

## The President's Message



Stéphane Guy

Comrades

I wish to express my sincere and personal thanks to the Executive Committee Members for their steadfast support not only for the last year but also through tumultuous time of the last three years. We definitely had some challenging moments, both volunteer-related issues and most importantly restrictions due to COVID, including multiple closures that we still feel today. We have a few members who have reported ill but they are isolated cases that, thankfully, have not widely spread through the branch. We are closely monitoring the situation and taking actions as required.

The beauty is that Branch 641 is still a very successful branch as we are growing again and as you can see from the Membership Report on Page 3, we continue to welcome new members every month. My personal prediction is that we will exceed our December 31, 2021 numbers, and I'm hopeful that within two years, we will exceed our highest number of branch members of 657, which was attained just before COVID.

Financially, we are in excellent shape thankfully to the multiple grants that we were able to tap into. For your information, we received just short of \$178,000 through various grants that not only kept us afloat but also allowed us to show a modest growth. Without these grants, we would have been forced to vacate our premises.

The biggest news of all is definitely the progress we made with regards to our new clubhouse project. To have been successful in purchasing a building and to resell all of the condos for a profit is an amazing opportunity that only comes once in a lifetime. With an original investment of \$65,000 and without the need to invest further, we will gain approximately \$400,000 that will be the foundation to finance our new clubhouse. We are so close that it is tangible and with some

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fundraising activities, and the possibility of a partnership with a community organization, we are well on our way. Time will tell but the prospect is so positive that I'm definitely hopeful that we would possibly move into a brand-new building within the next three to four years.

Have a good day and stay safe.

Stephane Guy  
President RCL Branch 641  
613-797-7021  
[rcl641president@hotmail.com](mailto:rcl641president@hotmail.com)  
*Always do the right thing*



## Roger Gelinas – 1944-2022

Roger passed away at the age of 77 on Friday, April 1. He leaves behind the love of his life, Penny. They were married 54 years. Roger was a wonderful and loving father to his children – Chris (daughter-in-law Margaret) and Pamela. He thought the world of his grandchildren – Spencer, Jack, Aven and Samantha – and they, in turn, loved him very much.

Our condolences to Roger's wife Penny and their family and friends.



Rest in Peace  
♥

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# Highlights of Reports from Your Executive Chairs for March\*

\*Full reports can be found in the binder containing Meeting Minutes which are available behind the bar, in the Branch

## Membership Report

**Membership Total:** 603 (629 at the end of 2021)

<b>Deceased</b>	Ken Torrance	Affiliate
	George Cormier	Ordinary
	Roger Gelinas	Ordinary

<b>New</b>	9 members	<b>New/Transfer in</b> 1	<b>Re-instate</b> 1
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I gave membership training to the new membership chair at Stittsville.

To take advantage of the free membership offered by Dominion Command, the new member must complete the online application. Once they receive a membership number, it's a simple process for me to transfer the new member to our branch. The details on how to obtain a free membership can be found at [Legion.ca](http://Legion.ca)

For conventions, we are entitled to 7 delegates. This number is based on one delegate for the first 50 members, and then one delegate for each 100 members thereafter.

2021 memberships are valid until the 31st of January 2022. Effective 1 Feb, anyone who has not renewed for 2022 loses their "member in good standing" status. For example, when you arrive for a Friday night supper you will not be given the member rate.

Finally, if you've been told that you have a card, pin or sticker at the bar, please retrieve it at your earliest convenience. Just ask any bartender.

Dave St Amand, Membership Chair

## Sgt-At-Arms Report

As I reflect on my time as Sgt-At Arms, the Branch 641 Flag Party has provided support to General Meetings, Legion Tributes, Remembrance Day ceremonies and various Ottawa Senators games.

1. I would like to thank Angele Guy, Dwayne Hordij, Jeff Benson, Joe Guitard, Patrick Makinson, Ross Stephen, Terry Claessen and Stephane Guy for their outstanding dedication and support to make possible the many events the Colour Party has proudly represented Branch 641.

2. I would also like to thank Gary Cunningham for the countless times he has made himself available to assist with the flags, raising lowering or swapping them out as required during my term as Sgt-At-Arms.
3. Bravo Zulu everyone – Thank you!

Lyle Brennan, Sgt-At Arms

## Youth Education Report

### Bursaries

The Branch awarded one post-secondary bursary for \$1,000 in Fall of 2021 for the current academic year.

### Contests

1. In Fall 2021, the Branch Poster and Literary contest received over 500 entries from 14 of the Barrhaven Area Schools. Thanks again to the judges who helped with the contest in the Fall.
  - a. Seven (7) of the thirteen (13) First place winners from our branch placed 3rd and one of them placed 2nd at the Zone G5 level.
  - b. An entry from John McCrae High School in the Intermediate (grade 7,8,9) Black and white poster category was awarded first place and will proceed on to district G level contest.
2. Overall, the 2021 Poster and Literary contest awarded \$1810 in prizes to Barrhaven area students;
3. Questions may be directed to the Youth Ed chair.

Lyle Brennan CD, Youth Education & Bursary Chair

## Entertainment/Hospitality Report

### Meals To Come in May 2022:

- Wednesday, May 4, 2022 **Lunch** from Noon to 2 p.m. with Hot-Dog or Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup and **Kitchen Party** from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Friday, May 6, 2022 **Cinco de Mayo** Band: The BedRockers
- Sunday, May 8, 2022 **Mother's Day Breakfast** \$15 and \$12
- Friday, May 13, 2022 **Legion Roast Beef** Band: Nostalgia
- Wednesday, May 18, 2022 **Lunch** from Noon to 2 p.m. with Hot-Dog or Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup and **Kitchen Party** from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

- Friday, May 20, 2022 **Salmon OR Chicken** 6p.m. – 7 p.m. **Live Auction** 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., **Dance** 9 p.m. – 11 p.m. Harvey Rule
- Friday, May 27, 2022 **Steak Band: Still Standing**
- Sunday, May 29, 2022 **Chili Cook Off & Silent Auction** Noon – 4 p.m. \$5 for tasting and be the judge

Hope to see a lot of you at our next events or Friday Night Dinners.

Angele Guy, Entertainment/Hospitality Chair

## Grants and Assistance Report

Request from Camp Misquah – This request was previously not supported; however, it was subsequently established that the facilities had been used by family members in the past, therefore a motion to donate \$200 was submitted and approved at the April Executive Meeting.

Request from Valour Canada – This is a national organization dedicated to educating Canadians with a focus on youth on the importance of Canada's Military history and organization. Based on the funding and programs directed towards our youth that are already in place and supported by this legion it was recommended that a donation to Valour Canada not be made at this time.

Proposed Donation – Barrhaven Community Association - A motion was made and carried at the April Executive Meeting (subject to General Meeting approval) that Branch 641 donate \$3,000 from the Lottery Account to support the Senior's Breakfast offered by the BCA as part of the Canada Day activities. As background we have supported this activity in the past.

Dave Voisey, Grants and Assistance Chair

## Great Feedback – Thank You!

Feedback is always good but **great** feedback is fantastic and makes us all proud.

**From:** Eric Ross <[ericdeb@wightman.ca](mailto:ericdeb@wightman.ca)>

**Sent:** April 27, 2022 8:57 AM

**To:** [rcl641president@hotmail.com](mailto:rcl641president@hotmail.com)

**Subject:** District C

Good morning, Stephane. Just wanted to reach out to you and say what a wonderful visit Deb and I had at your branch in Barrhaven on Monday. Your bartender Cathy was exceptional as were many friendly comrades who chatted with us while there.

Congratulations on the way you and others have made one of the newest branches in Ontario and example of success and what can be done with everyone working together.

Best of luck to all the comrades of Br. 641 as you look forward to your move and new building.

Eric Ross  
District C Commander.

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## Meet Some of Our Ordinary Members

This month, let's meet Ed Schelenz CD (Maj Ret'd). Ed was born in 1946 and joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1965. After Basic Training, he served on HMCS Assiniboine and at HMCS Shearwater. In 1972 he reclassified to the Air Observer Trade and served with VP 415 Sqn out of CFB Summerside, HS 443 and HT 406 Sqn out of CFB Shearwater. He accumulated 2,000 hours flying time on the Argus and 1,000 hours on the Sea King.

He was commissioned from the ranks (Sgt) in 1984 and trained as an Air Weapons Controller. On completion of training, he was assigned to Canadian NORAD Region Canada West (51 AC&W Sqn). In 1989, he was posted to Fighter Group/Canadian NORAD Region as a Staff Officer. He was promoted to Major and posted back to 51 AC&W Sqn as a Flight Commander and later became the Ops Officer. He assumed command of 51 AC&W (OT) Sqn July 10, 1994. He transferred from the Regular Force in Jan 1996 after 31 years of service and joined the Air Reserve as a Flt Comd in North Bay for the next 10 years. Ed retired in 2006 with 40+ years of service.

Ed transferred his Legion membership to Branch 641 Barrhaven when he and his wife Ellie moved to Ottawa in 2007. He has 22 years of consecutive membership and in 2020, he was honoured with a Life Membership award by our branch. He's been involved as a volunteer for many years as a bartender, road cleaner, branch cleaner, hospitality volunteer, various executive positions and of course, and two terms as our branch president. Ed is about to embark on his third term as branch president, effective June 1, 2022.



## Elected

At the April 2022, the first election was held since 2019. As a result of COVID-19, the executive that was elected in June 2019, served a long, three-year term. They kept us afloat and functioning very well during the pandemic and are pleased to be released from their terms. However, as you can see, many have chosen to move from one position to another. Thank you all for your service.

<b>President</b>	Ed Schelenz	<b>1st VP</b>	David Sereda
<b>2nd VP</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>3rd VP</b>	Lyle Brennan
<b>Secretary</b>	Pam Hall	<b>Treasurer</b>	Diane Craig
<b>Sgt At-Arms</b>	Stephane Guy		
<b>Executive Members:</b>	Angele Guy Debi Sereda	Patrick Makinson Jim Duff	David Voisey Joe Guitard
<b>Volunteers to be appointed:</b>	David Cole	David St Amand	Cory Moore



## How to Reserve for Friday Night Dinners and Special Events

To make your Friday-night dinner reservation, please contact Kathy Torunski either by

- email at [br641reservation@gmail.com](mailto:br641reservation@gmail.com) or
- phone at 613-825-6938



When you email or call, please provide Kathy with the following information:

- date and meal being served, i.e., Friday February 4 BBQ Steak
- number of people in your party
- name of each person in your party
- at least one phone number for the group
- the name of the person/people you want to sit with if applicable

Please call Kathy directly with all your requests for dinner reservations.

## Branch 641 Executive Team

Position	Chair	Position	Chair
<b>President</b>	Stéphane Guy	<b>Honours and Awards</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>Hospital Visits Co-ordinator</b>	Louise Laflamme
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Dave Sereda	<b>Hospitality/Entertainment</b>	Angele Guy
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Housing</b>	Dave Sereda
<b>3rd Vice President</b>	Angele Guy	<b>Leadership and Development</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>Chairman</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Legion Seniors</b>	David Watson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Duff	<b>Long Range Planning</b>	Ed Schelenz
<b>Secretary</b>	Pam Hall	<b>Membership</b>	David St Amand
<b>Sergeant at Arms</b>	Lyle Brennan	<b>Poppy Campaign</b>	Ed Schelenz
<b>Bar Officer</b>	Dave Sereda	<b>Poppy Trust Fund</b>	Ross Stephen
<b>Branch Service Officer</b>	David Watson	<b>Public Relations (Website, Scrapbook, Bulletin)</b>	Debi Sereda
<b>Cadets</b>	Dave Sereda		
<b>Community Liaison</b>	Dave Sereda	<b>Sports/Track and Field</b>	Jackie Fuchs
<b>Constitution and Laws</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Ways and Means</b>	Joe Guitard
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>Youth Education/Bursary</b>	Lyle Brennan
<b>Grants and Assistance</b>	Dave Voisey		
<b>Branch Advisor</b>	Gus Este	<b>Chaplain for Legion Tributes</b>	Reverend Margo Whittaker


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"Supports RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven and our Veterans"

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## Barrhaven Legion Memorial Bricks

If you would like to be a part of the past, present and the future of the Barrhaven Legion, purchase a Memorial Brick. Your brick will be engraved with your name and it will be mounted on our Memorial Wall in Valour Hall.

Bricks are available in three denominations:

**Copper \$250**  
**Silver \$500**  
**Gold \$1,000**

Purchasing a Memorial Brick is also a great way to honour a Veteran, a family member or friend. For more information, please contact  
Debi Sereda - [debi.foxhill@gmail.com](mailto:debi.foxhill@gmail.com)

Following a Celebration of Life for our beloved Frances (Fran) Jodoin on April 23, son Curtis and wife Patricia took a moment to look at the Memorial Brick the family purchased in memory of Frances and Jerome Jodoin. They are both missed by all who knew them at Branch 641.

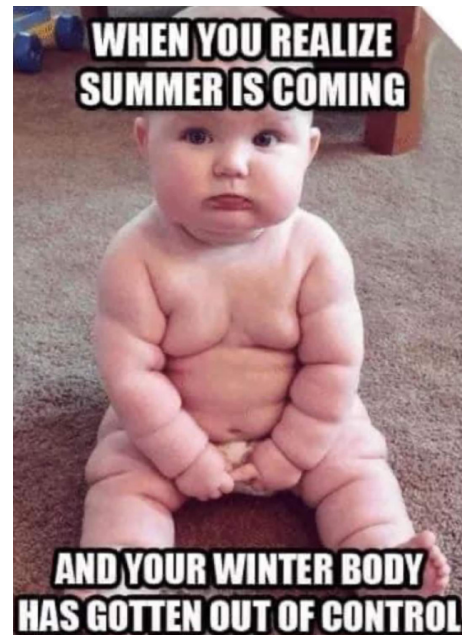
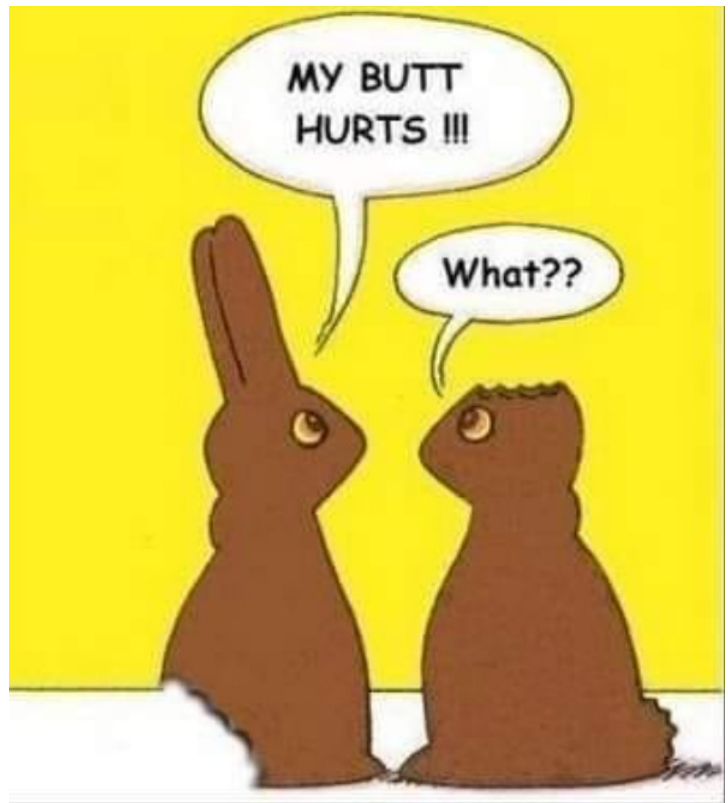


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## A Bit of Humour\*



Thanks to Nancy Rule for these fun images.

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**Legion** 



## Congratulations

At the April General Meeting, Zone Commander Tim Blanchard presented the branch with two plaques from competitions which ran from 2019-2020.

The first award was presented to Jan Kent for her scrapbook which won first place at the local and provincial competition level.

The second award was presented to Debi Sereda for the branch newsletter, The Advance, which also won first place at the local and provincial competition level. The plaques will be mounted on the wall in the clubhouse.

Congratulations on your recognition and thank you for all your hard work. Both the scrapbooks and the newsletters form part of the branch's history.



# **Barrhaven Legion 16th Annual Golf Tournament**

**Friday, August 12, 2022**

**Putting Contest at 11 a.m. | Shot-gun start at 12:30 p.m.**

**Golf at Cedarhill Golf Club – BBQ Steak Dinner at the  
Barrhaven Legion**

**RCL Members \$90\***

**Non-members \$100\***

**Registration opens Friday, April 8  
Sign-up early to guarantee your spot!**

**\*includes golf, carts, dinner and prizes**

## **Notes from the Editor**

Debi Sereda



I'm sure our outgoing executive is looking forward to taking on new tasks after serving for three years on the current executive, thanks to COVID which extended terms of office by a year. It does seem that many are merely changing hats and executive bars; however, there are some new members who have joined the ranks and we welcome them.

The 17th annual golf tournament is almost sold out so don't wait to register to play. This is the first full golf tournament we've had for two years and it's going to be so great to have 144 golfers on the course and then back at the branch for a BBQ dinner. This is a huge fundraiser for our branch and thanks go to the hard work of Dave Sereda and his golf team who are busy collecting sponsorships and prizes. If you want to help, get in touch with Dave.

Finally, isn't it wonderful to have the plexiglass GONE at the bar. One more step towards normal.

Debi Sereda

[debi.foxhill@gmail.com](mailto:debi.foxhill@gmail.com)

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