

**BRANCH 92 GENERAL MEETING  
MAY 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**ATTENDEES:**

|                   |                      |                 |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Bob Howard        | President            | Anne Parker     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice |
| Janet Gaylord     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice | Kevin Offord    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice |
| Wes Rideout       | Past President       | Alf Read        | Service Officer      |
| Bill Beswetherick | House & Property     | Owen Fitzgerald | Poppy Chair          |
| Joanne Lancaster  | Youth Education      | Shirley Walker  | LA President         |
| Dan Beauchamp     | Executive            | Mary Alguire    | Executive            |
| John Robertson    | Sgt at Arms          | Ann DeWolfe     | BR Manager           |
| Shirley Howard    | Secretary/Treasurer. |                 |                      |

**ABSENT:**

|               |           |                 |              |
|---------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|
| John Beddows  | Executive | Sandy Cleveland | Ways & Means |
| Chris Ormsbee | Executive |                 |              |

**GUESTS:**

|                |                |            |                       |
|----------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Ralph McMullen | Zone Commander | Todd Evans | Deputy Zone Commander |
|----------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|

Minutes of the General Meeting held on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, reviewed. Motion by Joanne Lancaster to adopt the minutes as presented. Seconded by Ed Harding. Carried.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Bob Howard reported that the roof over the kitchen and the Webb Room had quite a bad leak during the last heavy rainstorm. Amherst Roofers were called in and have made repairs. Bob also asked them to give a quote on replacing the front section covering the kitchen and part of the Webb Room with a metal one. He is awaiting their quote and will bring it up at the next Executive Meeting and the General Meeting.

Sunday Brunch was last Sunday, Mother's Day. We had over 180 people attend, and we gave out carnations to the first 50 Mothers who attended.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Shirley Howard reviewed the financial statement that members received.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Shirley Howard reported that we received a donation of \$200 from the Friday night Dart League.

Bob Howard announced that at this time, he is going to deviate from the normal agenda to introduce Ralph McMullen, Zone Commander who will be conducting our Branch Elections.

The Zone Commander conducted the Elections, and the results are as follows:  
President-Bob Howard; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Anne Parker; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Janet Gaylord; 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice – Kevin Offord; Secretary/Treasurer – Shirley Howard; Sgt at Arms – John Robertson; Executive Positions Alf Read; Joanne Lancaster, John Beddows, Dan Beauchamp.

Motion made by Zone Commander Ralph McMullen to destroy the ballots, Seconded by Shirley Howard.

General Meeting Resumed.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Anne Parker stated we have 229 paid up members at this time. Nothing further to report.

**YOUTH EDUCATION:**

Joanne Lancaster stated that there is nothing going on at this time.

**P R O:**

Janet Gaylord reported that on April 27<sup>th</sup> was the Rain Barrel sale. We collected \$2797.50. We owed for the rain barrels \$2291.50 which leaves \$ 506 profit plus she still has a double set of barrels worth \$200 for sale. She thanks Bob & Shirley Howard for helping to unload all 53 barrels on the 26<sup>th</sup> and for helping at the sale on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Janet thanks everyone who helped for our Movie Night on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We showed “Being Canadian” and the people who attended had a hilarious time. Special Thank you to Bob Howard for playing the movie, to Dan Beauchamp & Mary Alguire for the fantastic popcorn that everyone enjoyed, and Lorraine Payette for her donation of the popcorn bags. We did not charge for admission; it was donations only and we received \$135 with approximately 30 people in attendance. Janet made a motion to continue having a movie night every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7:30 PM. Motion was seconded by Dan Beauchamp. Carried.

Janet has drafted Bill Beswetherick to assist her in making a short movie for a competition hosted by McDougall Insurance for Community Organizations. The theme that was chosen is “ Help the Legion Keep a Roof over Our Head” so we can continue to support Veterans and all the other Community organizations we support.

**SPORTS:**

Bob Howard reported that the Golf Poster is now up and that will be the last sports event for this present year.

**SICK & VISITING:**

Owen Fitzgerald stated that Bill Beswetherick is present at this meeting. Welcome Back.

**VETERAN SERVICES:**

Alf Read reported that he has 4 files in progress, 2 of which have been sent on to Veteran Affairs.

One project Alf has recently initiated, is a Veteran Transportation Project, where he wants to establish a pool of volunteer drivers who will be able to transport Veterans to Brockville and Kingston hospitals and elsewhere for medical appointments. Compensation will be provided by the Legion. There are several Veterans who have need of this service due to vision and/or other issues.

Alf also commended our Poppy Chair, Owen Fitzgerald, for the job he has done over the past year. To date he has raised over \$20,000 in our Poppy Account.

**WAYS & MEANS:**

Sandy Cleveland sent her report – April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, saw a very successful Fish Fry. Thanks to Stuart Hill, Dan and all the other volunteers. It was to run from 4 PM to 8 PM but we ran out of fish by 5:45 PM. The dance help on April 28<sup>th</sup> also had a great turnout. Upcoming events planned are a **SPAGHETTI DINNER** on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30 PM at a cost of \$12 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5 to 12 for spaghetti, salad, rolls and dessert. A reminder that she needs volunteers. Dance on May 26<sup>th</sup> with the theme being from the 50/60's with the band **REWIND playing**.

The cost of the band is \$400. June 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the last dance she is planning, and the band is WHISKY SMOKE at a cost of \$ 450. There will be 50/50 tickets sold. The dances will resume in September. Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> she is planning a Strawberry Social PM at a cost of \$15, children ages 5 – 12 \$10. Anyone wishing to help, please speak with Joanne. 8 volunteers needed. Sandy has thoughts of having an Oktoberfest dinner and dance and if you know of a band, please let Sandy know. She is also working on a “Murder Mystery” night with the theme of WW1. Sandy also has Tim Hallman booked for the New Year's Dance at a cost of \$750 but will consider what we feel is appropriate. Buffet will be served later in the evening. Reservations are required at a cost of \$30 per person.

**WEBSITE:**

Anne Parker reported that it is quite popular – about 200 hits a week.

**BURSARY & SGT at ARMS:**

John Robertson reported that for this term there was approximately \$ 60,000 given out to the students that was at 3 meetings. It is \$1250 to each one. The next meeting will be in January or February next year. The Legion has given close to \$300,000 to students for Bursaries to date.

At the Convention last month, the collection from the floor was \$162,000 and it went to the Veterans, the Homeless & Leave the Streets Behind. One group who have been marching for the Wounded Warriors, have collected \$1.9 million total.

As Sgt at Arms, John Robertson made a motion to donate \$ 2000 to the Food Bank. We hosted the Quad Services dinner, and the host Club usually donates to the charity of the Guest Speaker, which for us, was the Food Bank. The motion was seconded by Wes Rideout. Question was asked if this donation comes from the Lottery fund. Response –it can. Carried.

**BRANCH MANAGER:**

Ann DeWolfe stated we lost our Pool league as they are done for the season. She has bookings for some “Buck & Doe's” for weddings. We had a big party last Saturday night with Richard Piche and another one on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Ernie Dickson said he would keep up the “Meat Draws” over the summer.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dave Carter brought forward some information regarding starting the “Catch the Ace” program to make more money for the Legion. After some discussion, the rules and criteria will be looked into, and a decision made after further information obtained.

Bill Beswetherick brought up that in 2027 we will be celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He suggested that the War Memorial needs to be refurbished and add in the memorial for the Victoria Cross Winner which is right next to it. He sent an e-mail to the person who did it in 2005. We can take 25 % of our poppy fund to use toward it and have the town pick up the rest. Bob Howard stated that he is looking to set up a committee, very soon, to see what we can plan and set up for the year of our anniversary. Zone Commander suggested that Bill investigate the Federal Government. He believes the government has a Monument Fund and they will donate to help refurbish the monuments.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Veronica Shepherd seconded by Anne Parker

**PRESIDENT**

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**