

Gananoque Legion Sunday Brunches

Just over 12 years ago, under the leadership of then Legion President Cliff Weir, a retired chef, this Legion began holding brunches the first Sunday of each month. Just over two years ago Wes Rideout, who was elected President in June 2017, took over organizing the brunches.

They serve two purposes. One is to attract citizens and to show what the Legion does in this community. The Gananoque Legion was established in 1927 by veterans of the First World War and has evolved into an important part of the community. The Legion, its Ladies Auxiliary, and the Poppy Fund donate about \$16,000 annually to local charities and organizations such as school breakfast clubs, 492 Cadet Corps, local hospitals, etc. Legion facilities are available for rent for such events as baby showers, celebrations of life, private dinners, club meetings, etc.

One does not have to be ex-military or ex-RCMP to become a member of this great organization or to rent its facilities. Any citizen age 18 or older can join for annual membership dues of \$55. Membership application forms are available at the bar. Branch membership currently stands at about 300.

The main purpose of the brunches is to raise money for our Building Fund to ensure that necessary repairs and maintenance are done. Much of this building dates from the 1940's and is in constant need of basic maintenance which costs over 20,000 annually. The Legion is costly to operate. Annual insurance is just over \$12,000 while utilities such as electricity, gas, and water are over \$25,000. Our main source of income is the bar, but recent major increases in the minimum wage will have a significant adverse effect on profits.

It should be noted that members of our elected Executive do not receive any remuneration for their work. One of our members, John Robertson, recently marked his 40th year as a member of the Gananoque Legion Executive.

These Sunday Brunches require the support of about 16 volunteers to prepare and serve the food. The volunteers include many members of the Executive and their spouses as well as other branch members, Ladies Auxiliary members, and members from 492 Cadet Corps.,

We appreciate you coming to these brunches to support the Legion Building fund.

Coming Legion Events

Sunday 27 Jan An afternoon of Scottish food and entertainment in celebration of poet Robbie Burns. Meet and greet at noon followed by food and entertainment. Tickets \$20 at bar.

Sun 3 Feb Brunch 9am to 12:30 pm. Treat your family to a great meal and help the Branch Building Fund.

The last Sun of most months there is a dance in the afternoon starting at 1 pm. There is a small cover charge and a light meal is served. The dances are quite popular with as many as 60 attending. A great way to meet new people. The next dance Sun 24 Feb with Tim Hallman and Terry Hoffman.



**Captain Claudia Catillo-Rivas,
Commanding Officer of
Gananoque's 492 Cadet
Corps, accepts check for \$900
from Gananoque Legion
President Wes Rideout.**



**Wes Rideout accepts check
for \$7,000 from Shirley
Walker, President of the
Gananoque Legion Ladies
Auxiliary. The Auxiliary also
supports the Legion
throughout the year with an
additional \$12,000.**