

395 SQUADRON ALUMNI FOUNDATION



Alumni Notes

395 Squadron Alumni Association Newsletter Volume 15 ~ September 2018

Alumni Family

Mike Zukiwski Jr.

It is with a sadden heart and regrets that the Alumni announces the passing of Mike Zukiwski Jr., a former cadet and officer of 395 Squadron. Mike was at one time the unit's bush and environmental officer. 2Lt Zukiwski served this unit well during his tenure.



~
*November 1982,
Major Andrus
receiving the
Squadron Banner,
from Susan Decosta
and
SLt Mike Zukiwski*
~

At the recent Whitecourt air show Karen Butkowski was able to meet up with her son Cody after he had completed a repelling demonstration.

Cody is employed by the Alberta Government Rappel (RAP) team to fight forest fires. These firefighters are usually the first responders to a new wild fire and rappel down from helicopters into the hard-to-access areas where they attempt to suppress the fires before they spread and before ground firefighter crews arrive. They also access remote areas to clear space for heli-pads. Karen is the Co-Chair of the 395 Squadron Alumni and Cody is a previous 395 Squadron cadet and Alumni member.



Hypnosis Fundraiser Show

Once again the Alumni is moving forward with another Hypnotist Show to be held on September 29, 2018 at the Kingsway Legion. Along with the show, we will also have a Silent Auction. The Alumni is soliciting your assistance in acquiring silent auction items for the event. Please contact Karen Butkowski to receive a fundraiser/sponsor letter. These letters are usually required by a sponsor in order for them to donate items. If we could receive one gift from each of our alumni members from the Edmonton area we would be in very good shape. If you have items to donate, please contact Karen Butkowski at butkowski@telus.net.

We would appreciate support from our Alumni members in attending this amazing show. Please spread the word and invite family, friends, coworkers, etc. to the show (see poster for more information and to pass around).

Where do these fundraising funds go you ask? The Alumni has supported several initiatives, but the two main ones we have directed funds recently to are the rebuilding of the 395 Squadron's Griffon bases and the refurbishing of the 417 Squadron Griffon. 417 is 395's affiliated unit located at CFB Cold Lake.

Alumni Functions & Next Reunion

The Alumni Executive have organized a few social activities in the past to bring the group together. Of note are the hypnotist fundraising shows (twice), weekend camping retreat near Barrhead and an afternoon get-together at Albert Decosta's residence. However, the big event no doubt is the reunion banquet every five years. We have had two, our 65th and 70th with the 75th on the horizon. As we organize the reunion we take into consider several factors but the two big ones are the facility and costs, all of which is dependent on the numbers attending the event. The event is usually on a Friday evening, the day prior to the 395 Squadron ACR. This allows the Alumni members to attend the ACR on Saturday and the opportunity for those who wish to attend the 395 Squadron banquet Saturday evening.

Alumni Visits 417 Squadron

Six members of the Alumni visited 417 Squadron at CFB Cold Lake during Maple Flag in June 2018. We were hosted by Squadron Warrant Officer Bernard Vidito. Bernie provided a tour of the facility and we had an excellent overview of the Griffon helicopter by Cpl Gilbert. Members were able to sit in a F18 at 410 Squadron. The timing of the visit was totally planned as we were able to see the afternoon Maple Flag launch from the 417 hanger close to the flight line.



Celebrating 417 Squadron Affiliation

Twenty five years ago 395 Squadron and 417 Squadron started an affiliation whereby a cadet unit could align with a regular force unit. These affiliations are very special as not all cadets units have an opportunity to work with these regular force units. In 1993, Major Stephen Wakeman worked with the 417 Commanding Officer at that time to create an affiliation, a milestone for both units. While the Alumni was at 417 Squadron in June, Major Brian Andrus (Ret'd) presented the DCO of 417 Squadron, Capt. Eileen Sudul, a certificate acknowledging the 25 year relationship between the squadrons.



~ Accepting the certificate Capt. Eileen Sudul, DCO, on behalf of 417 Squadron. Left to Right: Capt Dan Serada (Ret'd), Major Brian Andrus (Ret'd), Capt Erwin Loewen (Ret'd), David Buffel, Joe Luce, DCO Capt Sudul, Wayne Reitsma, SWO Bernie Vidito ~

The Alumni - What's In It For Me?

The Alumni, like many other organizations, often looks at why they maintain their connection with a group. Our Alumni assists 395 Squadron with the yearly mock selection boards, the repair of the Griffon stands and the repairs of the 417 Squadron mascot, the Griffon. Internally as an organization moves forward the inevitable question "What's in it for me"? It sometimes takes a viewpoint from an external person or organization to say – you are doing a good thing. In our case, the Warrant and Commanding Officer of 417 acknowledged the relevance of the Alumni in keeping the relationship of 395 and 417 Squadrons ongoing.

Below are the comments from the Warrant:

Hi Brian, hope you made it back. I was talking to both the CO and DCO (Capt Sudul) and we are all amazed at the bond you and the alumni have created and grown between your sqn and ours. Many of us have come and gone in the past 20 years but the association between the sqns has remained steadfast.

The alumni's dedication and efforts are a testimony to everyone. I am going to brief this at our next weekly briefing. Hopefully we can instill those same qualities in our personnel.

All the best

Bernie

MWO Bernard Vidito
Squadron Warrant Officer, 417 CS Sqn,
4 Wing Cold Lake,
Canadian Armed Forces

Alumni Acknowledged by 417 Squadron

At 395 Squadron's ACR in June, 417 Squadron recognized the contribution of the Alumni towards the reconstruction of the damaged 417 Griffon by presenting Major Brian Andrus (Ret'd) with a photo collage of 417 Squadron, staff and the Griffon.



~ Left to Right: Major Alexia Shore, CO 417 Squadron, Major Brian Andrus (Ret'd), Alumni Co-Chair, Major Chris Duncan, CO 395 Sqn, Michelle Holik, Chair of the 395 Parents Committee ~

395 Squadron Alumni Steering Committee Executive 2018-2019

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

Alumni Presentation to 395 Former CO's

During the 70th celebration Major Brian Andrus (Ret'd) created a poster identifying all the Commanding Officers of 395 since its charter in 1946. For years though, one Commanding Officer's photo eluded the collection. Recently the photo of Flt Lt Edwards was included to complete the collection. Major Andrus presented Major Chris Duncan a framed collection of all the COs of 395 Squadron.



Commanding Officers of 395 Edmonton Squadron		
 1 J. A. Reilly 1946	 2 Squadron Leader Frank J. Edwards 1946-1947	 3 Acting Squadron Leader George Chelick 1947-1948
 4 Squadron Leader Major Frank H. Mathew OMM CD2 1948-1979	 5 Major Brian Andrus CD 1979-1985	 6 Captain Dan Sereda 1985-1989
 7 Captain Tom Lawrence 1989-1992	 8 Major Stephen Walkeman CD 1992-1994	 9 A/Major Jim Speed CD 1994-1997
 10 A/Major Bob Bogovics 1997-1999	 11 Major Brian Andrus CD 1999-2002	 12 Major Imre Bogovics CD 2002-2006
 13 A/Major Don Ste Croix CD 2006-2010	 14 A/Major John Breen 2010-2013	 15 A/Major Andrew McMillan 2013-2016
 16 A/Major Chris Duncan CD 2016 -	 F.H. Mathew Major Mathew was awarded the Officer of Military Merit (OMM) in 1983 recognizing his outstanding meritorious service in duties of responsibility as a CIL officer for over 31 years.	

395 Squadron Edmonton was formed on the 11th of April 1946 and received its Charter on the 3rd of July 1946

The Badge:
Palm Tree - Righteousness and reconstruction; victory, creative power and peace
Scales - Justice and military honour
Fascis image - A bundle of rods tied together around an axis, with the blades projecting out; Symbol of a magistrate's authority and the judiciary.

The motto:
Supporting Liberty and Justice
That Others May Live

Palm Tree - includes green leaves on 395's badge while 417's is entirely gold. In front of a palm tree emblematized a sword and fascis in sabre.

The Squadron Banner was purchased by Hazel Dyer, a member of the 700 Wing Ladies Auxiliary, in memory of her son, Ryan. She presented the banner to 395 Squadron on November 30, 1982.

Squadron Affiliation
417 Squadron, CFB Cold Lake

In 1993, under CO Maj S. Walkeman, 395 Squadron entered into an affiliation with the newly re-formed 417 Squadron at 4 Wing Cold Lake. 417 Sqn, was formed from Cold Lake Base Flight flying T53 jets and Inroquois helicopters. The Squadron has replaced the Inroquois with three new Griffon helicopters. With the kind permission of the then CO of 417 Squadron, Maj Whregg, 395 Squadron adopted the badge and motto of 417 Squadron.

70
1946 - 2016

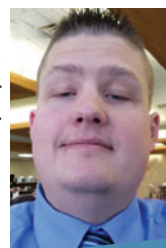
395 SQUADRON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

GRIFFON

New Commanding Officer for 395

The Alumni would like to congratulate the appointment of Major Graham Pilkington as 395 Squadron's 17th Commanding Officer of the unit. Major Pilkington brings to the squadron a wide variety of experiences as a cadet and officer of other cadet units. Graham was the former CO of 504 and 810 Squadrons.

Welcome aboard! (the Squadron is in a ship!).



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