




Royal Canadian Legion



Branch 625 Richmond



Legion  Canada's Largest Service Club

Foxy's Tales



December 2025



Merry Christmas To All





The Royal Canadian Legion Richmond, Branch 625
6430 Ottawa St West, Box 625 Richmond Ontario K0A 2Z0
Phone 613-838-2644
Website: www.richmondlegion.ca

Branch Executive Officers

President Brian Goss
Past President Wendy Ryan
First Vice President Iain Clogg
Secretary-treasurer Pat McGrath
Sgt-At-Arms

Branch Executive Committee

Eric Booth
John Evans
Ray Huet
Tom Louks
Tom McKay
Louis Seward
Johnny Villeneuve

Branch Executive Meetings

are the Third Thursday of each month at 10:00 am.

Branch General Meetings

are the fourth Friday in January, March, June, September and November at 11 am and the third Thursday of May at 7 pm.

Website is: www.richmondlegion.ca

Facebook: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 625

Deadline to submit for the next bulletin is always the third Friday of March, June, September and the second Friday in December by 12 noon please

Branch Committee Chairs

Bar	Tom Louks
Branch Regulations	As needed
Bursary	Patricia Ham
Bulletin	Wendy Ryan
Cenotaph	Tom Louks
Coffee	John Villeneuve
Darts	Cathie Lytle
Euchre	Elizabeth Vickers
Hall Maintenance	John Villeneuve
Hall Rentals	Tom Louks
Honours & Awards	Past president ++
Long Term Planning	Tom Louks & John Villeneuve
Membership	Boyd Dulmage
Memorial Boards	Tom Louks
Poppy/Poppy Trust	John Evans/Wendy Ryan
Public Relations	Brian Goss
Property	John Villeneuve
Seniors (including exercise)	Pat McGrath
Telephone	Wendy Ryan
Veterans Service Officer	Iain Clogg
Ways & Means	McGrath & Ryan
Website	Wendy Ryan
Wellness checks	Patricia Ham
Youth	

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President's Thoughts



In the Executive Meeting President's Report the main theme was Remembrance and volunteer's work. What I forgot to mention was Thanksgiving, which while not a Legion activity but more personal, it is still marked on our Legion calendar and added to our family planning.

When researching a theme for this bulletin I was looking into the reasons for Remembrance and Thanksgiving.

Canadians celebrate Thanksgiving on the 2nd Monday of October and Remembrance on 11 November. The American celebrate Veterans Day on 11 November and Thanksgiving on the 4th Thursday.

The holiday for Thanksgiving is rooted in giving thanks for the **harvest and blessings of the past year**, with traditions tracing back to early colonial feasts shared between settlers and Indigenous peoples.

This difference reflects each country's seasonal harvest cycle: Canada's earlier harvest leads to an earlier Thanksgiving.

Today, Thanksgiving is less about harvest and more about family, community, and gratitude. It symbolizes peace, opportunity, and the sanctity of home and family, often marked by shared meals (turkey, cranberries, pumpkin pie), parades, and football games. Colonists in both regions held "days of thanksgiving" for blessings such as safe journeys, military victories, or abundant crops. These traditions were influenced by European harvest festivals and Puritan practices of setting aside days of prayer and gratitude.

With reference to Remembrance, are there any differences between Canadian and American Remembrance? Yes — while both Canada and the U.S. mark November 11 to honour military service, Canada's Remembrance Day honours all who served, living and deceased while the U.S. Veterans Day focuses on remembering those who died in service. Therefore, both countries pause on November 11, but the tone differs: Canada emphasizes remembrance, celebration and appreciation of service while the U.S. emphasizes remembrance and mourning. In the U.S. their Memorial Day takes place on the last Monday in May and honours all who served.

To conclude this report, I want to recognize our celebration of Legion activities, particularly Remembrance/Poppy activities. Perhaps it has something to do with my history of Remembrance parades in Air Cadets, RCAF and now Legion, but as I near the end of my position as President, I seem to view things in a sharper vein. This year the Poppy campaign, Parade and Open House went off like a well-oiled machine. The number of volunteers seemed to be larger, more enthusiastic than in previous years. The response from the community was very positive.

This applies to all Branch committees not just Remembrance. Thank you comrades.

Currently Brenda and I wish to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Brian Goss CD

Last Post

Rebecca Kelly
September 2025

We Will Remember Them...



Membership

You have just a little over 30 days to renew your membership for 2026. The Legion website for renewals will be closed down just before Christmas and will not be available until around 5 January 2026.

At the present time our membership is at 114, down from 121 this time last year. Membership renewals are \$55 for the year.



You have a few options in paying:

- a. Drop off or mail a cheque
- b. Paying by cash
- c. Paying by e-transfer to Treasurercl625@gmail.com

There is auto-deposit on this account.

Please indicate legion membership and your name in the message box.

Next year will mark the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian legion, it has not been announced to the public yet but, there will be some welcome news for 2026.

I will be speaking with the Executive about having a membership drive/open house at the branch in January 2026. We have so many new people in our village and I am sure that if planned and executed properly it would be a great event. I have high hopes that we can reach a goal that I have set of 15 new members for 2026 so that we can fill our vacant positions for the 2026/2027 fiscal year.

As always if anyone has any questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Regards

Boyd Dulmage, CD

SGT-AT-ARMS REPORT

As most of you know, I am no longer the official Sgt-at-Arms, but I assumed the duties for the Remembrance Day Parade.

I want to thank Comrades Ian Clogg, Gerry Levesque, Irwin McCaffrey and from the Stittsville Legion, Helene Rivest.

It was a cold and windy day, and I appreciate their attendance and the attendance of 33 Service Battalion.

As with most things, I did get some negative feed back from people about the traffic noise and they felt that the traffic should be stopped during the ceremony. As much as I would agree and like to see that happen, the City only gives me a partial closure permit. That means that the streets can only be closed when used. So that means closed when we are marching to the cenotaph and closed when marching back to the staging area.



If anyone has any questions or concerns in regards to protocol, please feel free to contact me at anytime and I would be happy to answer your questions.

*Boyd Dulmage, CD , Parade Commander
Remembrance Day 2025*

Remembrance & Poppy

(A version of the thank you posted on Facebook by Eric Booth who takes the lead on the November 11th service each year.)



There were many people involved in this years Remembrance Day service.

Thank you to everybody who assisted and attended on this very cold day.

The Sentinels under Command of Sgt Tapas Modi were Cpl Spencer Whitehurst, Pte Stéphane Beaulieu and Cpl Manas Modi of 33 Service Battalion.

The parade was under command of Comrade Boyd Dulmage, CD.

The Parade Commander of 33 Service Battalion is Major Allison Grella, CD.

Trumpeter Keiran Driscoll, S.C.H.S

Act of Remembrance - Comrade Louis Seward

The wreaths were placed by:

- 1-Silver Cross Mother Julie Brown, escort Comrade Kelly McKenna
 - 2 - Canada MP Bruce Fanjoy, escort Cst. Jon Phillips, RCMP
 - 3 - Province of Ontario MPP George Darouze, escort 33 Service Battalion
 - 4 - City of Ottawa Councillor David Brown, accompanied by Supt Heather Lachine, Ottawa Police Service
 - 5 - 33 Service Battalion HCol (BGen retired) Peter Holt, MM, CD, escort LCol Shelley Worsley CD
 - 6 - 33 Service Battalion Family LCol Shelley Worsley, CD, escort RSM Emily Smith, CD
 - 7 - Fallen Comrades Comrade Boyd Dulmage CD, escort 33 Service Battalion
 - 8 - For all Veterans Comrade John Evans CD, escort 33 Service Battalion
 - 9 - R.C.L. Branch 625 Comrade Sharon Murphy, escort Comrade Kerry Cook
- In Flanders Fields - Keiran Driscoll South Carleton High School.
Prayer - Councillor David Brown, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
Legion closing ceremony - Comrade Boyd Dulmage CD

Pipers Bethany Bisailion and Tony Clunis, Drummer Dave Nuttall of Canada's oldest civilian Pipe Band, The Sons of Scotland.

Our sound technician David George

The City of Ottawa for their ongoing maintenance of the park. David Brown (with City of Ottawa) for coordinating with the Richmond Agricultural Society for the moving and use of the bleachers.

I also wish to thank the many volunteers who made the sandwiches and delicious chili, which was served at the reception and King's YIG for providing the Poppy cupcakes.

Eric Booth

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Remembrance & Poppy.



October to November is a busy time of year for Legions everywhere and we are fortunate to have a group of people who put in a lot of time and effort to make everything a success.

One of the first things we do as part of Remembrance is to place white crosses on the graves of veterans in the local cemeteries so thank you to Tom Platt & Susan Grant who did St Paul's cemetery, to Johnny Villeneuve & Tom Louks for doing the cemeteries at St Clare's, St Philip's and Munster and Irwin McCaffrey and myself for doing the St John's Anglican cemetery. Thanks to Tom Louks and Will Frenken for picking up all the crosses after the Remembrance period.

Planning for the Poppy campaign began in August with meetings to go over what, who and how to do things. The local businesses are split up into 4 quadrants and thanks to Johnny Villeneuve for driving me around the village so I could update the lists.

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Poppy Campaign itself. Approaching the local businesses for donations can be time consuming and nerve racking but everyone did a fantastic job. Bob Leighton, Tom McKay, Marybette Riddell, Kelly McKenna, Kerry Cook and Iain Clogg thank you all and thanks to Tom Louks for taking care of the counter boxes this year. Thanks also to Boyd Dulmage and John Evans who set up outside the YIG with lawn signs, ball caps, wrist bands, Poppy centres and poppies and to Boyd again for doing the same at the Richmond arena.

This campaign raises the money used to support local veterans and their families via bursaries, institutions and organizations that take care of veterans such as Perley Health and Homeless Veterans House. Last year's money saw \$5000 go to Perley Health, \$5000 goes to Homeless Veterans Andy Carswell Building both here in Ottawa and two \$1000 bursaries went to local students.

Of course, the central point of Remembrance is the November 11th ceremony and once again Eric Booth took the lead and did a great job. Elsewhere in the bulletin you can read his comments and a list of all of those who were involved.



The parade was organized and led by Boyd Dulmage and the colour party was made up of Irwin McCaffrey, Ian Clogg and Gerry Levesque from our Branch and Helene Rivest from the Stittsville Legion.

We had all three levels of government lay wreaths this year: Bruce Fanjoy for the Government of Canada, George Darouze for the Province of Ontario and our City councillor David Brown.

Thanks once again to the 33 Service Battalion for providing sentinels, escorts and parade participants and to all the Richmond Legion participants as well. Eric named all the names on the Facebook page and elsewhere in this publication, so I won't repeat them all here other than to say thanks to those who laid wreaths in memory of deceased veterans: Gayle Ryan - in memory of Archie Barrington, Huntley Ryan - in memory of Benny & June Ryan, Hazel Lawrence - in memory of Joseph & Marion Goodenough, Wendy Ryan - in memory of Ray Guay, Kerry Cook & Kelly McKenna - in memory of George McCallum and Sharon Murphy - in memory of George Murphy –something that I think adds a special touch to the day.



MP George Darouze & Branch President Brian Goss at the Branch open house November 11.

Thanks also to Chief Warrant Officer & RSM Emily Smith of the 33 Service Battalion for once again organizing the 33 Battalion participation.

Thanks to Johnny Villeneuve and Irwin McCaffrey for setting up the wreath rack on November 10th and for taking it down after the service on November 11th. Thanks to Tom Louks for keeping the Memorial Boards updated.

Thanks to Pat McGrath for once again organizing the food and help for the open house that followed the ceremony. Chili was made by Charlene Murphy, Sharon Murphy, June Alford, Eileen Kavanagh, Wendy Virtue, Kerry Cook, Kelly McKenna, Pat McGrath, Shawn Hickey, Marilyn Munro, Marylou Thurrott, Elizabeth Vickers with vegan chili made by Pat Laninga.

Sandwiches were made by Pat McGrath, Wendy Virtue, Brenda Goss, Marilyn Munro, Elizabeth Vickers, Charlene Murphy and Eileen Cosham. Cupcakes were donated by King's YIG and squares were made by Eileen Kavanagh & June Alford. All of the food was delicious and much appreciated on such a cold day.

Manning the kitchen to serve and clean up was Pat McGrath, Marilyn Munro, Elizabeth Vickers, Wendy Virtue, Sharon Murphy, Eileen Kavanagh June Alford and Charlene Murphy with Iain Clogg in the bar.

Thanks to all those who helped count the money: Pat McGrath for organizing everyone and Tony McGrath, June Alford, Eileen Kavanagh, Sharon Murphy, David & Elizabeth Vickers and me with Tom Louks & Brian Goss manning the coin machine.

A big thank you to Pat McGrath who had to track all the e-transfers look after all the financials - another big job well done.

The budget for the Poppy Trust Fund has been passed and \$5000 will be donated to the Perley Health Centre; \$5000 will be donated to Homeless Vets Andy Carswell Building, up to \$4000 will be set aside for bursaries and up to \$1850 will be set aside for Remembrance contest awards. Note that the awards will not total that amount for the foreseeable future because of the way our local schools are set up, meaning we don't get entries for all the categories.

This is my third and final year as Poppy chair and I could not have done it without Pat McGrath taking the lead on the November 11th open house, Eric Booth taking the lead on the November 11th ceremony each year and Boyd Dulmage organizing the parade and permits, as well as all those who took part in the campaign itself.

Thanks to everyone for all your help!

Wendy Ryan



Youth Ed

The following information appears on the Legion website and since I was not sure how many people knew the details of the Remembrance contests, I thought I would share it with you.

The Poster and Literary contest, part of the Legion's Youth and Education Program, is meant to foster an understanding of the sacrifices made on our behalf by many young men and women in World Wars I and II, as well as those currently serving who put their personal security at risk in the name of peace and humanity in places like Bosnia, Cypress, Haiti, East Timor and Afghanistan. Contests are held each year just prior to Remembrance Day by local Legion Branches throughout Ontario Command.

There are five levels of competition: Branch, Zone, District, Provincial and Dominion. There are three age categories: Senior (grades 10,11 and 12), Intermediate (grades 7,8 and 9) and Junior (grades 4,5 and 6).

Poster competition includes two categories: black & white and colour. Literary competition includes poem or essay. The subject matter in both Poster and Literary contests is Remembrance and the entry should inspire or reflect upon Remembrance with a Canadian theme. Schools in our area are given information packages and entry forms in late September.

Any child wishing to compete may also contact their local Legion.

Home schooled children are also eligible. There are cash prizes for winners at every level.

The annual Remembrance Youth Ed contests were held once again this year and thank you to our new Youth Ed chair, Marybette Riddel for doing a great job. It is the first year for our new chair and she met with the schools, collected the entries, took the entries to the Branch to share them with those who were at coffee, submitted the winners to Zone and is in the process of handing out the prizes to the students.

Bits N Pieces

Donations from Branch Funds has a new chair and thanks to Ray Huet for taking this on.

This the executive approved donations of: \$1500 to the Knights of Columbus Winter Coats for Kids Program, \$1000 to the Richmond Food Bank and \$1000 to ROSSS.

The annual Seniors Christmas Dinner (lunch) will be held on Sunday, December 7th and thank you in advance to everyone for all their help. Thanks to Pat McGrath for organizing the desserts and kitchen help. Thanks to Ray Huet for doing all the shopping for the meal itself and organizing the other Knights who do all the cooking and help with the serving and clean up. We couldn't do this without those guys - I believe John Evans, Bill Flynn and Bernie Roosen will be helping Ray. It is good to be able to say that 3 of these guys are members of our Branch as well as all 4 being Knights.

Expenses approved over the last few weeks include the Annual Snow Removal Contract for \$2652.44; repairing the cash register & buying a used back up \$500; the November 11th open house not to exceed \$1750 (it came in at \$1323 and the city should give us \$1000 towards the cost).



Please excuse any and all errors in this edition of the bulletin, my usual copy checker, Andre Oullette our web master, has been unwell for several weeks. He usually checks the bulletin before it "goes to press" but is not able to this time or up date the website. Get well soon Andre!

Thank you Sharon Murphy for proof reading this for me!

Donations chair Ray Huet presents \$1500 to Knights of Columbus rep Shawn Grant for the Winer Coats for Kids program

Remembrance Contests 2025

Our community has a great way of supporting our Legion and I recently worked on a fun project - the youth poster contest

The schools were welcoming and encouraged students to participate in this project.

We have very talented young students that entered and I'm so happy to share their work and have entered several pieces of art to compete in the next level!

If you're planning to stop by our Legion take a look at the framed artwork these have been done by our youth!

Thank you for Remembering all that fought for a beautiful country, Canada.

We will remember,

*Marybette Riddell
Youth Ed Chair*

Poster Contest Results

South Carleton High School

1st Place Juliana Owens \$80 Colour Poster

1st Place Black & White Poster Rose MacIver \$80

2nd Place Black & White Poster Alexendraya Chernichen \$60

3rd Place Black & White Poster Brooklyn Belanger \$40

St Philip Primary School

1st Prize Colour Gr3 Amelia Mclell \$40

2nd Prize Colour Gr2 Reese Hallam \$30

3rd Prize Colour Gr2 Oliver Garvin \$20

1st Prize Black & White Gr 3 Luke Abou-Hamad \$40

2nd Prize Black & White Gr 3 Audrey Crichlow \$30

Richmond Public

1st Prize Colour Jade Renaud Gr 5 \$50

2nd Prize Colour Abigail Dupuis Gr 5 \$35

3rd Prize Colour Brantley Fisher Gr 5 \$25

1st Prize Black & White Mohamad Hashishou Gr 5 \$50

2nd Prize Black & White Clara Blank Gr 5 \$35

3rd Prize Black & White Levi Jackson Gr 5 \$25

Total Prize Money- \$860



1st Place—Branch
Senior Colour Poster
by Juliana Owens

Deck of Cards -A Song by Tex Ritter

During the North African champagne,
A group of soldier boys had been on a long hike
They came to a town called Cassino.
The next day, being, Sunday, some of the boys went to church,
And after the Chaplin had read the prayer,
The text was taken up next.

Those of the boys who had prayer books took them out,
But, this one boy only had a deck of cards,
And so he spread them out.

The Sargent saw the cards and said
"soldier, put away those cards."
After the services were over, the boy was taken prisoner,
And brought before the Provost Marshall .
The Marshall said "Sargent, why have you brought this man here?" "for playing cards in church Sir."
"And what have you to say for yourself son?"
"much sir", replied the soldier.
The Marshall said, "I hope so, because if not,
I shall punish you more than any man was ever punished."

The soldier boy said "Sir I have been on a long March for six days I have neither Bible nor prayer book,
but I hope to satisfy you, Sir, " with the purity of my intentions." And with that the boy begin his story.

"You see Sir, when I look at the ace in my deck of cards, it reminds me that there is but one God,
And the deuce, tells me that Bible is divided into two parts, the old and the new testament.
When I see the Trey, I think of father, the son and the holy ghost. And when I look at the four,
I think of four evangelists who preached the gospel.
There were Matthew, Mark, Luke and John..

And when I see the five, it reminds me of the five wise virgins, who trimmed their lamp,
There were ten of them,
Five were wise and were saved, five were foolish and were shut out.

When I look at the six, I know that in six days,
God made this great heaven and earth.
And the seven, tells me that on the seventh day,
He rested from his great work,
And called it holy.

And when I see the eight, I think of the eight righteous person,
God saved when he destroyed this earth.
There were none Noah, his wife their three sons and their wives.
And when I see the nine, I think of the lepers our Savior cleansed,
And nine of the ten, didn't even thank him.
And of course when I see the ten,
I always remembered the ten commandments,
The ten commandments that God handed down to Moses on a tablets of stone.

When I see the King Sir, I know there is but one King of heaven.
God the Almighty.
And when I see the Queen, I think of the blessed virgin Mary,
The Queen of heaven,
And the jack of knaves is the devil.

When I count the spots in a deck of cards,
I find 365, the number of days in a year.
There are 52 cards, the number of weeks in a year .
There are thirteen tricks, the number of weeks in a quarter.
There a four suits, the number of weeks in a month.
And twelve picture cards, the number of months in a year.

So you see Sir, my deck of cards servers me not only as a Bible or almanacs, but also a prayer book .



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The 12 Nights of Christmas; for the Scrooge in Thee. Submitted by Ed Contreras & Liz Rodriguez

Chorus: The first thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me Is
ONE: Finding a Christmas tree.

The second thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me is my [Husband]: Rigging up the lights,
Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The third thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Inebriated man]: Hangovers,
2: Rigging up the lights, Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The fourth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Frustrated man]: Sending Christmas cards,
3: Hangovers, 2: Rigging up the lights, Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The fifth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s,
4: Sending Christmas cards, 3: Hangovers, 2: Rigging up the lights, Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The sixth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Frustrated wife]: Facing my in-laws,
Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s, 4: Oh, I hate those Christmas cards, 3: Hangovers,
2: Rigging up these lights, Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.



-
The seventh thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Angry man]: The Salvation Army,
6: Facing my in-laws, Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s, 4: Sending Christmas cards,
3: Oh, Jeez! 2: I'm trying to rig up these lights! Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The eighth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Loud kid]: I WANNA TRANSFORMER FOR CHRISTMAS!
7: Charities 6: And what do you mean, "your in-laws"?!? Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s, 4: Oh, making out these cards, 3: Edith, get me a beer, huh? 2: What? We have no extension cords?!? Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The ninth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Another frustrated man]: No parking spaces, 8: DADDY, I WANT SOME CANDY!! 7: Donations! 6: Facing my in-laws, Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s, 4: Writing out those Christmas cards, 3: Hangovers, 2: Now why the hell are they blinking?!?
Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The tenth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [Toy-commercial voice]: "Batteries not included", 9: No parking spaces, 8: BUY ME SOMETHIN'!!!! 7: Get a job, ya bum!!! 6: (sobbing) Oh, facing my in-laws, Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s, 4: Yo, ho! Sending Christmas cards,
3: Oh, Jeez, look at this! 2: One light goes out, they ALL go out!!! Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The eleventh thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [TV Critic]: Stale TV specials, 10: "Batteries not included", 9: No parking spaces, 8: I GOTTA GO TO THE BATHROOM!!!! 7: Charities!!
6: (sobbing) She's a witch! I hate her! Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s, 4: Oh, I don't even KNOW half these people! 3: Oh, who's got the toilet paper? 2: Get a flashlight!! I blew a fuse!!! Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

The twelfth thing at Christmas that's such a pain to me: [A few guys]: Singing Christmas Carols, 11: Stale TV specials, 10: "Batteries not included", 9: No parking? 8: WAAAAAAH!!!! AAAAAAAAH!!! 7: Charities! 6: Gotta make 'em dinner! Chorus: F i v e m o n t h s o f b i l l s,
4: I'm not sending them this year, that's it! 3: Shut up, you! 2: FINE!! If you're so smart, YOU RIG UP THE LIGHTS!!!! Chorus: And finding a Christmas tree.

*'Twas the night before Christmas & out on the ranch
 The pond was froze over & so was the branch.
 The snow was piled up belly-deep to a mule.
 The kids were all home on vacation from school,
 And happier young folks you never did see-
 Just all sprawled around a-watchin' TV.
 Then suddenly, some time around 8 o'clock,
 There came a surprise that gave them a shock!
 The power went off, the TV went dead!
 When Grandpa came in from out in the shed
 With an armload of wood, the house was all dark.
 "Just what I expected," they heard him remark.
 "Them power line wires must be down from the snow.
 Seems sorter like times on the ranch long ago."
 "I'll hunt up some candles," said Mom. "With their light,
 And the fireplace, I reckon we'll make out all right."
 The teen-agers all seemed enveloped in gloom.
 Then Grandpa came back from a trip to his room,
 Uncased his old fiddle & started to play
 That old Christmas song about bells on a sleigh.
 Mom started to sing, & 1st thing they knew
 Both Pop & the kids were all singing it, too.
 They sang Christmas carols, they sang "Holy Night,"
 Their eyes all a-shine in the ruddy firelight.
 They played some charades Mom recalled from her
 youth,
 And Pop read a passage from God's Book of Truth.
 They stayed up till midnight-and, would you believe,
 The youngsters agreed 'twas a fine Christmas Eve.
 Grandpa rose early, some time before dawn;
 And when the kids wakened, the power was on..
 "The power company sure got the line repaired quick,"
 Said Grandpa - & no one suspected his trick.*



Just Say Merry Christmas

Twas the month before Christmas
 When all through our land,
 Not a Christian was praying
 Nor taking a stand.
 See the PC Police had taken away,
 The reason for Christmas - no one could say.
 The children were told by their schools not to sing,
 About Shepherds and Wise Men and Angels and things.
 It might hurt people's feelings, the teachers would say
 December 25th is just a ' Holiday '.
 Yet the shoppers were ready with cash, checks and credit
 Pushing folks down to the floor just to get it!
 CDs from Madonna, an X BOX, an I-pod
 *Something was changing, something quite odd! *
 Retailers promoted Ramadan and Kwanzaa
 In hopes to sell books by Franken & Fonda..
 As Targets were hanging their trees upside down
 At Lowe's the word Christmas - was no where to be found.
 At K-Mart and Staples and Penny's and Sears
 You won't hear the word Christmas; it won't touch your ears.
 Inclusive, sensitive, Di-ver-si-ty
 Are words that were used to intimidate me.
 Now Daschle, Now Darden, Now Sharpton, Wolf Blitzen
 On Boxer, on Rather, on Kerry, on Clinton !
 At the top of the Senate, there arose such a clatter
 To eliminate Jesus, in all public matter.
 And we spoke not a word, as they took away our faith
 Forbidden to speak of salvation and grace
 The true Gift of Christmas was exchanged and discard-ed
 The reason for the season, stopped before it started.
 So as you celebrate 'Winter Break' under your 'Dream Tree'
 Sipping your Starbucks, listen to me.
 Choose your words carefully, choose what you say
 *Shout MERRY CHRISTMAS , not Happy Holiday !**





Elizabeth Vickers	06-Jan
Marilyn Munro	07-Jan
Jennifer McNeely	19-Jan
Roger Bourgeois	29-Jan
Susan Popowicz	30-Jan
Randy Jones	07-Feb
Mary Roosen	07-Feb
Brian Beyer	10-Feb
Colleen Jones	14-Feb
Eric Booth	20-Feb
Wendy Virtue	28-Feb

Tom Duffy	02-Mar
Joan Brown-Deibert	07-Mar
Irwin McCaffrey	08-Mar
Kira Cook-Brown	11-Mar
Kelly McKenna	16-Mar
Gerry Levesque	26-Mar
Sheila Payne	26-Mar
Ansar Abraham	30-Mar

Long time member, World War II veteran and all around great guy, Roger Bourgeois, will be celebrating his 100th birthday on January 29th, 2026. Happiest of days to you Roger and many more! You are missed at the Legion for sure!

The original meaning of a deck of playing cards

52 cards for 52 weeks in a year

2 colors for day and night

4 suits for the 4 season and 13 weeks per season

12 count cards representing the 12 months.

If we add each of the cards (ace+ace+ace+ace+two+two+two+two+three+three+fours fives sixes sevens eights etc.) of the game we will get 365.

Jokers were used in leap year!



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ACTIVITIES



Coffee: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 10 am

Darts: Fridays at 7 pm October to March.

Exercise: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 9 am

Euchre: Fridays at 1 pm

Executive meetings: the third Thursday of each month at 10:00 am

General meetings: the fourth Friday of January, March, June, September & November at 11 am.

Annual General Meeting & elections: the third Thursday of May at 7 pm.



A Happy & Healthy 2026 To All

If you move or change your email address, please let me know by emailing me at wryan1955@hotmail.com so I can keep my contact list up to date and keep you up to date with relevant information via email.

If you have not received an email from me for a few months, please contact me at wryan1955@hotmail.com so I can update your email address.



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