

AGENDA  
DISTRICT 2 MEETING  
22 September, 2018  
Branch #39, Dildo

1. Opening Ritual / Welcome
2. Minutes of Last Meeting – June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Branch 23-Carbonear
3. Business Arising
4. Branch reports:
  - a- Branch 09 - Spaniards Bay
  - b- Branch 15 - Harbour Grace
  - c- Branch 22 - Upper Island Cove
  - d- Branch 23 - Carbonear
  - e- Branch 32 - Bay Roberts
  - f- Branch 39 - Dildo
  - g- Branch 65 - Brigus
  - h- Charwood Manor Carbonear
5. New Business:
  - a- Charwood Manor Update – Comrade Charles Piercey, Chairman/Comrade Sarah Lawrence, Secretary
  - b- Dominion Command Convention Updates
  - c- Opening of the Poppy Campaign – Branch 32 Bay Roberts: October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1900hrs
  - d- “Fly the Flag of Remembrance” Friday October 26<sup>th</sup>
  - e- TCP Telethon – Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>: 3pm Donation, 3-4pm Phones (9 Members)
  - f- 2019 RCL Pilgrimage of Remembrance – Deadline: November 16<sup>th</sup>
  - g- District/Provincial Training – Branch Service Officer: October 20<sup>th</sup>
  - h- Veterans Service Card: New
6. Other Business:
  - a- Membership
  - b- Branch Finances
  - c- Flower Boxes
  - d- Future District Meetings: January at Branch 9 Spaniard’s Bay,  
June at Branch 15 Harbour Grace
  - e- Darts & Cribbage: February at Branch 23 Carbonear
  - f- Battle of the Atlantic: Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at Branch 65 Brigus
  - g- NL Command convention: August 24-28, 2019 at Branch 12 Grand Falls/Winsor.
7. Other Business: Open to the Floor
8. Closing Ritual
9. Next Meeting: TBD

## District 2 Meeting

22 September 2018

Branch #39, Dildo

Commander		Philip Wood	Commander	Present
Provincial Command		Berkley Lawrence	President	Absent
Secretary		Nicole Badcock	Secretary	Present
Branch 09	Spaniards Bay	Gordon Parsons	President	Present
Branch 09	Spaniards Bay	Don Hutchings	Sgt at Arms	Present
Branch 15	Harbour Grace	No Representative		
Branch 22	Upper Island Cove	No Representative		
Branch 23	Carbonear	Mike Butt	President	Present
Branch 23	Carbonear	Hal Evely	Chaplin	Present
Branch 32	Bay Roberts	Gary Badcock	Member	Present
Branch 32	Bay Roberts	Eric Mercer	Service Officer	Present
Branch 39	Dildo	Ira Halfyard	President	Present
Branch 39	Dildo	George Brown	Member	Present
Branch 39	Dildo	Don Reid	Secretary	Present
Branch 39	Dildo	Bryan Barrington	Member	Present
Branch 65	Brigus	Gerald Mercer	President	Present
Branch 65	Brigus	Gen Smith	Executive	Present
Branch 65	Brigus	Kevin Power	Treasurer	Present
Branch 65	Brigus	Mike Hedderson	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Present
Branch 65	Brigus	Bill Smith	Executive Senior	Present
Charwood Manor Carbonear		No Representative		

### 1. Welcome:

at 10:00 hrs Commander Comrade Philip Wood opens the meeting with the singing of "O Canada" and the Legion Ritual. He thanked and welcomed all present.

- ⇒ Comrade George Brown apologizes to Commander Comrade Philip Wood for not saluting the Flag during the signing of "O Canada" and he was forgiven.
- ⇒ Commander Comrade Philip Wood informed all present that Branch 22 Upper Island Cove will not be present, and that Branch 15 Harbour Grace Comrade Paulette Morrissey, President is unable to attend as well.
- ⇒ Commander Comrade Philip Wood thanked Comrade Ira Halfyard and Branch 39 for hosting the meeting today and invited him to say a few words.
- ⇒ Comrade Ira Halfyard, President of Branch 39 Dildo welcomes all present on behalf of Branch 39 and hopes that we have a good meeting.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting:

paper copies of the Minutes of June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting were handed out to all present. Commander Comrade Philip Wood invited Comrade Nicole Badcock to read the Minutes so she advised all present that she did not write them but read them as asked. After the reading of the Minutes, Comrade Gerald

Mercer commented that Item 7 of the Minutes concerning the Battle of the Atlantic, the Branch number should read Branch 65, not 69. (the correction is already made)

Comrade Gary Badcock moved to have the Minutes be accepted as read

Comrade Gordon Parsons Seconded the Motion

MOTION CARRIED

### 3. Business arising:

- Item 8: the Bells across Canada initiative; no new information available yet but it is on November 11<sup>th</sup> which is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWI. Commander Comrade Philip Wood invites everyone to ring bells that day to commemorate the anniversary and as he receives more information, he will forward them to all Branches.
- Item 9: this past week they unveiled a plaque at Gallipoli in Turkey. No caribou yet but the plaque is a first step.
- Comrade George Brown thanked The District for including him in the last Minutes and was happy to tell everyone that he is doing well and will have his last treatment on Monday to which all present applauded. Commander Comrade Philip Wood thanked Comrade George Brown for his dedication and years of service with the Legion.
- Comrade Gary Badcock commented that the Battle of the Atlantic item 7 in the last Minutes should read: 2019, not 2018 at Branch 65, not 69, Brigus. Commander Comrade Philip Wood thanked him for pointing out the mistakes. (corrections are already made)

### 4. Branch President Reports:

- Branch 09: Comrade Gordon Parsons, President, introduced Comrade Don Hutchings, Sgt at Arms, then disclosed that:
  - ✓ Spaniard's Bay Branch has more money now and can hold its own.
  - ✓ The Branch is gearing up for the Poppy Campaign, organizing Poppy sale, Church services and school assemblies.
  - ✓ November 17<sup>th</sup> will be the Remembrance Annual Dinner and Dance.
  - ✓ We host 2 weekly Bingo, one at the Branch and one at the Hall and both are doing well.
  - ✓ We run an open mike every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month for over a year now and it is very profitable; all are invited to attend.
  - ✓ We run 2x Texas hold'em, one on Tuesday night and one on Friday night.
  - ✓ All these fundraisers would not be possible without the help of our volunteers.
  - ✓ Functions for Weddings and Anniversaries have increased this year and it is looking good for 2019.
  - ✓ We are organizing a New Year's Ball this year. Membership has increased from last year.
- Branch 15: Comrade Paulette Morrissey, President, is involved with the Reserves at this time but someone from Harbour Grace was assigned to come to the meeting. The Branch is in the process of changing their Club Room to the building that was donated to them.
- Branch 22: Comrade Pam Neil, President, from Upper Island Cove sent her regrets and other members could not make it but they had a successful summer, their dart league is starting up again and they are doing quite well at present.

- Branch 23: Comrade Mike Butt, President, introduced Comrade Hal Evelyn, Branch Chaplin then reported that:
  - ✓ The branch was doing very well financially.
  - ✓ It was a slow summer, slower than usual: bar sales and catering were down but we have a busy fall starting with the Fireman's Ball in two weeks time, then we have bookings for up to the New Years eve Ball.
  - ✓ We just finished a JPC Grant: for a 7 week Grant we had 4 workers, most of the building was painted, we completely renovated our bathrooms upstairs and downstairs and the wheelchair ramp outside was re-stained as well.
  - ✓ Membership is 160 members at present.
  - ✓ We are gearing up for the Poppy Campaign.
  - ✓ Our Memorial Banners is a huge success; last year we had 35 banners up, this year we had 65 and there are 7 more on the way.
  - ✓ Our Remembrance Banquet is on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ We still do our monthly Jam Sessions although it is starting to slow down quite a bit but we still do them anyway.
  - ✓ Now we have live entertainment every second Saturday from 9pm to midnight and so far it proves to be very successful.
  - ✓ We still sponsor the Air Cadets in Carbonear and Army Cadets in Victoria.
  - ✓ Comrade Hal and I attended the Dominion Command Convention in Winnipeg this past August, to which Commander Comrade Philip Wood commented that he would come back to that subject later on in the meeting.
  - ✓ Our Dart Leagues have started again; Wednesday night is Mixed League and Friday night is the Men's League. This year the Men's League has 14 teams so 56 men playing and there are 6 in the wings waiting so, we have 60 men every Friday nights to play darts. It is a big boost for the bar and we were able to recruit new members for our Branch.
  - ✓ The Branch is doing very well and next February we'll have a new Executive Committee in place and we're hoping to continue on all this good work.
- Branch 32: Commander Comrade Philip Wood informed all present that Comrade Ross Petten, President is on vacation so Comrade Eric Mercer, Service Officer, spoke for the Branch:
  - ✓ We welcome Comrade George Brown back to the land of the Living and wished him all the best in the future.
  - ✓ Financially, we are doing very well.
  - ✓ We've had a lot of events over the summer: Jam Sessions, Matinees, Dinners and Breakfasts.
  - ✓ Membership is 175 members.
  - ✓ We are looking at a busy Fall: Poppy campaign is a big one.
  - ✓ We had a moose license last year and applied for it again this year. We received it so we can sell moose burgers and sausages at some of the Jam Sessions and some Breakfasts.
  - ✓ The Johnny Cash impersonators came to the Branch two weeks ago; they did a wonderful job, it was a great night, with a good bar. Commander Comrade Philip Wood added that they donate part of their proceeds to the Host Branch so if any Branch is interested, they will be back next year.

- Branch 39: Comrade Ira Halfyard, President, offered that:
  - ✓ Things were pretty slow this past summer; the only activity was the Run the Rock event this past August so we gave a few donations to runners, we served them lunch and they enjoyed it. They come every year to Fundraise.
  - ✓ November 10<sup>th</sup> is our Remembrance Day Dinner and Dance.
  - ✓ We still support 3 Cadet Corps and 1 CLB Corps.
  - ✓ Membership is still 38 members.
  - ✓ On November 11<sup>th</sup> we are very busy as we cover 5 Cenotaphs so we are spread pretty thin; we have a few members at each Cenotaph.
  - ✓ Financially we are still holding our own; we are still living off the sale of our building a few years ago.
  - ✓ No new members coming in.
  - ✓ We'd like to welcome you all on behalf of our Branch; soup and sandwiches are available after the meeting and the bar will be opened then.
  
- Branch 65: Comrade Gerald Mercer, President, introduced his Branch members as Comrade Mike Hedderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Comrade Kevin Power, Treasurer, Comrade Bill Smith, Service Officer and his wife Comrade Gen Smith, Executive member, then offered that:
  - ✓ Finances are the healthiest for the past 14 years.
  - ✓ Membership number is starting to climb.
  - ✓ the Branch supports a Sea Cadets Corps but the number of members has gone down a couple of years ago so we hope that they will start to go up again. We give them \$3,000.00 a year plus our building to use when they need it and whatever else they need.
  - ✓ We had a Grant to hire a student for 8 weeks this past summer to help with cleaning around the building, painting, etc., another Grant is being applied.
  - ✓ We broke ground 6 weeks ago for new washroom and classroom facilities for the Cadets and whoever else uses our building.
  - ✓ Activities: various Weddings are coming up, Firemen's Ball, Zomba class every week is catching on now.
  - ✓ We had a Newfie Night, not sure of the date but 30+ members from Branch 23 came for moose burgers and sausages, and they helped out so it was very appreciated; we hope to do the same next year.
  - ✓ Padre Gerald Westcott, Anglican Minister in South River, opened his church to Legion members.
  - ✓ VLTs are doing well.
  - ✓ Bar sales are not too bad.
  - ✓ Chase the Ace is on the go.
  - ✓ We applied and got our Moose license so we'll have moose burgers and sausages on hand.
  - ✓ We are gearing up for the Battle of the Atlantic.
  - ✓ We will open our doors at 12:00hrs every day for the Winter months to accommodate the walkers in the daytime.
  
- Branch 39 President, Comrade Ira Halfyard apologized for not introducing the members of his Branch and proceeded to do so: Comrades Don Reid, George Brown and Bryan Barrington.

➤ Charwood Manor: No Representative

- Commander Comrade Philip Wood addressed the difficulties with Membership and Volunteers at any and all the Branches, and then congratulated each and every Branch for their efforts. He emphasized the importance of all the activities the Legion bring to each community. Remembrance is most important for the Legion: those who served, those who are serving and those who have sacrificed so many things. We must keep these things going within our communities because we are the only ones who can do it. We need to continue to support the Cadet Corps even if the number of members is low because the organization is so good and provides so many great experiences for these children. Some Corps have travelled the world. Commander Comrade Philip Wood went on to thank and encourage all the Branches to keep doing all their good work as long as it is physically possible.
- Comrade Gordon Parsons wanted to thank Sgt at Arms Comrade Don Hutchings and his wife Mary for getting a student for their Branch for 6 or 8 weeks in the summer to do odd jobs such as painting and cutting the grass.

5. New Business:

a- Charwood Manor Update – Comrade Charles Piercey, Chairman/Comrade Sarah Lawrence, Secretary

Comrade Sarah Lawrence is on vacation and Comrade Charles Piercey is absent but Commander Comrade Philip Wood advised and invited all the Branches to attend the Charwood Board meeting on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 19:00hrs (7pm).

b- Dominion Command Convention Updates

Comrade Berkley Lawrence is absent but Comrades Mike Butt and Hal Evely attended the Convention so Comrade Mike Butt will give a report:

- ✓ Comrade Sarah Lawrence was elected to go but, due to a medical problem could not attend so Comrade Hal Evely was selected as a replacement.
- ✓ The Newfoundland Delegation included 22 delegates and 3 observers; a good showing from Newfoundland and Labrador.
- ✓ Biker Clubs: 2 RCMP Officers gave a half hour talk on it and they said that a lot of those clubs try to use the Legion for good Public Relation. Some of those clubs are really bad so we need to be very careful. The ones wearing the “1%” patch are really, really bad people so we are advised to stay away from them. If ever they show up to lay a wreath or any function at the Branch, they must take off their vest; if not, they must be removed from the premises. Any problems, we must call the RCMP to take care of the situation. We must be very careful.
- ✓ Minister of Veterans Affairs, Shamus O’Regean was there and gave a 30 to 45 minutes speech. In April 2019, the Veteran Pension for Life will be coming out.
- ✓ Ways and Means: a bar is approved and will be awarded to Ways and Means Chairman of each Branch. This is a vital part of the Legion.
- ✓ Comrade Ross Petten ran for Vice-President but was not elected.
- ✓ We had a Newfie Night after the election sponsored by Comrade Ross Petten.

c- Opening of the Poppy Campaign:

- ✓ at Branch 32 Bay Roberts on Thursday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 1900hrs (7pm); Commander Comrade Philip Wood strongly invited all the Branches and as many members as possible to attend this most important event for the Legion.
- ✓ all the information is sent out to all the Branches.
- ✓ all forms for Remembrance Day entry contests are available in the information sent.
- ✓ place your order for Poppies at Command if it has not been done yet.
- ✓ there is a booklet dealing with promotional material available
- ✓ reminder: end of September is end of Poppy Trust Fund Report so the report for the previous year is due then. The year is from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ the Fall Harvest Nevada Tickets are available at Command.
- ✓ any questions on the Remembrance Day Contests, just email me and I will answer.
- ✓ Remembrance Day Calendar, all material should have been delivered to the schools in your areas.
- ✓ The First Poppy presentation to Lieut Governor Judy Foote will be on October 26<sup>th</sup> which is the official opening of the Poppy Campaign.
- ✓ deadline for the Poppy Trust Fund Report to be sent to Command is October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ December 21<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for forwarding Remembrance Day Contests entries.

d- “Fly the Flag of Remembrance”:

- ✓ 24 consecutive years of Government along with the Legion has sponsored to “Fly the Flag” program is on Friday October 26<sup>th</sup> in the main lobby of the Confederation Building in St. John’s. The Branches that participate can fly their own Branch Flag.

e- TCP Telethon:

- ✓ Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, at Amalgamated School in Bay Roberts, at 3pm the Legion will present a Donation that will include the donations of from all Branches as a group, the Telethon needs at least 9 Legion members to man the phones from 3 to 4pm.

f- 2019 RCL Pilgrimage of Remembrance:

- ✓ this one is from Dominion and the Deadline is November 16<sup>th</sup>. Usually one representative from Newfoundland gets to go with Dominion. Last year Comrade Charles Piercey from Carbonear went. This Pilgrimage tour all the Battlefields that Canada participated in.
- ✓ the Pilgrimage to Europe is the Provincial one that tours our fields, our Caribou plus Vimy will be out shortly, within the next couple of weeks. After the 2018, they don’t know how many will be going because in the last four year, the number had doubled.

g- District/Provincial Training:

- ✓ Branch Service Officer training has been changed to October 20<sup>th</sup>, at Grand Falls/Windsor. Form must be in by September 19<sup>th</sup>, but it was extended. It is important for all Service Officer to attend the training as there is new information concerning Veterans. You can pay for it out of the Poppy Trust Fund as the Service Officer position is the most important for Veterans.

h- Veterans Service Card:

- ✓ All Veterans are encouraged to apply for this card. Veterans cannot apply for this card before July 2019.

6. Other Business:

- a- Membership: it is always encouraging to see new members.

- b- Branch Finances: always stay on top of your finances and make sure there is a paper trail.
- c- Flower Boxes: thanks to the Branches for doing a good job. Comrade Gordon Parsons cleared up the omission of Branch 9 from participating in this year's planting of flowers; Comrade Eric Mercer of Branch 32 apologized and promised to send a copy of the invoice to Branch 9. Later on Comrade Eric Mercer offered to Branch 9 the pleasure of filling the box for the next year to which Comrade Gordon Parsons accepted happily.
- d- Future District Meetings:
  - ✓ the next one will be the second or third week January at Branch 9 Spaniard's Bay
  - ✓ the following one will be in June at Branch 15 Harbour Grace.
- e- Darts & Cribbage: next February at Branch 23 Carbonear.
- f- Battle of the Atlantic: Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at Branch 65 Brigus.
- g- NL Command Convention: August 24-28, 2019 at Branch 12 Grand Falls/Windsor.

## 7. Other Business: Open to the Floor

- Commander Comrade Philip Wood mentioned that the Spirit of Newfoundland, a theatre group from St. John's is coming around the Bay in the November time frame doing the play "Where once they stood" dealing with people from WWI at the Dinner Theatre of the Bay Roberts Hotel.
- Comrade Mike Butt explain the Comrade Leslie Forward's play "For King and Country" will not be done this year because the cost of the theatre is too high but, a Remembrance Concert with Old type Songs is organized and will take place at Branch 23 Carbonear during the first week of November. Tickets are \$10.00.
- Commander Comrade Philip Wood recommended to all the Branches to advertise plays or concerts or any worthwhile event through his email address. All that needs to be done is to reply to one of my email, place the information and it will go to all the District Branches.
- Comrade Hal Evely related to the group "The Generation Gap" who played at Branch 23 Carbonear. The concert was advertised for quite some time before the concert and it was an excellent concert "The Wounded Warrior", the talents were superb, but only 19 people showed up; most of the executive committee so it was very disappointing.
- PTSD Buddies: Branch 23 and 32 both commented that those people did not do anything.
- Comrade Hal Evely commented that the majority of Legion members are 55 years old and over. We have brought new members in but have not seen them since. The new members should have a sponsor who will take him/her to all the function and activities for one year and then, the new members can make his/her mind up to join or not. Comrade Gary Badcock added that at one time the new members had to be voted in by the Branch but it is not done anymore so their names are in the books somewhere but you never see them.
- A lot of young Veterans do not want to have anything to do with the Legion because they feel that the Legion does not do a thing for them.
- PTSD was not recognized after WWI and WWII, but it is now and the new program "Pension for Life" is important for the young soldiers coming back from war zones. That is why the Service Officer training is so important for all Branches.
- Veterans Affairs: Comrade Gary Badcock commented strongly that Veterans Affairs does not help anyone by centering all the claims in Ottawa or P.E.I. The backlog is 1½ year as of now;



that is unacceptable. Commander Comrade Philip Wood conveyed that with regard to claims, Minister Shamus O'Regean advertised that 450 more people will be hired. Comrade Gary Badcock replied strongly that those people do not get it, they cannot process 100,000 claims by 6 people in Ottawa; they must do it by regions.

- Comrade Gary Badcock declared: if I was a young Veteran at this time, I would not join the Legion even if it was free. I have been in Legions across the country and the same problem exists everywhere: they have their 15 or 20 members on the Executive and you cannot break into that 15 or 20. The same people in the same job year after year or the same people exchanging job but always the same people on the Executive. Legion members must understand that to be part of it, you must volunteer.
- Cannabis problems will be apparent in October. The problem will be in the Branches because some Veterans will want to take their "medication" wherever they want so it will cause problems for the Branches.

#### 8. Closing

Commander Comrade Philip Wood thanked everyone and closed the meeting with the Legion Ritual and the singing of the "Royal Anthem" at 11:50hrs.