



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

783 (CALGARY) WING

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2010



EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT clarkerb@telus.net	Robert Clarke	403-236-8862
*HONORARY PRESIDENT crosswind@shaw.ca	Col. (Ret'd) Don Matthews	403-288-5526
*IMM PAST PRESIDENT aerroestar@msn.com	Robert Roe	403-280-1253
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT keithmann@shaw.ca	Keith Mann	403-236-3580
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT daveandbettyw@shaw.ca	Dave Watson	403-249-5764
TREASURER keithmann@shaw.ca	Barbara Mann	403-236-3580
SECRETARY aspielma@telusplanet.net	Bev Spielman	403-253-6297
*PAST PRESIDENTS CHAIR aspielma@telusplanet.net	Al Spielman	403-253-6297

DIRECTORS

Air Cadet Liaison kbnixon@telusplanet.net	Kenn Nixon	403-238-7311
*Casino Chair keithmann@shaw.ca	Keith Mann	403-235-3580
*Ceremonial / Protocol	Art Hill	403-289-0062
Entertainment	Pat Trollope	403-249-8427
*Entertainment Co-chair dmdeines@telus.net	Dot Deines	403-256-3268
Membership kgspielman@shaw.ca	Kendall Spielman	403-256-3612
Newsletter Editor bandalewis@shaw.ca	Anna Lewis	403-730-8969
Public Relations bandalewis@shaw.ca	Brian Lewis	403-730-8969
Special Projects psulek@telus.net	Pat Sulek	403-238-7311
Welfare	Eleanor Berlin	403-244-8217

As elected at the Annual General Meeting held June 22, 2009. (* Non-elected positions)

Newsletter INDEX

• Directory - Executive and Directors.....	Pg 2
• Alberta Group AFAC General Meeting Summary.	Pg 2
• #783 Wing General Meeting Summary.....	Pg 3
• #783 Wing President's Report.....	Pg 3-4
• Alberta Group President's Message	Pg 4
• Greeting from the I.P.P.....	Pg 6
• Honorary President's Message.....	Pg
• Website Information & Newsletter Distribution.....	Pg 6
• Membership Report.....	Pg 7
• Casino Report.....	Pg 7
• Letter from the Editor.....	Pg 7
• Air Force Museum Society of Alberta.....	Pg 8
• Notices.....	Pg 8
• Cadet Liaison Report.....	Pg 9-10
• 783 Wing Functions.....	Pg 9
• Special Tours Report.....	Pg 9
• Calendar of Events.....	Pg 10-11
• Catch up on past events.....	Pg 11-13
• Recipe Swap.....	Pg 14
• Comedy Corner.....	Pg 15
• Getting to know you.....	Pg 16-17
• Other News.....	Pg 18-27

ALBERTA GROUP AFAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

National Report- Immediate Past President (National) J. Melbourne reported the Association is now operating in the black. There have been staff cut-backs, office space etc. There is still a problem with membership cards, but they are hoping this will improve shortly. The RCAFA Trust has a new chairman, (T. Mahood). There will be no executive person sitting on the Trust's Board. Snowbirds are being encouraged to donate to the Trust. Regalia can be ordered as needed. The next National AGM will be held in Comox in October. The following members are on board at the Alberta Museum, G. Whitson, K. Nixon, D. Watson and J. Melbourne. The museum just celebrated their first anniversary.

Immediate Past President S. MacDonnell presented the slate for National and Alberta Group.

The following were elected by acclamation-

President	G. McDermott
VP North	B. Cloney
VP South	R. Roe
Treasurer	K. Nixon
Hon. Pres.	R. Guidinger
Sec. appt	B. Spielman
IPPres.	S. MacDonnell

National -

President	B. Darling
1st Vice Pres	T. Chester
2nd Vice Pres	G. Spradbrow

Immediate past President National J. Melbourne swore in the new Alberta executive.



Guest Speaker Fred Johnson did a presentation on the Air Cadets in Alberta. After speaking, he and President G. McDermott signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Alberta Air Cadet League and the Alberta Group AFAC. (see Page 27 of the newsletter to view).



The following awards were given:
 Peter Allen Memorial Peggy McAllister (#783 Wing)



Peggy is just realizing that it's her name that's going to be announced! Surprise!!!

Group Member of Year Brian Lewis (#783 Wing)



Wing of Year Calgary (#783 Wing)

Side Hill Gougers:

700 Wing	Wendy Johnson, Barbara Cloney, Stan Randall, Arnold "Willy" Williams
702 Wing	Barbara Den Hoed, Florence Look
703 Wing	Bev Hughes, Gordon Traverse
784 Wing	Eugene (Coco) Adams, Gordon MacKay, Tim Balazs



Edith McMinn, presented her award at our wing meeting

Bars:

783 Wing John ter Kuile, Gerry Morrison, Randy Fisher

Randy Fisher, presented his award at our wing meeting



#783 WING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Service Awards were presented to:
10 year – Barb Mann, Keith Mann, Kenn Nixon,
Pat Sulek, Phyllis McNally, Glenys Goossens



45 years – RJ Roe





Elections for the new executive and directors were completed at our June 28th AGM.

[Left to right] Art Hill, Anna Lewis, Pat Sulek, Robert Roe, Eleanor Berlin, Barb Mann, Don Matthews, Dave Watson, Robert Clarke, Keith Mann, Kendal Spielman, and Brian Lewis

[Missing from the photo – Lorne Fleming, Bev Spielman, Kenn Nixon]

#783 WING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As things are winding down there have not been many activities this month.

On June 12th I attended the 878 Banff/ Canmore Squadron's ACR.

I presented a cheque for \$500.00 to the Sponsoring Chairman on behalf of our Wing.

June 19th I attended another ACR at Mewatta Armory. This was for 604 Squadron and on behalf of the Wing I presented a cheque for \$1000.00.

Both ACR's were excellent and the precision drill display at 604's was one of the best I have ever seen.

As this is my final report of the year I will make the following comments.

I have enjoyed my first year as your Wing president very much and hope that I have done a good job in this important position.

If you chose to elect me for a further year I hope to continue in carrying out the job to the best of my ability and keep all your interests and concerns in mind.

I wish all of you an excellent summer break and hope to see most of you at the Breakfast at the Spielman's Ranch on July 10th.

Respectively submitted,

Robert Clarke

President 783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC

Per Ardua Ad Astra

ALBERTA GROUP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Although it can be argued to the contrary, summer is here and I wish all of you a safe and pleasant one. While enjoying this summer, I urge you to keep in mind the fall National meeting in Comox, B.C. During this time we, the AFAC, in keeping with heritage, would like to present the Comox Museum with a sum of money. Your support to this project would be much appreciated. Donations can be forwarded to the Royal Canadian Air Force Trust Fund, and thank you in advance for all your donations to this worthy cause.

Yours truly,
Gilles McDermott
AB Group President
(780) 594-7767
gmc1@telus.net

HONORARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to all of the members of 783 Wing. It has been a very busy year for me personally, starting up companies and doing some aerospace consulting. To all of those of you at the Wing who keep the many activities going I want to say thank you for your time and effort. It is not always easy being a volunteer but quite frankly without the volunteer spirit there would be no Wing and no Association. So THANK YOU. I am pleased that we are doing the Battle of Britain parade again this year and I look forward to seeing you all there. A wonderful tribute to the Air Force and the Wing that the Lieutenant Governor is going to attend!!

I am pleased to report as the Vice Chair of the Air Force Museum Society of Alberta that our little museum continues to deliver a big league agenda. We are co-hosting the Mynarski Lancaster visit to Calgary in August, we have a golf tournament the same month and the first Unmanned Aircraft Vehicle that the Air Force ever flew in Afghanistan is in our possession for future display – first at the Stampede and later at the Museum itself.

Like every other Air Force Museum in Canada we need volunteers. I know that some of you already volunteer at the Museum but one thing I would like to see would be a partnership agreement between the Wing and the Museum to increase our chances to support one another. What do you folks think? Is that a good idea or are there issues and concerns that I do not know about. Just let me know what you think. I am at don@crosswind-consulting.com.

Have a great summer.

All the best

Col. (Ret'd) Don Matthews

GREETINGS FROM THE I.P.P.

I recently attended 702 Lethbridge Wing to observe their Wing AGM and I installed their New Executive. (*report: Air Show - July 24 & 25.*)

Group President Gilles and I attended 703 Red Deer Wing's Charter Luncheon on June 19th at the North Hill Inn. A MAL couple from a long distance east of Red Deer also attended the Charter Luncheon; as a result of being contacted from the MAL list that was recently distributed to all Alberta Wings, to make contact with MAL's in the outlying regions of our Wings.

President Al Low, presented a few Continuous Service Awards.

"RJ" Robert Roe
I.P.P., 783 Wing, AFAC

WEBSITE INFORMATION & NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

783 (Calgary) Wing website is up and running. This is your original website that we are always tweaking and revising. Want to publish an event on the website calendar? Submit in writing (snail mail or email) to Brian Lewis.

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 our last meeting, we have 84 regular and 6 life memberships for a total of 90 wing members.

Invoices were mailed out in June/10 for this year's membership fees. \$18.00 for singles and \$25.00 for couples. If you have not received your invoice, please contact Kendal Spielman as the due date for payment was June 30/10. Remit payment to #783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC, c/o Kendall Spielman, 95 Shawcliffe Circle SW, Calgary, AB T2Y 1J3 or phone 403-256-3612.

If you have any changes to your membership information, such as address, phone or email addresses, please contact her to update your file.

CASINO REPORT

Casino Year-end Report As of April 1st, '10

This past year proved once again a very busy year for 783 Wing in support of Community, Veterans, Senior and Air Cadets. A total of \$51,000 was donation to these various projects. The breakdown for each was approximately as follows:

Community Groups:	\$ 18,000
Veterans Groups:	\$ 9,400
Trips & Tours:	\$ 9,900
Seniors Dinners	\$ 3,200
Air Cadet Program	\$ 10,500
	<hr/>
	\$ 51,000

A very special thanks goes out to those members and especially the non members of 783 Wing who helped out at the last Casino. All members of 783 Wing should be very proud of the work of this Wing in support for our Community.

I look forward to great support from everyone for our next Casino December 30th & 31st, '10.
Respectfully submitted,

Keith Mann

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Wow, last year at this time I was trying to do a “sun” dance, obviously it backfired. This spring has not been the most hospitable! Snow, then more snow or rain, rain and more rain! I can hardly wait for the summer to start. BBQ’s, family visits and vacation travel. We just had our AGM on June the 28th and we were all happy to see Frank and Marion Mascaro able to come out and attend. If you happen to be going near the Rockyview hospital, stop in and visit Al Spielman and Ethel Fox. Al broke his elbow and injured his other hip and Ethel is due to illness.

“Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass....It's about learning to dance in the rain.”



One of the highlites this summer will be the annual stampede breakfast at the Spielman’s Ranch on July 10th starting at 9:00 am. (See the Calendar of Events) Don’t forget to bring your lawnchairs, your appetites and hopefully we’ll need our sunscreen. Dress western! This is open to all wing members and guests so come join the fun! Hee haw!



Another date to remember is September 19, commemorating the 70TH Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. See you there!

Check out the “Special Events” section as we have a bus tour coming up next fall.

This is the last newsletter until after the startup of our fall session. Have a great summer and be safe!

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! I understand that Marion’s Monthly Luncheon Ladies/Peacetime Girls are great cooks! Would any of you like to share some recipes with us?

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. You can bring them to the monthly meeting or send them to:
 - #783 (Calgary) Wing, c/o 100 Rosevale Drive NW, Calgary, AB T2K 1N5
- Eleanor Berlin requests notification of any wing member who is ill so that she can send them a card from the Wing. Phone: 403-244-8217

CADET LIAISON REPORT

Air Cadet Reports April 26, 2010

Cadets are well into the training year and get to the busy activity before the final preparation for the Annual Cadet Reviews.

We have had several squadrons in the Calgary area identify their ACRs as follows:

May 29	-	538 Buffalo Sqn 9:45 am at Mewata Armoury
Jun 1	-	11 Lethbridge Sqn
June 5	-	187 Foothills Sqn at Nanton
	-	15 Medicine Hat Sqn
Jun 6	-	903 Strathmore Sqn
Jun 12	-	878 Banff/Canmore Sqn
	-	781 Calgary Sqn Sunset Parade
	-	859 Crowsnest Sqn
Jun 13	-	52 Sqn
Jun 19	-	604 Sqn

The Alberta Provincial Committee held our Effective Speaking competition at Red Deer April 10. The competition was very high which is a testament to the growing effort to improve the level of interest in the Zone. There were 10 cadets representing all four zones in the province. Bob Clarke presented the winner's cheque and the Jack Bennett Memorial Trophy, Kenn and Keith presented the cheques for the second and third awards.

The winners for this year were:

878 Banff/Canmore Sqn - WOII Montgomery
604 Sqn - Cpl Julia Qin
42 Wetaskewin Sqn - WO1 Jackson

903 Sqn will host the Southern Zone Drill and Sports in Strathmore this weekend. They have planned a wonderful time for everyone. The Drill Competition will be held on Sunday morning. If anyone is interested in more information you can contact either Pat or Kenn.

The Scholarships have been announced with Southern Zone doing very well.

International Exchange - 3 of 6 for Alberta to 187 Sqn - Hong Kong, 604 Sqn - Australian and 538 Sqn - Israel.

903 Sqn - 2 Glider Pilot, 1 Power Pilot and 1 Survival

604 Sqn - 2 Power Pilot, 1 Glider Pilot, 1 SLC, 1 Survival and 1 Oshkosh

52 Sqn - 2 Power Pilot, 2 SLC, 2 Survival and 1 Athletic

538 Sqn - 1 Oshkosh

781 Sqn - 2 Power Pilot, 3 Glider Pilot, 2 SLC, 1 Survival and 1 Advanced Aviation

May 31, 2010

Cadets are well into the training year and get to the busy activity before the final preparation for the Annual Cadet Reviews.

We have had several squadrons in the Calgary area identify their ACRs as follows:

Sqn	Date	Place	Time	RO
11	Jun 1	Lethbridge Armoury	7:00 for 7:30 pm	Mayor R. Tarlick
15	Jun 5	Medicine Hat Armoury	2:30 for 3:00 pm	Maj(R) J Reynolds
52	Jun 13	Bishop Grandin HS	1:00 for 1:30 pm	Maj(R) H Codner
187	Jun 5	Nanton Arena	1:00 for 1:30 pm	LCol F Mobbs
225	May 29	Taber Cadet Hall	1:30 for 2:00 pm	Taber Police Chief A Rudd
239	Jun 5	Brooks Lakeside Leisure Centre	1:10 for 1:30 pm	RCMP Insp Ray Noble
538	May 29	Jack James HS	9:30 for 10:00 am	John LaFriniere
604	Jun 19	Mewata Armoury	12:30 for 1:00 pm	LCol D Slowski
781	Jun 12	HMCS Tecumseh		Maj B Deck
859	Jun 12	Blairmore	4:45 for 5:00 pm	LCol Vogon (Capt J Anderson)
878	Jun12	Lawrence Grassie MS	1:00 for 2:00 pm	BGen® W. Buckham
903	Jun 6	Strathmore Community Centre	1:00 for 1:45 pm	Mayor of Strathmore

Pat is escorting a group of eight top cadets to Cold Lake to visit Exercise Maple Flag. 4 of the 8 cadets are from Southern Zone - 2 from 538 Sqn and 2 from 781 Sqn.

Jun 28, 2010

The cadets training year has been completed. I have attended six ACRs this year and was pleased to see so many of our members at some of them.

All of the squadrons have cadets going off to scholarships and cadet camps with a plan to comeback in the fall and have an exciting year next year.

There were two change of commands at the ACRs. 781 Sqn changed from Capt Natasha Jeanson to Capt Mary Helmer (formerly of 538 Sqn) and 878 Banff Canmore Sqn changed from Capt Nancy Marshall to Capt Randy VanDorsen.

187 Foothills Sqn and 903 Strathmore Sqn will have change of command parades in the fall.

Pat Sulek escorted nine top cadets up to Cold Lake for the Maple Flag experience June 10 and 11.

We are looking forward to having a great Battle of Britain Parade on Sept 19.

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.

On June 27th, 20 #783 Wing members met at COP for brunch. The feedback from everyone was that it was enjoyable and the food service was great.



SPECIAL EVENTS TOURS

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



We have a bus tour coming up, October 3 (Sunday) to the Natoka Lodge in Kananaski for brunch (10:00 am) and travel onto Lake Louise for a relaxing day of sightseeing. Please meet at the #285 Horton Road Legion at 8:30 am and estimated time of return is between 4-4:30 pm. Bring a folding chair. Call Pat Sulek if you would like to come. psulek@telus.net or 403-238-7311

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



General Meetings are usually held on 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 (last call for the kitchen is around 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. Summer dress attire is 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.

- **July 9, 2010** **Setup party for the Stampede Breakfast**
 - **6:00 pm – Spielman residence, 9528-3 Street SE**
- **July 10, 2010** **Annual Stampede Breakfast, 9:00 am**
 - **Spielman Ranch, 9528-3 Street SE, Calgary RSVP (403)253-6297**
 - **See page 26 of newsletter for poster**
 - **Dress western and bring your lawnchairs**
 - **All wing members are welcome!**
 - **All guests are welcome as well! Yahoo!**
- **July & August, 2010** **No Wing Meeting**
- **July 24-25** **Lethbridge International Airshow**
 - **See page 24 of newsletter for poster**
- **August 10, 2010** **UN Peacekeepers Parade, 11:00 am**
 - **Peacekeepers Park, Calgary**
- **September 19, 2010** **Battle of Britain, Parade starts at 2:00 pm**
 - **Military Museum, 4520 Crowchild Tr SW**

- **September 27, 2010 Wing Meeting**
- **October 3, 2010 Bus Tour to Natoka Lodge and Lake Louise – See Special Events section for more details.**
- **October 15-17, 2010 National AGM, Comox, BC**
- **October 25, 2010 Wing Meeting**
- **November 11, 2010 Remembrance Day Functions, details to follow**
- **November 22, 2010 Wing Meeting**
- **December 5, 2010 #783 Wing Christmas Party, Blackfoot Inn**
- **December 30-31, 2010 #783 Wing Casino nights – See Keith Mann to sign up.**
- **December, 2010 No Wing Meeting – Enjoy the holidays!**
- **January 24, 2011 Wing Meeting**
- **February 28, 2011 Wing Meeting**
- **March 28, 2011 Wing Meeting**
- **April 25, 2011 Wing Meeting**
- **May 30, 2011 Wing Meeting**
- **June 27, 2011 Wing Meeting & AGM**

CATCH UP ON PAST EVENTS.....



Here's a look at #702 Wing's newly Elected Executive and Directors.

Walter's leg injury is healing quite well and he says he will soon have a "walking cast" to better get around. He has a strip of metal adjacent to the broken leg bone and screws that hold it all together, hence the requirement for a weight bearing walking cast.

Giving out awards at their AGM.



A peek at our audit committee at work.....Thom either forgot his glasses or he is the most diligent auditor we've had! Magnifying glass! We'll let you decide.



RECIPE SWAP



Club Chicken Casserole

Submitted by Marion Mascaro (#783 Wing)

4 tablespoons melted margarine (or butter)

4 tablespoons flour

1 cup chicken broth

1 ¾ cup evaporated milk (14 ½ oz can)

½ cup water

1 teaspoon salt

3 cups cooked rice

1 ½ cups diced cooked chicken

¾ cup sliced mushrooms (3 oz can)

¼ cup chopped pimento (or red pepper)

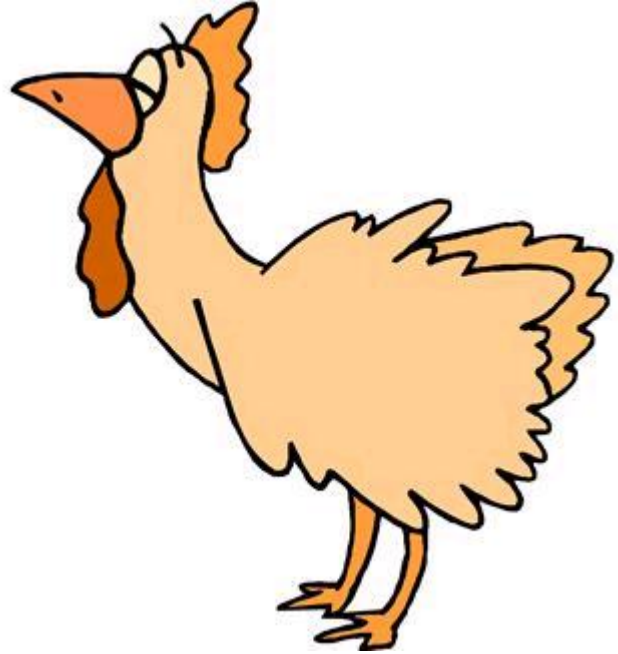
1/3 cup chopped green pepper

½ cup blanched slivered almonds

To the melted margarine, add flour and blend in. Then add chicken broth, milk and water and cook over low heat until thick. Stir constantly. Add salt. Set aside.

Mix mushrooms, pimento and green peppers together. Set aside.

Grease 10 x 6 x 1 ½" baking pan. Alternate layers of cooked rice, chicken and vegetables and sauce. Finish with sauce. Top with almonds. Bake in 350-degree oven for 30 minutes. Freezes nicely.



Creamy Rice Pudding

Submitted by Barb Mann (#783 Wing)

2 cups cooked plain rice

1 egg, slightly beaten

½ cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 (4-5 oz) can evaporated milk

Combine in pot on top of the stove over medium heat, stir until thickens. Do not over cook. You can add raisins or nuts to this recipe after the mixture has thickened.





COMEDY CORNER



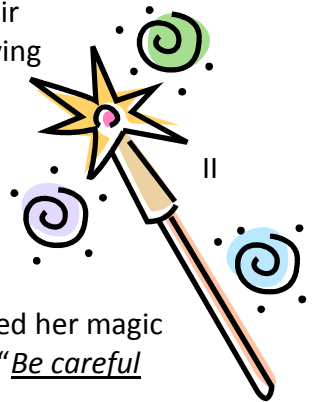
BABY BLUES



BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

Be careful what you wish for!

A married couple in their early 60s was celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic little restaurant. Suddenly, a tiny yet beautiful fairy appeared on their table. She said, 'For being such an exemplary married couple and for being loving to each other for all this time, I will grant you each a wish.' The wife answered, 'Oh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband.' The fairy waved her magic wand and - poof! - two tickets for the Queen Mary appeared in her hands. The husband thought for a moment: 'Well, this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again. I'm sorry my love, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me.' The wife, and the fairy, were deeply disappointed, but a wish is a wish. So the fairy waved her magic wand and poof!....the husband became 92 years old. The moral of this story: "Be careful what you wish for" or "men are children".



Life of a cat! Oh to be that flexible and carefree again!



GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....

Major (Ret'd) Kenneth Byron Nixon

Prepared by a former 52 Air Cadet

Major Nixon was born in Calgary to a mother who was with the Air Force during WWII. As a young man, his family moved so many times that made it difficult for him to make friends. As a result, he found himself “a bit of a shy loner.” However, he cherished the short-lived friendship he made at the Navy League when he joined at age eleven. He lived all over Alberta during his childhood years settling in Edmonton for his high school years. Up there, he joined the army cadets and he could still remember the joys of going to the Army Summer Cadet Camp. He even wrote in his high school yearbook that he wanted to go to the military college but he admitted that at that time he did not work as hard at school as he should have. While in high school, he delivered newspapers to earn spending money and joined the Militia (Artillery) in Edmonton in 1963 when he turned 16. After he finished high school in 1965, he went to summer camp with the militia. That was also the time when his family moved again.



When he returned to Edmonton, he found it difficult to find a job, so he decided to join the Regular Force. While he was in the army as a non-commissioned member, he became very interested and curious on how the leaders got their job done. He admired those who were able to make their subordinates willingly comply with their orders to accomplish their missions, however, he was critical of those who did not because he knew he could do better. He realized that without proper education, he was not going to achieve his dreams as a youth. He took some university courses when he was stationed in Regina and this time he must have been so motivated that he decided to apply for the Programme called the University Training Plan for Men.

After 13 years as a soldier, in both reserve and regular forces, and with his academic achievements, he was accepted into the Collège militaire royal de Saint Jean, P.Q. in 1976. In 1981, Major Nixon graduated with a Bachelor of Administration, whereupon he was posted to 435 Squadron Edmonton as the Administration Officer. He served in several roles at Canadian Forces Base Edmonton, including six months as Senior Staff Officer Personnel at United Nations Disengagement Observation Force in Damascus, Syria. UNDOF's mandate was to maintain the cease-fire between Israel and Syria, to supervise the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces, and to supervise the areas of separation and limitation. In 1986, Major Nixon was posted to Canadian Forces Base Penhold as the Base Administration Officer and begun his contact with the Air Cadet Movement. When he was there, he was approached by the Cadet organization to lecture at the Cadet Instructors School and then to participate in the scholarship selection boards. He became passionate on the magnificent program that watched over young people and helped them mature and grow into responsible citizens to become future leaders and defenders of our nation.

In 1988, he retired from the Regular Force and rejoined the Reserve Force, this time as an officer, where he used to be a non-commissioned member. His tour of duty included a four-month tour in Europe during the Gulf War and several other training positions. In 1992, he earned a Diploma of Adult Education at the University of Alberta and was appointed as the Flight Commander for the Air Reserve Augmentation Flight Edmonton.

In 1996, Major Nixon retired from the Canadian Forces and moved to Calgary. He started a consulting business in the computer education field while he continued associating with the friends he made during those years he worked with the air cadets at Penhold. They encouraged him to become involved with the cadet movement. I also learned that his involvement with the Scout movement, initially in Europe when he was a young father, sparked his interest in working

with young people. He continued to work for 16 years as a Boy Scout leader and developed a very great interest in working with them. So, he rejoined the Cadet Movement, where in his youth it had helped inspired him to pursue the Profession of Arms. This time, he joined as an officer, which gives him the opportunity to help the youth become better citizens, just as the officers of his youth helped mold him into what he is today. Since his rank was already Major, the only option was to become Commanding Officer.

Major Leung, the former CO of 604 was just about to start 88 Airdrie Squadron, so Major Nixon applied to replace him.

On 17 October 2000, Major Nixon became the 14th Commanding Officer of 604 Moose RCACS. At that time, his goal as a CO was to provide a healthy, safe place for young people to grow. On his third year with 604, he was asked if he would extend his time as a CO. Realizing that the squadron's 50th anniversary was forthcoming, he wanted to be a part of it. So, he stayed to lead the squadron to make its 50th anniversary in March of 2005 a very memorable event to everyone especially to the cadets who were part of it.

After the 50th Anniversary celebration, it was confirmed that Major Nixon was retiring. Upon hearing the news, most of the cadets and parents expressed their sadness of his impending departure. Most of us were wondering if things would stay the same after he left! During his tenure of office, his policy of flexibility has given the cadets the opportunity to explore their potential.

After 5 years with the squadron, he handed over the command to the then Captain John Stewart on 11 October 2005. Although he expressed his desire to continue helping the cadets, if invited to participate whenever needed, it's never the same as when he was the Commanding Officer. It must have been his charismatic personality that gets everyone addicted to his leadership style. He continues to be involved in the community holding positions over the years as President of the Air Force Association of Canada 783 (Calgary) Wing and as Vice-Chair of the Air Force Museum Society of Alberta.

After a short break from the cadet program Major Nixon returned to the Air Cadets as the CO of 52 Squadron. I have heard of cadets and parents expressing their feelings of envy to 52 for having him as their CO. He officially took over the command at the Change of Command Ceremony at Mewata Armouries on 21 January 2007. Following a very successful tenure at 52 "City of Calgary" Squadron, Major Nixon stepped down as the Commanding Officer of that unit on November 4, 2009. He officially retired from the Canadian Forces on December 3, 2009.

OTHER NEWS.....

REMEMBER JOURNALIST MICHELLE LANG

By Wayne Cao, MLA for Calgary Fort, Deputy Speaker
Alberta Legislative Assembly

I could not attend the memorial service in Calgary for journalist Michelle Lang as I was out of town. While cleaning up my correspondence file, I came across an old message from Michelle Lang. Years past, once in a while she asked for me and we chatted on some matters that she was writing about. Truthfully, as a Government MLA, I always feel a bit edgy when a reporter calls for some comments. But I recall that my past occasional conversations with Michelle were at ease, as I realized that I would be quoted correctly. Now, looking at the old message note, I can't help but feeling sad. But out of this sadness I saw her personal courage and dedication.



This brings back my personal memory of the Vietnam war time, 45 years ago. I was a young lad then, and my late brother Vuc was a commander at the front lines. One day, on his way to the battle front, he dropped by to say hello to our mother. In his jeep were his personal guard, his radioman and an American journalist named Dickey Chappelle. She was in full military battle gears, helmet, armored vest and all, except that she carried cameras and note books, instead of guns like the soldiers. Seeing our family members on their way to battle frontlines was a routine during the war time. But we were stunned, particularly my mother, to see a woman who was no soldier going into the battle zone. We all told my brother to take good care of her. We talked about her long after she had left. A few months into 1965, my brother told us that, in a reporting mission, Dickey Chappelle had been killed by a trap mine when she was dashing along with the soldiers during firefight in the middle of a notorious battle zone. My brother told us that she knew of the deadly dangers of battle fronts, but she wanted to write reports with her true feeling for the soldiers.



Back to journalist Michelle Lang, myself and my family would like to share the big loss with her loved ones and her journalist colleagues. Just like I remember of Dickey Chappelle, I will remember of Michelle Lang, among those who made ultimate sacrifices during our fights for our human freedoms and rights.



History of the Royal Canadian Air Force Police and Security Services



<http://airforce.ca/a-history-of-the-royal-canadian-air-force-police-and-security-services/http://airforce.ca/a-history-of-the-royal-canadian-air-force-police-and-security-services/>

Proceeds from the sale of this book support the initiatives of the RCAF Association Trust Fund – the charitable arm of the Air Force Association of Canada. The fund exists to help inform new generations of Canadians about the importance of their air force, and its proud history. Through their fund the Air Force Association members donated \$30,000 to the National Air Force Museum of Canada, in 2009, and this year are focusing their efforts on the Comox Air Force Museum.

Please consider helping us in our important mission. Members of the Air Force Association of Canada may e-mail director@airforce.ca for special pricing. Association Wings, military museums and Canada's air force units and communities interested in purchasing multiple copies (3 or more) can request discounts for local sales and funding initiatives. [Learn more here...](#)

A History of the Royal Canadian Air Force Police and Security Services,

...by Colonel (Ret'd) Ronald J. Donovan and Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) David V. McElrea... is an eye-opening look at one of Canada's most vital military resources. Spanning over forty years, the book provides the reader with the rare opportunity to have a behind-the-scenes look at this arm of Canada's Military during both wartime and peacetime, and through its challenges, evolution, and many successes.

272 pages, 16 chapters, 20 appendices, scores and scores of photographs, illustrations, charts, etc.

The definitive history of Canadian air force police and security services, from the birth of the RCAF, through the Nuremburg trials, to the front-lines in post-Second World War Europe and on through integration. A fascinating read.

Please give this e-mail correspondence your widest re-distribution to all your air force friends and peers. Help us raise important funds for the air cadet programme and more. With thanks,...

REMEMBERING D-DAY, JUNE 6 1944

A POST CARD FROM NORMANDY

With his now familiar words, William Shakespeare immortalized England's victory at Agincourt at dawn on October 25, 1415 over France's mounted and heavily armoured knights. The surprise opening onslaught of King Henry V's longbowmen's airborne volley was devastating and his men at arms prevailed on that sodden St. Crispin's Day battlefield:

"What feats he did that day. This story shall the good man teach his son:

*From this day to the ending of the world we shall be remembered;
We few, we happy few, we band of brothers:
For he to-day that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother:
And gentlemen in England, now-a-bed, Shall think themselves accursed they were not here;"*
King Henry V, Act IV, Scene iii.

Nearly six centuries later these same words also serve to attest to the unbreakable spirit of the band of courageous and lightly armed young fighting men who filled the ranks of Canada's first parachute battalion. In World War Two they embarked from England by air before the launch of the seaborne invasion. In the pre-dawn darkness of June 6, 1944 they descended from the sky into the quagmire between Normandy's Orne and Dives River to challenge and outfight the land's tough and stubborn German invaders.

Greetings from Calvados

Summer has at last arrived in Normandy. The days are getting longer and the nights shorter, the same as when I got here. For those who've yet to visit this part of France it may come as a surprise to learn that nowadays at this time of year Normandy's beaches are overrun with topless sunbathers, picnicking families, and hordes of tourists. I know, because I've been keeping track of the comings and goings around here for some sixty odd years now. I didn't plan to stay here this long, but that's how my government sponsored ocean voyage to England, and the bonus dawn excursion by air to Drop Zone V, turned out.

Folks in Canada must imagine it to be very monotonous for me - always in the same place with the same chums, and for such a long time. I did too, at first. Then the visitors from home started to show up. Some of them couldn't fathom why me and the others did what we did, or why we had to travel so far from home to do it. But then, there is probably no good reason why they should, especially after so many years have gone by, and no one probably ever took the time to give them any of the details. If they could have heard me, though, I'd have set them straight. We really had no choice in the matter. Besides, a good many of our dads had already got here ahead of us, in 1914, to fight for the same things as us. And like me, many of them stayed on over here too, and in places just like mine now.

When I first got here I thought I was alone. But I soon discovered there are two thousand five hundred and sixty two others with me. And every one of them remains forever the same age they were back in June, 1944. Most arrived at about the same time too, including the seventy-six who jumped with me, were scattered far and wide, and ended up in the flood-waters between the Orne and Dives Rivers. In those days everyone in the battalion called me either "Mister," or "Sir." But we've become a pretty tight knit group since then, and everyone nearby now just calls me: "Knobby." Each one of us has been given his own special address, though, and all have their own special story to tell.

My journey here began right after I landed and coughed up most of the water I'd swallowed. I had my small pack and my sub machine gun with me, and I was heading toward

our rendezvous with a few of the lads following. I also recall seeing several others from my battalion travelling alongside our path, and all were going in the same general direction. The details are fuzzy after that. The long and the short of it is that before being given a permanent address in Grave 2, Row F, Plot 5, in the British Airborne Cemetery, I had first to spend more than a year all on my own. It seems someone along the way picked up my drill cane. Another soul took my kit and my boots. And either a friend, or a foe, buried me in an isolated spot near Bavent. It was on the east side of the road that runs north from Troarn to Petiville. The ones who eventually found me didn't have much to go on at first, just a lone wooden cross inscribed: "Unknown Canadian Soldier." Then they dug deeper and saw my dog tags. About six weeks later I was relocated to where I am today. Shortly after that is when my first visitor, Brigadier James Hill came. By the time my mom and dad arrived to see where I was the white, wood marker I first had had been replaced by a proper and permanent one made of grey concrete. It was exactly the same stone that everyone else from Canada had, except my folks arranged for a favourite verse to be chiselled into mine, near the bottom: "When from Sight Our Loved One Fell, Thine Arms Encircled Him, All Is Well." It summed up my situation pretty well, don't you think? They never did get to make a second visit. In later years, though, my two sisters came to see me several times. But they too have now joined our parents.

Every year some of the lads from the battalion drop by, usually around June 6, to visit with us. They always doff their cherry beret, bow their head, lay a poppy on the earth above us, and most times shed a tear, before saying goodbye. Sometimes they speak to us as well, but none of us has ever been able to hear what was said. Now their numbers are getting fewer and fewer with each passing year, so we know it will be just a matter of time, before we won't be seeing any of them either. I always knew it was bound to happen, what with them getting on in age and most now in their eighties, but its sometimes hard to take, especially when you're forever 29 years old.

Never mind, though, always look on the bright side, I say. Should you ever come to Normandy, me and my chums would love to have you visit with us. Especially if you can make it on or about June 6. I'm not to good at giving directions any more, but if your driving you'll find all of us eleven kilometres northeast of Caen, between the River Orne and road N.813, from Caen to Cabourg. Or you can always take the bus from Caen to Cabourg. It passes through Ranville Village. Our cemetery lies next to the village churchyard. You'll find all our names on our stones. Mine says: "CLARK, WO1, (RSM) WENDELL J., P/15392 1ST CANADIAN PARACHUTE BN, RCIC, 6TH JUNE 1944. AGE 29. SON OF T.C. AND IRENE M. CLARK, OF OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA."

***Yours truly,
Knobby and his chums***

Lethbridge Air Show



The **2010** Alberta International AirShow
✈️ July 24th & 25th Proudly Presented by: ✈️

 **VisitLethbridge.com**

The 2010 Alberta International AirShow
is ready to take Flight! Our Line-Up will
bring you 2 Days of High- Flying Action.



783 (

AFAC

Invites you to join the Fun at the

Spielman's Corral

Saturday

10th July

Anytime after

9:00 am

9528 3 Street SE

R.S.V.P. 403-253-6297

Dress Western

Yahoo!!



Here is a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed between the AFAC and the Alberta Provincial Committee Air Cadet League of Canada at our Alberta AGM in Calgary this year.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Whereas the Air Cadet League of Canada, Alberta Provincial Committee (APC) recognizes the valuable contribution of the various (individual) Wings of the Alberta Group of the Air Force Association of Canada (AFAC) that work closely with Air Cadet Squadrons in Alberta; And,

Whereas Air Cadets Squadrons support AFAC Wings with Remembrance Services and other Air Force memorial ceremonies, and commit service hours to their local AFAC Wings within various communities; And,

Whereas the APC and AFAC Wings strive to continually impress upon the public the fact that the Air Cadet program is beneficial to the development of individual Cadets and local community organizations; And,

Whereas AFAC and the APC have complimentary aims and objectives, particularly with respect to the development of youth, promoting interest in our nation's Air Force and the Aviation/Aerospace Industry, in addition to sharing common values and traditions rooted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and Canadian Forces;

Therefore, be it resolved that the APC and AFAC Alberta Group shall liaise and work collaboratively with each other, within the mandates and policies of each organization, to assist with the promotion, development and support of the Air Cadet program within the areas of AFAC Wings; encourage joint participation in the ceremonies and community activities of Air Cadet Squadrons and the AFAC Wings; and encourage APC members, Squadron Sponsoring Committee members, Officers and Squadron staff members and retired Air Cadets to become members of the AFAC.

Be it understood that for the purpose of the AFAC, support of the Air Cadet program may be, but not limited to, in the form of Squadron Sponsorship, financial contributions and/or volunteer services at Air Cadet activities.