

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION PORT ARTHUR BRANCH #5 LADIES AUXILIARY HISTORY

The Ladies Auxiliary was formed in 1926 with about forty members and they received their Charter on April 10, 1927, from Dominion Command in Ottawa.

Charter members were: Annie S. Wilson Isabell Aitkens
 Mable Briden Myrtle Nickle
 Daisy Hamilton Rose Russell
 Susan McLintock Amelia Solomon
 Leonora Skippen

The Charter was signed by Secretary of Dominion Executive Council: B.M. Campbell and President of Dominion Executive Council: Percy Lake.

The purpose and the duty of the Ladies Auxiliary members, shall be to assist the Branch in its activities to carry out the Principals and Policy, Purposes and Objects of the Legion.

Mrs. Annie Wilson was our first President in 1927 to 1928. Mrs. Myrtle Nickle served as District Commander in the 1940's and Mrs. Doris McMullen served as District Commander from 1945 to 1947. She organized five Ladies Auxiliaries in Nipigon, Schreiber, the Ortona, Polish Branch #149, and the Kakabeka Falls Branch #225 Junior Auxiliary. Mrs. Jean Banks served as Provincial President from 1966 to 1967.

During the war the ladies met the troop trains, served coffee, held dances, and helped the Red Cross with blood clinics. They gave out parcels with razor blades, socks, cigarettes and playing cards. After the war the ladies welcomed all the War Brides from Britain to help them adjust to their new life in Canada.

Today they present student bursaries, hold Silver Cross Mothers' luncheons, serve veterans sandwiches and soup on Remembrance Day, parade at the cenotaph, look after funeral luncheons, collect food for the city food cupboard, and make donations to registered charities through bingo proceeds. They cater to birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, and other banquets, donate to the Legion Athletic Camp, hold Annual Spring and Halloween Teas and Janet's Two Bit Auction twice a year. They help the Branch with building repairs and expenses, the Valentine Tea, the Friday Fish Fry, monthly breakfasts, Family Fun Night and other fund raisers.