

# COMMUNITY



1999 recipients of the Charles Bugg Award recognizing outstanding service to Colborne Branch 187 of the Royal Canadian Legion are: Harry and Merna Rowe, at left, and First

Vice President Ira Wile. The presentation was made by President John Boreham at last Friday's annual Honours and Awards night at the Legion.

PHOTO BY MANDY MARTIN

## Branch 187 Volunteer awards

Service pins awarded to Legion members are as follows. The term "ordinary" indicates a previous Canadian veteran, while "associate" is anyone who is a member but has not served in the Canadian Forces.

**Five Year Pine (ordinary):**

Geoffrey Hixson, Willie MacMillan, Doug Smith

**Five Year Pin (associate):**

Jane Boreham, Dale Davis, Darryl Day, Dorothy Deseaure, Michael Graham, Mary Greenough, David Groves, Bonnie Groves, Georgina Hagemayer, John Kernaghan, G.A. McDonald, Donald Peebles, Harry Rowe, Merna Rowe, Ican Stickle.

**10 Year Pin (ordinary):**

L.W. Day, Walter Leigh, Allan Orr.

**10 Year Pin (associate):**

D.A. Ainsworth, Marj Barlow, Joan Cain, Robert Cain, Laura Donnell, June Haywood, Kevin O'Gorman, M. Post, Kirby Ramsbottom, Ira Wile.

**15 Year Pin (ordinary):**

A. Viaene

**15 Year Pin (associate):**

Gladys Carr, Bill Hagemeyer, George Hockney, Christina Leger, Carol Osborne.

**20 Year Pin (ordinary):**

K. Bellamy, J.E. Elliott.

**20 Year Pin (associate):**

Mary Pearson, R.N. Perrie

**25 Year Pin (ordinary):**

George Maskell.

**25 Year Pin (associate):**

J. Kimball.

**35 Year Pin (ordinary):**

William Ball.

**50 Year Pin (ordinary):**

Clifford Oliver.

**60 Year Pin (ordinary):**

George Blyth.

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Executive committee member Marj Barlow with Branch 187 President John Boreham.

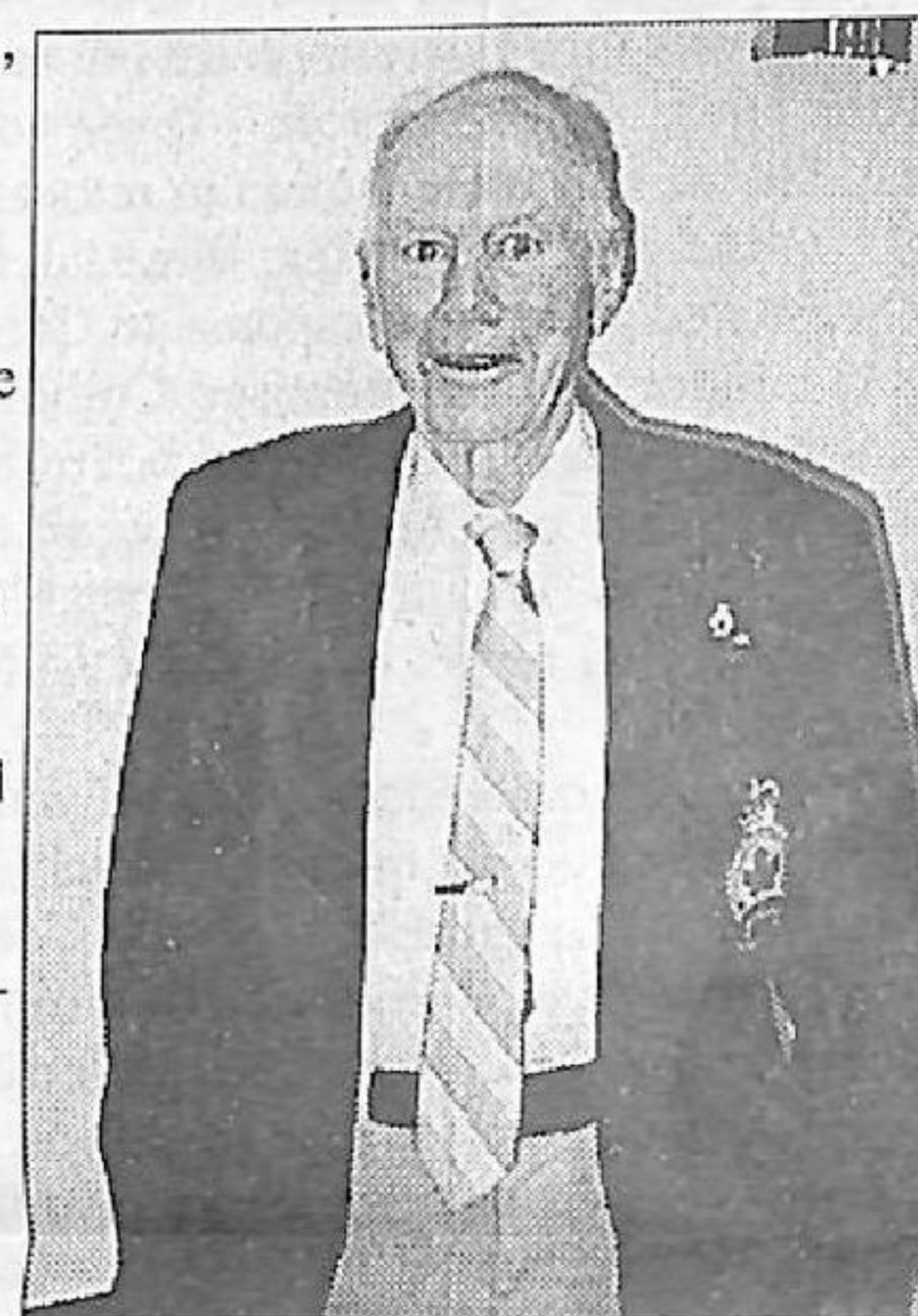
■ Hoselton Studio, donate prizes for the annual Santa Claus parade

■ Inner Wheel of Colborne, support the Santa Claus Parade

■ Castleton-Colborne Optimist Club, support the Santa Claus parade

■ Rutherford Food Market, food donation

■ Colborne Chronicle, news coverage and Santa Claus parade.



George Maskell, 25-year service pin.

Photos by Mandy Martin



Ed and Cecilia Geens were two-time award recipients for their volunteers activities on behalf of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 187 in 1999. The Geens receive a certificate of appreciation from Betty Lamble, District F Honours and Awards chairperson.

## Legion honours its most-giving members

BY ALEXANDRA BARKER  
STAFF WRITER

It was a poignant evening for Branch 187 Legion members when the Charles Bugg Award was presented Friday night. The award, only in its second year, is given to the Legion member or members who have contributed the most to the success of the Colborne branch of the Royal Canadian Legion is the past year.

This year, three people

were honoured: First Vice President Ira Wile, Merna and Harry Rowe.

There were tears in more than a few eyes as the Rowe's stepped forward for the presentation. Only the day before Merna had arrived home after receiving the last of months of cancer treatments.

"I'm back!" she whispered with a wide smile on her face on her way to the front of the room.

In fact, it was quite a night for the Rowe's. Merna, as

head of the

Bingo committee, was honoured with a specialized name tag, "Bingo Merna" and Harry, Chair of the Nevada account, was pinned with "Nevada Harry".

In the five years the Rowe's have been members of the Branch, they have become the "dynamic duo" of volunteering - for the suppers (catered and fund-raising), the New Year's Eve celebration, Heritage Day committee, bingos, Nevada ticket sales - and attending and supporting innumerable other events and special projects organised by and for Legion members throughout the district.

"This has been quite an emotional evening for me," Merna admitted after the annual honours and awards evening. "But I'm back. I'm a fighter and I'm a positive person."

The Charles Bugg Award was introduced in 1998 in memory of Branch 187's first President in 1931. The Branch was chartered March 5 of 1931 with 16 members including the late Charles Rutherford, V.C. Mr. Bugg served as the Branch President until 1937.

For the Rowe's, this year's honour is a repeat of 1998, the first year of the award, when they shared the honour with Garnet Summers and Jim Mills.

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