

888 (Komox) RCAF Wing



Contrails

4th EDITION OF 2013

The Largest Wing in the Air Force Association of Canada

CREW FROM 407 SQN. 19 WING AT ALLIFORD BAY



Executive 2013 – 2014 (Effective 1 Jul 13)

President	Don Hogan	339-2494
Hon. Pres.	Chuck Hazleton	338-0305
Past Pres.	Rick Skrzylala	337-8866
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2nd Vice	Dennis Dupuis	338-0310
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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	Jan Hogan	339-2494
CF Liaison	WO Steve Keeping	339-8211 Loc 8444

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 February 2014

**Contrails
2013**

CONTRAILS is the quarterly bulletin of 888 (Komox) RCAF Wing, Air Force Association of Canada. It is published four times a year - on the 1st of March, June, September and December.

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

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Meetings

The Wing Executive Council with the Board of Directors meets regularly on the third Monday of every other month at 1000 hours. General meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every February, April, June, and October. The **Annual General Meeting** is in April at which time elections for the new Wing Executive and Board of Directors is held. Wing Executive meets regularly each month.

**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

We are coming to the close of another year and as I look back, I think it has been pretty good. Our Wing has been running quite smoothly and our membership numbers are still pretty healthy.

Over the past 11 months, we have maintained a high quality of entertainment in the form of summer steak barbeques and our ever popular Pub Grub nights. Attendance has been stellar for most of these events and the special functions, such as Oktoberfest, Christmas Brunch and Christmas Dinner are proving to be extremely popular and well attended.

Looking forward to the next year, I hope for our Association and our Wing that our prosperity continues. Changes are forthcoming for the Association, but I know the members will meet them head on and incorporate whatever is necessary for the continuance of such a successful organization.

There are so many people at work to make the Association and Groups and Wings effective, that they cannot all be named, but they know who they are (you know who you are) and I thank you and your dedication and commitment.

May you all enjoy the happiest Christmas and holiday season and the very best to each and every one of you for a healthy and safe New Year.

Juanita's Thoughts of the Day:

Pessimists say the glass is half empty. Optimists say the glass is half full. Me.....I say "Yea! there's room to add Vodka".

Having more money doesn't make you happier. I have \$50M but I'm no happier than when I had \$40M.

There's one thing you can learn from joining Facebook—you're not nearly as messed up as you thought you were.

After 100 years of lying on the seabed, divers were amazed to find Titanic's swimming pool was still full!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by DON HOGAN

As we head into the final month of 2013, I wish to thank some members for their time and service to 888 Wing.

A big thanks of appreciation to KD MacDonald for all the time, effort and guidance he gave us as Honourary President over the years. We finally got his resolution on biennial AGMs accepted and passed at the National AGM this October. Thank you to Chuck Hazleton for accepting to take on the position of Honourary President. I look forward to your knowledge and experience to help guide us in maintaining the best Wing in the country.

Duke Reid is standing down as the Entertainment Chair. I thank Duke for taking on the position while he was the Past President and continuing on until now. Also on that committee is the Pub Grub coordinator, Jean Hnatiuk and I thank Jean for all the time and work she has contributed to make it the most popular on-going event in the Wing. Thank you to Carmel Horochuk for taking over from Jean who is also standing down. The Friday meals will continue to draw the members for an evening of good food and conversation with friends.

Also, thanks to Audrey Lahaise and Nancy Potvin, for looking after the kitchen. Thanks to Ron Peacock and the bartenders; where would we be without them? Thanks also to the Housing and Garden crew. Finally, a huge thank you to the members of the Wing Executive Council, the Board of Directors, and Lisa, Sam and JoAnne in the office, for the excellent work you have been doing in your individual areas of responsibility. The Wing continues to function well because of your efforts.

Congratulations to Al Hampshire on receiving the Meritorious Service Award, Lou Lepine for a Life Membership, 101 Squadron for Wing of the Year, and Jan Hogan for the "Contrails". The awards were presented at the National AGM in Saskatoon.

As you know entertainment is a large part of our Wing's social life. Without it we would be just a place to meet friends have a few drinks, then go home. We have members volunteering on the Entertainment Committee....they need a leader! I know that a large number of Wing members have had some training and experience in leadership; you know who you are and that you could easily fill the position of the Chair. The Wing Executive and the Board of Directors already have their areas of responsibility and I don't think they should have to take on another position when there are other members in our Wing who could do the job. There is lots of help available and it is rewarding in the end. *We are tired of asking.....so just come forward and offer your service.*

I wish all the members a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

President's Report continued:

Thanks to KD MacDonald for his service as Honourary President and welcome Chuck Hazleton to the position.



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT by RICK SKRZYZALA

Rick has been away in Alberta and has just returned. While there, he attended Remembrance Day ceremonies in Coleman, Alberta and placed a wreath on behalf of the Air Force Association of Canada.

When he came back to Comox, he brought the new chairs for the Wing and I like them! Thanks Rick. (editor)

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

I attended the National AGM in Saskatoon and it was a great experience. It was also a good opportunity to discuss issues with other Wing members from across our great nation. The issue of the increase of the Air Force Association's membership dues, was an item that was raised by several Wing delegates, from the floor. The National President took the time to explain the increase and walked us through the entire process as to why and how the decisions were made for that increase of dues. He admitted that there was a communication issue with this item. He stated, however, that the NEC would ensure that future issues would be properly communicated. On completion of his explanation, several Wing delegates stood up and thanked the President for explaining and clearing up some misconceptions of the process.

The President briefed us on the issue of electing officers for the NEC as per the changes in the new Not-For-Profit Act, to be followed by all organizations that fall under the Act. All candidates will be nominated as directors for a total of 11 directors, to form the Board of Directors. The Chairperson will be elected from this group and by these 11 directors. At this time, however, present NEC members will remain on the board for an additional year, as well as the Chairman. The new way of conducting an election will begin next year at the 2014 AGM.

Resolution 2013-002 (Pac Gp) which was submitted by 888 (Komox) RCAF Wing was presented as follows: A resolution to hold biennial Air Force Association General Meetings commencing after the National General Meeting in October 2014. The National Resolutions Committee supported this resolution with an amended "to be resolved" statement, that reads, "when the association obtains the hardware and software required for the electronic AGM" and hereby recommended to the NEC that the resolution be presented to the Association members for their approval.

The resolution with the amendment was voted on and passed unanimously by the members.

Constitutional changes have started and will be a long on-going process. Members will be kept informed as to the progress and required input.

The 2014 AGM will be held in Ottawa in October. This location was selected due to the 90th Anniversary of the RCAF. The NEC will be seeking sponsorship from numerous sources in order to supplement the budget for this event as it is a very important milestone.

The issue of the decline in memberships in RCAF Association was discussed at length. Several suggestions were mentioned. However, no real silver bullet was discovered. The simple solution would be if every member could recruit one new member we would be able to accomplish our goal of a continuous influx of new members.

The budget was discussed at length by the members and the Executive Director and the budget was passed by the delegates. At this time there is no plan to re-organize the Groups; they will stay for the time being. In addition the President requested suggestions from the Wings during the year on any issues or subjects that could improve the organization.

This is only a quick summary to highlight the items of the AGM. The detailed minutes will be posted on our website, when they are completed.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT by DENNIS DUPUIS

In September, 19 Wing 407 Squadron, supplied an aircraft and crew in support of 101 Squadron's Shark 17 crash site plaque dedication ceremony at Alliford Bay, Haida Gwaii on Saturday, 21st September. The Aurora departed 19 Wing at 0800 hours with a brief stop in Port Hardy to pick up 101 Sqn members and 888 Wing members who were already in Port Hardy. Then we were off to Sandspit, where ground transportation was provided for our short trip to the Shark 17 crash site for the ceremony, which was well attended with participation by the 407 Sqn crew, Rangers, RCMP and local spectators. After the cairn dedication, we were transported back to the Sandspit airport for a nice luncheon followed by the last leg of our trip back to Port Hardy, where the 407 Sqn crew dropped off all the 888 Wing and 101 Sqn members. Thanks again go out to 19 Wing and in particular, 407 Squadron crew for their professionalism and hospitality.

That night we all attended the 101 Squadron's Presidents' Appreciation Dinner, which was a first class event. The next day, 101 Sqn conducted its Battle of Britain Ceremony at the Port Hardy cenotaph. The parade was well attended and the weather co-operated with only light rain and a favourable cloud cover for the scheduled Pacific Coastal dual plane fly past. Many thanks to 101 Sqn members for a great weekend.

I also travelled up to Port Hardy on the 9th of October to attend the 101 Squadron's October meeting. All is well with our squadron members up north. They have just completed recognizing the 13th North Island crash sites with a first rate memorial in September and they are already discussing other projects. Their visit to 888 Wing in October was most timely in that our members had the opportunity to observe the National Award presentation to Lou Lepine, Life (Honourary) Membership and 101 Squadron Wing of the Year.

The planning stages for the up-coming April 1st Mess Dinner are well on their way. The menu has been blessed by the Executive and the caterer has now been booked. There are still a few positions on the Mess Dinner Committee to be filled, so I will be soliciting assistance from Wing members to help with the execution of this event.



Members of 101 Sqn and 888 Wing at the Shark 17 Cairn in Haida Gwaii.

LEVÉE by LEN KUCHYNSKI

The annual New Year's Day Levée, hosted by the Governor General, the Lieutenant-Governor, military establishments, municipalities and other institutions, has an unusual and interesting origin.

The word Levée is derived from the French verb lever, to rise (specifically from one's bed) and has its origins in the Levée du Soleil or Rising of the Sun instituted by King Louis XIV (1643–1715), whose custom it was to receive his male subjects in the Royal bedchamber just after arising, a practice which subsequently spread throughout Europe.

The Levée crossed the English Channel in the 18th Century, and in Great Britain and Ireland became a formal Court assembly (reception) given by the Sovereign or his/her representative in the forenoon or early afternoon, at which only men were received.

In the New World colonies, the Levée was held by the Governor acting on behalf of the Monarch. Because settlers were widely scattered, and separated from the seat of Government, the annual Levée was a very important event, and attendance by village leaders and public dignitaries was compulsory.

It was in Canada that the Levée became associated with New Year's Day. The holding of a Levée by the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors on New Year's Day is not a continuation of the precedent set by the Sovereign they represent, but rather perpetuates an ancient custom of this country, dating from the days of the fur trade. The people of the trade traditionally paid their respects to their representative of government, the Master of the Fort, on New Year's Day.

The first recorded Levée in Canada was held on January 1st, 1646 in the Chateau St. Louis by Charles Huault de Montmagny, Governor of New France (later Québec) from 1636 to 1648. In addition to shaking hands and wishing a Happy New Year to citizens presenting themselves at the Chateau, the Governor informed guests of significant events in the Mother Country, as well as the state of affairs within the colony. (This tradition is carried on today within The Commonwealth in the form of The Queen's New Year's Message. The State-of-the-Union address by the President of the United States, although not delivered on New Year's Day, has similar origins. In turn, the settlers were expected to pledge anew their allegiance to the Crown.

The Levée tradition was continued by British Colonial Governors in Canada, and subsequently by Governors General and Lieutenant-Governors, and continues to the present day.

Records suggest that only after British Columbia entered Confederation in 1871 were Levées regularly held by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, and that Colonial Governors of Vancouver and (Mainland) British Columbia did not customarily hold them on New Year's Day. The (Victoria) Colonist of January 3rd, 1872 reported that "... His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Joseph J.W. Trutch) and family received and entertained many callers at their private residence". Subsequent Levées were held, for the most part, in Government House. Although receptions hosted by the President of the United States of America are occasionally referred to as Levées, over the years, the Levée has become almost solely a Canadian observance. Today, the word Levée describes the receptions (usually, but not necessarily, on New Year's Day) held by the Governor General, the Lieutenant-Governors of the Provinces, the Military, and others, to mark the advent of another year and to provide an opportunity for the public to pay their respects.

The Levée has a long tradition in the Canadian Forces as one of the activities associated with New Year's Day. In years past, Military Commanders garrisoned throughout the vast expanse of Canada held local Levées since, as Commissioned Officers, they were expected to act on behalf of the Crown on such occasions.

On the West Coast, Levées are a well-established tradition, given that Vancouver Island was the base for the Royal Navy's Pacific Fleet, beginning in the 1840s.

Today, as in bygone years, members of the various Canadian Forces units and Headquarters across Canada receive and greet visiting military and civilian guests in the convivial spirit of the first day of the New Year. As has the Levée itself, refreshments served at Levées have undergone change, in importance and variety, over the years.

In colonial times, when the formalities of the Levée had been completed, guests were treated to wine and cheeses from the homeland. Wines did not travel well during the long ocean voyage to Canada; so, to make the cloudy and somewhat sour wine more palatable, it was doctored with alcohol and spices, and heated. The concoction came to be known as "Le Sang du Caribou", or Moose Blood.

Under British Colonial rule, many of the customs of French Canada were retained but, in the case of "Le Sang du Caribou", whisky, which travelled better, was substituted as the basic ingredient. This was then mixed with goat's milk, and flavoured with nutmeg and cinnamon to produce an Anglicized version called "Moose Milk". Today's version of Moose Milk, in addition to whisky (or rum) and spices, uses a combination of eggnog and ice-cream and sometimes an additional alcoholic refinement or two.

Refreshments were clearly an important element in the New Year's festivities. A report of the New Year's Levée held in Brandon House in Manitoba in 1797 indicated that "... in the morning the Canadians (men of the North West Company) make the House and Yard ring with saluting (the firing of rifles). The House then filled with them when they all got a dram each". Simpson's Athabasca Journal reports that on January 1st, 1821, "the Festivities of the New Year commenced at four o'clock this morning when the people honoured me with a salute of fire arms, and in half an hour afterwards the whole Inmates of our Garrison assembled in the hall dressed out in their best clothes, and were regaled in a suitable manner with a few flaggon's Rum and some Cakes. A full allowance of Buffalo meat was served out to them and a pint of spirits for each man".

Indeed, when residents called upon the Governor to pay their respects, they expected party fare. On Vancouver Island, there was "an almighty row" in 1856 when the Colonial Governor's Levée was not to their liking.

In military messes, hospitality is dispensed in a variety of forms, from the previously-mentioned Moose Milk (with rum often substituted for whisky), and the special flaming punch of the Royal Canadian Hussars of Montreal, a concoction bequeathed to the regiment by the old 1st Motor Machine Gun Brigade, and requiring a month to prepare, to the famed Athole Brose, the brew of oatmeal, honey and whisky of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, Vancouver.

Historically, the Levée has been largely a male preserve having its origins, as previously mentioned, in the Royal bedchamber. This custom persisted, in part, because of societal practices of earlier days, and quite possibly the fact that it was an occasion enlivened by quantities of rum or other spirits, and thus was often a raucous celebration.

During the Second World War, Levées were attended by female officers of the Armed Forces, and since then the "men only" tradition has given way to Levées attended by both men and women.

From the rather boisterous celebrations of early times to the somewhat more sedate, if informal, event of today, the Levée has evolved into an occasion to call upon representatives of the Sovereign, military, and municipal governments, to exchange New Year's greetings and best wishes for the coming year, and to renew old acquaintances and meet new friends in a convivial atmosphere. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the events of the past year and to welcome in the challenges and opportunities of the New Year.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by DUKE REID

The past several months have seen all Friday night Pub Grubs sold out, which has been very encouraging.

The Oktoberfest was a huge success, with maximum attendance.

The Calendar of Events will now show only the events for the following month. December Pub Grubs for the month are as follows:

December 1 st	Christmas Brunch and Talent Show
December 13 th	No Pub Grub
December 15 th	Christmas Dinner and Dance
December 20 th	No Pub Grub
December 31 st	Drop in New Year's Eve – Sign up at the Wing

All other entertainment news will be on the two Wing notice boards and/or the table notices.

This being my last report as a member of the Entertainment Committee, I would like to thank the committee members for their tremendous support and dedication to every entertainment task that was requested of them. At our November meeting, we welcomed two new members...Carmel Horochuk and Jackie Shriner. Along with Betty Kuchynski, Jean Hnatiuk, Joy Reid, Rhoda Metcalf and Andre Melancon, they make up the small but very dedicated committee members.

Art Karpus advised us that due to a heavy workload, he must leave the committee. The committee thanked Art for his support over the past several years.

Carmel Horochuk has agreed to take on the Pub Grub coordinator with the able assistance of Jean Hnatiuk. Thanks Carm.

Finally, no one has stepped forward to Chair the Entertainment Committee, so the members have decided to continue to meet each month, arrange Pub Grubs and support any special function as the Executive may organize.

I personally want to once again thank the committee and the Executive for their support over the past several years. It has been a good run, but time for a break.

101 SQUADRON REPORT by BOB HEMPHILL

Another year is winding down. I know it's a long way to New Years, but after the whirlwind of activities over the spring and summer months, it's time for 101 to hibernate! We've already got our eye on the Silent Auction in April and have learned that the months race by faster than they should.

A very enjoyable highlight for 101 members this summer was watching the Comox Airshow as guests of the Wing Commander. We did our best to eat as much and drink as much of the excellent fare being served up at the chalet while still maintaining some dignity. What a perfect place to see all that was going on right in front of us! Thank you Colonel Benninger and here's hoping the Airshow becomes a regular event once again!

September 21st saw 101 members assisting our Haida Gwaii Flight at their commemoration of the crew of Shark 517, lost at Alliford Bay during WWII. The weather on Haida Gwaii was a significant improvement over the memorial we conducted there for Stranraer 935 in November 2011, when we had a delightful snowfall! Thanks again go to 407 Sqn., 19 Wing, Comox, for providing the aircraft and to Major Goldie for speaking at the ceremony. Thanks too, to the members from 888 Wing who took part in the service. Shark 517 and the July 6th memorial at Shearwater Resort represent the last of our flight crew memorial projects. 101 Squadron has placed fourteen stainless steel plaques in fifteen years and we are pleased to have completed our missions as planned. We have been holding discussions on what projects to tackle next and each of us is keenly aware of how many meetings at Babe's that will mean.

Upon returning from Haida Gwaii everyone got down to enjoying 101's President's Appreciation Dinner. The meal was very good this year; prime rib and all the crab one could eat (and take home afterwards!). Our 50/50 draw was a little tamer than the past couple of years, but then someone would have to get arrested trying to top those revealing demonstrations! At dinner we also learned that 101 was to receive a couple of honours at the upcoming AGM in Saskatoon. Back upstairs at Babes after dinner, Craig Widsten offered some reminiscences about the Shearwater memorial project – thank you for joining us Craig! The next morning everyone showed up bright and bushy-tailed at Carrot Park for our annual Battle of Britain Parade. As people have come to expect it, we'd ordered up some fine weather and welcomed the Rangers, Junior Rangers and a couple of Legion members, who had joined us. Pacific Coastal honoured us once again with a great flypast with two of their Beaver aircraft. The parade went flawlessly and we hurriedly put things away in anticipation of the RCMP Tour de Rock cyclists arriving at the park right afterwards. Unfortunately there was only so much good weather to go around and they had run into severe weather delays and were late. So off we went to Babes instead to debrief the weekend's events. Thanks to everyone who joined us.

101 Squadron Report continued

On October 24th 101 members popped down to Comox Airport to retrieve our venerable member, Lou Lepine, who was returning from the AGM in Saskatoon. Lou looked a little rumpled so we hurried him over to 888 Wing to revive his spirits. While at the Wing we started to hear about some of the “adventures” AGM participants had enjoyed. As more than one person observed, it was a real “planes, trains and automobiles” story. In Lou’s case, it started off with the weather closing in preventing his flight from leaving (apparently a coast-wide phenomenon that lasted several days). Lou managed to catch a ferry to Vancouver, discovering the bus no longer boards the boat, which meant poor Lou had to trundle his suitcases everywhere he went. Once in Vancouver and learning no planes were flying, Lou boarded a train heading East. The train ride brought back many fond memories of years past, until they reached Jasper, where Lou learned that rail disasters still strike. An earlier pile up and ensuing explosion of several oil tankers had closed the tracks ahead and Lou had no choice but to rent a car to get to Edmonton. After far too much excitement and far too little sleep, Lou caught a plane in Edmonton and eventually arrived in Saskatoon. Unfortunately he was too late to personally receive the awards mentioned earlier and we are grateful to Don McNabb for stepping in for 101.

Our members find it truly an honour to be recognized by the National group as Wing of the Year, and we are equally honoured to have our good member Lou receive the Lifetime membership award. Thank you to everyone who has supported us over the years and helped make those possible!

386 (KOMOX) ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS by JAN HOGAN

Another great start to another great year. We bid a fond farewell to the out-going CO, Captain Lauren Dean, in September and welcomed the new in-coming CO, Captain Caleigh MacDonald. Caleigh brings a lot of good ideas to the squadron and she wants to be sure to include fun for the cadets.

We now have a total of 80 cadets. They have all been busy with their training and fundraising. To date the cadets are involved with band practice and Level 5 Leadership training. They attended 19 Wing Rexpo, and took part in the Battle of Britain and Remembrance Day ceremonies in both Comox and Courtenay. They have been going to the gym for sports night, training on the Flight Simulator and holding Range night. In September 30 cadets attended a cadet training weekend in Victoria and in November there was a field training exercise over the course of a weekend. Effective Speaking has started as well as the First Aid and the Drill. We have a very busy squadron!

The squadron cadets held their first Tag Day fundraiser in October and raised a significant amount of money, thanks to the generosity of the communities. Thanks to everyone who supports this very important youth program.

The sponsoring committee has held its annual general meeting and election meeting and have a total of 19 members on the committee. Nine of them have formed the Board of Directors and four have formed an executive.

AUXILIARY by AUDREY DONOVAN

The Auxiliary has been enjoying a very quiet fall. We looked after the reception for Battle of Britain on September 15th with sandwiches and clam chowder. It was a very nice turn out at the Wing and a good number of cadets as well. The weather co-operated for the parade with a big down pour afterward.

Recently we did the reception for Remembrance Day. The clam chowder and sandwiches were well received by a large crowd. It was a lovely sunny day for the parade but cold. Nice hot clam chowder chased away the chills while we waited for the Pipers to arrive.

I would like to thank all my lovely volunteers who make all the work so easy. A big thanks go out to: Jackie Schreiner, Betty Janes, Betty Kuchynski, Joy Reid, Elva Clark, Debra McLean, Deb Topp, Carmel Horochuk, Judy Schneider, Bev Stobart and Syvill Fearn. Of course, my main crew who show up every time deserve a big thanks as well - Maxine Jones, Lou and John Haughton and Elsie Downey. "Many hands make for light work"!!! Plus we always have fun.

That's it for this time. My team and I want to wish all members a happy and healthy holiday season. Come out to the Wing and celebrate as often as you can. We don't know what is around the corner so it's best to enjoy while we can.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT by LEN KUCHYNSKI

To date we have 541 members. Regular/Dual stand at 352; Associate 91 and Spousal 98.

WELFARE REPORT by YVONNE MELANCON

Time passes so quickly and here it is time again for another entry to our "Contrails" news bulletin. I hope everyone enjoyed our wonderful summer.

Sympathy was extended to Maxine Jones and family. Maxine's brother passed away in Saskatchewan in August.

Sincere condolences also to Wanda Jefferd and family. Jeff Jefferd passed away on October 19th and a Celebration of Life was held on October 25th.

Sincere condolences also to the Hallstrom family. Ron passed away on November 11th. A "Sympathy Card" was given and I attended the Celebration of Life and Poppy Service on November 23rd.

I visited and took cards to three members who were ill in hospital.

With the flu season fast approaching, I hope everyone is able to obtain their flu shot. If you know of anyone in hospital, please let me know so that I can visit and take them a card. My phone number is 250-339-7768.

At this time of year, Andre and I wish you all a very "Merry Christmas" with family and friends, and a "Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year".



Tim Cowan, B.S.P.

Pharmacist/Owner

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VIDEO LIBRARY by DAVE GODFREY

Although slower than in previous years, the video library has been kept busy over the summer months. To the end of September, the top 5 movies so far this year with 14 sign-outs each are: "Bourne Legacy", "Hitchcock", "The Double", "Treasure Island", and "Zero Dark Thirty."

Recent additions to the library include Oscar winners "Argo", "Silver Linings Playbook" and "Django Unchained", along with the Sci-Fi thriller "Oblivion" starring Tom Cruise, "Promised Land" starring Matt Damon and the comedy "Quartet" directed by Dustin Hoffman and starring Maggie Smith. Also added was the western "Hatfields & McCoys" starring Kevin Costner and Bill Paxton. This historically famous family feud almost re-ignited the civil war and is accurately portrayed in this 5-hour mini-series.

Watch for new movies "The Great Gatsby" starring Leonardo DiCaprio and "Star Trek: Into the Darkness" to be added in the coming months, along with other box office hits "Emperor", "Anna Karenina", "White House Down", "The Butler" and "The Hunger Games II: Catching Fire", to name just a few.

There are literally hundreds of entertainment movies to choose from in our Wing's video library; so browse through the cabinets and sign out a movie or two over the winter months. Just remember, we do ask that they only be borrowed for **a maximum of 7 days** in order that others may enjoy them too.

As this will be our last "Contrails" for this year, I would like to take the opportunity to wish all our 888 Wing members and their families a safe and happy holiday season, with a prosperous New Year of movie watching... "On the Wing!".



Photographer Erin Haluschak captured this powerful image on November 11, 2013.



F/Sgt. Jared Heavener from 386 (Komox) Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadets, escorting Mrs. Lilian Blakeley, who is laying a wreath on behalf of the Silver Cross Mothers at the Remembrance Day Ceremonies in Courtenay.