

Presidents Report

Well it's time for another letter from the President; you have no idea how happy it makes me to have the privilege of writing them.

2019 ended on a sour note mainly because of a number of cancelations in the Lounge rental for Christmas Parties and a Birthday, our dishwasher also blew up costing over \$5000.00 to replace and then we also had to change the compressor on the beer cooler, so these unexpected expenditures more then took away the headway we had gained throughout the year, these set backs are not very good for a person's demeanor but unfortunately they happen from time to time so let's hope that 2020 will turn out to be a better year for us.

We have to put more effort into promoting the availability of our Lounge for almost all occasions, it is available for all kinds of different functions, it is available for rent Monday to Thursday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm for anyone wishing to hold daytime classes like Yoga, Pilates etc., it is available all year round Sundays included for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Christmas Parties and Special functions such as Celebration of Life, small Weddings etc. etc. We will do our best to accommodate whatever it is you wish to do, within reason of course. So if you know of anyone who may be interested in any of the above or any other ideas please contact the Legion.

We also have a full kitchen that is available for rental, ideally we are looking for someone to take over the kitchen, to provide dinners occasionally and maybe lunch now and then or maybe just maybe there is someone out there who is looking to start up their own business in the catering industry again please call the Legion if interested.

There is a General Meeting March 25th at 7:00 pm, our Zone which is (North Shore and Howe Sound) President Bev Croft and Vice President Steve Cochrane along with Darryn Langstaff who is a Branch Advisor from BC/Yukon Command will be present, please make an effort to attend. There are still Positions on various Committees that need filling, we definitely need someone to take on the Sick and Visiting position, it's an easy enough Position all it entails is checking to see if any Members are ill and are either in Hospital or at home and then if they wish you to arrange a visit and take a bunch of flowers or grapes, these seem to make the day a little brighter when you are not feeling well. We are going to install a Health Board in the Lounge, that way if any of you know of any Members that are having health problems and are either in the Hospital or recuperating at home you will be able to put their name upon the Board and if they wish, someone will come and visit them. We should be looking after Members with health problems to the best of our abilities, remember a Legion that doesn't care enough about Members that are sick will in turn become a sick Legion, so please give it some thought as to whether or not you would like to take on this Position, it doesn't have to be just one person, 2 or even 3 Members working together would be fantastic.

We are still looking for Volunteers at the various events we hold throughout the year, I will leave a Volunteer book by the Bar and if you would like to Volunteer please leave your name and phone number, always remember that we need Volunteers without them we cannot do the job at hand to the best of our abilities and we cannot expect the same people to do the

volunteering all the time, we need new and younger Volunteers so do your best, I know we can do a better job with more Volunteers.

Let's move onto different things that are in the mix.

March 14th we are going to do a Pot Luck type of supper featuring beef stew and fresh baked Irish soda bread we will call it a pre St. Paddy's day feast, for those of you that don't like stew there will be lots of other stuff available, see poster on RCL Branch #277 website for details.

March 28th NEARLY NEIL will be in the building again see poster on Branch #277 website for details.

April 18th BLUES BERRY JAM will be singing the Blues; we may do a meal with it, more info to follow on this at a later date.

April 20th we will be sanding and re-staining the dance floor, we will also be replacing the carpet with vinyl planking and the bathrooms and bar area as well, hopefully the Legion will be staying open during this work but you will have to exercise caution and keep off the dance floor until the job has been finished. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

For those of you who haven't been to the Meat Draw in quite a while I would like to inform you that we have added a little something extra, it's a new game called find THE 4 of SPADES and all it involves is a deck of cards and a roll of draw tickets and best of all it doesn't cost you anything, the basis of the game is that when you purchase a beverage between 3:15 and 5:30 you will receive a draw ticket with it and the corresponding ticket goes into a bucket, between 5:30 and 5:45 a number will be drawn from the bucket, if you have that number that gives you one chance of pulling the 4 of Spades from the deck of cards which will be spread on a table if you do that you will win whatever the pot is, because there isn't any money involved a winner will receive a Legion cheque, if the card you pull is not the 4 of Spades it will be torn in half and \$25.00 will be put into the pot, this is just a brief outline of the game, go to the Branch website RCL #277 or ask at the bar if you have any questions.

That's about all for now, don't forget keep checking what's happening on the Legion 277 website, keep thinking about Volunteering and helping out at various Events, I realize I am sounding like a parrot but I can't impress enough on people the importance of Volunteers because without them and I'll guarantee this the Legion will eventually go under. If any Members have any ideas about how to make a place that looks like a Hospital cafeteria look like a Lounge that is full of warmth, and has a happy atmosphere and is a fun place to be let us know (I don't want to be reading about installing any poles).

For all of you that support the Legion by paying your Dues on time, by attending all our functions and Volunteer your time to try and make what we are doing the best that we can I
THANK YOU!

Yours in Comradeship
Art McLain President