



Branch 4
Lethbridge

GENERAL STEWART BENEFICIAL SHRAPNEL G.S.B.S.

AUGUST 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm so very proud of everything that has been going on at the Branch these past few months. There have been many events that have taken much planning and manpower to host. The commemorations of military anniversaries are extremely important to me personally, and so many of you having been coming out to foster the tradition of Remembrance. The social activities have been second to none. Our Centenary group is doing a great job of marking not only the Branch 100 years, but the Legion's 100 too. On the renovation front, you'll notice that the old office is gone, making way for much utilized extra space in the canteen. While some progress has been slow, a fair bit has been out of our control such as inspections and elevator part issues. I am in need of members (and friends!) who can do physical work, as well as those who have renovation experience, to get the upstairs finished. Please email me with your support at president@lethbridgelegion.ca

I stand by my challenge to have 100 people – in honor of our centenary - at our Veteran Dinner on September 20th. All Veterans are invited along with their spouse or caregiver. Please come out!

And I invite all to get the word out to members and to our community about the Gala night on October 3rd.

To all our volunteers – thank you for all you do! To our members, including our new centenary members, thank you for supporting your Branch. I look forward to seeing you out.

Dave Martin, President

A Busy Number of Months

The past number of months have seen an abundance of activities in the Branch and in the community. Members and volunteers were hard at work ensuring that milestone military dates were recognized, as well as many social events. Given that this is also our Centenary Year, extra activities are being undertaken. Highlights of the months since the last newsletter can be found in the following pages.

March 2026

At the March 29th General Meeting, the following Service Pins were awarded:

Life Member

- Gary McLean 50 Years

Ordinary Member

- Albert Sullivan 50 years
- Gary Cook 50 Years
- Gordon Gebhardt 50 Years
- John Peck 20 Years
- John Ross 20 Years

Associate Member

- Lynda Bly 15 Years
- Dave Martin 15 Years
- Bill Scales 5 Years

Affiliate Member

- Marilyn Larsen 20 Years
- Dave Kaminski 20 Years
- Terry Kultgen 15 Years
- Les Androkovich 10 Years

Executive Members also received awards for their offices which were unable to be made at the November meeting.

Veteran Coffee - every Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Branch





Tammy Archibald is presented with the Legionnaire of the Year Award on March 29, 2026 by Rituals and Awards Chair Bill Scales

50 Year Service Pin Recipients:
Gordon Gebhardt, Albert Sullivan,
Gary McLean and Gary Cook



April 2026

Our new chef Penny Brouer was settling into the kitchen nicely after taking the reins from Chef Gary who retired. Karaoke was all the rage - in May and June as well! - thanks to members who personally sponsored while celebrating birthdays. Vimy Day, April 6th, was marked with a ceremony on April 11th, at the Cenotaph with the participation of cadets. And members of the Executive attended Spring Rally which was held in Medicine Hat on April 25th.



Cadets participating at Vimy Day ceremony with Legion members April 11.



Poppy Committee presents a cheque for \$30,000 to the BC and Alberta Guide Dogs to fund a support dog for a Veteran.

May 2026

Many different events were happening in May. On the 22nd, the Branch Poppy Committee made a cheque presentation to the BC and Alberta Guide Dogs. The \$30,000 would sponsor a support dog for a Veteran. The dogs are trained to support Veterans with Operational Stress Injuries and PTSD. They detect agitation, ground the person and create safe space. Miranda Tureene, trainer, was on hand to demonstrate Allen the service dog's training. Clients receive a dog at no cost.

On the 24th, the first of two annual Veteran Dinners was held. Dory Rossiter, Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 20th Independent Battery was the guest speaker. Over 60 Veterans and their guests or caregivers attended.

And then on May 26th, a generous donation to the Branch was received from the Japanese Canadian Association.

June 2026



Japanese Canadian Association representative Lyal Sakamoto presents a cheque for \$1500 to President Dave Martin.

June began with an extremely well attended D-Day commemoration and wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph on June 6th. Following the ceremony, members gathered back at the Branch for refreshments and camaraderie. Cadet ceremonial reviews were also attended in early June.

Excitement had been building for many weeks and finally on Friday, June 19th, to a packed canteen, Dawna Welterlich won \$8000 in the Joker's Wild draw! Congratulations.

With much anxiousness about the weather, the annual Branch Golf Tournament was held without a drop of rain. The tournament was held at Henderson Lake Golf Course on June 27th with 42 players enjoying the day. Dinner, provided by Chef Penny and prizes were held back at the Branch.

On June 26th, Vanee Farm Centre Manager Mike Vas made a cheque presentation of \$1000 to the Branch to support Centenary events. Thanks Mike!

Lucky Dawna Welterlich drew the joker on June 19th to win herself \$8000!



Mike Vas of Vanee Farm Centre presents a cheque to President Dave Martin for \$1000 for the Branch Centenary.



A large crowd gathered at the Cenotaph on June 6th in Remembrance of the D-Day Invasion.



On June 23, 2026, Branch member Margaret Rohovie marked her 98th birthday. The Rohovie Family, including Margaret, could be found at the Branch most Friday nights having supper together. It's more difficult for her to get out now, but we wish her all the best from everyone at the Branch. Congratulations Margaret!

Weekly Activities in the Branch

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Tuesdays | - toonie pool 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| Wednesdays | - shuffleboard 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- poker 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. |
| Thursdays | - crib 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. |
| Fridays | - meat draws, 50/50, Joker's Wild at 5:00 p.m.
- jitney pool 7:00 p.m. |
| Saturdays | - poker (2 nd and last Saturdays)
- jitney darts 3:00 p.m.
- meat draws, 50/50 at 5:00 p.m. |



2026 Golf
Tournament



Thank you to our 2026 Golf Sponsors

Wesbridge Construction – Major Sponsor

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Moxies | Ossa Terra | Luigis North | Neudorf Plumbing | Mint Smartwash |
| Dunlop Ford | Italian Table | Gas King | Coleman Electric | Prairie Sky RV |
| Lethbridge Hurricanes | Henderson Lake Golf Club | Luigi's Steakhouse | | |
| Instream Water Control Projects | Rick Patterson | National Salvage | Master Image | |
| Waterproofing Roofing | Lethbridge Fasteners & Tools | Lethbridge Country Club | | |

July 2026

June had barely wrapped up when July's activities started right up. The Branch was present, along with a contingent of cadets at Canada Day opening ceremonies providing a Color Party led by Sergeant-at-Arms Rick Drought. Street Wheelers was just a bit more than a week after on July 10th. Food and beverages were on offer in the gardens in the parking lot. Many attended to watch the classic cars as they drove down Mayor Magrath Drive. Pancakes were next on the month's agenda. To mark 100 years of the Legion in Canada, a toonie breakfast was hosted on July 18th by the Centenary committee and a number of volunteers, including guest dignitary pancake flippers. Cadets provided a Color Party and Trevor Panzak provided musical entertainment. This was a hugely successful event! More supplies needed to be commandeered after over 200 enthusiasts depleted everything before the first hour was up. The month wound up with a wreath laying on the 27th to mark the Korea War armistice. Korea War Veteran and Branch member Herb Johnson was on hand to lay a wreath on behalf of Veterans.



Pancake Committee – Kim Martin, Dory Rossiter, Sheila Heinrich (Centenary Committee Chair), guest Troy Campbell – County Reeve and great volunteer pancake flipper, Cal Heinrich, Brad Martin



Thanks to our Centenary Pancake Breakfast Sponsors!

House of Cars
Crystal Springs Cheese
Princess Auto
Great Canadian Wholesale Foods
Parrish & Heimbecker Flour Mill
Cuppers Coffee & Tea
Mad Butcher

Ray's NOFRILLS
Heinrich Custom Knives
Les Androkovich
Trevor Panzak
702 Wing
Vanee Farms



Cadets on Canada Day



Crowd at Street Wheelers Membership Drive
watch the cars from the SE parking lot July 10th

THANK YOU to our Street Wheelers Membership Drive Sponsors:

Wesbridge Construction	House of Cars	Ossa Terra
Southland Trailers	Westech Sanitation Systems	
Gordon Food Service	Altis MSP	

Our website has been redesigned! Some pages are still being worked on, tweaked or added to. Visit us at:

www.lethbridgelegion.ca

Another great source of Branch information – Facebook!



Korea War Veteran Herb Johnson laid a wreath on July 27th marking the Korea War Armistice. Adele Mathews, Barry Larsen and Marilyn Larsen, representing the Army, Navy and Air Force Association also laid a wreath.

Royal Canadian Legion General Stewart Branch #1

2019 4 Ave. S., Lethbridge.

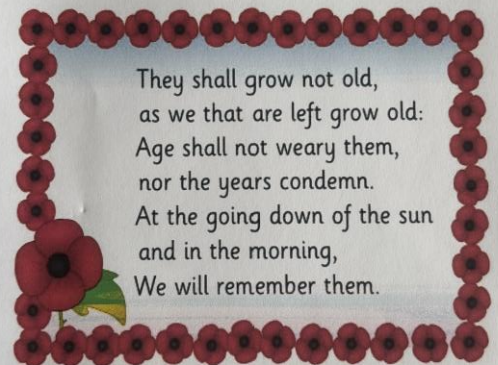
TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

Candlelight Memorial Service

September 27th, 2026 @ 2:00pm

Our Candlelight Memorial is to let family members know that the service of their loved ones, who have passed away, is remembered and appreciated.

The Act of Remembrance is one of the most important ways to honour and thank our Veterans for their sacrifices.



Light refreshments will be served after the Service.

Joanne Cancilla email: jocountry2000@yahoo.ca

or

Susan Andrews email: sandrews321@hotmail.com

Please contact Joanne or Susan and let us know the number of family members attending.

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 13TH.

Ladies Auxiliary News



Service Pin Presentations – Barb Wolstoncroft 55 Years, Eleanor Mehrer 50 Years, Josephine Snowden 45 Years, Lorraine Jensen 35 Years. Presentations by LA President Carolyn McLennan and Past President Helene Gartner



Executive Member Les Androkovich accepts a donation from the LA to the Branch for \$4000



Joanne Cancilla (left) receives a Certificate of Appreciation for her work with Silent Auctions, and Carol Milne (right) received a Certificate of Appreciation for her help with Meat & Fruit Pies. LA President Carolyn McLennan, and Past President Helene Gartner made the presentations.

The Ladies Auxiliary has been diligently going about their work as they usually do, up until taking a break for the summer. They continued their fundraising efforts through two Silent Auctions – one for Mother's Day and another for Father's Day. They also held their pie sales.

They then generously donated cash (\$500) and lap quilts to the Veterans Association Food Bank to recognize all the work done by that organization for Veterans. Stars Air Ambulance also received a \$500 donation, and the Branch received \$4500 in March. The Branch received a further \$4000 in June. The Ladies Auxiliary is recognized as integral to this Branch for all they do. Thank you!

August Toonie Draw Winner

Congratulations to Dennis Nay who won \$90.00

The Branch is pleased to acknowledge receipt of a matching grant from the Alberta Government Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) to support our Branch renovations.



Upcoming Calendar of Events

August 18 – Whoop Up Days Parade. Watch for the Branch float!

August 30 – General Meeting 2:00 p.m.

September 10 – deadline to register for Veteran Dinner

September 20 – Veteran Dinner 5:30 p.m.

September 20-26 – Legion Week

September 27 – Tree of Remembrance

October 3 – Gala Event

Branch Hours

Tuesday 11:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Friday 11:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday 11:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 11:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Are you a new member to the Branch?

Welcome! There are many ways to make the most of your membership. Come out for weekly activities – pool, shuffleboards, darts, crib, poker. Enjoy a meal and some hospitality. The Branch is open Tuesday through Saturday each week, and the kitchen is open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Try our draws on Friday and Saturday evenings. Ticket sales open at 5:00 p.m. with draws starting at 6:00 p.m. Attend general meetings. Watch for notices of commemorative ceremonies at the Cenotaph. And don't forget our upcoming extra events.

The General Stewart Branch's success is largely due to committed volunteers, and one of the best ways of meeting other members is by becoming one of those volunteers. We invite you to experience the rewards of becoming involved with your Branch:

- Poppy Campaign – various assigned activities from late October to mid-November
- Weekend Draws – selling draw tickets on a Friday and Saturday night
- Manual Labour Work Bees – physical labour associated with building needs
- Caterings – setup and tear down, prep and plating, clean up
- Social Events – organizing an event or participating as an event volunteer
- General Committee Work – participating on a committee
- Colour Party – carrying flags at commemorative events. Uniform required.
- Gabriels Angels – honoring a Veteran or member at a funeral. Uniform required.

For more information or to express your interest in volunteering, please call 403-327-6644.

We are excited to have you as a member of our Branch!

Draws

Friday nights, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Meat draw, 50/50, and Joker's Wild

Saturday nights, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Meat draw and 50/50

Monthly Toonie Draw – 1st of every month, barrel available for entries in Canteen