

# THE BRANDON LEGIONNAIRE NEWSLETTER



Branch 003, Brandon, MB

## MARCH 2025 VOLUME XLV : 3





## Lest We Forget

They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning  
We will remember them.



Serving Veterans and their families

The Legion provides assistance, always free of charge, to any person who is serving or who has honourably served in the *Canadian Armed Forces*, the *Commonwealth or its wartime allies*, or as a Regular Member of the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police*, or as a *Peace Officer in a Special Duty Area or on a Special Duty Operation*, or who has served in the *Merchant Navy or Ferry Command* during wartime. The Legion also assists their eligible *family members*.

[Accessing services](#)

At the local Legion Branches, Branch Services Officers are volunteers that outreach to Veterans in their communities.

RCL Brandon Branch 003 volunteer Service Officer, Cindy Stumme will:

- conduct outreach in the community to identify Veterans and their families in need assist the Veteran in completing the Legion Claims Form and refer them to a [Legion Command Service Officer](#) for individual assistance
- coordinate benevolent financial assistance through the Branch Poppy Fund
- conduct visits to Veterans in retirement and long term care facilities refer Veterans to support and care programs as offered through the Branch and local community



**Brandon Branch 003 Legion Executive 2025**

President: Fred Pritchard  
Past President: Cindy Stumme  
1st Vice President: Raymond Burgess  
2nd Vice President: Steve Morrison  
Sgt-at-Arms

**Executive Committee 2025**

2 year – Richard McDonald, Debbie Burgess, Linda Wakefield, \*Lynne White  
1 year – Barb Boycey, \*Bea Eggleston  
\* Initiated February 11, 2025

**Ladies Auxiliary 2025 Executive**

President: Maureen Farrant  
1st Vice-President: Barb Roberds  
2nd Vice President : Melissa Bryden  
Treasurer: Pat Simmons  
Secretary: Betty Persian  
Sgt-at-Arms: Barb Roberds  
Membership: Barb Wood  
Publicity: Melissa Bryden  
Sick & Visiting: Linda Biel



**Royal Canadian Legion Brandon Branch  
#003**

**Phone 204-728-5026**

**560—13th Street East, Brandon, MB R7A 7C1**



OFFICE: 204-728-5026 &/or office.admin@rcldb Brandon003.com Maureen McCormick  
Legion Branch Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LegionBrandonBranch/> ...contact Laureen at Legion Lounge

**Legion Branch Website:** <https://www.brandonlegion.ca/>

**Brandon Legionnaire Branch Newsletter:** contact Linda at [mrs wakes@mymts.net](mailto:mrs wakes@mymts.net) to submit articles &/or pictures



## Ladies Corner

Our February meeting had 11 members present. Memorial services were held for past members: Kaye Ashe, Marg Atkinson, Joyce Mott and Charlotte Robards.

Raffle tickets were handed out for the Queen Quilt (on display in the Legion Lounge) – these are available from members and at the lounge bar.

Members attending the District #2 meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Oak Lake are: Pat Simmons, Barb Robards, Betty Persian and Susan Kylne.

Our annual audit was completed with our financial affairs in good order.

*Submitted by Betty Persian*




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### Ladies' Auxiliaries

The Ladies' Auxiliary is a non-profit organization operated separate from The Royal Canadian Legion... but together they thrive.

The Ladies' Auxiliary originated during the First World War when women were asked to help wounded Veterans returning home, and to provide supports for their families. When The Royal Canadian Legion was established in 1926, these women were a welcomed addition at Legion Branches as they continued the tradition of volunteering to support needy ex-service personnel, and to enrich the programs and activities of the Branch.

Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary support the aims and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion and today, they are a vital and integral part of the work of the Legion. Major contributors to the day-to-day life of Legion Branches, Ladies' Auxiliaries provide financial and volunteer support to Legion programs.

The Ladies' Auxiliaries are coordinated at the Branch level. Any woman who is eligible for membership in the Legion may choose to become a member of the Ladies Auxiliary only, or a member of both organizations. For more information on Ladies' Auxiliaries in your area, please [contact your local Legion Branch](#).



The Navy League of Canada, Manitoba Division,  
Brandon Branch Web: [www.mbnavyleague.ca](http://www.mbnavyleague.ca)

NLCC#4 Stan Hawitt

stanhawitt@mbnavyleague.ca

Navy League meets Wednesday 6-8:30 pm

At RCLegion Brandon Branch #003 560—13th St East

Commanding Officer - SLt(NL) Amanda Slashinsky  
Executive Officer / Supply—SLt(NL) Melissa Slashinsky

Instructor - LtCdr (NL) Clayton Kozak

Instructor—Mr. Johnathon Gerry

Instructor—Flight Sargent Jackson Sylvester



Navy League Cadets  
Opening Ceremony flag carriers for the  
Philippines Pavilion  
At  
Westman Multiculture Festival February 8, 2025

Republic of the Philippines *Republika ng Pilipinas* ([Filipino](#))



Flag

Coat

[of arms](#)<sup>[a]</sup>

**Motto:**

*Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan at Makabansa*<sup>[1]</sup>

"For God, People, Nature, and Country"

**Anthem:** "*Lupang Hinirang*"

"Chosen Land"





**Pyjama &  
Pie The Officers  
NITE!**



# Cadets & Instructors Back To Teaching & Learning



**NL Theme Night February 19, 2025**

The **82 Brandon Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron** is a youth organization based in Brandon, Manitoba. They offer a variety of activities including citizenship, leadership, aviation studies, and physical fitness training. [The squadron meets on Friday evenings from September to June, and is open to youth aged 12-18<sup>12</sup>.](#)

[The 71st Battery 2520 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps \(RCACC\) in Brandon, Manitoba, is part of the national youth program sponsored by the Canadian Forces and the civilian Army Cadet League of Canada<sup>12</sup>.](#) This program aims to develop leadership, citizenship, and physical fitness among youth.

The **Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps (RCSCC) Swiftsure #60** in Brandon, Manitoba, is a vibrant and active group. The cadets participate in numerous community events, such as the Brandon Winter Fair and Remembrance Day services<sup>2</sup>. They also engage in various training programs and activities, including seamanship and leadership development<sup>2</sup>.



The Manitoba government is working hard to protect jobs and safeguard our economy against the potential impacts of US tariffs.

This is a time to be united as Manitobans and as Canadians. How you choose to spend your money is powerful. By buying Manitoban and Canadian products and services, you can support farmers and producers, businesses, and workers here at home. Here are some tools to help you Support Manitoba and Buy Local.

# A Culinary Journey Through Germany

# Thank You!

## Volunteers

- Cindy Stumme,
- Bobbi Pritchard,
- Yves Lacerte,
- Linda Mawson,
- Ethel Pay,
- Debbie Burgess,
- Chantal Worsley,
- Kathleen Lueder,
- Samantha Pratt,
- Jo-Ann Paskivich,
- Nancy McPherson.



Back By Popular Demand!

Legion  Royal Canadian Legion  
Branch # 3

## Ways and Means

### St. Patrick's Day

March 15th 2025 at 6:30 pm

# Irish Stew


with Biscuits

Dessert: Chocolate Guinness  
Cake

\$ 15.00

Tickets are available at the Lounge.

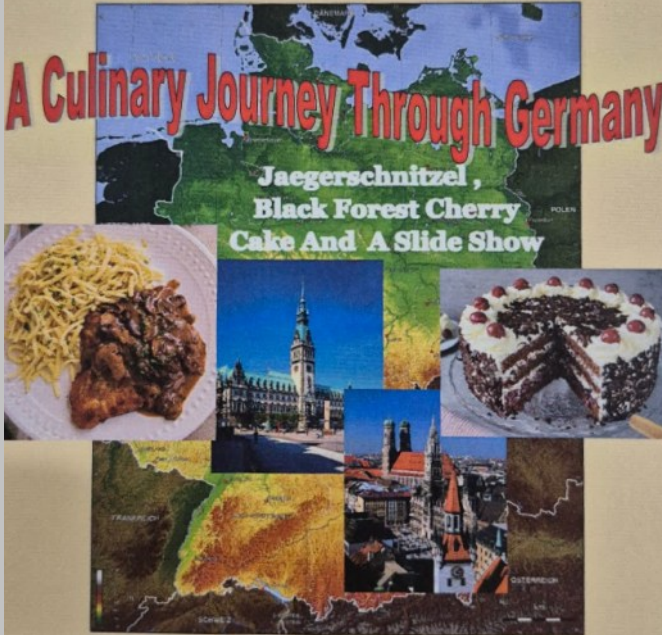
Ticket sale ends March 14th.

Legion  Royal Canadian Legion  
Branch # 3

## Ways and Means

### A Culinary Journey Through Germany

Jaegerschnitzel,  
Black Forest Cherry  
Cake And A Slide Show



March 21st, 2025 at 7:00 pm

\$ 15.00      80 tickets are available





## Poppy Trust Funds are out working in our Brandon Community

Poppy Committee Co Chair Cindy Stumme presents a Poppy Trust Fund cheque to Dan Knight, Manager Health Services for Dinsdale Personal Care Home to purchase 2-Monarch Port mechanical lifts.

Poppy Committee Co-Chair Cindy Stumme presents a Poppy Trust Fund cheque to (L) Deputy Chief Kevin Garrioch and Training Officer Joel Yanick of the Brandon Fire & Emergency Service. The cheque was in the amount of \$6,942.63 and was earmarked to purchase an emergency Response Skid, 3 Firetech Trauma bags, and Wound Cube Training pack



### Brandon Branch 003 recognizes two of their own!



At the New Years Day Presidents Levee, our Branch President Fred Pritchard presented Erich Stumme with a Certificate of Appreciation.

This is a much deserved token of appreciation for all the work that Erich does in Branch #3.

He is firmly at the root of the success the Branch experiences at the catered events held by the Branch or those catering services purchased by individuals or organizations.

Thankyou Erich & Congratulations.

Branch 1st Vice President Raymond Burgess announced to a surprised Past President Cindy Stumme, and President Fred Pritchard presented her with a 'past due' Past President's medal and bar.

Congratulations Cindy and thankyou for all the work you do for the Veterans & for the Branch.



**Royal Canadian Legion Brandon Branch #3****Pages from History**

This article was given to me by Comrade Jack Hamilton; the date was not recorded, and on my copy I wrote—"Do Not Destroy" from Jack Hamilton. This will be the first of 2025 pages telling some Brandon Branch #3's history...

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION AND VETERANS' PLOT (CONTINUE FROM PAGE 11, February 2025 Legionnaire Newsletter.

Up to the time of the formation of the Legion, the members of the Great War Veterans Association in Brandon had looked after the war graves on a casual basis. With the formation of the Legion and the erection of the Cross of Sacrifice, along with the growing number of veterans' graves in the plot, a more determined effort was made. Peonies were planted between the graves and the annual clean-up by members of the Legion was organized and continues to this day. The Branch took over collecting the small amount paid for war graves from the Imperial War Graves Commission. On the return of the Constitution to Canada the I.W.G.C. is now known as the Canadian War Graves Commission. By this time the Cross had become known locally as the Cenotaph.

A suggestion was made at a General meeting of the Branch in June 1957 that the Branch should install floodlights at the Cenotaph. This suggestion was immediately taken up and the Chairman of the Cemetery Committee at that time, Comrade Mike Shernisky, was instructed to proceed with the project. Through his efforts, Mike was able to obtain the support of the local gas company for the trenching necessary to lay the line from the Hydro line, following which he got assistance from Hydro for the cable and laying of same. The project was completed at a very minimal cost to the Branch. The dedication service of the lights was held on September 23, 1957.

In January 1958 Comrade Gordon Gray took over as Chairman of the Cemetery Committee and asked permission to explore the possibility of erecting wrought iron fencing and Memorial gates at the plot. He was instructed to look into the matter and if feasible, to proceed with the project. By the end of April Comrade Gray had all the required information and at the Branch meeting of May 8, 1958, a committee was formed to proceed with the project. This committee made little headway and it wasn't until the following year that the final committee was named, including Judge Buckingham, Mayor Creighton, Col. Whitehead, J.B. Craig, Steve Magnacca, Maurice Donovan, John English and Laurie Smith. This Committee held several meetings and various small fund raising events were undertaken.

By May 11, 1961 things were ready to proceed except for one thing—no one had drawn up a design. The completion of the project dragged on until the spring of 1962 when Comrade Dave Weiss and Comrade Ted Higgins donated the bricks for the gate post, and on June 10, 1962 at 3:00 p.m. dedication of the gates took place. Only a portion of the fencing had been completed at this time.

In 1961 it was decided to purchase 500 porcelain crosses to be used to mark the graves on Decoration Day Ceremonies. These have been added to several times since then.

The maintenance of this plot is the full responsibility of the Legion, working with the city maintenance crew. The Branch purchased a power mower in 1976 and this was donated to the City Works Department on the agreement that they would keep the grass mowed in the veterans' plot.

**Royal Canadian Legion Brandon Branch #3****Pages from History**

(Continued from page 11)

During the years some help has been hired to maintain the plot but work is mostly on a volunteer basis.

Early in 1975 it was suggested that more space would soon be needed. The city was approached with a request to include the area of the cemetery directly south of the Veterans' plot and this was agreed to in October 1976.

In 1983 arrangements were made through the Deptment of Veterans Affairs to have the Cross cleaned, up to this time the Branch had taken this responsibility. The work done by the local contractor E.C Higgins and Sons was paid for through Public Works on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Canadian War Graves Commission.

From the small beginning in 1931 of 37 graves to November 1, 1984 the plot has grown to contain, 781 graves as well as the original scattered in other parts of the cemetery.

**Note:** This is the end of article Comrade Jack Hamilton left in my care—*Chapter 5 Imperial War Graves Commission and Veterans' Plot.*



Photo: Wakefield, Dorothy M. Veterans Section 26, Block E, Plot 7—16 May 1945

This is a view of Brandon Cemetery Veterans Section from 1945 just 14 years after the Veterans Plot was established in 1931.

I hope to continue to share information regarding the establishment and upkeep of the Veterans Section of the Brandon Cemetery. The particular articles I choose are for the readers information only and there is no intention on my part to raise any one Veteran higher than another...*Linda Editor of Brandon Legionnaire 2025*

***"Lest We Forget"***



# LEGION BINGO



## THURSDAY EVENING

**Doors open 5:00pm-Early Bird 6:30 pm**

**Regular 7:00 pm**



**For all your CATERING needs**

**BIG or small**

**Please call**

**RC Legion Branch 003**

**ATTN: Erich - Catering**

**Phone: 204-728-5026**

**BRANCH 003 Legion hosts every**

**Friday & Saturday Nite**

**Meat Draws - 50/50 - CHASE The ACE**

Join in the fun & excitement of a chance  
to win while supporting your



# Facts &/Or FICTION?

**Pisces**

February 20-March



**Aries**

March 21 to April



Daffodil March Flower



Aquamarine March Birthstone



March's full **Blood Worm Moon** reaches peak illumination at **2:55**

**A.M. ET on Friday, March 14, 2025.**

Of course, you don't have to wait until the middle of the night to see the Moon! Look for the spectacularly bright Moon as it rises above the horizon on Thursday evening. If your weather is poor on Thursday night, try again on Friday! [See when the Moon will be visible in your area.](#)

**DST's True Founder ?**



The first true proponent of Daylight Saving Time was an Englishman named **William Willet**. A London builder, he conceived the idea while riding his horse early one morning in 1907. He noticed that the shutters of houses were tightly closed even though the Sun had risen. In "[The Waste of Daylight](#)," the manifesto of his personal light-saving campaign, Willet wrote, "Everyone appreciates the long, light evenings. Everyone laments their shrinkage as the days grow shorter, and nearly everyone has given utterance to a regret that the nearly clear, bright light of an early morning during Spring and Summer months is so seldom seen or used... . That so many as 210 hours of daylight are, to all intents and purposes, wasted every year is a defect in our civilization. Let England recognize and remedy it."

Attitudes changed after World War I began. The government and citizenry recognized the need to conserve coal used for heating homes. The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915 as a fuel-saving measure during World War I. This led to the introduction in [1916 of British Summer Time](#): From May 21 to October 1, clocks in Britain were put an hour ahead.




*Things to do + see in*

**CANADA IN MARCH**



# MARCH 2025

SU	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>Meat Draw 50/50 Chase The Ace 4:30 pm</b>
2	3 Lounge Closed Branch Office OPEN 9-4	4 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 2 pm Games Room	5 <b>Cribbage Registration 6:30 Play 7:00</b>	6 <u>Legion BINGO</u> Doors open 5 pm Early Bird 6:30 7:00 pm	7 <b>Meat Draw- 50/50 - Chase The Ace 5:00 pm</b>	8 <b>Meat Draw 50/50 Chase The Ace 4:30 pm</b>
9	10 Lounge Closed Branch Office OPEN 9-4	11 Branch Executive Meeting 7:00	12 <b>Cribbage Registration 6:30 Play 7:00</b>	13 <u>Legion BINGO</u> Doors open 5 pm Early Bird 6:30 7:00 pm	14 <b>Meat Draw- 50/50 - Chase The Ace 5:00 pm</b>	15 <b>Meat Draw 50/50 Chase The Ace 4:30 pm</b> <b>Irish Stew 7pm Ticket Required</b>
16	17  Lounge Closed	18	19 <b>Cribbage Registration 6:30 Play 7:00</b>	20 <u>Legion BINGO</u> Doors open 5 pm Early Bird 6:30 7:00 pm	21 <b>Meat Draw- 50/50 - Chase The Ace 5:00 pm</b>	22 <b>Meat Draw 50/50 Chase The Ace 4:30 pm</b>
23	24 Lounge Closed Branch Office Open 9-4	25	26 <b>Cribbage Registration 6:30 Play 7:00</b>	27 <u>Legion BINGO</u> Doors open 5 pm Early Bird 6:30 7:00 pm	28 <b>Meat Draw 50/50 Chase The Ace 4:30 pm</b>	29 <b>Meat Draw 50/50 Chase The Ace 4:30 pm</b>
30	31					<b>End of the Month Meat Draw</b>

**Branch Lounge Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  
**Thursday, Friday & Saturday 1:00 pm to 10:00 pm**  
**Branch Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**  
 Regular meetings of Ladies Auxiliary 1st Tuesday September to June