



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

783 (CALGARY) WING

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2009

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As elected at the Annual General Meeting held June 23, 2008. (* Appointed at Apr 25/09 AGM meeting)

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NOTICE OF #783 WING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to all members of the #783 (Calgary) Wing of the Air Force Association of Canada that the Annual General Meeting of #783 (Calgary) Wing will convene at the 285 Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion on Horton Road, Calgary, Alberta on June 22, 2009, immediately following the Wing General Meeting which will begin at 1730 hrs. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Receive and conduct all proper business placed before the membership
- Receive consolidated reports from the Wing Executive and Directors

- Conduct elections of the Executive and Directors for the following membership year, 2009/2010

Nominations may be made at the Annual General Meeting for any of the positions on the executive or directors, providing the nominee has signed the nomination acceptance form or is present at the meeting. A copy of the nomination acceptance form is attached to this newsletter. For further information call Robert Roe at (403) 281-7037.

IMMP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There has been much activity by many members and myself this past month.

Apr 01 - Although the 4 Wing RCAF Mess Dinner was an option; I did not attend this year, due too the many other more local activities and the expenses involved, all in one month. (As most of you know, that pension cheque can only be stretched so far.)

Apr 03 - Approx. 12 of our Wing members were in attendance of the AeroSpace Museums, RCAF Mess Dinner. I believe there were 167 attendees at this function, and everyone enjoyed it. Guest Speaker was Dan Dempsey, a former Golden Hawk and Snowbird pilot; and will be one of the pilots of Hawk 1 during this summer's Air Shows. Our Honorary Group President, Ron Guidinger was the Master of Ceremonies. This function was attended by all three levels of our organization: National, Group and Wing Presidents including our Wing Contact Officer from 4 Wing, L/Col. Terry Wood.

Apr 04 - The following morning, a large Parade and CF-18 fly past was held at City Hall Commemorating "Freedom of the City" to 4 Wing Air Force personnel. A quick change of "threads": and Marj and I went to 702 Wing's Charter Anniversary Banquet.

Apr 17 - Once again; Marj & I packed up the wheels and headed for Edmonton. We visited with the grand kids in Spruce Grove and then I attend 700 Wing's Charter Anniversary Banquet. Our good friend, MP Laurie Hawn was one of the 2 dignitaries at the Banquet. Laurie was presented a framed photograph of the Highway of Heros sign, along the 401 Highway between Trenton and Toronto.

Apr 25 - 783 Wing was as large as life at the AB. Grp. AGM, hosted by 784 Wing. In spite of a couple of our attendees on the sick and injured list (Al Spielman & Kenn Nixon); we managed to shuffle delegates around to cover all positions, to conduct a successful meeting. Two resolutions were approved in Principle, to be ratified at the next Group meeting, prior to submission to National.

Nominations:

National:	President	-	Brian Darling
	1st VP	-	Terry Chester
	2nd VP	-	left open

Alberta Group:	President	-	Gilles McDermitt	acclamation
	Im.P.P.	-	Steve MacDonnell	
	VP(N)	-	was left open, then appointed by Group President,	
shortly after the meeting, (I understand this will be ratified at the Sept. Group meeting)				
	VP(S)	-	Robert Roe	acclamation
	Treasurer:	-	Kenn Nixon	acclamation
	Secretary	-	Beverley Spielman	appointed by President
	Hon. Pres.	-	Ron Guidinger	acclamation

Interim Group Im.P.P., Grant Whitson presented a lengthy report on many of the Aviation and Air Show activities to be conducted over this summer. Keith Mann presented a report on the Air Cadet Effective Speaking program, and complimented the many members who donate so many hours and judge the competitions.

“Queen Eleanor” Berlin (our own #783 member) was put to work assisting in the presentation of Awards (a sneaky diversion). She held up very well, and was so proud to be a part of the AGM program. Several members of 783 Wing received Awards at the AGM and they will be appropriately presented at the Apr 27 meeting.

Next AB. Grp. Meeting will be Sep. 19 and the Battle of Britain Parade will be the next day (Sep 20).

As I am now, the Alberta Group VP(S); I am relinquishing the Presidency Chair to 1st V.P. Robert Clarke, as Interim President until the June elections and assume the position of 783 W.Im.P.P. (Constitution By-Law refers).

Thank you for your support and co-operation over the past 2 years and I will continue to give my best efforts to the Wing as well as Alberta Group.

R.J. Roe
IMMP President: 783 Wing, AFAC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to the 783(Calgary) Wing Members.

As of April 27th I am your Interim President. I am looking forward to serving you to the best of my ability.

When the Elections are concluded in June and if I am still the President I, with the rest of the executive, will strive to meet your expectations.

By working together we can continue to have successes and can work in keeping the Wing alive and well for many more years to come.

Robert Clarke
Interim President: 783 Wing, AFAC

AWARDS LIST – ALBERTA AGM

The following is a list of award winners at the Alberta AGM held in Cold Lake, Alberta April 25, 2009.

Alberta Group Side Hill Gouger:

- 1) Bob Morgan #700
- 2) Bert Lapointe #702
- 3) Anna Lewis #783
- 4) Brian Lewis #783
- 5) Bob Garland #784

6) Alice Kirwin #784

7) Yvan Lecours #784

Alberta Group Bar to the Side Hill Gouger:

1) Zita Cloney #784

2) Marilyn Fitzpatrick #784

3) Gilles McDermott #784

4) Margaret Young #784

Award of Merit:

1) Dot Deines #783

2) Barbara Mann #783

Award of Distinction:

1) Al Collins #783

2) Frank Marcaro #783

3) Otto Meisner #783

4) Patricia Trollope #783

Good Samaritan Award:

185 Olds RCACS Members: 2Lt David Olsen, F/S Erika Dowell, F/S Tyrell Soderberg, Sgt Christine Hopkins, Sgt Benjamin Peachment, Sgt Alan White, F/Cpl Keith Lantz

Peter Allen Memorial Award

Eleanor Berlin #783

Member of the Year Alberta Group

Patricia Sulek #783

Wing of the Year Alberta Group

#783 Calgary Wing

WEBSITE INFORMATION & NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

783 (Calgary) Wing website is up and running but still in under construction. This is your original website that we are currently updating and revising. One new item on this website is the calendar. Please submit events for the calendar in writing (snail mail or email) to Brian Lewis. (see directory). Currently work is being done on a photo gallery and a secure login for members only. It is: www.afac783wing.ca and www.783afacwingcalgary.ca

A decision was made at the September 24, 2008 General Meeting to distribute the Newsletter by e-mail to those for whom we have e-mail addresses, in order to save some photo-copying and mailing expenses. It will continue to be mailed to those for whom we have no e-mail addresses.

If anyone who receives the mailed copy and has an e-mail address, we would prefer to e-mail only, so please contact Anna Lewis (Editor-in-Chief) with your email address. Please note that in the future, once our website is up and running, all pictures will be available online for viewing.

We encourage all members to become active in this newsletter by submitting ideas, news stories, pictures or general comments. Feedback will help in the development of your newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of April 27, 2009 we have 72 regular and 6 life memberships for a total of 78 wing members. Year tags are now available for your laminated membership cards that Kendall had handed out in March. Please bring your card to the next meeting for her to attach to your card.

Sometime in mid-May, invoices will be sent out for next year's membership fees. \$18.00 for singles and \$25.00 for couples.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Just when you think its safe to put away the heavy coats and boots, we are reminded of who is really in control. I hope that this last batch of cold weather was the final hooray for winter! If not, we might as well pack up and move to Alaska (notice I didn't say Winnipeg although I'm not sure which is worse, the black flies in Alaska or the helicopters they call misquitos in Winnipeg). My flowers keep poking their heads up and then get snowed on. I shiver every time I see them, with their first tender shoots sticking up in another heap of snow.

These past few months have been a hectic time for the #783 members. Events to attend, awards to be lugged home and framed. Yes, I framed mine and was very honored, as was my husband. We had a great time at the Alberta AGM in Cold Lake, highly recommend it and would encourage more of the membership to come next year. Ask Eleanor, she had a great time! It's not so much the destination but the journey and the company you keep that makes it fun.

Next year the Alberta AGM is to be hosted by us (#783 Wing), here in Calgary, so mark your calendar and join in the fun! Joanna Howard has agreed to be the chairperson of the organizing committee.

Battle of Britian committee has been formed and will be starting up soon, getting ready for Sept 20, 2009.

Summer is fast approaching, and our annual AGM and final wing meeting for the season will be on June 22. See the last page of the newsletter to get a Nomination form for the executive and director elections.

Sincerely,

Anna Lewis

Editor-in-Chief

P.S. I encourage you to continue with your feedback on the likes or "dislikes" of our newsletter or webpage.

AIR FORCE MUSEUM SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

The Air Force Museum of Alberta (AFMSA) is an equal partner in the new Military Museums at the location of the former Museum of the Regiments on Crowchild Trail. Construction of the AFMSA is still in progress. The Museum will soon need volunteers to be Tour Guides, so please consider volunteering by contacting Kenn Nixon. Official opening was on May 7, 2009.

The AFMSA website is www.airforcemuseumalberta.ca. Comments and suggestions should be directed to Kenn Nixon. Wing members are encouraged to become members of the museum. The AFMSA is an approved charitable organization, and can provide official receipts for tax purposes for all donations. For further information and applications for memberships, please call Don Norrie, the membership chairman, at 403-949-2579.

NOTICES

- Please save your used stamps for Marion Mascaro. She is collecting used stamps to be donated to the Alberta Cancer Society.
- Eleanor Berlin requests notification of any wing member who is ill so that she can send them a card from the Wing.

CADET LIAISON REPORT

Congratulations and many thanks to the #11 Lethbridge and #225 Taber for a great job in hosting this years Sports & Drill competition held on the Apr 25/09 weekend. Judging by the smiles and laughter from the cadets, they had a great time. The winners this year are:

Senior volleyball – 1st place - #11 Lethbridge, 2nd place - #604.

Jr Volleyball – 1st place - #604, 2nd place - #11.

Senior BB – 1st place - #781, 2nd place - #11.

Jr BB – 1st place - #11, 2nd place #604.

Sportsmanship awards went to the #538, #11, #225 and #239.

Compulsory Drill – 1st place - #604, 2nd place #903.

Precision Drill – 1st place - #604, 2nd place #903.

Congratulations to everyone who attended....all were winners. Huge thank you to all the volunteers and staff who spent many, many hours making this such a sucessful and fun competition.

783 WING FUNCTIONS

Entertainment - Pat Trollope and Dot Deines have taken on the task of organizing Wing entertainment. They request that Wing members phone them to pass on their ideas and suggestions. On May 6, members attended the Jubliation Dinner Theatre and had a great time.

Special Events/Bus trips - Pat Sulek, our event coordinator, welcomes all suggestions and comments.



On May 3, members and guests took a bus trip to the Frank Slide. Lunch was at the Pure Country Restaurant and Saloon. The weather was great and the newly renovated interpretive centre was beautiful. On the way home, we stopped at the Lundebeck Falls and then at Claresholm for ice cream.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month, except in July, August and December, when there are no meetings. They will continue to be held at 1930 hrs at the 285 Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, on Horton Road, for the foreseeable future. Members may enjoy dinner at the 285 Legion before the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend the Wing Meetings to find out what's going on and have input into the decisions and activities.

- **May 25, 2009** **Wing Meeting - Nominations (Executives and Directors) – see last page of newsletter for nomination forms**
- **May 30, 2009** **#702 Lethbridge Lobsterfest \$50.00/plate**
- **June 6, 2009** **Official Opening – Military Museum**
- **June 21, 2009** **#700 Spaghetti Dinner 3pm, location TBA**
- **June 22, 2009** **Wing Meeting - Annual General Meeting #783 Wing Voting (Executives and Directors), Final Wing Meeting until September 2009.**
- **June 30 – July 1** **Casino**
- **July 4, 2009** **Annual Stampede Breakfast**
 - **9528-3 Street SE, Calgary RSVP (403)253-6297**
- **July 25, 2009** **Lethbridge Air Show – more info to come from Pat Sulek in regards to the #783 Wing providing food for Lethbridge.**
- **Aug TBA** **UN Peacekeepers Parade, Peacekeep Park, 3pm**
- **September 28, 2009** **Wing Meeting**

In addition to the above, here is a list of ACR dates (tentative):

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| • #538 | May 30 | School | 10:30am |
| • #52 | May 31 | Bishop Grandon | 2:00pm |
| • #781 | TBA | TBA | TBA |
| • #185 | June 4 | Olds TBA | TBA |
| • #187 | June 6 | Nanton Lancaster | 12:30pm |
| • #903 | June 7 | Civic Centre | TBA |
| • #878 | June 6 | School | 2:00pm |
| • #604 | June 13 | Mewata | TBA |
| • #88 | June 13 | Airdrie TBA | TBA |

CATCH UP ON PAST WING EVENTS.....

CHARTER NIGHT:



Charter Night Anniversasary celebration – March 21, 2009. Our guest speakers, Jonathan Denis, MLA and Col. Art Wreidt Commander 4 Brigade CSG along with several cadets who piped in the flag party.



As you can see it was a full room with an evening filled with lots of toasts and laughs and many door prizes. Marion and Fran Mascaro gave the toasts to the ladies and gentlemen.

ALBERTA GENERAL MEETING:



Apr 24-26, 2009 Alberta AGM at Cold Lake, Alberta.

Some arrived Friday night for the “meet & greet”, while others arrived the next morning.

Saturday, while the delegates met, the spouses were entertained with scrap booking and how to use your camera sessions. Some of us were able to get some time to see the sites in Cold Lake

and do a bit of shopping.

During the Saturday luncheon, some of the awards were given out with the remaining handed out during the Saturday dinner and dance.

Sunday morning, we were treated to a lovely breakfast before setting off on the road to home.



“Member of the Year” as announced at the Alberta General Meeting, our very own Pat Sulek #783 Wing member.

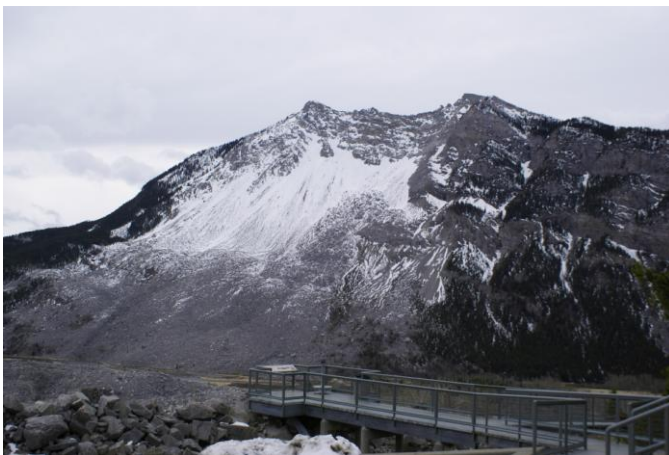


“Peter Allen Memorial Award” as awarded at the AGM, to Eleanor Berlin, one of our cherished #783 Wing member.



Here's the Meals on Wheels Van that the #783 Wing helped sponsor. They came to the April 27 meeting for us to view.

BUS TOUR:



Frank Slide, bus tour on May 3 was a delight. As usual, we had “Pat” the bus driver, while our Pat and Kenn team kept us entertained and awake the whole trip. The Interpretive center at Frank Slide had just reopened after being newly renovated and the tour guide was very informative and helped disspell some of the misconceptions & stories that have been told over the years. Imagine on Apr 29, 1903 at 4:10am, 30 million cubic metres of limestone crashed

from the summit of Turtle Mtn and buried part of the sleeping town of Frank. The rock mass that fell was 500 ft deep, 1,400 ft high and one kilometre wide. In a town of approx 600 people, only around 100 individuals were killed. All this happened in only 90 seconds.



On the way back from Frank Slide, we stopped to enjoy the Lundebek Falls. Then it was onto Claresholm for a short break, which was supposed to be just to stretch our legs, but turned into an ice cream break.

RECIPE CORNER

Recipe from Zita Cloney #784 Cold Lake (Alberta AGM in April/09).

Graham Squares

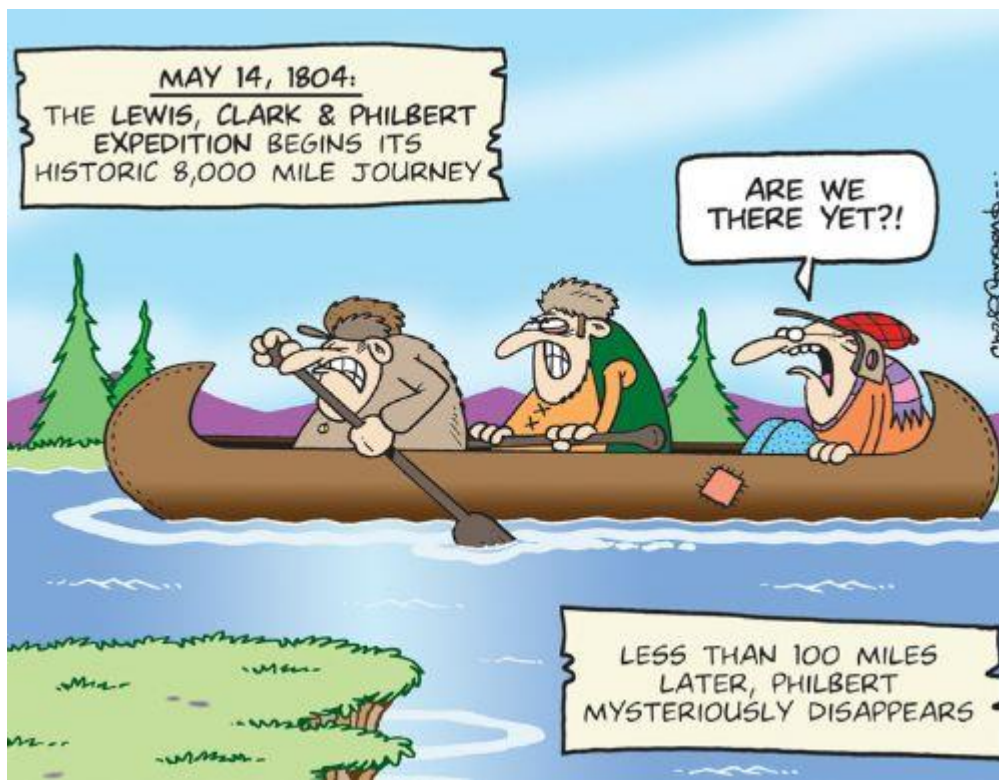
Filling – Melt together over low heat - 1 cup brown sugar and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup margarine. Beat well $\frac{1}{3}$ cup milk and 1 egg and add to the melted sugar and margarine. Cook on medium heat until thick. Remove from heat and cool for a few minutes. Then add 1 cup of coconut and 1 cup of graham crumbs.

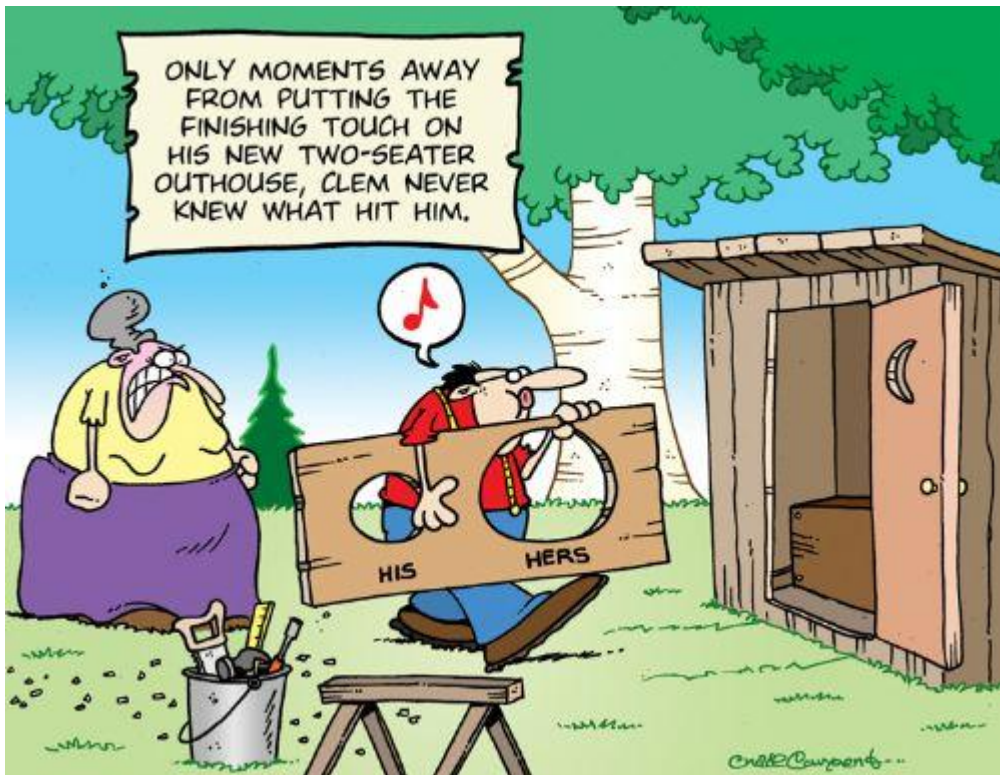
Put graham crackers in bottom of a pan dish and then add your filling. Top with another layer of graham crackers. Add your icing.

Icing – 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of icing sugar, 1 egg, pinch of salt, 1 tsp vanilla, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup margarine and beat for 3 minutes.

DID YOU KNOW

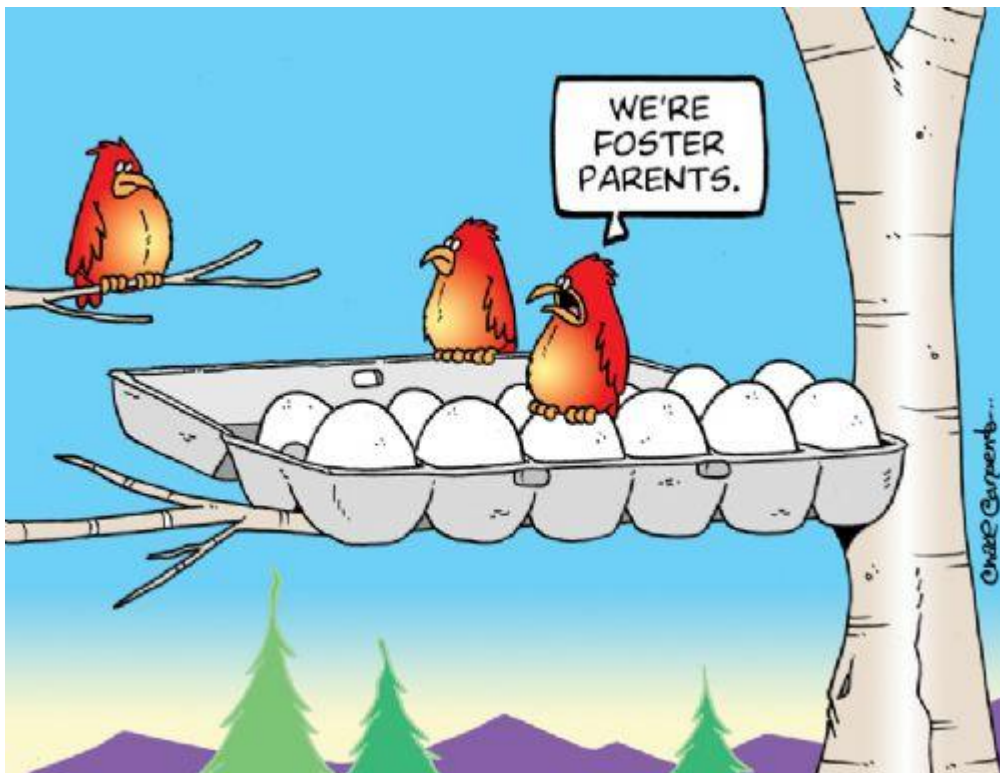
COMEDY CORNER





**Measure once,
cut twice!**

*[Editor's note
- he's dead
meat!]*



How cute!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....

Allen Robert Collins



Being a farm boy in drought ridden southern Alberta in the late 1920's and early 1930's, Allen had seen enough of farming. When war was declared in 1939 at 19 years old, along with his pal, he joined the RCAF in Calgary. Never being more than 100 miles from home, this was an experience in itself.



From Manning depot in Edmonton his whole troop was posted to #15 SFTS Claresholm. To his knowledge no one from his Claresholm troop made aircrew. In October, Allen was posted to #1 Northwest Staging Unit Grande Prairie, Alberta. These units were emergency stopping points for aircraft being “ferried” to Alaska for futherance to Russia and beyond. Many never knew about the Staging Units and their functions. There was also a US Airforce Unit at the base.

He was married in Grande Prairie in 1944 and then in the fall of 1945 was posted to Winnipeg until his release in January 1946. He then returned to Grande Prairie to look for work. He has lived in Grande Prairie, Dawson Creek, Athabasca, and Edmonton finally locating to Calgary in 1962. Most of his working years until 1984 was with a heavy equipment company.

Since his retirement, he has become involved with genology where he discovered he was a descendant of Wm. Bradford (1620 Mayflower passenger) and now is a member of the Canadian and US Mayflower Society. On his maternal side, he is the grandson of Wm. F. Parker, who arrived in Ft. Macleod in 1874 with the first contingent of the newly formed N.W.M.P. As a footnote, he was born 9 pm on Mar 27, 1924 in Burdett, Alberta, which makes him 3 hours and 4 days older than the RACF (Apr 2, 1924). He knows this exact time via his mother's diary which she “kept” faithfully from 1923 into the early 1940's.

“Looking back, I have enjoyed my life with really no regrets. I have enjoyed life with these former RCAF'ers here in Calgary.”

OTHER NEWS.....

Atlantic Southeast Airlines Lightning Strike: This Would Get Anyone's Attention

Thanks to one of our American Airlines' pilot friends who sent us these photos this morning of an Atlantic Southeast Airlines/Delta Connection aircraft, after it suffered a lightning strike. If these photos don't scare you, I'm not sure what would. As he said to me in his note, "Wonder what the Captain's seat cushion looked like after this..."



Member's Statement

April 6, 2009

783 Air Force Wing

Jonathan Denis (MLA, Calgary-Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise today to acknowledge the 783 Air Force Wing, of which I am proud to have been named an honorary member. I was recently invited by a couple of my constituents, Al and Bev Spielman, to attend the 783 Air Force Wing anniversary banquet on March 21, 2009. Based out of Calgary, the 783 branch has positioned itself as an important part of the broader Air Force Association of Canada.

Established in 1948, the Air Force Association of Canada is identifiable through its support, sponsorship, and encouragement of all aspects of aviation, aerospace, and aeronautics. This directive means that the group has been very active within Calgary, Alberta, and Canada through a variety of projects, including honouring the past traditions of the Canadian Air Force and providing a common bond for all aviation personnel; encouraging improved aviation legislation; actively promoting the future of Canadian military and civil aviation by lobbying for the procurement of improved military aviation equipment; participating in community programs designed towards development of Canadian youth, particularly the air cadet activities; undertaking local community charitable projects; honouring the achievements and efforts of deserving groups, organizations, or individuals associated with Canadian military and civil aviation; fostering and encouraging a spirit of fellowship among those involved in aviation endeavours; and, of course, working for Canadian unity and encouraging responsible citizenship among all Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, the 783 Air Force Wing is a prime example of an organization in our province that is working hard to make a difference in our country. I would like to take the time to thank the 783 Wing for their contributions to this province and wish them all the best in the future.

Thank you.



Excerpted from *Alberta Hansard*, page 521



NOMINATION ACCEPTANCE FORM

#783 (Calgary) Wing

Air Force Association of Canada

I _____ do hereby accept the nomination for the position of:

PRESIDENT

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

TREASURER

SECRETARY

DIRECTOR

(Please sign on the line opposite the position for which you are accepting the nomination)

Chair-Nominations Committee

Robert (R.J.) Roe