

The President's Message



Stéphane Guy

Comrades

The festive season is upon us which makes us ponder our achievements this year. The most important one is that we maintained a safe and enjoyable environment for all without jeopardizing the safety of our bartenders as they are considered our front-line workers.

Furthermore, and since Hospitality has re-introduced Friday Night Dinners and various events, it has attracted back not only our previous members who had not renewed but also an impressive number of new members.

Financially, we are in very good health and now breaking even which is a testament to the dedication of our hard-working volunteers – from the cleaners, cash-counting team, bartenders, hospitality crew, all Executive Committee members and more who constantly devote their time and efforts to perform the various tasks required to keep our operations running as smooth as ever.

I'm also very grateful to our community for the generosity that they showed throughout the Poppy Campaign as it seems that we raised more this year than pre-pandemic campaigns. We are confident that we will be able to provide comfort to our Veterans and will have enough left over to make donations to organizations that support Veterans and their families.

We are currently at a turning point in our new clubhouse project where we will soon have to decide whether to continue or to pull out and recover our refundable deposit. Our chance of success has been greatly affected by the cooling down of the real estate market and the fact that November and December are historically known as having fewer sales. We still have some options; however, time will tell but rest assured that we will not jeopardize the survival of our branch.

In this edition . . .

- Page 1 – The President's Message
- Page 2 – Highlights of Reports
- Page 5 – Legion Memorial Bricks
- Page 6 – Meet Our Ordinary Members
- Page 7 – Executive Team and Bingoland
- Page 8 – Poppy Volunteers Recognized
- Page 9 – Hospitality Review of 2021
- Page 10 – Sunshine Girl Fundraiser and Annual Craft Market
- Page 11 – The Sunshine Girls Salute Fran Jodoin
- Page 12 – Notes from the Editor

On behalf of the Executive Committee and me, we wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, full of joy and good health.

Stéphane Guy
President RCL Branch 641
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rcl641president@hotmail.com
Always do the right thing

Highlights of Reports from Your Executive Chairs for November*

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

Membership Report

Membership Total:	616 (previous month 609)
New	4
Transfer In	1
Reinstate	2

Stickers for 2022 have arrived and are available for pickup at the bar.

Dominion Command has processed our members who registered for auto-renewal. DC was unable to process 16 memberships, likely due to outdated credit card information. I've emailed each member and requested they renew manually. DC will also follow up in the near future with each member.

David St Amand
Membership Chair

Poppy Chair Report

The Poppy campaign is over and the thank you letters to our six stores have gone out. Our Poppy wrap-up meeting was held, resulting in the following recommendations for next year's campaign:

Responsibilities should be handled by a minimum of two volunteers, for example each store would have a captain and a deputy captain, cash counting leaders and a deputy leader, etc. Manned stores could be increased but you need the volunteers to handle the shifts, needs to be looked at.

Traplines should be reduced in size and our area be re-assessed for which stores are viable. Collection boxes need to be cleaned and assessed as to whether more boxes are needed. Caroline Boily and Joyce Barr have volunteered to look into this in May.

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All outgoing donation boxes should be sealed by the cash count team and security seals maintained under their control. Up to date trapline lists including all information be available to cash count lead.

Don't let the donation boxes get overfilled as the seals will break.

Tap to Pay boxes to be considered if problems with them are solved and if provided free.

Look into using QR codes for electronic donations in which case we would not require Tap to Pay boxes.

We started the campaign with approximately 54K+ poppies and ended with approximately 27K+ poppies remaining. I have ordered another 30K poppies which will allow the next campaign to start with 57K+ poppies. All other related items such as poppy stickers and merchandise will have to be ordered next year before campaign.

The following volunteers received the Poppy Appreciation certificate: Bert & Alice Boehme, Nancy Rule, Caroline Boily, Julian Dumanski, Marg McLaughlin, Mike McLaughlin, Diane Craig, Jeff Perrault, Daniel Desmarais, Ross Stephen, Terry Classen, Dave Cole, Jim Duff, Louise Laflamme, Angele Guy, Debi Sereda, Dave Sereda, Allen Gullon, Joyce Barr, Mary Beth Nolan, Denise Marshall, Dave Voisey, Donna Craig, Monique Desmarais, Lyle Brennan, Stephane Guy, Doug Mason, Pauline Krueger, Catie Cole, Charlotte Cole, Maj Paul Barnshaw (28 Field Moureu (28 Field Ambulance), Capital Funeral Home & Cemetery by Arbor Memorial and Foveo Memorial Services Inc. Again, a big thank you to all those who participated in this year's campaign and who made it a success

The total funds raised during our Poppy campaign as of Nov 29 was \$86,687.11.

Here is a quote out of the Poppy Manual: "The annual Poppy Campaign is not an administrative chore to be handled by a few branch officers or the secretary. The campaign is the most important branch project of the year and must be conducted by a committee dedicated to this purpose."

Please support next year's Poppy Campaign.

Ed Schelenz, CD
Poppy Chairman

29-Nov	
Park & Ride	\$ 2,599.70
Costco	\$ 17,381.00
Metro	\$ 5,566.45
Loblaws	\$ 8,389.50
YIG	\$ 4,051.65
Walmart	\$ 5,803.25
Farm Boy	\$ 10,003.30
Store Route 1	\$ 3,118.10
Store Route 2	\$ 3,510.85
Store Route 3	\$ 4,009.90
Store Route 4	\$ 4,065.15
Wreaths	\$ 2,160.00
Cadets	\$ 13,594.05
RCMP	\$ 352.05
Schools	\$ 3,665.26
Misc	\$ 1,964.90
Tap	\$ 688.00
TOTAL	\$ 90,923.11
Less merchandise sales	\$ 7,236.00
	\$ 83,687.11

Some schools are sending
cheques, some damaged bills
and US bill to exchange.

Bar, Housing and Community Liaison Report

The bar is running well with no major issues other than it would be nice to have more bartenders. We have decided to continue with two bartenders and will continue to do what we have been doing as our patrons feel comfortable with this. Because of our opens and closes over the last year, some beer had to be thrown out. I have notified Jim Duff about this.

Housing

We are on the move to a bigger storage unit at Dymon Storage on Strandherd. This indoor extra space will be welcomed as we just don't have enough storage space at our branch.

We have a few barstools being repaired. Our mice issue continues. More traps have been set up.

Community Liaison

On November 25, we had our community breakfast committee meeting to talk about guest speaker(s) at our breakfast in March at Cedarhill Golf Course. The tickets will be open to anyone interested; a notice will be coming out on this early next year. There is a shortage of crutches and other devices at the Queensway Carleton Hospital as they give these away for free to use in hope people will return them or they are broken when they receive them. As a community initiative between the Legion and the Lions, we would like our Legion to be a drop off and repair depot for crutches that are being donated, similar to what the Lions are doing with the eye glass program. I would like permission to pursue this further as information comes available.

David M Sereda
1st VP, Bar Officer, Cadet Liaison, Community Liaison

Youth Education Report

The branch Poster and Literary Contest judging took place on Sunday, Nov 21. I would like to thank Stéphane Guy, Jennifer Dunham, Robert MacNichol and Harvey Rule. First place winners from each category will be forwarded onto Zone. A branch award ceremony is scheduled for January 23, 2022.

Questions can be directed to the Youth Ed chair.

Lyle Brennan CD
Youth Education & Bursary Chair

Entertainment/Hospitality Report

Because of COVID-19, we are still waiting for dancing to return.

Meals and event to come in January 2021:

- Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Barrhaven Legion Kitchen Party from 1 pm to 3 pm
- Friday, January 7, 2022 BBQ Steak
- Sunday, January 9, 2022 High Tea
- Friday, January 14, 2022 Salmon or Chicken
- Wednesday, January 19 Barrhaven Legion Kitchen Party from 1 pm to 3 pm
- Friday, January 21 BBQ Steak
- Friday, January 28 TBD

Angele Guy
Entertainment/Hospitality Chair

Ways and Means

Our 2021 Grey Cup party was held on December 12 at 6 pm. We had a football pool, chili and hot dogs will be served.

Our President's Draw will return on December 19 at 1 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the branch. If anyone wants to donate a prize or knows someone who would like to donate a prize or a gift basket, please contact Joe 613-276-0022.

Joe Guitard
Ways and Means Chair

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

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Meet Some of Our Ordinary Members

Comrade Dave St Amand, our Membership Chair, recently shared a series of bios in our group Facebook page on the Ordinary Members of our branch. These were so well received that I thought I would share them again in our newsletter. First up, our president.

Meet Veteran Stéphane Guy (CWO Ret'd) MMM CD

Stéphane Guy served 35 years in the Canadian Forces (CF) as a Flight Engineer and flew for 21 years on many types of helicopters and the CC130 Hercules. He deployed on five occasions including Egypt (1989), Haiti (1997), Kosovo (1999), Bosnia (2001) and Afghanistan (2004). His deployment to Afghanistan included 40 CC 130 flights in and out of Kabul, spending 21 days at Camp Julien and then being the Camp CWO of Camp Mirage from July to Dec 2004. He endured numerous one-month missions including Sarajevo during the bombing of that town, Ethiopian food relief, Kigali Rwanda and more.

For the last eight years of his career, Stéphane was the 1 Wing CWO that overlooks the operation of all tactical helicopters across Canada, the Formation CWO of The Canadian Defense Academy that overlooks all CF leadership and language training for both NCM and officers alike and his last assignment as the CF Europe CWO which manages all CF personnel and families in Europe with the exception of personnel assigned to embassies.

Of note, in 2010, Stéphane was accepted as a Member of the Order of Military Merit. Furthermore, in 2011, he was the guest speaker at a leadership convention in Brussels hosted by the Belgium Military Health Services and in 2012, he was the Guest of Honour at the United States Airforce Gala at S.H.A.P.E. Headquarter, Belgium.

Academically, Stéphane is a university graduate of RMC with a degree in military art and science and in 2010 wrote an article on leadership that, as of May 2019, is still studied by all NCM at the rank of MWO/CPO2 when they attend the Senior Leadership Programs as well as by all officers when they reach the rank of LCol and attend Staff College.

Upon his retirement in 2013, Stéphane joined Branch 641 Barrhaven and continues to be very active as a member of various committees and has held many leadership positions including being our current president.

Stéphane is presently the driving force behind our acquisition of a new home for our branch, working closing with members of our Long Range Planning Committee.



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Branch 641 Executive Team

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



E-mail: rcl641@bellnet.ca
November 2021



“Supports RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven and our Veterans”

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Some of Our Poppy Campaign Volunteers Receiving Their Poppy Appreciation Certificate



Stéphane Guy presenting certificates to Al Gullon, Angele Guy, Bert Boehme, Caroline Boilly, David Voisey, Below: Jeff Perrault, Jim Duff and Joyce Barr, Julian Dumamski, and Lyle Brennan



Stéphane Guy presenting certificates to Mike and Marg McLaughlin, Monique Desmarais, Nancy Rule, Pauline Krueger and Ed Schelenz



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Ed Schelenz presenting a certificate to Mary Beth Nolan.

Many thanks to these and all our volunteers who helped during the 2021 Poppy Campaign. We hope to see you again in 2022.

Hospitality Looks Back Over 2021

COVID-19 has affected everyone over the last 18 months. Even though our branch was not able to offer food or special events until we reopened in August 2021, our Hospitality team remained busy behind the scenes, planning how to restart when we finally got the nod. Since reopening for our Friday night dinners on August 13, 2021, my Hospitality team of dedicated and great volunteers have been working hard to offer more fun events and raise money for our branch.

Friday night dinners have sold out almost every week. We are slowly seeing events return to the branch and have introduced some new events. Here are some of the events our guests enjoyed this year:

- Virtual Garage Sale – \$4,000 has been raised to date
- Friday Night Dinners
- Karaoke Night
- High Tea
- Chili Contest and Silent Auction
- Barrhaven Legion Kitchen Party – 30 guests attend each Wednesday
- Catering for Celebration of Life
- Annual Craft Market – \$644 was raised on December 4
- Christmas Dinner
- New Year's Eve Dinner (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- New Year's Day Levée (cancelled due to COVID-19)



As you can see, Hospitality planned many fun events at the branch this year, while also raising money for the branch. We were looking forward to ending the year with our New Year's Eve Dinner and starting the New Year in a somewhat new normal with our President's Levée on January 1; however, due to COVID-19, both events have been cancelled.

Don't forget to look at the calendar on our [website](#) or check the bulletin board at the branch to see what is coming up. Best wishes from all of our Hospitality Team for a safe and happy holiday season.

Angel Guy
Entertainment/Hospitality Chair

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Another Sunshine Girl Fundraiser

Our project for 2021 was to raise money to add to our Legion's Land and Building Fund.

We started our fundraising efforts by preparing a variety of decorative-themed gift baskets, each with a specially designed gift card in July 2021. Our sales efforts, which were primarily by word-of-mouth referral, started in July and wrapped up at the Legion's Annual Craft Market, which was held on December 4, 2021. In addition to the gift baskets for sale, we added several nicely decorated Christmas-themed mugs, each filled with chocolates and treats to our craft fair table.

As a result of the sales efforts of our group of Sunshine Girls, we are happy to report that we raised a total of \$1,900 to add to our Legion's Land and Building Fund. A "big thank you" to everyone who supported our efforts.

At the December 6, 2021 Executive meeting, Angele Guy, AKA Sunshine, made the presentation of the two money orders to President, Stéphane Guy. For more information on the Sunshine Girls, see page 11.



Annual Craft Market

This year's craft market was held on Saturday, December 4, 2021. Thirteen 13 out of 19 available tables were rented and it was steady all day as people strolled through Valour Hall. The renters were happy with the turn out and several have reserved for next year. Including food sales, we raised a whopping \$644.



The Sunshine Girls Salute Frances Jodoin

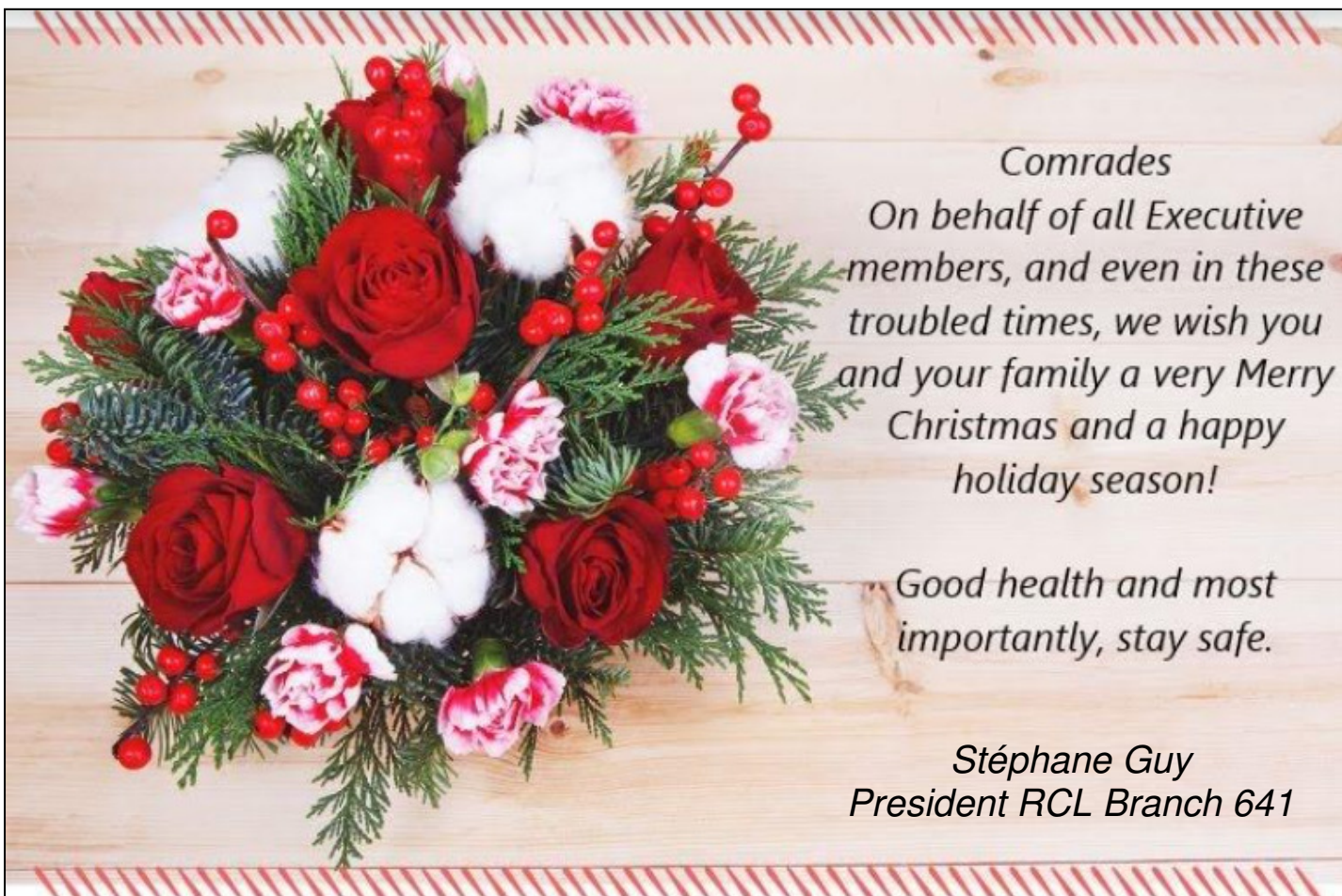
The family of Jerome (Jerry) and Frances (Fran) Jodoin recently purchased a Memorial Brick on the Memorial Wall in Valour Hall to honour their parents. Shown below, the Sunshine Girls attended the mounting of the plaque to honour and remember their fellow member Fran (Sunbeam) who passed away earlier this year. Despite the big smiles, the ladies shed some tears as they remembered their beautiful friend. "Thank you for getting this organized and done. Curtis and I love it! What a beautiful gathering and tribute for Frances. She sure loved her Sunshine Girls and valued the friendship in their circle. She would be overwhelmed with appreciation that the memory of Jerome and her will live on at the Barrhaven Legion," shared daughter in law Patricia Posselwhite.

The Sunshine Girls now number 11 and have been gathering since 2011 for friendship and companionship. Since turning their focus to fundraising in 2017, they have raised more than \$5,500 to fundraise for the Legion and various community charities, including collecting slightly used ladies handbags and filling them with full-size toiletry items, donating and selling gift baskets, donating personal care items to Interval House, directing donated alarm whistles to Cornerstone Housing for Women and donating hand knit tuques, slippers and sweaters to Caldwell Family Centre, to mention just a few of their initiatives.



As a group, these ladies remain optimistic to continue their efforts to help out our community in some new and creative ways going forward. Thanks to all of you for your amazing fundraising.

Above are nine of the 11 Sunshine Girls. Front row: Sandy Maveety (Sunlight), Alice Boehme (Sunflower), Ellie Schelenz (Sunny) and Glenys Carnahan (Sunkiss). Back row: Cathy Pearen (Suncatcher), Angele Guy (Sunshine), Denise Marshall (Sundown), Gaylia Lee (Sunset), Joyce Barr (Sunrise). Missing are Maureen Wheeler (Sunburst) and Joan St. Jacques (Sundance).



*Comrades
On behalf of all Executive
members, and even in these
troubled times, we wish you
and your family a very Merry
Christmas and a happy
holiday season!*

*Good health and most
importantly, stay safe.*

*Stéphane Guy
President RCL Branch 641*

Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda

Thanks to all our volunteers who have kept our Legion functioning over the past year. It takes so many people to keep our branch open and running, even during the pandemic when the branch was closed. If you enjoy being part of our branch and you have a few hours each month to volunteer, speak to one of our chairs and offer some of your time. We are particularly looking for new bartenders.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2021.

Debi Sereda
debi.foxhill@gmail.com

