

395 SQUADRON ALUMNI FOUNDATION



Alumni Notes

395 Squadron Alumni Association Newsletter Volume 14 ~ September 2016

Reunion News!

Another successful reunion took place as the 395 Squadron Alumni Association celebrated our unit's 70th anniversary on May 27, 2016. We would like to thank the approximately 62 people who attended this function! Attendees were from the various decades of cadets - the oldest being from the 1947 era and the most recent from the 2016 era. There were six former and present Commanding Officers from the Squadron; Brian Andrus, Andrew McLellan, Chris Duncan (current CO), Don Ste Croix, Dan Sereda, John Breen.



Ex CO's: Brian Andrus, Andrew McLellan, Chris Duncan, Don Ste Croix, Dan Sereda, John Breen

On display were cadet memorabilia throughout the decades including photos, history of the cadet uniform, newspaper articles and an old blue wool cadet uniform of the day, on loan from the Alberta Aviation Museum Edmonton.

The guest speaker for the evening was Colonel Andy Cook, Base Commander of 4 Wing, Winnipeg. He was an air cadet, a C-130 Hercules pilot, a



Colonel Andy Cook receiving donation certificate

Snowbird pilot and is currently a Wing Commander. His presentation was informative, enlightening and his humour shone throughout the presentation. Andy's experiences were notable. He spoke about how the air cadet program, which he is very supportive of, and how it helped shape him into what he is today as well as his accomplishments as a pilot including transporting the Royal Family around.



Guest Speaker, Colonel Andy Cook, Base Commander of 4 Wing, Winnipeg

Colonel Cook was very interested in our Alumni members and visited with as many as he could during the evening. We were very appreciative of his efforts and his acceptance of our invitation to be the guest speaker. On behalf of the Alumni we presented him with a \$250 donation to 'Soldier On Fund' military charity.

Each alumni member, in attendance, received a jet-shaped flash drive with the 395 Alumni logo, uploaded with the history of 395 Air Cadet Squadron. The information on this flash drive has been used for various presentations including the Rotary Club and on a yearly basis to the cadets at 395 Squadron. If anyone is interested in purchasing one of these flash

drive mementos, they can be yours for only \$10.00. Please contact Karen Butkowski at butkowski@telus.net if you are interested.



70th Anniversary 395 Squadron Alumni Reunion Attendees

Alumni Recognizes Two Honourary Members

The 395 Alumni executive are proud to announce that two new honorary members were added to our association membership, former Brigadier General Bill Buckham and Mr. Wayne Reitsma.

Both gentlemen given the honorary membership and were presented with the Honourary Corporal rank at two separate events, Bill Buckham at the 395 Squadron Griffon Coin Parade in March and Wayne Reitsma at the Reunion in May.

Bill has been an avid supporter of the squadron and represents the Rotary Club of Edmonton West and the Air Cadet Leagues provincially and

nationally. Wayne has been supporting the Squadron as the Alberta Provincial Committee Advisor and has provided counsel to our Alumni on matters related to our future goals.



Bill Buckham receiving Honourary Corporal Rank



Wayne Reitsma receiving Honourary Corporal Rank

Cold Lake Visit ~ Operation Maple Flag

Members of the 2016 Alumni Reunion Planning Committee were given the once in a life time opportunity by 417 Squadron Cold Lake (the Squadron's affiliated armed forces unit) to visit the base and observe the Maple Flag launch in June.

They were able to observe approximately 20 aircraft launch including the Hawk, F-18, UASFAWAC, C-130 and Mirage aircraft. After the launch they toured 417 Squadron, had a demonstration by the SAR techs and then were given the opportunity to sit in an F-18 cockpit.

Thanks to 417 for their hospitality, the commanding officer Major Brad Steel and MWO Mark Riach for the day's events.



Alumni Member Performs at Edmonton Airshow

Bud Granley (395 Squadron cadet from 1949 – 1955), performed at this year's Edmonton Air Show at the Villeneuve Airport!! Bud and his son, Ross, put on an amazing show performing in their two Yaks. Bud also flew a rare aircraft to the show, a P-38 Lighting, on behalf of a friend.



Bud and Ross Granley performing a Top Side Pass

Three members of the Alumni were lucky enough to be at the Pilot's reception on the Saturday evening of the Airshow and were able to socialize with Bud. Bud made a suggestion that the alumni have a drink whenever they gather as a group, so that evening they followed his suggestion and enjoyed a martini or two....



Bud Granley, Ross Granley and Brian Andrus



Brian Andrus, Bud Granley, Sylvia and Erwin Loewen

Alumni Activities

Some of you may wonder what the Alumni does when we are not planning reunions; well let me tell you....

- Fundraising: We have hosted a couple of family comedy hypnosis variety shows (performed by our alumni member, Joe Luce aka Joe Francis <http://www.cityprodj.com/hypnosis.html>) and a few of his comedic friends Bob Beddow and Dave Stawnichy which is always a lot of fun. We have also sold raffle tickets for a chance to ride in a Jet Plane.

The money we raise is used to assist the Alumni with the upkeep of our website <http://www.395alumni.ca>, expenses related to the reunions and provide financial assistance to 395 Air Cadet Squadron. We were able to provide the Squadron with financial assistance to have the bases of the Griffons mascot refurbished and making them easier to move around.

- Support 395 Squadron: The Alumni support the Squadron by taking part in the Mock Scholarship Boards and the Provincial Scholarship Boards;

assist with the Effective Speaking competitions at the squadron level and the Northern Provincial level competitions, give presentations on the history of the squadron; present aging out cadets with alumni pins and congratulatory letters, and attend the squadron's various parades such as the Griffon Coin Ceremony and the Annual Cadet Review.

- Alumni Events: A few years back the Alumni hosted a camping weekend near Barrhead which was attended by approximately 8 families. We also hosted several meet and greet evenings at the Norwood Legion.

- Future Plans: We are always looking for ways to get the Alumni members actively involved. If you have any suggestions we would love to hear from you, please send an email to one of the executive members and let us know what interests you. Some ideas we have are to host a weekend work bee at Camp Wright to help spruce up the place, perhaps a tour of Cold Lake, and of course, more fundraising events yet to be determined.

395 Squadron Alumni Steering Committee Executive 2016-2017

Brian Andrus
Chair/Treasurer

Karen Butkowski
Co-Chair/Admin Coordinator

Nick Nimchuck
Archives

Erwin Loewen
Archives

Keith Zukowski
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

395 Alumni
c/o 7404 – 180 Street
Edmonton, AB T5T 2K8

395 Alumni Website
www.395alumni.ca

Email
395alumn@telus.net