

SPIRIT

The Newsletter

783 (CALGARY) WING

**ROYAL CANADIAN
AIR FORCE
ASSOCIATION**



Sept/Dec 2019



***Wing Meets every
4th Monday at 7pm
285 Legion Horton Road***



MEET THE TEAM

Chairman	Randy Fisher
HONOURARY CHAIRMAN	Col. (Ret.d) Don Matthews
IMM. PAST CHAIRMAN	Pat Sulek
FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN	Adriano Fisico
SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN	Rob Caswell
TREASURER	Kenn Nixon
SECRETARY	Michele Henderson
PAST PRESIDENT CHAIR	Pat Sulek
CASINO CHAIRMAN	Lorie Gordon
SPECIAL PROJECTS	Pat Sulek
MEMBERSHIP	Anna Lewis
NEWSLETTER	Bev Spielman
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Bev Spielman
SERGEANT AT ARMS	Art Hill
SOCIAL COORDINATOR	Muriel Mymko/Lois Maxwell
PUBLICITY	Bob Wade/Adriano Fisico
MILITARY MUSEUM LIAISON	Mike Ricketts
DIRECTORS AT LARGE	Brian Lewis
Cadet Liaison	Kevin Knight





I want to start this year off with a huge “Thank You” for the confidence that the wing membership has placed in me by allowing me to represent our wing as your Chairman. I assure each of you that I will do my best to ensure that our Wing continues to be a strong and viable force in the Province and within the Association itself.

This year will once again be a very busy one as we prepare some exciting social events and some engaging meetings. We will also need to plan, develop, and execute a memorable Alberta Group AGM and of course, round up enough volunteers for our upcoming casino.

What this means is that each of us will need to contribute to this year’s success. How can you help? There are a few things we can do to make our wing successful and engaging. The first is something simple, some of our members might need a helping hand to get to our monthly meeting, so if you can help out, let us make an effort to extend that helping hand and offer a ride to someone who might not be able to make it to the meeting their own. Second, take time to help out on a committee, or engage in the monthly meetings by sharing a story, experience, or by offering to report on wing activity you attended. The third way you can get involved is to be a contributor to our Wing Newsletter. If you are interested and able to do so, submit an article to the RCAFA Newsletter and share your experiences national. Many people like to write and contributing an item, or a recipe goes a long way and maybe the next family favourite for someone.

However, you choose to contribute, remember this is our Royal Canadian Air Force Association, and I am looking forward to seeing and celebrating all the things we can accomplish over the upcoming year.

“None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful.” **Mother Teresa**

Randy Fisher

Chairman

783 Calgary Wing

Royal Canadian Air Force Association





I bring greetings on behalf of Alberta Group RCAFA and hope you all have an exciting start to your winter sessions.

I attended AB Group meeting held in Red Deer Sept 21, 2019 along with 14 members from all 5 Wings in Alberta.

It was a very productive meeting and our Chair Mike Roy reported that the RCAFA have been invited to attend the Veterans Consultation Meeting in November to which he will participate via telecom.

All Wings are now up and running for the fall season with many exciting events in the near future. 700 Edmonton Wing will be starting up their luncheon speaker event shortly. 702 Lethbridge Wing will again assist in the HART Ceremony Nov 16 between the Army, Navy, Air Cadets and the American Civil Air Patrol Cadets from six states. 703 Red Deer Wing is rather small in numbers but do a lot of community services in and around Red Deer. 783 Calgary Wing will be hosting the 2020 AGM in the Spring. They lost a few members over the past few months, but have a few new members to start the season. They are getting things ready for the Remembrance Day Service at Mewata which usually sees approximately 900 veterans, Army, Navy and mainly Air Cadets along with our members, family and friends and many city Officials. 784 Cold Lake Wing is a very active Wing and will be starting up their many activities at their HQ shortly including weekly speciality dinners and meat draws.

Edmonton Wing has asked all Wings to help fund the Yellow Thunder Aerobatic Team coming to the Air Show next year. Chair Mike has asked all Wing Chairs to bring this back to their Wings for discussion.

Bob Wade, our Honourary Chair is working on the Memory Project headed by Shannon Goodman which consists of speaking to students and teaching the history of the RAF. Further information coming soon.

Our Chair Mike Roy is not only on the RCAFA Trust Committee but has been invited to sit on the Awards and Honours Committee as well. We are all very proud of all the hard work that Mike does on our behalf.

Chair Mike is working on a huge chart provided from the National Office encompassing the questions "who we are, what we do and why we exist". This is a very timely chart that Mike will send out to all Wings, (by February hopefully) via power point, so that we can discuss it at our Wing meetings but most importantly we can use it when we go out to Air Cadet Squadrons and present to other organizations.

Respectfully submitted

Pat Sulek
Vice Chair Alberta Group RCAFA



Randy Fisher Moe Hanberg Pat

Smiling Faces



Eguene Kushnir Randy Fisher

Side Hill Gouger



Adriano Fisico Randy Fisher Pat Sulek Rob Caswell



Randy Fisher Michelle Gerwing

New Member

Service awards

National Awards

New Member



E. Kushner - Dave Downs - Randy Fisher- Bev Burke - Moe Hanberg

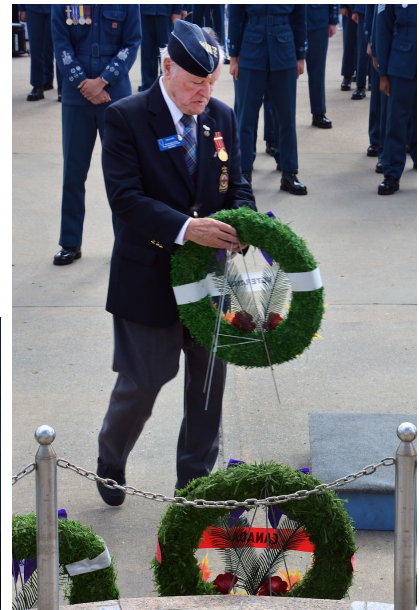
Battle of Britain



Col. Mike Vernon



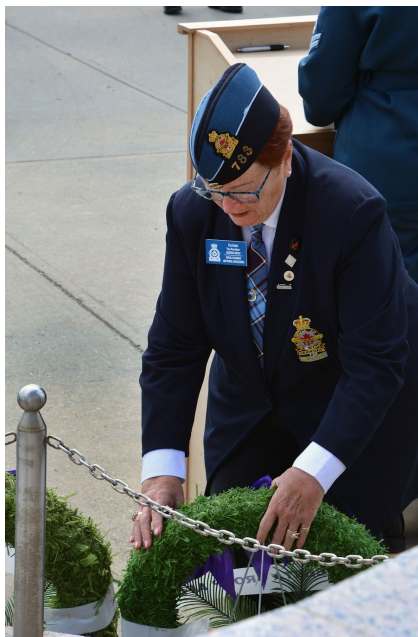
Adriano Fisico



Art Hill



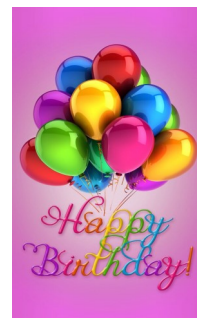
Color Party



Pat Sulek



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



CURTIS, Mike	1-Oct
BURKE, BEVERLEY A	22-Oct
COOK, COLEEN	24-Oct
HANBERG, MAURICE J	28-Oct
LEVESQUE, MARK	27-Oct
MACDONNELL, JANE Y	6-Oct
MAXWELL, LOIS	5-Oct
MORGAN, IAN	27-Oct
NELSON, GEORGINA	7-Oct
BERTRAM, Elizabeth	21-Oct
EAGLESHAM, DOUGLAS	26-Nov
WILLIAMSON, JUDY	17-Oct
LESSARD, KATHERINE	5-Oct
FLEMING, LORNE	27-Nov
GUIDINGER, CYNTHIA	27-Nov
ADAM, Nola	10-Nov
HILL, GORDON M	11-Nov
MACDONNELL, STEPHEN KEN-	20-Nov
MASCARO, RUTH MARION	8-Nov
CHANT, ANDREA	16-Nov
MATTHEWS, DONALD	24-Nov
RICKETTS, M J	28-Nov
WAKULA, WALTER	15-Nov
WARD, DONALD E	18-Nov
WONNACOTT, BETTY	9-Nov
EMBLETON, JOAN	30-Nov
GRIFFITHS, Cheryl Leee	13-Nov
THOMPSON, DYLANEY	22-Nov
GERWING, Michelle	20-Nov
CHARTIER, ARLINE M	31-Dec
GORDON, THOM	9-Dec
HILL, ARTHUR C	23-Dec
KUSHNIR, EUGENE	2-Dec
NIXON, KENNETH B	3-Dec
LEGGO ,DAVID	5-Dec
TER KUILE, MIKE	6-Dec
FISICO, ADRIANO	4-Dec
TER KUILE, G JOHN	19-Dec
HENDERSON, Michele	13-Dec
WILSON, CHARLIE-MAE	5-Dec



Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday Dear Member
Happy Birthday to you



Obituary's

Pat Maclean

Pat passed away peacefully of congestive heart failure on June 30, 2019 at home surrounded by her family at the age of 85 years old. She said she had a full life filled with love, family, travel and many adventures. She is survived by her five children, numerous grandchildren, younger brother as well as her beloved dog Kiki. She has once again joined our dad, her mother, her grandmother and all of her pets along the way who left us far too early and whom she loved very deeply.



TROLLOPE, Eileen "Pat"

Doris (nee Clarke)

November 13, 1928 - Calgary, Alberta

June 25, 2019 - Calgary, Alberta

Eileen Trollope of Calgary, AB, passed away on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at the age of 90 years. Pat was born and raised in Calgary and had a passion for golf, hiking, curling, bridge and getting together with friends or family for lunch. She will be most remembered for her sense of humour, love of fun, and her devotion to her grandchildren. Pat is survived by her two daughters, Terrie Brandon (Jim) and Joanne Williamson (Mike); and two grandchildren, Lisa and Brad. She is also survived by her brother Cliff Clarke (Bev).



Ken Carlin

Shriner—783 Wing Member - Check with Randy Fisher for more info.

Nov. 11 Remembrance Day (The Wing's Annual Remembrance Day services will be held at Mewata on November

11. This ceremony is held in conjunction with the Air Cadets and has turned out to be a very well attended event. The committee has been planning for months to make sure this will flow flawlessly (as every year it does) . We invite members join in to pay tribute to those who served but never returned.





My Life in the Royal Canadian Air Force by Glenys M. Goossens

I was very proud to serve in the RCAF in the early 1950s, and my strong interest in military affairs has continued to this day.

I was born Glenys May Davies in Bangor, Saskatchewan, on May 31st, 1928. I remember listening to the radio in 1942 in my rural Saskatchewan home, and being extremely interested in the news about WWII. Two years later, my older twin sisters joined the army. They were 19 years old. I wanted to join as well, but I couldn't as I was too young at the time. Finally, my chance to serve became a reality when the RCAF began recruiting women in April of 1951. I started the paperwork process in May, and on July 5th, 1951, I was sworn in as a member of the RCAF. Later in the summer, I boarded a train in Regina for the long trip to St. Jean, Quebec, to begin basic training. The train picked up more women along the route to Montreal. We were driven to St. Jean in a truck, and I was assigned to a room in the barracks. There were about 50 women all about the same age there. I was placed in Course #8.



With my friends Shirley (Gill) Dupuis and Ruby (Olson) Foley.

Parade at Sea Island in Vancouver after basic training



Near the end of basic training, I met with a counsellor to choose my preferred trade in the Air Force. Since I had experience working in an office, administration was suggested, but I wanted to learn something new. I chose to be a radio operator. I graduated from basic training in mid-October, and was sent to Clinton, Ontario, to begin my vocation.

Radio operator training lasted from October 1951 to April 1952, and it was very stressful at times. Learning to receive and send Morse code was like learning a new language. In fact, it was a new language, and until I was able to think in code, it was very challenging. Sending was easier than receiving. At times students would just get up and walk out of the room for a few minutes, it was so overwhelming. Our brains needed a rest! When I graduated I was able to read Morse code at 22 words per minute and send at 25 words per minute. May I say it is something I'm still proud of even after all these years.

At the end of radio operator training, I was very happy to be posted to Sea Island in BC. Before reporting for duty, I was given 2 weeks leave to visit family and attend my sister's wedding in Regina. When I arrived, I discovered that my suitcase with all my clothes for the wedding had been sent to Halifax, and I had a suitcase belonging to a man. Fortunately, I was able to borrow a dress (which was too big), a pair of shoes (which were too small), and a hat (which made me look ridiculous). Nevertheless, I attended the wedding and eventually got my own suitcase back. I finally arrived at Sea Island, but then discovered my service records had gone AWOL so I had no money. No records, no pay. They gave me a small advance until everything was sorted out.

Happy because I successfully completed Morse code training



After about 6 months, we were posted to Comox. We were 9 women on the entire base! Since they didn't have barracks slated for "women only", they billeted us on the first floor of the single officers' barracks. Although we were not supposed to fraternize with the men, this provided us with a lot of fun, because we used to communicate with the guys upstairs via Morse code by tapping on the pipes! This improved our sending and receiving skills immensely!

My time at Comox is filled with both happy and sad memories. Two Lancasters crashed while I was there. In the first crash, the pilot and co-pilot were thrown clear, while 8 passengers perished. I knew some of those passengers. The second crash took the lives of our close friends Brownie and Bergie. Their names are on the wall in the Cold War Museum.

Gerry Goossens and I were married in July of 1954, and since married women were not employed by the Federal government at that time, I was released from the RCAF in September of 1954.



We were transferred to Greenwood, Nova Scotia in October of 1954. We drove from Comox to Greenwood through the U.S. because the Trans-Canada Highway was mostly under construction. We visited Chicago and New York City, and many other interesting places along the way. We first lived in a one-bedroom cabin in Greenwood because no PMQs were available. In the spring of 1955, we were lucky to get a 3-bedroom house on the base. Our daughter Michèle was born in December of 1955. We lived there until May 1957, when we were transferred to Biloxi, Mississippi. Gerry successfully completed an Electronic Warfare Unit course with the US Air Force, which lasted about 7 months.

At the completion of the EWU course, we were posted to St. Hubert, Quebec, in the Montreal area. This was a great posting for us, as Gerry's family lived in Montreal. Our son Mark was born in October of 1961. Being in Montreal allowed Michèle and Mark to spend time with their grandmother, aunts, uncle and cousins. Our posting lasted 6 years, and our next posting in February 1963 was to RAF North Cotes near Grimsby, Lincolnshire, England.

Being in Britain was very interesting for many reasons. I was able to visit some relatives in Wales, which was special, and we were also able to visit Gerry's relatives in the Netherlands. I learned some fascinating and useful new skills such as hauling chunks of coal from our outdoor coal shed into the house, building fires, hoping they would light, and cleaning the grate of the fireplaces (our only source of heat).

When we went over, Mark was 16 months old and just learning to talk. We took two children to Britain speaking like Canadians, and brought them back with the strongest "Beatles-like" accents you can imagine! People thought we had brought the "wrong" kids home with us!

Since we were the only Canadian family on the base, we were spoiled with kindness by everyone. At the end of this posting, we were transferred to North Bay, Ontario, to the Bomarc missile site. We lived in North Bay for 3 years, 1965-68. We returned to Montreal in 1968 and Gerry retired from the RCAF. Sadly, he passed away in 1976.

When Gerry died, my family encouraged me to move back to Regina, to be near family. Mark went with me, and Michèle remained at Queen's University in Kingston. I worked at the University of Regina in the Faculty of

Education Counselling Office for 17 years. I moved to Calgary in 1998 to be a grandma ("Nain" in Welsh) to Sarah and Amanda.

My years in the RCAF were very special, and I am still active in military-associated activities. They include #285 Legion, (783) Calgary Wing RCAF Association, The Military Museums, the annual Poppy Campaign, and the Ex-Service Women's group. Age and osteoarthritis have slowed me down, but I still enjoy life.

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

1Cup of Suet	½ Teaspoon Cinnamon
1 Cup Sugar	½ Teaspoon Cloves
1Cup Carrots	1/2 Teaspoon Nutmeg
1 Cup Potatoes	1/8 Teaspoon Salt
1Cup Flour	1 Cup Mixed Cherries
1Cup Raisins	Juice of 1 Lemon and 1 Orange and rind
1Cup Currants	1 Cup Crushed Pineapple
1 Teaspoon Baking Soda	1 Egg

Grate carrot and potato, measure and set aside. Cream ½ cup butter, add sugar and blend well.

Add carrot and half of potato and mix well. Sprinkle fruits with flour and spices sifted together. Dissolve baking soda in the remaining ½ cup of potato and add it at the last. Mix lightly together. Pour into buttered bowls and steam 3 hours.

Serve hot and pour a caramel sauce over it. (Rum can be added to sauce)

Sauce-

1 Cup brown sugar

1 Cup water – add together and bring to a boil. Add Cream of tartar to make a thin paste, add to sugar and water, bring to a boil and stir well. Add a dollop of butter and let stand. Sauce will thicken itself. Pour over pudding.

(Pudding can be put in jars and kept in fridge until needed.)

TWO HOUR BUNS

2 Tablespoons Yeast

1 Cup warm water

1 Tablespoon Sugar

Mix and let stand for 10 minutes – Add

½ Cup sugar

1 Egg

2 Cups hot water

½ Cup oil

½ Teaspoon Salt

Mix it all and let rise for 20 minutes. Beat down and let rise for 25 minutes. Put in pan and let rise for 30 minutes. Put in 400 degree oven and cook 15 minutes.

They're back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for the church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'. The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the rioration of some older ones.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING.

Would you like to gift wrap? We have the opportunity to fill a shift to wrap gifts in support of the Cystic Fibrosis Society, at the South Centre Mall.

I can arrange for a shift of 6-8 persons (in the morning from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM). We would wear regalia and put up signs to show the public who we are. All supplies (wrap, ribbon, tape etc.) is donated by South Centre for this cause. People pay by donation for the wrapping. The CF does this at 4 malls in Calgary, but South Centre is the nicest. It is a lot of fun and you get to be as creative as you want.

If you are interested, please let me know at 403 253 9422. I will try for the second/ third week of December. The wrapping goes for the whole month of December ending on December 24. and usually has three shifts per day. 9-1, 1-5, and 5 to closing. I prefer the morning shift, as the afternoons and evenings get a little chaotic.





Nov. 15th, Wing Christmas Party – The Wing party will be held at the Blackfoot Inn, usual room on the main floor at the east end. AS in past years the Wing will be subsidizing the evening, so the cost to you will be \$25.00 per person. You are guaranteed a great evening, fantastic meal, and other little surprises (no snowball fights this year,

your drinks are safe). Tickets will be available at the October meeting. You can also contact Bev Spielman for tickets at 403-253-9422. Cut off date is Nov. 7th. Hope to see you there.



Nov. 16th. – HART Ceremony – This is a unique event held each year in Lethbridge. This is where the Air Cadets meet with their counter parts from the USA (Civil Air Patrol) It is a “hands across the border” ceremony which all participants work together. It has grown from a very simple meeting to become a very significant event. Anyone who can make it to Lethbridge is encouraged to attend. It will be very worth your while.



Rosebud Bus Trip Nov. 30th Contact Pat Sulek.

TO ALL THE WING MEMBERS AND FAMILIES, MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS BE FILLED WITH GOOD HEALTH, GOOD FOOD AND GOOD CHEER.

Members are encouraged to send us “stuff”, pictures, jokes, recipes and comments (nice ones only) and we will do our best to make sure these are included.

Your Editors Bev Spielman and Sue Clarke