

#### The President's Message



#### Comrades:

Summer is now in the rear-view mirror and as we welcome the bright colours and woodsy smells of autumn, I continue to thank all the wonderful committees and volunteers that steadfastly rise to the challenge of making this such a happening branch. Of particular note this month, I commend the committees who ran

another successful annual golf tournament and organized and hosted a very successful 3rd Annual Branch Fall Social. As I reflect on the hundreds of hours quietly given to generating funds that we convert into many charitable donations, I also want to highlight and send a huge shout out to our Bingo team volunteers. Participating in programs and projects such as Bingo and the Nevada lottery allow us to raise thousands of dollars which then we return to the community in the form of urgently needed donations. For example, in the last fiscal year, Branch 641 donated well over \$10,000, primarily from the Bingo fund, to the Barrhaven Food Cupboard, and our many cadet corps benefitted from Nevada Lottery proceeds.

There are two other activities of honourable mention since the last report. First, I acknowledge the excellent work done by our Seniors Chair in organizing a community briefing on cybersecurity with

expert speakers from the OPP and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Center. Second, I was pleased to present a cheque for \$20K from our Poppy Trust funds to the Perley Health Center which will go toward purchases of special equipment such as a state-of-the-art patient transfer devices.

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The Fall also sees a resumption of many regularly scheduled activities including the Wednesday evening Dart League and the Thursday evening Cadet Officer gatherings. Welcome back all. And last but not least, and in fact one of the most important activities of the year, the annual Poppy Campaign is nearly upon us, and the Campaign is a short one this year, starting October 31. Signup sheets have been posted in the branch for taking shifts at local participating stores. You can also contribute your valuable time in any number of other ways. Please speak to the Poppy Chair, Comrade Kevin Brown soonest. He can be reached at <a href="Poppy.Campaign@rcl641.ca">Poppy.Campaign@rcl641.ca</a> Remember, by becoming a Legion member, you joined an organization where one of its prime responsibilities, especially at this time of year, is to ensure the commitment to the Act of Remembrance. This means that your help with the Poppy Campaign is paramount in ensuring this duty is executed with utmost success.

"In the service of Veterans and their families."

David M. Cole, MSJ ,CD President





#### Nancy Rule 1961 – 2025)

Provided by Jessica Dobson: "My mom, Nancy, passed away suddenly on Tuesday, September 2. She had been on a day trip to Ogdensburg, NY when she fell gravely ill and was transferred to SUNY Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse, where she passed a few days later.

"My mom was very special person – if you knew Nancy you loved Nancy. She was thoughtful, generous and caring. The care she received in Syracuse reflected all of that back to her – every nurse, doctor, and staff member treated her with the same kindness she gave to others throughout her life. It completely shaped the way I spent the last days with my mom, and I'm so truly thankful. One of the care co-ordinators said



something that will stay with me forever: that it was because of who she was that she attracted such extraordinary people to care for her in her final days.

"True to her giving nature, my mom's last act of generosity was organ donation. Her lungs, kidneys, and liver will go on to help save lives, something that brings me peace. She loved New York and



found joy in her travels there, and I know she would be proud that her journey continues in this way.

"My mom leaves behind her, me, her only daughter; her brothers, Gordon and Bill, and their loving families; her partner of 15 years, Gord Lewis, who brought so much travel, adventure and love into her life; my dad, Steve, with whom she shared 25 years of marriage and a lifetime of friendship with, along with his partner Ali, who has become a dear friend too. Nancy also leaves behind extended family and many friends who were like family. I take comfort in knowing she'll be reunited with her parents, Ron and Mary, in heaven.

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart to all who have reached out to send love; it's beyond overwhelming and touching. It means so much. My mom would have been chuffed! "

Our sincere condolences to Jessica, Gord, and all Nancy's family and friends. She will be missed by everyone at Branch 641 and anyone who was lucky enough to cross her path. RIP girlfriend.

(Editor's Comment: Nancy left many of us better for having known her. Her smile, her perpetual cheerfulness and her kindness will never be forgotten.

#### **Douglas Harold Martin Olson (1944 – 2025)**

The King is Gone.

Doug Olson, a man who lived his life with a guitar in his hands and a song in his heart, is On the Road Again to join his Good-Hearted Woman, his late wife, Joyce (nee Simpson).

Doug was a loving father to Erin (Chris), Jason (Jane), and Chantelle. He was a treasured Poppa to Adrienne (Maddie), Alex (Avi), Emma, Carter-Joyce, Noah, and Owen, and a great-Papa to Myah-Joyce and Rosalie. Later in life, he found a new harmony with his partner Linda.

Doug was a beloved community leader at McCullough's Landing, where his spirit and kindness left a lasting impression on everyone

he met. He was the King of the Bingo Hall, the joyful MC of the Field Days, a campfire crooner with his many friends (John, Mary, Dave, Denise, Freda, and John), and a champion of the horseshoe pit.

A familiar face at the Barrhaven Legion, Doug could often be found there, jamming and sharing his love of country music. Read more.





#### Wayne Voege (1938 – 2025)

Wayne Allan Voege passed away guietly on October 19, 2025, at the age of 87, at the Perley in Ottawa. Wayne was a loving family man: father to Christina and Stephan (1974-2002); grandfather to Amber and Jared; brother to Nancy; loving uncle to John and Jeanette and others: and cousin.

He was a member of the Barrhaven Legion Branch 641' He was a captain with Ontario Armored, Read more.





Steps:

#### **Barrhaven Legion 641 Food Drive** for the Barrhaven Food Cupboard

aka "The Red Bag Campaign"

14 November – 1 December 2025



1 - Grab a Red Bag from the Legion entrance 2 - Fill the red bag with non-perishable items and return it to the Legion or Boston Pizza by December 1st 2025, and get a coupon for an individual pizza at Boston Pizza

#### The Barrhaven Food Cupboard:

- Receives NO government financial support, 100 % dependent on donations
- Served 690 families from Barrhaven in September, which equates to over 2,980 people per month.
- Spends over \$78,5000 per month on food for clients

Should you wish to donate cash/cheque in lieu of non-perishable food products, please provide your mailing address, phone number and email address so that a tax receipt can be provided.

you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Read jen.read@rcl641.ca, or (613) 863-6781





#### Most Needed Items

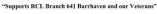




CUPBOARD Please check all food items for expiry dates the BFC is unable to use food that has expired









#### 2025/2026 Branch 641 Executive Team

Position	Chair	Position	Chair
President	Dave Cole	Hospitality/Entertainment	Angele Guy
Immediate Past President	Lyle Brennan	Housing	Mike Vincent
1st Vice President	Angele Guy	Leadership and Development	Bert Boehme
2nd Vice President	Richard Lynn	Legal Advisor	Rod Vanier
3rd Vice President	Robert MacNichol	Legion Seniors	Richard Lynn
Chair	Jennifer Dunham	Long Range Planning	Stephane Guy
Treasurer Assistant Treasurer	Will Read Joanne Larrett	Membership	Joe Guitard
Secretary	Kevin Brown	Poppy and Remembrance	Kevin Brown
Sergeant at Arms	Paul Leadston	Poppy Trust Fund	Bert Boehme
Bar Officer	Dave Cole	Public Relations (Website, Newsletter)	Debi Sereda
Cadets	Robert MacNichol and Anne Cole	Sports/Track and Field	Michelle Guitard
Community Liaison	Dave Sereda	Seniors	Richard Lynn
Constitution and Laws	Stephane Guy	Technology	Kevin Brown
Finance Officer	Bert Boehme	<b>Veterans' Service Officer</b>	Anne Cole
Grants and Assistance	Richard Lynn	Ways and Means	Dave Sereda
Honours and Awards	Lyle Brennan	Youth Education/Bursary	Carol-Anne Marleau
Non-Executive			
Bar Manager	Diane Craig	Golf Tournament	Jennifer Read
Bingo Team Co-ordinator	Ed Schelenz	Hall Rental	Cathy Pearen
Chaplain for Legion Tributes	Robert MacNichol	Hospital Visits Co-ordinator	Robert MacNichol



Cleaning the Capital

Finance Review Committee

Email: info@rcl641.ca
June 18, 2025

**Housing Assistant** 

**Nevada Trust Fund** 

**Housing Officer** 



Tom Lamb

Mike Vincent

Kevin Brown



Jennifer Read

Stephan Whalen,

Melanie Brown

### Free Seminar about Combating Phishing, Scamming, Extortion and the Do Not Call List

We've all heard the horror stories of seniors being duped out of their life savings by some unscrupulous person pretending to be calling from their bank. And many of us don't understand how anyone can possibly be caught so easily in such a scam. But it happens, and often.

Richard Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, organized a Cyber Seminar which was held on September 9, 2025. Of the 78 pre-registered people, 61 showed up in person, 8 attended online, and another eight people signed in at Eastview Legion. Everyone enjoyed the three guest speakers, and their messages were clear and informative. There's no doubt that everyone who attended felt they learned a lot from this seminar, and we hope to host it again in the near future.

#### **Guest Speakers: Stephanie**

**Senecal**, Community Support Co-ordinator (pictured right), Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Ontario Provincial Police

Joe Burke, Senior Enforcement Officer (Badge # 022), Compliance and Enforcement Sector, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

Virginia Reebs, Enforcement Officer, Compliance and Enforcement Sector, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission



Once again, thank you does not seem to be enough to thank our three guest speakers, as well as Councillors Wilson Lo and David Hill (for helping to advertise the event), our President Dave Cole, Technology Officer Kevin Brown, Linda Laframboise (door volunteer), June Dale (assisting set up and put away of tables and chairs) and Anne Cole (roving microphone).

Richard Lynn 2nd Vice President



#### Third Annual Branch 641 Social and Fundraiser

On Saturday, September 13, our Ways and Means Committee, headed by David Sereda, hosted our Third Annual Fall Social and Fundraiser.

A roast beef dinner with all the fixin's, including Yorkshire Puddings made by Alice Boehme, was served to 80 guests. Thanks to chef Jeff Arcand who cooked the roasts, and the Ways and Means team who planned, prepped and served the meal... and cleaned it all up after. Valour Hall was decorated in gold and black and the room looked absolutely fantastic as you can see from the photos below. Following the dinner, we were entertained by 4 Better Times who had everyone up and dancing the night away.

Thanks to all the sponsors who helped make this fundraiser so successful: Title Sponsor – The Patry Group; Dinner Sponsors – Canadian Tire Barrhaven and Phoenix Homes; Event Sponsors – Kelly Funeral Homes & Capital Funeral Home & Cemetery by Arbor Memorial and Wilson Lo, Councillor, Ward 24 Barrhaven East. And thanks to everyone who donated gifts and services.

We are thrilled to share that more than \$9,000 was raised for the Land and Building Fund. Thanks to all our guests and the Ways and Means team for all their hard work: Dave Sereda, Michelle Guitard, Linda Laframboise, Michelle Pearson, Broden Warmington, Carol-Anne Marleau, Gary Cunningham, Joanne Larrette, Isabelle Lafrance, Mindy Robertson and as well as Brody and Brooke, and Kathy Torunski. Thanks also to Debi Sereda for donating nine of her fall watercolour paintings.







Dave Sereda and Linda Laframboise

Valour Hall looked absolutely amazing!





Dave Sereda and Alice Boehme



The roast beef





President Dave Cole, Joy and Kelsey Barnes (from the Patry Group, one of our main sponsors) Dave Sereda, and Stephane Guy.



#### Barrhaven Legion Veterans' Memorial Banner Program

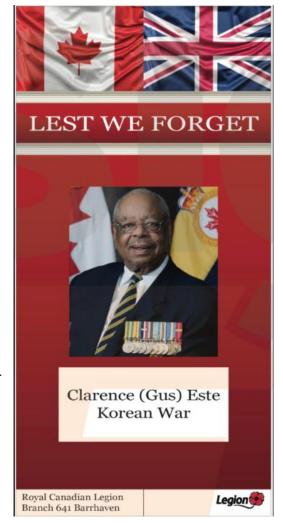
We are happy to announce that Branch 641 is launching our Veterans' Memorial Banner Program this month, and we will be showcasing our friend Gus Este with the first banner which will be raised in the branch clubhouse in early November.

You have probably seen banners like this in towns across the country and we think it's a tremendous way to honour our Veterans.

Our Veterans' Memorial Banners will be displayed along Malvern Drive, in front of the Walter Baker Centre and leading up to the memorial at John McCrae High School, where our annual Remembrance Parade and Ceremony take place. (See the image below.) This location was chosen for its proximity to the memorial as well as the fact that there is significant foot and car traffic in this area, and there are many schools close by, which will allow students to look and learn about out Veterans.

Next year, we will be reaching out to the membership to offer families the opportunity to celebrate their Veteran/s. The cost will be provided at that time along with more information about how you will be able to purchase a banner.

If you have any questions, please reach out to <a href="Debi.Sereda@rcl641.ca">Debi.Sereda@rcl641.ca</a>.









#### Let Us Know

When a comrade or family member passes away, it's important that you let our deacon, Robert MacNichol, know. He can then put several things into motion such as advising the president and our executive, connecting with the family, arranging for colour parties and Legion services, lowering the flags, updating our memorial board and website – all of which fulfill our role to each other as a Legion family. When comrades are ill or pass and we don't know, we can't support the member or their family in their time of need.

If a comrade becomes ill, please let our Hospital Visits Chair, Robert MacNichol, know so that he can contact them or the family and arrange a visit. Members love seeing a friendly face when they are sick, especially if they don't have many family members in town.

Reverend Robert MacNichol Chaplain, Hospital Visits Chair Robert.MacNichol@rcl641.ca

#### **Barrhaven Legion Memorial Bricks**

If you would like to be a part of the past, present and the future of the Barrhaven Legion, purchase a Memorial Brick. Your brick will be engraved with your name, and it will be mounted on our Memorial Wall in Valour Hall.

Bricks are available in four denominations:

Copper \$250 Silver \$500 Gold \$1,000 Legacy \$10,000+

Purchasing a Memorial Brick is also a great way to honour a family member or friend. For more information, please contact Debi Sereda.

#### Membership

We currently have 745 members: we had three transfers in this month, and three transfers out. The October Early Bird Draw winner was April McCambridge who won a free one-year membership.

Joe Guitard, Membership Chair



#### **Executive Meeting Reports for September and October 2025**

These documents are now available on our website. Please note these are shown as submitted so please excuse any typos.

Executive Meeting Report for September, <u>please click here</u>. General Meeting Report for September, <u>please click here</u>. Executive Meeting Report for October, <u>please click here</u>. General Meeting Report for October, <u>please click here</u>.

#### Barrhaven Legion 641 is on Facebook

Branch 641 has a private Facebook group **for members of our branch**. If you are a member and would like to join our private group, please search for us and ask to join - Barrhaven Legion 641.

Non-members will not be approved. And, if you don't answer the questions, your request will not be approved.

This is a private, Branch 641 members-only group.

## Reservations for Friday-Night Dinners and Special Events

**Barrhaven Legion Branch 641** 

Dinner served from 6-7 p.m. Members: \$30 Non-members \$35

For reservations, please contact Ken. Phone 613-795-2127 or Email reservation@rcl641.ca



#### **Our Colourful Colour Guard**

On September 20, 2025, members of the Branch 641 Colour Guard participated in the Richmond parade with members from Branch 291.

Pictured below – Al Larrett, Ian Clogg, Paul Leadston, Sue Ellis, Irwin McCaffrey, and Boyd Dulmage.



#### High Tea Is a Huge Hit at 641

Seventy-two guests arrived at Branch 641 on October 5 for our highly anticipated fall High Tea. Our guests looked fascinating and debonaire. Thanks to our Hospitality Team for all their hard work making delicious and beautiful sandwiches and desserts and serving our guests, and to all our well-dressed guests. Also, thanks to our greeters Bert Boehme and Eric Ellis. Here are a few

photos.











#### **Legion Information Session at the Perley Health Foundation**

On October 6, Branch 641 had the honour to attend an information session hosted by Perley Health Foundation Executive Director Delphine Haslé, and presentations given by Duff Sullivan, Perley Health Foundation Board Director, Akos Hoffer, Perley Health CEO and Michelle Proulx, Manager Therapeutic Recreation and Creative Arts. We learned about the great work they are

doing at the Perley and the care they provide for our

Veterans and residents.

We were given a guided tour of the Perley, and along the way, we were thrilled to find our friend Jim Duff in the woodwork shop. Jim is looking great, and he was very happy to see some familiar faces, even if he couldn't remember names right away.

Michelle Proulx shared with us that they are excited to be working closely with Andrew Fleck Children's Services to design and integrate daily intergenerational activities. Children, seniors and Veterans will interact throughout the Perley on a daily basis, building compassion, joy, and a stronger community. Their vision for the future is exciting and listening to the passion of their staff was truly heartwarming.

Support from Legions such as Branch 641, creating opportunities for the Veterans to participate in gardening,

baking and cooking, and activities that spark creativity and social connection.

We listened to Master Warrant Officer (Ret'd) Gail Fugere, RCAF, Rideau Veterans Resident who told us how much she enjoyed life at the Perley and how it has become much more to her than just a place to live – it's a home where she's surrounded by friends and activities and where she is happy.

Representatives from several Legions presented the Perley with some big cheques, and Branch 641 was happy to see President Dave Cole present a cheque on behalf of our branch for \$20,000. Rachel de Kemp, director of Nursing, explained how crucial donations such as these are, as they provide equipment such as Alenti bath chairs for assisted bathing and Carendo mobile hygiene chairs for medial use that make life easier for the Veterans and their caregivers.

Branch 641 supports the Perley Health Foundation through the generous community donations received during the 2024 Poppy Campaign.

We thank our community for the donations made to the 2024 Poppy Campaign that made this important donation possible.



#### **Presentation to Branch 641 Veterans**

Pat Owen from Granny Squares for Warmth presented Branch Service Officer Anne Cole with two beautifully crocheted blankets for our Veterans at the Perley. "Making and donating blankets in Ottawa since 2020" is the motto of this group. Several people donated squares which were then attached and made into blankets, one by Pat and the second blanket by another volunteer. We are so lucky to have such amazing people in our community. Thank you, Pat and your team.













#### **Happy Fourth Anniversary to 641 Open Mic!**

This afternoon music event started as a kitchen party by Angel Guy and Barry O'Connor on October 13, 2021, yes, right in the middle of COVID. It morphed into a bi-weekly open mic that, four years later, draws 10-20 entertainers, many of whom are Country Music Hall of Famers, and 70-100 guests. Don Pelletier organizes the singers and bands and advertises the semi-monthly event.

Not only is this a FUN and much-anticipated event by our musicians and guests, our Open Mic is also a fantastic fundraiser for Branch 641. It brings new people into the branch and helps spread the word that Branch 641 is all about FUN.

Each day, Angel and her Hospitality team of Alice Boehme and Gail Prevost, (plus a few other volunteers), cook hotdogs, burgers, grilled cheese and soup for the guests. Food sales average \$300-600.

Guests pay \$5 (musicians are free) and Linda Laframboise takes care of this very efficiently, and this brings in an average of \$350, along with sales of 50:50 tickets (which brings an average of \$200 each day to the branch), as well as gift baskets.

Today, I saw 100+ people laughing, dancing, eating and enjoying 641 camaraderie that was wonderful to see. Lianne Groulx buys cake each month for all the birthdays that month and today she provided the fourth anniversary cake.

Thanks to everyone who plans and attends our Open Mic. It's events like this that set Branch 641 apart.





Barry O'Connor, Angel Guy and Heather O'Connor

Alice Boehme and Angel Guy







Carol Baker and Linda Laframboise









# Barrhaven Legion 2025 Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day Activities

The Poppy Campaign is very much a local initiative, conducted by Legion branches in cities, towns and communities across the country. Donations collected during the Poppy Campaign are held in trust at the branch level to directly support Veterans and their families within their community, and to help ensure that Canadians 'never forget.' This includes providing food, shelter and medical attention for them or their families when necessary.

Thanks to the generosity of the Barrhaven community, over \$80,000 was raised during last year's Poppy Campaign. Branch 641 donated funds to community organizations including the Perley Health Centre, Heroes Mending on the Fly, Operation Leave the Streets Behind, Operation Service Dogs, Veterans' Adaptive Ski Program, Ruck to Remember, Veterans' House Ottawa, Quilts of Valour, Veterans Build, Warrior Adventures Canada, the Cadet Program through our five affiliated Army, Navy and Air Cadet units, bursaries to local students, as well as providing monetary prizes for poster and literary contests for youth attending local schools.

This year is the shortest a Poppy Campaign can be, starting on October 31 and ending on November 11. Legion and Cadet volunteers will be distributing poppies during the Campaign period at several locations, including Metro, Walmart, Loblaws, McDonough's Your Independent Grocer, Costco and Farm Boy (Greenbank location).

Barrhaven's annual November 11 Remembrance Day Ceremony will once again be held at John McCrae Secondary School, 103 Malvern Drive. The parade will form up at 10:30 a.m. and march on at 10:45 a.m. to start the ceremony. Military/RCMP/Police, Veterans, Legion members, Scouts/Cubs, Guides/Brownies/Sparks and other community groups are welcome to participate in the parade. Following the Ceremony, the Barrhaven Legion will host a reception in Halls A and B of the Walter Baker Centre. Everyone is welcome. Veterans and members of the Barrhaven Legion are welcome to join us back at Branch 641 located at 3500 Fallowfield Road.

Did you know that you don't need to be a Veteran to join the Legion? Learn more at www.legion.ca and visit our website www.rcl641.ca and drop by the branch location to discover our weekly schedule of events and activities that enable us to support our Veterans.

Have questions? Want to find out how you can help? Email the Branch 641 Poppy Campaign mailbox Poppy.Campaign@rcl641.ca and the Poppy Chair will respond.

\*\* Supporting the Poppy Campaign means supporting Veterans in need and Veteran and local community programs. \*\*



#### **Fall Cleaning the Capital**

Almost 40 people turned out on Saturday, September 27 at 10 a.m. to join in the fun of our semi-annual garbage pick up along Fallowfield Road, which is the stretch of road that Branch 641 takes care of for the City of Ottawa's Cleaning the Capital initiative. We had eight Legion Members and 30 cadets from 925 Air Cadet Squadron Barrhaven and 925 Emond-Lanthier Cadel Corps, Barrhaven.

Twenty-five bags of garbage were collected and Fallowfield Road is looking much cleaner now. A good time was had by all. Thanks for your volunteerism.











#### **Bursaries Are Available at Branch 641**

Did you know that The Royal Canadian Legion will assist post-secondary students in financial need to achieve university, college, technical, or professional education. Indentured apprentices may also apply for assistance to purchase tools and instruments. Provincial and Local level programs are available.

#### **Ontario Command's Bursary Program link**

Visit their website to learn about the Bursary program opening September of each academic year through March (when students are physically on campus).

#### Barrhaven Legion Branch 641's Bursary Program

Did you know that Branch 641 also offers a bursary program for post-secondary students? All members of 641 are encouraged to apply for a bursary.

The branch local bursary program takes place annually, and applications will be accepted in

person at the branch or by letter mail from September 1 until the deadline of October 31 of the current academic year. It is important for the candidate to demonstrate financial need with their application. Please see the form for details

#### **Branch 641 Local Bursary Application form link**

#### **External Scholarship Resources**

The Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health
Research have extended the deadline for their Masters, Doctoral and Postgraduate scholarships and awards until Friday, June 7, 2024, at 12 PM ET. More information is found at <a href="https://cimvhr.ca/funding/scholarships/">https://cimvhr.ca/funding/scholarships/</a>

For more information, please contact either of the following:

Youth Education@rcl641.ca and bursary@rcl641.ca

Canadian Veterans' Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255



#### Hall Rentals at Branch 641

Rental space is available on Saturdays and Sundays and some evenings for *WEDDINGS*, *RECEPTIONS*, *PARTIES*, *SHOWERS*, *CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE*, *and other events*.

Contact our hall rental agent, Cathy Pearen, at <a href="mailto:hallrental@rcl641.ca">hallrental@rcl641.ca</a>

**Book early** – our reasonable rates are very attractive!

For more information, <u>click here to go to our Hall Rental web page</u>.







#### **Notes from the Editor**

Debi Sereda

October and November are the busiest months of the year at the Barrhaven Legion as we prepare for the annual Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day.

A huge amount of work goes into planning and being prepared for these two events. All we ask members to do is volunteer to take a shift distributing poppies at a local store. It's three hours out of your day. Sign up with your spouse or friend, enjoy some time together and help your Legion.

I can't stress enough the importance of volunteering at **your** Legion. Becoming a member is awesome but being an **active volunteer** really makes a difference. *Please, make a difference!* 

Make sure to sign up at the branch for shifts at local stores to distribute poppies. The Poppy Campaign starts on October 31 and runs till November 11.

Enjoy your branch. Volunteer if you can. Stay safe.

Debi Sereda, Newsletter Editor and Public Relations Officer

