

August
2024

MONTGOMERY MESSENGER

Volume 1
Issue 5

The official newsletter of the Montgomery Legion
Ottawa's Centertown Legion

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From The President's Desk

Dennis Sirman (President)

July/August is always a quiet period. Branch 351 has gone through all the steps in securing a \$125K mortgage and we are now putting together the legal work to make it happen. This takes time and it is likely we will not receive the money till later in July.

In the meantime, the executive has initiated the process to get a formal appraisal, an essential element in selecting an agent to represent the branch for selling the building. The executive has received three proposals from agents and a select committee comprised of President, 1st Vice plus two others, with the Branch Manager as an advisor, will review and sign the selected agreement. Then the process of selling the building will begin.

The executive is short of members and is struggling with general administrative duties and has not been able to address social activities for the future.

We need help!

TITLE	NAME	CONTACT
President	Dennis Sirman	president@montgomerylegion.ca
1st Vice	Robert Buss	rbuss@rogers.com
2nd Vice	Brendan Hennigan	brendanhennigan@hotmail.com
Secretary	Vacant	secretary@montgomerylegion.ca
Membership Chair	Vacant	membership@montgomerylegion.ca
Bursary	Brendan Hennigan	brendanhennigan@hotmail.com
Poppy Chair	Robert Buss	rbuss@rogers.com
Bylaws/Resolutions	Dennis Sirman	president@montgomerylegion.ca
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Contact us if you can assist your branch.

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Have a great summer!



The Royal Canadian Legion was founded by Veterans and for Veterans. We advocate for the care and benefits for all who served Canada, regardless of when or where they served. The Legion also provides representation and assistance to Veterans, including currently serving Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP, and their families, and access to our services is available to them at no cost, whether or not they are Legion members. The Legion helps thousands of Veterans each year and makes significant positive changes in their lives.

Every year, we lose Veterans of WWII and Korea. Although they are gone from our sight, we must *never* forget what they did in defence of freedom. We *must* REMEMBER! Their valour and sacrifice should be held in the palms of a grateful nation.

Today, a new generation of Veterans is emerging from our CAF and RCMP. It is of the utmost importance that *we* as Legionnaires honour and support them as well. Indeed, it is our responsibility to promote REMEMBRANCE, to thank them and their families for their sacrifice and service that continues to ensure that we enjoy a free and safe Canada.

VOLUNTEER TODAY! WE NEED YOU!

Contact the branch office
Phone: (613) 233-7292
General e-mail: rcl351@rogers.com



William Avery Bishop
One of Seventy-three
Canadian Recipients
of the Victoria Cross
in World War I.

World War I Begins

World War I or the First World War (28 July 1914 – 11 November 1918) was a global conflict between two coalitions: the Allies (or Entente) and the Central Powers.

Fighting took place mainly in Europe and the Middle East, as well as parts of Africa and the Asia-Pacific, and was characterised by trench warfare and the use of artillery, machine guns, and chemical weapons (gas).

World War I was one of the deadliest conflicts in history, resulting in an estimated 9 million military dead and 23 million wounded, plus up to 8 million civilian deaths from causes including genocide.

The movement of large numbers of troops and civilians was a major factor in spreading the Spanish flu pandemic.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I#Names

A soldier of the Great War

Robert Stanley Atchison was born in Wapella, Saskatchewan, January 14, 1895. Son of Andrew Atchison and Catherine Wickham. He was the youngest of seven children and had three sisters and three brothers.

Stanley stayed on the farm for a while, then went to Winnipeg to work as a clerk.



On the 12th day of February, 1916, at the age of 21 years, 1 month, he enlisted in the 61st (Winnipeg) Battalion.

Robert Stanley had black hair, grey eyes and was of a dark complexion. He was not a big man, standing five feet, six inches with an expanded chest girth of only thirty inches, yet he stood tall with his fellows and went off to fight "For King and Country".

After training, he embarked from Halifax aboard the "Olympic" on April 1, 1916 and arrived in Bordon, England April 11, 1916.



On May 12, 1916 he transferred to the 44th (Manitoba) Battalion, infantry and proceeded for service in France on August 10, 1916.

After suffering shell shock while in the field, he was sent off duty November 15, 1916.

In April 1917 he was off duty from the 4th to the 26th having developed the mumps.

On May 8, 1917 while serving in Fresnoy, France, Robert Stanley was killed in action. He was 22 years of age.



His personal effects, including a ring, were sent to his father, Andrew Atchison, who in turn gave the ring to Robert Stanley's brother, Wilfred, who would wear it even unto his grave. The insignia was so worn as to be unrecognizable.

Robert Stanley Atchison, a young man from Wapella, Saskatchewan, killed in action, May 8, 1917, not in some great battle, but in a small piece of the Great War. He is commemorated on the Vimy Memorial, Panel C4, for he has no known resting place except in the hearts and minds of his family.



VJ-Day (Victory over Japan)

Victory over Japan Day (also known as V-J Day, Victory in the Pacific Day, or V-P Day[1]) is the day on which Imperial Japan surrendered in World War II, in effect bringing the war to an end.

The term has been applied to both of the days on which the initial announcement of Japan's surrender was made – 15 August 1945, in Japan, and because of time zone differences, 14 August 1945 (when it was announced in the United States and the rest of the Americas and Eastern Pacific Islands) – as well as to 2 September 1945, when the surrender document was signed, officially ending World War II.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victory_over_Japan_Day

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Operation Jubilee (The Dieppe Raid)

At 0500 on August 19th, 1942, the men from the Royal Regiment of Canada were approaching the beach of Puys, a small seaside village two kilometres east of Dieppe.

They were already behind schedule and, as the sun rose, their presence was detected. The Germans took aim at the landing crafts that were still ten metres from the shore.

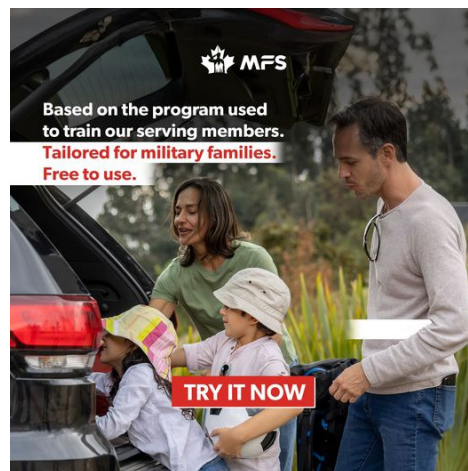
At 0507, the first LCA lowered its ramp. Canadian soldiers dashed forward in the noise of machine-gun and mortar fire that targeted them. They fell, mowed down by bullets, hit by mortar shells. Some tried to reach the seawall bordering the beach, hoping to find shelter. They were to be made prisoner after a few hours of useless resistance.

<https://www.junobeach.org/canada-in-wwii/articles/the-dieppe-raid/>

Military Family Services

Family resilience is not just about how each individual family member responds to stressful situations, but rather how the entire family is able to endure, recover and ultimately grow from adversity together.

Interested in strengthening your family's resilience? Learn how through our new website: www.r2mrfamily.ca



Canadian Veterans' Crisis Line 800-273-8255

Veterans' Service Officers

**Our branch Service Officer is available by appointment.
Call 613-233-7292 or e-mail rcl351@rogers.com.**

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The Legion's Early Bird Campaign

Starting on September 1st, you can renew your Legion membership. Drop into the branch and pay by cash or cheque and pick up your renewal sticker; or go to www.Legion.ca to renew online and then pick up your renewal sticker at your convenience.



Garlic Steak and Potato Foil Packs

Ingredients

2-2 ½ pounds top sirloin steak - trimmed of fat and cut into 2 ½-inch pieces, (see note)
1 pound baby yellow potatoes - quartered (or halved if they are already less than 1 inch in size, see note)
3 tablespoons olive oil
salt and pepper to taste - (I use about 1 teaspoon salt and ¼ teaspoon black pepper)
1 tablespoon minced garlic
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 teaspoon dried parsley
1 teaspoon dried thyme
fresh thyme or parsley for topping - (optional)

Notes

Be sure to cut your steak into pieces that are at least 2x2 inches, and potatoes into pieces smaller than one inch. This ensures even cooking.

*For medium doneness on the steak, boil the potatoes first for five minutes before adding to the bowl and proceeding with the rest of the recipe. This will help them to cook faster once in the foil pack.

**If you prefer a char on your steak, you can open up the packets at the end and cook for a couple minutes directly on the grill, or for baking you can switch oven to broil for a few minutes (with packets opened).

Directions

1. In a large bowl combine steak, potatoes, olive oil, salt and pepper, garlic, and seasonings and toss to combine.
2. Divide steak and potatoes between four 12x12 inch sheets of foil, then wrap the foil tightly around the contents to form your foil packs. Grill over high heat for about 10 minutes on each side or until steak and potatoes are cooked through OR bake at 425 degrees for about 20-25 minutes until cooked through to desired doneness (see note).
3. Garnish with fresh thyme or parsley and serve immediately.

Slow-Cooker Pulled Pork

Ingredients

1 tablespoon kosher (coarse) salt
1 tablespoon paprika
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon packed brown sugar
1 pork loin roast (2 1/2 to 3 lb)
1 cup water
1 cup barbecue sauce

Directions

- 1 In small bowl, stir together salt, paprika, garlic powder and brown sugar.
- 2 Spray 4- to 6-quart slow cooker with cooking spray. Rinse pork roast under cool water. Rub salt mixture on pork to cover completely. Place pork in slow cooker. Add water to side of pork.
- 3 Cover; cook on High heat setting 5 to 6 hours.
- 4 In slow cooker, use 2 forks to shred pork. Stir in barbecue sauce until well mixed.

Sharon's Turnip Soufflé

Ingredients

- 1 cup cooked and mashed turnip
- 2 Tbsps. margarine
- 2 Tbsps. chopped onion
- 2 Tbsps. flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 Tbsp. Sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tsps. Lemon juice
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 3 eggs (separated)

Directions:

1. Sauté onion in melted margarine until limp
2. Stir in flour, salt and sugar, until smooth
3. Add milk, stir until thickened
4. Add turnip, lemon juice and Worcestershire sauce, let cool a bit
5. Beat in egg yolks
6. Beat egg whites until stiff, fold into turnip mixture
7. Turn into straight-sided baking dish
8. Stand dish in pan of hot water
9. Bake at 325F for 1 hour



Canadian Medals Chart

This honours chart shows the sequence to wear modern Canadian orders, decorations and medals. Awards are displayed in sequential order of precedence from left to right starting at the top with the Victoria Cross.

Some awards are not included, such as those related to the two World Wars and Korean War as well as some provincial awards. It is unlikely that they will be awarded to serving members of the Canadian Forces.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/medals/medals-chart-index.html>



Canada's last Victoria Cross winner

Lieutenant Robert Hampton Gray, VC, DSC, RCNVR

Lieutenant (N) Robert Hampton Gray, VC, DSC, has the distinction of being Canada's last Victoria Cross winner. It may be of interest to Naval Reservists that Lt (N) Grey was also a member of the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR), colloquially known as "The Wavy Navy".

Gray, also known as Hammy, was born on November 2, 1917 in Trail, British Columbia to John and Wilhelmina Gray. John Gray had served in the South Africa (Boer) War.

<https://militarybruce.com/canadas-last-victoria-cross-winner-lieutenant-robert-hampton-gray-vc-dsc-rcnvr/>



On July 13th, 1945, the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #351 (Ontario), received its charter and became officially The Montgomery Legion, named in honour of Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery, 1st Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, KG, GCB, DSO, PC, DL.

Next year, 2025, will mark 80 years of dedicated service of our Volunteers and staff to our Veterans, our seniors, our youth and our community. We can take great pride in all that our members have accomplished. A great number of individuals and organizations have benefitted from their tireless efforts.

Let us begin planning for an Eightieth Anniversary Celebration. Let's show our pride in our branch, in each other and our service.

We need your ideas/suggestions and comments in order to make this happen. Let's make this an occasion to remember!

Andre L. Ouellette (Ed.)

**WE* are the Montgomery Legion*
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