

Branch 187 honours members' contributions

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY APR. 17/14

COLBORNE — There's a special fish fry at Colborne Legion Friday, April 18. We prepare the fish in our homemade batter and tenderly cook it in our outdoor deep fryers. The meal comes with all the fixings, dessert, tea or coffee serving from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 per person. This is a delicious and convenient way to ease into the Easter holiday weekend!

Tom Semple was named Volunteer of the Year at the annual Honours and Awards ceremony at Colborne Royal Canadian Legion Branch 187 April 13.

The award, created five years ago, is presented to a person who, regardless of membership status, has worked hard on behalf of the branch and, in so doing, has upheld the principles of service for the good of the organization. Branch President Patti May makes the selection.

Tom is the friendly, efficient club

bar bartender familiar to members and visitors. He's also the unassuming go-to guy who voluntarily staffs events bars, steps right up to help with needed "chores" and ensures everyone is safe and sound. When he's not "on the job," he's renowned for his tremendous, quick-witted sense of humour, delivered with a noticeable Scottish burr, that has people in stitches. He's a delight to know. His pool game is pretty good, too.

Previous winners have been Lou Micieli, Judith Howe, Jane Malkin and Frank Turcotte.

The annual Colborne Br. 187 Royal Canadian Legion Honours and Awards ceremony Sunday afternoon, April 14 was expertly organized by branch executive committee member Elaine Colman.

A past officer medal and executive committee bar were presented to John Ton.

Membership service pins were presented to:

Ordinary Members (have served in the Canadian Forces): 15 years: Glenn McVeen; 20 years: Ruth White; 25 years: Les Day.

Associate Members (related to Canadian Forces veteran): five years: Dorothy Lutton, Mandy Martin; 10 years: Phil Ellis, Robert Scripture; 20 years: Brenda Graham, Marlene Harnden, Gordon McDonald; 25 years: Marj Barlow, Kevin O'Gorman, Marilyn Post, Dennis Walker, Ira Wile; 30 years: George Hockney, John Kernaghan; 40 years: Rex Dillabough.

Affiliate Members: Five years: Elizabeth Gilligan, Timothy R. Gilligan, Timothy M. Gilligan, Lanny Murphy; 10 years: Allison Smith.

More than 100 individuals, groups and organizations were thanked for their many contributions to Colborne Legion activities and projects during the last year. The list exemplifies how people

work together to better our community.

It's always a highlight at our annual Honours and Awards ceremony to learn who the Legionnaire of the Year will be. It's kept a tight secret by the RCL Br. 187 president Patti May until the event.

This year, as members and guests gathered Apr. 13, the honour was presented to John Ton. John is familiar to all those who attend our twice-monthly dinners. He's always on hand serving in his friendly, jovial way. He is also a powerhouse of volunteer contribution, working quietly behind

the scenes overseeing or actually repairing equipment and building glitches, ensuring everyone's safe. He has a wry wit and a sixth sense when it comes to knowing who needs a kind word or encouragement.

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President Patti May declared John Ton this year's Branch 187 Legionnaire of the Year.

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