

SBV3-14

Legion and Auxiliary celebrating anniversaries this weekend



Branch 144 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Chesley will celebrate its 65th anniversary this Saturday, October 1, 1994. At the same time, members of the Legion Ladies' Auxiliary will celebrate 45 years of service to the community.

A social hour, banquet and evening of fellowship will be part of the anniversary celebrations at the Chesley Legion Hall.

It was on March 13, 1929 when the Legion in Chesley was born, approximately three years and four months after the Canadian Legion was founded on November 25, 1925. The old Chinese proverb: "The moving finger writes and having writ, moves on" could apply as it has moved on and today is one of the strongest organizations in Chesley.

The first president of the Legion in Chesley was the late William McCurdy who served from 1929 to 1937. His efforts were responsible in organizing and keeping the Branch alive during its early years. 1929 was the first time poppies were sold in Chesley, and the first annual church parade was held the Sunday before Remembrance Day.

On November 2, 1949, the Ladies' Auxiliary was formed. Mr. Ken Bennett, president of Branch 144, opened the first meeting.

Three of the original ladies installed that evening are still members - Mrs. Merle Austin of Chesley; Mrs. June Warnock of Chesley and Mrs. Wilma Christie of St. Catharines.

The Auxiliary's first meeting was held in December 1949. The Auxiliary has always played an important role in the development of the Branch, helping with maintenance costs, equipping the kitchen, and catering to some of the largest banquets held in Chesley.

Auxiliary members also sponsor two annual events - the strawberry tea in June and the Christmas bazaar in November.

First slate of officers - 1929 Branch 144 Royal Canadian Legion Chesley

Hon. Pres.: Lieut. Col. W. H. Fenton
C. Mickle, K.C.
President: William H. McCurdy
First Vice-President: W. M. Hughes
Second Vice-President: Mel McLean
Financial Secretary: Wm. Cooper
General Committee: G. Ankenmann, G. Amery,
S. McDonald and W. Wood

Legion Ladies' Auxiliary First Slate of Officers - 1949

President: Mrs. Jane McCurdy
First Vice-President: MRs. Kay Phillips
Second Vice-President: Mrs. Merle Austin
Secretary: Mrs. Barbara Adolph
Treasurer: Mrs. Freda Wood
Standard Bearer: Mrs. Jean Thorne
Executive Officers: Mrs. Bessie Moir,
Mrs. Wilma Christie, Mrs. Betty Wagner
and Mrs. Alma Hammond



The annual meeting of the CDHS Phase 3 Committee - Library/Resource Centre/Gymnasium project will be held Thursday, October 6 at 7 p.m. in the music room of the Chesley District High School. All

abilities and community involvement. They are presented to one student in each graduating class of a diploma program funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Each award-winning graduate receives a plaque and a \$200 cheque.

PROVINCIAL AWARDS