

The President Speaks

Comrades All:

On Sunday, January 29, our MPP Lisa MacLeod, Mayor Jim Watson and Councillor Michael Qaqish presented certificates to the winners of our annual Remembrance Poster and Essay contest. This was a great event for all those that participated. Our Branch was full of children, their parents and teachers. All the participants were excited and happy to receive their certificates and cash awards. This event was organized by our Youth Education/Bursary Chair, Chantale Brais, and as always she did a wonderful job and I've had nothing but positive comments on the whole event. Thank you, Chantale Brais.



Ed Schelenz

A reminder that we are now open for nominations for our upcoming election at our AGM on Tuesday, April 18. Our nomination Chairman Dwayne Hordij

and Terry Claessen have volunteered to coordinate the nomination process and will provide a more detailed briefing in this edition of the Advance.

Our Hospitality group puts a lot of work into the Friday night dinners and dance, and I encourage all Members to support this hard work with their attendance.

If you haven't renewed your Membership, please do it now.

Enjoy your Legion.

Keep volunteering.

Ed Schelenz, CD

President, RCL Barrhaven Br. 641

Home: 613-843-1088

begin_of_the_skype_highlighting

end_of_the_skype_highlighting

Cell: 613-371-6634

begin_of_the_skype_highlighting

Congratulations to our Scrapbook Editor, Angèle Guy, whose 2015/2016 scrapbook won **first place** in the District competition and placed **second** at the Provincial Level.

Angèle poured countless hours and "blood, sweat and tears" into producing this record of Branch events and information, and we thank her for all her creativity and hard work.

The scrapbook is on display at the Branch.



REFLECTIONS –

Gone South ... Back when the snow has gone



Ray (and Rose) Desjardins



It's Election Time!

Our bi-annual elections are fast approaching and they are scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2017 during our General Meeting. If you plan to seek nomination for a two-year Executive position, you must have been a Member of Branch 641 for a full year, have attended a minimum of three General Meetings between June 2016 and March 2017, and you must be a paid-up Member as of January 31, 2017. Nominations opened on February 21 and will close at the end of the March General Meeting. Nomination forms are available at the bar or you can call or text your nomination Committee Members Comrade Dwayne Hordij (613-793-0213) or Comrade Terry Claessen (613-796-1462) for further details.

Sick? In the Hospital? Let us Know So We Can Help!!

We care about you. If you are sick, or in the hospital, or if you know of someone who needs help or support, or a visit, let us know.

Ray Desjardins is our Chaplain and Hospital Visits Chair. You can reach Ray by phone at 613-825-2318.



February 2017 General Meeting – Welcome to Our New Members

The following 17 new Members were sworn in at this month's General Meeting. Welcome everyone!

We now have 488 Members. It is unfortunate that 132 people did not renew their Membership for 2017. If you wish to reinstate your Membership, please contact David St Amand, Membership Chairman, at 613-825-7310.



Joseph Guitard, Michelle Dawn Guitard, Chesley Walter Parsons, Roger Paul Morris, Albert R. Bourque, Jennifer Lynn Brownstein, Evelyn M. Dumanski, Julian Dumanski, Mark Todd Saunders, Elaine Leblanc, Karen Parr, Jesse Bajwa, Alice Boehme, Margaret Joan McKinley, Roger Gelinias, Trevor Winter, Pamela Marion Hall.



Save the Date

**Barrhaven Legion
11th Annual Golf Tournament
Friday, August 11, 2017**

**More information
to follow**

Honouring the Avro Anson MK1

By Comrade Terry Claessen

The Avro Anson MK1 was a coastal patrol twin-engine bomber used at the outset of WWII. It was quickly realized that it had limited capabilities in this role. It was decided it would be ideal to make it a trainer for bomber crews for the newly British Commonwealth Air Training Program. BCATP had bases in Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

“Gentle Annie” as she was dubbed by her crews, was a stable and sturdy aircraft that served for many years and thousands of crews were trained with this aircraft.

The wooden propeller was made by S&S Propeller in Winnipeg. It was fitted to Armstrong Siddley Cheetah MKIX engines on the original British Anson. Several versions were made in Canada. Due to a wartime shortage of metal, this one, used on trainers, is made of wood.

The propeller is mounted on an RAF/RCAF roundel that would have been used in WWII – there were many versions. This display is dedicated to the many bomber crews that were trained on this aircraft, many of whom did not return . . . We Will Remember Them.

We want to thank the following people for their contributions to this memorial: Les Morrison, Lancaster Pilot, WWII; John Claessen for sharing the propeller; Mike Claessen for transporting it; Caroline Boily for her insight and putting up with my OCD 😊.

The project team comprised Terry Claessen and Dwayne Hordij (pictured below, right). We thank Tom Lamb for supporting our vision, Anna Rogagna for her contacts, Dave O’Malley from Vintage Wings for his advice and knowledge of aviation history and his contacts, PXL Works for the roundel, installers Dave Stevenson and Jason Robertson, wall prep and painting done by Lindsay Craig and Dave Stevenson.



George Sparks, One of Canada's Oldest WWII Vets

[Sourced from The Ottawa Sun](#)

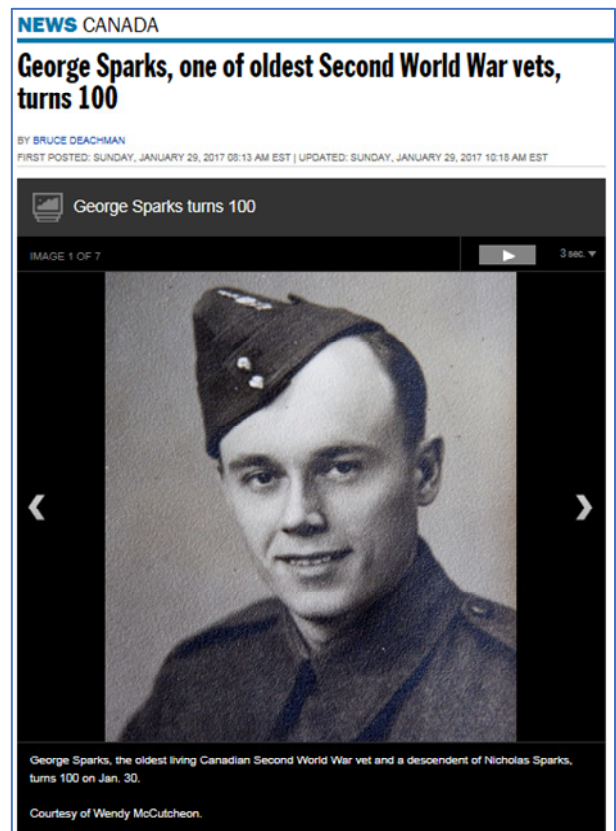
The off-white walls of George Sparks' room at the Glebe Centre, the long-term care home where he's lived for the past three years, are decorated with paintings he's done: landscapes, floral still lifes, one of a river barge, another of the Parliament Buildings, and one titled "St. George Slaying the Dragon." When he was about 15, one of his high-school teachers noted that he had an aptitude for painting, and so, a little more than 80 years later, he decided to take it up.

"I'm no Grandma Moses," he says, laughing, "but I apparently showed some talent."

It's not surprising it took him so long to take up brush and canvas. For as a teenager growing up in Osgoode, George's days were already pretty full. He attended high school in Kars, worked on his family's dairy farm, and was active in sports. At the back end of the farm, on the edge of the village, he says, there was a baseball diamond where teams from such neighbouring communities as Metcalfe, North Gower and Manotick would play, with townspeople gathering to watch and cheer. Mostly, though, he loved, loved, loved to dance. The farm backed onto the Rideau River, where the ground floor of a lighthouse was often commandeered by George and his friends for dances.

On Monday, January 30, George Lloyd Sparks turned 100, an occasion officially celebrated on the previous Saturday with a party at the RA Centre, attended by numerous friends, family and functionaries, including Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson. His actual birthday will be a somewhat quieter day: Monday's afternoon tea and cookies will be accompanied by a mind-stimulation quiz; the staff at the Glebe Centre will sing Happy Birthday to him at supper; and afterwards he'll take the elevator down to the second floor to spend some time with his wife, Evelyn, who has Alzheimer's disease and will herself turn 100 in August. They'll watch the news or a movie, perhaps, or read the newspaper together.

At 100, George is believed to be one of the oldest living Canadian veterans of the Second World War. He and his younger brother Denzil — now 98 years young — served Canada in that war. A field knight in the Order of St. George, he is also the oldest living descendant — a great grand-nephew — of Ottawa founder Nicholas Sparks.



2016 Youth Poster and Literary Contest

By Chantale Brais, Youth Education Officer

The Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Contest is aimed at helping to educate our youth in Canadian history and the sacrifices made for them by the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces, through a competitive and fun activity with rewards. It is therefore integral as part of the many activities undertaken by the Legion during Remembrance Day.

Contests are held each year just prior to Remembrance Day by local Legion Branches throughout Ontario Command. Winners of local contests have the opportunity to compete against other Branch level winners at Zone level, Zone winners participate at District level, District winners at provincial level and provincial winners then compete at the Dominion or national level.

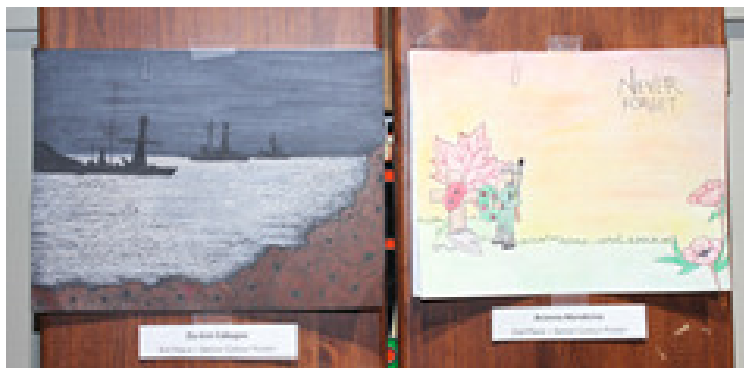
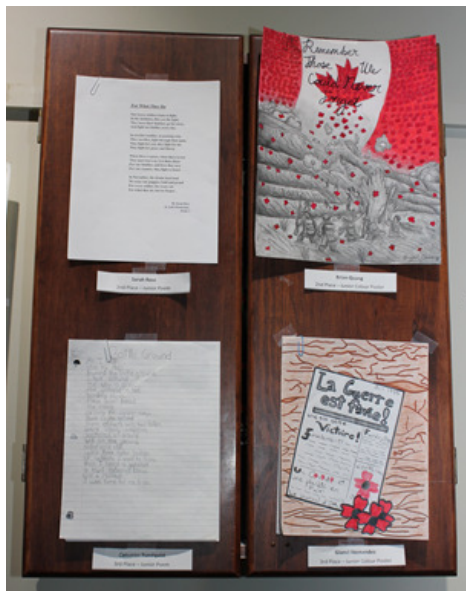
This year, our Branch 641 received a large number of entries, approximately 300, in the various categories from many of the schools in the Barrhaven area.

Certificates and cash prizes were awarded to first, second and third place winners in the Poster and Literary categories by the Branch 641 presenters including Mayor of the City of Ottawa, Mayor Jim Watson, Member of Provincial Parliament, Lisa MacLeod, Councillor of Ward 22 Gloucester-South Nepean, Michael Qaqish, and president of Branch 641, Comrade Ed Schelenz.

This was indeed a special moment where we recognized the achievements of our youth through their participation in the Remembrance Contests. Congratulation to all the students who participated as well as the parents and teachers who supported them.

More photos are also available on our [website](#).





Battle Ground

As I stepped
 toward the battle ground,
 I look around,
 the sky is grey,
 the ground is red,
 bombing planes,
 flew over head,
 the tanks
 carrying the children away,
 there on the ground
 from soldiers who had fallen
 were bloody weapons
 scattered all around
 and on the ground
 silent and still
 were three broken bodies
 of soldiers I used to know
 then I heard a gunshot
 a loud deafening boom
 and I realized
 it was time for me to go



Line Dancing

Come on down and join in the fun. Classes run from 1-2 p.m.



DRIVER AVAILABLE FOR APPOINTMENTS



Need a drive to appointments?
Please call
Comrade Lloyd Conley at 813-823-1138

Barrhaven Legion Memorial Wall

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.

Bricks are available in three denominations:

Copper	\$250
Silver	\$500
Gold	\$1,000

Purchasing a Memorial Brick is also a great way to honour a family member. For more information, please contact:

Ross Stephen -- ross4755@gmail.com

or speak to one of our bartenders.

Branch/Veteran Service Officer Report

By Comrade Victor W S Chan, CD, KStG
Veteran Service/Branch Service Officer

Since my January 2017 report to Branch 641, VSO has continued in helping a total of 32 military and RCMP Veteran Members of Branch 641, along with 13 persons from outside the Barrhaven area who are not Members of the Branch. No name or pack drill. This past month has been quiet.

I would like to thank the Branch 641 volunteers who helped out during Bingo Night and Pub Night at the Perley Rideau, and the Barrhaven Fiddleheads for providing the music on Pub Night. Without the support of Branch 641 and the active participation of our volunteers, the two functions would not have been as successful.

As a reminder, I received a notice from the Canadian Armed Forces Retirees and Beneficiaries at the end of December. As indicated in my January report, this notice advised that some changes would affect all pensioners come January 2017. To find more information, go to <http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/fac-caf/accueil-home-eng.html>. I have posted a copy of this Notice on the Notice Board in the Branch for your pleasure.

On Sunday, February 5, 2017, I had the honour of representing Branch 641 at a function held at Calabogie Peaks along with other RCL Zone G5 members. On behalf of Branch 641, I presented a cheque for \$2,000 to Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing (CADs). This \$2,000 cheque was the largest single donation of the collective \$12,500 total presented by various RCL Zone G5 members that evening.

CADs held a Winter Sports Clinic for injured soldiers and their families at Calabogie Peaks Resort, from Monday February 6 to Friday, February 10 February. The program started with six injured Canadian soldiers in 2011. That number has grown to 27 today. The goals of CADs are to provide participants with an opportunity for new accomplishments and achievements, increase confidence and self-esteem and to develop peer, mentor and family relationships. In 2013, General Walter Natynczyk, then the Chief of Defence Staff, said the program is an opportunity for the soldiers to regain a sense of confidence. This year, Fr. Guy Chapdelaine, the current Chaplain General for CAF is working with the CADs program.

Want to know more about Friday night dinners and entertainment, as well as other Branch information? Go to our website - www.rcl641.ca

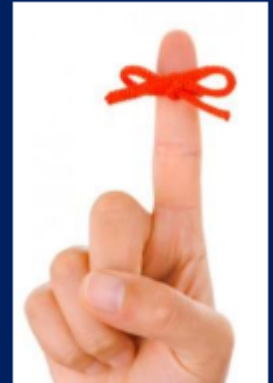
 facebook

You can also join us on Facebook: [Barrhaven Legion 641](#)

Let's Keep in Touch

If you have moved, changed your phone number or email address, don't forget to let me know!

David St. Amand
Membership Chair
613-825-7310



Make Yourself at Home in Valour Hall

Looking for a venue for a party or family gathering? Why not consider our own Valour Hall which easily seats up to 100 people for dinner.

Rental space is available on Saturdays and Sundays and some evenings. Our rental rates are very competitive:

Evening Rates (6 p.m. till close)

- \$150 for Barrhaven Legion Members
- \$250 for other Legion Members
- \$350 for non-Legion Members

Day Rates (minimum three hours)

- Legion Members \$25/hour
- Non-Legion Members \$35/hour
- AV Equipment - \$60.00 per event

Check our website for availability.

<http://rcl641.ca/rentals.html>

For more information, please email our rental manager Cathy Pearen at pearen7101@rogers.com or call the Branch at 613-843-8691.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE TWO GUYS THAT STOLE A CALENDAR?

THEY EACH GOT SIX MONTHS.



Have you picked up your **Home of Heroes** coin yet?



Home of Heroes Coins
Exclusive to Branch 641

Celebrating over 10 years of service in the Barrhaven community

Cost: \$15 each
Coins are available from the bartender



General Meetings

All Members are welcome – *and encouraged* – to attend the monthly General Meetings. These are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is March 21, 2017.

Executive Branch Officers 2015-2017

Ed Schelenz	President	613-843-1088	edschelenz@rogers.com
Ernie Hughes	Immediate Past President	613-825-2496	majorefhughes@rogers.com
Bert Boehme	1st Vice-President	613-825-4146	nandaboehm@sympatico.ca
Darrell Bartraw	2nd Vice-President	613-825-8886	ucanemaildbart@gmail.com
Chris Fuchs	3rd Vice-President	613-496-0282	christfuch54@gmail.com
Kathy Johnston	Secretary	613-828-2314	weasle1@rogers.com
Jim Duff	Treasurer	613-825-4086	rcl641@hotmail.com
Ross Stephen	Sergeant at Arms	613 825-4106	ross4755@gmail.com
David Lee	Chairman	613-601-4087	dang.lee39@yahoo.ca
Ray Desjardins	Chaplain/Hospital Visits Chairman	613-825-2318	rayd.641@sympatico.ca

Other Members of the Executive Committee 2015-2017

Victor Chan	Veterans Service Officer	613-825-8269
Sharon Wilson	Poppy Chairman	613-825-6279
Debbie Conley	Grants and Assistance	613-823-1138
David St Amand	Membership Chairman	613-825-7310
Debi Sereda	Public Relations Officer	613-825-4118
Bill Hillier	Legion Seniors	613-422-8375
Tom Lamb	Housing	613-825-4957
Jackie Fuchs	Sports/Track and Field Chairman	613-496-0282
Stéphane Guy	Ways & Means Chairman	613-797-7021
Chantale Brais	Youth Education/Bursary	613-608-2438
Gus Este	Community Liaison and Branch Historian	613-825-1168
Scott Helman	Special Ambassador	613-825-0039

Executive Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

General Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven
March 2017 – 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.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>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.</p>			<p>1 Darts - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2 Euchre 7 p.m.</p>	<p>3 Western Theme Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Beans & Pork) The Derringers 7 - 11 p.m.</p>	<p>4 </p>
5	6 Executive Meeting 7 p.m.	7 Come out and listen/dance to old time fiddle music provided by the Barrhaven Fiddleheads 7 to 10 p.m.	8 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	9 Euchre 7 p.m.	10 Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Ad Mare Fish & Chips) Nostalgia 7 - 11 p.m.	11
12	13 Line Dancing 1-2 p.m. 	14 Come out and listen/dance to old time fiddle music provided by the Barrhaven Fiddleheads 7 to 10 p.m.	15 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	16 Euchre 7 p.m.	<p>March 17 St Patrick's Day Afternoon: Join us for Irish Stew and Shepherds' Pie – Music by John Wright Dinner 6-7 p.m. (BBQ Steak Dinner) The Bedrockers 7 - 11 p.m. </p>	
19	20 Line Dancing 1-2 p.m. 	21 General Meeting 7 p.m.	22 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	23 Euchre 7 p.m.	24 Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Pasta Dinner) Anthology 7 - 11 p.m.	25
26	27 Line Dancing 1-2 p.m. 	28 Come out and listen/dance to old time fiddle music provided by the Barrhaven Fiddleheads 7 to 10 p.m.	29 Darts - 7:30 p.m.	30 Euchre 7 p.m.	31 Medieval Feast Dinner 6-7 p.m. (Roast Chicken) Royal Albert & the Collection 7 - 11 p.m.	<p>MEDIEVAL FEAST</p>



Join us for
EUCHRE

Every Thursday @ 7 p.m.

Winter - Spring - Summer - Fall
Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend!
Great prizes – Fun and Fellowship



are the backbone of our Legion. If you can help, let us know! Call 613-843-8691 today!

CATCH THE ACE LOTTERY HAS ARRIVED IN BARRHAVEN

Catch the Ace Lottery has been introduced at the Barrhaven Legion. The tickets went on sale on February 20, 2017 and the first draw took place on Sunday, February 26 at 5 p.m. Going forward, draws will occur every Sunday at the same time until the Ace of Spades is found. Please note that you do not have to be in the attendance of the draw to win.

This very popular lottery, which is open to the general public, includes a cumulative jackpot that grows every week until the Ace of Spades is selected. In this case and if the lottery goes to the full 52 weeks and the maximum number of tickets are sold, the cumulative jackpot will gradually grow to \$30,000.

The concept of this lottery is that customers buy tickets and select one of the 52 envelopes that contain a deck of cards that are all hidden from view. During the weekly Sunday draw, a ticket is drawn and the selected card is uncovered. If the Ace of Spades is found, the customer that purchased the drawn ticket wins the cumulative jackpot. If the Ace of Spades is not found, then 30 per cent of the weekly sale of tickets is rolled into a cumulative jackpot and the selected card is destroyed leaving one less card to be selected by customers for the following weekly draw. Please note that all left over previously purchased tickets are destroyed immediately following a draw. Consequently, you need to purchase a ticket every week to continuously have a chance to win the jackpot.

The proceeds of sale of tickets are divided in three parts:

1. At every weekly draw, 20 per cent is given to the customer that purchase the drawn ticket regardless of if the Ace of Spades is found
2. 30 per cent is rolled into the cumulative jackpot until the Ace of Spades is found
3. 50 per cent of the proceeds are used for charitable donations in our local community

Come into the Branch and purchase your tickets. Please note that you don't have to be in the attendance during the draw to be the winner.

Catch the	ACE
Tickets go on sale Monday, 20 Feb 2017	   
First Draw Sunday, 26 Feb 2017	
\$5	



**WE NEED SOME
GOOD VOLUNTEERS!**



Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda

Do you have a few free hours a week or a month? We need volunteers in many different areas, including cleaning, bartending and hospitality. Speak to any of our bartenders who will gladly put you in touch with one of our volunteers.



Debi Sereda
debi.foxhill@gmail.com