

Debert Legion Notes

By Dan Martell

A tip of the hat and a special thank you is passed along to David Gibson and Drew McCulloch who were presented with Meritorious President's Awards on Friday, the 27th of February. Presentations were made by by Sharon Kyle.

David and Drew for their awards for all their hard work as volunteers for the Friday night suppers here at the Branch. David and Drew, congratulations, and thank you very much.

The Dart League is still running along on an even keel

and as they get ready for their play-offs, Team #2, with Deanna Martell, Gerry Dykens and Ron "Easy" Eastcott sitting comfortably in first place. Skip Dawson rang up the first 180 of the year.

There is a strong rumor afoot that Branch 98 from Kingston will be dropping in on us (Branch 106) for a friendly shoot on the May weekend of 22, 23 and 24. Branch 98 was here a few years ago and everybody had a super time.

I apologize for not having anything to report on the Peter Black Memorial Shoot

and the Debert Winter Carnival. I missed my contacts as Deanna and I were in Cape Breton for a week to attend a funeral.

If any of our members have not paid their dues for 2009, they are passed due. Why not drop in and bring them up to date.

A quick look at the Wednesday Night Crib League, shows the team of Ron "Easy" Eastcott running along in first place with 928 points, Tom Manley and Bobby Pash are second with 1,031 points.

Tom and Bob have the most winning nights with 6, Bunny Burris and Marg Miller have most hidden scores with 5. There has been a dory load of 24 hands and Ron "Easy" leads the way with 3, while Debbie Buchanan has high hand with a 28. Staying with crib, the Zone 10 Provincial Cribbage Tournament was held here at Branch 106 on Sunday, March 8th.

Loyis and Loyal Crocker had an excellent afternoon and took home first place money. Congratulations Loyis and Loyal. Frank Works and Gerry O'Neal from Truro (Branch 26) took home second place honours, while

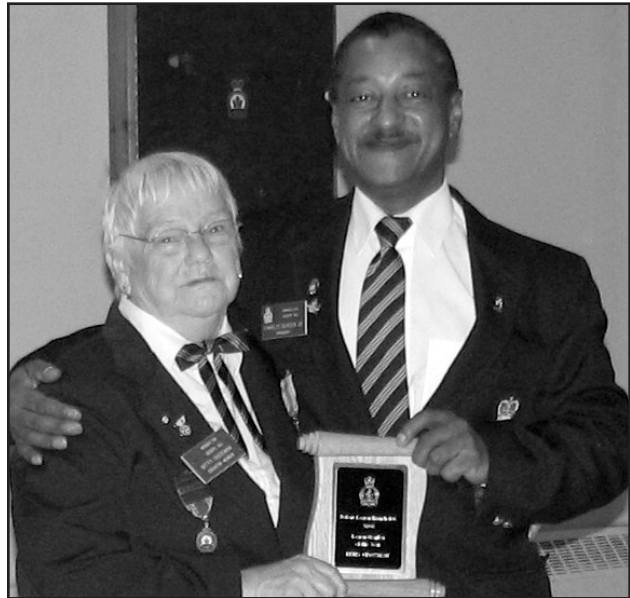
third place went to Larry Collier and Carl McNea.

The top ten teams advance in the play-offs, and of these 10 teams, 4 will be from Debert. These play-offs will be held in Enfield on the 18th of April. The Dominion Crib Play-offs were held in Truro (Branch 26) on March 7th. The highlight of the day was Carl McNea's 29 hand, congratulations Carl. A 29 hand in crib is almost as rare as a hole in one, in golf. From all the players I talked to this one was not very well run.

Happy Anniversary wishes for March are passed along to Norma and Elmer Coulter, Mollie and Ron Graham. Happy Birthday wishes for March are passed along to Isobel Mellroy, Linda Slack, James Patton, Everett McCully, Irene Blenkhorn, Shelly Duguay, Eric McCully, Larry Martell, Dan Martell, Louise Bernard, Sharon Kyle, Loyis Crocker, Mike Taylor, Ralph Turner (Sr), Eva Langille and Anna Adams.

Please say a prayer for our troops in Afghanistan and their families.

Please, don't forget to thank a Veteran, it is because of their sacrifices that we are able to enjoy our freedom and our country.



Comrade Betty Crossman is presented with Legionnaire of the Year 2008 by Royal Canadian Legion Debert Branch #106 President Charles Borden Jr. (Legion Photo).



At a recent Friday Evening Supper David Gibson, Debert, was presented with the President's Meritorious Award by Debert Legion Branch #106, Past President Sharon Kyle. The Award was presented in recognition of his volunteer service at Branch activities. (Legion Photo).

CEHPL Library Foundation plays important role

The Colchester-East Hants Public Library Foundation was established in 2003 to aid the library by supplementing its present and future financial needs. During the past five years the Foundation has raised over \$75,000 through its annual appeals.

Much of this has gone towards the purchase of equipment and books which the library would not have obtained otherwise. They include security systems for two branches, non-print and large print materials and most recently, up-to-date reference books. The Foundation continues to work closely with the library board and staff to ensure that contributions are



put to the best use.

Donations to the Foundation can be made in memory or in honour of individuals and major donations and bequests can be designated for the Foundation's Endowment Fund which is intended for future major projects. Tax receipts are issued for all donations. Contact your local branch for more information or Email: libfound@nsc.library.ns.ca

Medical Travel as a Tax Deduction

By Skip Johnson

Personal Income Tax is your largest lifetime expense. And as such, any and every effort made to reduce them, impacts not only on the current years return, but future returns as well.

Like your medical premiums from last time, another deduction which is made under medical expenses is Medical Travel. Since medical facilities are becoming more and more centralized in the larger towns and cities, we are required to travel even further for Doctor and Dentist appointments or tests and procedures. In order for these medical trips to qualify as a medical deduction, there are a few basic requirements: The distance traveled must be over 40 km one way and the appointment must be at the nearest available facility.

The first part is rather straight forward. Set your vehicles trip odometer and record the distance using the most direct route. Since most trips to town for medical appointments are usually expanded to include grocery shopping or other non medical errands, I suggest you pick the direct leg of your trip, be it coming or going, to determine the distance for the medical trip and simply double it.

The next requirement is a little trickier. Although you might be more comfortable using a doctor or other medical professional in the larger centers for what ever reasons, if they are not the nearest available professional or facility offering the same treatment, the travel, regardless of distance does not qualify for the deduction. In other words, the deduction is based on nearest available facility and NOT your own personal preference.

Be aware though, that nearest available facility may not be excepting new patients or might be closed when emergencies occur. The nearest "Available" facility may in fact

not be the closest one to your home. This also holds true for the pharmacy where you get your prescriptions filled. If the nearest one is over 40km away, ever trip counts as medical travel.

Don't forget to ask the receptionist for proof of your visit before you leave. Simply

writing your appointments on the calendar or appointment cards do not necessarily mean you kept your appointment. CRA wants written verification from the Doctors office for all medical visits. In the case of pharmacy visits, simply ask your pharmacist for a printout showing when each prescription was filled.

So! Let's see what this is all worth where it counts the most..... \$\$\$\$.

For 2008 medical travel, CRA is allowing \$ 0.52 per km. Although the eligibility requirement is 40 km one way, your claim will include the return trip as well. If the visit is over 80km one way, not only are you entitled to claim the per kilometre rate, but you are also entitled to a \$ 17.00 deduction for a meal. If you are required to have a driver take you because, let's say you are getting your eyes examined and will be unable to drive afterwards, or you are driving your child who is a minor or your spouse who is without a drivers license, you can deduct an addition \$ 17.00 for the driver's meal also. The meal is a standard amount and no receipt is required.

Don't forget your parking and toll highway receipts as well. Ever deduction counts.

Next time I will look into home repairs as a medical expense.

Walter "Skip" Johnson owns and operates, W. Johnson Tax Service in Parrsboro and will be submitting articles on a regular basis. Comments or suggestions for future articles should be submitted to skip@skiptaxreturns.com, or visit him at www.skiptaxreturns.com



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