understand every member so they can help them achieve their personal goals in line with the organizations.

A leader places the people around him or her in a position that sets them up for success; this is a difficult task, because a leader must have an in-depth understanding of each volunteer, such as understanding their goals and knowing what motivates them. By being committed to helping each person, achieve his or her own personal goals, the leader sets the organization up for greatness.



This translates to providing tools that volunteers need to succeed, offering praise when things go right and taking responsibility when things go wrong.

3. Leaders maintain a positive attitude

Organizations face ups and downs. Without someone to take the reins and push forward in optimism, the organization will likely be unsuccessful.

A good leader can hold his or her emotions in check, especially in tough situations. For example, maybe you lost your best volunteer, or a project you've been working on falls through. Regardless, it's important for leaders to guide an organization through challenging times, encouraging them and remaining positive along the way. Team morale is heavily contingent upon a leader's attitude.

This is done without pride standing in the way. While no one likes to admit defeat, sometimes it's inevitable. Good leaders recognize that.

A leader should be confident enough to know when they're wrong so they can move past a mistake. Leadership is the ability to see a problem and be the solution. So many people are willing to talk about problems or can even empathize, but not many can see the problem or challenge and rise to it. It takes a leader to truly see a problem as a challenge and want to drive toward it.

4. They build the next generation of leaders

Leaders can't, and shouldn't stand-alone. An organization doesn't need just one influential individual. Leaders should want to develop more leaders from the get-go.

Great leaders also recruit and inspire others to be great leaders, whom they trust to carry out the organization's mission and instill a sense of purpose that touches each and every volunteer. Leaders build their volunteers so they can be as successful as, if not more than, the person in charge. A leader is someone who builds their team, mentors them and then advocates for them.

They are not in competition – they are part of a team.

Comrade Victor W. S. Chan, LCdr (ret'd), CD, KStG, Leadership and Development Officer

Youth Education & Bursary Program Report

Poster and Literary Contest judging was held on November 17, 2018. Special Thanks to all volunteers that made it possible.

Branch Statistics sheet complete. We received 247 entries. The highest numbers were 43 Colour posters in Primary and 50 Poems in intermediate.

Five applications for RCL 641 Bursaries for academic year 18/19 have been received up to date. Bursary committee members need to meet. Date pending for the review process.

Motion to request a cheque of \$2,000 for the cash prizes for Poster and Literary Contest.

All Poster and Literary first prize contestant entries forms are completed and are ready to be delivered to Zone G5 for the next level of judging.

Action Pending

Zone level of the Poster and Literary Contest to be held at Barrhaven Legion on December 8th, 2018

Zone G5 Public Speaking Contest held on March 2nd, 2019.

Comrade Linda Crawford, Youth Education & Bursary Program Officer

Branch/Veteran Service Officer Report - Update for December 2018

Since my November 2018 report to Branch 641, VSO has had three new queries for assistance. The cumulative numbers now total 25 military veterans, two RCMP members, and six persons from outside the Barrhaven area who are not currently members of Branch 641. No name or pack drill.

Monday, 24 December 2018 is the date that Zone G5 Branches will be delivering Xmas Comforts to our Veterans and others who are residents at the Perley Rideau Health Centre. There are over 250 Veterans at the Perley and if you can spare the time on that Monday morning it would be appreciated. Volunteers, who have indicated to help us out with this worthwhile activity and need a ride and/or can provide transportation, please meet at Branch 641 by 9:00 AM for a convoy to the Perley. All Zone G5 members are to meet at the Perley Rideau Pub 10:00 AM. Dress, Legion Uniform or those who do not have a uniform, casual dress is acceptable.



From CBC November 19, 2018: "Federal Government Diverting Veterans" in crisis away from Emergency Fund (\$1M), say outside agencies. Deb Lowther, VETS Canada said several recent cases that came before VETS Canada involved rejected pleas for short-term relief. Comrade Brad White RCL Dominion, did not provide statistics about the size of the increase in cases the Legion has seen. He would hope if a Veteran, walks into a VAC office and is requesting assistance, and it falls within those funds, and that the funds are actually provided to them without question or hesitation. Comrade Brad can understand why that's not happening. They don't have the horsepower to handle the cases coming down their way right now. Also, the enormous backlog of Veterans' benefit claims and the associated workload may affect the ability of the staff to deal with veterans in crisis. However, there may be a disconnect, At least three regional offices have informal policies that state veterans must first tap into VETS Canada, the Legion Poppy fund or the Salvation Army before applying for Federal Emergency Funds. Just to let you know there is no department policies which states veterans must first seek assistance from other sources.

The question, that I have for our membership, if a veteran approaches Branch 641 for assistance we would not be turn them away. Notwithstanding that VAC does have the Emergency Fund for Veterans and their families and some VAC Case worker rejects them because of workload etc, Our branch will try to help, that is why I asked that my Veterans budget be increased to \$3,000.

Comrade Victor W. S. Chan, LCdr(ret'd), CD, KStG, Veteran Service/Branch Service Officer

Entertainment/Hospitality - General Report December 2018

Hospitality is doing very well with increased attendance by more members and non-members.

Monday, December 31, 2018 New Year's Eve Dinner - we are sold out with 104 guests attending.

Meals for January 2019:

Monday, January 1, 2019 New Year's Levee Potluck

Band: Noel Dimar, Gibb Rozon

Friday, January 4, 2019 Ribs, Sausages, potatoes & Vegetables

Band: Lauren Hall

Friday, January 11, 2019 Fish & Chips Band: Where's Waldo's Trio

Friday, January 18, 2019 Steaks Band: Last Call

Friday, January 25, 2019 Pasta Night Disco Night DJ Sounds Great

Angele Guy, Entertainment/Hospitality Chairman

Grants and Assistance News – Kathy

Comrades I officially took over Grants and Assistance in November of this year.

Update on donations - Since June of this year (the legions fiscal year) we have donated a total of eleven thousand, four hundred dollars (\$11,400) to different organizations within our area.

The Legion's mandate is to support veterans, community groups, youth and seniors. Lottery Funds are to be used for Veterans, Cadets, Scouts, Youth Organizations, Hospitals, Senior Citizen Groups, Seniors in need, Food Cupboards and Charities and not for Profit Community Organizations.

Personal requests (**not a Veteran**) for help to pay for fuel, groceries etc. are not considered. Cases such as these are referred to social organizations or the food bank. **However**, if it is a **Veteran** then the request is automatically turned over to the Veteran Service Officer for his action.

After the New Year we plan to get proactive and contact organizations in the Barrhaven Community. We plan to let them know what our mandate is how we might be able to assist them financially if need be. We also hope to be able to visit some of these organizations to get a feel and better understand what they do for the Barrhaven community.

In the meantime, we will continue to review incoming requests for donations and donate where and if we can.

Kathy Johnston

Grants and Assistance Officer



The ADVANCE

Royal Canadian Legion – Barrhaven Branch 641
www.rcl641.ca

Honours/Awards & Special Recognition (HA&SR) Committee

Comrades: At our 16 November H&A meeting, Comrade Ernie Hughes nominated Comrade Lindsay Craig for the Branch #641, 2018 Exceptional Service Award, which was approved by the committee and will be presented at our next general meeting.

The committee encourages all comrades to identify and provide a recommendation to the HA&SR committee of persons or organizations they feel are deserving of recognition. We ask that you look into the requirements for the award you are recommending and ensure that the member you are recommending meets those requirements. Please provide any recommendation in writing. Point form is acceptable.

Ed Schelenz CD, HA&SR Committee Chairman

<div style="text-align: center;"> Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven January 2019 – Visit our Website www.rcl641.ca Regular Dinner Prices - Members \$20 Non-Members \$25. Prices subject to change for Special Dinners. Membership cards must be shown at each dinner. </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Levée 11 am Potluck Lunch Noel Dimar and Gibb Rozon	2 Darts – 7:30 p.m.	3 Euchre 7 p.m.	4 Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Ribs, Sausages, Veggies) Lauren Hall 7 - 11 p.m.	5 CATCH THE ACE EVERY FRIDAY AT 7 P.M.
6	7 7 p.m. Executive Meeting	8 Come out and listen/dance to old time fiddle music provided by the Barrhaven Fiddleheads 7 to 10 p.m.	9 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	10 Euchre 7 p.m.	11 Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Fish & Chips) Where's Waldo Trio 7 - 11 p.m.	12 CATCH THE ACE EVERY FRIDAY AT 7 P.M.
13	14	15 7 p.m. General Meeting	16 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	17 Euchre 7 p.m.	18 Dinner 6-7 p.m. (BBQ Steak) Last Call 7 - 11 p.m.	19 CATCH THE ACE EVERY FRIDAY AT 7 P.M.
20	21	22 Come out and listen/dance to old time fiddle music provided by the Barrhaven Fiddleheads 7 to 10 p.m.	23 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	24 Euchre 7 p.m.	25 Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Pasta Dinner) Disco Night DJ Sounds Great 7 - 11 p.m.	26 DISCO NIGHT COSTUMES ARE WELCOME . . . AND ENCOURAGED
27	28	29 Come out and listen/dance to old time fiddle music provided by the Barrhaven Fiddleheads 7 to 10 p.m.	30 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	31	FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS Reservations for Friday night dinners can be made by calling the Branch at 613-843-8691 (please do not leave a message on the answering machine). Reservations must be made by 3 p.m. on Thursday. Dinner will be served from 6-7 p.m. Membership cards must be shown at each dinner.	

2018 President's Draw

Friday, December 21 was a busy place at our branch as President Bert Boehme hosted this year's president's draw. This annual event is a fundraiser for our branch and this year's organizer, comrade Dave St Amand, outdid himself and collected 150 donated prizes!

Pictured left to right: President Bert, Dave St Amand, Fran St Amand and Joyce Barr



Presentation of Branch Exceptional Service Award



President Bert Boehme presented comrade **Lindsay Craig with the 2018 Branch Service Award** on Friday, December 21.

Lindsay was recognized by the Honours and Awards Committee for his many years of service to the branch. Lindsay (Craig Painting) is responsible for keeping our branch looking fresh and clean by routinely repairing and painting the walls at the branch. The walls take quite a beating from daily wear and tear, daily set up and take down of tables in Valour Hall as well as misguided darts on Wednesday nights.

Thank you, Lindsay, for your years of volunteerism, and congratulations.

Branch 641 Charter and Founding Members

This article is a follow-up to an Advance story I wrote way back in February of 2012. For historical purposes, Ray Desjardins was asked to provide the list of names of our Charter and Founding members.

Our branch had 12 Charter Members. They were the new, voting members who had not been re-instated or transferred in from another branch. Only eight of the 12 are still members and they are:

Pierre Deveault
Bev Schlivert
John Sielatycki
Jim Wilson

Peggy Johnson
Greig Schlivert
Sheila Sielatycki
Sharon Wilson

Our Founding Members included everyone who was a member in 2005 when our request for a Charter was submitted for approval. Only 21 of the original 91 continue to be members of Branch 641 and they are:

Ray Desjardins (Life Member)
Gus Este (Life Member)
Ken Hopkins
Lynn Hughes
Lena Humphries
Duc Nguyen
Judy Phair (Life)
Greig Schlivert
Sheila Sielatycki
Carol Valpy
Sharon Wilson

Pierre Deveault
Jan Harder
Ernie Hughes (Life Member)
Vaughn Hughes
Peggy Johnson
Don Phair (Life Member)
Bev Schlivert
John Sielatycki
Dave St Amand
Jim Wilson

Our branch continues to grow, and at last count, our membership total for 2018 was 635. We've come a long way from humble beginnings and we still have a long way to go. Our biggest obstacle at the moment is our ongoing search for a permanent home. But that's a story for another day.

David St Amand
Branch 641
Membership Chair



TO YOUR VOLUNTEERS

Annual Remembrance Day Poster & Literary Contest

The winners of the 2018 contest will be recognized and presented with their awards at the branch on Saturday, January 27, 2019 starting at 1 p.m.

Each year, many of our local schools roll out this content to their students, many of whom go on to have their submissions of artwork and writing elevated to provincial and national level competitions.

For more information on the contest and the 2017 winners, please [click here](#). To see photos of the children, please [click here](#) and go to our Facebook page.

The photo below was taken at the January 27, 2018 award presentations at the Branch.



For more information on our youth programs, [please go to our website](#).

General Meetings

All Members are welcome – *and encouraged* – to attend our monthly General Meetings. These are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month, except during the months of July and August, when we take a brief summer break.

The next General Meeting is January 15, 2019.

Executive Branch Officers 2017-2019

Bert Boehme	President	613-825-4146	nandaboehm@sympatico.ca
Ed Schelenz	Immediate Past President, Honours and Awards	613-843-1088 613-371-6634	edschelenz@rogers.com
Stéphane Guy	1st Vice-President	613-797-7021	stguy35@hotmail.com
Ernie Hughes	2nd Vice President, Long Range Planning	613-825-2496 613-850-9488	majorefhughes@rogers.com
Tom Lamb	3rd Vice-President	613-825-4957	w_tom_lamb@sympatico.ca
Martha Walsh	Recording Secretary	613-523-3798	martha@ckcufm.com
Kathy Johnston	Office Administrator	613-828-2314	weasle1@rogers.com
Jim Duff	Treasurer	613-825-4086	rcl641.treas@hotmail.com
Serge Peters	Sergeant at Arms	613-558-2380	641rclsergeant@gmail.com
David Cole	Chairman and Constitution & Laws	613-858-3845	dm58.cole@gmail.com
Ray Desjardins	Chaplain and Hospital Visits	613-825-2318	rayd.641@sympatico.ca

Other Members of the Executive Committee 2017-2019

Kevin Whale	Bar Officer	613-581-3828
Dwayne Hordij	Branch Historian	613-793-0123
Amanda Fuchs	Cadets and Scouts	613-496-0282
Gus Este	Community Liaison	613-825-1168
Angele Guy	Entertainment, Hospitality and Special Events	613-797-7029
Danny Desmarais	Finance	613-823-5439
Kathy Johnston	Grants and Assistance	613-828-2314
Tom Lamb	Housing	613-825-4957
Bill Hillier	Legion Seniors	613-422-8375
David St Amand	Membership Chairman	613-825-7310
Stéphane Guy	Poppy Chairman	613-797-7021
Ross Stephen	Poppy Trust Fund	613-825-4108
Debi Sereda	Public Relations Officer, Scrapbook, Website and Bulletin Editor	613-823-1716
Jan Kent	Scrapbook Editor	613-322-5723
Scott Helman	Special Ambassador	613-298-4083
Jackie Fuchs	Sports/Track and Field Chairman	613-496-0282
Victor Chan	Veterans Service, Branch Service Officer, Leadership and Development	613-825-8269
Linda Crawford	Youth Education and Bursary	-

This Sister of WW II Vets Is at Her Legion Nearly Every Day — But It's Struggling to Find New Visitors (reprinted from [Cameron MacLean · CBC News · Posted: Nov 10, 2018 5:00 AM CT](#))

St. James Legion member takes pride in “helping my fellow veterans and those who went before me”

Three friends sit around a table in the basement of the St. James Royal Canadian Legion branch in Winnipeg, drinking coffee.

For the past two decades, Violet Wall has come here almost every morning with her friends Allan and Rita Barker — a ritual that included Wall's husband, Ed, until he passed away a year ago.

"One day at a time," Wall said, when asked how she is coping with the loss of her husband.

Wall says it's the companionship she finds at the legion that keeps her coming back.

"I feel welcome," she said. "It's a very friendly place and you feel very comfortable just sitting and having a cup of coffee or a meal or whatever, and it's more friendly than going to a coffee shop, especially by yourself." [To read more, click here.](#)

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MILITARY & RCMP**

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Membership Chair for details**

Special Event at the Barrhaven Legion

Dwayne Hordij, Branch Historian

Guests attending the December 7 night dinner had the opportunity to witness the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the Canadians at the Battle of Hong Kong in 1941. The plaque was donated by the [Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association](#). In attendance from the HKVCA were Mitzi Ross, Derrill Henderson and Gail Angel, family members of Hong Kong Veterans.

There are currently less than a dozen Hong Kong veterans still living. The mission of the HKVCA is to ensure this little-known chapter in Canadian military history is not forgotten. Also in attendance was Branch 641 member Jason Kelly who was instrumental in seeing this event come to fruition.

Background: In late 1941, the Canadian government sent approximately 2,000 troops to help bolster the garrison protecting Hong Kong. Little did they know that shortly after arriving, the Japanese would launch their largest offensive of the war . . . an offensive that included the attack on Pearl Harbor, Philippines, Thailand and Hong Kong. Isolated by distance and

lack of reinforcements, the Canadians continued to resist the Japanese advance for a couple of weeks. On Christmas Day, 1941, with no chance of victory, the Canadian garrison surrendered. Two hundred and ninety Canadians had been killed during the battle. This, however, was just the beginning of their story. The survivors spent the next four years under brutal conditions in Japanese POW camps. Another 264 would die as prisoners.

Next time you are in the branch, please take a moment to look at the plaque. These Veterans will not be forgotten.

Dwayne Hordij





The [2018 Socks for the Homeless Campaign](#) came to a successful conclusion during the week of December 17. We are thrilled to share that we reached our goal of collecting **18,000** pairs of new and gently used socks for men, women and children. Thanks to all of the members and friends who donated so generously to this community initiative. We couldn't have done it without you.

To see photos of some of the deliveries that were made to our recipient organizations, please [click here](#).

David and Marion Rattray
Davie and Debi Sereda

Socks for the Homeless is pleased to welcome back



Legion Fundraiser

The Barrhaven Christmas Market was held on November 24, 2018. Twenty artists, creators and crafters registered for tables to sell their wares and the market was well attended by locals, members, associates and clients of the crafters. The event was a fundraiser to help offset the costs of upgrading the kitchen equipment and we made a total profit of \$1,008.32.

Vendors were satisfied with their sales and many have asked to be invited to return next year.



Christmas at the Barrhaven Legion

The first Christmas Day “Lupper at the Barrhaven Legion” was a great success. Twenty-nine people attended and brought food for everyone. The tables were laden with turkey, ham, a selection of veggies and desserts and everyone took home leftovers. Thanks to Marcy Craig for the idea, Doug Mason for the amazing decorations, Cathy Pearen and Joyce Barr for all the co-ordination involved and to all the many others who made it such a great day. \$300 was raised through gratuities and donations and this will be directed to Interval House.



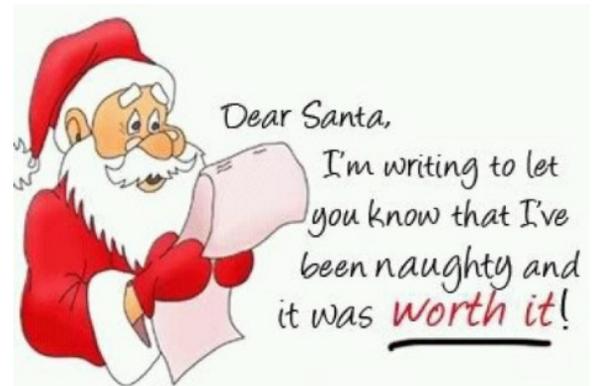
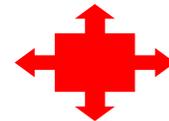
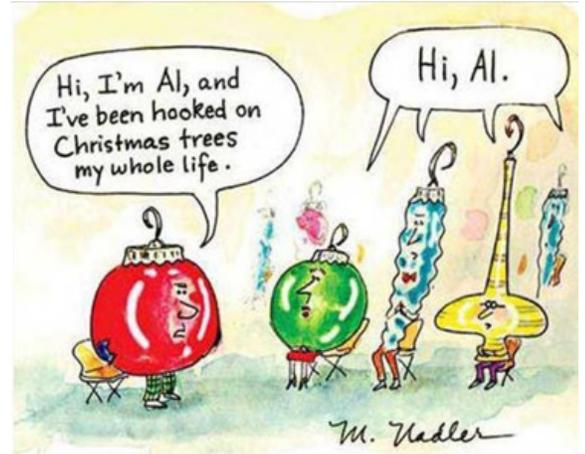


Merry Christmas

and seasons greetings
from your Executive and
Comrades at the
Barrhaven Legion.

President Bert Boehme

P.S. Join us on January 1, 2019
for the President's Levée.
(Moose milk will be served
starting at 11 a.m.)



Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda

From our home to yours, may the spirit of Christmas fill your home with peace, joy and love.

Keep warm, because *"Baby It's Cold Outside!"*

Debi Sereda
debi.foxhill@gmail.com

