



Tribute to the “unknown” and “known”

Lest We Forget

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

783 (CALGARY) WING

FALL NEWSLETTER 2009

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As elected at the Annual General Meeting held June 22, 2009.

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#783 WING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Not much has taken place since our last meeting.

On October 15th I traveled to Toronto and on to Trenton for the Annual General Meeting of the Air Force Association of Canada. It was a very interesting session and I now have a better opinion as to some of the problems that the Association faces.

The business sessions were very informative with some excellent presentations. Lieutenant General Deschamps Chief of the Air Staff gave one of the best ones. He explained just where the Air Force was going in the future. Another speaker of note was Gerald Haddon (the grandson of J.A.D. McCurdy).

He told stories, which most people are not aware of, regarding the man who made aviation in Canada a reality. I met quite a few people for the very first and was impressed by the strength of some of the Wings in Ontario and Quebec.

The elections were no surprise with the three nominated delegates being elected to office.

On our Wing scene, the planning for our Christmas Party at the Blackfoot inn on December 4th is proceeding very well. Tickets will be available at the October 26th meeting at a cost of \$20.00 to each Member or guest. *[Editor's note – see Calendar of Events for more information]*

Respective submitted,
Robert Clarke
President 783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC

Per Ardua Ad Astra

ALBERTA GROUP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Not available at this time

Gilles attended our last wing meeting on Oct 26 to make the National Award Presentations as well as inform us about the National AGM and some of the resolutions that were passed or not passed, etc. He also informed us about a "Secret Santa Fund" to help the less fortunate veterans, that was presented at National. See Page 8.

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. Don't forget we have a calendar on the website. Please submit events for the calendar in writing (snail mail or email) to Brian Lewis. Currently work is being done on a photo gallery and a secure login for members only.

www.783afacwingcalgary.ca

Distribution of this newsletter is either by e-mail or Canada Post. In an effort to be fiscally responsible and eco friendly, e-mail is the preferred method of distribution. (It will continue to be mailed to those for whom we have no e-mail addresses.) If anyone who receives the mailed copy but now has an e-mail address, please contact Anna Lewis with your new email address.

We encourage all members to become active in this newsletter by submitting ideas, recipes, news stories, pictures or general comments. I'll even take some good "clean" jokes. Feedback will help in the development of your newsletter and website.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of this newsletter, we have 82 regular and 6 life memberships for a total of 88 wing members.

Invoices were mailed out in May/09 for this year's membership fees.

\$18.00 for singles

\$25.00 for couples.

If you have not received your invoice or submitted your payment, please contact Kendal Spielman as the due date for payment was June 30/09. Remit payment to #783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC, c/o Kendall Spielman, 95 Shawcliffe Circle SW, Calgary, AB T2Y 1J3 or phone 403-256-3612.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome back to everyone! I hope everyone had a great and safe summer. My family was kept pretty busy this year. In July we took our children to Disney World in Florida, saw the space launch from our hotel balcony, and visited the Kennedy Space Station, Universal Studios with a final stop at Mt Rushmore in South Dakota. Brian and I have just recently returned from Cancun Mexico, our first vacation without children in 29 years....long over due.

Our membership has been kept pretty busy this summer as well. I understand that the July Lethbridge Airshow was a great success (sorry we had to miss that one). There was the Peacekeepers Parade in August, the Battle of Britain in September and the National AGM in mid October. Whew! Hope everyone got some rest in between events!

Here is a list of National Awards: Flanking both sides (Far Left – Southern Zone VP- Robert Roe, Far Right - #783 Wing President, Robert Clarke)



Meritorious Service Award – Steve MacDonnell #783 Wing

Distinguished Service Award – Bev Spielman #783 Wing

Efficiency Award – Alberta Group – Gilles McDermott President

Christina Handler Memorial Award – Frank Mascaro #783 Wing (Marion, his wife accepted on his behalf)

Member of the Year – Vern McKeague #783 Wing

Special note: #52 Air Cadet Squadron has invited the members of the #783 Wing to their Silent Auction on November 28th. See “Other News” for more details. I encourage you to consider joining them and/or sponsoring them by donating a gift to be auctioned off. I know that last time they had a Silent Auction we had a blast! It was a great evening!

Don't forget to roll back your clocks one hour Oct 31 when you go to bed! Daylight Savings!
Yours truly,

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. Recipes! I need recipes, gals and guys for our “Recipe Swap” section!

If you have news from other wings or air cadet squadrons, I would be pleased to publish their events or news in our newsletter.

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. The Museum needs 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, 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

September 28, 2008

The Cadet year as started off with the Calgary Squadrons report pretty good numbers for returning cadets.

52 Sqn	70
538 Sqn	45
781 Sqn	
604 Sqn	70

Two squadrons will be changing command this fall:

52 Sqn	Major Kenn Nixon to Capt Rob Caswell	Nov 3/09
538 Sqn	Capt Mary Helmer to Capt Phil Ricard	Oct 5/09

We started the year of course with the Battle of Britain parade with 52, 604, 781 and 903 Sqns participating. Approximately 125 Cadets were on parade. We had three army cadets from Cheshmere attending.

There are several new League reps in the Southern Zone:

11 Sqn Lethbridge and 225 Sqn Taber	Mrs Debbie Duncan (from 703 Wing)
15 Sqn Medicine Hat	Mrs Lynn Nunchur
52 Sqn	Mr and Mrs John and Sandra Jackson
604 Sqn	Mrs Theresa Schenenauer
781 Sqn	Mrs Kendra Fisher
903 Sqn Strathmore	Bob Bauhuis

The military has reorganized the make up of the Prairie Region, consolidating leadership in Winnipeg, removing the Detachment Commander in Edmonton. We now have four Area Cadet Officers (Air) in Alberta. They are:

ACO South	Randy Fisher	12 Sqn
ACO Central	Capt Bogovics	9 Sqn
ACO NW	Capt Cher Lindley- Scott	10 Sqn

The Zones have been realigned to match the new military structure.

Events coming up.

Oct 17 Pat and I will be doing a Southern Zone Effective Speaking Workshop

Oct 23/25 Alberta Provincial AGM in Edmonton

Nov 11 Remembrance participation by Cadets

Pat has reminded the Squadrons that they have the Missing Comrade Table Ceremony package that we donated to each squadron and that it is appropriate that they try to do it at least once per year.

October 26, 2008

Just a reminder #52 Sqn is changing command Nov 3 at approx 7pm. Major Nixon to Capt Rob Caswell. You are invited to come out to the ceremonies.

The Cadets are currently underway with their exercises and recruit training. They all seem to be having a very busy fall. They are all getting ready for their involvement in the various Remembrance Day activities throughout the city, the Jubilee auditorium, the cenotaph, the Military Museums and the various Legions. You will see cadets in malls and other areas selling poppies.

The southern zone Effective Speaking Workshop was held Oct 17th. We had 16 cadets and 5 or 6 parents stay for the day. It seemed to be a success. 187 Okotoks/High River Sqn would like Pat and I to come out and present to their squadron.

Last weekend, the Alberta Provincial Committee held their AGM in Edmonton. There were few contention issued but they did raise the per cadet assessment for the first time in 8 or 9 years from \$33 to \$40.

The executive remains the same after the election:

Chair Fred Johnsen

Vice Chair Darlene LaRoche

Secretary Karen Schegl

Directors:

Finance Carol Cox

Netook Ross Hamilton

Air Resources Eric Steffensen

Camp Wright Wally Johnsen

Worthington Burt Gillings

NW Zone Kevin Robinson

NE Zone Evelyn Hutchings

Central Zone Stan Monkman

Southern Zone Pat Sulek

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenn Nixon

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS TOURS

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



Upcoming Bus Tour planned for November 14 – Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park. Departure time 9:30 am from the #285 Legion and estimated time of return is 5-5:30pm. If you have not signed up, contact Pat Sulek ASAP.

SECRET SANTA FUND

This background information was supplied by Gordon MacKay #784 Cold Lake Wing from their Wing Minutes.

They made a presentation at the National AGM, and we understand that they want it administered at the wing level. Please keep in mind that the below information was directed at Cold Lake but the program is for all the Wings. If you have any comments, would like to be involved, want to donate or submit a veteran's name, please contact Gordon MacKay Phone (780)594-6175 (leave a message) or email to airforc@telus.net.

Reference: Meeting President 784 Wing AFAC/WCWO 4 Wing Cold Lake, 25 August 2009

Dear Executive Members:

On 25 August 2009, I attended a meeting with the 4 Wing WCWO, CWO Dion, at his request. Also in attendance at this meeting was Mr Larry Giacobbo the President of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 211, Cold Lake.

During this meeting CWO Dion related a story of a young corporal who had worked for him while stationed in Winnipeg. This Corporal, a number of years ago, identified a number of Veterans within the area that for one reason or another had very little in the way of material possessions. He took it upon himself to "Adopt" these Veterans and at Christmas time he delivered hampers of gifts to them. He had acquired these gifts through donations and had identified what the needs were of these Veterans through contact with them.

One Christmas, CBC Radio News covered this remarkable story and interviewed one of the Vets, a Second World War Vet. When asked what the receiving of gifts from Uniform members of the Forces meant to him he related that he had some 25 Children, Grandchildren and Great Grand Children and had never been visited by any of them during Xmas. Enough said.

This program began to grow and grow until finally one day this Corporal approached CWO Dion and told him that he had not sufficient resources to fill the needs of these Vets. You see, he elected to include all Veterans in the area that wished to be part of the Program. Subsequently, through CWO Dions' contacts within the CF, Units at CFB Winnipeg "Adopted" Vets and looked after there "Adopted" vet(s) at Xmas time. I should mention at this time that this Program commences after Remembrance Day activities yearly so as not to take away from those that paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

Last year, amazingly there were some 175 Veterans in the Winnipeg area that were recipients of "Xmas Hampers".

It is CWO Dions' intention to take steps to make this a national program. He related that what amazed him the most was the very basic items that these Veterans were asking for as gifts; shaving cream, toothpaste, etc. He was shocked that these remarkable people were doing without such basic needs. Like he said, we remember, and rightfully so, those that did not come home, but those that did too often are forgotten. How true.

CWO Dion is soliciting the support of this Wing to identify Veterans in the area who could use a hand at Xmas time. The program would then identify Units/Organizations, etc., who would like to become involved in adopting a Vet(s). It goes without saying that this Program I am sure will take on a life of its' own and therefore I encourage your support here to day for me to advise CWO Dion that this Wing is on board ready to help in any way possible.

I thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Gordon L.L.MacKay, CD
President
784 Wing Air Force Associations
Of Canada

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. Come early and enjoy dinner at the #285 Legion before the meeting (last call for the kitchen is 1815 hrs).

All members are encouraged to attend the Wing Meetings to not only find out what's going on, but also to have input into the decisions and activities and get to know that other members. Summer dress attire is only from May 1 to Sept 30.

Date missing? Wrong information? Let us know! We're always looking ahead, so all dates (even a year in advance) are most welcome.

- **November 1, 2009** **Daylight savings – turn back your clocks one hour when you go to bed Oct 31**



- **November 11, 2009** **Remembrance Day - 1100 hrs - #783 Wing will be involved at the following locations:**

- Jubilee Auditorium, The Cenotaph, Military Museum and the #285 Horton Road Legion

- **November 14, 2009** **Bus Tour to Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park. (See “Special Event” section for more details)**
- **November 23, 2009** **Wing Meeting**
- **November 28, 2009** **#52 Air Cadet Squadron Silent Auction (See “Other News” for poster)**
- **December 4, 2009** **Wing Christmas Party, Blackfoot Inn, Calgary, in the Sundance Room. Buffet dinner @ \$20.00 per person. Cocktails 1730hrs, Dinner 1830hrs. Contact Betty Watson to purchase your tickets. Ph# 403-249-5764 or daveandbettyw@shaw.ca**
- **December 28, 2009** **NO Wing Meeting, Enjoy your holiday**
- **January 25, 2010** **Wing Meeting**
- **February 22, 2010** **Wing Meeting**
- **March 22, 2010** **Wing Meeting**
- **April 26, 2010** **Wing Meeting**
- **May 7-9, 2010** **Alberta AGM, Port ‘O Call, Calgary, currently in the planning stage**
- **May 24, 2010** **Wing Meeting**
- **June 28, 2010** **Wing Meeting & AGM**
- **Oct , 2010** **National AGM, Comox, BC**

CATCH UP ON PAST EVENTS.....



Here's a look at the new executive for the #702 Lethbridge Wing.



Peacekeepers Parade

What a great turn out! The weather was great but HOT!



We had attendees from all walks of life, who came to pay their respects.

Our Wing President, Robert Clarke laying our wreath.



Flag Party – Note Kenn Nixon and Keith Mann representing the #783 Wing. Looking smart!



Battle of Britain

We had a great turnout, even though the wind was chilly! At least, it stopped raining before the ceremony.

Veteran's march past with the cadets.





Keith Mann, representing the #783 Wing at the laying of the wreaths.

Our Honorary President, Col (Ret'd) Don Matthews, representing the Canadian Forces.



Some of the invited dignitaries, including a few of the RAF at the far right of the picture. Nice to see them represented this year.



As always, the cadets look wonderful and did an outstanding job!

RECIPE SWAP

Honey-Lime Berries and Greens

Recipe from Keith & Barb Mann #783 Calgary. Sounds yummy!



Salad Mix – toss together:

6 cups of salad greens

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup fresh strawberries/raspberries

4 thinly sliced red onions, separated into rings

2 tablespoons sliced almonds/pecans

Dressing – mix and pore on the salad before serving:

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup lime juice

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

3 tablespoons honey

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon poppy seed

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon dijon mustard

Pumpkin Mousse

Recipe from Receptionist at The Calgary Sun. Great alternative to Pumpkin Pie! Tastes great, I just had it on “treat day” here at the Sun!



2 packages of Instant Vanilla Pudding (6 serving size)

1 can of pumpkin

1 tablespoon nutmeg

1 tablespoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon ginger

1 tub Cool Whip

Start by making the vanilla pudding as per its directions, then mix in pumpkin and spices. Fold in 2 scoops of Cool Whip. Put into the fridge to cool. When serving, add a spoon of Cool Whip on top.

COMEDY CORNER



*Did everyone get back safe and sound this summer! If you've been camping, better count all your fingers and toes.....bear treats!
[Editor's note]*



Hey....how'd this get here!! Must be a publishing error! Sorry, will try to do better next time... My apologies to the innocent (*or not so innocent*)!

If anybody in particular is looking for me, tell ~~her~~ them that I've gone into the "witness protection program". Shhhh!



GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....



Col. (Ret'd) Don Matthews

Don is the President of Helicopter Intelligence and Crosswind Consulting. He is the founder and immediate past President of the Canadian Centre for Unmanned Vehicles Systems - the mission of which is to facilitate and accelerate the growth of the Canadian UVS sector. He was also the start up President of Aviation Alberta and an owner and managing partner of a multi media training solutions company in Edmonton. Today he serves in Calgary on the board of both La Viexplorers business ministry and the Air Force Museum of Alberta. During a thirty year military career Colonel " Fang " Matthews flew over 3700 hours on jet aircraft in Canada and in NATO Europe. He served in the Persian Gulf War in 1991, leading the Canadian F18 Squadron and flying 23 combat missions. He also served as the Commanding Officer of the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment and as the Canadian Commander with the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Haiti 1995 –96. He has been honoured to serve as the Honorary Colonel of 419 Squadron from July 2005 to July 2009.

Honours and Awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Canadian Forces Decoration with clasp, the Gulf and Kuwait Medal, the Special Service Medal (NATO), the Canadian Peace Keeping Service Medal, UN Mission in Haiti Medal, the Canada 125 Medal, the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia) and the US Army Commendation Medal.

And most recently has agreed to be the honorary president for the #783 (Calgary) Wing Air Force Association of Canada replacing Terry Thompson.

2009
SILENT & LIVE AUCTION
Supporting
52 “City of Calgary”
Air Cadet Squadron

Saturday, November 28, 2009
Cedarbrae Community Center
11024 Oakfield Dr. S.W.

Doors Open at 6pm
Dinner Served at 6:45 pm
Silent & Live Auctions Throughout the Evening

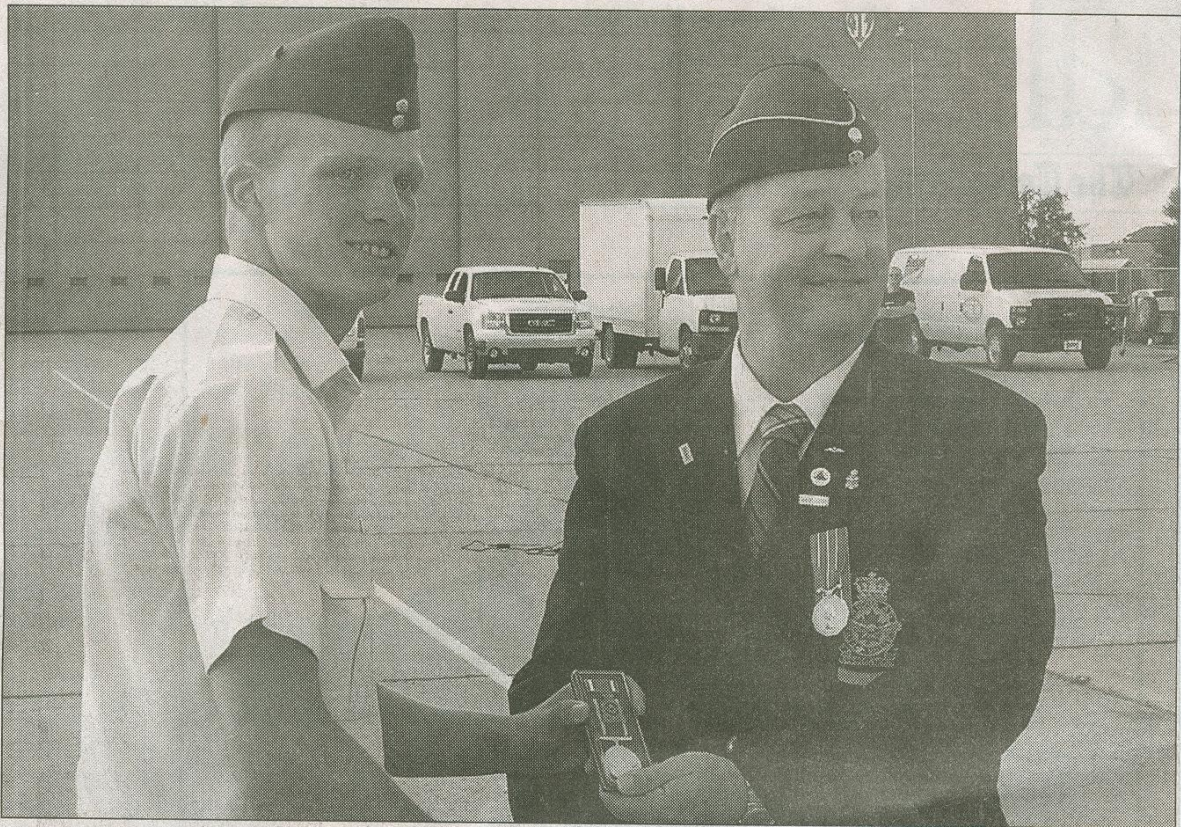
Admission Price \$30.00/person
Includes Hot Buffet Dinner

PLUS...
A chance to bid on Fabulous Auction Items

Other Fun...
Draws; Raffles; Balloon Prizes

Further details: www.52aircadets.ca

Please contact Carlene Crumley (ccrumley@telusplanet.net or 238-4088) Sandra Jackson (s.jackson@xplornet.com or 938-0262) or Mary Skidmore (cadetmom@shaw.ca or 698-6467) for donations for the Auction or to purchase tickets.



Sgt. Travis Buckle of the 510 Lions air cadets is presented with the Air Force Association Medal (AFAM) as the top cadet from Newfoundland and Labrador. The medal was presented during the awards ceremony at the conclusion of the Air Cadet Senior Leaders' Course in Cold Lake, Alta. Alberta Group President, Gilles McDermott is presenting the award. — Submitted photo

News Article re: Air Force Association Medal Presentation

Gilles McDermott did us proud with this presentation – great news coverage in Newfoundland. Many thanks to Sergeant Paula Walsh for sharing this with us, and congratulations to Travis for a well-earned recognition.

Dean



Dean Black

Executive Director | Directeur exécutif

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DEFENCE

Cadet claims national honours

By DANETTE DOOLEY

SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM

It wasn't long after Travis Buckle joined air cadets two years ago that he set his sights on one day bringing home the Air Force Association Medal (AFAM).

Thirteen years old at the time he joined the program, Buckle did just that this summer after participating in the Air Cadet Senior Leaders' Course in Cold Lake, Alta.

"That was the best feeling I've had in my life. It was all about setting the goal and finally getting it," Buckle says of hearing his name called as the top cadet for Newfoundland and Labrador.

Buckle is a sergeant with the Royal Canadian Air Cadets 510 squadron in St. John's.

Awarded annually to the top cadet from each province (there is also an additional medal for Northwest Ontario and one for the country's northern region), the medals are presented at an awards ceremony at the conclusion of the senior leaders' course.

Initiated in 1954, the six-week summer course teaches cadets numerous skills including teamwork, leadership and communication.

Youth aged 12-18 are eligible to enrol in the cadet movement.

Eight cadets from this province participated in this year's senior leaders' course.

As a 15-year-old, Buckle was among the youngest of the 240 cadets from across the country accepted into the course.

"They want to take you from a follower and turn you into a leader by the end of the six weeks," Buckle says.

A typical day saw the youth out of bed at 5 a.m., participating in activities throughout the day, and, if they choose, several evenings a week.

"I was on the precision drill team. We practised three or four times a week in the evenings," Buckle says.

The course builds upon what the cadets have learned through their local squadrons.

It also prepares them for leadership positions within their squadrons and at training centres in other provinces.

The air cadet program is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first powered flight in Canada as well as the centennial of the Cadet Instructor Cadre (CIC).

A former cadet in Nova Scotia, Norm Macfie is a retired banker who became involved with the cadet program in this province as a civilian instructor in 1984.

He took over as commanding officer of 510 the following year and currently serves as provincial treasurer of the Air Cadet League of Canada.

Guided by their instructors, cadets progress through the ranks on their own merit, Macfie says noting that the program is free to youth.

In 2008, Macfie says, 10 cadets from this province completed power aircraft-training, 14 completed glider training and three took part in international exchanges.

Buckle, who plays the snare drum in his squadron's band, agrees being a cadet is about much more than marching and drill.

"We learn a lot and we get to meet new friends," he says.

The cadet program — Air, Army and Navy — was introduced in this province in 1949.

One of the founding squadrons, 510 has been sponsored by the St. John's Lions Club for the past six decades.

Through the years thousands of cadets like Buckle have passed through the ranks says 510 commanding officer, Capt. Michael Crawford.

"We have grandchildren now of former cadets who are joining the squadron," Crawford says.

While cadet activities have changed through the years, the goal of offering an environment where youth can thrive and gain self-confidence remains intact, Crawford says.

"That was the goal in 1949 and it's still the goal today."

As a government-funded organization, Crawford says, the cadet program is open to youth, regardless of their backgrounds or ability to pay.

"You can get your glider and pilot's licence for free. You get to travel. I had a cadet in Turkey this year for three weeks and he had a wonderful time," Crawford says.

In adult life, cadets have gone on to carve successful careers in both private and public life.

"Our first commanding officer (Col. Frederick Russell) was also a lieutenant governor," Crawford says.

Because of their high degree of responsibility and various skills, cadets are often the top pick for employers, Crawford says.

Buckle says whatever path he takes in life will be influenced by his cadet experience.

"Everything I'm learning in cadets — things like time management, delegation and managing subordinates — I can apply in other areas of my life," he says.

A level two student at O'Donel high school in Mount Pearl, Buckle plans on pursuing an education degree.

His involvement in cadets is preparing him well for post-secondary education, he says.

"If I do that I'll get the full summer off and I can go to cadets as an instructor," he says.

Crawford is delighted that one of his cadets bought back the top cadet medal from Alberta.

"Travis went up saying he was going to do it. It's a top award and it takes a lot of work. He certainly earned that medal. It's an incredible accomplishment."

The 510 air cadet squadron meets every Thursday night at St. Bonaventure's College in St. John's. For more information about the squadron call 709-570-4655.

danette@nl.rogers.com

Normandy – before & after



From Gordon Kelso:

These pics are from the Saskatoon Control Tower as the crew of Avro Lancaster C-GVRA did a couple of passes at YXE and then went to Winnipeg.

There are only two of them still flying in the world and today one of them flew over Saskatoon to promote the Canada Remembers Air Show in August 2009.

The Avro Lancaster, one of the most famous bombers of World War 2 entered Saskatoon air space, went around with a low fly past at the airport and then circled around and above the city before leaving for Ontario on 3 August 2009.

Thousands of Canadian aircrew served with the RCAF and the Lancaster Squadrons. Over four hundred Lancaster MK X's were built in Canada and shipped overseas for flying duty. And throughout the entire world, only two still fly today, one in England and one in Canada.



The bomber is one hundred and two feet long and just under 70 feet wide. It can reach top speeds of 287 miles and hour and has four Rolls Royce Merlin Engines.

The fly past is a tribute pass to our veterans and a farewell salute to the Cameco Canada Remembers Airshow.

