

# Alumni Notes

395 Squadron Alumni  
Foundation Newsletter

395 SQUADRON  
ALUMNI  
FOUNDATION



Volume 10 May 2014

## What is New with the Alumni?

### Meet and Greets

As we slowly close out the cadet year, there is one more informal opportunity for us to gather together as Alumni. There will be a Meet & Greet to be held on Friday, May 30 at the Norwood Legion from 4:30 – 7 p.m. When you come, don't forget to bring along some money for the Legion's 50/50 and the Meat Lottery draws which take place at the same time. As this is a great opportunity for Alumni to casually get together and shoot the breeze we would really like to see as many Alumni members attend as possible. Unfortunately at our last Meet & Greet no one showed up -- a real disappointment.

### 395 Squadron's ACR

Pencil in your calendar the 395 Squadron's 68th Annual Parade and Banquet to be held on Saturday, June 7, 2014. More details will be emailed out and posted to our website and Facebook Page at a later date.

### Did You Know . . .

One of our Alumni, John Larsen, will be the Reviewing Officer for the 68th Annual Inspection on June 7th. Commander John Larsen indicated it will be 30 years this June that he aged out of cadets. Alumni, come out to support John as the RO and the cadets.

### An Advertising Opportunity for Our Alumni

The Alumni Executive has decided to provide business card space to advertise businesses for a nominal cost of \$25.00 a year. The newsletter is distributed to our 130 members around the world with at least four editions being published a year. We require a PDF of your business card sent to the Alumni email: 395alumn@telus.net

### Help Required

395 Squadron Parents Association is in dire need of volunteers for an upcoming Casino and we would like us to ask the Alumni Members for their assistance, in particular the day shifts. Details are:

1. Century Casino on Friday, August 15 and Saturday August 16.
2. Require the following positions: Manager and Assistant Manager (would like to have the Manager be the same person for both days if possible), Cashiers, Chip Runners, etc.
3. Shifts are 10:30 am to 7:00 pm both days. Count Room and evening shifts are full.
4. Contact Darryl Beebe at 780-297-3386 by May 13 if interested.
5. Darryl's email: darrylbeebe@yahoo.ca

### What is on the Agenda for next year? 70th Anniversary Reunion

The Alumni will be looking at bringing together an organizing committee for a reunion for the 70th Anniversary of 395 Air Cadet Squadron in 2016. When we did our survey, there were a few individuals who indicated they would be willing to assist and we will be contacting them in early September. However, if you are interested in helping with this event but did not show your interest on the returned survey, please contact one of the Executive to let us know and we would be happy to have you help organize this event.

We currently have approximately 130 Alumni members registered in our database and, as you recall, we had around 80 people attend our 65th celebration. The reunion committee will start the planning in December 2014 as it takes almost 18 months to bring everything together. We will once again try to coincide the 2016 reunion with 395 Squadron's Annual Inspection. This is your advance notice for the event which is normally held on the first Saturday in June. Once the date is confirmed we will provide you with more information.

### Alumni Business

The Alumni Executive, throughout the year, will be developing guidelines and policies to run the foundation including a set of by-laws. This will allow us, when it is appropriate, to apply for a registered society in the province of Alberta. Next year we will provide the membership with the pros and cons of being a registered society so that everyone is aware of the next step as our group matures.

**JOE LUCE**

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# Profiles of Alumni Executives

Alumni Member: Co-Founder and Executive member of the 395 Squadron Alumni Foundation.

Don served as a cadet and 395 staff member of the unit. He started with cadets in 1963 with army cadets and attended Camp Farnham in 1966. Along with his illustrious career, 43 years, he served in the Regular Forces in the Canadian Airborne Regiment and Primary Reserves as an infantry officer along with his years in the Cadet Instructor Cadre. During one summer, he became the Flying Scholarship supervisor at CFB Penhold.

The following are some questions asked of Don:

*Most memorable events/achievements in cadets/personal:*

## **Cadets:**

- Redefining the Sqn WO I's terms of references and making the Sr NCOs accountable for "their...troops"
- Introducing karate to 395 Sqn
- Creating the Alumni

Alumni Member: Co-Founder, Co-Chair and Treasurer of the 395 Squadron Alumni Foundation.

Brian as 395 staff member of the unit for 20 years. He started with cadet movement in 1969 as the squadron range officer. He served as Commanding Officer twice at 395 and was the CO of SLC Cold Lake in 1987/88 in the Cadet Instructor Cadre. One summer, he became the Flying Scholarship supervisor at CFB Edmonton and four summers at CFB Penhold working for Camp Services. Over his career in the CIC, he started as a civilian instructor and was eventually appointed A/LCol.



He was involved with organizing several trips outside of Edmonton: CFB Cold Lake, CFS Kamloops, USAF Fairchild, USAF McChord, USAF Edwards, Expo 70 Vancouver, Vancouver Island,

## **J. F. Don Ste Croix, CD**

- Being CO #13 and the first infantry officer to command 395 Sqn
- Receiving the Rotary's Paul Harris award
- Giving back to the CCM by coming back to serve as a CIC Officer

## **Personal:**

- Becoming an Officer in the Regular Force
- Obtaining my Jump Wings and serving with the Canadian Airborne Regiment
- Having served as a cadet I CIL Officer, PRes Officer, Reg Force Officer, Canadian Rangers NCO (Yes I did say NCO) and CIC Officer.
- Completing the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College
- Obtaining my Multi-IFR and ATPL licenses
- Qualified as Transport Canada approved Operations Manager and Chief Pilot for Air Taxi and commuter Operations



*What was the most memorable event at Camp Wright?*

Watching the Survivair Team honing their skills in preparation for the competition. They had their tent drills down to a "T". Watching young leaders take ownership of an event was a "thing of beauty"

*What did cadets do for you?*

The CCM allowed me to discover and develop the leadership skills I didn't know I had and gave me self-confidence.

If you were to pass onto a new recruit some advice, what would you say? This is the only time where one is allowed to be selfish in that one should take as much as the CCM has to offer ... as long as you are prepared to give back in return.

Currently Don is the Training Captain and Captain on KA 350 for Alta Flights located at the Edmonton International Airport.

## **J. Brian Andrus, CD**

Banff, Jasper.

The following are some questions asked of Brian:

*Most memorable events/achievements in cadets/personal*

## **Cadets:**

- became the Commanding Officer of 395 twice
- became the CO of SLC Cold Lake and promoted to A/LCol

## **Personal:**

- becoming Associate Dean at NAIT
- Awarded an international award, the Distinguished Service Citation from Epsilon Pi Tau (EPT) International for contribution to the education profession and to the EPT organization.

*What was the most memorable event at Camp Wright?*

The evening that Capt Ron Gach and Capt Ray Lauth decided to camp out in

a teepee made of wood branches on the runway at Camp Wright and how Ron 'encouraged' Ray to keep the fire going all night on that chilly night.

*What did cadets do for you?*

Allowed me to work with youth at a different level than school and it provided leadership, organizational skills and management opportunities which have allowed to grow as a professional.

*If you were to pass onto a new recruit some advice, what would you say?*

You can't get something for nothing. Within the CCM you only get out of cadets what you want to put into it. The CCM provides the opportunity to grow and develop but you have to have to desire to.

Brian is a retired teacher and educator of 35 years and owner of JB Educational Consulting, Edmonton.



# 395 Alumni Family Comedy Hypnosis & Variety Show

The Alumni hosted another successful Family Comedy Hypnosis Variety Show with our own Alumni, Joe Francis (Luce), as the Hypnotist. The funds raised from the show will help with our foundation's day-to-day expenses, support to the 395 Squadron, and a few future endeavors. The show was held at the Kingsway Legion, which was a good venue for this event. We had one of the largest crowds (82 people) and raised additional funds through our 50/50 Draw and the Silent Auction. Two key prizes were: a) a trip to Las Vegas, donated by Joe Luce and; b) a jet boat tour and barbecue on the North Saskatchewan River, donated by Rob Demeter. We appreciate all the support of those who donated prizes to the Silent Auction and appreciate those Alumni members, current cadets, family and friends and members from the legion who attended this function.

A big "thank you" goes to Joe Francis (Luce), Bob Beddow and Dave Stawnichy for donating their time to our show. As usual, we had good audience participation with a little prodding from Joe. Both Bob and Dave provided some comedy relief with their acts. Bob talked about "His dog" and Dave talked about "What it is like to be a Canadian".

We would like to thank the following who donated to the silent auction and door prizes:

- Emerga Hair • McDonalds
- Joe Francis • Thompson Optical
- Save On Foods (Mayfield Common)
- Rob Demeter • Access Plumbing
- Avon (Karen Butkowski)
- Stacey Urwin • Nick Nimchuk
- Don St. Croix • Flo Andrus
- Karen Butkowski • Manning Hair Ltd.
- City Pro Entertainment



## 395 Squadron Alumni Steering Committee Executive 2013-2014

**Brian Andrus**  
Chair/Treasurer

**Karen Butkowski**  
Co-Chair/Admin Coordinator

**Nick Nimchuck**  
Archives

**Erwin Loewen**  
Archives

**Keith Zukowski**  
Webmaster

**Joe Luce**  
Event Coordinator

**Nanette Booth**  
Design and Publications

**Don Ste-Croix**  
Member at Large

**Sylvia Loewen**  
Member at Large

**Stacy Urwin**  
Member at Large

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