

888 (Komox) RCAF Wing



# Contrails

2nd EDITION OF 2014



The Largest Wing in the Air Force Association of Canada

**SNOWBIRDS' PILOTS AND CREW VISIT 888 WING**



**Executive 2013 – 2014 (Effective 1 Jul 13)**

President	Don Hogan	339-2494
Hon. Pres.	Chuck Hazleton	338-0305
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Contrails	Jan Hogan	339-2494
Publicity	Juanita Tressel	338-2626
Welfare	Yvonne Melancon	339-7768
Entertainment	VACANT	
Housing	Greg Mackenzie	338-7415
Gaming Treas.	Andy Clark	339-2239
Sgt. At Arms	Glen Sweetman	339-0228
Auxiliary	Audrey Donovan	339-7292
Wing Manager	Lisa Gillis	339-0888
386 RCACS	Angela Kroemer	650-4182
CF Liaison	WO Steve Keeping	339-8211
		Loc 8372

**Bar Hours**

Monday	Noon-6pm
Tuesday	Noon-6pm
Wednesday	Noon-6pm
Thursday	Noon-9pm
Friday	Noon-6pm*
Saturday	Noon-6pm*
Sunday	Noon-6pm

\*Except for major Wing functions and Steak/Pub Grub nights

**These are guidelines; official bar hours posted in the Wing shall prevail.**

**Next Deadline – 15 August 2014**

**Contrails****2014**

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Mail articles to Box 430, Lazo, BC V0R 2K0 or place articles in the Contrails slot in the Wing Manager's office or E-mail articles to the Editor at don2jan@shaw.ca

**How to contact us.**

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**Website: www.888wingrcf.com**

**386 (Komox) Royal Canadian****Air Cadet Squadron**

Supported by 888 (Komox) RCAF Wing, through the Sponsoring Committee. The Squadron holds parades every Tuesday evening during the school year and other activities as scheduled by the Commanding Officer and Staff.

**EDITOR'S COMMENTS by JAN HOGAN**

"To err is human; to forgive is divine". I am human (I know, some of you are wondering) and I have erred. I must apologize to Chilliwack, to Penticton about the Canada Geese on the front cover of the last "Contrails". In fact, the geese and the AGM had been in Chilliwack and not Penticton and the geese definitely did not migrate from Chilliwack to Penticton.

The strange thing is that this year the Pacific Group AGM was held in Penticton and we did not have geese but we had ducks wandering in the grassy courtyard of our hotel. There was a large outdoor pool and the male duck certainly made use of it. And where was the little female duck? Well, she was sitting on her nest protecting her clutch of eggs, right beside the front door of the hotel. She was "cuddled" down in some long grass and she was so close to the step at the door, that if you slipped off you would step on her. She was so disguised that you had to look hard to see her. It's surprising where wild animals feel comfortable and exist.

The Pacific Group meeting itself was a fairly short one and the socializing was great. My compliments to 890 Wing for the great hospitality and wonderful banquet. They really know how to make a person feel welcome in their Wing and we all had a really good time.

More Wings should consider being a host to the other Wings in Pacific Group. It takes a lot of work but it pays off in the end. You showcase your geographic area, meet new and old friends and demonstrate what your Wing is capable of doing. It's an important time of year for our Group and worthy of a Wing's involvement and commitment. Perhaps we could all "take a page" from the little ducks at the hotel in Penticton, especially the little female sitting so long on her nest. Dedication, perseverance, good work ethics, responsibility and no straying from our duties.

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**Juanita's Thoughts of the Day:**

I was thinking I would do well to get into shape for the summer, but every time I hear that dirty word "exercise", I just have to wash my mouth out with chocolate.

I saw this notice the other day. "Dear Algebra: Please stop asking us to find X. She's gone and she isn't coming back—and don't ask Y."

The secret of enjoying good wine:

1. open the bottle to allow it to breathe.
2. if it doesn't look like it's breathing, give it mouth to mouth!

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT by DON HOGAN**

It is hard to believe that nearly a year has passed already. Time flies when you are having fun.

My time as President of 888 Wing has been very enjoyable and rewarding. I owe a great deal of thanks to the Wing Executive Council and Board of Directors for their efforts with the Association and Wing business.

My appreciation also goes to the many volunteer cooking teams who keep the Wing active socially with Pub Grub and Steak Nights. I also thank the entertainment committee for carrying on without a chair for the year and still providing some entertainment. Thanks to the housing maintenance and garden crews for keeping the place attractive both inside and out, to the auxiliary and bartenders for always being available for parade receptions, memorial services and special events.

A special thank you to Lisa, Sam and JoAnne for the important work they do in administration and bar management. They are our "front end" people and are always smiling, pleasant and helpful to the members of the Wing and the public. I know that everyone who was a big help to me will continue to be a big help to Jack when he takes over July 1<sup>st</sup>. Per Ardua ad Astra....see you in the Wing.

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**1st VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT by JACK SHAPKA**

888 Wing building interior upgrades are in process - stage 1, main entrance and hall, and stage 2, main lounge area are completed; stage 3, stage area near completion. Deck entrance glass has been replaced. The 888 Wing sign structure upgrade is still in the works. I would like to personally thank all the dedicated volunteers who have worked numerous hours and days in getting the upgrades completed. Without their dedication these types of upgrades would not take place.

The Entertainment Committee has run a trial on providing snacks during the famous Thursday afternoon gathering, and to date this new addition has been well supported by the members. In a couple of weeks the Entertainment Committee will meet and discuss the different menus served and will decide if this event will continue and the type of snacks to be offered. If the provision of snacks on Thursday will continue, additional volunteers will be required. Additional info on this issue will be published at a later date.

888 Wing Mess Dinner was held on 01 April and was a very successful event and well attended. Due to the success of this event, it will be held every year.

A major fund raising event was held in March - a beer and burger with a silent auction. The funds raised allows for Wing improvements as well as some financial support for 386 Squadron RCAC. This event was a great success and due to amount of funds raised, it may be an event to be held yearly.

A new updated Membership data base has been developed which will enable accurate data tracking and production of required reports.

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT by DENNIS DUPUIS**

The Mess Dinner conducted for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force was a great success. Thanks again to the committee and the many other folks who volunteered their time supporting this very high profile event.

I attended the Pacific Group AGM on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of May in the Okanagan. The folks from the Penticton Wing were great hosts for the two days of activities. The banquet food was a delicious pork dinner with a tasty homemade berry crisp for dessert.

As the Wing’s 101 Squadron Liaison Officer, I plan on travelling up to Port Hardy to attend their monthly meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> June. The squadron is working with the Port Hardy Legion on a major undertaking to rebuild the local Port Hardy cenotaph. The squadron’s meeting place, the Lyon’s Den Pub, located in the Glen Lyon Motel, has been re-decorated by 101 Squadron members, displaying their awards and RCAF memorabilia. Their Silent Auction held on the 26<sup>th</sup> April was very successful, raising over \$7500. The squadron members are planning a Thursday afternoon at 888 Wing on 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

**888 Wing Elections held on April 9, 2014**

Wing elections were conducted at the 888 Wing Annual General Meeting. The results are as follows:

President	Jack Shapka
1st Vice President	Dennis Dupuis
2nd Vice President	Barry Hansen
Treasurer	Daryl Wright
Secretary	Jan Hogan
Membership Chairperson	Len Kuchynski
Housing Chairperson	Greg MacKenzie
Entertainment Chairperson	Gerry Bullen
Welfare	Yvonne Melancon
Publicity	Juanita Tressel
“Contraails”	Jan Hogan
Gaming Fund Treasurer	Andy Clark
Sgt-At-Arms	Glen Sweetman
Wing Auxiliary	Audrey Donovan
396 Sqn RCAC SSC Chairperson	Angela Kroemer
19 Wing CF Liaison	W.O Stephen Keeping

Installation will be June 4, 2014 and official duties begin July 1, 2014. Congratulations everyone and thank you.

**101 SQUADRON REPORT      by BOB HEMPHILL**

Good thing 101 has been too busy to notice the weather. Back in February we supported the Wounded Warrior 600km Relay. Along with the Chamber of Commerce, RCMP, Fire Department, and the Rangers, 101Sqn held a meet and greet at the Lyon's Den on the 15th. That night the Legion hosted the team and provided finger food for the guests. The next morning the Chamber of Commerce opened their doors at 0530hrs for the 0600hrs start time of the run. Down the road, our associates at Port McNeill Airport hosted them for a morning breakfast at West Coast Helicopters. The typical North Island support was a good start to the event.

March saw us putting things in place for our 4th Annual Silent Auction, held once again at the Thunderbird Mall in Port Hardy. There is a surprising amount of groundwork needed for an auction to succeed and that means lots of planning sessions at our office, the Lyon's Den. No surprise, we are always unselfishly enthusiastic about those planning sessions. Still, being dedicated RCAFA members, as April 1<sup>st</sup> rolled around we took time off from such strenuous planning to join our comrades at 888 Wing for the Mess Dinner. We really had a good time there, and we are particularly proud (once again) that we didn't get into too much trouble or embarrass ourselves too much. Of course, for youngsters, it is always nurturing for us to see our parents getting along okay still.

Recently our 101 Challenge Coins arrived and a number of them were dropped off surreptitiously at the Wing. The initial response to the coins has been enthusiastic, and we encourage you to purchase one or two to show you are all swell fellows!! To show how the coins can be used, 101 recently presented one to Port Hardy's Mayor at a recent Council meeting, and shortly afterwards another was presented to the Lieutenant Governor on a visit to the North Island. Darned if she wasn't prepared with her own and didn't have to buy a round!! 101 will be visiting 888 Wing on 22 May to challenge people with our coins. It is much cheaper to buy one than pay for a round.

Back to our Auction... the final day was April 26th with bidding brisk and steady. In the end, most items sold at a good price. Customers were pleased with the deals they got, and 101 is delighted to have sufficient funds to fulfil our tasks for the coming year. Jim did an amazing job encouraging people to donate items to our auction and to the many people who helped steer items our way THANK YOU! (that doesn't mean you can stop buying our Challenge Coins!). Straggling in to the Lyon's Den after Auction cleanup, 101 members met retired military member Art Brochu and his stalwart crew. These amazing people were preparing for Art's cross-country bicycle ride to raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation.

Page 7 shows some of the 101 Squadron members with Art Brochu enjoying a "cool one" at the Lyon's Den.

**101 Squadron continued on Page 7**

**101 Squadron continued**

During his many deployments to conflict zones, Art had seen many kids who were sick, injured, hungry, and most of all without hope, as the parents of most of them had been killed or detained and were unable to care for their children. He decided that one day he would do something for kids; so when he learned about the Children's Wish Foundation he decided that on his 70th birthday he will be cycling across Canada to raise money for that charity. The ride started from Mile 0, Carrot Park in Port Hardy. One or two of you may have fond memories of the glorious North Island sunshine at our Battle of Britain Parades at Carrot Park. Well, we delivered again and Art had summer temperatures to peddle off into. Let's hope the rest of Canada treats him as civilly!

101 Squadron joined the local Legion in celebrating the Battle of the Atlantic on the 4th of May, in the sunshine, at 0800 hrs for the flag-raising and again at 1600 hrs for the flag-lowering and followed by a "tot". There was a very respectable showing.

Meanwhile our President, Jim King, is meandering his way to Penticton to take part in the Pacific Group AGM. We hope it offers a bit of relaxation for our "prez".



**386 (KOMOX) ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS by ANGELA KROEMER**

The Cadet strength is 75, with new cadets enrolling every month.

The Drill Team won first place in the Drill Competition.

Eight cadets who passed the Scholarship Boards will be training this summer.

The latest with the on-going training was a Field Training Exercise, that was enjoyed by all. There is a Facebook page with most of the cadets' accomplishments, including pictures.  
[www.facebook.com/386komox](http://www.facebook.com/386komox).

The band has a competition in Victoria May 24, 2014.

The Annual Ceremonial Review will be held June 1, 2014 at 1330 hours. The location is the Glacier Gardens Skating Arena. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

For the fall, we will re-design the Effective Speaking Program so that the program will be better suited to the younger cadets. We are looking for an instructor that has two hours a week free, for a maximum of five weeks.

The Squadron Sponsoring Committee needs new members. If you are interested in joining please contact Angela at 250-650-4182.

The Air Cadets thank 888 Wing for the generous donation of funds from the Gaming and the Beer and Burger fund-raiser. These funds help with Training and Supplies.





**AUXILIARY by AUDREY DONOVAN**

It has been a quiet time for the Auxiliary. We will be looking after the Annual Air Cadet Parade, providing refreshments for the Cadets and the dignitaries that will be attending. The parade will be on June 1<sup>st</sup> this year. If you have not been to see the cadets on parade, I strongly urge you to make time for it. It is truly amazing to see these young people displaying all their talents. Well worth taking the time to attend!

Take care, stay healthy and we'll see you at the Wing!

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**Royal Canadian Air Force Association**

This is a friendly reminder that the National Annual General Meeting will be held October 24, 25 and 26, 2014 in Ottawa. This is a particularly important meeting as we begin following the Not-For-Profit Act of Canada, which will change the way some of the business of the Association is to be conducted (eg. Elections).

It is also the 90th Anniversary of the RCAF. And 65th of the RCAFA. This makes the National AGM very prestigious and special and it is an excellent way of celebrating your heritage and showing your support to the Association, at the same time.

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

With a new volunteer coming on as Entertainment Chairperson, he has no report for this issue. Keep posted for new information in the September 1, 2014 issue. In the meantime, read the notice at the front door, the back bulletin board and the notices on the table. Our PR also posts information on emails.

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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT by LEN KUCHYNSKI**

Membership numbers stand at 363 Regular/Dual; 101 Wing Associate; 101 Spousal.

**WELFARE REPORT by YVONNE MELANCON**

Finally spring has arrived. I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather and are able to get outdoors a lot.

Sympathy was extended to Denny Cock and family. Denny's brother passed away in Nova Scotia in February. Sincere condolences were extended to Rick Skrzyzala and family. Rick's mother passed away in April.

A sympathy card was taken to the Arsenault family. David Arsenault passed away in April.

I visited and took "Get Well" cards to 12 members who were ill. All are recuperating and we hope to see them all back at the Wing soon.

Please let me know if you know of someone who is ill so that I can visit and take them a card. My phone number is 250-339-7768.

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**VIDEO LIBRARY by DAVE GODFREY**

The video library continues to provide enjoyable entertainment for our members with an average of 100 movies signed out each month. So far, the top 3 movies for 2014 are: *'R.E.D. 2'* (10), *'Alex Cross'* (9), and *'Now You See Me'* (9).

In the coming months watch for blockbuster and Oscar movies *'The Butler'*, *'Nebraska'*, *'12 Years a Slave'*, *'August: Osage County'*, *'Dallas Buyers Club'*, and many more to be added to our selection. However, I will advise right now that the Oscar nominated movies *'American Hustle'* and *'Wolf of Wall Street'* will not be added to the library for the simple reason that they are full of foul language...something most members would not appreciate. According to all reports, *'Wolf of Wall Street'* is full of obscene words and gestures, including 570 F-bombs, and many frontal nudity scenes that borders on pornographic!



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Also joining us at the Wing were the crew and pilots from the F-18's, along with their Public Relations Officer.



On the right you can see some of the pilots and crew from each aircraft socializing.