




Iroquois Legion Branch 370 Ladies Auxiliary

50th Anniversary

50 years serving their community




Welcome from the President of the Iroquois Legion Auxiliary

President of the Iroquois Ladies Auxiliary, Branch 370

Our Auxiliary has come a long way from humble beginnings when the Ladies Auxiliary was initiated on April 18, 1950 and 40 members were installed to the present day when 12 members (and as recently as last month four new members came aboard) continue the work begun a half century ago.

I am sorry to say that we no longer have any of our Charter Members with us, but I can say with confidence that we remain a dedicated group of ladies who do their utmost to work with the Branch to help make it the very best organization it can be.

The Ladies Auxiliary has proven itself in the long run, committed to raising funds for the Branch. We are able to boast one of the finest kitchens around, certainly one to be proud of which allows us to participate in numerous activities throughout the year, including weddings, funeral luncheons, anniversaries and special occasion parties of all descriptions.

Yes, we are both proud and excited to be hosting this the 50th Anniversary of the Ladies Auxiliary, Branch 370, in Iroquois. But, remember that it is you, the people of the community who have enabled us to realize that we are indeed an important part of a great organization. You have helped us realize that we are the very backbone of the Legion. We have enjoyed and today are able to continue a wonderful partnership with the Legion and its' members in Iroquois...through the hustle and bustle, we seem always able to accomplish the tasks at hand with great pride.

We can only look froward to the same commitment in the next 50 years that has been evident in the previous 50.

Best wishes to all!

Comrade Rose Lavallie

Auxiliary marked their 35th Anniversary with a celebration

Thirty-five years after its founding, the Ladies Auxiliary Royal Canadian Legion presented its remaining Charter Members with an evening they will always remember. Six members were eligible for 35-year Anniversary pins and as well were eligible for the Legion's 60-Anniversary pins.

Annie Liezert, living in Kemptville at the time was 93 years of age and the eldest person present. She received mementoes.

Legion President, Ray Delegarde and Ed Hitchinson made presentations to Evelyn Fawcett, Leona Merkley, Kay Cameron and Cora Easter. A Charter Member of the Auxiliary, Edna Hagarty was absent for the festivities.

Zone G3 Auxiliary Commander Mimi Churma of Kemptville offered her congratulations, as did representatives from Chesterville and Prescott who were among the 50 attending the impressive celebrations. President, Cora Easter was MC introducing the head table and guests. Reeve Frank Rooney commented on the many projects and achievements

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Cover photos

Starting at the top left and going clockwise are: * Legionnaires of 1998 being honoured by the Legion... Sheila Holmes of the Ladies Auxiliary and Lawrence Scarbo. John Wilson presented. *Local Scouting groups got a boost from the Ladies Auxiliary. Kevin Coville (Venturer) and Brianne Hoogwerf (Beaver) accept a cheque to assist the youth groups with their activities. Rose Lavallie makes the presentation 1999 is the year.* Joyce Murphy of the Ladies Auxiliary was honoured as Legionnaire of the Year in 1997 for her outstanding efforts. *Feb. 1996, 1st Annual Valentine Tea. Lera Ellis, Gladie Gill, Greta Post, Dorothy McQuaig and Phyllis Connell *Fun in the old kitchen with Lil Roberts, Cora Coulter, Mable Roberts and Phyllis Leckie, looks good enough to eat! * In 1975 25-year pins were presented to Annie Leizert, Evelyn Fawcett, Kay Cameron, Edna Hagarty, Mrs. McGinn and Cora Easter(in front). Leona Merkley was absent when the photo was taken .

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Auxiliary formed in May, 1950

(as reported in the Iroquois Post, 1969)

"Under the guidance of Major D.L.Fenton, formerly of RR2, Iroquois, the Auxiliary to Branch 370 was formed in April and Instituted on May 19th, 1950 by the late Jessie Tompkins of Brockville, Zone 13 representative who at the time of her death last September(1968) was Past President of Provincial Command.



Remembrance Day

The Ladies Auxiliary members are always there to take part in the Remembrance Day Services in the area. Here in Iroquois, Darlene Riddell has just placed a wreath on behalf of the Auxiliary Branch 370 in memory of those who gave their lives.

Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston

The Charter consisted of 30 members with four new ones being added that same year.

The President was the late Margaret Casselman, 1st Vice was Phyllis English, 2nd Vice was Cora Easter, Secretary was Rose (Bernie) Sisty, while the Treasurer was Dorothy Hadley. The executive committee consisted of members: Kay Roberts, L. Hadley, Phyllis Fenton, Hilda Banford, and Isobel Coley. Pianist was my grandmother...Norah Ridsdale*.

The Investigating Cmte. was Eva Falshaw*, L. Millard* (My aunt), and H. Standen*. The Membership Drive Committee included L. Millard*, Susie Brew*, A. Casselman*, P. Fenton, Kay Cameron and D. Hadley. Note *These members have passed away.

The meetings were held in the Legion Hall which has been used by the printing office and was located over the late J.R. Bullis' Garage. There was an average attendance of 25. In the past 19 years, there have been ten presidents, five secretaries, one recording secretary, and five treasurers. Five Charter Members are still active. Mrs. Hadley and Mrs. Roberts have both been transferred to Branch 297 Cornwall.

In September 1951, the Legion rented the building used as the poolroom by the late Chuck Burns. The ladies shared the rent, fuel, insurance, hydro, caretaking and catered a turkey dinner for the opening. On October 11th, a kitchen shower was held and a complete set of dinnerware, silverware, glasses and other necessities were ordered.

Activities were bingos, bridge and euchres, teas, food sales, Stanley Home demonstrations, draws, auction sales and catering.

Parcels were sent to the Iroquois boys serving in Canada's Special Forces.

The ladies took part in the special events held on Tuesday, June 2, 1953 for Coronation Day and entered a float using Logie Serviss' truck.

The Auxiliary was hostess to their first Zone Rally on June 2, 1954 with Gertrude Cunningham, Mille Roche as Zone G-3 Commander. There were 91 present having Alexandria, Hawkesbury, Cornwall, Vankleek Hill, Morrisburg, Williamsburg, Prescott and

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Iroquois Legion Branch 370 1950 - 2000

Ladies Auxiliary

2000 Executive

President	Rose Lavallie
1st Vice President	Joyce Murphy
Secretary	Darlene Riddell
Treasurer	Lorraine Robertson
Sgt. At Arms	Allie McKee
Chaplain	Darlene Riddell

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Ladies Auxiliary Branch 370 has always been a busy group

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 370 in Iroquois are a wonderful group of ladies who are always busy. No matter when one drops byt he local Lagion the gals are always up to something, cooking, planning their next catering job, discussing who to help or how to achieve a goal. They seem to wear perpetual smiles and no job is too daunting for them to take up.

They are a mighty few who are ready to serve their community, and do so willingly.

Standing behind the Legion, they are never too busy to lend a hand when and where necessary.

Asking the youth of the community to assist them with their Poppy Blitz each November, the ladies always serve up piping hot chocolate and hot dogs to the youngsters when the job is completed. The trays are filled once again after the annual Remembrance Day Service in the Village as the gals have things ready when the march from the Cenotaph is finished at the Legion.

Hosting a tea and baks sale to raise funds that are donated to the Legion or the youth of the community, the Ladies hold a draw for a $1000., operate the canteen in the Legion (during darts and cards) and help at the Bingos that provide valuable financial assistance to the Branch. Their special meals like at Christmas time, St. Patty's Day and the like are becoming famous and well known. Their efforts as far as raising money to help the Legion was evident when the latest expansion occurred, the gals were there with their money to ease the load, as usual.

Their kitchen facilioty is one of the finest in the area and teh gals will all attest to the factthat they ahvea pile of fun as they work hard to attain their goals. Joining other auxiliaries, whether bowling, playing darts or shuffling a few decks of cards the girls know how to have a good time.

As the members of the Iroquois Ladies Auxiliary gather at the Legion on Saturday evening with friends and family present to help them celebrate 50 years of service to their community and their Legion Branch 370, we join in wishing them the very best and look forward to the next 50 years.

Reflection allows us to see how the gals have helped the Branch improve, grow and contribute to the community Branch 370 calls home. Many are touched whether directly or indirectly by the Ladies and what they do for the Branch and the area. Asthey head into the new millennium, we know they will do what has to be done as they continue the work begun fifty years ago.

CONTINUED

35th Anniversary

Continued from page 2

of the Ladies Auxiliary since their founding and its value to the community.

Guest speaker for the evening was Wytze Douma who chose as his topic, "New Canadians." Explaining in his informative talk how he and his wife arrived in Canada, their trials and tribulations as immigrants in a foreign land, the hardships they faced and how they learned the difference between "obligation" and "rights," was very interesting. He told how they came to canada with the obligation in their minds to help build Canada after the war left them with few prospects of work in their home country. Feeling no animosity towards the country they now call home, they recall working on farms for little pay under harsh conditions, but do not classify all people under one label. He stated that he felt the reason people from the old country stuck together was the abuse they encountered when first arriving in a strange country. Mr. Douma led the organization who created a permanent monument to those who served in two World Wars and the Korean Conflict, their names appear on the monument in front of the Civic Centre as a reminder to us all.

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Iroquois Legion
Branch 370
1950 - 2000

Ladies Auxiliary

Past Presidents

Margaret Casselman	1950 - 1951
Phyllis English	1951 - 1952
Cora Easter	1952 - 1953
" "	1978 - 1983
Helen Standen	1953 - 1954
Dorothy Gallinger	1955 - 1957
Kathleen Cameron	1957 - 1959
Rose Claxton	1959 - 1960
Jean Miller	1960 - 1962
Evelyn Fawcett	1962 - 1964
Audrey Robertson	1964 - 1972
Norma Delegarge	1972 - 1975
Edna Hagarty	1975 - 1978
Rose Lavallie	1983 - 1985
" "	1991 to present



Chieftain photo by S.L.Johnston

Proudly marching to remember

Sgt. at Arms, Wilf Gibbons proudly leads the march along Dundas Street in the village on Remembrance Day. The Legion hosts a service each year which enables everyone to share in the history of our freedom. These veterans gave so much for future generations, and through our attendance, we demonstarte our thanks. The color party of Legion members as well as Ladies Auxiliary members leads the other village service and youth groups to the cenotaph.

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Greetings from Legion Past President

Past President of the Legion, Branch 370, Iroquois

I wish to convey my heartfelt congratulations to my many friends in the Ladies Auxiliary to Branch 370, Iroquois.

I was fortunate to have worked alongside many of you while serving my term as President of the Legion and know how hard you all work. There was never a task you were asked to undertake that you did not complete with style and competence. You are a group of ladies who can always be counted on and the Legion relies on you for many things with confidence. Thanks for all you do!

Here's to another 50 years...
Comrade, Jim Logie.

Ladies Auxiliary Honoured

Darlene Riddell, Rose Lavallie, Sheila Holmes, Lorraine Robertson, Joyce Murphy and Allie McKee were recognized for their efforts as members of the Ladies Auxiliary, Iroquois Branch 370. These gals do a top notch job and the Legion is most appreciative of their work. Congrats to one and all!! *Chieftain Photo*

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Archives reveal

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Researching the archives for information on the Ladies Auxiliary to the Iroquois Legion, Branch 370, various tid-bits were revealed.

Among the items that caught my interest was the Executive that was installed for 1956. This was of particular interest to me since my uncle, **Edward Millard** was the President of the Legion at the time. The Iroquois Post reported, "Mrs. Dorothy Gallinger was returned for her second term as President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion and along with other members of the 1956 Executive installed to office last Wednesday evening. President Edward Millard, Branch 370, Canadian Legion presided over the installation of officers. In his remarks, Mr. Millard complemented the President on her acclamation and remarked on the splendid executive chosen to lead the Auxiliary in the coming year. Several members of the Legion Branch were present. Installed were President-Dorothy Gallinger, Past President- Helen Standen, 1st Vice-Kay Cameron, 2nd Vice-Evelyn Fawcett, Secretary-Shirley Kirkby, Recording Secretary-Jean Miller, Sgt-at-Arms-Mabel Roberts, Executive- E. Roberts, E. Disheau, R. Coulter, N. Webb and C. Coulter. Mrs. Thomas Miller and her committee including Mrs. Albert Coulter, Mrs. Allen Coulter, Mrs. Fred Hadley, Mrs. David Standen, Mrs. Lawrence Gallinger and Mrs. William Roberts served an appetizing lunch to their fellow comrades and visitors before ending a pleasant evening."

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Greetings from Legion President

Message from the President, Legion Branch 370, Iroquois

Being the Legion President and Secretary of the Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Branch 370 in Iroquois, I am proud to belong to such a dedicated group of volunteers.

Over the years, the Ladies Auxiliary membership has diminished considerably. What with the majority of Charter Members having passed on and the fact that the world we live in being so fast paced and with so many demands upon our time, it is difficult to get the younger people to give any type of commitment to an organization of any kind.

The Ladies Auxiliary can and has at any given time put on numerous types and sizes of luncheons, from 10 to 150 people. Under the guidance of the Social Convenor, Joyce Murphy, the Ladies Auxiliary has done many Funeral Luncheons, Banquets and Dinners of many kinds from Weddings to Anniversaries to Birthdays and has on occasion even done Breakfasts.

Just recently, the Ladies Auxiliary was fortunate to install new members...a very welcome event! For quite some time, there were only 11 members with the majority of a central six of the members being the most active.

The Ladies Auxiliary can truly be known as the backbone of the Legion, for over the years they have been able to assist the Legion, Branch 370 financially enormously by contributing on the average, approximately $10 to $11,000 a year. No small feat!

Yes, we are very proud to be partners with such a fine group.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the Ladies Auxiliary on their 50th Anniversary and wish to convey to them our hope for many more years of success.

I am glad to say you have been and remain a great organization, ladies and I feel quite proud to be a part of your organization.

Yours in Comradeship,
Darlene Riddell,
President Legion,
Branch 370, Iroquois.



Chieftain photo by S.L. Johnston

Breaking new ground

Ladies of the Auxiliary and members of the Iroquois Legion Branch 370 join forces and the contractors look on, as sod was broken in 1992 for the north-side expansion of the Dundas Street structure. Breaking sod in August, the new wing was officially opened on New Year's Eve, 1992.

CONTINUED

Formed in 1950

Continued from page 3

Winchester represented.

In 1955 due to the Seaway, preparations got underway to move again. During the interruptions, meetings and euchres were held in the homes of the members. Special mention of Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Cassel who opened their home, now the Iroquois Bowling Club House to a great many euchres for the ladies.

Finally the Legion purchased St. Cecilia Church and had it moved to the present site on Dundas Street. The new hall officially opened on Saturday, August 1st, 1959. New tables and chairs were purchased and a kitchen constructed.

Wednesday, May 17th, 1961, the second Rally was held with Helen Coons of Winchester as Zone Commander. This time Merrickville, Kemptville, Prescott, Morrisburg, Williamsburg, Winchester,and Chesterville were present with 100 on hand.

The ladies have sponsored Navy Tag Day since 1951, donated to the Provincial Command Legion Ladies Bursary, hockey and ball teams, welfare, always sent a rep to the Provincial Convention every 2 years, looked after a patient at the Rideau Regional School, a veteran in Sunnybrook Hospital, took part in the bowling and euchre tournaments and until last year (1968) donated a cup to the Best Girl Cadet at Iroquois High School. A very successful walkathon was held August 17, proceeds from this are in a building fund deposited at the Royal Bank.

The membership stood at 22 and the ladies were anticipating their third Zone Rally, May 14. Nine Auxiliaries were to be represented with Ellen Fader of Prescott Zone Commander.

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