

September 2011

**Special points of interest:**

- **President's Message**
- **Building Progress**
- **Get your Name on a Plaque**
- **Unmarked Grave Project**



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# Annual Newsletter

## President's Message

Greetings Comrades:

On September 1, 2010 we celebrated the Grand Opening of the Poppy Residents, our new supportive Seniors Housing Units and the Grand Re-opening of our new Legion "Club 83". For those of you who were unable to attend, I have to tell you it was a wonderful day filled with laughter and congratulations for the completion of our new home.

The reality of all that was accomplished in the two and half years since we closed our doors and to review what we had achieved was amazing. All the hard work, long and agonizing meetings, difficult decisions to ponder and to be made, along with the tremendous amount of never ending paperwork,

## Poppy

We had a very successful poppy campaign in 2010 and have been able to provide assistance to a number of veterans and their families. We have also provided funds to Burnaby Hospital, George Derby Centre and St. Michael's Foundation. These funds all come from the money raised during our poppy campaign.

was way beyond our belief.

Now, one year later after completion and after the adjustment of settling in we are finally achieving most of our goals. We are proud to announce that the Senior's housing units are 85% occupied. Our membership has risen to over 500 members and continues to grow at a fairly even pace. Our new Club 83 is gradually coming into its own, with many new activities to come and enjoy. With all new businesses there are always kinks to work out and the Executive and Staff continue to work hard to overcome these. Their commitment to the Legion, their hard and often tedious work is never ending and I am proud to have such dedicated people to work

**We would like to thank all our volunteers who have helped in so many ways during last year's campaign. Without you we would not be able to raise money for the above worthy causes.** The dates for the Burnaby Kiosk Location beside Metrotown Food Court will be October 28th, 29th and November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. Remembrance Day, November 11 we will assemble at the Le-

with. WELL DONE – TEAM!

We now have a building that will last for many years, warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Many of you have already visited and now frequent the new Club often. Many of you have commented on the new look, comfortable seating and décor, in addition to meeting up with old friends to reminisce. We hope that many more of you will come to visit soon and of course bring your friends and family members with you and enjoy all that we to offer. Yours in Comradeship, Stephanie Watts, President

*Quote: "Some people dream of success while others wake up and work to obtain it!"*

*(author unknown)*

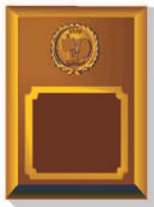
gion, 5289 Grimmer St at 10.30 am to parade to the Cenotaph at Nelson and Imperial for 11:00 am. After the service we will gather back at the Legion Club to remember our fallen comrades and friends.

We need your help and support. If you can assist, or have any questions please call me at 604-437-0517 or email [dpastro@shaw.ca](mailto:dpastro@shaw.ca) Dianne Pastro

Check out the Entertainment Calendar on the website:  
<http://www.rclbr83.ca/>  
On the Club 83 page – click the link “Entertainment Calendar”

*Remember that  
your membership  
dues are payable  
now.*

*Be an Early Bird  
pay your dues before  
November 30.*



All donations are gratefully accepted but only those who donate \$20 or more will be eligible to have their name on the plaque.

## Grand Opening – Club 83

On March 20, 2009 a group of members and dignitaries gathered at site to celebrate the ground breaking. On July 19, 2009 the excavation and construction began. Construction was completed in 14 months. The new building was completed and open for business on Sept 1, 2010.



On Feb 19, 2011 all the people involved with this project gathered for the Grand Opening. Kudos go out to all the people that made this project work.



## Plaque Project

The new plaque will proudly be displayed in the new Branch canteen in October. This is the plaque of recognition to everyone who donated towards our new building. There are approximately 135 names on the plaque at present, but a total of 152 names possible.

Still a chance to get your name engraved and displayed for eternity !

Donations gladly accepted at the Branch.

Dan Coyle, Co-chairman,  
Honours & Awards  
Committee

## Bursaries:

To date we have had 2 applicants and 3 inquiries for Bursaries. We continue to offer Bursaries of up to \$1500.00 for children and grandchildren of Canadian Veterans. Hardship and other cases may also be considered. Applications can be obtained from the bar at Legion Club 83.

**Slo Pitch:** Congratulations to the Snake Bites ball team. They had a slow start to the season last spring but bounced back to finish the season in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The team started practicing for the Fall/Winter season and have started league play.  
Ken Hourston

## Unmarked Grave Project

The Branch has been asked to take charge of this project in the Burnaby area. This project was originally started by a female high school student in Vancouver to raise funds for Veterans' unmarked grave plaques, after first doing the research to identify them, and has since grown to cover other areas such as Burnaby.

It was suggested that we get not only high school students studying history, but also SFU history majors, possibly to help towards their degrees. On our home front, any of our members, families, or friends are more than welcome to help us with this worthy project.

Dan Coyle & Mike Carpenter

## Pipe & Drum

The band has been busy playing at many Legion and community functions and parades all year.

The Band also attended the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade in Oak Harbor, Washington.

Practices will begin Sunday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> at 1: P.M. in the Branch 83 hall.

Any new members; pipers, drummers, or new interested beginners most welcome.

Legion membership not required – perseverance is! Battle of Britain : ceremony and parade, Sunday, Sept. 18 at 2:00 P.M. The Garden of Remembrance, Stanley Park ( near the train ). Colour Party will also attend. Reception after at the Navy Base: CFB Discovery, Coal Harbour, Stanley Park.

All welcome.

Mike Carpenter,  
Band Pipe Major



## Honours & Awards

A reminder to all members that you can recommend other members for their services to the Branch in any form of activity. They can be recognized at the various levels of Legion awards. Please pass on your recommendations to anyone of the Executive or at the club bar or office.

Ken Hourston,  
Co-Chair, Honours & Awards Committee

## Sports Reports

**Cribbage:** The Legion has drop-in cribbage every Monday night (7:30 pm start). They average 20 -24 players each week. Everyone is welcome to come out and play as there is always room for more players. If you are interested please contact George Burnett or Ken Hourston for more information.

**Shuffleboard:** The Thursday and Saturday night shuffleboard leagues will be starting mid October and go

through April. If you or someone you know is interested in forming a team please let me know in person or leave a note with your name and phone number at the Bar.

Ken Hourston

## Meetings

**Special General Meeting**  
Sunday November 27  
11:00 am  
Amenity Room

## Ladies Auxillary:

My first meeting with the LA was in March this year, there were seven members in attendance. All the ladies that I met have been on the committee for many years – the most outstanding member present was Isabel Lutz who boasted 60 years of service to the LA.

Over the next few meetings it became clear that the LA wants to become active in the new facilities of Branch 83. They especially recall many years of hosting dinners, teas and providing funds to the Legion in years gone by. The new club is quite different and they are unable to put on events in the same capacity as they used to. The president of the LA, Dianne Barnes is hoping to start up a Sunday afternoon Meat Draw in the Fall. This will be decided at a future meeting.

Barbara Coyle  
Ladies Auxillary

## Colour Party:

We continue to participate on parades in Burnaby, New Westminster, Vancouver and other parts of the lower mainland. We also participate at veterans funerals. At present we have a total of 4 members and are always looking for new members.

Tom Waddell

Nominations and Elections for the 2012 Executive will be taking place on November 27, 2011 in the Amenity Room, 11:00 a.m. at Branch #83.



Royal Canadian Legion  
 South Burnaby  
 Branch 83

5289 Grimmer St.

Phone:  
 604 437-0517

## Membership

Membership is the backbone of the legion. Without members, there would be no legion.

I would like to welcome all new members and future members. I would also like to apologize for the delays in some of new membership receiving their cards. We have a few glitches between Ottawa and ourselves, but I am trying to resolve these as quickly as possible. The cards are now here for 2012. The cost is \$45.00. You may mail a cheque or pay at the bar and I will mail your card. If you have moved please provide new address

and email address if you have one. Our meetings are sent via email and notification posted in the legion.

We will be having an Early Bird Draw once again this year. If you pay before November 30, 2011, you may get your dues refunded. There will be one draw in each category, Ordinary, Associate and Affiliate –Voting.

Membership dues can be mailed to:  
 Royal Canadian Legion  
 5289 Grimmer St, Burnaby BC. V5H 2H3  
 If you have any **Membership** questions, please call me at 604-437-0517  
 Dianne Pastro, Membership Chair

**House:** I attended a meeting with Townline Housing Solutions Representatives in mid August to discuss the Common Property Deficiency list of our building. We had a walk through and I provided them with the Legion’s list of deficiencies that needed to be approved. I have replaced the light bulbs in the Club and done a few cleanups. More chairs have been ordered and should be arriving shortly.  
 Ken Hourston

## Membership form

Membership  
 Dues for  
 2011—2012  
 \$45.00

Your Name			
Your Address			
Membership Type	Ordinary	Associate	Fraternal
Your email address			
Amount of Donation:			
<b>Total Submitted:</b> (Dues plus donation)			

**Meat Draws:** Our meat draws are held every Friday and Saturday with tickets going on sale at 4 PM for a total of 4 draws and 5 prizes on each draw. We continue to require volunteers for the ticket sales. Tom Waddell

**8 Ball:** BC/Yukon Command has approved 8 Ball as a Provincial Legion sport commencing in 2012. Some of you may have noticed that we have now have two 8 Ball tables. This year we have just one team – the “Sharpshooters”. The league plays each Wednesday night with home game play every second Wednesday. Come out and cheer them on. We are hoping to have a second team for next year.  
 Ken Hourston Sports Chair