

Alumni Notes

395 Squadron Alumni Association Newsletter Volume 14 ~ February 2018

# **Alumni Members Volunteer**



~ Our newest Honourary Alumni member, Wayne Reitsma is the Chair of one of the Mock Selection Boards ~

The Alumni continues to assist 395 Squadron with support in many ways. One of the major events the Alumni participate in is the 395 Squadron Mock Selection Boards. The squadron prepares the scholarship cadets for the Provincial Selection Boards which will be held in Innisfail, on February 17. The experience of former members of the unit, **Brian Andrus, Bill Buckham** (H), **Robert Genis, Joe Luce, Allan McCowan, Nick Nimchuk, Nicole Norton, Wayne Reitsma** (H) **and Don Ste Croix**, helps in this important process.



~ Joe Luce, acting as Chair for one of the boards ~

## **Request for Volunteers**

395 Squadron Parents Association requires volunteers to assist with their Casino scheduled for Wednesday, April 11 and Thursday, April 12, 2018 at the Century Casino on Fort Road. Please contact Kristine Miles at kdmiles@shaw.ca or 780-472-2506.

They are having some difficulty filling some of the positions and would appreciate any assistance we can provide. We encourage Alumni members to volunteer for this major squadron fundraiser. The funds raised at the casino provides for the extras that DND can not support such as power familiarization flying, field trips, band equipment, etc. These casinos are held every 18 months and are critical to keep this squadron active and viable. The scholarships being boarded this year include: International Exchange Power Pilot Course Glider Pilot Course Aircraft Maintenance Aircraft Operations Advanced Aerospace

The squadron normally holds three boards each Tuesday evening over a four week period and has three members on each board. Usually half of the 9 members participating in the evening interviews are Alumni members. The unit also attempts to recruit new board members to sit on these panels, giving them exposure to the process and providing the cadet with unfamiliar adult faces across the table for each board experience.



~ All three of these board members are Alumni, Brian Andrus, Nicole Norton, Robert Genis ~

#### **395 Squadron Coin Parade**

Major Chris Duncan cordially invites all Alumni to attend 395 Squadron's annual Coin Parade on Tuesday, March 6 at HMCS Nonsuch.

> Arrival for 1900 hrs, Reviewing Officer to take dais at 1930 hrs. Parade to conclude by 2030 hrs.

The Alumni is always recognized and it would be very gratifying to see your support again at this event.

## **Hypnotist Show Re-Scheduled**

Due to circumstances out of our control, we have decided to re-schedule the Hypnotist show planned for March 17 to tentatively take place Saturday, September 29. From now until September 15 we are encouraging Alumni members to look for silent auction items for this event. In the past the silent auction raised a significant number of funds to keep our association moving ahead. The Alumni operates on minimal funds

## Silent Auction Requests

Do You Require A Letter? 395 Squadron Alumni would be pleased to provide a letter to request a silent auction item. Most businesses require this letter for accounting purposes and we would be pleased to provide you with this letter. Please contact us at our Alumni email address to receive a copy. You can reproduce this letter several times for businesses which request it.

## **Do You Like Air Shows?**

There will be two air shows this year you might be interested in.

• **The Edmonton Air Show** held at Villeneuve Airport. Date has yet to be published but likely will be August 18 & 19, 2018

www.edmontonairshow.com

• **The Cold Lake Air Show** will run July 21 and 22, 2018. Its theme this year will be a salute to the 60th anniversary of NORAD. As such, the USAF F-22 will be joined by outstanding Canadian Armed Forces displays including the CF-18 Demonstration team, the Skyhawks parachute team and the worldfamous Snowbirds Air Demonstration Team.

www.coldlakeairshow.com



and incurs very few expenses, however one of our main expenses is the cost associated to maintain the Alumni's website. Occasionally our association does fund unique endeavors in support of the cadet unit. One major item we paid for in 2017 was the repair of 417 Squadron's Griffon, this is 395 Squadron's affiliated Canadian Armed Forces unit in Cold Lake (featured in our last issue).

## Always Looking for Help!

The Alumni executive is always looking for members to assist with a variety of positions or responsibilities. New people can bring new and refreshing perspectives while learning some of the tricks from the more experienced members. We encourage you to get involved. Volunteer organizations are only as strong as the members make it. Without this dedication a volunteer organization will fold and our association is no different. Our next major event will be held in 2021, the Squadron's 75th year of operation, another significant milestone in the unit's existence. We will start our planning for this 75th event in two years, just a hiccup away.

## 700 Wing Speaker Series



The 700 Wing RCAFA has started a Speaker Series held once a month. They invite members of the aviation committee to make a presentation. Some of the previous topics have included: EIA and

its Future, The Proposed F35 Fighter, 408 Squadron Operations, Flying in Afghanistan. All are welcome to attend. More information can be found at www.facebook.com/700Wing

#### Follow Alumni on Social Media

The Alumni now have a presence on Twitter and Facebook. For up to minute information on the reunion as well as other information, please follow and like us.

#### 395 Squadron Alumni Steering Committee Executive 2017-2018

Brian Andrus Chair/Treasurer

Karen Butkowski Co-Chair/Admin Coordinator

> Nick Nimchuck Archives

Erwin Loewen Archives

Keith Zukiwski Webmaster

**Joe Luce** Event Coordinator

Monique Barr Advertising

Nanette Booth Graphic Design

**Don Ste-Croix** Member at Large

Sylvia Loewen Member at Large

**Stacy Urwin** Member at Large

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