

Presidents Report January 9, 2019

Greeting and Salutations Comrades and a very happy new year to you all.

For you that missed it Elvis was in the house January 5th, he had his brother playing along with him and it was a great show, it got the New Year off to a good start let's try our best to keep it going.

Last year was a good one for us, we made and paid all our commitments and then some, we had some excellent functions, Legion Appreciation week springs to mind, a couple of our beer and burger nights brought some excellent returns, we heard a few new local bands who were very good and we heard Squamish's best known band Bluesberry Jam, our meat draw customers did well for us and helped us through the lean summer months, of course my favorite day Remembrance Day was excellent, we had a packed house and everybody had a great time a big thank you to the Squamish Lions for their (as usual) excellent roast beef on a bun, thank you to the Black Tusk Caledonia Pipe band and everyone else that participated in this special day. The weather cooperated, the sun shone and we had a great crowd down at the cenotaph to honor and remember our Veterans. I especially want to give a very big thank you to all of those who volunteered and spent hours poppy tagging, it can be cold at times but without you we would be unable to make Remembrance Day the day that it is. It was well organized by Comrades Ed Robertson and Sandy Seright.

Back tracking, I wish to acknowledge the fun afternoon that we had with the Birthday Boys at the Veterans Lunch that we put on for them, they being Ted Arsenault 100 years of age, Ted Gregoire 100 years of age, Jim Crombie 95 years of age and Oscar Runzer 95 years of age. We had a great afternoon, the food was very good, in attendance was BC/Yukon Vice President Val McGregor and North Shore/ Howe Sound Zone Commander Bev Croft who along with myself had an enjoyable time with the reading of Congratulatory letters from Her Majesty the Queen, Governor General of Canada, Prime Minister of Canada, BC Premier and Legion # 277. It was a great afternoon very well-orchestrated by Comrades Ken Ward and Betty Adamson and ably assisted by Liz Ward, Polly Prozny and Frankie Ferguson, hope I haven't omitted anybody if I have you can buy me a drink the next time you see me.

The Lounge was booked for the better part of December and we ended the year with a excellent Meat Draw and a brilliant Pot Luck Supper so all in all it was a very good year, I realize that I have probably omitted a few people and functions that should have been mentioned so I apologize to anyone I missed, but this is a report that I am trying to write and not a book.

Almost finished. It is good to see that we have quite a few new members and that quite a few seasoned members have paid their back dues, this is brilliant because a Legion can never have enough members we are always recruiting and are looking constantly for younger members with newer brighter ideas of things that will benefit the Legion as a whole, Comrade Madeline Robertson is now the Membership Committee Chair and she will gladly listen to any new ideas

that new members may have, please try and keep your ideas original, remember we were young once and have tried lots of different things so keep that in mind when you are suggesting new ideas which can help the Legion. I am happy to tell you that we now have two younger Executives on board.

We hold General Meetings on the 4th Friday of every month at 7:00 pm except for the months of July, August and December when there are no meetings. I can't stress enough the importance of good attendance at these meetings. A meeting cannot be held without a Quorum (minimum of 12 Members) no meeting means we cannot conduct business, make decisions, vote on important issues and are unable to run the Legion as it should be if we can't run it properly then we can't run it at all. Considering that we have over 160 Members including Executives I don't think that we are expecting too much to expect 12 Members at a meeting nine times a year, do you? Let's hope not.

It's my personal opinion that the closure of a Legion is a very sad affair when you consider what its roots are based on. I will have to add, although a few of you may not like it, the bar will be closed a half hour before the meeting commences and reopen when the meeting is over and there will be no consumption of alcohol during the meeting. This is not my doing, it is written in the By-laws.

I am hoping that we can have a tremendous year, put on lots of entertainment and functions and have a real good time while doing it.

I would like to reintroduce Friday night dinners, I would like to hear from any member that would like to take the lead on getting this up and running or better yet knows of someone who would like to take over the use of our kitchen and set up their own business. There are of course other avenues we could take if the aforementioned plan is not feasible, such as beer and burger nights or pot luck dinners from time to time, lets test the water and see what happens and don't forget we have a hot dog machine and made on the premises pickled eggs.

The Darts and Cribbage competitions are taking place shortly, so good luck to all the competitors.

We have Bridge on Monday evenings and Friday mornings, Darts are on Tuesday and Cribbage is on Thursdays, they are always looking for new players so if any of these appeal to you call the Legion at 604 898-9368 for times and things.

Anyway people that's all I have to say at the moment except to tell you we have a TV installed in the lobby which will inform you of what is going on week by week. Stay tuned.

I'd like to wish all of the best to you and your Families.

Yours in Comradeship,
Art McLain President RCL #277