



November 2022 Issue No. 116 email: patmelsparks@gmail.com Established 1998

# This issue of The Common Thread is dedicated to all our dear colleagues - Those Who Served -

The following piece was written over fifteen years ago by the late Geoff Lane. We reprint this in Geoff's memory with sincere respect and gratitude and we dedicate this to our current and former colleagues who served our country.

### **Heroes Still With Us**

Three generations living today in Commonwealth and Allied countries have a past generation to thank for the very real fact that they are 'free' - free to live, free to choose and free to pursue a measure of happiness.

Without the bravery and support of western world men and women who volunteered to serve in the Second World War, all of us alive today could well have been enslaved.

Almost 70 years ago the first page was written in the most horrifying chapter the history of warfare. Within the next six years more than 20 million people died and countless thousands were left starving and stateless.

What began with one man's fanaticism ended in peace but with a world torn apart.

By dint of geography, Canada was fortunate. However, its armed forces bore a hefty share of casualties and suffering on three continents and once again this November we pay a sincere tribute to those who died and to those who served and survived.

Many veterans of WWII are still with us, thankfully, but each year their number decreases although the valor of those who are left remains undiminished.

In the ranks of the retired are soldiers, sailors and airmen who can still recall vividly the gore and glory of the battlefield. Each has a unique story to tell, although few care to dwell on what was, literally, hell on earth.

Again this year special mention should be made of those among us who fought for King and Country. Lambton College has had more than its share of service heroes, some volunteers, some conscripted. All did their part in preserving our future.

## Geoff Lane

The following colleagues had military service prior to joining faculty & staff at Lambton College.

Bruce Allen	Royal Canadian Air Force	1941-45
Bill Burgess	Royal Canadian Air Force	1941-45
David Cheney	Royal Canadian Army	1940-45
Wolfgang Franke	German Navy	1940-45
Gerry Grevstad	Royal Canadian Air Force	1950-52
Art Haggart	Royal Canadian Air Force	1946-75
Charles Harrison	British Army	1940-45
Russell Hart	Royal Canadian Air Force	1943-68
Bruce Hepburn	Royal Canadian Air Force	1951-75

Geoff Lane	British Army	1940-48
Ron Lawrence	British Army	1942-45
Josh Lipszyc	Portugese Navy	1964-68
Bill Lovsin	Dept of National Defence	1956-58
Dennis McLeavey	Royal Canadian Air Force	1941-45
Erik Norman	Norwegian Navy	1940-45
Des Pigott	British Army	1951-53
Mel Pratt	Royal Canadian Air Force	1953-76
Camilla (Rigby) Tod	Royal Canadian Air Force	1950-52
Bruno Sawicki	Polish Army Corps	1940-46
Heinz Schmidt	Royal Canadian Navy	1960-68
George Shaw	British Navy	1940-45
Joe Sowinski	Royal Canadian Army	1942-45
Delores Trevail	Royal Canadian Army	1942-45

We would like to remember all *Those Who Served* with the following photos that were taken at various college/retiree functions throughout the years. Unfortunately, we do not have a photo for of all of them. Please let us know if you have a photo of any of the missing members.



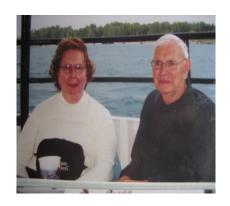




Heinz Bruce







Ron Camilla Mac George







Joe Erik Des



Gerry



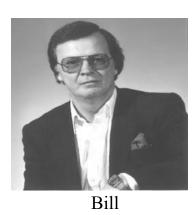
Art



Josh



Bruno







Delores

# Please mark these special dates on your calendar

Event: Breakfast Where: John's Restaurant 1643 London Line, Sarnia

When: Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> Arrive at 10:00 am – Breakfast at 10:30 am

Breakfast: Choose your own fare from their great menu selections

RSVP: By November 15 – Alma 336-9108 or Mel 344-2931

Event: Christmas Dinner Where: Quality Inn 751 North Christina St, Sarnia

When: Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> Cash bar 5:00 pm – Dinner at 6:00 pm

<u>Dinner</u>: Featuring Oven Roasted Turkey complete with all the trimmings

<u>Cost</u>: \$30. per person (member & significant other – taxes & gratuity included)

PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CLUB IS SUBSIDISING SOME OF THE COST OF THIS EVENT. NON MEMBERS \$35. PER PERSON

<u>RSVP</u>: By December 5 – Alma 336-9108 or Mel 344-2931

# It's that time of the year again -

Annual membership dues are due by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Please send your cheque for \$10.00, (the LCRC membership) or \$20.00, which would also include your annual membership with the Ontario Colleges Retirees Association. Please mail to ....

Lambton College Retirees' Club c/o Cathy Bull 1150 Fairlane Ave, Sarnia, ON N7S 3K1

**OR** - If you would prefer to "e transfer" your dues. Please send them to **Mel Sparks** at

patmelsparks@gmail.com

# Lunch at Olive's on October 20th

















While the food was great - getting together again was so much better

It will be our Club's 25th anniversary next year.

Please dig into your memory bank and send us some of those great memories.

## Your LCRC Executive Committee -

Alma Brown, Cathy Bull, Terry Cameron, Mary Leckie,

Josh Lipszyc, Pat O'Connor, Gerry Page, Mel Sparks,

Kathi Vandenheuvel, Ursula Westelaken, Ray Wreford