

Ladies Auxiliary President's Report



I'm very happy to report that the Ladies Auxiliary is now in a very sound financial position. We've come a long way since we accepted a donation from the Branch to keep going. I'd like to thank all our members for their support and hard work to achieve this success. It goes to show that when we all work together we do succeed.

We have been very busy over the last few months with the Children's Christmas party, Valentines Dance, St Patrick's Day Dance, Youth Education Awards Ceremony, Youth Education Public Speaking, Senior's Luncheons and numerous catered events. I don't believe we've have a free weekend in a long time.

Thanks to everyone for their support with the purchase of raffle tickets on our Christmas and Easter baskets. Both were financially successful. Thanks to Leila Wilson for organizing these activities and all the LA members, Branch members and the Bar staff who helped sell the tickets.

I'm happy to announce that we had eight new members join the Ladies Auxiliary over the last few months. They have already jumped in and have been a great help in the kitchen. We are always looking for new members so if you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, they can contact our Membership Chair, Janet Kaminsky or pick up an application form in the Club Room.

We now have a link on the Legion web site thanks to Bruce South. Log on and check it out. Our menu is posted there so if you or one of your friends is considering renting one of our halls take a look at what we have to offer.

The Ladies Auxiliary takes great pride in announcing that we will be donating \$2,000 to the Branch for a sound system as a result of our efforts. Let's hope that this year continues to be a busy one for us so we can continue donating to our Branch.

Yours in Comradeship
Emma Smith



2nd Vice Report



Well I have to start off by saying that I was extremely pleased to hear our treasurer Doug Smith report at our April General meeting that we are doing well financially and things are on an upswing.

As chairman of the Canteen and Building Committees I have tried to encourage all of our members and employees to try and be a little more responsible with regards to our utilities consumption. Our expenses can be reduced extensively if we are very diligent in this regard. Our lighting, heating, and water invoices have reduced significantly in the last while, so our team work in that area is paying dividends.

I would also like to report that our hall rentals are doing extremely well lately. That is an area we had some concern but hopefully this trend will continue.

The Ladies Auxiliary donated a substantial amount of money towards our new sound system in the Clubroom. We now have the opportunity to play our own music and Karaoke. This will save us a sizeable amount of money for many years to come. The Ladies Auxiliary certainly are the hardest working group in the branch and are to be commended for their time and effort.

Special thanks go out to our President Mike O'Hara for acquiring the financing we needed for our new front doors at no cost to the branch. The funding was donated by Veridian, OPG, and Siemens. Thank you to Emma Smith, my Co-chair on the Canteen Committee for all of her hard work and dedication the last couple of years.

Last but not least, to Marie Bugg, Cathy Taylor, Emma Smith, Lew Lake and Norm Duncan for helping me with the Special Events Committee and Trevor Smith on my Building Committee.

Comrades in closing, we really do require more support and involvement from all of our members with regards to our dances and all other branch functions.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Bruce Sharpe
2nd Vice President

Bingo Report



We're almost at the close of another year at Delta Bingo.

We started out the year dealing with changes that were put through by the Provincial Lottery and Gaming Commission. New rules came into play as well as the whole prize board was restructured which resulted in a not so good start to the year. I thought "Here we go again," because the prior year we had to suffer through the non smoking by-law. But with the change in management at Delta, their creative structuring of the new prize board, the players returned. I'm happy to report things are going amazingly well.

Since June 2007, we have received \$41,162.00 in prize money from Delta of which \$20,581.00 has been transferred to our building account. These funds are used to make our monthly loan and interest payments with a bit left over to cover off some of our utilities. \$5,500.00 has been used for our Senior Luncheons and \$5,000.00 has been donated to a number of charitable organizations within the community. We are now ready to present another \$10,000.00 to The Friends of The Ajax Library which will make a total of \$80,000.00 of our \$100,000.00 commitment to them.

Come on out and play Bingo in support of your Legion. Our session begins at 10:30 every Saturday. Or if you are interested in helping out we are always looking for more help. Our volunteers start getting ready for our session at 9:00 p.m. every Saturday night and we finish up at 1:30 a.m. early Sunday morning. It truly is a lot of fun.

I thought I would form a sentence using the word BINGO and here's what I came up with.

Believe In New Great Opportunities

Yours in Comradeship
Emma Smith
Bingo Chairman

Veteran Services



One of the primary reasons for the existence of the Royal Canadian Legion since 1926 has been to act as an agent for our Veterans in dealing with what we now know as Veteran's Affairs. Many years ago Comrade Ben Severs was able to have a representative of the Veteran's Affairs visit the branch once a month and handle any questions that would arise regarding benefits or pensions directly with the Veteran or the veterans dependant.

This was an arrangement that we in Ajax were fortunate to have. Most branches had to proceed through the more time consuming and less private route of having the Service Officer meet with the Veteran and complete the various forms required by the V. A. This method worked for many but of course for some it was embarrassing as sometimes personal details had to be disclosed and this was a problem at times. The Service Officer would then forward the completed forms either to Veteran's Affairs or to the Provincial Service Officer in Aurora. This usually progressed to having a home visit from one of the above Reps. Time consuming to say the least.

Our method enabled the Veteran or their dependant to come to the branch on the last Wednesday of each month and speak privately to Veteran's Affairs. The branch service officer would be in attendance but would not be privy to what was being discussed unless the Veteran so desired. This gave a level of privacy that was appreciated and speeded up claims. As time has passed and our Veterans grown fewer, the attendance has dropped drastically. Also today many of the veterans are not as mobile and have difficulty in getting to the branch. Even our younger Veterans from Korea are not as spry .

We have a reached a stage where most of our Veterans are already registered with Veteran's Affairs and have a case officer who deals directly with them thus by-passing the branch service officer. If they require assistance then it is a