



# THE MAPLE LEAF

**JANUARY 2025 EDITION**

**Newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater**

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year everyone! Indeed, the year 2025 looks quite promising. We will be celebrating the Branch's 90th Anniversary, followed next year by the Royal Canadian Legion's 100th! Yet, as one year ends and another one begins, it is appropriate to take a few moments to reflect on the past year's accomplishments, on the outstanding support that friends and loved ones provide, and on what the coming year offers. While these elements are different for each and every one of us, there is a common thread.

Each of us at Branch 270 Coldwater can be proud of our role in providing assistance to our Veterans. Similarly, each of us must surely be grateful for the support of family, friends, and loved ones throughout the year. And finally, each of us will face new and continuing challenges in the coming year.

It is hard to believe that a few years ago the Branch was struggling to get back on its feet after going through the pandemic period of on-and-off closures. Much has happened since. The past year has seen many upgrading projects taking place within the branch, resulting in a newly paved parking lot, new chairs throughout and, more recently, new doors and windows! And we have more projects on the go. Meanwhile, regular building maintenance, repairs and upgrades have been taking place without fanfare, while Youth Education activities and Veterans support programs continued to be given top priority. None of this could happen without you, the volunteers! We can't thank you enough.

And thank you to the Coldwater community for continually supporting our branch, whether through active involvement or just by coming in occasionally for some entertainment or to join in on some of our many activities. With your outstanding support, we hope to continue in this direction for years to come.



*Brad and Carry Moreau were among more than 150 members of the branch and the community who joined in on New Year's Day at the Coldwater Branch to celebrate the start of the New Year.*

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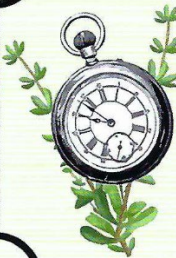


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## FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT



Happy New Year to everyone. Thank you to Gaëtanne Robinson, Debbie Southorn, John O'Hara and Cheryl Barr for preparing Christmas cards for our local Veterans and delivering them.

The President's Levee as always was well attended. Thank you to everyone who helped with this event. The moose

milk was a success again this year and the Ladies' Auxiliary put on an amazing spread of food. Unfortunately, the live music entertainment that was scheduled to be provided by The Good Ole Boys had to be cancelled at the last minute, but DJ music was enjoyed by all.

I look forward to the 90th Anniversary of Branch 270 on Sunday January 12, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Norm, Debbie, Paula, Cheryl, Michele Blunt, Eileen Doyle Mattice and Margaret Anne Murray have been working very hard in organizing this event. I hope that the public and our members take advantage of this anniversary event to learn how the Legion supports our Veterans and community.

The windows and new doors were installed in December and what a difference it makes. Thank you to Comrade Kari Malmström for leading this project and to Comrade Marlene Klanert for doing the paper work for the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) grant.

The bar area was given a new coat of paint, thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help with the paint job. And thank you to the following people who took time from their holiday schedule to help with prep and painting of bathrooms and part of the Club Room: Kari Malmström, John O'Hara, Al Myre, Debbie Southorn, Paula Brown, Penny Lawrence-Judges, Brian Judges, Gaëtanne Robinson, Brenda Yule, Marlene Klanert and Larry Liscomb. Thank you to Rick Yule for putting new ceiling tiles in the kitchen upstairs.

I look forward to seeing our members at the January General meeting on Tuesday January 28, 2025 at 6:30 pm. Please attend and bring your concerns or issues to be addressed at this forum.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Anne Frankish, Branch 270 President

P.S. - As we were about to publish this issue of *The Maple Leaf*, I just learned that Sharon Bourque passed away. She was the widow of Veteran Ed Bourque, and Gaëtanne and I had delivered to her a small gift from the Branch and the Ladies' Auxiliary just a few days ago. On behalf of the Coldwater Branch, we offer our sincere condolences to Sharon's family and friends.

## FROM THE LADIES' AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Greetings Comrades: Goodbye 2024 and Hello 2025! Wishing everyone a healthy and happy New Year and hope your Christmas was wonderful! In my December report, I missed acknowledging several things, so I am playing catch up in this report.

Our thanks to Comrade Marie Langley for doing toques and scarves for our

Veterans, which were presented to them at their Veterans Luncheon. A wonderful gift!

The Ladies' Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar was again a success. Even though the weather did not cooperate, we still had a great turnout and did well. Our vendors were pleased as well. My thanks to Comrade Brenda Yule for doing an outstanding job in organizing, decorating and overseeing the event. Thank you also to all the Auxiliary members who worked the bazaar. Special thanks to the kitchen crew who did an amazing lunch!

Our December Christmas meeting was well attended and again the pot luck dinner was awesome!

Thank you to Comrade Sheri Newman for shopping and putting together the Christmas gift bag for the Warm Hearts Adopt a Senior. Hope it made this Senior's Christmas much brighter!

On December 8, we supplied lunch and snacks for the Legion sponsored Children's Christmas event. They participated in crafts and activities and had a great time!

On December 7 in Orillia, our Ladies' Auxiliary dart team of Michele Russell, Anne Frankish, Dianne Sauvé and Mary Sauvé placed second at the Zone E4 Dart tournament. They will go on to District darts. Congratulations Ladies!

A reminder that dues for 2025 were due at the end of December.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday January 21 at 6:30 pm.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Donna Packer, Branch 270 Ladies' Auxiliary President

### BRANCH GENERAL MEETINGS

The next General Meeting will be on  
**Tuesday January 28, 2025, beginning  
at 6:30 p.m. Branch General  
Meetings take place on the fourth  
Tuesday of each month, from  
September to June (except for  
December), in the upstairs hall,  
starting at 6:30 p.m.**

## THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Leaf is the award-winning newsletter of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater, published each month in the first week of the month. It is primarily an internal communication tool through which the Branch Executive and Committee Chairs disseminate information and report to the membership on their respective activities. Opinions expressed in feature articles are those of the writers and do not imply endorsement by the Branch or the Legion. Committee reports and pre-arranged article submissions must be received no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month in order to be published in the following month's issue. Please submit by email addressed to: Branch PRO – Maple Leaf at [branch270@rogers.com](mailto:branch270@rogers.com).

### TREASURER REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Al Myre, Treasurer*

General account balance is \$56,411.48

Building account balance is \$100,349.23.

The Nevada account balance remains at \$237.61.

Bottle drive for the month to date is \$262.40.

Bottle drive prior month was \$697.60.

As part of the OTF grant, we paid \$2,599.00 for the water softener and \$15,524.60 to replace the heating /air units. We now have restricted funds in the amount of \$2,876.40 in the Building account.

As we continue to upgrade our building, some may have noticed that we have also replaced many of the windows and doors. The approximate cost will be in excess of \$21,000. This will need to be paid from the Building fund until such time as we receive the balance of the OTF grant. The funds are scheduled to be forwarded to us as follow: \$16,800.00 is to be paid in March 2025 and \$4,200.00 is to be paid in October 2025.

Finally, I would like to thank Linda Tucker for adjusting our point of sale registers on very short notice. We had a very small window to adjust our prices for the "GST/HST Holiday" that took effect on December 14 and will end February 15, 2025. A regular beer in the Club Room will now cost \$4.00.

### BOTTLE DRIVE UPDATE

*Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, Bottle Drive Coordinator*

The Branch has sent back 550,329 empties to the Beer Store since the very beginning of the Bottle Drive, which raised a total of \$67,732.50. Thank you to the Coldwater community for your generous support. The funds raised have covered major repairs, and the daily operation of the Branch.

### ENTERTAINMENT REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Penny Lawrence-Judges, Entertainment Chair*

WOW! The year is almost over! Did it go fast for you?

We at the Legion had a very busy year. I want to thank the community for coming out to our many events and supporting the Legion. Let your friends and neighbours know that they do not have to be a Legion Member to enjoy most of our activities. Be advised that if you have a suggestion that you think would be popular and could be held at the Legion, please fill out a suggestion form and submit it. All are looked over at our Executive meetings. Form must be signed. We are always looking for more ways to bring fun to the Legion. Looking forward to seeing you all again in 2025!

The **January** entertainment schedule is as follows:

- 4 Sing-O Bingo starts at 3 p.m.
- 7 Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. starts 6:30
- 11 Meat Draw starts at 3 p.m.
- 14 Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. starts 6:30
- 18 Karaoke starts at 3 p.m.
- 21 Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. starts 6:30
- 25 Music with Missing Link starts at 3 p.m.

## JOKE OF THE MONTH

*The secret of a long, successful marriage is knowing which hand towel is for me to use, and which one is reserved for the better people who come and visit my wife's home.*

## Quote of the Month

*"Be a voice, not an echo."*  
— Albert Einstein

### WAYS & MEANS REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Penny Lawrence-Judges, Ways & Means Chair*

This was a busy and fun year, with lots accomplished. Trivia and Sing-O Bingo's first year!!! Love it. If you have not come out to Trivia yet, come join us on Tuesday nights. 6 p.m. sign up. Sing-O Bingo is usually the first Saturday of the month (except this February)

Again, this year, we assisted over 50 Veterans and seniors in our Keep our Veterans & Seniors Warm program. Thanks to the great community for their assistance. Our Experienced Christmas Decoration Silent Auction was another great success. Thanks to all the Legion members who donated baskets for our raffles. And thanks to the members of the community who come in and support our various fundraising activities. Thanks!!!!

### SICK & VISITING

*Submitted by Comrade Betty-Anne Burnie, Sick and Visiting Chairman*

I have been keeping in touch with those I know are ill or not well. If there are any issues that require my attention please let me know. Home phone (705) 686-3270 or email [bburnie6@hotmail.com](mailto:bburnie6@hotmail.com)

### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Debbie Southorn, Branch Sergeant-at-Arms*

On December 7, Coldwater Branch 270 Colour Party participated in the annual Coldwater Santa Claus parade. The evening was a lovely evening with snow falling for the arrival of Santa Claus. A good time was had by all. I hope everyone has a happy and prosperous New Year.

### SPORTS REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Al Myre, Sports Officer*

ATTENTION ALL DART PLAYERS:

Collingwood will be hosting the Seniors Dart Tournament on January 25, 2025. All those interested in playing must register with me on or before January 3, 2025.

You will find all pertinent details posted on the Club Room bulletin board.

### YOUTH EDUCATION REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Cheryl Barr, Youth Education Chair*

I am happy to report that the Youth Education Remembrance Day Contest has been completed for another year. We had three amazing judges to grade 125 entries from the Coldwater & Moonstone Public Schools as well as from local Home Schooled students. John O'Hara, my co-chair, took on Elmvale schools, so we added another 124 to the judging. But they got it done. Thanks to Yvonne, Carol, Marlene, and John. The entries were posted around the Banquet Hall in November and a selection of the best ones will be displayed on the BIDDY during January. Brian made up ribbons for each student, and John dealt with the certificates.

On December 17 the Youth Education Committee, the Poppy Chair and the PRO of the Branch went to Coldwater Public School and presented the students with their awards during their Christmas assembly. We also presented to the Home School students their awards in the afternoon. On December 20 we presented the awards at the Elmvale schools.

After the Christmas break we will get the Public Speaking information to local schools. We are hoping to be able to host a Public Speaking contest at the Branch in late winter/early spring.



*On behalf of the Coldwater Legion, Branch Poppy Chair Gaëtanne Robinson (right) presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Jennifer Viherjoki, Principal for Coldwater and Moonstone Public Schools, in recognition for the schools support to the Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Poster and Literary contests program.*

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, Membership Chair*  
Happy Holidays Comrades.

Membership is currently at 350 members: Affiliates, 62; Associates, 240; Life, 2; and Ordinary, 46.

The five new members that were approved at the November General Meeting will be called in the first week of January to let them know the date and time of their initiation into the branch.

Emails will be going out to all members in the first week of January regarding their outstanding dues. If you have paid for your 2025 membership, your stickers are behind the bar. Please ask the Bar Steward on duty. If you have any questions regarding your membership, please feel free to contact Cheryll at either 706-686-3388 or 705-330-2809.

Dominion Command has increased the Per Capita Tax, which is the amount that branches have to pay back to Command for each member. The tax went up by \$5.00, so the Branch decided that it was only fair to raise the membership fee by \$5 to cover the increase. For years the Branch has kept the dues at \$55.00 for Early bird and \$60.00 after December 1. But on January 30 the rate for dues will be \$65.00. The winner of the "Win your membership dues back" draw is Marion Potter. Congratulations!

## BUILDING MANAGER REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Kari Malmström, Building Manager*  
I have the following report in the way of 1st Vice/ Building Manager since our last meeting.

My report is as follows:

- The monthly fire inspections are completed. New double fire doors and hardware are on order.
- Downstairs audio system has been ordered. Supplier is waiting for parts to arrive.
- New windows and outside doors were installed in December. Looks great.
- I was able to troubleshoot and repair the automatic door opener button which was not working. Light showed battery OK, but did not send strong enough signal to work. Replaced battery and now it's OK.
- We were able to get some cosmetic upgrades done between Christmas and New Year. Upstairs ceiling tiles in kitchen was part of it.
- Thank you to everyone who marched in the Santa Claus parade. Snowy evening, but fun anyway.
- I wish all members and supporters of our Legion a very happy and healthy New Year, and hope to see everyone at the New Year's Levee.

## HONOURS & AWARDS REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade John O'Hara, Honours & Awards Chair*

Happy New Year to one and all of you. Don't forget to put your request in to honour someone via Honours & Awards submissions. To nominate someone for a Legion award, please complete the form that is available in the Club Room, place it in the envelope provided and leave it with the Bar Steward on duty to the attention of Honours & Awards Chair John O'Hara. Entries will be accepted until the end of January 2025.

## CHRISTMAS FOR THE CHILDREN

*Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, Membership Chair*  
Happy New Year Comrades!

Thank you to all the volunteers who organized this event: Paula, Karen, Eileen, Michele, Debbie, Margaret Anne, and Yvonne. A huge thank-you to Brenda and Janice from the Ladies' Auxiliary for looking after the food. The Children had a blast. They decorated flowerpots and plates with paint and pipe cleaners, and they decorated homemade cookies in the shape of a mitt. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived shortly after 11 a.m. and wandered around the hall. Each child left with a reindeer hot chocolate bag, a candy cane, and white birch seeds that were donated by Myles Southorn Tree Farm. I would like to thank John O'Hara and his granddaughter, and Debbie's niece for helping with the little ones. Everyone had a great time. The event was over by 1 p.m.

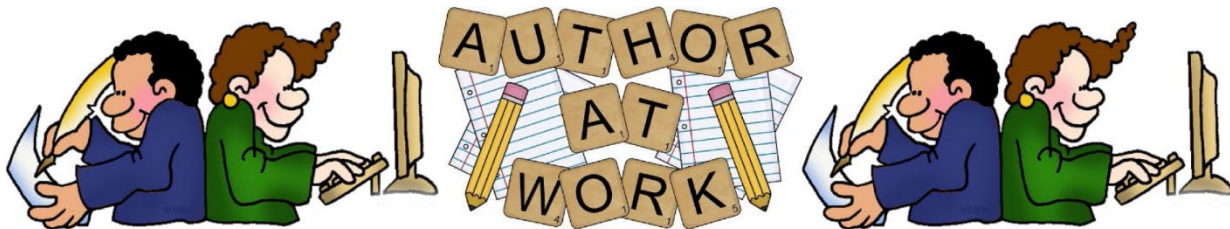


*Santa and Mrs. Claus (George Sinclair and Grace Mahoney) were on hand to greet the children at our Christmas for the Children event.*



## DISTRICT 'E' - 7<sup>th</sup> Annual

**SENIORS 55+ LITERARY COMPETITION**  
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Submit your original entry for -

**POEMS, ESSAYS, MEMOIRS, SHORT STORIES,**

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**Or Dist E Sec/Srs Lit Co-Chair Betty-Jean Murray – 705-528-9292**

## Ontario Connecting More People To Dementia Care In Their Community

*"We are thrilled with the Ontario's investment in expanding dementia care, support, and services in Simcoe-Grey. This funding, directed to the Alzheimer Society of Ontario, is a vital step toward ensuring that individuals and families impacted by dementia receive the care they deserve. This initiative will provide critical resources and support across our entire region, enhancing the quality of life for many residents." -MPP Jill Dunlop*



**JILL DUNLOP**  
MPP – Simcoe North/Nord

705-326-3246  
Jill.Dunlopco@pc.ola.org  
JillDunlopMPP.ca



### MESSAGE FROM MPP JILL DUNLOP

As we welcome the New Year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past year and express my heartfelt gratitude for the resilience and strength of the people in Simcoe County. The challenges we faced have reminded us of the importance of community, support, and care for one another. It's in that spirit that I extend my warmest wishes for health, happiness, and success to all residents in the Coldwater area and beyond in 2025.

This year, I am especially proud to announce a significant investment by the Ontario government, one that will have a profound impact on the lives of many families across Simcoe County. Our government is investing \$93,000 to improve access to dementia care, support, and services for

our local communities. This investment is a crucial step forward in ensuring that those living with dementia and their caregivers receive the help they need to navigate this difficult journey.

Dementia affects many families in Ontario, and it's important that we continue to build a system of care that is compassionate, accessible, and supportive. This funding will help to connect more people with the services they require, whether it be through local support programs, specialized care, or resources that make day-to-day life a little easier for both patients and their loved ones.

This investment is part of our ongoing commitment to health care in Ontario, especially in rural communities like ours, where access to specialized services can often be limited. By expanding these critical services, we are not only improving the quality of life for individuals living with dementia but also offering much-needed relief to their families.

As we look to the future, let's continue to work together to build a community that is caring and strong. I wish you all a peaceful and prosperous New Year, and I look forward to another year of serving you in the Ontario legislature.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Public Relations Officer*

The monthly newsletter and on-line media - Facebook & Website – and the BIDDY are kept up-to-date. Images from the Santa Claus Parade and the Poster & Literary Contests are posted on the BIDDY, and the branch Web and Facebook pages.

The January Maple Leaf is published on January 2 so that photos of the President's Levee could be included.

**Join us for**

**Tuesday evenings**  
Registration at 6 p.m. Play starts at 6:30 p.m.





## ONTARIO COMMAND FACT SHEET 2024

*From the files of Ontario Command*

The following Facts are gathered from a Branch Survey conducted for the Fiscal Year of 2022-2023. Please note that due to the Covid-19 Pandemic Lock Downs and Restrictions, Ontario Command Branches could not operate under normal conditions and were slow to bounce back after all restrictions were lifted. The below facts show that our Branches and Members continue to strongly support their Veterans and Communities!

The Legion at work in Ontario:

- There were 389 Branches, with a total membership of 100,000 strong as of December 2024 (92.5% of Ontario Command Branches responded to this survey)
- Total Poppy Donations received for 2023 were \$9,520,305.65. Statements throughout this Fact Sheet reflect where these funds were disbursed by Branches to support Veterans, their dependents and greater community
- Funds spent on Veterans Programs for 2023 totaled over \$3.5 million
- Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries continue to support the Homeless Veterans Program - "Operation: Leave the Streets Behind". As of December 2024, over \$3 million has been disbursed from the Ontario Command Homeless Veterans Fund and over \$100,000.00 from our Ladies' Auxiliary. As of this date 1242 Veterans have been assisted (of which 139 were female Veterans and 73 families) in 207 communities
- For the year 2023 Grants from Poppy funds, to the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Service League in the Caribbean totaled \$89,500.00
- Provide funding for Provincial Service Bureaus, for Provincial Service Officers to assist, all Veterans – Currently Serving and Ex-Service Personnel, with pension applications, benefit concerns, on an ongoing basis - free of charge
- Ontario Command is very proud to support "Operation Service Dog"! In collaboration with Wounded Warriors Canada this program has, and will continue, to drastically improve the lives of many Veterans! Since the beginning of

this partnership in 2018, Ontario Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries have donated \$2.2 million to this program.

- Branches and Ladies' Auxiliary members continue to support Veterans in hospitals by supplying comforts and entertainment to enhance their quality of life
- Money Spent on Medical Equipment and Research totaled over \$600,000.00
- Not including funds spent on Veterans, over \$532,200.00 was used for Seniors' Programs
- Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation approved \$671,322.00 to Ontario communities in 2023. Since its inception in 1979, donations approved amounted to over \$19,613,835.52 to various Hospitals, Hospices, Health Clinics, Homes for the Aged, Fire Departments and Charities in communities throughout Ontario.
- Through our Bursary program in the 2023-2024 academic year a total of 353 applications were awarded to students in need for post-secondary education in the total amount of \$441,250.00 in the Province of Ontario with the generous donations from the Ontario Command Legion Branches and the Ladies' Auxiliaries of Ontario Command. Since the academic year of 2002-2003 to 2023-2024 our Bursary program has made a total of 13,634 awards totaling \$7,715,075.00.
- Additional Bursaries from Branch Poppy Trust funds were awarded in the amount of \$634,350.00
- Sponsors and facilitates low rental housing for senior citizens
- Continued to support accessibility for Veterans, their families and the Communities in excess of \$543,800
- Continued to support Scouts Canada, Guides Canada, Army/Air/Sea/Navy Cadets, Canadian Junior Rangers and other Youth Programs in excess of \$1.6 million
- Other donations to local charities amount to over \$2 million, not from Poppy Trust Funds
- Donations to local Community Projects totaled over \$1.4 million
- Ontario Command Branch Members annually put in over 400,500 volunteer hours
- In 2023 Ontario Command Branches had over 6157 volunteer staff and employed over 1141 full time and part-time staff
- Ontario Command Branches offered their facilities free of charge to community groups for over 21,600 occasions in 2023

For further information please visit the Ontario Provincial Command Website at [www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca)



## BRANCH HISTORIAN REPORT

*Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Historian*

The Coldwater Legion was born out of the efforts of Rev. Arthur Harden of Coldwater, who served as Chaplain in the First World War, and Rev. W.J. Province, a veteran of both World Wars. Coldwater Branch No 270 of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League received its Charter on January 2, 1935 (see original above). The names of the founding members on the 1935 Charter are as follows: T. Langton; R.P. Bellamy; F.W. Brown; C.E. Stevens; Rev. H. Harden; W.V. Manning; B. Speerin; C.R. Orton; W.W. Williams; N.J. Evoy; H. Worrell; G. Dunlop; C.W. MacDougal; Rev. W.J. Province; G.V. Caswell; A. Watt; J. MacIndoo; J. Yule; R.J. Barker; and O.W. Lovelace. The first Legion building was donated by the Sheppard family, at one time the office of the Georgian Bay Lumber Company at the current site of the Medical Building on River Street. On July 9, 1952, the Legion Branch and its Ladies' Auxiliary opened their new building, Coronation Hall, a red brick house known as the Harvie home, located on Gray Street West across from Graymore. It was bought from Mrs. Gertrude Manning.

The third move was to the Denison House on Coldwater Road in 1962, where they remained until the construction of the new building at the current location on what was then Community Centre Drive (today Michael Anne Drive) in 1972. The corner stone was laid on November 11, 1971. The first function at the new building was the funeral of First World War Veteran and charter member Orley Lovelace. An addition to the building was completed in 1987. Over the years, the Coldwater Branch has been active in the community affairs of the village – both in assistance to veterans and their families and by sponsorship of a variety of functions and events, including supporting youth education and Air and Sea Cadets. Each year the Legion holds a Remembrance Day Service and parade, as well as the annual laying of crosses on Veterans graves at the Coldwater Cemetery. Today the Branch has a membership of 350 Ordinary, Associate, Affiliate, and Life members. **The Branch will be celebrating the 90th anniversary with an Open House on Sunday January 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All welcome!**



*Thomas Langton was a founding member of Branch No. 270 of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League - today's RCL Branch 270 (Coldwater), and was elected as the branch very first president in 1935.*

## MEET OUR FIRST PRESIDENT: THOMAS LANGTON

Thomas Langton Jr. was born in Toronto, on March 26, 1883, the son of Thomas and Florence (McDonald) Langton. On February 28, 1916, he enlisted with the 180th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, in Toronto. On his Attestation Form he is described as 32 years-old and single. He listed his trade as foreman, and stated he had no previous military experience. Langton, regimental number 862770, was commissioned to the rank of lieutenant shortly after joining. Thomas sailed on the S.S. Olympic to arrive in England on November 21, 1916. After several months of training in England he landed in France on April 25th, 1917, assigned to the 75th Canadian Infantry Battalion. He suffered gunshot wounds in the legs on June 8, 1917, and was returned to Canada for medical treatment. Thomas was discharged on April 6, 1918, and later moved to Coldwater, Ontario. In 1935 he became a founding member of Branch No. 270 of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League - today's RCL Branch 270 (Coldwater), and was elected as the branch very first president. Thomas passed away on June 1, 1935, in Toronto.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270

## BURSARY OFFICER REPORT

*Submitted by Henny Risebrough, Bursary Officer*

The 2024/25 Ontario Command Bursary Program year will close the last Friday in March. This is open to students of Ex-Service personnel or Currently Serving Members of the Canadian Forces (Regular, Reserve & Merchant Navy), Commonwealth War Veterans & their spouses, children and grandchildren, Ordinary Life Members of the Royal Canadian Legion, spouses, children and grandchildren, Associate Members of the RCL & their children only, Ladies' Auxiliary members & their children and grandchildren.

Required documentation are OSAP documentation, School Endorsement, Bursary Assistance Application, Membership verification from the Branch, Proof of Service-discharge certificate/record of service (proof of relationship required). Complete details on how to submit your application are laid out in the following link:

[www.on.legion.ca/remembrance/youth-programs/bursaries](http://www.on.legion.ca/remembrance/youth-programs/bursaries)

Bursary applications can be picked up at the branch or may be obtained from the Ontario Command web site <http://www.on.legion.ca>

It's very important to apply early and submit all required documentation. Should you require additional information on the program or the process, I can be contacted using email at:

[h\\_risebrough@hotmail.com](mailto:h_risebrough@hotmail.com) , or phone 905-722-598.

**Coldwater Legion**  
**90th Anniversary**  
**Open House**

Join us in the Club Room  
for our special Open House  
to mark the 90th Anniversary  
of the Coldwater Branch  
(hey, that's getting pretty close to 100!)

**Sunday January 12, 2025**  
11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Everyone welcome!

Royal Canadian Legion  
Branch 270 Coldwater  
2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater  
email: [branch270@rogers.com](mailto:branch270@rogers.com)



*The top entries for the JUNIOR level POEM category, left-to-right: Anikka Janssen (3<sup>rd</sup>); Callie Krajewski (Honourable Mention); and Dylan Reid (1<sup>st</sup>). Adam Bromley (2<sup>nd</sup>) is missing from photo. Legion presenter John O'Hara is standing in the back.*

Honourable Mention: Cameron Whittaker  
 INTERMEDIATE POSTER – COLOUR

- 1st: Noah Pryn
- 2nd: Vanessa Price
- 3rd: Isabelle Laquerrie
- Honourable Mention: Marylin Kellett

INTERMEDIATE POSTER – BLACK & WHITE

- 1st : Payton Sargent
- 2nd: Quinn Bremner
- 3rd: Mya Krina
- Honourable Mention: Vanessa Price

JUNIOR – POEM

- 1st: Dylan Reid
- 2nd: Adam Bromley
- 3rd Anikka Janssen
- Honourable Mention: Callie Krajewski

INTERMEDIATE – POEM

- 1st: Payton Sargent
- 2nd: Elizabeth Vermeulin
- 3rd: Hayden Lloyd
- Honourable Mention: Sophie Sargent

**LEGION POSTER & LITERARY CONTEST 2023**

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater is pleased to announce the branch level results of the Legion’s annual Poster & Literary Contests 2024. The winners were selected among Primary, Junior and Intermediate level entries, in the Black & White and Colour Poster, and Poem and Essay categories, as submitted by students of the Coldwater and Moonstone Public Schools, as well as some Home Schooled students. The 1st place submissions in each category have been forwarded to Zone E4 to compete at the next level of judging. Congratulations to winners and to all participants!

PRIMARY POSTER – COLOUR

- 1st: Olivia Archer
- 2nd: Lottie Goodmurphy
- 3rd: Jackson Waugh

PRIMARY POSTER – BLACK & WHITE

- 1st: Vivienne Hunter
- 3rd: Fox Loney

JUNIOR POSTER – COLOUR

- 1st: Danika Traynor
- 2nd: Jordyn Bearse
- 3rd: Karley Beers

JUNIOR POSTER – BLACK & WHITE

- 1st: Parker Laughlin
- 2nd: Leah Hilier
- 3rd: Cameron Brooks-Carpino



*Right: 1<sup>st</sup> place entry in the Primary – Colour Poster category by Olivia Archer*



*Left: 1<sup>st</sup> place entry in the Junior – Colour Poster category by Danika Traynor*

Join us for  
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# The Missing Link



Gord McDonald



Bruce Woods



Paul Holmes (Homer)

Performing at the Coldwater Legion

Saturday January 25, 2025

From 3 to 6 p.m.

2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater

email: [branch270@rogers.com](mailto:branch270@rogers.com)





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Join us on the second Saturday  
of each month for our

# Meat Draw

\$10 for 11 chances to win!



Join us in the Club Room  
for our next

# Meat Draw

Saturday January 11, 2025

starting at 3 p.m.

*Everyone welcome!*

## MEAT DRAW WINNERS

DECEMBER 14

1. Jane Lauder
2. Lorne McKay
3. Dave Kavanagh
4. Lorne McKay
5. Darlene McKay
6. Grace Mahoney
7. Ryan Craig
8. Cheryll Barr
9. Marcia Wilson
10. Stephanie Moyle
11. Dianne Sauv 
12. Darlene McKay

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# SPORTS AT BRANCH 270

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE

### **December 3**

High Hand – Betty-Anne  
Low Hand – Ken  
Most Lone Hands – Brian S.

### **December 10**

High Hand – Brian  
Low Hand – Jackie  
Most Lone Hands – Paul

### **December 17**

High Hand – Doreen  
Low Hand – Anne  
Most Lone Hands – Paul

## SHUFFLEBOARD

### **December 5**

1<sup>st</sup> : Doreen & Jim  
2<sup>nd</sup> : Heather G. & Vickie  
3<sup>rd</sup> : Ken & Brian S.  
Sunshine: Richard

### **December 12**

1<sup>st</sup> : Sherrin  
2<sup>nd</sup> : Doreen & Richard  
3<sup>rd</sup> : Paul & Betty-Anne  
Sunshine: Richard

### **December 19**

1<sup>st</sup> : Ken & Heather G.  
2<sup>nd</sup> : Phyllis  
3<sup>rd</sup> : Brian & Sherrin  
Sunshine: Heather G.

## FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS

### **December 6**

1. Margaret Anne  
2. Cathy  
3. Lorne  
4. Annie  
5. Jean  
6. Bill  
Sunshine: Bev

### **December 13**

1. Jane  
2. Bruce  
3. Don  
4. Henny  
5. Yvonne  
6. Lloyd  
Sunshine: Jane

### **December 20**

1. Rob  
2. Marlene  
3. Bill  
4. Kari  
5. Lloyd  
6. Bev  
Sunshine: Bev



**BRANCH 270  
WEEKLY SPORTS  
& ACTIVITIES  
- Winter Schedule -**

**Euchre**  
1 p.m. every Tuesday

**Trivia**  
6 p.m. every Tuesday

**Fun Darts**  
7:30 p.m. every Wednesday

**Shuffleboard**  
1 p.m. every Thursday

**Steak Darts**  
6 p.m. every Friday

Each 1st Saturday of the month  
Register at 3 p.m.  
Play starts at 3:30 p.m.

**Sing-O  
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**FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater • <a href="http://www.coldwaterlegion.com">www.coldwaterlegion.com</a> <b>JANUARY 2025</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Happy New Year!</i>						
5 CLOSED	6 CLOSED	7 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm Trivia 6 pm	8 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7:30 pm	9 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm League Darts 7:30pm	10 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre 12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	11 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Meat Draw starts at 3 pm
12 Open House Branch 270 90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 11:00am-2:00pm	13 CLOSED	14 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm Trivia 6 pm	15 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7:30 pm	16 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm League Darts 7:30pm	17 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre 12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	18 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Karaoke starts at 3 pm
19 CLOSED	20 CLOSED	21 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm Trivia 6 pm L. A. General Meeting 6:30pm	22 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7:30 pm	23 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm League Darts 7:30pm	24 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre 12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	25 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Music with Missing Link starts at 3 pm Euchre Night upstairs at 7pm
26 CLOSED	27 CLOSED	28 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm Branch General Meeting 6:30pm	29 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7:30 pm	30 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm League Darts 7:30pm	31 Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre 12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	