

Newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater

(705) 686-3388 • 2 Michael Anne Drive, P.O. Box 89, Coldwater, ON, LOK1E0 <u>branch270@rogers.com</u> • <u>www.coldwaterlegion.com</u> • <u>www.facebook.com/Coldwaterlegion</u>



COLDWATER REMEMBERS

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater held its annual Remembrance Day parade and service on Monday November 11. Despite the bitter cold, more than 250 people did show up to pay their respects to our Fallen, many to lay a wreath in memory of a loved one. Once again Canadian Armed Forces personnel from CFB Borden came up to march in the parade and provide logistical support. As Remembrance Day also signalled the end of this year's Poppy Campaign, we wish to thank the many groups, local businesses and individuals who contributed in so many ways to the Coldwater Legion's Poppy Campaign. Thank you to those who marched and stood on parade, and those who attended as spectators. Thank you to the "Pipes and Drums" Cadets from 724 "Midland Lions" Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron, for providing musical support during and after our parade. Thank you to our own Legion Branch members and Ladies Auxiliary volunteers who spent hours in the cold, "tagging" for Poppies, or preparing and serving lunch after the parade, working behind the counter in the club room, and doing whatever was required to "make it happen." Finally, thank you all of you who proudly wore your Poppy during the two weeks of the campaign. This simple gesture of Remembrance is perhaps the best guarantee that in the future, we will, indeed, continue to Remember Them.

FALL & CHRISTMAS CRAFT & BAKE SALE

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater Ladies Auxiliary held its annual Fall and Christmas Craft & Bake Sale on Saturday November 23, 2019, in the upstairs hall at the Legion. The Ladies Auxiliary wish to thank all the volunteers, participants and visitors who contributed to make this event a success, and particularly the local businesses who donated merchandise for our Penny Table and Prize Draws. Thank you all!



Branch member Henny Risebrough volunteered to help with the Fall and Christmas Craft & Bake Sale.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Comrades,

First, I want to thank you all for your work and dedication in the days/weeks leading to Remembrance Day. What we have done in those few weeks represents the most important aspect of the work of the Legion. We held our two most visible acts of Remembrance and



Veterans recognition – Veterans Dinner and Remembrance Day - and our successful Poppy Campaign will provide funding for our Veterans support activities for the year. We know we're going to do it again next year, and the next, and so on. So getting these things right is a very good thing.

Kudos must go to Comrade Betty-Jean Murray for her work as coordinator of our Poppy Campaign (and many other things on the Remembrance/Veterans front). Of course, thank you to the members of the Ladies Auxiliary for another scrumptious meal served in a wonderful setting at the Veterans Appreciation Dinner. And thank you to all who contributed with logistic and technical support, and those who marched or took part in the parades and services during the past month.

Of course we had some pleasant activities, including sports events and the Ladies Auxiliary's annual Fall & Christmas Craft & Bake Sale. And there were two significant donations made to the branch; from the Ladies Auxiliary, a donation of \$2,500 presented at the Veterans Appreciation Dinner; and from the members of the Wednesday and Thursday night darts leagues, a new 55" television for the Club Room. Thank you so much to both groups for their support to the branch. But then, we also had some unpleasant moments.

Last month there was an incident involving two people taking part in an activity at the branch, which resulted in verbal abuse including racial slurs from one of the parties. We expect everyone to be respectful of each others at the branch and in all Legion's activities, and I remind you that harassment of any kind is not tolerated within any Legion facility. This applies to everyone, members or not. Legion policy on harassment is posted on our bulletin board at the entrance.

And then, sadly, on November 15 we lost another Veteran, Comrade Ted Baker, who was also a Life Member. The branch held a Legion Service in his honour on November 30th at the United Church in Coldwater. Ted was one of the first people I met at the branch when I joined the Legion in 2016. The first thing he asked me was "Can you go up a ladder?" (His question was indicative of how badly the branch needed new blood!). He was concerned about the state of the three Army, Navy and Air Force flags that were flown over the south entrance of the building, and he needed someone to go up a ladder. I quickly learned that Ted was passionate about military customs and traditions, and he held his own views on how things should work in that area. I remember he was not happy that the Legion had adopted the term "half-mast" rather than the Army term "half-staff" to describe the lowering of the flags on Remembrance Day or to mark the passing of a member. Well, Ted, I can assure you that on November 30th, the flag at the branch was flown "half-staff", in your honour.

In closing, please remember that our next Branch General Meeting will be on January 22. The December meeting is cancelled as it would fall on December 25. As we come to the end of another productive, successful year at the Coldwater Legion, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Wonderful New Year! Please join us for our regularly scheduled activities in December and, special to this festive season, our New Year's Eve Potluck with the music of Len Murphy, followed by our annual President's Levee on New Year's Day featuring the music of Even Steven. You don't have to be a member to participate. Best wishes to all for the Holidays!

Yours in Comradeship, Norm Marion, President



THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Leaf is the award-winning newsletter of 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 Chairpersons 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 articles must be received no later than the 21st 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.

GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 22, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Branch General Meetings take place on the fourth Wednesday of each month, from September to June, in the upstairs hall at 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Wayne Tutt, Membership Chairperson

Hello comrades. Our Branch membership is at 287. We have 3 Life, as we lost Comrade Ted Baker on November 15; 42 Ordinary; 158 Associate, and 84 Affiliate. Please be aware that the 2020 Early Bird Membership drive is completed. As of November 24, we managed to get 53% of our membership renewed. Congratulations to Garry Perryman who won the Early Bird Draw and gets his 2020 membership fee paid by the branch. Cheryll Barr (affectionately known as "DOUBLE L") has agreed to assist me with membership. Thank you Cheryll!!!! Welcome to Ordinary member Michael O'Hara, who transferred to our branch from Penetanguishene. **MERRY CHRISTMAS to all!**

WAYS & MEANS / ENTERTAINMENT REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Carol Baird, Entertainment/Ways & Means Chairperson

November was a very busy month at the branch. The Poppy Campaign, the Veterans Appreciation Dinner with the big band, then Remembrance Day with Stir It Up, our Meat Draw, 8 Ball Tournament and our Jammin' band to finish the month off Prime Time Country. Thanks to all who participated in all the activities. For December things are slowing down for the Christmas Season. We have our Meat Draw on the 14th. Then on New Year's Eve we will be having a Pot Luck with entertainment by Len Murphy, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Our President's Levee on New Year's Day will be from 1 to 5 with Even Steven. I would like to thank everybody for their support over the last year. It was much appreciated. I would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year. I am off to Florida until January 8th.

TREASURER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Annie McArthur, Secretary-Treasurer

As of November 26,⁷ the General Account has \$26,540.63; the Building Account \$17,081.71; and the Nevada Account has \$237.61.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Dave Robitaille, Branch Sgt-at-Arms We do have one final parade this year with the Coldwater Santa Claus parade on Saturday December 7, starting at 5:30 p.m. If you wish to take part in that parade or any of our regular branch parades, whether with the Colour Party or as a marcher, please let me know: (705) 241-6415.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Randy Rice, Service Officer

The METIS Veterans of Canada recently received recognition from the federal government for their service in the Second World War. With this recognition came an official apology and a cash award of \$20,000 to all living Second World War METIS Veterans – spouse or children of Veteran may qualify if Veteran has passed within last 3 years.

For further info, please contact:

Brian Black, President, METIS Nation of Ontario Veterans Council

Black.Brian@rogers.com 905.925.2150



Branch 270 Ladies Auxiliary President, Anne McArthur (left) presents a cheque for a donation worth \$2,500 to Branch President, Comrade Norm Marion, who accepts it on behalf of the Branch.



Branch member Glen Archer lines-up a shot during the Coldwater Branch 8-Ball tournament on November 23rd

SPORTS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Dean McArthur, Sports Officer

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. We had the trophies refurbished at a cost of \$103.76. Dave Reynolds donated his time for this and a thank-you card was sent out. We hosted an 8-Ball tournament on November 23rd. Unfortunately, there was a small turn out, but we exchanged numbers and hope to car pool for events in the future. The Grey Cup party was not well attended, winners were Anne McArthur and Trevor McCauley. We hope to host a triathlon in February.

SICK & VISITING REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Anne Burnie, Sick and Visiting Chairperson

I want to thank all the Legion members who participated in the service for Ted Baker. It meant so much to his family. I am still trying to find more seniors calendars. Due to financial cutbacks they printed far fewer this year. 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.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Public Relations Officer

MAPLE LEAF, FACEBOOK & WEBSITE: We continue to populate the Maple Leaf, Facebook page and Branch website with articles and photos. Photos of the Halloween party, Veterans Dinner, Remembrance Day ceremony and the Fall & Christmas Craft & Bake Sale are posted. Thank you to Carol Tutt and Carol Baird who sent me photos on many occasions.

LEGION MAGAZINE: We have two more photos published in the latest Legion Magazine, November-December issue.

BRANCH HISTORIAN REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Historian IN MEMORIAM PHOTO PRESENTATION: As in the past few years, photos of deceased Coldwater Veterans were shown on TV screens inside the branch on Remembrance Day. This was very well received by visitors. The presentation has grown from 25 to 52 Veterans. If you have a photo of a deceased Coldwater relative who served in the military (preferably in uniform), we would be pleased to add it to our collection. We do not need to keep the photo. It would be scanned and returned to you quickly.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Leadership Development Chairman

One priority in the next few weeks will be to work with Maggie to update our Club Room rules, which had been taken off the wall a while ago when we were painting. Recent incidents have shown that Club Rules need to be visible, and hopefully UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED by everyone taking part in our activities.



Quote of the Month

"We seem to be so hard set in what we call our principles, which are not so much our principles but our prejudices. Let's try to get beyond that."

By Alex Trebek, Canadian television host.

POPPY REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Jean Murray, Poppy Chairperson

Firstly, I would like to thank the Ladies Auxiliary for preparing and providing the lovely meal for our Veterans' Appreciation Dinner. Secondly, Branch 270 had an excellent Poppy Campaign and my thanks go out to all those who were kind enough to spend time tagging, counting and rolling coins and bills, delivering and collecting boxes and restocking those in place. My humble thanks go out to the shop owners in town who allow us to place counter boxes and/or members in their stores for the convenience of donating to the fund. And, of course, our thanks to the residents and visitors of the Coldwater area for their support of our campaign, which is so important to the services the Legion is able to provide to our area veterans. You may not know that all Poppy funds are used for the comforts of area veterans and are not utilized for the operation of the Branch. Sincerely, thank you so much to all who recognize the merit of the annual Poppy Campaign.

YOUTH EDUCATION

Submitted by Comrade Marg Murphy, Youth Education Chairperson

We will be meeting with the school children on December 20 to present the awards to the winners of the Posters, Poems and Literary contest. We will also talk to the students about the Legion's Public Speaking competition, which will be coming up soon in the spring. We will keep you informed as the winning posters, poems and literary entries continue on their journey.





IN MEMORIAM COMRADE TED BAKER

Veteran and long-time Branch member and friend, Comrade Edward "Ted" Baker, passed away peacefully on November 15, 2019, after a long illness. Ted had served in the Canadian Army with the Queen's Own Rifles in the 1950s, and later in life became involved in various roles with the Coldwater Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. He is remembered at the branch particularly for his work on the Poppy Committee and as Vice-President and Sergeant-at-Arms. In November 2016, Comrade Ted's hard work and dedication to the Legion was recognized with a Life Membership.

BAR OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Maggie Murphy, Bar Officer

I just want to remind you that winter is here, with the inclement weather that it brings along. If or when it's necessary, we may close during the day as weather gets bad, or on occasions we may not open because of weather. It's that time of year when driving can be very hazardous, so we must adapt. Having said that, we are always looking for people who are qualified Smart Serve to help by taking a shift or two behind the bar. Please come by and see me if you're interested.

Join us at the Coldwater Legion for our annual New Year's Levee

Featuring Even Steven January 1st from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Club Room









OPERATION VETBUILD

A Royal Canadian Legion initiative developed by the Legion's Operational Stress Injury Special Section (BSO Legion OSI), <u>Operation VetBuild</u> is a peer-to-peer program by Veterans, for Veterans and includes RCMP and Allied Veterans. It runs on public donations and the Poppy Fund. The program is helping Veterans improve mental health through hobby and in this case, model building.

Jason Salo, a retired reservist and military policeman, says Operation VetBuild gives him a chance to meet other Veterans with similar backgrounds.

"I was missing the camaraderie of getting together and chatting," says Jason. "It is interesting to sit around the table with different generations of veterans and hear the same sorts of stories from everybody," he says. Attending the sessions with his 11-year old son Cohen has also added another dimension to his experience, he adds. They get to participate in a fun activity together, and it allows his son to learn directly from other Veterans about the challenges they face.

Operation VetBuild has launched in Legion Branches in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta, and continues to grow nation-wide. Find out more about Operation VetBuild: <u>https://legion.ca/news/articles/2019/06/16/the-</u> royal-canadian-legion-launches-operation-vetbuild



Veteran Jason Salo and his son at an Operation VetBuild event in Aiax. Ontario.

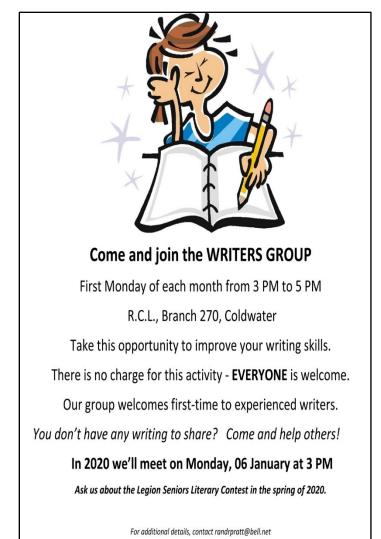
SENIORS REPORT

Each year in Ontario, preventable dental issues like gum disease, infections and chronic pain lead to more than 60,000 emergency department visits — a significant portion of which are by seniors.

To address this serious health concern, the government of Ontario created the Low-Income (single income under \$19,300) Seniors Dental Program. In November, the provincial government officially opened the program and are now accepting applications.

For more information on your eligibility, and how to apply, please visit: <u>Ontario.ca/SeniorsDental</u> or call: 1-833-207-4435

Applications can also be picked up from the Constituency Office of MPP Doug Downey at 14-20 Bell Farm Road in Barrie or the office of Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop at 14 Coldwater Rd. W. in Orillia.



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270



LADIES AUXILIARY

Submitted by Comrade Anne McArthur, President of the Ladies Auxiliary Branch 270



Greetings everyone.

Merry Christmas to each and every one. I hope that this holiday season is the best it can be for everyone.

We had a very successful Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale. Thank you to everyone who donated either baked goods, to the Penny Table and the White Elephant table. A great big

thank you goes out to our local merchants that donated to our Bazaar. They are always giving to all the organizations in our community and without them we would not be as successful as we are.

Thank you to all the ladies that helped with the Dart Tournament on November 16th. Unfortunately, the ladies who participated in the dart tournament did not place. However, it was a fun day for everyone

At our General meeting on December 17th we will be having a potluck supper starting at 6 p.m. and Secret Santa exchange.



Yours in Comradeship, Anne McArthur, LA President Branch 270



Anna de Koter and her granddaughter Chiara at their display of handmade Lovable Knitwit cuddly toys during the Ladies Auxiliary Fall and Christmas Craft & Bake Sale. Royal Canadian Legion Coldwater Branch Ladies Auxiliary

Meat Pies For Sale \$5.00



Made by the Ladies Auxiliary Sports Team Can be purchased at the Legion

Cooking instructions: Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 min.

HAPPENING AT THE COLDWATER LEGION PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BRANCH WILL BE CLOSED 25, 26 & 30 DEC Join us for weekly activities at the Coldwater Legion. **Sunday - Closed** Monday 3 to 9 p.m. Ping Pong **Tuesday** 1:30 to 4 p.m. Euchre league 6:30 to 9 p.m. Fun Pool **Wednesday** 7:30 to 10 p.m. Darts Thursday 1 to 2 p.m. Shuffleboard 7:30 to 10 p.m. Darts Friday 6 to 9 p.m. Steak Darts





Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270

Coldwater, Ontario

INTRODUCING MEMBER WAYNE TUTT

Submitted by Comrade Rosalie J. Pratt

Just about 60 years ago, Comrade Wayne's pet dog followed him to kindergarten. Since that time, it has been a steady learning and sharing curve for our First Vice-President, and Membership Chairperson. Not much has changed expect that he has grown older. His early leadership qualities are attributed to his role models early in life; namely his father and a series of good officers while he participated as a sea cadet for five years.

Comrade Wayne saw his world beyond his immediate horizon. The lure of sea travel, adventure, excitement was great but so was his knowledge that family life required two participating partners and that long absences could make this reality difficult. The next best thing was to 'serve' country and community in some other manner. Comrade Wayne excelled in the completion of his police officer entrance exam but a health concern precluded the pursuance of this avenue.

But, there was a silver lining...in 1974 he met the love of his life. Carol has been his wife for the past four plus decades and has supported all his endeavours. In 1984 Carol urged our Comrade to apply for a job in the construction industry, and unbeknown to either of them, this was to be his career path for the next thirty years. Comrade Wayne did share a few remarks about his first job with the Canadian National Railway – he worked steady midnights and his weekends were Tuesday and Wednesdays.

Comrade Wayne is appreciative and proud of the trust bestowed upon him by our members to aid and support our Branch President and other members of the Executive Team. He shared that his acceptance of such positions is a privilege and honour - to serve our Veterans and our members. His philosophy is live honestly, lead by example, and rest assured, if he asks for your assistance, he is willing to do what he asks of you.

Retired for the past five years, Comrade Wayne has had ample opportunity to reflect on life issues. They appear simple yet they carry weight. In a perfect world, there would be no poverty or need for any nation to have an armed forces (his brother is a Veteran). Were he granted magical powers, there would be no childhood mortality. Today, Comrade Wayne is thankful for the love and support of his wife, family and enjoys fishing with his son and grandson.



Comrade Wayne Tutt enjoying the outdoors at the family ranch in Nokomis, Saskatchewan.

His daily routines are simple enough... (try) to get Carol off and running to work on time; then tackle the proverbial 'honey-do' list followed by volunteer work at our Branch which generally entails about twenty hours per week. Our Comrade's adult highlights are becoming a parent in his twenties and developing successful work projects in his forties. Now a 'Zoomer', Comrade Wayne is cognizant that his mind may be willing but the body demands mandatory rest periods which mandates him to enjoy the annual family cruise to the Caribbean.

Our First Vice-President was asked to define a successful life. He shared the following: the love and support of my wife, my family and knowing that when I meet people, there is a friendly greeting. Comrade Wayne did share that in hindsight, he wishes that he would have had the foresight of realizing the strength of his pillar of support – his wife; to have known then what he knows now, a naval career could have been an option.

Comrade Wayne is very proud to be part of the Executive Team and of the fact that our Branch is now known to be the Branch with high standards of comportment, along with increased activities. Our Branch can be emulated – we (our volunteers) have set the standards-bar well above-average.

Comrade Wayne, we thank you for your leadership and volunteer services.

New Year's Eve Potluck Party

Join us in the Club Room on New Year's Eve for a potluck party with music by Len Murphy



Tuesday December 31, 2019 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.



2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater in the upstairs hall

Everyone welcome!





Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270



SPORTS AT BRANCH 270



TUESDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE

November 5

High Hand – Roger Sibley Lone Hand – Bill Stock Low Hand – Lloyd Sibley Prize – Bill Stock

November 12

High Hand – Joe Barron Lone Hand – Nancy Barron Low Hand – Gail Wilson Prize – Angela Stewart

November 19

High Hand – Nancy Barron Lone Hand – Georgie Waterson Low Hand – Sharon Walton Prize – Bill Stock

November 26

High Hand – Brian Strong Lone Hand – Angela Stewart Low Hand – Gail Wilson Prize – Gail Wilson

TUESDAY NIGHT POOL

November 5 (wins) Trevor McAuley (3) Larry Clarke (2) Kari Malmstrom (2) Teresa Beniston (1) Louise Dearman (1) Larry Hutchinson (1)

November 12 (wins)

Larry Hutchinson (5) Louise Dearman (2) Tom Dearman (2) Glen Archer (1)

November 19 (wins)

Trevor McAuley (4) Dean McArthur (2 ½) Kari Malmstrom (2) Larry Hutchinson (1) Teresa Beniston (½)

November 26 (wins)

Maggie Murphy (3) Trevor McAuley (2 ½) Louise Dearman (2) Tom Dearman (1) Dean McArthur (1) Stella Britton (½)

SHUFFLEBOARD MAVENS

October 31

1st – Lloyd & Brian 2nd – Magda & Roger 3rd – Betty-Anne & Maggie Sunshine - Larry

November 6

1st – Vicky & Magda 2nd – Maggie & Lloyd 3rd – Roger & Larry

November 14

 1^{st} – Lloyd & Larry 2^{nd} – Betty-Anne & Dean 3^{rd} – Vickie & Maggie

November 21

1st – Roger & Brian 2nd – Larry & Lloyd 3rd –Betty-Anne & Vic Sunshine – Brian

November 28

1st – Larry & Brian 2nd – Dean & Betty-Anne 3rd –Betty-Anne & Heather Sunshine – Larry

FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS

November 1 1. Debbie 2. Grace 3. Anne Mc 4. Anne M 5. Robin 6. Anne Sunshine – Lorne

November 8

1. Al 2. Dean 3. Gaëtanne 4. Kari 5. Dean 6. Anne Sunshine – Al

November 15

Teresa
John
Chris
Henny
Anne
Chris
Sunshine – Kari

November 22

- 1. Frank 2. Dean 3. Kathy 4. Henny 5. Wayne
- 6. Al Sunshine – Kathy

November 29

Henny
Gill
Henny
Gill
Al
Dianne
Sunshine – Frank





19		2	14	21	28	
DECEMBER 2019	Saturday		Meat Draw Starts 3 pm			
	Friday	6 Steak Darts 6 pm	13 Steak Darts 6 pm	20 Steak Darts 6 pm	27 Steak Darts 6 pm	
.coldwaterlegion.	Thursday	5 Shuffleboard 1 pm Darts 7:30 pm	12 Shuffleboard 1 pm Darts 7:30 pm	19 Shuffleboard 1 pm Darts 7:30 pm	26 CLOSED	
Coldwater • <u>www</u>	Wednesday	4 Darts 7:30 pm	11 Branch Executive Meeting 6:30 pm Darts 7:30 pm	18 Darts 7:30 pm	Christmas 25 CLOSED	New Year's Day President's Levee with Even Steven 1-5 pm
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater • <u>www.coldwaterlegion.com</u>	Tuesday	3 Euchre 1:30 pm Fun Pool 6:30 pm	10 Euchre 1:30 pm Fun Pool 6:30 pm	17 Euchre 1:30 pm Fun Pool 6:30 pm Ladies Auxiliary General Meeting 6:30 pm	24 Euchre 1:30 pm Fun Pool 6:30 pm	31 Euchre 1:30 pm Fun Pool 6:30 pm <i>New Year's Eve</i> <i>Potluck with Len</i> <i>Murphy</i> 9pm-1am
Royal Canadian I	Monday	2 Ping Pong 3 to 9 pm Writers Group 3 pm	9 Ping Pong 3 to 9 pm	16 Ping Pong 3 to 9 pm	23 Ping Pong 3 to 9 pm	CLOSED 30
	Sunday	1 SED	8 SED	15 SED	22 SED	SED
		CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED