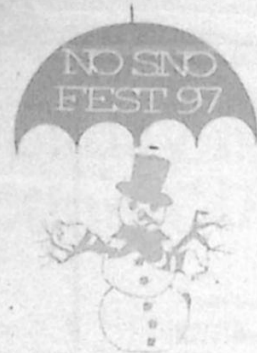




Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year
from the
Totem Times staff



All about 19 Wing
Winter Carnival
...page 16

The Comox Valley's Oldest Newspaper



TOTEM TIMES



19 Wing CFB Comox B.C.

VOL 38 NO 22

THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER 1996

COST: PRICELESS

NORAD tracks Santa



In 1955 a tradition started at Ent Air Force Base that will be carried on for the 41st year this coming Christmas Eve. The tracking team will start issuing hourly reports at 4:00 pm mountain time, and will continue them until the final report is issued at 10:00 pm. To receive reports on Santa's progress, children and media can call the following number, starting at 4:00 pm on 24 December: (719) 474-3980.

Using ground-based radars and satellites in space, the men and women of NORAD and the military services of the US and Canada that provide support to

NORAD, will electronically scan the skies of North America to detect Santa when he takes off from his North Pole workshop. When he is detected, the data will be relayed to the combined NORAD/US SPACE COMMAND Operations Centre, located in Cheyenne Mountain, near Colorado Springs.

The tradition of tracking Santa Claus started in 1955 with Continental Air Defense Command, headquartered in Colorado Springs. A misprint in a local store's newspaper advertisement resulted in children calling in to the Commander-in-Chief's "Hot Line." The line was flooded with calls, so the Director of Operations, Col Harry Shoup, decided to respond to the children's queries. The staff jumped in and handled all the calls as they came in. The duty crew even drew a picture of Santa and his reindeer-

drawn sleigh on the display of North America, and a tradition was born. Since then, the program has been developed and continued by many people, including Col Barney Oldfield, the first NORAD public affairs director.

American and Canadian military and civilian personnel maintain a constant year-round vigil for worldwide ballistic missile launches that could be aimed at North America or at our personnel deployed on peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance operations around the world. They also watch for any potential intruders into North American air space, including those who try to smuggle illegal drugs and cargo by air. Tracking Santa Claus is their own unique way of contributing to the season's festivities and of saying "Happy Holidays" to all.



Wing Commander's Christmas Message

It's Christmas in Comox. The grass is green, there's snow on the hills (and in Cumberland), folks are decorating their homes and Christmas carols are playing everywhere. It is time for all of us to reflect upon our good fortune measured in terms of family, friends and good health. Let us take time to be thankful for what we have and to enjoy the company of one another. We are blessed to be living in a country as wonderful as Canada and none should know this more than we in the Canadian Forces. As the Mexican ambassador to Canada recently stated: "To all the nations of the world, Canada is the solution which is looking for a problem." I suggest that we as individuals put aside our problems for the next few weeks and enjoy this wonderful season.

It is at this time of year that I am reminded of the incredible Wing that I have been entrusted to command and of its tremendous personnel who make things happen every day of the year. We can all look back with pride on all our accomplishments in 1996. Not only did we continue to successfully execute the five operational roles assigned to this Wing, conduct numerous exercises and host major events such as the Air Show; but we also successfully managed change within the framework of Flight Plan '97 and completed the practical training of the ground school courses. During this past year, you demonstrated the spirit of cooperation, teamwork and excellence and made 19 Wing the place to be in our Air Force.

My family and I want to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. I would also ask you to join us in offering our prayers and best wishes to our extended military family who are serving with UN and NATO missions around the world, far from their loved ones.

New Year's Day Levees

Officers' Mess
1000 - 1200 hrs

WOs' & Sgts' Mess
1100 - 1230 hrs

Dress DEU 1 A (with medals) Civilian Semi Formal (jacket & tie)

LEFT OVER TURKERY SALE BOXING DAY BLOWOUT

Dec. 26/96 to Jan 1/97

OLD MEETS NEW

#3 - 2937 Kilpatrick, Courtenay



334-9870

Here's a few TURKEYS left over...

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| NEW-9pc. Oak Dining Suite | Reg. \$1999.99 Now \$1399.99 |
| NEW-9pc. Green/Cherry Dining Suite | Reg. \$2499.99 Now \$1999.99 |
| NEW-Chaise Lounge and Chair | Reg. \$1299.99 Now \$ 899.99 |
| Grey Students Desk | Reg. \$ 99.99 Now \$ 74.99 |
| Large 6pc. Oak Bedroom Suite | Reg. \$1499.99 Now \$1249.99 |

ALL LAMPS Half Price

Many Many Instore SPECIALS



Legion Log

BRANCH 17 COURTENAY 334-4322

REGULAR EVENTS:

BINGO.....every Thur, Fri & Sun 7:00 pm
 MEAT DRAW.....every Fri 6:30 pm. Also every Sat 3:00 pm
 DANCE.....every Friday night, 8:00 pm

20 December Rob Petrie
 27 December Kirby

FUN EUCHRE.....every Monday night 7:00 pm
 FUN CRIB.....every Wednesday night 8:00 pm
 FUN DARTS.....every Thursday night 7:30 pm
 BARGAIN DAY.....every Tuesday, all day
 BBQ LUNCH SPECIALS.....every Weds & Fri 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Saturday Night Dances - 21 December.....Rob Petrie

New Year's Dance in Lower Lounge

Admittance by ticket only. Food - cold buffet 9-11 pm.
 Music by "Kirby" 9 pm - 1am. Designated drivers available.
 Tickets will be sold in advance at a cost of \$10.00 per person.

New Year's Levee in Lower Lounge

Starting at 1:00 pm. Entertainment by "Kirby" at 2:00 pm.

BASE PERSONNEL WELCOME AT BR. 17

Office: 334-4322 Service Officer: 334-3613



BRANCH 160 COMOX 339-2022

ENTERTAINMENT:

Fri 20 December - music by SAGE.
 Fri 27 December - music by ANDREW SCHMIDT
 Jan 1 - New Year's Levee. Entertainment from 2:30 - 5:30 pm
 featuring LINDA JONES & CO.
 Jan 3 - COUNTRY COUSINS
 Jan 10 - NORM'S COMBO
 Jan 17 - WILD RIVER
 Jan 24 - ANDREW SCHMIDT
 Jan 26 - afternoon music in the Lounge by WYLIE & THE OTHER GUY

REGULAR EVENTS:

SUNDAYS.....Lounge Hours 12:00 Noon to 7:00 pm
 MONDAYS.....LA Drop-In Bingo, Upper Hall, 7:00 pm
 Monday night Men's Dart League 7:30 pm in Lounge
 TUESDAYS.....Mixed Dart League 7:30 pm in Upper Hall
 Ladies Crib League 7:30 pm in Lounge
 WEDNESDAYS.....Navy League Drop-In Bingo, 7:00 pm
 Upper Island Men's Crib League 8:00 pm in Lounge
 THURSDAYS.....*1st Br.160 Exec. Mtg. Upper Hall, 7:30 pm
 1st L.A. Executive Meeting (as required) 7:30 pm
 *2nd L.A. General Meeting, Upper Hall. 8:00 pm
 *3rd Branch 160 General Meeting, Upper Hall. 8:00 pm
 FRIDAYS.....TGIF, Meat Draws in Lounge, 3:00 - 6:00 pm
 Dance, Lounge (unless advised)
 SATURDAYS.....Meat Draws in Lounge, 3:00 - 6:00 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS:

New Year's Eve floor show and dance starring Linda Jones in Branch Upper Hall. Tickets \$40.00 per couple (includes free transportation). All seats reserved.
 Hall Rentals or requests for Special Functions: Please contact Ken Seymour in office, Mon - Fri, at 339-2022.

ATTENTION COMOX RESIDENTS!

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ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS PROTESTANT CHAPEL

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, 22 DEC 96
 CHRISTMAS COMMUNION SERVICE
 1 000 HRS

TUESDAY, 24 DEC 96
 CAROLS & CANDLELIGHT FAMILY SERVICE
 1 900 HRS

MIDNIGHT EUCHARIST
 2 330 HRS



OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART (RC) CHAPEL

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, 24 DEC 96
 FAMILY SERVICE
 1 900 HRS

MIDNIGHT MASS & CAROLS

CAROLS 2 300 HRS
 MASS 2 330 HRS

WEDNESDAY, 25 DEC 96
 CHRISTMAS DAY MASS
 1 000 HRS

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
 28 AND 29 DEC 96
 REGULAR WEEKEND MASSES

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS
 WEDNESDAY, 1 JAN 97
 1 000 HRS



Glen Caslac presenting a donation on behalf of the Korean Veterans who have been strong supporters of our Military Police Blind Fund.



Les vœux de Noël du Commandant de l'Escadre

C'est Noël à Comox. Les pelouses sont vertes, la neige recouvre les montagnes...et Cumberland, les gens décorent leur maison et les chants de Noël se font partout entendre. C'est le temps pour chacun d'entre-nous de prendre conscience de notre chance concernant la famille, les amis, et notre bonne santé. Prenons le temps d'exprimer notre gratitude pour ce que nous avons et d'apprécier la compagnie de tous et chacun. Nous sommes choyés de vivre dans un pays aussi merveilleux que le Canada et nous, les membres des Forces canadiennes, sommes mieux placés que quiconque pour le savoir. Comme l'ambassadeur du Mexique au Canada le disait récemment: "De toutes les nations du monde, le Canada est la solution qui se cherche un problème." Je suggère donc que chacun de nous oublie ses problèmes pour les prochaines semaines afin de profiter au maximum de cette merveilleuse saison des fêtes.

C'est en ce temps de l'année que je prends pleinement conscience de cet incroyable escadre dont j'ai hérité du commandement et de son personnel extraordinaire qui fait que tout fonctionne bien chaque jour de l'année. Nous pouvons tous être fiers des résultats accomplis en 1996. Non seulement nous avons continué d'exécuter avec succès les cinq rôles opérationnels de l'Escadre, d'effectuer de nombreux exercices et d'être l'hôte d'événements majeurs comme le spectacle aérien, mais nous avons aussi réussi à gérer avec succès les changements proposés dans le cadre de Plan de Vol '97 et à compléter l'entraînement pratique des cours de l'école au sol. Au cours de l'année passée, vous avez démontré un esprit de coopération, d'équipe et d'excellence hors du commun et fait de la 19e Escadre le meilleur endroit au sein de notre force aérienne.

Ma famille et moi désirons vous souhaiter tous un très joyeux Noël et un bonne et heureuse année 97. Nous vous demandons de vous joindre à nous afin d'offrir nos prières et meilleurs vœux aux membres de notre grande famille militaire servant présentement, loin de leurs proches, dans des missions de l'ONU et de l'OTAN partout dans le monde.



Air Commander's message

by MGen DeQuetteville, Command Air Command

The last twelve months have been an extremely busy time for the men and women of Air Command. You have been asked to take part in numerous missions, many of them in foreign countries, while at the same time dealing with the effects of downsizing and the resulting changes in the way we do business. With each passing day our accomplishments bring us closer to the goals of Flight Plan 97 and I am confident that we will have realized our objectives by summer 97.

As we prepare to face future and perhaps greater challenges, we should take a moment to reflect upon the forces which have shaped our past year, keeping in mind how quickly national and international events touch upon our lives and the lives of all Canadians. In the past year, Air Command personnel were very much involved in highly publicized and dramatic events both within Canada and abroad. Our people played a truly heroic role in the relief efforts in the Saguenay region, in our various search and rescue operations, and we currently have a very significant part to play in the humanitarian aid to central Africa. Aircom personnel have frequently been placed in extremely challenging scenarios over the past 12 months, and each

MAG Commander's holiday greeting

by Brig-Gen Brian Cameron
 Commander
 Maritime Air Group

With the approach of the end-of-year festive season, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my personal appreciation and best wishes to all members of the maritime air community. That is very much an extended membership of civilians, uniformed personnel and many others who indirectly share our daily tasks and personal concerns.

Throughout 1996, our community made notable contributions and sacrifices. We have actively participated in Flight Plan 97 ground school which will enable us to be better prepared for the numerous changes we are un-



dergoing and the many more to come. The impressive number of suggestions for change that you have proposed is indicative of your interest in improving our operations and our quality of life.

We continue to provide support personnel, ground, and air crews for operations on a worldwide basis. The manner in which you conducted yourselves on these operations established a standard of flexibility, dedication to duty and willingness to perform under the most trying conditions. You have made us all proud. Nevertheless, when people are away on assignments, those left behind must further increase their contribution to ensure tasks are completed. This team effort has indeed stood us well

and I am sure will enable us to meet the challenges of the future. You have every reason to be proud of your accomplishments of the past year. I thank each and every one of you for your efforts. From my family to yours, I extend best wishes for a happy and safe holiday season as well as a prosperous and healthy new year.



Holiday message from acting CDS, V-Adm L. Murray



During this holiday season, I would like to extend my best wishes for happiness and success to members of the Canadian Forces, civilian personnel of the Department of National Defence, and their families.

1996 has been an extremely eventful year. On the international scene our soldiers, sailors and air personnel have done a superb job. Foremost in our thoughts at this time of year are those of you who will be spending the holidays far from home on

duty in places like Central Africa, Haiti and the former Yugoslavia. I would especially like to thank your families for their courage and loyal support.

On the eve of a new year, I ask you to remember all the good work that you have accomplished both in Canada and around the world. In addition to promoting peace, members of the Canadian Forces carry out a wide range of roles vital to the defence of Canada and her interests, including meeting our obligations to our allies in NATO and NORAD.

To fulfill these roles, regulars and reservists work side by side. I am pleased that the restructuring of the reserves is proceeding well, since a rejuvenated and modernized reserve force will be even better prepared to fulfill its vital role in defending Canada and the interests and values we wish to protect. I commend all of you on your professionalism and courage. I know that together we can accomplish the mission that has been entrusted to us.



Recruiting

Despite impressions to the contrary, the CF are actively recruiting and are especially short of women. Presently, the Canadian Forces are actively recruiting combat arms (including Field Engineer), Naval NCM MOCS as well as MARS, Pilot and Medical Officer MOCS. While advertising has not occurred to the desired level in the past, in the near future a more aggressive recruitment advertising campaign will be developed to convey this message. However, history has proven that the best recruiters for the CF are, in fact, its serving regular and reserve personnel.



Marg Arnold, the Comox Legion representative, presenting their donation for the Tree of Lights campaign. Both Comox and Courtenay Legions have been good supporters of this campaign.



The 19 Wing CWO, CWO Dupuis, presents his annual contribution to the Tree of Lights campaign - as usual, setting the standard for his peers.



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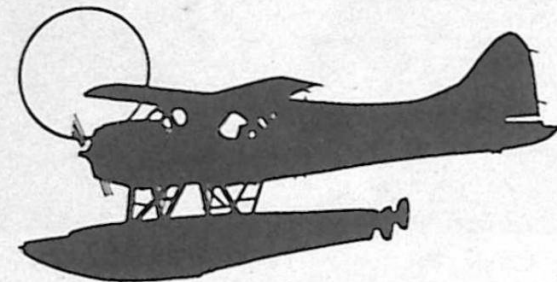
The Editor gets a word in



Time flies

This wasn't supposed to happen. Christmas is like a runaway train, you don't see it or expect it, and then you're flattened by it. Twelve months ago I was starting my first issue of the Totem Times as Editor. The Christmas edition seemed to be such a struggle because there was a myriad of material, and I was new to the job. Once the issue was complete, however, I took a breather thinking, "Thank God I won't have to do that issue for another twelve months." Time flies, and on top of all the other things that make Christmas such an exciting time of year, the deadline looms. But that's what makes this job so much fun. And that's part of the Christmas excitement as well. The pressure; the need to accomplish a task in a set, short period of time; the fear of failure and the joy of success; the dread and anticipation of the next event. On top of it all, it's fun and I wouldn't miss it for the world. Thank God I won't have to go through it for another twelve months. Time flies.

Joel Clarkston



Y.A.N.A. You Are Not Alone

by MCpl John Leclerc, 19 Wing Y.A.N.A. rep

Recently, both parishes of 19 Wing, through Padre Massey and Father Brown, donated a total of \$1,500 for the Y.A.N.A. charity. We are but one of many charities and organizations that both parishes support through donations. On behalf of Y.A.N.A. I would like to thank all members of the parishes for their support. I would also like to extend a special thank-you to Padre Massey and Father Brown for their perseverance and help towards making these generous donations possible. Only through the help of persons like you can Y.A.N.A. and many other charities succeed in their goal - helping others.

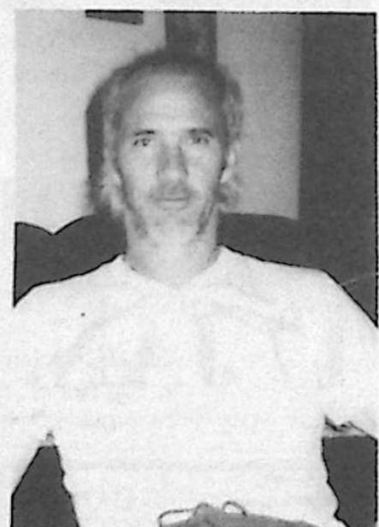
For those of you who may not know who we are, the Y.A.N.A. Foundation was formed in the Comox Valley to help those families whose child must be moved from the valley for medical care, whether it be a congenital disease, a handicap, sudden illness, accident or injury. The financial costs to be with your child away from home can be expensive and Y.A.N.A. believes this should be the least of your worries during such a trying time.

Since Y.A.N.A. was formed our main concern has been to help keep the family unit intact during and after a child's illness. Y.A.N.A. will help cover the costs associated with being away from your home (i.e. accommodation, food, babysitting, etc). With your interest and support we can make it just a little bit easier for families of sick children and help keep the

family unit together during this trying time. For families having a difficult time coping with the overall stress put on the family by a child's illness or death, we provide counselling at no cost to the family.

I have only touched on some of what Y.A.N.A. does. Since it's inception, Y.A.N.A. has helped dozens of military personnel with sick children and is ready to help you, if need be. I you would like further information, please feel free to contact me at local 8842 and I'll gladly answer any questions you may have.

Life after FRP



I know a lot of you have been wondering what it has been like for those people who took advantage of the Force (d) Reduction Program. Here we see former Airman of the Year, Sgt (ret'd) Ray Van der Mark relaxing with all of his buddies. "Money? Who needs money?" he was overheard saying. "Now that I don't have to invest in razor blades or hair cuts, I have plenty to waste on fast living, just like old times."



Lab replacement goes to tender

The federal government has issued a request for proposals to replace the Canadian Forces' fleet of Labrador helicopters. Defence Minister Doug Young made the announcement during a visit to Air Command headquarters in Winnipeg.

"Canadian Forces search and rescue personnel go about their work with professionalism, responding to nearly 450 incidents a year and rescuing more than 200 people annually. Our men and women in uniform need the proper tools to do their job for the benefit of all Canadians," the minister said.

The department is looking for up to 15 medium lift, multi-engine helicopters with a 500-nautical mile range, 120-knot cruise speed, plus accommodation for five air crew with equipment and 10 passengers. Several international helicopter manufacturers have expressed an interest in the project, including Augusta-Westland, the contractor for the ill-fated EH-101 replacement project.

Interested bidders have until May 1997 to submit their proposals. The minister said they will be evaluated according to a clear set of criteria; they must satisfy operational requirements, achieve best value for taxpayers' money

and result in industrial and regional benefits.

In addition, the government intends to explore "different forms of partnership with the private sector" which should result in innovative concepts for training, spare parts, engineering support and maintenance. Also, "alternative arrangements for financing acquisition of a replacement aircraft" will be investigated, including buying off-the-shelf and investigating alternative service delivery arrangements, where cost-effective, such as leasing of equipment.

The Labrador entered service in 1963. Compared to modern aircraft, the Labrador has limited avionics, communications and navigation equipment. It is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive to maintain the 13 remaining helicopters, particularly as several major components for the unique Canadian configuration are no longer in production.

Following an extensive inter-departmental review of industry bids, the government is expected to review the department's recommendation for the winning proposal in the fall of 1997. If a contract is signed by late next year, it is expected delivery will begin in mid-1999 and conclude by 2001.



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OFFICE HOURS
Thursday 0900 - 1600
Deadline Friday 0830 - 1600
Monday 0830 - 1600
Tuesday 0830 - 1200

Glacier Greens update

Glacier Greens Annual Christmas Luncheon was a huge success with 97 ladies attending. A delicious lunch was prepared by our super chef Steve Dodd and his staff of Justin, Darren, Sam, Mandy and Cheryl. Great food and great service.

Bob Cole, of the Salvation Army, talked to us about the increase in families applying this year and all monies and gifts were given to the Salvation Army to help with their Christmas baskets.

Among the guests attending was a contingent from Pacific Playgrounds. It was a good time to renew old friendships. So thanks, gals, for your support.

Have a great festive season and see you in the new year.

Winter Golf Results

December 8 dawned cool and drizzly but 43 crazy people showed up for Winter Golf.

1st Low Gross: Duke Dutrisac, John Holly, Wayne Ogilvie, Joyce Merrill.

2nd Gross: Larry Lott, Lloyd Billings, Ralph Glass, Bud Bryant.

1st Net: Ron Carter, Bob Edwards, Bill Pompanio, Lorraine Cortemache.

2nd Net: Duane Miles, Ted Sauve, Glen Caslake, Steve Shaw, Barb Carter.

KP's on #12 were won by Fred Horvath for Floyd Merrill's team and, on #15, John Holly for Duke Dutrisac's team.

Sorry we missed the KP's for December 1. They were won by Wayne Ogilvie for Richard Wand's team on #12 and by Bob Lamb for Gary Usher's team on #15.

Winter Golf will be continuing over the holiday season so come on out and have some fun.



International sport honour

The Canadian Forces has been recognized with a prestigious award by the Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM). Canada is the first recipient of the Fair Play Award, established in 1996, for the country best exemplifying the CISM motto *Friendship through Sport*.

BGen Smith of the U.S. Army, and a member of the CISM executive committee, made the presentation at the CF's annual sports award ceremonies, held on November 22 in Ottawa. He noted that Canada had displayed out-

standing sportsmanship and fair play at all of the CISM championships attended last year.

"This fair play was never more evident than at the first military world games organized by the Italian Armed Forces September 4-15," he read from a citation from the CISM secretary. "Several incidents are worthy of mention in awarding this prestigious trophy."

BGen Smith recognized the efforts of Dr. Menard, the Canadian sports doctor (and member of the CISM permanent commission for sports medicine) who came to the aid of an injured runner from Ireland during the running of the marathon. He also recalled the dinner hosted by the sports committee for the Citta de Pomezia to award the soccer team a trophy for sportsmanship displayed in two games played there.

"The spirit of fair play and CISM ideals were best demonstrated in 1995 by the grace and

dignity displayed by your women's triathlon team upon learning that the gold medal they had been awarded would have to be exchanged for silver because of an error by the technical committee for triathlon," read BGen Smith. Capt Sharon Donnelly, Lt (N) Lynn McAllister and Lt Carole Chouinard (with coach PO2 Jake Kennedy) were awarded individual trophies for their contribution to the award.

Vice-Admiral Larry Murray, acting Chief of Defence Staff, praised the achievement in a message to all members of the Canadian Forces. "Congratulations to all the athletes and officials for exemplifying the ideals of international military sport and for bringing much credit to Canada and the Canadian Forces in a global arena."

With a membership of 113 nations, CISM is the governing body for international military sports.

CF BUTT OUT PROGRAM

Rescision Time:

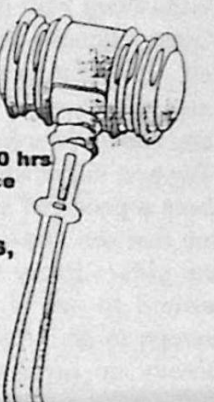
Are you interested in a healthier lifestyle? Would you like to stop smoking? If so, come to either one of the 19 Wing BUTT OUT information sessions on Mon 20 Jan 97:

First session - Bldg 22, room 11 @ 1300 hrs
Second session - Military Family Resource Centre @ 1830 hrs

WHO: 19 Wing Military, DND Employees, AND THEIR DEPENDANTS

NOTE: TO TAKE THE BUTT OUT PROGRAM, YOU MUST ATTEND ONE OF THE INFO SESSIONS

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: SGT BRIAN BUTTOR @ 8789
PO2 MITCH SCOTT @ 8792, CPT DAWN MEIER @ 8487, or MARA PUNGENTE @ 8655



SWIMMING LESSONS

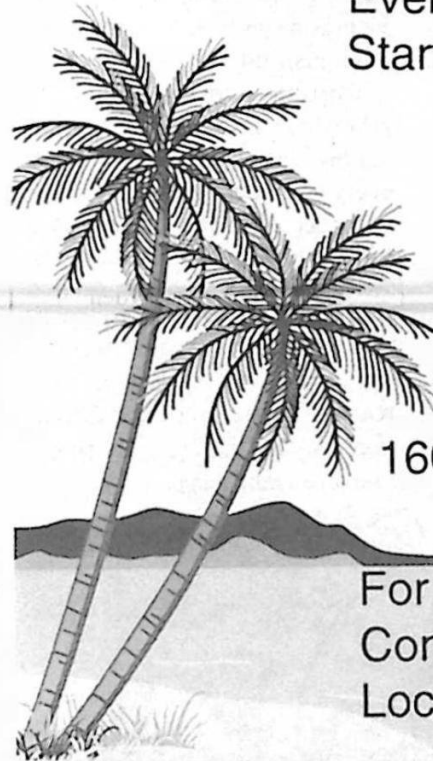
Every Sat Morning
Starting 11 Jan 97

Registration Will
Take Place
At The Canex

Tues 7 Jan 97

1600 To 1800 Hrs

For More Info
Contact Cpl Frenette
Local 8315



Badminton Club

Starting 5 Jan 97, recreational and competitive badminton will be available every Sunday evening from 1900-2100 at the Wing Gymnasium. One court will be available at all times for instructional purposes. Vic Arsenault, a seven time CF National Team member, will be our chief instructor.

Membership fees: \$20.00
Drop-in fees: \$3.00 single, \$5.00 family.
Everyone is welcome!!
For more info contact: Cpl Forget 8834, MCpl Blair 8538.

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TAKE NOTICE

Effective: SAT 7 Dec 96 up to and including: SAT 4 Jan 97
SATURDAY Gym hours will be 1300-1700 hrs

On the 11th Jan 97 Gym hours will go back to original times 0900-1200 Hrs 1300-1700 Hrs

HAVE A NICE HOLIDAY!

The course runs 3 1/2 days and covers a wide range of topics using presentations, discussion and interactive exercises. Topics covered include: boundaries, risk taking, values, stress, goals, anger, communication, self-esteem. A main component of this Lifeskills program is that it is solution focussed.

WHO CAN ATTEND: Military personnel and spouses, and DND employees and spouses

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
Sgt Brian Buttor at 8789, or Mara Pungente at 8655



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Week ending: 21 December 1996

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| 1. Silent Honor | Steele |
| 2. The Regulators | Bachman |
| 3. Servant of the Bones | Rice |
| 4. Icon | Forsyth |
| 5. Executive Orders | Clancy |
| 6. The 3rd Twin | Follett |
| 7. Evil Eye | Slade |
| 8. Desperation | King |
| 9. Sacrament | Barker |
| 10. Strangers Among Us | Wright |

407 Sqn



Demon Doin's

"Busy" is the best way to describe the squadron's activities within the last few weeks. It seems that there has been a tremendous push to get the year's patrols, amongst other flights, finished with what little time is left. In spite of that, it's great to see that we have had the energy to spread the usual Christmas cheer. This year's Christmas party, for instance, was well attended. More than 200 people showed up which was probably twice the usual. In fact, it was so well attended that Santa took time out from his hectic schedule to pay a visit, along with his Jolly Green Giant, Groucho Marx look alike, elf. His visit meant that Christmas came early for some and abundantly for a few others. Jean Traynor, in particular, must have been a good girl as it seemed to me that she was cleaning up on the gifts. Every time I turned around to see if I was lucky enough to get a prize, Jean was already up there collecting it. Pretty swift.

Jean is not the only one who had Christmas come early this year. On a MOTIVEX to Moose Jaw, Darcy and his crew were lucky enough to get rides with the Snowbirds. On landing, the Aurora became unserviceable so, unfortunately, they weren't able to give any of the students any rides. From what I gather, instead of wasting their time, the crew snivelled rides. Those who didn't go with the birds went with others from the school. I think that most of the crew members went for a ride of some sort which makes me wonder who the MOTIVEX was really for, particularly when we have so many Navs converting to the pilot trade.

And so it seems that Santa's early visit to the valley benefits another clan, as Crew 5 wanders off for a well-deserved trip into the Hawaiian sun. Seven days of gruelling work in the heat ought to temper their minds. Lucky souls. They'll never be forgiven if they don't bring back some good weather. I'm only jealous.

Congratulations go out to the winners of the squadron Photo Contest. WO Skrzyzala's inspirational shot of the Aurora on the line at dawn earned him first place and Capt Skinner's artsy palm trees at sunset brought him sec-



ond place. Winner in the most humorous category was Lt Commander's action photo of Capt Dephore being debriefed in Sqn Ops. Thanks to all who contributed pictures to make the contest a success.

On that note I would like to congratulate Dan Champagne and his wife on the birth of their new daughter, Roxanne, born on 23 November. I would also like to shorten my Christmas card mailing list by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope Santa continues to be good to everyone.

From the Sports O... Intersection hockey is almost at mid season and all is well. At the very least, all three teams are having fun. Winning is more fun, but that notion seems to be lost on some of the players. Of note was last Monday's 12 to 1 drubbing of the Demons by the Devils. The Devils were put in their place later that week by the Rebels in a last minute 4 to 3 loss.

The All Ranks Christmas Party provided the backdrop for the second semi-annual Aircrew Challenge the following morning, (Os vs NCMs). Clearly the pilots and navs were not able to handle the previous night's festivities as well as the FEs and AESOPs, as many officers were still feeling the after-effects. Does their old age have anything to do with this? Of note, however, was Mike Cook who apparently thought the party was still going on. The first period ended with a 2-2 tie. However, after that the officers began to take a beat-

ing (like a rented mule). The NCMs built up a 12-6 lead before the officers stormed back to tie the game at 0-0 (Capt Lines was the timekeeper). In the real world, the NCMs won the game handily and thus were presented the coveted bunny head by LCol Reaume. The officers, once again, were awarded the bunny butt (the bunny butt is currently missing but will soon be found and presented to the CO so he can display it proudly in his office).

This past week saw 443 Sqn visit 407 Sqn. They wanted to play hockey - we obliged, and they went home losers. Our thanks go out to 443 for their contribution to the pizza and refreshments. Snow is on the mountain and that means Squadron Ski Days - keep your eyes open for announcements. January will bring the first annual (for my tour anyway), 407 Sqn Sports Day. Activities will include floor hockey, volleyball and squash tournaments, foot/ice/rainball, skiing and a bike rally/scavenger hunt. If you're not playing you're working! See you out there!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Christmas Dinner sponsors: In Courtenay - Mountain Meadows Sports, Hot Chocolates, Blockbuster Video, Zellers, Kingfisher Hotel. In Comox - Black Fin Pub, Leeward Pub, Griffin Pub, Simon's Cycles, Bill's Country Meats, Portuguese Joe's, Runway Restaurant, Rolling Pin Bakery and the Chocolate Ranch.

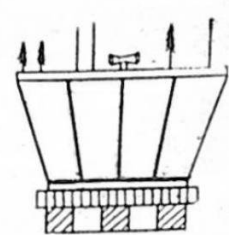
Award presentations at 414 Sqn.



(L-R): HCol A.C. Brown, Cpl V.J. Hopkins (presented a "19 Wing No Retreat Award" for his efforts designing a computerized claims processing form), Cpl R.A. Malone (presented a 414 (CS) Sqn Commander's Commendation and a "19 Wing No Retreat Award" for his discovery of a very serious T-33 engine starter fault, MCpl P.S. Nolan (presented with the Canadian Forces Decoration) and LCol A.D. Hunter.



LCol Lewis presents Capt Dan Cennicola with a "For Professionalism" award for averting a potential accident on a civilian aircraft arriving in Campbell River.



As the Beacon turns

by MCpl J.W. Healey
T'is the season to be jolly... Yes, it's that time of year again and I would like to start by wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at "ATC." This will be the last time I refer to our people by the old trade names. As of 01 Jan 97, all NCMs in the trade will be called ACOPS 168 (Aerospace control operators). At the same time the officer side will be renamed AEC 039 (Aerospace Controllers). Now that the amalgamation is complete and we're all one big happy family, most of us are hoping for some improvements in areas such as trade progression, postings, and promotions.

Moving on to other things, Cpl Scott and Elke Middleton are the proud new parents of a baby boy. Owen (no middle name) Middleton was born on 2 Nov and Scott says all is going well but he is looking forward to getting back on night shifts so he can get some rest. Congratulations goes out to Capt Dean and Tracy King on the arrival of baby Elena Catherine Mary who was born on 4 Dec. Mom and baby are both at home and doing well, and Dean is so proud of himself that he'll probably be unbearable to work with for the next several months. This is number one for both families and I'm sure they will enjoy parenting very much. Cpl Ken and Tammy Weiss enjoyed the first one so much they are now expecting number two, an early Christ-

mas present. As long as I'm handing out congratulations anyway, kudos to Capt Scott Sinclair on receiving his CD from LCol Lewis, WOPO. Scott and Suzanne are also expecting number two and Capt Sinclair was recently appointed as Chief Controller for the radar unit. It's been a busy few months for Scott. Capt "Rolly" Lapointe was recently presented with a MATCA Certificate of Appreciation for his involvement in OPS LANCE, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) from July to Oct 94. Capt Lapointe was one of 10 ATC personnel involved in UNAMIR who worked at the airport in Kigali and he says it was an experience he will never forget.

The annual ATC Christmas party was held on 6 Dec and it was a smashing success - at least, from my perspective it was. Once again the party fund committee outdid themselves - the food was great, the music was loud and the drinks were plentiful.

Christmas time is part of the year which always seems to bring out the best in people. However, every year many people are killed in car accidents and the main contributor to this always seems to be those few who insist on driving home after drinking. If you party then don't drive. Most sections use courtesy drivers for this very reason. Please, don't ruin Christmas for your family, or for someone else - take a taxi.



LCol Lewis presents Capt "Rolly" Lapointe with MATCA Certificate of Appreciation.



LCol Lewis presents Capt Scott Sinclair with CD.

442 Sqn



SAR Techs reorganize...again?

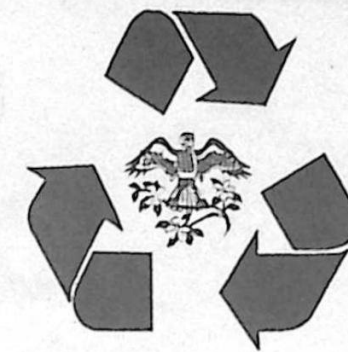
by Sgt Al Banky
What do you do when the system you have doesn't work? Adapt it? Modify it? Change it? How about just getting rid of it and starting over again from scratch? Think about the number of procedures we have in the military that have been changed over the years to adapt to the changing times and climate. How many of them could be eliminated without affecting operations one iota? Hundreds? More like thousands.

After what seems like the hundredth rule and change being imposed on 442's SAR Tech section - annual leave, days off, training requirements... - the members of the section got together and decided not to adapt their system, but instead to throw it out and start over from scratch. The new system they have adopted is a cross between the army (the origin of many SAR Techs) and the air force.

The 28 members of the section have been split into three operational and one support team. The operational teams are identical with three sergeants and four corporals/master corporals. They are each responsible for their own administration, training and standards. The support team, consisting of the SAR Tech leader (STL), the Deputy STL, two Parachute Riggers (the two maroon berets and jump smocks walking around the base), two personnel in supply and an Admin Clerk. The operational teams work on a 7-3-7-4 shift schedule, seven days followed by three days off and seven nights followed by four days off.

By eliminating the old shop structure and making the teams independently responsible, 18 secondary duties have been eliminated or redistributed. Most of the maintenance duties previously done by SAR Techs are now being done by the riggers.

The changes could not have taken place without a huge amount of support from the SAMEO, Maj Appels, and the XO, Maj Cue. In order to get the two riggers, two positions from the unit's establishment were traded. Throwing out the old system and starting over again has enabled the SAR Techs to return to their primary duty of staying fit and training to save lives.



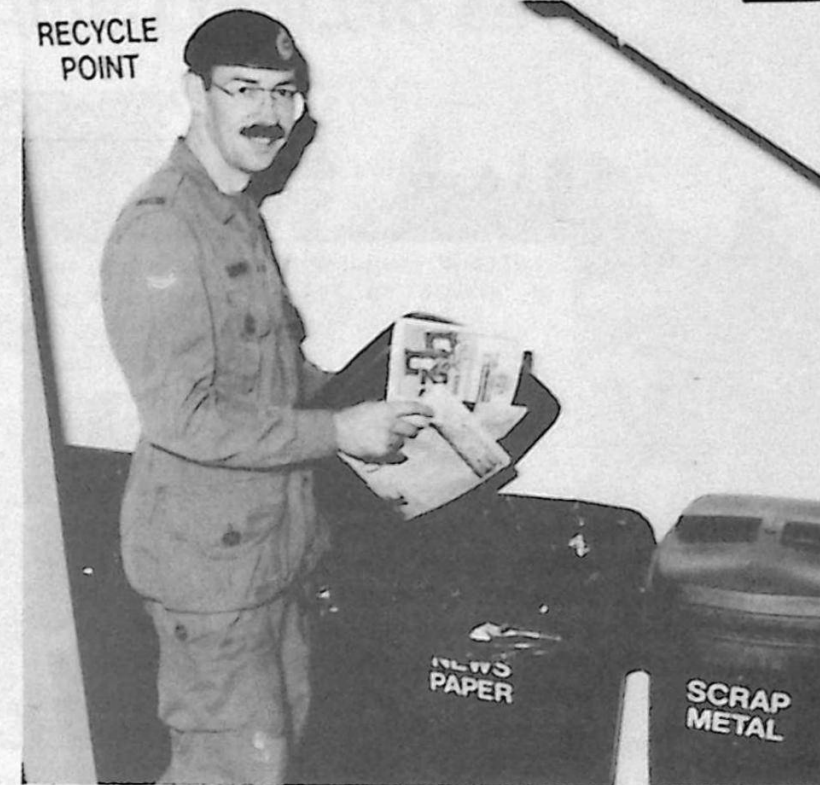
Look who's recycling

The Airfield Engineer Flight (AEF), in the back of Building 82, lives up to the Engineers' motto of "First in, last out." When it comes to recycling, they were first to jump right in and start their own program.

The driving force behind AEF's recycling program was Cpl Jan Haggart, a Unit Recycling Coordinator, and the only woman in AEF. Cpl Haggart decided that recycling paper and corrugated cardboard was not enough, and so she went to Bob Allan, Wing Environmental Protection Officer, and managed to secure some special funding. Then she went shopping for appropriate containers and ended up buying eight at Zellers, on sale. The next step was having signs made up. A well-organized, clearly marked, recycling centre was the result.

Everyone at AEF participates in the program that captures cans, boxboard (non corrugated cardboard), corrugated cardboard, newspaper, scrap metal, magazines, glass, and plastic. When necessary, AEF personnel load up a truck and take most of the collected items to a recycling depot. Corrugated cardboard and scrap metal stay on the base, to be disposed of through regular channels.

AEF's mission is to provide infrastructure support to flying operations, on base and when deployed. AEF staff will take care of constructing facilities and securing utilities: things like garbage contracts and even sewage treatment. When you are somewhere like Haiti, recycling does not begin to enter the picture. Perhaps that is why AEF person-



Cpl Izard dutifully puts his recyclables in the proper receptacle. (Photo by Cpl Tsagatakis.)

nel are so conscientious about recycling at their home base. Exposure to less-advantaged countries can really encourage people to take individual action to reduce their impact on the environment. What does Cpl Haggart have to say to motivate other flights on

the base? "Living in such a beautiful province, everyone should recycle. We're going to run out of room."

If you know about someone who is 3R-conscious, let us know so that we can profile them here. Call local 8378 or 8387.

Snake-Eyes



WHO SAYS "ENROUTE" CARDS ARE COMPLETELY USELESS?

Thank You

Mr. John Mallandaine of Bowser, B.C. wishes to thank all contributors to his "Save Those Stamps" project. He recently able to donate 29 pounds of trimmed stamps to the Ladies of the Eastern Star. Please keep him in mind when it comes to discarding those used stamps. Watch for his ad in future editions of the Fishwrapper.



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Tree of Light Campaign



In attendance at the tree lighting ceremony were (L_R): MCpl Klingerman; Kristin Martin, with her Mom and sister; Jessica Abbot, with her Mom and sister; Santa; Patricia Elgersma; Marg Arnold (Comox Legion); Glen Caslae (Korean Veterans); LCol Lewis, WOPSO; Sgt Lunge; CWO Dupuis, WCWO; and his assistant, Sgt Thibodeau, as well as various base personnel.

At 1000 hours on 6 December, the Military Police kicked off their annual Christmas Tree of Light campaign in support of the Military Police Fund for Blind Children. Present were representatives from the Korean Veterans Association, Comox Legion, as well as special guests Jessica Abbot, Patricia Elgersma and Kristin Martin, local blind children, and their parents. The special guests were greeted and entertained by Santa Claus who made the trip south for this event.

Also in attendance were the WOps Officer, LCol Lewis, WCWO, CWO Dupuis, who made his annual contribution, as well as Sgt Leo Phillips. Sgt Phillips, who over the past year has donated in the area of \$1,000 to the Blind Fund, was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the A/WSAMP O. Special thanks are also extended to the Courtenay Legion, Courtenay Lions Club, 888 Wing, Comox Builders, Zellers and the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority Club, who also contributed to this event.

The Tree of Light Campaign is one of the three fundraising efforts sponsored by the Military Police annually. The MP/RCMP Golf Tournament, which is sponsored by numerous businesses from Duncan to Campbell River, is one such event. The second, which is ongoing, consists of donation boxes which are located through various units on 19 Wing and businesses throughout the Comox Valley. Over the past two years, the Military Police have purchased over \$20,000 worth of equipment from local businesses and donated it to local blind children.

A special thanks goes out to all supporters of our campaign. The names are too numerous to list in this article. Sponsors can be identified throughout the area as many display the Appreciation Certificates which are presented to all sponsors of Military Police functions. A heartfelt thanks also goes out to three local newspapers - the Echo, the Record and the Totem Times, who also supported this worthwhile cause.

When you can't breathe, nothing else matters. BRITISH COLUMBIA LUNG ASSOCIATION 731-LUNG or 1-800-665-LUNG



Jessica Abbot, one of the locally sponsored blind children, receives a stuffed toy from the hands of Santa. (Photo Cpl Luc Champagne)



Sgt Phillips is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the WSAMPO. Sgt Phillips has donated in the area of \$1,000 over the past year. (Photo Cpl Luc Champagne)

Advertisement for Realty World Coast Country Realty featuring Maureen Davidson, Sales Associate. Contact: (604) 334-3124. Address: #121-750 Comox Road, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 3P6.



Cops Corner

by Cpl K.E. LeBlanc

Welcome back to Cops Corner. I would like to start this week by pointing out a typo which appeared in our last article. Before too much panic sets in, the rate of thefts from autos has actually risen 9%, not 90%!

Moving on to this week's topic, I'll begin by quoting from a popular ad campaign and invite everyone to look for the 19 Wing SAMP Flt "light display" this holiday season. I am not referring to our Tree of Lights, but rather the anti-drinking and driving spot checks which will be occurring over the holidays.

With Christmas and New Year's Eve quickly approaching, the festivities are on the rise. Many sections will be having their parties, and Christmas functions, not to mention all the private parties. During all of this, we at the Guardhouse always join with the other Federal and Municipal police forces in the province by taking part in the B.C. Counterattack program. This program, which has a counterpart in almost every province, is carried out each year in the hope of deterring impaired driving. This year, the Counterattack will be running from 8 December until 3 January.

The statistics show that impaired driving affects us all in some way, either financially, or in a much more horrible and personal way. In 1995 there were 1,650 motor vehicle accident deaths and 60,000 injuries across the country as a result of impaired drivers. On a closer note, 200 people are killed every year in B.C. and 6,000 injured by impaired drivers. This compares to an average of 70 people being murdered annually in the province. Add to these statistics the fact that impaired driving costs the residents of B.C. an annual average of \$130 million and the need for measures such as the Counterattack program, which annually stops 665,000 vehicles, becomes clear.

Another important statistic is that 10-15% of all impaired driving charges are laid as the result of citizen action. This is truly a battle which cannot be won by the police alone. If you see a vehicle which you believe is being driven by someone who is under the influence, note the type/colour of the vehicle, its licence plate number, where it is, and what direction it is travelling in. Then report all of this information to the local law enforcement agency. You never know whose life you may be saving.

In closing, we ask for your patience and understanding if you happen to get caught in a line-up on the Wing, or on provincial roadways as the result of spot-checks. Contrary to some popular misbeliefs, law enforcement officers don't work on a quota system and we are not overjoyed when we charge someone with an impaired driving offence. The truth is just the opposite. We are the happiest when no one is impaired behind the wheel of a motor vehicle. B.C. Counterattack is not an attempt at frustrating you, or make you late, it is our way of trying to ensure that it is truly a festive and joyous season for everyone. Thank you for your support.

From our family here at the 19 Wing Guardhouse, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Advertisement for Minuteman Press. Features: HAPPY HOLIDAYS, With our new FIERY, We can design your colour flyer on our computer screen or Scan it in and Print directly from the computer to the LAZER COPIER. Contact: (250) 338-8889. Address: #9 - 2401 Cliffe Ave., FAX (250) 338-8818.

The Lancaster Bomber - a living legend



by L/S W.O. Arthur, NRS Aldergrove

After nearly 50 years, interest in the Avro Lancaster bomber seems as prevalent now as it did in the 1940s. Whether this is because of its remarkable war record or simply the appeal of its visual impact and the distinctive hum of its Merlin engines, the Lancaster is one of the very few aircraft which can command an almost guaranteed interest from former aircrew and aircraft enthusiasts world wide.

The Royal Air Force Bomber Command, in its quest for an effective long-range heavy bomber, came up with a winner in the Avro Lancaster. The secret of the Lancaster's success lay in its durability. Allied pilots and aircrew were impressed. No other bomber could have survived the flak and pummeling that the Lanc endured, nor carry the enormous bombs designed by Dr. Barnes Wallis of "dam buster" fame. The Lancaster bomber had a top speed of 287 mph with a ceiling of 24,500 feet. The aircraft's bomb capacity was its major feature. The Lanc could carry a normal payload of 14,000 pounds of bombs, compared to a B-17's 4,000 pounds. A relatively simple modification enabled the aircraft to carry the 22,000 pound "Grand Slam," the heaviest bomb of the war.

By a curious stroke of fortune, the Lancaster came into being as a result of its twin-engine predecessor, the Avro Manchester, whose new Rolls-Royce Vulture engines tended to overheat and, consequently, did not provide sufficient power to perform well at high altitudes.

Structurally, the Lanc was a stressed-skin all metal mid-wing monoplane designed around the bomb floor which, incidentally, served as the floor for the crew. It is interesting to note, that the Lancaster was not really an all metal construction: elevators and ailerons were fabric-covered and the fuselage door and hatches were of wood, as were the leading edges of the fins, including the rear frame of the cockpit canopy. Some of the wooden parts, such as the leading edges and fuselage door, were later redesigned in metal in Canadian war plants.

With British wartime factories stretched to full capacity, a decision was made to build some of the Lancasters in Canada, despite the fact that the Canadian aircraft industry had never undertaken a project of such complexity. The contract was awarded in December 1941 to the Aircraft Division, National Steel Car Corporation of Malton, Ontario (which eventually became Victory Aircraft Ltd.) in November 1942. This was a significant development in the Canadian aviation industry, for it was the first four-engine aircraft to be manufactured in Canada, and the largest at that time. The version selected for Canadian production was the Mk III, modified to make the MK X. These modifications made a substantial difference to the combat effectiveness and the appearance of the aircraft. These more powerful armed Lancasters were welcomed by Allied units overseas.

RAF Bomber Command's wartime statistics generally show good all-round performance for the new bomber. RAF records reflected the numbers of aircraft lost, per bombs dropped. On average, one Lancaster was lost per 132 tons delivered, versus one per only 56 tons for the Halifax bomber, and one per 41 tons for the Stirling. At the end of the Second World War, 60 out of 80 RAF and RCAF heavy bomber squadrons were equipped with Lancasters. More than 1,350 of the 1,850 heavy bombers were Lancs. Reflecting its outstanding war service, the Lancaster was the most "highly decorated" aircraft in the entire British and Commonwealth Air Force. There were nine Victoria Crosses awarded to Lancaster air members, an unparalleled record. Two Canadian VC winners, awarded posthumously were: Pilot Officer Andrew Myrnski of RCAF 419 Sqn, and S/L Ian Bazalgett of RAF 635 Pathfinder Sqn.

Submitted by Tet Walston (Note: In 1929, £1 was worth \$4.00 Canadian and two shillings equalled 40 cents.)

Recently, Totem Times published an item written by grade 4 students giving us an insight as to the qualities needed to become a pilot, and the rewards for achieving those aims.

The following is another approach to the subject. C.G. Grey, long-time editor of The Aeroplane, a most prestigious aviation magazine, puts forth his views, after a great deal of study.

"The whole essence of air transport, as one sees it, is frequency of service as well as speed. When airlines are developed, as they must be some day, instead of being compelled by a timetable to go to an aerodrome at a certain time, to catch a certain machine, we shall merely leave home when it is most convenient and take the next plane to the place we want to go to."

Later, he continues - "When you consider that an airline pilot gets roughly £750 a year, or say

HERITAGE HAPPENINGS



Christmas is on the way and the staff is gearing up for the holidays, their holidays that is. Since there is normally very little business following Christmas, up to and including New Year's, the Museum will be closed from Christmas Day till 2 January. The Gift Shop and Museum will be open, however, on 23 and 24 December to accommodate those last minute male shoppers who have nowhere else to turn.

The Comox Air Force Museum has had a very successful year with a number of projects being completed, despite the best efforts of the staff. We are particularly grateful for the rewiring project that saw a complete overhaul of the electrical works in the museum proper. This had been a long-standing problem and a real concern to the Fire Hall. After failing numerous inspections and having the problem recorded so many times that the Fire Chief didn't want to talk to us any more, the contract was let and the work completed in '96. Also, a fence was erected around the Heritage Air Park and the temporary hangar workshop facility. This has been a real boon to the visiting public and has enabled the Heritage Aircraft Committee to concentrate more of their efforts on restoration work. These two major projects have signalled a strong move ahead for the Museum and heralds good things for 1997.

The Scale Radio Controlled Model Aircraft Competition, that was sponsored by the Museum this year as part of the advertising program, proved to be a real success. The fact that Airshow 96

was used as a drawing event brought out a large segment of the public and allowed the Museum staff and local clubs to strut their stuff. The event is planned again for '97 and the new chairman of the Nautical Days Committee will be approached in January to see if this event can be held at the start of Nautical Days Week - that is 25, 26 and 27 July for those of you who can plan that far ahead.

The Heritage Aircraft Committee volunteers have been exceptionally active lately and it seems that busy hands are happy hands. Murray Smith, Rob Roy, Bill Ford, Randal Butler, Ted Dennis, Herb Lightfoot, Herb Walker, Rob Pritchard, Fred Goldie and numerous others have put in many hours working on the H-21 and the aircraft in the Air Park. Stan Boyd of the Regional Cadet Air Operations has completed recovering the Dakota tail feathers and the Heritage Volunteers will reinstall them in the Spring. All that to say that a lot of work is being done by this committee and they deserve a lot of credit for persevering despite limited resources and funding.

1996 has been a very good year for the Museum and the staff would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Base personnel and volunteers who have worked so hard to bring about this success. We hope that 1997 will bring even more prosperity and see the acquisition of more aircraft and artefacts.

A Merry Christmas to all and do drop by and see us in the New Year.

£15 a week, and that a first class locomotive driver gets £5 a week, you can see how important a pilot's wages are. If a pilot takes 150 passengers between London and Paris in a week he has not done badly. That means that his wages alone costs two shillings per passenger. A locomotive driver will often have between 300 and 500 passengers behind him, in one train for the same distance, and about six times a week. Be it also remembered that a first class engine driver has to have all the nerve and skill of an aeroplane pilot and about ten times the experience.

When airlines are properly organised, when we have evolved some safe method of flying and landing in fogs, when night flying routes are properly lighted and when engines are more reliable, the work of a pilot will certainly be no more arduous than that of

the driver of a railway train and, consequently, an airline pilot's pay will be no higher than that of a locomotive driver. When you look at it rationally, there is no reason why it should be.

For this reason one does not recommend those who are thinking of taking up civil aviation as a profession, to regard an airline pilot's job as being a life's work."

The above quotes are from no less a publication than The Journal of the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, March 1929 edition. Contributed by C.G. Grey, after a request from the editor of the Journal, and titled "The Future of Flying."

To be fair, this was written at a time when air travel, though expensive, was becoming popular for those who could afford it.

You may ask where this gem of aviation wisdom was discovered. Why, where else other than the Geoffrey Rowe Memorial Library, a part of the Comox Air Force Museum. This is just a sample, odd though it is, of the many contributions to aviation made by a multitude of authors and photographers.

Volunteer staff are available on Thursdays and Fridays to help you enjoy the unique collection that Geoffrey Rowe put together. You might even want to get involved!!

Advertisement for The Rolling Pin Bakery and Bills' Country Meats. Features: THE ROLLING PIN BAKERY, With BILL'S Country Meats, HOMEMADE MINCE MEAT TARTS, CHRISTMAS STOLLEN. Contact: 339-5636. Address: 1496-C Ryan Road, Just outside the Base!

Advertisement for Chocolate Ranch. Features: CHOCOLATE RANCH, 1436 Ryan Rd, Lazo B.C. - NEAR THE BASE GATE, Next to Petro-Canada. Christmas Cards & Gifts for the Cowboy or Cowgirl in your life. Now Available.... SUGAR FREE CHOCOLATE. Contact: 890-0772. Address: December 1 - 24 Open 7 Days, 10am - 6 pm.

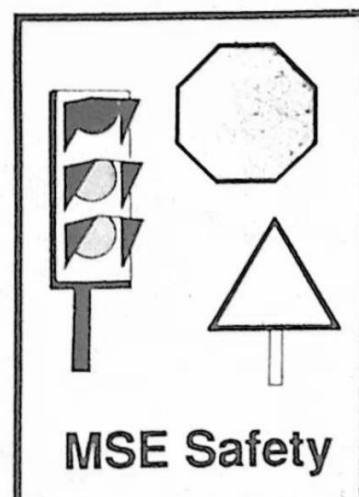


19 AMS

by Eric Travis,
ArmPAVO (COSMO?)
Good day, and welcome once again to the world of 19 AMS. On 12 Dec, the maintenance squadron had its first ski day of the 96/97 season. A good time was had by all, even though some had trouble walking afterwards. One thing that was readily apparent in the group I was with was the overall lack of aircraft in 19 AMS and the insecurity this causes. One individual, whose name will not be mentioned, but whose initials are MCpl Kurt Staples, wanted air time so badly he flung himself off every little bump in the hill that he could find. He carried on with this procedure until he actually achieved the altitude he desired, scared himself, and then proceeded to do slow motion jumps for the remainder of the day. Another member of the squadron, MCpl Barry Kazimer, was the designated safety man. His job was to watch the crazy people, laugh at us, mock us, and call for help if we were injured. Fortunately, since none of the responsibilities was not required but thanks to Barry all the same. As it turned out, the safety man responsibility

Maintainers - good will, festive attitudes and physical fitness?

was handed from person to person, similar to the Olympic torch. Other members of the squadron who held the torch were: Cpl John Sims (who will back my back flip story for a beer), and MCpl Neil Kwasnicki, who should have had a safety man for himself. Cpls Richard and Dunn seemed to enjoy themselves and were often heard yelling inspiring phrases like "Do you call that a jump? My pet elephant has a better vertical!" and "I want to see a good wipe-out, try something dangerous!!" But, just for the record, all they ever saw were minor wipe-outs and they missed all the good tricks. "I promise no more jumps this afternoon, I'm going to take it easy, my legs are zonked... Hey, I bet I could do a back flip off one of those jumps!" Everyone who spent the day on the mountain seemed to really enjoy themselves, even though I didn't see many on the slopes at all. That last fact had me thinking that they may have spent the whole day in the bar. In closing, I would like to wish all the members of 19 AMS and the Wing a Very Merry Christmas and a Great New Year's Party.



MSE Safety

Safe Driving Week has been held for the last 41 years at 19 Wing Comox and has been a proven success nation-wide, and this year was no exception. MSE Safety conducted a Defensive Driving course and a Dependant Defensive Driving Course on 3 and 4 Dec. During the same week, a safety check was done on 45 vehicles. Proper use of signal lights, wearing of seat belts and overall vehicle safety were observed. As a result of these random checks, 40 people were awarded a snow and ice scraper for safe driving. MSE Transport would like to congratulate all. On 10 Dec, Terry Macdonald won the Family First Aid Kit draw. During the safety checks, there were several personnel that were not using seat belts. We realize that 40 people out of 45 were wearing seat belts and that some may seem like a good average but one person not wearing a safety seatbelt is too many. Thousands of people die every year because they were not wearing safety seatbelts. This practice has proven, not only to be a safety hazard, it is also an illegal act and you can be

fined for not using it. Be responsible, buckle up and ensure everyone in the vehicle with you does the same. The Christmas season is here again and, with the festivities, many people will be hosting parties. Here are some helpful hints if you are hosting a party where alcohol is being served:
• Serve snack foods early and often. This tends to slow down the assimilation of alcohol.
• Plan some activities such as dancing and games. This cuts down on the amount of alcohol consumed.
• Always respect the wishes of any guest who says "No thanks" to the offer of a final drink or who says "I'll just have coffee." Never

press alcoholic beverages on a guest.
• When mixing drinks, include lots of mix and use standard measures to ensure that you do not "overpour" drinks. Have non-alcoholic beverages available for the final "one for the road."
• Arrange transportations for alcohol-impaired guests, or encourage them to spend the night at your home.
Remember: "If you Drink - Don't Drive and If you Drive - Don't Drink."
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from the MSE Safety Section.

Congratulations!



(L-R): MCpl Clow, MCpl Peterson, Lt Graitson presenting Terry MacDonald with the First Aid Kit, Aysia Johnson and Tyler Hibbert.

Money talks

Four kinds of investment risks

by J. Kevin Dobbeltsteyn, P.Eng., MBA, financial advisor with Investors Group
Nobody likes to put their money at risk. Yet the fact is, risk helps increase the earning potential of your investment. The good news is that risk is manageable. Understanding the types of risk you have to deal with is a vital part of a well-planned investment strategy. Once you understand the risks involved, you can develop a strategy that can achieve consistent returns and still let you sleep at night. Investment risk falls into four major areas. Let's take a look at each, and how you can reduce their impact on your investments.
Inflation
Many consider inflation to be the most serious risk to financial security, because it erodes the purchasing power of your money. In fact, if Canada's inflation rate remains at its annual average of about 5% over the past 40 years, the \$1,000 you have today will buy just \$377 worth of goods in 20 years. To beat inflation, your investments must earn an average return that is greater than the average annual increase in the cost of living, over the term of your investment. That way the money you invest will buy more in the future. Your best defense against inflation is to maintain an equity component in your portfolio. Over the long term, stock market investments have handily outpaced inflation.
Lack of diversification
By putting all your investment "eggs" in one asset class, you could find your portfolio declining substantially in value when that market takes a tumble. You can manage this risk by holding a mixture of fixed-income and growth investments. If you're not sure how best to manage your investments, ask your financial planner to help you with a long-term strategy that provides both security and healthy returns.
Liquidity
When an investment is "liq-

uid," you can sell it quickly at close to its fair market value. Gold bullion, which is easily sold at its current market price, is a liquid investment. So are most stocks. In most cases mutual funds are among the most liquid investments available, since you can usually redeem your units at fair market value and receive payment within two business days. Which investments are "non-liquid?" They include thinly traded stocks, real estate and objects of art. You may have difficulty finding a buyer to pay your asking price for these investments.
Volatility
This is the tendency of an investment to fluctuate in value. Volatility is more of a concern for short-term investors. If you have an urgent need to cash in a high-volatility security a few weeks or months after you invest, you are rolling the dice. When it's time to sell, you'd better hope your investments aren't on a downhill ride. For longer-term investors, daily or monthly price swings are less important. Historically, stocks, and other equity-type investments appreciate considerably over many years, regardless of the ups and downs that occur in the short term. Volatility is manageable, and can even provide an opportunity to enhance your long-term returns. By investing regularly, a process known as "dollar-cost averaging" you can improve your returns. For example, if you invest a fixed amount in a mutual fund each month, it will buy more units when prices are low; and fewer when prices are high. This can reduce your average cost per unit and improve your returns. You avoid the risk of making a lump-sum investment at the wrong time in the market cycle.

The WCompt Sqn wishes everyone a "Safe" and Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



(Back row, L-R): Terry McElwee, Andrea Gaudreault, Linda Lewis, Larry Francis, Jedda Neville, Linda Janssen, Adele Donaldson. (Front row, L-R): Linda (Lucy) Sabiston, Kim Saunders, Bronwynn Guymer, Lynn Stoddard, John Lalonde, Frances Ochej, Lynn Leclerc. Missing: Angie Mallette, Dee Holmes, Gerry Rose (warming up the "get away" vans!)

New courses offered on base

by Pat Allan, CFCCN Co-ordinator
Question: How can you tell if training is useful?
Answer: If you can apply the information in real life. One of the hardest things about choosing a program is trying to decide from those short little course descriptions whether the information will be interesting and relevant. While we all hope that training will improve our chances for success in future endeavours, it is most satisfying if we can apply our new understanding to concrete situations. A good example is the Management Development Program (MDP) offered on base by CFCCN through Seneca College. It provides an overview of the management function and a range of tools and techniques to organize and achieve goals by working with other people. After the first two courses in this six course program, one student used some of the concepts to help her redesign her job. Another student used the planning framework to organize negotiations with her husband's accountant. Being able to immediately apply new information gives a real boost to your learning. Four more MDP courses are scheduled for after Christmas.

We are also considering offering some credit courses on base in the new year. Possibilities include a basic English course and technical Math course. These are requirements for many college programs, often as upgrading prior to being admitted to your program. They are often difficult to get into in a regular college setting due to high demand. Other possibilities are Accounting and an Introductory Computer course. If we have enough interest here, arrangements can be made to bring in these courses. CFCCN members (regular, reserve, serving and retired military, civilians and their families) interested in any of these courses should contact me or leave a message as soon as possible so we can begin arrangements. Call me at local 8889 to express your interest in the courses above, and to register in the Management Development Program.

Somalia medal gets go ahead

by Capt Laurie Kannegiesser
More than three years after HMCS Preserver and her embarked air detachment returned from Somalia, the federal government has announced that approval for a medal honouring those who deployed will be sought from Her Majesty the Queen. "The government is pleased to proceed with the Somalia medal for Canadian Forces members who participated in the humanitarian mission in Somalia," said Defence Minister Doug Young in the recent announcement. "During Operation Deliverance, Canadian Forces members restored order, ensured that convoys of food and medical supplies reached people in desperate need, and assisted in rebuilding war-ravaged communities." The announcement was good news for the 16 Sea King aviators and 28 maintainers who began a five-month deployment to the famine-stricken country HMCS Preserver four years ago this month. "I am pleased to see the system finally recognizing the outstanding efforts of the majority who served honourably in Somalia.

Continued on page 13

Season's Greetings

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338-7811/339-1326



COMOX MILITARY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE

phone: 339-8290

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from the Volunteers, Board & Staff
at the CMFRC

The CMFRC will be closed Dec. 25, 26 & 27 (KCCC is open Dec. 27).
CMFRC & KCCC will be open Dec. 30, 31 and closed Jan. 1, 1997

MFRC Book Club Comments on November's Book "The Joy Luck Club" by Amy Tan KJ Saunders

The MFRC Book Club began in Sept. 1996. The Club meets the fourth Wednesday night of each month. The first book tackled was *Anna Karenina* by Daphne Marlatt. It is a challenging and enlightening piece of fiction, a book in which the reader is able to bring personal experiences and interpretation to every passage. October's book was "A Gift From the Sea" by Anne Morrow Linberg. This short, diary-like work held special and unique meaning to everyone. The book for November, slightly larger in size than previous books was "The Joy Luck Club" by Amy Tan. Comments were wide ranging and varied, although several common themes emerged in each discussion.

In "The Joy Luck Club" four Chinese mothers are faced with the various challenges and joys of raising their daughters in China town, San Francisco. The difficulty of overcoming the proverbial generation gap is heightened by the different nuances in clashing cultures, as the mothers are born and raised in China, and their daughters were born and are living in the United States. The American Dream, full of opportunities and complete

with choices that were denied to their mothers in China, is subtly promised to the daughters. However, an implied caveat accompanies the "American Dream". Through the mothers' stories of their upbringing and lives in China, the daughters are warned of the danger of forgetting one's self, of losing one's identity. The mothers believe that their wisdom and guidance must be heeded if the daughters are to lead healthy, balanced and fulfilling lives.

Strength of character, self worth, and convictions come from a strong sense of one's identity, which is intrinsically tied to one's cultural and family values. It is the role and duty of a mother to impart on and foster this erudition in her daughter. Self actualization stems from a stalwart sense of belonging and of being in balance. The 'corporate knowledge' of family history must therefore be passed from mother to daughter through generations, as it is paramount to the attainment of true happiness and fulfillment.

When reading "The Joy Luck Club" it is hard to keep in mind that the novel is purely fictional.

Full and rounded character development is key to creating this non-fiction like read of a novel. Tan touches on common and universal themes of the human condition, thus allowing the reader to easily relate to each of the mini stories and family histories told by mothers and daughters.

The MFRC book club members would like to illuminate one of the many noteworthy passages (or should we say truisms?) in the novel. One of the daughters, Rose Hsu Jordan, in the throes of a divorce finally notices how unkept her husbands prized gardens have become. She remembers a fortune cookie years earlier: "When a husband stops paying attention to the garden, he's thinking of pulling up roots". (p.215) Hmm, very interesting, perhaps not an axiom, but worth looking in to...what is the condition of your garden?

Stay tuned for next month's comments on the movie "The Priest". (Yeah, I know we're a book club, but Christmas falls on the fourth Wednesday, and we are all going to be a wee bit busy in December, so we're reviewing a film instead).

Counselling Services Comox Military Family Resource Centre #119 Kinnikinnik, Phone 339-8286

- Confidential Crisis and Short Term Counselling is offered free of charge to military families.
- Relationship and Life Stress Issues e.g. communication, marital difficulties, parenting, deployment, assessment and referral.
- Ask for Counsellor, Coreen Cherry, at 339-8286.

Adult Programs

Upcoming Programs for January & February 1997!

- 'Who's Driving This Bus?' A Community Orientation and Job Search Workshop - Jan. 28 to Feb. 14
- Butt Out - A Smoking Cessation Program - Jan 20 to Apr. 28
- Computer Familiarization Workshop - Jan. 20, 21 & 23 6:30-9:00 pm
- Beginners Cross Stitch - Jan 28 & Feb. 4, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Parenting Teens - Feb. 11 to Mar. 25, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

NEW Programs in French

- Origami- Japanese Paper Folding - Jan. 16, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Encouraging Your Family to Speak French - Jan. 30, 6:30-8:30 pm

Call Mara at 339-8211 local 8655 for more information

Youth Activities

Youth Circle

Every second and fourth Wed. we will have a Youth Circle planning meeting upstairs at the Base Gym from 8:30 to 9:00 pm for those interested. These meetings will be focused around planning fund raising activities, tournaments, video productions, and workshops.

Dates: Jan. 8th, 23rd; Feb. 12th, 26th.

Teens' Gym Nights

We've had the Base Gym packed with teens playing floor hockey, 3 on 3 basketball, volleyball, badminton, and dodgeball! Gym nights are every Wed. evening 6:30-8:30pm at the Base Gym. Recreation passes are not necessary during this time. Please note that Gym Night will be cancelled on January 22.

Dates: Jan. 8th, 15th, 29th; Feb. 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.

Calling All Teen Journalists, Actors, Artists

Ever dreamed of being a Journalist, Actor or Artist? Join in on a quest to find out your own creative talents and begin to follow your dreams and wishes. During the workshop we'll explore where you imagine yourself to be in 5 years, in 20 years, and how to keep a journal of your daydreams and night dreams. Please bring a journal to write in.

Dates: January 12th & 27th (Monday)

Time: 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Location: Protestant Church Annex

Registration: Phone Jill at 339-8211 local 8656

Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre

Saturday Parents and Tots

Register now for our Parents and Tots program to be held every Saturday from 9:30 - 11:30am. Come out to a morning set up for your toddlers with crafts, songs and activities both inside and outside. Younger and older siblings are welcome to join this play group as well. The cost per family will be \$8/month or \$2/drop in. Minimum enrollment 6 families. If you are interested in this program phone 339-5051 or 339-8290 and reserve a space. Start date is dependent upon enrollment.

Preschool Program with French Introduction

Spaces are available in several sessions call 339-5051 for more information and registration.

New Playground Equipment!

Volunteers are needed to assemble our new playground equipment January 3rd & 4th 10:00am - 4:00pm at the Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre. Please call 339-5051 if you are interested in helping out and don't forget your tools!

Wallace Gardens

PMQ Holiday Garbage Pick-ups

Please note that garbage will be collected on Thursday, 26 December and Thursday, 2 January for the holiday season. ONE extra bag of PAPER will be accepted on 26 December but NO extra garbage.



We had over 300 children come to Canex to talk to or have their picture taken with Santa. Both young and mature came in to tell this kindly old gentleman what they wanted for Christmas. We would like to thank Canex for sponsoring us in this special event, which would not have occurred without their help.

SKATE WITH SANTA THIS FAMILY EVENT WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 23 FROM 1:30PM TO 3:30PM AT THE ARENA ON BASE. COME ON OUT FOR A FEW HOURS OF SKATING AND FUN WITH SANTA

THERE WILL BE HOT CHOCOLATE
KEEP YOU WARM

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION PLEASE
CALL THE WALLACE GARDENS
COMMUNITY OFFICE AT 339-8211 LOCAL
8571 AND ASK FOR LINDA

Somalia Medal

Continued from page 11

Much was done there to ease the suffering," says Capt Neil McCarthy, a pilot of 423 Maritime Helicopter Sqn. "Somalia is not a dirty word." Sgt Karen Handrahan, a Sea King technician who was with Preserver's air detachment in Somalia, shares the sentiment. "People are so ashamed (of the Somalia mission), they forget to look at the good," she lamented. "I am proud but it's really hard to admit it. We did a good job out there and we helped people. That's what we were there for." She described the work the ship's company did in Somalia. In Mogadishu, volunteers from the ship helped to transform an existing structure into a hospital where the ship's doctor worked with medical personnel from other countries to administer aid. Sailors and air force personnel weathered sweltering temperatures to construct the roof. Meanwhile, Sea King crews flew several medical evacuations saving many lives including some Somalis. On one occasion, a crew spotted a car accident in a remote location. They landed and loaded five severely injured Somalis into the helicopter and delivered them to a field hospital. In another notable incident, US forces requested immediate trans-

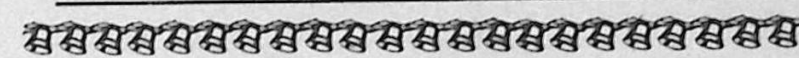
port of a wounded Somali and a US Army surgical team to make use of the Preserver's operating room. With a battle raging in the city, Belgian and US helicopter crews refused the mission. A Sea King crew landed safely and delivered their human cargo to the ship. The air detachment was lauded by the allies for their professionalism.

The air detachment commander, LCol Jim Cottingham, was a navigator on the Sea King helicopter which responded to a distress call from the MV Red Cross Free Trader. The off-loaded cargo of relief supplies was being hijacked by armed Somali bandits. By the time the Sea King located the ship, the bandits were readying heavy trucks to move the food away. Armed with only a C-7 rifle, the crew decided to fly a series of low altitude passes over the gunmen. "We made our initial pass from over the water at 150 knots at 15 feet," says LCol Cottingham. Some Somalis began to run away. "We could clearly see those who remained were heavily armed. We kept on coming and their nerve eventually broke." "I guess none of them wanted to stay and play chicken with a 10-ton helicopter." Five joint-force helicopters arrived 20 minutes later, landing marines to secure the area.

"We did absolutely everything anyone asked us to do which is why we got involved in the many things we did," he continued. He described the medals as recognition long overdue. "I'd love to be able to present each person's medal personally." With government approval to proceed, an Order-in-Council must now be passed to establish the new honour. Then the Queen's approval is sought through the Letters Patent and the medals will then be procured, a process expected to take 6-12 months. Honourable service will be the primary criteria for receiving the medal. Almost 1,400 CF members served in Somalia under UN Resolution 794. In addition to HMCS Preserver and her embarked air detachment from 423 Sqn, the Canadian contingent also consisted of members from 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment; the Royal Canadian Dragoons; the Canadian Airborne Regiment; 2nd Battalion, the Combat Engineer Regiment; 427 Tactical Helicopter Sqn; and 1st Canadian Division Headquarters supported by other members drawn from various reserve and regular force units.

WGCA annual Christmas House Decorating Contest

Categories and prizes will be as follows:
First overall (traditional) - \$75.00
First overall (non-traditional) - \$75.00
First overall (creative) - \$75.00
An honorary prize of \$25.00 will be awarded to each of Wards 1 through 9



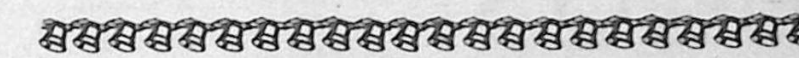
The Santa Walk Around will be on December 19th starting at 5:30PM

YOUR WARD COUNCILLOR WILL BE AROUND TO SEE IF YOU WANT SANTA TO VISIT YOUR CHILDREN AT YOUR HOME IN MARRIED QUARTERS

IF YOU LIVE DOWN TOWN AND ARE A MEMBER OF THE WALLACE GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, PLEASE GIVE US A CALL AND WE WILL ARRANGE FOR A MEETING PLACE TO HAVE SANTA MEET WITH YOUR CHILDREN AND RECEIVED A SMALL PACKAGE.

KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL IT COSTS IS \$3.21 A MONTH PER FAMILY TO BECOME A MEMBER

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION PLEASE CALL THE WALLACE GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION A CALL AT 339-8211 LOCAL 8571



MAKING A LIST, CHECKING IT TWICE

Survey reveals the method to holiday shopping madness.

The Christmas customs we take for granted today have only been a part of the holiday tradition for the last 150 years. Although gift giving is a time honoured custom, the spirit of giving and sharing as part of the holiday season is a modern convention. Until the Victorian era and the introduction of decorated trees, lavish dinners, cards and presents, Christmas was celebrated with little fanfare. Now it is the highlight of our long, cold winter.

This year, Canadians will ring in the holiday season armed with a long gift list, a budget and a nose for bargains, according to the American Express Holiday Shopping Survey. Canadians plan to spend an average total of \$1,238 during the holiday season, confirms the nationwide survey. Consumers will spend some of the money on entertainment and travel expenses, but more than \$800 is earmarked for gifts.

Canadians have a method to their shopping madness, according to Peter Orell, Amex Canada's Vice President, Establishment Services Marketing. Seventy six per cent of us start our shopping armed with a budget, but almost half end up spending more. Most of us consider ourselves educated shoppers and 80 per cent look for store sales.

Where are we shopping?

•Ninety per cent of Canadians plan to shop at department stores. Clothing stores, music and video stores and book stores are also popular.

•One in four Canadians shop through catalogues, and four per cent will shop over the Internet this season.

•Women are more likely to shop at drug stores, book stores, and catalogue showrooms, while men plan to shop at electronic, jewellery and hardware stores.

•Canadians will be shopping in their own backyards. Less than 15 per cent of Canadians plan to shop over the border this season.

Top Gifts for 1996 Holiday Season

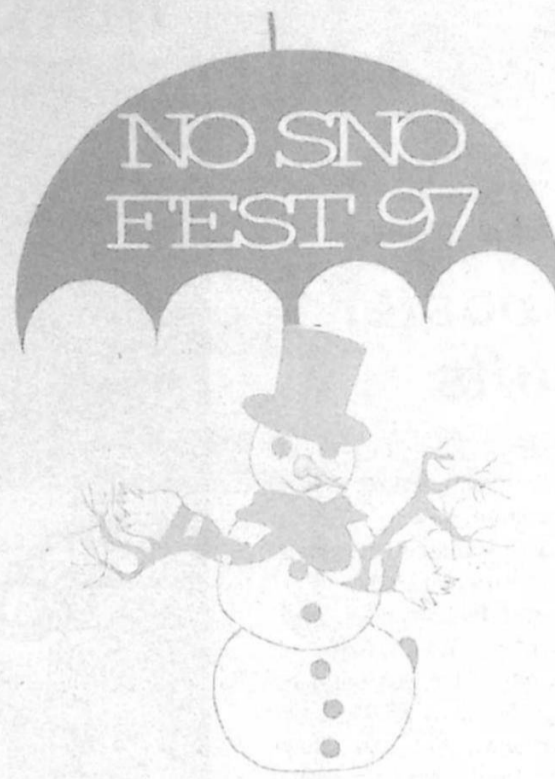
According to the American Express Holiday Shopping Survey, the Top Gifts for this Holiday Season are:

- ★ Clothing
- ★ CDs and Tapes
- ★ Toys
- ★ Perfume
- ★ Books & Magazines
- ★ Jewelry
- ★ Gift Certificates
- ★ Entertainment or Sporting Event Tickets
- ★ Home Furnishings
- ★ Fitness or Sporting Equipment
- ★ Electronics
- ★ Gourmet Food Items

19 Wing Comox

Your design goes here

NO SNO FEST



Winter Carnival Logo design contest

The 1997 19 Wing Comox Winter Carnival Logo design contest is open to all DND and Public Service employees and their families - all ages, young and old! The theme for this year's carnival is a "No Sno Fest" winter in the Comox Valley. Let your imagination run wild and create a design to go in the BIG BLANK SPOT in the middle of the circle. Submissions are to be dropped off at the Military Family Resource Centre before 3 Jan 97. The designer of the winning logo can not only enjoy endless bragging rights, but will be the recipient of a wonderful prize.

Spousal participation in No Sno Festival

Spouses of 19 Wing members are eligible and welcome to participate in this year's No Sno Festival. Spouses may participate on their spouse's team, or may form a team of their own.



No Sno Festival team registration

Team registration for the No Sno Festival will commence on 7 January. Teams must comprise at least six members. To register your team, contact your No Sno Festival unit rep, or any of the committee members. Spaces are limited so sign up early! Participants are encouraged to come up with a unique (and tasteful) name for their team - costumes are also welcome. No Sno Festival buttons will be sold at a price of \$6.00 per team member and will serve the function of a "ticket to participate" in the day's various activities.

Schedule of Events

| Event | Time |
|--|--------------|
| Thursday 06 Feb 97 | |
| Open/Family Skate at Arena* | 1530 - 1730* |
| *tentatively scheduled - pending availability of Arena | |
| Friday 07 Feb 97 | |
| Pancake Breakfast | 0715 - 0830 |
| Teams Report to Gym Parking Lot | 0830 |
| Opening Ceremony and Remarks (in gym) | 0835 - 0850 |
| Sports Tabloid (in gym) and Pool Events | 0900 - 1200 |
| Lunch Break | 1200 - 1300 |
| Arena Events and Snow Sculpting | 1300 - 1500 |
| Outdoor Events | 1500 - 1630 |
| Beard Growing Contest - Judging | 1630 - 1700 |
| Mess Activities Registration | 1900 |
| Skits/Lip Sync | 1930 |
| Presentation of No Sno Festival Winners (overall and spirit winners) | 2030 |
| Mess Activities, Dance with DJ | 2030 - 0100 |

by K.J. Saunders

Back by popular demand at 19 Wing is the No Sno Festival!! This year, the W Compt Sqn will be the overall OPI for this fun and festive event - that's right, the same squadron that has won the No Sno Festival Spirit Award three out of the last four years! Those of you who were at 19 Wing two years ago will recall the fun and jocularly that was had by all. Who could forget the competitive CO's battling against one another in the tricycle race on the arena ice, or the interesting and eyebrow raising skits and lip syncs performed at the end of the day's events. This year's festival promises even more excitement and friendly competition.

The No Sno Festival will be held on Friday, 7 February. Kicking off the festivities will be a pancake breakfast for all participants, served by the friendly and smiling COs and various other big 'uns at the Jr. Ranks' Mess (who could truly be competitive and full of No Sno spirit on empty tummies?). Opening ceremonies commence at 0830 with the first event, the Indoor Sports Tabloid, starting at 0900. After gruelling (??) hours of amusing indoor games, testing one's mental and physical skills/talent (or something to that effect), a refuelling break (i.e. lunch) will be offered for a nominal fee.

At 1300, arena games and a Snow Sculpting event will start the afternoon's program. Can one sculpt raindrops you ask - don't worry, there'll be snow - that's all I'm permitted to say at this time!!

Beard and Moustache Growing Contest

Also back by popular demand is the beard and moustache growing contest Registration for this event will start either 07 or 08 January. Participants are to report to their respective Messes, clean shaven, and in possession of \$2.00 where they will register for one of the three categories: best full/bushy beard; most colourful beard (no dyes are permitted - must be natural colour); and the most scraggly/sparse beard. Prizes will be awarded for the winners of each category (this is where your \$2 comes into play). You gents might want to consider having the "permission" of your spouses/significant others before registering!! Judging at the start will be done by the member's sec-

tion, where an appointed judge will determine who will represent that section at the final judging for each of the three categories. The WCWO will be one of the judges at the finalists level, to be held at 1630 the day of the No Sno Festival. Any personnel that will be on TD or attending courses during the "growing" time frame will be unable to participate. Look for more information and details in the near future.

Mess Games and Activities

New this year to the No Sno Festival will be indoor Mess games and activities that will take place concurrently with the dance at the Combined Mess. Points

and prizes awarded will *not* go towards the overall winner of the No Sno Festival. Various prizes will be available to winners. Registration for these Mess events will be at 1900, with the tournaments commencing at 2030.

The dance in the Jr. Ranks Mess starts at 2030, music will be provided by a DJ. The WO's and Sgt's Mess will also be open for those wishing to escape the rock and roll noise of the dancers in the house. Snacks and munchies, along the lines of pizzas and subs, will be available in the Combined Mess during the evening.

Prizes and Awards

The winning team of the No Sno Festival and the team winning the Spirit Award will be announced at 2030, just prior to the commencement of the dance and Mess activities. Throughout the day of the Festival, as well as the weeks leading up to it, various prizes will be awarded to No Sno Festival participants who have purchased a No Sno Festival button. Serial numbers located on the button will be used for the draw of prizes. The earlier you purchase your button, the more chances you have to win, as winning numbers are returned to the drum for future selection. Restaurant and local merchant certificates are just some of the prizes that are available to be won!

The big prize this year is an airline ticket for two anywhere Canadian or Canadian Regional fly in Canada. The draw for this prize will be held the night of the No Sno Festival, in the Jr. Ranks' Mess, during the dance.

Child Minding services for No Sno Festival

Depending on the level of interest, Child Minding services may be provided by the Comox Military Family Resource Centre for No Sno Festival participants. In order to determine the demand, personnel are requested to contact the MFRC at 339-8290 (or local 8290) and ask for Tina. Please provide the following information when calling: number of children; age of children; time frame desired. Once the preliminary survey is completed, a decision will be made as to the feasibility of providing this service. More information will be forthcoming in the future.

Sqn and Unit Reps for the No Sno Festival

| Name | Rank | Unit | Local |
|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|
| Donaldson | Maj | Compt | 8205 |
| Guymer | Lt (N) | Compt | 8330 |
| Laonde | Capt | Compt | 8464 |
| Saunders | Lt | Compt | 8880 |
| Fields | Capt | W Log | 8836 |
| Graitson | Lt | W Tn | 8354 |
| Dupre | Cpl | W Sup | 8962 |
| Perkins | Cpl | EME | 8536 |
| Cutland | Capt | W Comd | 8111 |
| Dupuis | CWO | W Comd | 8298 |
| Howard | Lt | W Per O | 8542 |
| Traynor | Capt | 407 | 8805 |
| Cook | Sgt | 407 | 8604 |
| Combe | Capt | 442 | 8116/8335 |
| Travis | Lt | 19 AMS | 8484 |
| Waters | Sgt | W Ops | 8242 |
| Piercey | MCpl | MPs | 8236 |
| Ulm | Sgt | PSS | 8370 |
| Conway | Cpl | ARAF | 8357 |
| Heath | WO | 740 Comm | |
| Piccard | Cpl | CFSSAR | |
| McMahon | Civ | MFRC | 8340 |