



TOTEM TIMES

19 Wing CFB Comox

THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 1999

Comox Valley's Longest Running Newspaper

VOL. 41 NO. 20



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Fundraisers for Blind Children



Cpl Brad Wallman and Cpl Ed Everest kick off the Millennium Box Lunch fundraiser.

By MWO Baye

The Christmas Tree of Lights campaign is in support of the Military Police Fund for Blind Children, which is the only registered charity in the CF, and something which we are all very proud of. Each donation made illuminates one light on the tree, erected north of the Main Gate. Our goal is to have all the lights glowing by Christmas Day. Donations may be made to the MP Guardhouse (receipt issued upon request). Over the past eight years this campaign has raised over \$10,000 for the fund.

On 1 December, for a donation of \$6.00, Base personnel were presented with a delicious Millennium Box Lunch. This event proved very popular and raised over \$1,000 for the Blind Fund.

Photos by Wing Imaging



The staff at Totem times would like to thank everyone for their support and input throughout 1999.

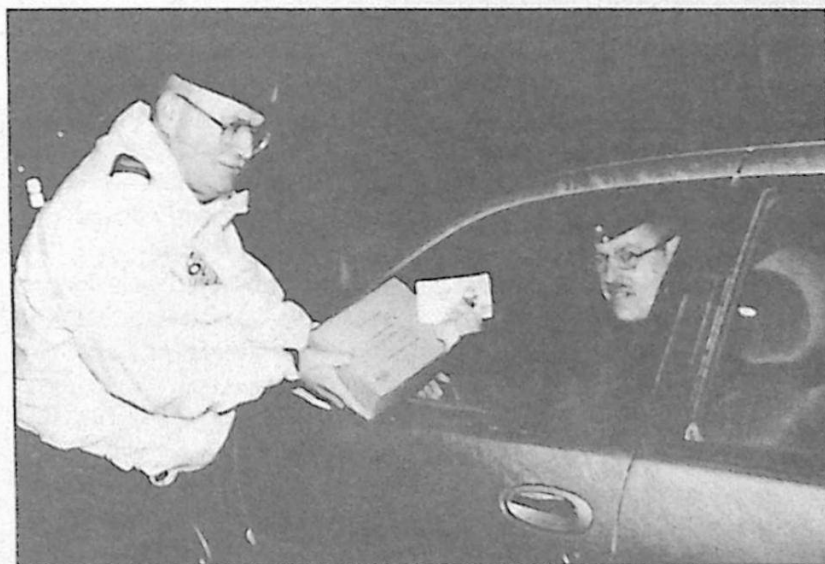
Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Jessica Cabot was thrilled to try out her new talking computer with a braille keyboard while her sister looked on.



WComd Col W.J. Neumann presided over the Christmas Tree of Light light-up ceremony. On hand for the event were Mrs. Cabot with Jessica and Erica, Cpl Everest, MWO Baye and Santa.



CWO Dupuis receives his box lunch from MWO Baye.



Bob Koester
335-0707



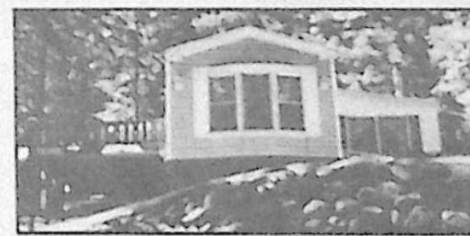
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Y2K Preparations

GENERAL

While the Canadian Government has declared that there is minimal risk of a Y2K related problem in Canada, Federal Departments including DND/CF must be prepared to respond to any emergency. Personnel preparation for potential Y2K problems is no different than preparing for other civil emergencies that may happen at any time. To assist our personnel with their personal preparation for the Millennium rollover, DND is distributing a booklet entitled "Emergency Preparedness Starts With You." This guide, in fact, is designed to assist families for any emergency situation, including storms, floods, power outages and so on. It also contains useful checklists as well as address and telephone information for all provincial/territorial Emergency Measures Organizations. All families should undertake reasonable planning measures to ensure that a degree of self-sufficiency is possible for a few days (i.e. water, food, blankets, cash for a few days, gas in the car, etc).

LOCAL

Wings, in conjunction with local Family Resource Centres, have been specifically mandated to provide

assistance to those family members of deployed personnel as well as those assigned to essential duties. Emergency accommodations/quarters on the Wing have been identified should a need arise to house dependants and emergency feeding arrangements have been planned.

While the Family Resource Centre will be closed between 1200 hours, 31 Dec 99 and 0700 hrs, 4 Jan 00, provisions have been put in place to have childcare services on call during this period. This is designed to address scenarios where a military single parent/ Married Service Couple assigned to essential duties require childcare services on short notice over the timeframe above. Military members are strongly encouraged to identify a childcare plan ahead of time; however, the MFRC emergency option will be available should the situation exist. Personnel anticipating the need to draw on this service are requested to contact the CMFRC prior to Christmas and discuss their circumstances with the staff.

The CMFRC/Deployment Support Program has arranged a free information evening (16 Dec) on Emergency Preparedness ap-

plicable for any kind of emergency. This session is for family members of deployed personnel, CMFRC/ Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre Staff, volunteers, and Wallace Gardens Community Association members. Call the MFRC for more information and details.

Residents of MQs and personnel residing in the local community should undertake personal family preparations as the general populace is encouraged to do, ensuring that they have a small quantity of basic staples on hand. Should any service disruptions arise in the MQ area, residents will be informed of the status through CFHA, WCE or WGCA means. Personnel in the local community should familiarize themselves with community plans. The Comox Valley Emergency Preparedness (CVEP) Agency has a Y2K System Failure plan in place that covers the establishment of emergency shelter facilities in schools and recreation centres to address any contingencies that may arise.

A more detailed information sheet will be provided to each service member along with a copy of the "Emergency Preparedness Starts With You" pamphlet by mid-December.



Cpl Fran Oliver was recently presented with her CD by LCpl Mike Spooner, W Admin O.

That we may learn how to save lives

The continuing story of SAR Course #34

By Cpl D.M. Lecompte

We are now on the threshold of completing the halfway point of arguably, the hardest psychological portion of the SAR Tech Course, Medical Phase. The information comes at a pace that has been compared to drinking out of a firehose. (More like, trying to take a swig out of Niagara Falls). The days may be long, the nights sometimes even longer, and most of the weekends consist of a barrage of home studies, questioning and medical scenario simulations, and we wouldn't have it any other way.

Over the week of 23-26 November, we found ourselves in Victoria riding Code 3 (lights and sirens) in the back of ambulances to learn from and, when the opportunity arose, aid the paramedics. It was an irreplaceable learning experience, with calls ranging from heroin overdoses to motor vehicle accidents.

But, as Sgt. Oakes inevitably says to us daily, "There always has to be a First," and for all the

"WANNABEES" of 9901 (CRSE 34) it was a first.

Overall, it was a very positive learning experience for all of us, and we wish to thank the paramedics and hospital staff (At Victoria General and Jubilee), for entertaining our questions and educating us. And, of course, the school staff and paramedic, Gord Galloway, for making it possible.

We are back at CFSSAR now, learning the finest techniques on becoming human pincushions, and dreading the ominous Anatomy and Physiology exam.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our very sincere condolences to a member of the team whose father passed away during the week, while we were in Victoria. We're always here for you.

Well that about wraps it up from us "WANNABES". So, from us to you, have an incredible Christmas, and a great Y2K!

That Others May Live. RESCUE!

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Advertising: 12 Jan.

Articles: 14 Jan. noon



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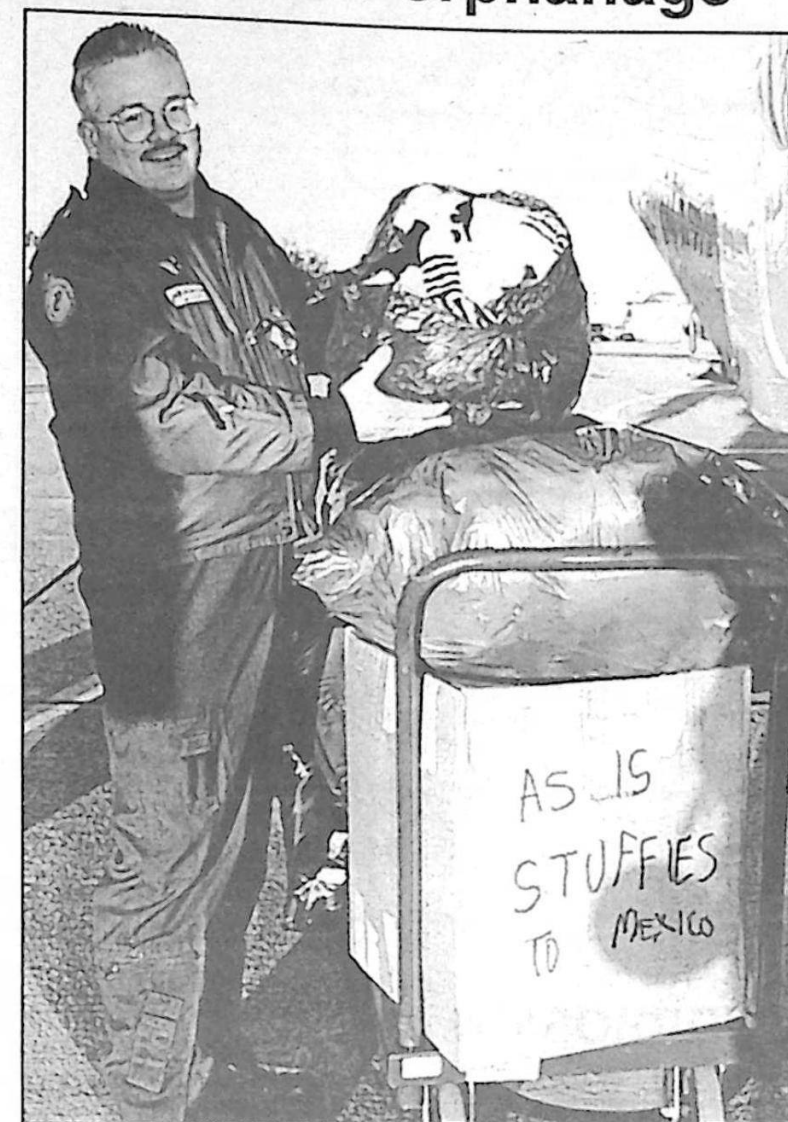
Network Website at www.cmre.com

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New Homes by "Caraco"

For a complete information package of new homes being built in Greenwood Park, minutes from CFB Kingston and RMC, see the whole package at www.c21wyld.com

442 Buff crew help Mexican orphanage



On November 25 a search and rescue Buffalo aircraft from 19 Wing Comox left with a plane load of humanitarian supplies for an orphanage in Villa Juarez, Mexico. The 4000 lbs. of supplies, collected and donated by the residents of Texada Island, B.C., included wheelchairs, hospital beds, an X-ray unit and children's clothing.

"We're really glad we can help out the orphanage, particularly so close to Christmas," said LCpl Grant Smith, Commander of 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron. "We have to do long-range training missions anyway, so being able to support such a worthwhile cause at the same time is a bonus for everyone involved."

442 Squadron has delivered supplies to the orphanage on three previous occasions, assisting the Texada Island ground SAR volunteers, who spearhead the charity drive.

"An effort like this brings people together, both on Texada Island and in the SAR community," said Jean-Guy Meunier, Texada Island ground SAR president. "It's nice to know we and 442 Squadron can help save lives in more ways than one."

The orphanage is located near Obregon City, Mexico. It receives sponsorship from the Mexican Children's Relief Fund.

CANEX News

Once again the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season is upon us. I'm not quite sure how it happened, but it seems to have come around again incredibly fast.

Trish can see clearly now since she had laser eye surgery. She now has better than 20/20 vision. She's amazed at all the things she can actually see now.

Best wishes go out to Sue for a great year as she celebrates another birthday.

Help us welcome Joe and Julie, our newest staff members. It's good to have you on board!

Donna went off briefly to see if

the grass was greener on the other side. Luckily for us it wasn't. We like to think that she simply could not resist our charm! Nevertheless, it's nice to have her remain on staff.

Santa arrived December 1. He will be here every Wednesday evening from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. through to December 22. Come in and have your children's picture taken for a small fee and for a chance to win a free movie. Just be the lucky number of the day to have your picture taken and win. It's that easy. Pets are welcome on Wednesday evenings, but they

must be on a leash.

Test your Christmas knowledge by taking our Trivia quiz. Pick up an entry and have your children draw a picture. Buy \$50 or \$25 worth of merchandise (excluding tobacco and lottery) and enter to win great prizes.

Don't forget to come and take advantage of our Deferred Payment Credit Plan. Don't pay anything until March 2000. As always, never any interest or processing fees.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon at CANEX.

Give to the Salvation Army

Donations are being collected in appropriate boxes located at the CANEX, the 7 Hangar breezeway west entrance and at 442 Sqn on the hangar floor near the squadron canteen. The boxes will be in place until 17 December. All donations will be delivered to the Salvation Army for distribution prior to Christmas. Join in and give to the less fortunate.

Best Christmas wishes to all.



Please note our store hours for the holiday season:

Dec 20-23	0700-2100 hrs.
Dec 24	0900-1800 hrs.
Dec 25	CLOSED
Dec 26	1100-1800 hrs.
Dec 27-30	0700-2100 hrs.
Dec 31	0900-1800 hrs.
Jan 01	1100-1800 hrs.
Jan 3-7	0700-2100 hrs.
Jan 8-9	0900-2100 hrs.

Win Five Video Rentals for playing

CANEX TRIVIA

When was the name CANEX introduced?

- A. 1965
- B. 1967
- C. 1972

When was 19 Air Maintenance Squadron established?

- A. May 1990
- B. April 1993
- C. June 1995

Which squadron flew an aircraft that had both radial and jet engines?

- A. 407 Sqn.
- B. 444 Sqn.
- C. 421 Sqn.

Who is the Chief of the Air Staff?

- A. BGen J.M. Comtois
- B. MGen P.E. Gartenburg
- C. LGen D.N. Kinsman

All of the answers can be found at www.airforce.dnd.ca

Name
Phone #.....
To enter: Drop off your completed trivia sheet at the Canex Customer Service Desk. A winner with the correct answers will be drawn from all of the entries received. The Draw will take place on Friday, January 14. The winner's name will be published in the next issue of the Totem Times.

Winner of last Canex Trivia is Derek Amos. Please see CANEX Manager for your prize.

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Merry Christmas Comox Valley



I almost missed it. While looking for suitable material in the Rowe Library for a Christmas edition of the Totem Times Heritage Page, I was busy looking through the London Illustrated News for wartime pictures of Canadians flying for the Royal Flying Corps. My thoughts being related to Christmas at the Front, or some such other theme as would hopefully leap from the pages.

Frustrated by the preponderance of army photos, I turned instead to the '49 Christmas issue of Roundel — and there it was. The 60th anniversary of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, and the Canadian government's Christmas gift to the Comox Valley. For had it not been for the signing of this historic agreement on 17 December 1939, there would likely never have been an Air Force base built here, and officially assumed by the Royal Canadian Air Force on 1 May 1943.

Love it or hate it, Canadian Forces Base Comox has had a profound impact on the lives of everybody in the Comox Valley. From its economic input to the vast numbers of serving members who have passed through, and some even retire in, the area, it has shaped the development and social climate of the valley. And it all began with the signing of the Training Plan agreement on 17 December 1939.

Merry Christmas Comox Valley. It's the gift that just keeps on giving.

Joel Clarkston

(For more information on the 60th anniversary of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, see page 16, Heritage.)



Col Chris Hadfield to spacewalk



(Photo: MCpl Ken Allen.)

Col Chris Hadfield looks to the stars during training aboard one of NASA's shuttle simulators. Col Hadfield, a CF-18 fighter pilot, will fly to space on STS-100 in late 2000.

Some of the highlights from this mission will be the delivery and installation of the new Canadian Robot Arm and Col Hadfield's walk into space. This will make Col Hadfield the first Canadian to ever leave a spacecraft and float free in space.

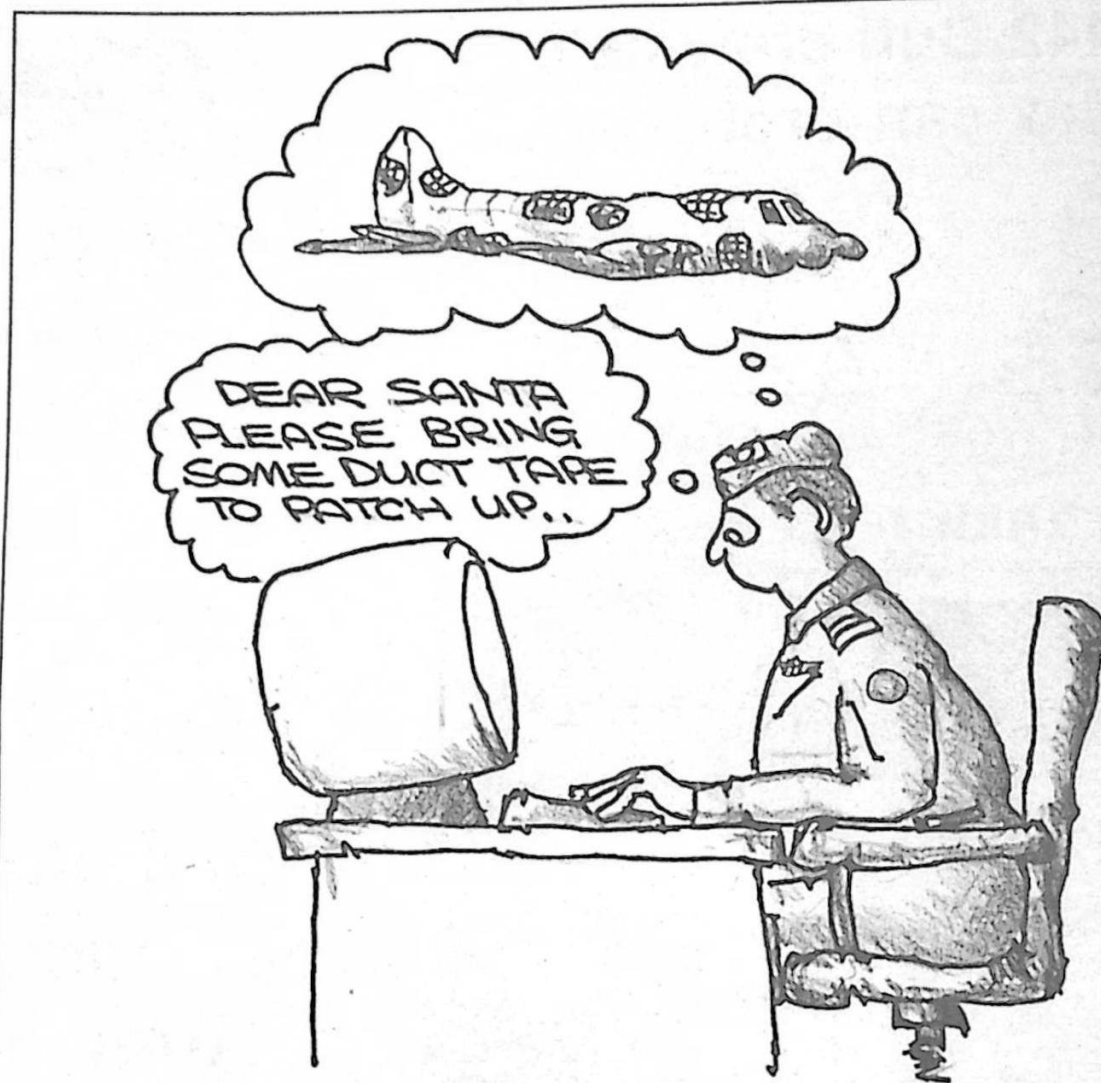


Weather

November was slightly warmer, but wetter than the monthly average. The total hours of bright sunshine (54.4 hrs.) was below average. Recorded 20 days with winds of 16 knots or greater.

Highest monthly temperature	12.1°C
Lowest monthly temperature	-1.4°C
Total monthly rainfall	251.0 mm
Average monthly rainfall	184.5 mm
No. of days with 0.2 mm or more rainfall	22

For public forecast with 3-day outlook phone 339-5044



JUST A LITTLE CORROSION

Interim Report on Quality of Life in the Canadian Forces issued

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister of National Defence, recently presented an interim progress report on Quality of Life initiatives in the Canadian Forces to the Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs. The Minister received the report from General Maurice Baril, Chief of the Defence Staff.

"Improving the quality of life for CF members and their families has been my top priority for the past two years," said Minister Eggleton. "We have accomplished much since the Government tabled its response to the Quality of Life report in October last year. Twenty-four of the Committee's recommendations have already been completed and we are making progress on implementing the others," he added.

The report details the progress to date on each of the Committee's 89 recommendations. Major gains have been made in the areas of compensation, providing services to families of deployed members, and providing care and treatment to CF members with mental health concerns such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

The Project Management Office for Quality of Life continues to work toward implementing all of the Committee's recommendations by the summer of 2001. Efforts continue to obtain funding for the three major unfunded initiatives: establishing a military post-living differential, the future of the Canadian Forces Housing Agency (CFHA), and establishing a pension plan for Reserve Force members.

New Year's Day Levees

As part of 19 Wing's traditional New Year's Day celebrations, the Officers' Mess and the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess will host New Year's Day Levees.

Timings:

Officers' Mess 1000 - 1200 hrs.
WOs' & Sgts' Mess 1030 - 1230 hrs.

Dress:

Military members, DEU 1A (with medals).
Civilians, semi-formal (jacket and tie).



Next deadlines
Advertising: 12 Jan.
Articles: 14 Jan. Noon



EDITOR IN CHIEF
Major Joel Clarkston

CARTOONIST
Gord Hatch

TYPESETTER/BOOKKEEPER
Jenny Cooper

PRODUCTION STAFF
Cpl C. Schofield
MCpl Brenda Trombley
Tina Matchett-Bianco

CIRCULATION
Jenny Cooper

ADVERTISING
(250) 339-2541

PHONE: (250) 339-2541
FAX: (250) 339-5209
E-MAIL:
totemtimes@comox.dnd.ca

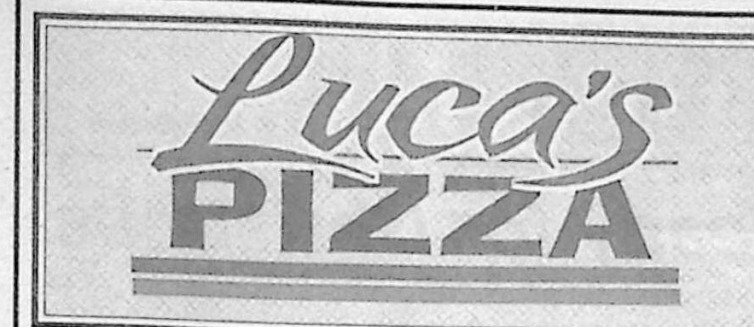
Address Correspondence to:
The Editor, Totem Times
CFB Comox, Lazo, B.C.
V0R 2K0

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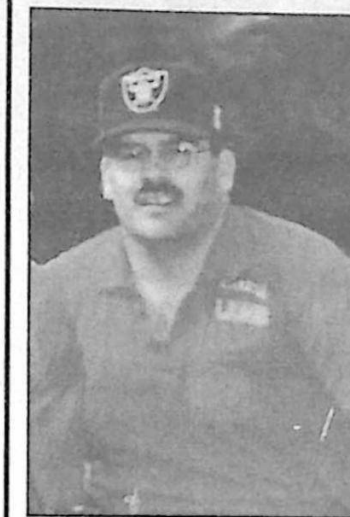
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Proudly sponsors the

Military Community Volunteer Award



Rick Levigne
the recipient of this edition's award, for his outstanding commitment to the C.V. Raiders Football Club

The Comox Valley Raiders Football Club is proud to nominate Rick Levigne for the Military Community Volunteer Award. Cpl Rick Levigne is an Aviation Technician stationed with 442 Search and Rescue Squadron.

Rick has been a positive role model for all of the youth involved in our community football program. He has been actively involved in coaching and coordinating our successful Junior Bantam football program for the past several years.

The Military Community Volunteer Award is open to any member of the military or civilian employee, their spouses and dependents. Submissions: Nominees for the Award should include a photograph and writeup. Please drop off all entries at the Totem Times Office. Prize: The winner receives a medium pizza, courtesy of Luca's Pizza.

LUCA'S PIZZA

890-0092

Home of Sunday Madness

45-A, 190 Port Augusta, Comox
(outside the lower level of the Comox Mall)



Recently the Wing Commander cut the ribbon starting 19 Wing's participation in the National Safe Driving Week campaign. (Even an accident victim was on hand for the opening.)



Capt. Raby (WTNO) and PO1 Mackay (Marine Superintendent) present Master Seaman Robert Hutton with his new rank.



By MCpl K.E. LeBlanc

Cops Corner



Can anyone out there please tell me where the year has gone? I personally find it hard to believe that Christmas is almost upon us once again. The reality is, however, that it is almost upon us. With that in mind, on behalf of the 19 Wing Military Police Flight, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and all the best in the new millennium (technically not until 2001, I realize, but I've always been one to follow the crowd!)

As always, along with Santa Claus, the family gatherings, and the gifts, the holiday season also brings with it a number of opportunities to partake of seasonal merriment. Add to this the increased celebrations for the end of the century/millennium, and the merriment will probably be increased exponentially. As a result we would like to stress the importance of not taking this merriment behind the wheel of your vehicle.

Every year in BC, as in most provinces, law enforcement agencies will be stepping up their roadside checks in order to identify impaired drivers. In the very near future we will begin to see an increased presence of law enforcement agencies, including the SAMP Flt, on our roadways. We will be checking vehicles in support of this seasonal Counter Attack program. So please, don't drink and drive.

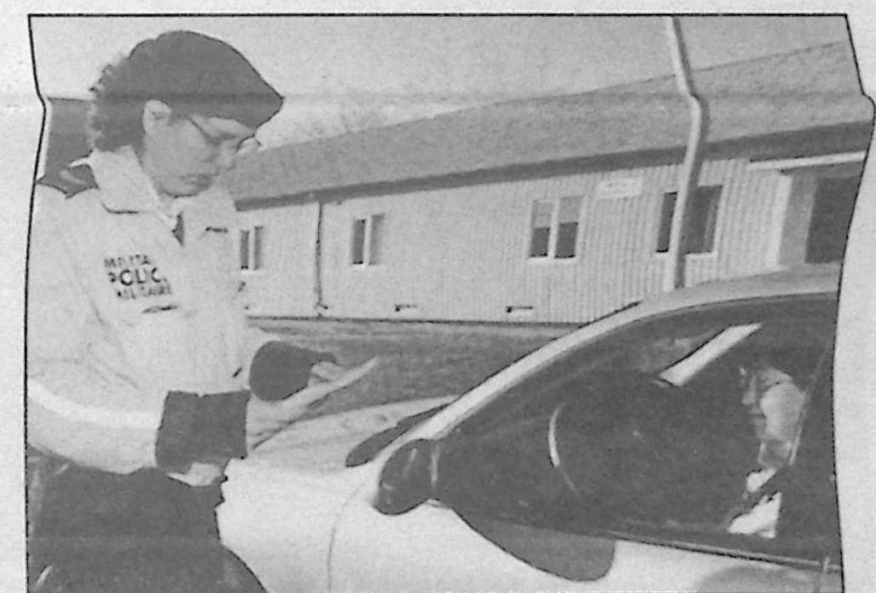
As you travel to and from the Wing you will start seeing our own "Christmas light display" from our patrol vehicles. Occasionally, depending on the amount of traffic, this will result in a short wait while attempting to either enter or exit the Wing. We would ask everyone to be patient during this campaign, and hope that you will keep in mind that these checks are conducted so that we may keep the roads safe for all of its users this holiday season.

I would also like to take this opportunity to explain a portion of the Graduated Licensing system for the new drivers amongst us this year. With this new system in BC, the law states that a new driver may not operate a vehicle with more than 3mgs of alcohol in 100ml of blood (approximately one beer). If a driver has a higher blood alcohol level than that, his/her license will be suspended for a period of 12 hours. Should their blood alcohol level be between 5mgs and 8mgs in 100mls of blood (at which time it becomes a criminal offence), then they will be issued a 24-hour driving prohibition. This prohibition is the same for all drivers on BC roadways.

Once again, we hope that everyone will have a very happy and safe holiday season. Should you have any questions regarding the Counter Attack program, or any other matters which you would like to see as the basis of an article in this paper, please contact myself or any of our members at 339-8218.

Winners of the Millennium Box Lunch draw

Frank Russo, Dave Zdrill
Dan Gagnon, Larry Cooper
L. Janssen, L. Sabiston
Col Neumann, D'Arcy Giguere
Cuerrier, Claude Laroque
Joseph Morin, Dan Carroll
Dan Gagnon, Hildebrandt
Prizes can be picked up at the TOTEMTIMES OFFICE
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Mon-Fri



Light a Bulb on the "Tree of Hope", with every donation. Put opportunity into the hands of a Blind Child this Christmas. As donations are received, a respective number of lights will be lit, on the Christmas Tree at the Main Gate. Donation boxes located at CANEX, Main Gate, SAMP Flt, JR Mess, Sgt & WO Mess and Officer's Mess.

Military Police Fund for Blind Children



WCEO, Maj Wayne Gauthier with the CE beaver mascot.

"For Construction Engineering Flight of 19 Wing, 1999 proved an exceptionally busy and challenging year. You all know how much your efforts were appreciated. I've made no secret of my pride in all of you. You showed that we are a team. You showed what CE is all about.

"Well into the new millennium, your completed projects will remain a legacy to those who may follow. When you pass the Arena, the new Rec Centre, the motel-type single quarters, the new Con-

To you and your kin...!

trol Tower – any of a number of projects, large or small, you may justifiably feel a certain pride. You were part of the team that had a hand in all of these. You yourself may have played a major role.

"But CE consists not only of Ops. My thanks go also to the dedicated and hard-working people at W Firehall's Crash, Fire and Rescue Flight. Not to be forgotten is their quick response to the PMQ fire, and the fuel truck explosion and fire at the tank farm – responses that prevented much worse calamities. The Airfield Engineering Flight is also owed my gratitude, having shown its mettle on several occasions, notably while deployed to Bosnia where they won the Patton-Cunnington Airfield Engineer Trophy 1998/99, but also while on well-conducted exercises at Jarvis Lake, Cold Lake and California. In addition, one-third of the AEF strength at any given time was deployed overseas. Yet, AEF shared the labours at the Arena, the single quarters – and elsewhere

– with Ops.

"During this Christmas season we will be thinking of our fire-fighters currently in Moosejaw, Sgt Denis Lareau, Cpls Donald Martel and Greg Geldart, and also those who will be leaving mid-December for Ops Kinetic (Kosovo), Cpls Doug Bettesworth and Gary Weatherhead, and MCpl Michel Forget to Bosnia.

"Our thoughts will go to Cpl Pat Norwood of the AEF who is also in Kosovo, to Sgt Gary Rouzes in Bosnia, to MCpl Mark Benjamin in Golan, Sgt Mario Pelchat in Aviano, Italy, MCpl Paul Kombargi in Alert and Cpl Mike Burton, now in Kosovo.

"Wherever they are, I wish all our tasked personnel as much peace and joy as possible.

"My wife Brenda and I wish all of you within Construction Engineering, and everyone in 19 Wing Comox, a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – and a heartfelt hope that for us all year 2000 may prove one of prosperity, compassion and peace."

Finn bits.....

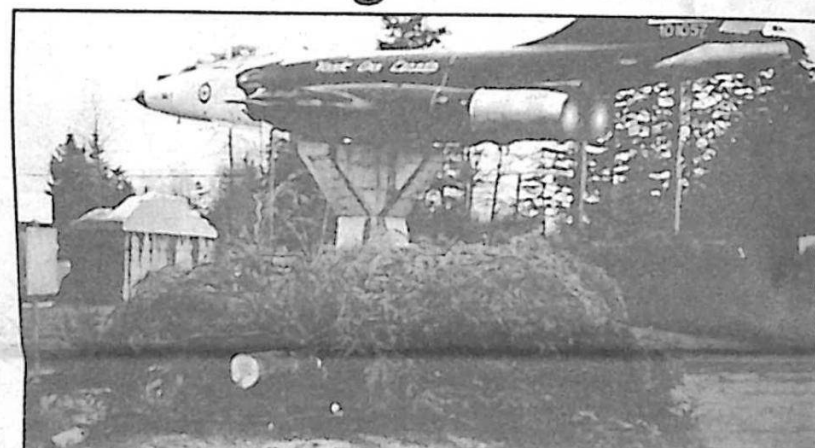
Ready for Christmas

The Catholic chapel is located next to CE's main building, and CE has been busy carrying out renovations in various areas of the church. A joint effort between CE Ops and AEF, the work has progressed well and will be completed well in time for the high holy days of Christmas.



Plumber Steve Jones, CE's Plumbing and Heating Shop, makes preparations to install a new double-sink in the sacristy. Cpl Wally Saigeon, AEF, makes the second member of the plumbing crew.

Nothing so bad...



Visible, X-mas tree and Voodoo both-but maybe not quite the way we want.

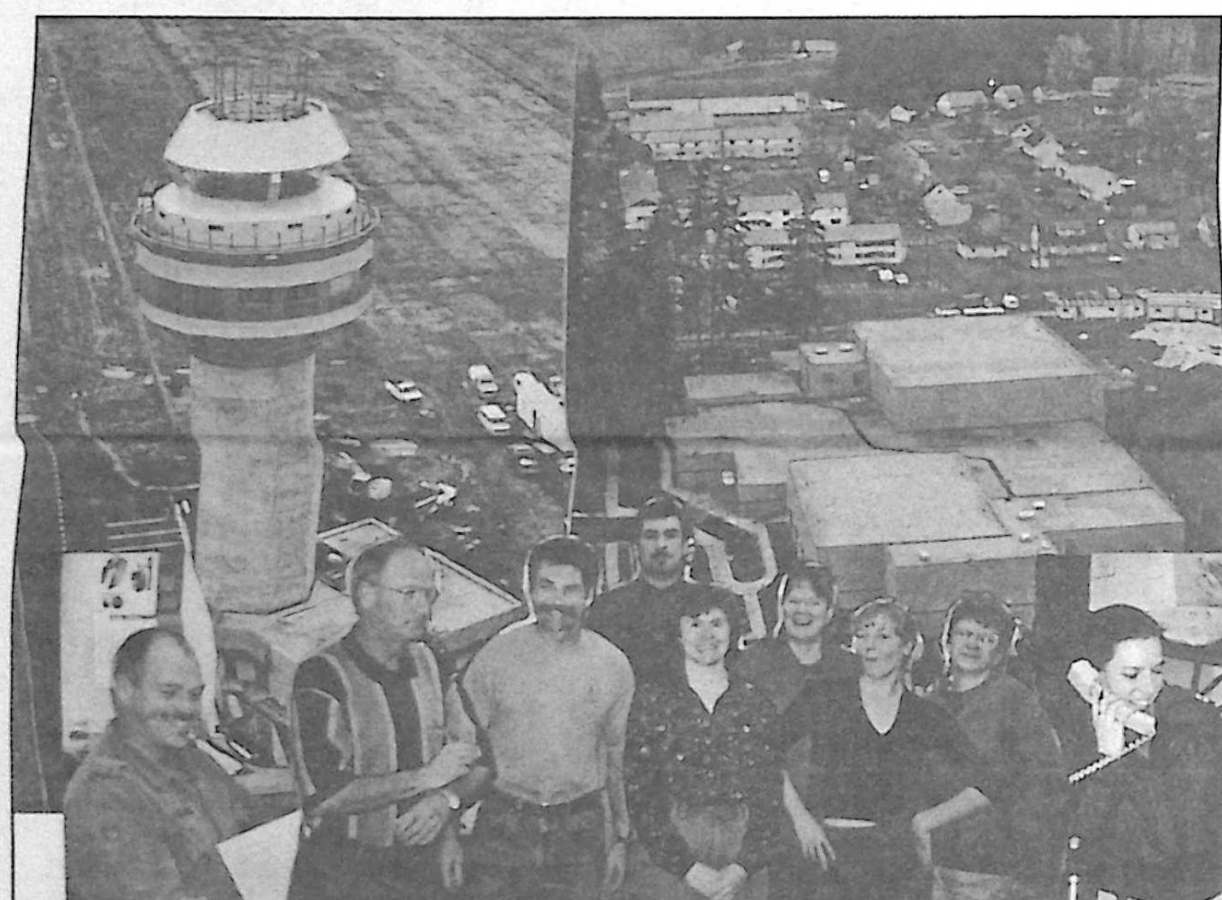
A Japanese Haiku reads,
When my house burned down
I was able again to see
The moon shine brightly.

For a while after this year's Base Christmas tree was blown over by a strong wind Saturday night, it was possible once again to see the Voodoo jet fighter atop its pedestal.

There are *always* silver linings. This year's tree is exceptionally nice, and as soon as it was humanly possible, it was restored to

its rightful place of glory, CE's Airfields & Works being in charge of both operations – original and restorative. The tree this year is also bigger than usual, and that may have contributed to its downfall – a first. Year after year, extreme gusts off the Strait, unimpeded by woods or buildings, wreak havoc with either the tree itself or its strings of lights. Nature will have her way, and that pretty much says all.

Nothing wrong with reminders.



(Background): The new control tower and recreation centre. (Foreground): Members of CE's Design Support Team, instrumental in the success of the projects - Al Donovan, Randy Stevens, James Dykau (Tm Ldr), Karen Hoover, Sabre Anderson, Kaitha Racicot and Joanne Landine, flanked (L) by WO Owen Blake, FDO, and (R) by Capt Katy Phelan, CE Ops O. (Aerial photos by Cpl Doug Desrochers, WImaging.)

The best of times, the worst...

As we gather to celebrate Christmas, within the warm embrace of family and friends, it does no harm to remember that for many people Christmas may not always be such a joyous occasion. Even if by appearance we judge otherwise.

Certain situations lend themselves to a non-traditional Christmas – but even at the worst of times, we try to make the best of it.

Sick in Nova Scotia

Norma Hanson,
CE Works Control

"While a kid, I spent a Christmas in hospital, and not with some trivial illness, either. I had been struck with polio during the epidemic and as a matter of fact, I escaped the iron lung just in time for Christmas. Actually, the Christmas didn't turn out too bad – except that the nurse took away my candies. She did so when find-

ing out that I was sharing the sweets with another patient, also a kid, who wasn't supposed to eat that sort of thing.

"We were lucky in that the two of us shared a room rather than being on the ward. It wasn't a fun Christmas. Still, my family was there, and I got gifts – I actually felt quite spoiled! – and eventually I got better, so the ending was a lot brighter than the beginning.

"But certainly, it is not the sort of Christmas one forgets."

Bored in Bosnia

Sgt Jim May, CE Trg O

"Having a one-foot Christmas tree atop a TV set is not exactly like the tree you'd like to have. But I was in Bosnia – a camp called Zgon – and that pretty much describes last year's Christmas for me. Oh, sure, we got parcels, and a fine Christmas dinner and all the rest – decorations, carols, what have you – but if it weren't for that

little tree my wife sent me, we might have had no tree at all.

"Christmas Day we had assorted sports events, but you know – it was as much to keep us occupied. You can't help miss the family and home, so you really just want to get through Christmas and come unscathed out into New Year. We were all pretty much in the same boat, but even so...sure you appreciate what is being done for you, and it wasn't a bad Christmas as such, but you know what I mean – Christmas away from your loved ones can never be a *real* Christmas."

Hot in Haiti

WO Owen Blake, CE FDO

"Being with AEF in Haiti over Christmas was not by itself the worst part. Being away from home a second year in a row, was. My previous Christmas had been celebrated in Israel. My wife Gerry did not take kindly to a double

absence. Nor, of course, was I overly thrilled. But there I was, in T-shirt and 30 degree weather, serving Christmas dinner for the junior ranks. I must say, the meal was sumptuous.

"We were half a dozen guys in our modular tent, sitting around a little plastic tree my wife had sent, and thank God for that! But a different Christmas, for sure.

"I must say, though, that I wasn't without family, for my brother Kevin, who's a corporal with 19 W Tn, was also stationed in Haiti. And from our father we each received a parcel with carefully selected presents and goodies, and that went a long way to cheer us up.

"It wasn't too bad a Christmas but believe me – this year, Christmas will be celebrated at home!"

Cold in Montana

Elaine Holoshka, CE Adm Co-ord

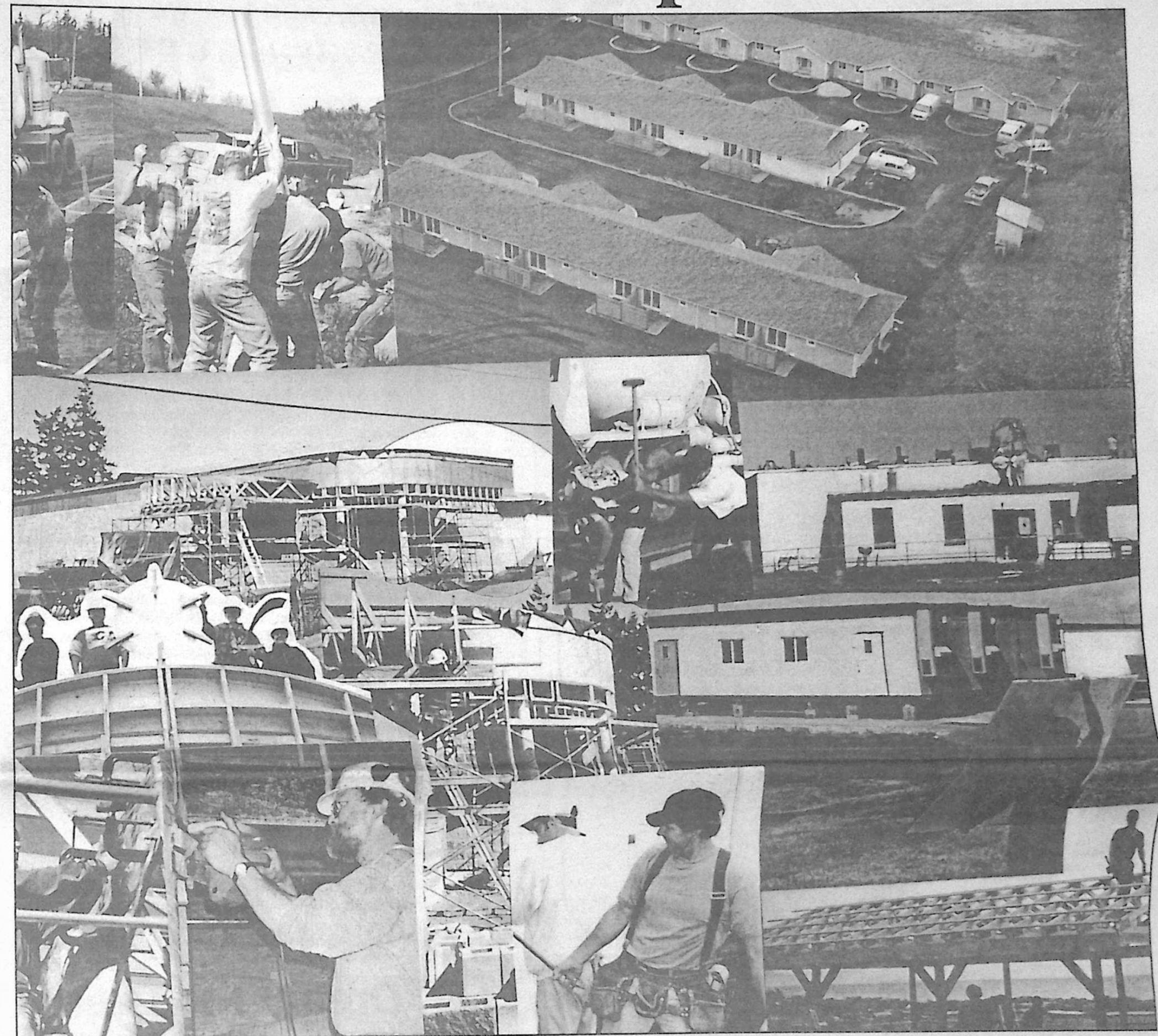
"Christmas in Whitefish, Mon-

tana, must be amongst the coldest I ever experienced. We came down to celebrate Christmas with my in-laws, and to ski. That there were no line-ups by the life on the hill gave us the first hint. We skied anyway, but had to keep jumping up and down to keep from freezing. Our faces froze even though we were the so-called Gaiter masks.

"Another little thing that Christmas – oh, ten years or so ago – we were supposed to bring poultry seasoning for the turkey. Instead, I had brought cinnamon spice! Fortunately, I also brought down a well-spiced type of pita bread, so we used that for stuffing instead. What with the cold, the skiing didn't quite work out, and initially the cinnamon caper was a disappointment. But, in fact, it was the best stuffing I ever tasted.

"Always silver lining, you know. Turned out to be a pretty good Christmas after all."

A CE retrospective



Some of the many projects, big and small, carried out by CE personnel during 1999, the efforts of the Flight being characterized as "ingenious" and "Herculean" by WComd Col Bill Neumann.

Christmas mush masks real message

Christmas: Jolly Santas, neutered angel babies, elves – cuter than curls – reindeer, nativity scenes – sweeter than home – stars, bright or multitudinous, gingerbread men, glass baubles, fake snow, boxes gift-wrapped, boxes gift wrapped... the profit-producing mush selling Christmas, an occasion the substance of which *should* be profound, realistic, and cause for reflection.

For a military community, Xmas is wrapped as much in history as in faith. Before the advent of Christmas, we celebrated the Saturnalia, or the Winter Solstice, or, by any other name, the shortest, darkest day of the year. The military community for centuries maintained Christianity, or at least the creed and virtues that Faith represented.

The Code of Hammurabi preceded the Ten Commandments by more than a thousand years. Love one another, the biblical injunction of care and hope, was written by a Greek 500 years earlier: "Every heart desires not to stray from the right moment but to have power to win the nobler loves..." (Pindar's Odes)

A comparable number of years after the birth of Jesus, Pope Boniface anointed Pepin the Short King of the Franks, unexpectedly inserting the words, "Deia Gratia – by the grace of God," thus turning the king into The Lord's Appointed, an appellation that lasted for the next 1500 years. In return, King Pepin made two military expeditions to aid the pope fighting his enemies. A pattern was set. He Christian military community now fought religious wars.

Exactly 1200 years ago, December 799, Pope Leo III, having been left for dead after an attack in the streets of Rome but managing somehow to survive and escape, was brought back to his Lateran Palace by another Frankish king, Charles. A year later, on Christmas Day, Charles – whom we today know as Charlemagne –

by the pope was awarded the title, Emperor of the Romans. Years later, another pope, Leo VIII, when sorely beset by enemies, turned to Otto, a German chieftain, later to become known as Emperor Otto the Great. By the gratitude of the pope, the former chieftain ended up as the first head of the Holy Roman Empire, an entity to endure for centuries.

Wars were no less horrific then than they are today. The 30-year War destroyed 18,000 towns in greater Germany, of 36,000 villages only 6,00 were left intact. The 46th Psalm many a time proved only too true: "Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolation He has made on earth." (King James version.)

What needs to be remembered is that popes, emperors and plain fighting men were not so different from the mix of people today. All ages and times overlap, and the ideas of succeeding generations play tag with each other. We, like past generations, wish with Pindar

"The heart... to have the power to win the nobler loves."

The New Testament, dedicated to the life of Jesus, iterates the great moral lessons of compassion, charity and forgiveness. It also sets forth the precepts of justice and peace. "Peace on Earth and good will towards all." Converting from a barbarian past of brute force, the military community took note. A new breed of soldier arose. The knighthood, or Chivalry, was born.

Its principles in large measure form the basis of today's military community.

Much was made of *Service*, of *Loyalty to duty*, the latter being the chief virtue of the fighting man. The young knight promised to be generous to those whose need was greater than his own. He pledged to be humble in his personal behaviour, and not to boast of his military accomplishments. He undertook to be a friend of all who suffered. He vowed to carry himself with dignity, speak careful and gracious words.

Chivalry came to mean competence, courage and courtesy. One cannot help but think of Canadian Peacekeepers who display the same traits. When we look away from the mush surrounding Christmas, loyalty to duty in the service of "justice and peace, compassion and charity" perhaps constitutes the real Christmas message. When that more palatable part of the 46th Psalm prevails,

*He breaketh the bow and
Cuteth the spear asunder.
He burneth the chariot in the
fire,
then, for the men and women of
the military community especially,
Christmas does not mean a
clutter of toys, but "Peace on
Earth" – with which Christmas
takes on the meaning of life itself.*

No duty more noble than that of maintaining peace.



WComd's Christmas Message

Season's Greetings to one and all!

I sincerely hope that you have the opportunity for family reunification and a truly joyous season. Whatever your plans are for this festive season, you should take your rest in the knowledge that you have earned a break from the pace of work at 19 Wing.

19 Wing can look back with pride on all of your accomplishments in 1999. Over the past year you have attained an excellent flight and general safety record; flown or supported many successful hours protecting our sovereignty (migrant ships come to mind!), providing combat support to our forces and allies, or saving lives in the conduct of Search and Rescue Operations. You promoted Canada's Air Force and 75th Anniversary with a very successful air show, which spoke volumes to the local communities of what exactly we do here. Throughout it all, professionalism, dedication, and the fortitude to get the job done prevailed. Indeed, you demonstrated the spirit of cooperation, teamwork and excellence that makes 19 Wing the place to be in our Air Force!

I also am fully aware that this past year has been challenging and stressful for all military and civilian members of the Canadian Forces. Continuous change, AVN technician reductions, the DPG 2000 decision to mothball the T-33 fleet, and the decision to have contractor maintenance on the Cormorant, have been major issues on our mind. I am, however, becoming increasingly more confident that we are turning the corner. Within the past year many SCNDVA recommendations have been implemented, including a substantial pay raise, as well as several programs that have enhanced the quality of life of every CF member and his/her family. We at 19 Wing are blessed with a very supportive local community and clearly defined missions with tangible benefits to Canada. The combination of these factors warrants an optimistic outlook on behalf of all of us.

My family and I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May the holiday season be a safe and joyous one for you and your family. Let me close by asking you to join with me in offering our prayers and wishes to members of our military family who will be away from home and loved ones this holiday season.

Colonel W.J. Neumann

Message de Noël pour 1999 du Commandant de l'Escadre Le Colonel W.J. Neumann

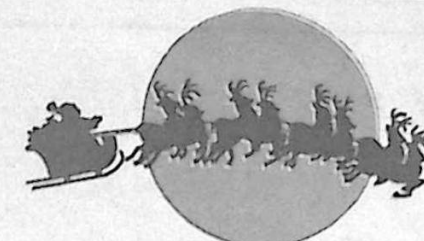


Mes meilleurs vœux à tous et à toutes! J'espère sincèrement que vous aurez la chance de vous réunir en famille et que vous passerez un très joyeux temps des fêtes. Quels que soient vos projets de festivités, vous devriez vous reposer l'esprit en paix, sachant que vous avez mérité cette pause, loin du temps de travail de la 19^e Escadre.

À la 19^e Escadre, nous pouvons être fiers de tout ce que nous avons accompli en 1999. Durant cette dernière année, nous avons maintenu un excellent dossier de sécurité, tant dans le domaine des vols que de la sécurité générale. Nous avons consacré de nombreuses heures d'opérations aériennes et d'opérations de soutien à protéger avec succès notre souveraineté (Pensons aux bateaux d'immigrants!), à fournir l'appui tactique à nos forces et à nos alliés, ou à sauver des vies lors des opérations de recherche et sauvetage que nous avons menées. Vous avez fait connaître l'Aviation canadienne en soulignant son 75^e anniversaire par un spectacle des plus réussis qui a permis de montrer aux collectivités locales ce que nous faisons exactement. Dans tous les cas, votre professionnalisme, votre dévouement et votre volonté de mener à bien votre travail ont prévalu. En effet, vous avez affiché un esprit de coopération, un esprit d'équipe et une excellence qui font de la 19^e Escadre la place de choix dans l'Aviation.

Je sais également que cette dernière année a été exigeante et stressante pour tous les militaires et le personnel civil des Forces canadiennes. Les changements continus, la réduction du nombre de techniciens en systèmes aéronautiques, la décision du GDP 2000 d'éliminer le parc de T-33, et la décision de recourir à des entrepreneurs pour la maintenance du Cormorant, voilà d'importantes questions qui ont occupé nos esprits. Toutefois, je suis de plus en plus convaincu que le pire est passé. Au cours de la dernière année, nous avons mis en œuvre bon nombre de recommandations formulées par le Comité permanent de la défense nationale et des anciens combattants, dont une augmentation salariale substantielle et la mise sur pied de plusieurs programmes qui ont permis d'améliorer la qualité de vie de chaque militaire et de sa famille. La 19^e Escadre bénéficie du soutien considérable de la collectivité locale et a le privilège de se voir confier des missions clairement définies qui procurent des bienfaits tangibles aux Canadiens et aux Canadiennes. Ces éléments réunis nous permettent à tous d'être optimistes à l'égard de ce qui nous attend.

Ma famille et moi désirons vous souhaiter à tous et à toutes un très joyeux Noël et vous offrir nos vœux de prospérité pour la nouvelle année. Que cette période des Fêtes se déroule dans la sécurité et dans la joie pour vous et votre famille. Permettez-moi de conclure en vous demandant de vous joindre à nous pour offrir nos prières et nos vœux aux membres de notre famille militaire que sont loin de leur foyer et des personnes qui leur sont chères en ce temps des Fêtes.



Visit NORAD's Santa Tracking Site this Christmas



Want to follow Santa Claus this year? You can soon see what the jolly old fellow is up during the last Christmas of the millennium by logging into NORAD's Santa Tracking Website at:

www.noradsanta.org

The site, which went on two years ago, was created by the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). It received over 28 million hits last year, and was considered to be world's most popular site last Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. It comes in five-languages and has won over 45 International Awards and has been featured on USA Today and ABC News.com.

IBM hosts it on the same infrastructure that hosted the Nagano 98 Olympics site. Over 80 volunteers work on the site from NORAD's Headquarters at Cheyenne Mountain. Last Christmas Eve, they answered over 7000 calls from children around the world.

How the NORAD Santa Tracking program got its start is like something out of the movies. Back in 1955, the then Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD) started receiving several calls from children on Christmas Eve. Apparently, a misprinted phone number in a local newspaper for a "Santa Hotline" inadvertently directed them to the "Combat Operations Hotline" at CONAD.

Col Harry Shoup started receiving the calls from children looking for Santa and he soon realized the mix-up. He didn't want to disappoint the children so he told them his staff could see Santa on their radarscopes. And so the Santa Tracking program began. NORAD has continued on with the Christmas Eve tradition ever since.

Santa's Work



Once again, the 19 Wing's Elves, Sgt Robichaud, Asst/WCWO (not in photo), Cpl Phelps and Cpl Campeau from the PSS sent 27 care packages to 19 Wing personnel who are presently serving on UN Peacekeeping missions abroad. These individuals will not be home for Christmas. Each package contained enough Comox Valley Christmas cheer to hopefully last them until their safe return.

Christmas Fire Safety

Natural Christmas Trees

Before buying a tree, test for freshness by tapping the base of the tree on the ground or pulling lightly on a limb. If many needles fall off, or needles can be easily pulled off, the tree is too dry.

Keep your tree as fresh as possible by placing the stump of the tree in a bucket of water out of doors until you are ready to decorate. Before setting up the tree inside the house, trim two inches off the stem diagonally so it can absorb water. Mount the tree securely in a large, wide based reservoir stand and add water each day to ensure the tree is well watered.

Choose a suitable location for your tree, ensuring that it is well away from heating sources and clear of all exits.

Artificial Trees

Though fireproof, metal or aluminum trees are electrical conductive and cannot be decorated with any electrical product. The metal can cause a short and a fire, or simply become "hot" or deliver a nasty shock. Aluminum trees can be illuminated by a colourful spotlight placed a safe distance from the tree, as set out in the manufacturer's instructions.

Decorations and Presents

Christmas wrapping and decorations can be highly combustible, and should be kept away from heat sources such as candles, lamps, heaters, fireplaces and woodburning stoves. Gift-wrap and boxes should be collected as soon as gifts are opened and discarded with the garbage or recycled where appropriate.



Indoor Lights and Electrical Decorations

Use only those lights that have been tested and labelled by an approved testing laboratory. Examine light strings, cords, plugs and receptacles before using. Discard any that have frayed cords, cracks in the lampholders, or loose connections.

Do not overload electrical circuits or extension cords, and follow instructions on cord labels regarding connecting light strings to extension cords.

Never place furniture or other objects over electrical cords and, in particular, never run electrical cords under a rug. With a rug covering a cord, any damage it may sustain can go unnoticed.

Always unplug the light string before attempting to replace a bulb. Ensure the voltage and/or wattage marked on the light set is compatible with the replacement light. This is especially important with mini-lights as they come in different voltages.

Avoid using timers on indoor lights. Tree lights could turn on when no one is at home and create a potential fire hazard. Always turn Christmas lights off before leaving home or going to sleep.

Outdoor Lighting

-Use only those lights that have been tested and labelled by an approved testing laboratory and are marked for outdoor use.

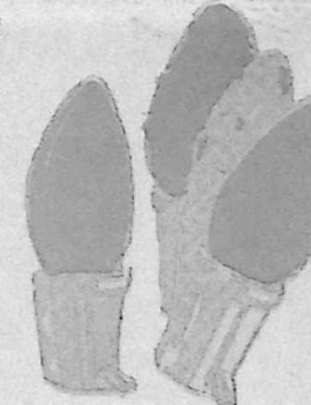
-Turn off the electricity to the supply outlet before working on outdoor wiring.

-Keep electrical connections off the ground and clear of metal objects. Use insulated tape, not metal nails or tacks, to hold strings of outdoor lights in place. Be careful not to tape the cords either over, under, or along metal eaves troughs.

-Run cords above ground, keeping them out of puddles and snow.

-Tape all plug connections with plastic electrical tape to make them as watertight as possible. To prevent moisture from entering bulb sockets, bulbs should face the ground.

-When using spotlights or floodlights to light your home or trees ensure they are marked for outdoor use to withstand snow and rain. Indoor floodlights should never be used outdoors.



Candles

Never use lit candles as decorations on Christmas trees. Place candles on non-tip candle holders and ensure they are well away from the Christmas tree or other combustible materials. Never leave lit candles unattended and ensure that they are always out of reach of children.

Matches and lighters are tools, not toys! Store them up high where children can't reach them.

Fireplaces

Have your chimney inspected at least once a year and have it cleaned if necessary. Always use a fire screen and burn only material appropriate for fireplaces. Burn only wood - never burn paper or pine boughs in a fireplace as the burning particles can float up your chimney and onto your roof or into your yard. Never use flammable liquids in a fireplace. Because ashes may rekindle, never store them in your home. Always remove ashes from your fireplace in a metal container.

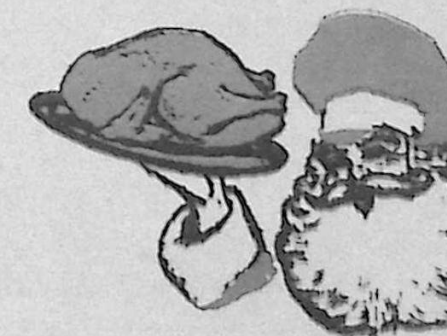
Holiday Parties

Decorate with flame-retardant or non-combustible materials. Have large, fireproof, non-tip ashtrays available for guests who smoke. Empty ashtrays regularly into a metal container and, after the party, check inside and under upholstery and trashcans for misplaced cigarette butts that may be smoldering.

Fire Safety in the Kitchen

Practice fire safety in the kitchen during the festive season. Don't leave cooking food unattended - oil or fat can ignite. If you are faced with a grease fire, remember, put a lid on it and turn the heat source off! Always turn pot handles to the back of the stove when cooking, to avoid pots being pulled or knocked off.

Purchase and install working smoke alarms, practice home escape plans, and have a Happy and Fire Safe Holiday Season!



(The following letter was recently sent by Kyle, along with letters written by his classmates, under the Operation Santa Claus program, to Canadian Forces serving overseas.

If you wish to send a letter to military members who will be away from home for Christmas you can drop them off at the Family Resource Centre and they will be

My name is Kyle Humphrey. I am in grade 8 at Robb Road school in Comox, B.C. I would like to express my gratitude for your involvement in peacekeeping overseas. I think that what you are doing has a deep impact on our troubled world. I hope that wherever you may be you still feel the warmth of the Christmas season, as a Canadian peacekeeping. I want you to know that Canada is proud of what you are doing for our country. If you ever feel lonely or depressed I hope you know that an entire country is waiting for your arrival home.



Your friend,

Kyle Humphrey

Dream the Dream

Christmas message from the Interfaith Committee
on Canadian Military Chaplaincy

We are dreamers all. Since the beginning of our being we have dreamed the dream. As Joseph did in Genesis 37:5 as Adrienne Clarkson claimed in her installation speech as Governor General of Canada. As God did when he dared to dream the dream of our response to His love.

God's dream is said to "the greatest story ever told" and, for the Christian, it is a story that begins at Christmas. It is a spiritual expression of the hope of things to come. It is a story beautifully told by choring angels, a Bethlehem star, wise men and shepherds, loving parents and an infant holy who is born in a manger destined to be raised up to become King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Like all memorable stories, it is filled with passion. It embraces the entire emotional spectrum of evil being countered by good, scarcity offset by abundance, sin forgiven by grace.

God's dream is an old old story. Indeed, it is two thousand years old. Yet, it is ever new and so powerful in content that it can carry

us into the new millennium with the hope of reconciliation in our hearts. Such is the mission of the peacekeeper in the name of Him who is the Prince of Peace. But more such is the mission of the reconciler in the name of Him who is the God of Reconciliation.

May the Christmas story speak to each of us with new meaning so that the old message may be heard afresh. God became flesh to soothe our hurts, to heal our wounds, to mend our hearts, to right our wrongs, to turn our brokenness into wholeness, to help us dream our dream into being.

Thanks be to God for you the faithful who endeavour to celebrate life by sharing in God's dream.

Thanks be to God for you the dedicated ones who cherish your opportunity to honourably serve God and Country.

May the Lord of Christmas Love be with you and your family members that you may enjoy as never before the blessings of Christmas Joy.

The Four-letter Man

By Hans Gassner

The Humanities Department at the Totem Times

Asked me to stop writing tired humourless diatribes that basically do nothing but offend, while educating the readership very little. Therefore, this month, I decided to "go on location" and provide a small element of education to my equally sized readership. The subject is "real men," and because any real man holding this newspaper is probably wrapping a disembowelled trout with it, instead of reading it, I won't have to worry about subject group retaliating with a good natured fire bombing.

During my research, which cost me several cases of Lucky and a crate of something called 303 Long Point, I discovered that men who want to be "real men" must portray a certain lassitude toward needless complexity. In other words, if you want to be a "man's" man — frankly, the concept spooks me out of my pastel shirt — you must be prepared to follow certain unspoken rules.

1. Keep the handle simple. Most "guy" men have names with four letters or less, for example, Greg, or Fred. Men that would not be classified as "guy" men would be relative nerds like Albert (Einstein), or Orville (Wright), or Charles (Lindbergh). I mean, what have they done for us lately, right? Yes, I know, the astute among you have noticed that Orville could be strategically tightened to Orv, as

in, "Hey, Orv, you thing this wing strut is thick enough? While you're checking that, you wanna pass me another beer?"

2. Go sleep in the bush with, get this, *other men*. Most people, even some men, find this idea about as exciting as a good go-around with a surprise case of dropsy, but remember, real men are not most people. Real men also don't care what others think of them, which is why they have to drive thirty miles into thick bush to engage in their juvenile banter. It's the only place our city bylaws will let 'em. Also, it allows them to kill small animals in great numbers without being seen by their small children, who will question such immature behaviour.

3. Keep your conversation tight, not like a piece of Mozart, with notes going off every which way. Good "man" talk is concise. Say exactly what you want to say.

Bob: Nice truck, Gus.

Gus: Thanks, Bob.

Vern: Yup.

Norm: Yup.

Bob: Yup.

Gus: Yup. (Silence)

Bob: No problem haulin' deer outta the bush in that thing.

Gus: Nope.

Vern: Nope.

Norm: Did you say "beer" or "deer"? (Silence)

Gus: Nick chicks in that new beer commercial, eh?

Bob: That's a truck commer-

cial.

Vern: Is not.

Norm: Is too.

The preceding conversation, the clandestine recording of which puts me in the gravest personal danger of receiving a journalism award, confirms something crucial about the speakers — most of them have names of four letters or less.

4. Pick a sports team and bone up on all the coolest trivia concerning it and its celebrities. Then you'll have something other than beer commercials to talk about on those long weekend outings with other males. It doesn't really matter what sport you choose, but if you pick fencing you're on your own. Most real men think fencing is for keeping empty beer cans from blowing out of the yard.

6. Join an insignificant league in the sport of your choice in an attempt to act out a continuing adolescent fantasy about being a sports celebrity. Then, as your physiotherapist massages your torn tendons, you'll be able to listen to cool, mainly advice, like, "You know, if you stopped drinking so much beer, there'd be less strain on your knees."

These are six easily followed educational steps to becoming a man's man, but the very first thing you should do is *stop reading this newspaper*. Reading the paper before you wrap those deer guts in it could make you the butt of a joke.

Air Force Engineers build "Mini-Hangar" for Spitfire

Air force reserve engineers from 192 Airfield Engineering Flight based in Abbotsford began construction of a "mini-hangar" at CFB Comox Nov. 29. The 30 ft. by 60 ft. building will support restoration work on a vintage Second World War Spitfire fighter being carried out by Comox-based Heritage Air Park volunteers.

"We're making excellent progress, despite the poor weather conditions," said project supervisor MWO Ted Harvey of Abbotsford, BC. "Most of our reservists are not trained carpenters, so the project is a great learning experience for them."

The 10 reserve engineers live in the Abbotsford and Chilliwack area, and have all taken time off their civilian occupations to help construct the building. Several have recently returned from Canadian Forces operations, including an electrician who just completed a 6-month tour in the Golan Heights, and three engineers who returned from a construction project in Aviano, Italy at the end

of July.

"Local employers and contractors have been very supportive in giving time-off to our reservists," said Harvey. "I think they realize that the skills and confidence their employees get from working with the reserves can benefit them as well."

The "mini-hangar" is the first step in the complete restoration of the Spitfire, said Museum Committee Chairman, Major Joel Clarkston.

"We need a safe and secure storage area to keep track of all our museum aircraft components," said Clarkston. "With the completion of this facility, we should be well on the way to a very worthwhile and historic restoration project."

The reservists are assisted by three members of the 191 Airfield Engineering Flight, based at CFB Comox, whom Harvey describes as a "Godsend."

The project is expected to cost approximately \$15,000 in materials and supplies.



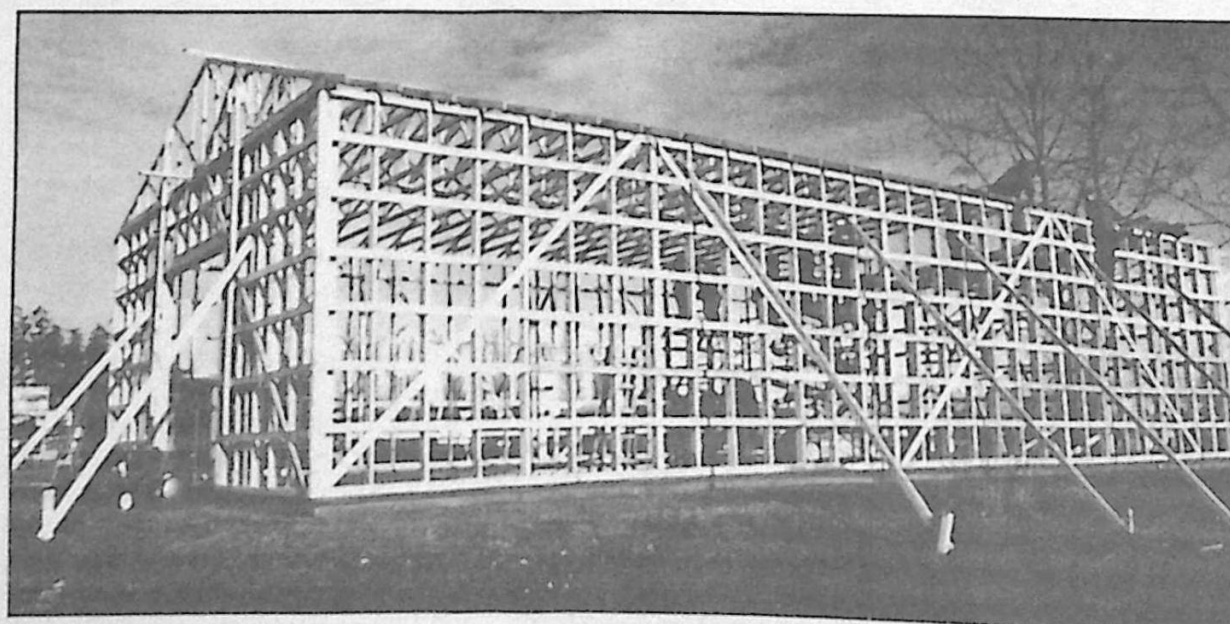
Cpl Mike McLeod works on the mini hangar roof trusses.



Cpl Ken Canning hammers away.



Cpl Pete Genereux and MCpl John Guntner placing a wall brace.



The new "mini hangar" takes shape.

Glacier Greens Golf Shots

By Barb Carter

The Glacier Greens Ladies Christmas Luncheon was a huge success with 56 attending.

We were happy to welcome Capt Len Virtue and his assistant Marion, representing the Salvation Army. Capt Len told us of the needs of the Sally Ann at this busy time of year. The many gifts and donations were much appreciated.

It was great to see friends we have missed since the regular golf season ended and to enjoy the company of the gals from Pacific Playgrounds.

Steve Dodd, coping with several difficulties, presented us with a delicious lunch. To Steve,

Maralee, Lynn and Dave, thanks so very much — super job.

Tuesdays are still a go, weather permitting. Sign-up time is 9:00 for 9:30 a.m. start.

If you don't feel like golfing you can take a ride on the train. After a slow start, the train for Mexico is slowly chugging out of the station. More interest is growing every week so come on out and have some fun — everyone welcome.

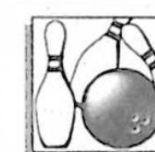
Sunday Winter Golf for December and January will be 8:30 sign-up for a 9:00 a.m. tee off. See you there.

Till next time...

Christmas Schedule Gym & Weightroom

20-23 Dec	0730-2100 hrs
Fri 24 Dec	0730-1530 hrs
Sat 25 Dec	CLOSED
Sun 26 Dec	CLOSED
Mon 27 Dec	1300-1700 hrs
Tue 28 Dec	1300-1700 hrs
Wed 29 Dec	0730-1700 hrs
Thur 30 Dec	0730-1700 hrs
Fri 31 Dec	0730-1530 hrs

(Gym floor closed off at 1300 hrs)
We will then close until 19 January 2000 when we open the new 19 Wing Fitness & Community Centre.



19 WING BOWLING CENTRE

The winters are wet and long in the Comox Valley. League or casual bowling with friends is one great way to get through it in style.

All interested individuals, couples or teams interested in *league bowling* please contact the people listed below. Space is limited so don't dally!

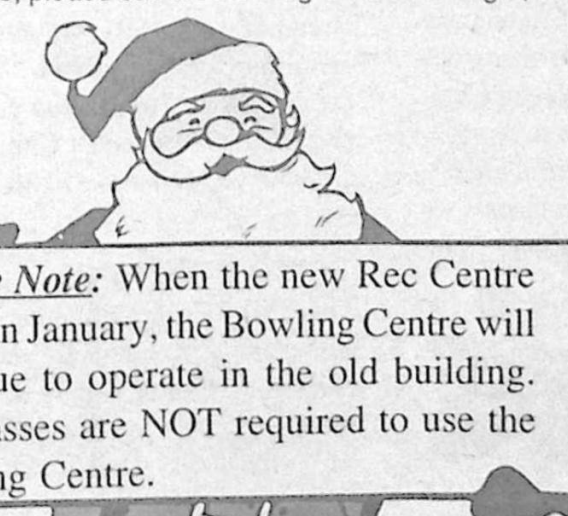
League Times		Contacts	
Tues. Ladies	6:45-9:00 p.m.	Moe Eisan	338-7569
Weds. Ladies	12:30-3:15 p.m.	Nancy Polvin	339-1782
Weds. Mixed	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rod Spurr	339-6067
Thurs. Mixed	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rod Spurr	339-6067

Casual Bowling

Fridays	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Sundays	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

We also take bookings for section parties, sports afternoons, carious organizations, birthdays, etc.

If you have any queries or are unable to contact the persons listed above, please call the Bowling Centre manager, Scott



Please Note: When the new Rec Centre opens in January, the Bowling Centre will continue to operate in the old building. Rec passes are NOT required to use the Bowling Centre.

Pacific Region Volleyball 20-22 Jan

19 Wing will be hosting the 2000 Pacific Region Men's/Ladies Volleyball Championship. Volunteers are required to help score keep, set up and be line judges and other general duties as assigned by the tournament organizer.

Pacific Region Men's/Oldtimers' Hockey 14-19 Feb

We will be hosting the above championship and are looking for volunteers to help with the same duties as for the volleyball championship.

Interested personnel who are willing to volunteer for either of the above championships should contact Jake Plante by e-mail or call local 8783.

Base Squash / Badminton Playdowns

These playdowns will be held 24-28 January 2000 from 1030 to 1300 hours to determine the Base team for Regional Championships being held here in Comox 8-12 March.

Categories for Badminton are:
Open, Seniors 35 years of age and over, Masters 45 years of age and over, Women's.

Categories for Squash are:
Under 30, Open, Seniors 35-39, Masters 40 and over.

Register for either event by e-mail to Jake Plante, include SN name, rank, local and category.

Deadline for entries is 17 December.

Commander's Cup '99 Results

Another year of Commander's Cup sports has played by us and a great one it was. It was just too bad that SI couldn't capture the events as they unfolded, maybe next year. The following are the results:

This year's winner (a repeat) 407 Sqn (33 pts). Congratulations 407!

WLog (28 pts)
414 Sqn (26 pts)
Admin (23 pts)
19 AMS (22 pts)
442 Sqn (7 pts).

Photos of the presentation will be in the next edition of the Totem Times.

New Fitness Centre opens Wednesday, 19 January



Upcoming Sporting Events

Pacific Region Military Men's & Ladies' Volleyball Championships 20-22 January

Pacific Region Men's & Old Timers Military Hockey Championships 14-19 February

Pacific Region Military Badminton & Squash Championships 8-12 March

CFB Comox declares itself Y2K Ready

In a message to 1 CAD, 19 Wing Comox declared itself operationally ready for Y2K on Nov 30. The declaration was made after a series of validation tests and exercises beginning January 1998 confirmed the Wing's extensive electronic equipment was able to function properly after the transition to the year 2000.

"All our people, particularly those in technical and information services, have worked very hard to prepare the Wing for Y2K," said 19 Wing Commander, Col Bill Neumann.

"Their efforts have done much to ensure we are able to continue to perform our missions, and help the civil authorities if called upon." The Wing's Y2K efforts are part of Operation Abacus, a

contingency plan developed by the Department of National Defence to ensure CF units are able to function under degraded Y2K conditions, and respond to requests for assistance from other government departments.

To better respond to such requests, the Wing has provided special training to 87 members of its Op Abacus Wing Augmentation Force and Wing Auxiliary Security Force, who can deploy nationally or internationally if called upon.

"Our people have a lot of different skills and backgrounds that are very useful when providing humanitarian or other types of assistance" said Operation Abacus Augmentation Force Flight second-in-command Capt Brian Zimmerman. While 19 Wing is

Y2K ready, the Wing Commander cautions that the base has limitations on the assistance it can provide, and that families should also make their own emergency preparations.

"As a minimum, all military families should read and follow the instructions in the 'Emergency Preparedness Starts with You' pamphlet," said Neumann. "Those with family members deployed overseas or on duty on base during the year 2000 transition period, however, can expect some additional assistance from the base."

The pamphlet and additional information on Y2K preparedness will be distributed to individual members over the next two weeks.

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How often?

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CANADA'S
Physical Activity Guide
to Healthy Active Living

Base Scout Troop News

By Paul Gillmore



1st Lazo Scouts made some neat Christmas decorations at their recent camp.

The 1st Lazo Scout Troop is well prepared for the 1999/2000 season! We have 14 boys and 4 adult leaders.

Our new meeting place at the Airport School Gym is excellent, and we're really pleased to be back at 19 Wing. Our second camp of the year (and the last of this millennium!) was held 27-28 November, at Tee-Pee Park, and although the winds were gale-force, the boys really had a blast. We hiked, cooked, played games, created crafts, slept outdoors in tents, and studied camp skills and survival techniques. The weekend kicked-off with the Boy Scouts doing a grounds clean up around the Canex, Post Office and CMFRC buildings. They actually filled several garbage bags and were very pleased in doing so. We have many more camps planned, as well as several outings and events. The Scouts are really excited

about being invited to visit the 442 SAR-Techs for a tour and climbing demonstrations in the New Year! If you are interested in volunteering, lecturing, or just helping out with a Troop event, remember we're always looking for a few good people!

Our heartfelt thanks to those responsible: the 1st Lazo Group Sponsor, Wallace Gardens Community Association; The Troop Year-End Camp Sponsor, The Knights of Columbus; our Group Start-up Sponsor, Lions Club; Col Neumann, 19 Wing Commander; Captain Bush, First Aid Trainer; Airport School Principal, Mr Schellinek; Sgt Harper, Tee-Pee Park Coordinator; as well as the 1st Lazo Group Committee; Scouting Leaders; Parents; SD71; and all of our community contacts. Thank you on behalf of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at 1st Lazo Scout-ing Group!



COMOX Military Family Resource Centre

Centre de Ressources pour Les Familles Militaires de COMOX

CMFRC Programs and Services

Employment Assistance Program

Designed to assist military spouses with job search questions, concerns and preparation.

Emergency Child Care Services

Limited financial assistance is available to qualified members who require emergency childcare as a result of unforeseen military requirements.

Quality of Life Programs and Workshops

Focus on a commitment to learning, enrichment of personal relationships and identifying individual strengths. Programs are preventative in nature, providing participants with tools and resources to enhance the quality of their lives.

Licensed Child Care

A full range of childcare services for children aged 6 months to 12 years are available at the Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre. Please contact 339-5051 for detailed information.

Deployment Support

We recognize the significant emotional and physical demands placed on families as a result of deployment and provide a number of services to assist those who are coping with separation.

French Programs

We offer a variety of services, resources, educational and preventative programs in French to serve the needs of the Francophone military community.

Counselling Services

Our counselling staff offers help in dealing with the many complex issues of military family life, providing the tools to overcome and grow beyond the obstacles we may face. If you are unsure about your situation, give our counsellor a call (339-8286) and see if this free, confidential service is for you.

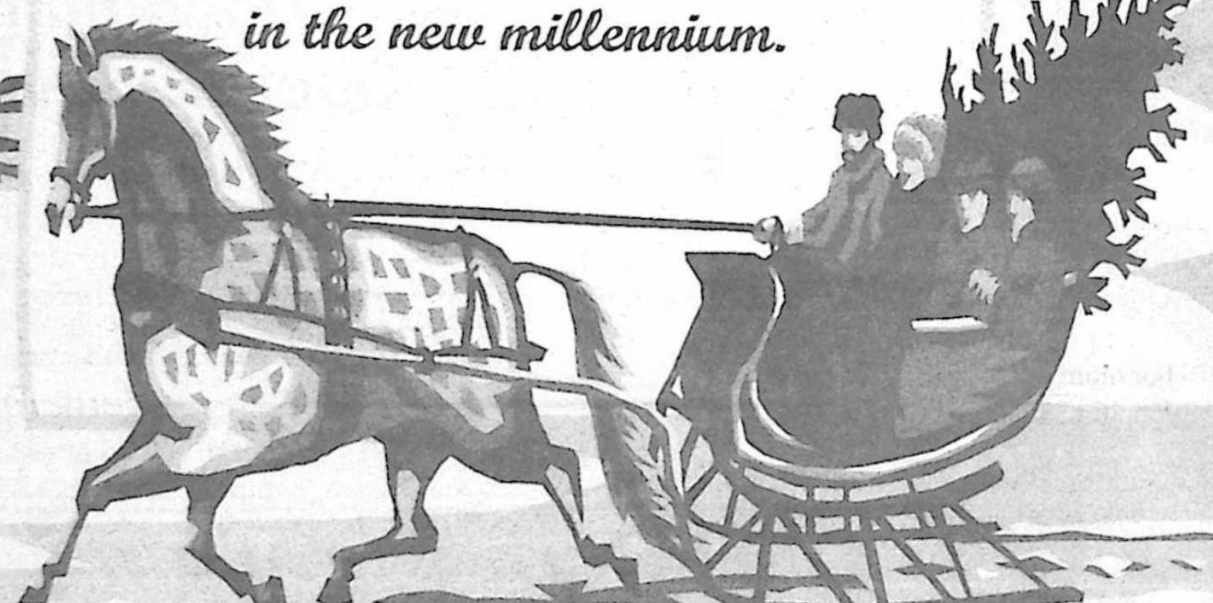
Volunteer Opportunities

Becoming a CMFRC volunteer can be rewarding and can provide you with the opportunity to develop your skills and share your talents. Call today to see how you can make a difference!

Youth Programs

The CMFRC runs a number of fun and exciting programs for pre-teens and teens. Call 339-8290 to find out more!

The Board and Staff at the Comox Military Family Resource Centre would like to wish all military members and their families a wonderful Christmas. May you enjoy peace, health and lots of love in the new millennium.



Programme en Français

Bonjour à tous,

J'aimerais profiter du temps des Fêtes pour souhaiter à la communauté militaire francophone et francophile, un Joyeux Noël et une Bonne Année. Que ce nouveau millénaire vous apporte Santé, Amour et Paix.

Les ateliers de l'automne ont très bien fonctionné et je remercie les participants(tes) et les animatrices pour ce succès.

Le Programme en Français est en place pour la communauté francophone et francophile militaire. Votre participation aux activités et l'utilisation des services font en sorte que nous sommes là pour vous. Les services et activités sont ouverts non seulement aux conjointes mais également aux membres militaires.

Surveillez l'édition du "In the Air" en janvier pour les activités et services pour les mois de février à mai 2000, ainsi que les éditions du Totem.

Nous avons besoins de vos commentaires et suggestions, donc n'hésitez pas à me contacter.

Danielle Bernier

Coordonnatrice du Programme en Français
339-8211 local 8656

Recherche de Bénévoles

Vous connaissez les ordinateurs, l'Internet les programmes MsWord, Excel, Office 95-98? Si oui contactez Danielle au 8656 au CRFMC. Nous sommes à la recherche de bénévoles qui parlent français membres militaires, conjoints(es) ou adolescents, qui aimeraient donner un peu de leur temps pour donner des cours d'ordinateurs ou être disponible pour répondre aux questions des personnes qui utilisent la salle d'ordinateur durant la semaine au nouveau Centre récréatif et communautaire de la 19e Escadre en février prochain. Vous êtes enthousiaste, aimez travailler avec les gens donc appelez-nous dès

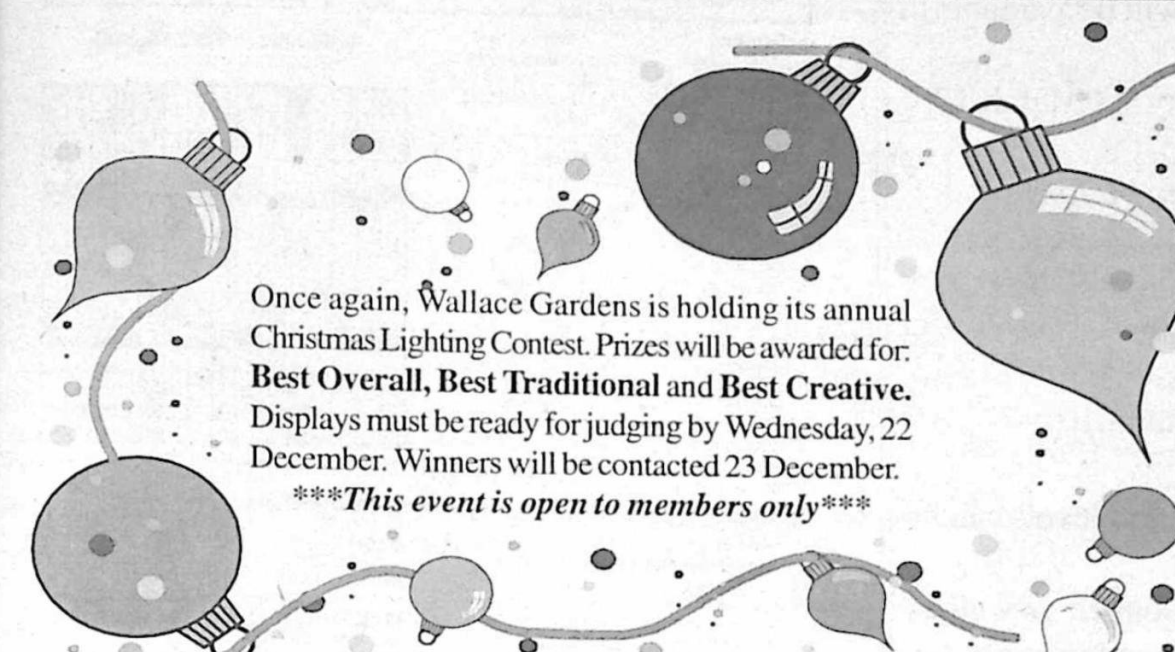
maintenant. Joignez l'équipe dynamique de bénévoles du CRFMC.

Looking for Volunteers

Are you interested in computers and possess a working knowledge? If yes, call Mara at 8310 at the CMFRC, we are looking for volunteers who would like to offer their time and expertise during the drop-in time in the computer lab in the 19 Wing Fitness & Community Centre in February. We need people who are enthusiastic, looking for a new experience and love to work with people. Military members, spouses, teenagers, are welcome to call us for more information. Come and join our dynamic team of volunteers.



WALLACE GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS



Once again, Wallace Gardens is holding its annual Christmas Lighting Contest. Prizes will be awarded for: **Best Overall, Best Traditional and Best Creative.** Displays must be ready for judging by Wednesday, 22 December. Winners will be contacted 23 December.
This event is open to members only

Christmas Colouring Contest

For members 0-12 years. Entries can be picked up at the WG office and must be returned no later than Monday, 20 December. Winners will be contacted on 22 December. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for each age group.

Adult Craft Club Pot Luck Dinner

You are invited to the Craft Club's annual Pot Luck dinner and craft evening on Sunday, 19 December from 6:00-10:00 p.m. in the temporary community centre. We will be making two different Christmas tree ornaments. Class is free to members, drop-in fee of \$3.50 for non-members. Please bring a glue gun and scissors. We look forward to seeing you there!
For more info or to register for class:
Jennifer 339-7183 or Jane 339-8211 loc 8571



The WGCA invites you to Skate with Santa

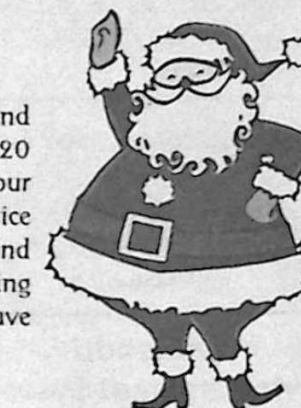
Wednesday 22 December
from 1345 - 1515 hrs at the Base Arena
Hot chocolate & cookies will be served!

This event is free and open to all military members/DND employees of 19 Wing Comox and their families

Note: Arena policy states that only those persons wearing skates will be allowed on the ice. Any persons wishing to be on the ice, whether on skates or otherwise, do so at their own risk. Neither the Crown, nor Wallace Gardens Community Association can be held responsible for any injuries incurred.

Visit from Santa

Santa will be out and about visiting the boys and girls of Wallace Gardens on Monday, 20 December. If you would like Santa to visit your MQ on that evening, you must fill out the notice attached to the Wallace Gardens newsletter and return it to the WG office in the Canex building no later than 15 December. Only those who have responded will receive a visit.
**Open to WGCA members only



Youth Winter Sports program

Ages 9-13

Saturdays 6-8 p.m.

(except Sock Hop Saturdays)
in the Base Gym

The type of sports played will vary from week to week.
Note: The last evening for the 1999 year will be on Saturday, 18 December. This program will not run over the Christmas break. It will reopen in the new Recreation Centre on Saturday, 22 January 2000.

Remember!

Children should attend wearing proper gym attire. During inclement weather they should carry their sneakers as wet footwear is not allowed in the gym due to safety reasons.



Teen Dance

Sat. 18
December
7:00-11:00 p.m.
WARF (Bldg 10)
Cost:
\$100/member
\$300/non-member
For more info call
Mona 339-4627

Children's
Christmas
Video
Afternoon
Sunday 19 December
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
in the
temporary Community
Centre
Popcorn & drink:
50 cents/member
\$1.50/non-member
Info: Suzanne 338-2584

Letters to Santa

Christmas is just around the corner and Santa is getting busier every day! But Santa still has some time set aside for those of you who would like to write to him. Just drop your letter into his mailbox, located in the Canex Mall, before December 13 and Santa will reply as soon as he can. Remember to put your first and last name and your MQ number in your letter to remind Santa where you live.
Info: May LeBlanc
890-0719

Celebrate the Year 2000 Millennium Family Bash

December 31
8:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
at the Base Gym

Tickets: \$1.00/person member, \$3.00/person non-member
Only 300 tickets will be sold! Tickets will be sold on a priority basis beginning with Wallace Gardens members, military personnel, DND civilian employees and, lastly, visiting family members.

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT
Door prizes for all ages!

For an added keepsake of the evening, professional photos will be available from 8:00-10:00 p.m. at the following prices:
5x7 \$7.50 ea. (extra prints \$6.00 ea.), 8x10 \$13.50 ea. (extra prints \$11.00 ea.) Pkg: Two 5x7 plus one 8x10 - \$25.00.

To make this a truly spectacular event we need your help not only at the dance itself, but prior to and following it. If you are willing to donate an hour of your time please call Jane at 339-8211, loc 8571.

Christmas Sock Hop

Saturday, 11 December
1800-2000 hrs. WARF (Bldg.)

Admission: One non-perishable item/child
*The Gentleman in RED will be dropping in to fill his bag full of your donated goodies so that he may pass them on to families in need.

Pictures with Santa

From now until 18 December, Santa Claus will be coming to the CANEX Mall every Wednesday evening from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and Saturday afternoons from 1:00-4:00 p.m. For a small charge of \$1.50 you will receive a polaroid picture of your child with Santa. Fifty cents from each picture will go to support WGCA programs.
Wednesday evenings you are invited to bring your pet as well. Santa will be happy to have his picture taken with his furry friends!

All pets must be on a leash





House for Sale

1950sq.ft. Comox house in quiet cul-de-sac, newly renovated inside/out (new roof, siding, lino, carpets, painting, resurfaced sundeck, etc. Gas FP and sauna. Asking \$135,900. Call 339-9730 (no agents). <2/2>

Miscellaneous for Sale

Queen size padded headboard. Ex. cond. \$85.
Oak quilting frame \$280.
339-3486 <2/2>

Nintendo Entertainment System

With zapper & two game controls. Games: Super Mario Brothers, Top Gun Second Mission, Tetris, Jack Nicklaus' Greatest 18 holes of major championship golf. \$55.00 339-3486 <1/2>

Help Wanted

Earn \$200.00, \$300.00, \$500.00 or more per week, assembling product in the comfort of your own home. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: O.P.H. 6-2400 Dundas St. West, Suite 541, Ref 728, Mississauga, ON L5K 2R8.

Video Store

Great east side location in Saskatoon for this owner-operated turn key business. MLS \$129K. (Vendor motivated) Call Don Fry Realty Inc. at 306-241-0053 for further details. Internet site: www.donfry.com

Seasonal celebration

with the Celebration Singers Choir, Cantiamo Youth Chamber Ensemble and guests Kent Fiddy, Lainie Laughlin, Tina Erickson, and Patric Presidente at the Stan Hagan Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Admission \$5.00; tickets available from choir members, Laughing Oyster Bookshop, or at the door (if available). Refreshments follow.

Comox District Concert Band

Rehearsals: Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. in the Band Room at Courtenay Junior School. New musicians welcome. Further info: Pat 339-5091

Newcomer's Club

For women new to the Comox Valley in the last two years. New members are always welcome. Monthly meeting Monday, 13 December, 7:15 p.m. at the Florence Filberg Centre, 411 Anderton Avenue, Courtenay. Christmas cookie and gift exchange. Activities for members include walking, bridge, crafts, lunches. For more info call Karen 703-2611 or Dorothy 897-1089.

French Courses

The following French courses will be available in 2000:

PL1 (beginners) February 7 - March 17
Tues-Fri: 7:30 - 15:30
(Deadline for registration 14 Jan)

PL2 March 21 - May 3
Tues-Fri: 7:30 - 15:30

PL4 (or PL3) May 8 - June 9
Mon-Fri: 7:30 - 15:30

Specific skills June 12 - June 30
Mon-Fri 7:30 - 15:30

Additional courses and/or different levels can be run if there is sufficient interest.

DND military and civilian personnel, as well as military dependents are encouraged to apply using the P drive - P:ALLUSERLANGUAGE TRAINING REGISTRATION.DOC. OR CALL Dr. Fathi at 8828.

3rd Annual Tree Mulching Drive for Muscular Dystrophy

Sunday 2 Jan 2000, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CANEX parking lot

On 2 January, members of the 19 Wing Fire Department will be mulching Christmas Trees in return for donations to the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada. In addition, Max Tree Topping will be supporting this event with their time as well as their equipment and for a \$2.00 donation you will be able to take a bucket ride.

Support for the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada (MDAC) is a long-standing tradition among fire fighters. When it was formed in 1954, Canadian fire fighters joined other volunteers in the first door-to-door canvassing drive. They've been with MDAC ever since. MDCA provides services to thousands of Canadians affected by over 40 neuromuscular disorders. The Association offers hope through research, creates awareness and understanding through education and provides services through personal support programs.



CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

A Blood Donor

Clinic will be held at the
Florence Filberg Centre in Courtenay
(411 Anderton, just beside Fifth Street Bridge)

8 Dec: 1400 - 2000 hours

9 Dec: 1200 - 1800 hours

Your contribution is urgently required as the Canadian Blood Services is short on blood reserves. You must be in good health and have had no major dental work performed recently.

A good meal before donating is recommended.



Toastmasters

A reminder for those on Base who are required to make representations or give talks, and feel apprehensive at the prospect, the

Comox Valley Toastmasters meet every

Wednesday 7-9 p.m. at

Courtenay Junior School. Develop and improve your speaking and presentation skills; your ability to think on your feet. Acquire better listening talents and benefit from stronger leadership skills. For more information, call Harry Piercy, 338-7166.

Jake's Trivia

Answers

1. 8'1/2"
2. Terry Sawchuk.
3. Dick "Night Train" Lane, LA Rams 1952.

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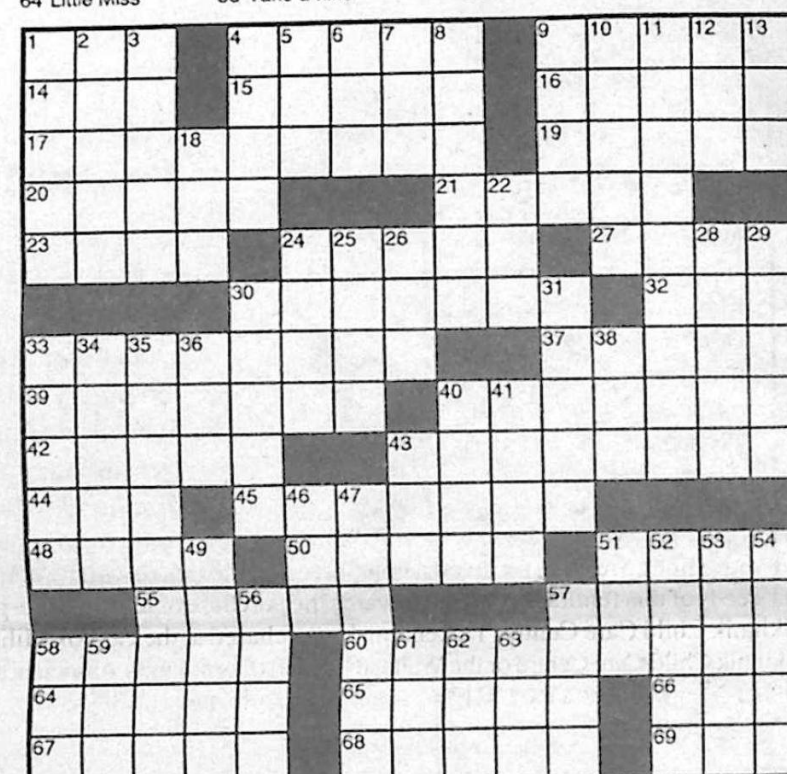
TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Bilibards
4. Speckled fish
9. Not as bright
14. Diamond Head souvenir
15. Important artery
16. Burning
17. Wine cooler
19. Carried
20. Want badly
21. Nevada lake
23. Stared at
24. Cornered
27. "Wheel of Fortune" prize, often
30. Dived, as a whale
32. "Wheel of Fortune" buy
33. Made to fit
37. Buns
39. Said (to be)
40. Baltimore team
42. Wide open
44. Moss or lichen
45. Coffee cup
46. Bellows
48. Goody-goody
50. Viscous
51. Gigantic
55. Baseball teams
57. Because
58. Chicago airport
60. State of bliss
64. Little Miss

DOWN
1. Tea-party crasher
2. Phony duck
3. Strainer
4. Tight
5. Legendary bird
6. Mork's planet
7. Colorado tribesman
8. Made lace
9. Lane
10. In progress
11. Without exaggeration
12. Previously
13. Sunburned
18. Four-poster, e.g.
22. Citrus cooler
24. Ripped
25. Regretted
26. Last word of a novel?
28. Small harbor
29. Old-fashioned
30. Blisters
31. Party poopers
33. Take a hike

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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Special Offer for Military Personnel & Families

Glenn's Import & Domestic Parts & Repairs

is offering you

10% off parts and labour for all repairs performed in our shop

Dec 9/99 to Feb 28/00. For more info: 338-5841

For Civilian and Military Personnel

Employee Assistance Program

Do you have a problem that affects your work performance, or threatens to do so? Can think of nowhere to turn?

If you feel motivated towards a change for the better, call either one of your current referral agents (RAs)

Stéphany Gray @ 8296
(or use e-mail)

or

Finn Schultz-Lorentzen @ 8379
(or use e-mail)

Full confidentiality guaranteed
EAP Room, call 7035



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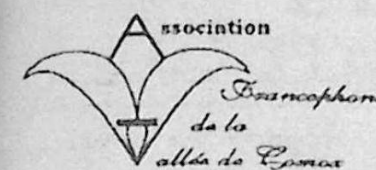
780 Cumberland Road

338-7277

COMOX AUTO SUPPLY

821 Shamrock Place

339-5560



Activites pour les mois de Décembre

Activities for the month of December

Club jeunesse/Youth Club

Jeudi, le 9 déc. 14:45 à 16h30/Thursday December 9, 2:45-4:30

Tout d'abord, on fait nos devoirs d'école en français. Et puis il y a des activités organisées telles que Jeux, musique, théâtre, etc. Tu dois avoir plus de 8 ans et être étudiant au programme francophone out à l'immersion française. Ca se déroule de 15h à 16h30 tous les jeudis à l'Association francophone et ça te coûte 15\$ pour les cinq premières sessions. Tu confirmes ta présence en composant le 334-8884.

This is an activity where you can bring your homework from school and have your own French-speaking tutor. The homework will be followed by games, music, drama, etc. The cost is \$15 for the first five sessions and runs from 3:00 to 4:30 every Thursday at the Francophone Association. Confirm attendance by phoning 334-8884.

Mini Franco-Fun

Le 15 décembre de 15h15 à 16h30/Wednesday, December 15 from 3:15-4:30

C'est une activité pour les moins de 8 ans où l'on fait des jeux, du bricolage. Ca déroule 2 fois par mois. Pour plus de renseignements, composez le 334-8884.

Games, crafts, music for 0-8 year olds. For more info phone 334-8884.

Concert de Noël/ Christmas Concert

Samedi le 18 décembre à 19h30 au "Old Church Theatre." Saturday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Church Theatre.

Au programme, la chorale "Les Voix de l'Île, ainsi que les danseurs d'Amelia Schellhorn. Aussi Johanne Restoule, Suzanne Camp, Mary Lynn DesRoches, Dale Graham, Johanna Finch, Judy Norbury, Rowe & Wyatt Lamoureux. Venez célébrer cette saison magique avec vos parents et amis. Les billets sont en vente à l'Association francophone et auprès des membres de la chorale. Pour plus de renseignements, composez le 334-8884.

The evening will begin with Les Voix de l'Île in a rendition of many popular Christmas carols; Amalia Schellhorn's dancers will delight the audience with the theme of Hansel and Gretel and Christmas Calypso. Mary Lynn DesRoches, Dale Graham, Judy Norbury, and Johanna Finch will sing the harmony of the season together. Rowen and his father Wyatt Lamoureux will also be singing. This is a multi-lingual event. Come and celebrate this magical season with parents and friends. Tickets are on sale at the Francophone Association and from choir members. Phone 334-8884 for more info.

Last Chance to buy tickets for the CMFRC airline ticket draw

The CMFRC is still selling tickets for two return airline tickets anywhere Canadian Airlines flies. The airline tickets have an approximate value of \$4,900 and are good until the end of June 2000 (not end of March as previously published). For those reluctant to purchase tickets because of the present uncertainty surrounding Canadian Airlines, we have received a guarantee that the tickets will be honoured.

The proceeds of this fundraiser will go towards the purchase or lease of a 15-passenger van for the CMFRC and Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre. Tickets can be purchased at the Comox Military Family Resource Centre, the Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre or the Wallace Gardens Community Association. Draw date for the prize is Friday, December 24 at 12 noon at the CMFRC. For more information call 339-8290.

Wingnotes - By Norm Blondel

888 Wing gives \$26,000

888 (Komox) RCAF Wing

raised a total of \$26,000 for 386 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron and 11 charities in 1999, at charity bingos approved by the BC Gaming Commission. The events are run by volunteer Wing members. Amounts were disbursed as follows:

386 RCAC, \$16,000; Salvation Army - Courtenay Corps, \$1,500; Canadian Cancer Society, \$1,500; Arthritis Society, \$1,000; St. Joseph's General Hospital, \$1,000; Comox Valley Boys & Girls Club, \$1,000; BC Heart & Stroke Foundation, \$1,000; Kidney Foundation, \$1,000; BC Lung Association, \$1,000; Help Fill A Dream Foundation - Comox Valley, \$500; Santa's Workshop - Comox Valley, \$500, and Fire Fighters Burn Fund

- Victoria, \$500.

With 569 members, 888 (Komox) Wing is the largest in Canada, now with two successive annual awards from the Air Force Association of Canada for the best Wing newsletter. Kudos to Tet Walston (Editor) and Alan Scott (Compositor). However, the strain on our colour printer was such that it is in Toronto for repairs. "Contrails" will be a couple of weeks late, but our Dawna Dozzi has seen to it that plenty of events calendars are available at the Wing.

On 23 November, 30 former members of "Irish" Ireland's old 419 Squadron and other friends gathered for a tribute to their former Sqn Commander (and Stn.CO, RCAF Station Comox). Irish, who is 888 Wing's Honor-

ary President and founding member, isn't well these days, so the gathering did a lot to cheer him up. The thoughts and good wishes of all members go out to Irish, and to Poli Ireland, who is recovering from an auto accident.

Among the awards presented at our December general meeting was an unusual one, a RAF Halton Apprentice cap, obtained by Duke Warren and presented by yours truly, another Halton "Brat," to our old "Flight," Bert Linder. Bert entered Halton with the 37th Entry in 1936, and served in the Battle of Britain and in Canada with the BCATP. Duke Warren gave the introductory speech.

Per Ardua ad Astra, and a Merry Christmas to all.

Community Service presentations

888 (Komox) RCAF Wing, Air Force Association of Canada got into the Christmas spirit early making \$3,000 worth of donations to local charities. Wing president Dave Bews presents \$1,500 cheques to Capt Len Virtue of the Salvation Army Corps and Suzanne Linnell of the local Canadian Cancer Society which serves the Comox Valley. The funds were raised from charity bingo. (Photo courtesy Bruce Inrig.)



Royal Canadian Legion

Branch 17 Courtenay (334-4322)

Dance: every Friday evening, 8:00 p.m.

Dec 10 Country Cousins

Dec 17 Ventura Highway

Special Events:

Dec 19 Xmas Draw 1:00 - 7:00 p.m. (Hams, turkeys, etc.)

Food, entertainment by Gary's Sound Machine.

Dec 31 New Year's Eve Dance 8:00 p.m. - ???

Music by the Alley Cats. Food - buffet style.

Cost \$15.00 single, \$25.00 couple.

General Meeting - 21 December at 7:30 p.m.

Branch 28 Cumberland (336-2361)

Every Wednesday, Bingo 7:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve Party

Welcome the New Year with us! Great door prizes, in-house raffles and a home cooked Pot Luck Dinner. Bring an item of food to participate. Call Sheri at 336-8872 and she will let you know what we already have and will add you to our list.

7:00 p.m. for 8:00 p.m. dinner, entertainment by Fatman Karaoke (hosted by Dana Melloway) starts 9:00 p.m. Tickets \$10.00 per person (members and bona fide guests) can be obtained at Legion #28 (336-2361) or contact Sheri (336-8872).

Hall rental: non-members \$75, members \$50, kitchen use \$25.

Branch 160 Comox (339-2022)

Mondays...Ladies Auxiliary Drop-in Bingo

(Upper Hall doors open 6:30 p.m., Bingo 7:00 p.m.)

Friday Night Dances 8-12 p.m.

Dec 10 Double Play

Dec 17 Gord Kruger & Friends

NOTE: We will be closing at 6:00 p.m. on 24 December.

Special Events

New Year's 2000 Gala: Tickets \$20.00 per person. Hot & cold buffet 8:00 p.m. Band - Ventura Highway.

Dress: semi-formal. Free transportation available. Tickets & seating plan available in office.

New Year's Eve: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in Lounge

Call Branch office Mon - Fri at 339-2022 for more info.

888 (KOMOX) RCAF WING

Air Force Association of Canada

Calendar of Events

Sunday Brunches & Games: First Sunday each month.

Pub Grub Fridays - Horse Racing, Darts, Cards.

Special Events

19 Dec Christmas Dinner, 5:30 for 6:30 p.m. \$12.50

Music by The New Music Man.

31 Dec New Year's Eve, 8:00 p.m.

Drop-in Potluck (finger food).

01 Jan New Year's Levy 1:00 p.m. Music 3-5 p.m.

16 Jan Sadie Hawkins Dance, 6:00 for 7:00 p.m.

Music "Country Cousins" \$10.00

29 Jan Candlelight Dinner, 6:00 for 7:00 p.m.

"Ventura Highway" \$12.50

13 Feb Valentine Brunch, 11:30 a.m. \$6.00

***Tickets for main event go on sale two Wednesdays

in advance, noon at the Bar.

Regular Force Members Welcome!

888 Wing hours:

Monday - closed*

Wednesday, noon - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, noon - 1:00 a.m.**

*Bar open on Holiday Mondays.

**Bar could be closed as early as 9:00 p.m. if there are no customers, at the discretion of the Bar Manager.

Tuesday - closed

Thursday, noon - 1:00 a.m.**

Saturday, noon - 1:00 a.m.**

60th Anniversary of The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan

By Wing Commander F.H. Hitchins, Air Historian
(Excerpts from Roundel, December 1949)

Origin

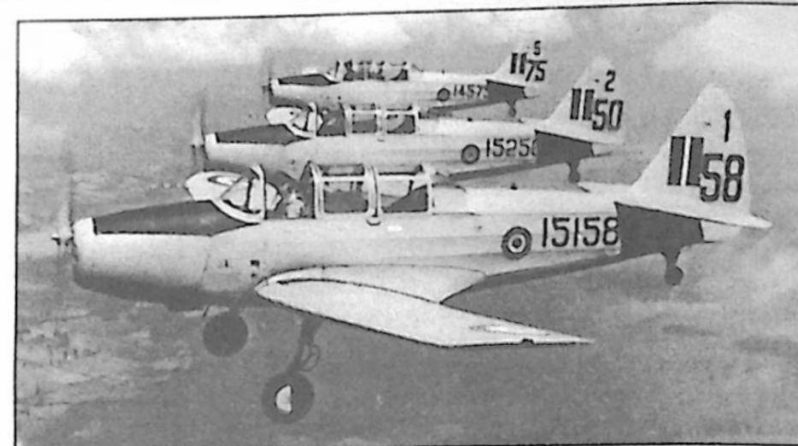
The Plan has its genesis in a proposal made on 26 September, 1939 by the Government of the United Kingdom to the Governments of Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Canada accepted the proposal, in principle, two days later, as did the other Dominions, and missions then assembled in Ottawa to work out the details of the scheme. Lord Riverdale, a distinguished British industrialist, headed the mission from the United Kingdom; the Hon. J.V. Fairbairn, the Australian Minister for Air, and Group Capt. H.W. L. Saunders, the New Zealand Chief of the Air Staff, led the delegations

from their Dominions. Canada was represented by a Committee of Cabinet consisting of the Prime Minister, The Right Hon. W.L. MacKenzie King; the Minister of National Defence, the Hon. Norman Rogers; the Minister of Finance, Col. The Hon. J.L. Ralston; the Minister of Pensions and National Health, the Hon. Ian MacKenzie; and the Minister of Transport, the Hon. C.D. Howe.

The Initial Agreement

Within a few weeks the missions had completed their task and the Agreement was signed. The Government of Canada was des-

ignated as administrator of a co-operative air training scheme to be set up in the Dominion which, when fully developed, was to be capable of producing every four weeks 520 Pilots with elementary training, 544 with service training, 340 Air Observers and 480 Wireless Operator-Air Gunners. To meet this objective, the Plan proposed to establish 3 Initial Training Schools, 13 Elementary Flying Training Schools, 16 Service Flying Training Schools, 10 Air Observer Schools, 10 Bombing and Gunnery Schools, 2 Air Navigation Schools and 4 Wireless Schools—a total of 58 training units. In addition, it would be nec-



Fairchild Cornell II's of 24 EFTS over Abbotsford B.C. July 1944.

essary to form an appropriate command, recruiting, and maintenance organization, as well as schools for training instructors and administrative staffs. These made a grand total of 74 units, exclusive of the command organization.

It was estimated that almost 40,000 personnel would be required to staff this great structure—2,686 officers, 30,366 airmen and 5,951 civilians. Over 3500 aircraft and 6500 engines would be required for initial equipment and an immediate reserve of 50% for

airframes and 100% for engines.

The probable cost of the initial Plan was estimated at \$6000,000,000, of which Canada's share would be about \$350,000,000. The United Kingdom agreed to make its contribution "in kind" by supplying engines, airframes and spares, and Australia and New Zealand were to pay shares corresponding to their quotas of pupils.

Such, in brief was the training scheme agreed upon by the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand in December 1939 when the war was barely three months old. Prime Minister King, in a radio address to the people of Canada on the day the agreement was signed, referred to the undertaking as "one of great magnitude" which had its objective "to achieve, by co-operative effort, air forces whose co-ordinated strength will be overwhelming."

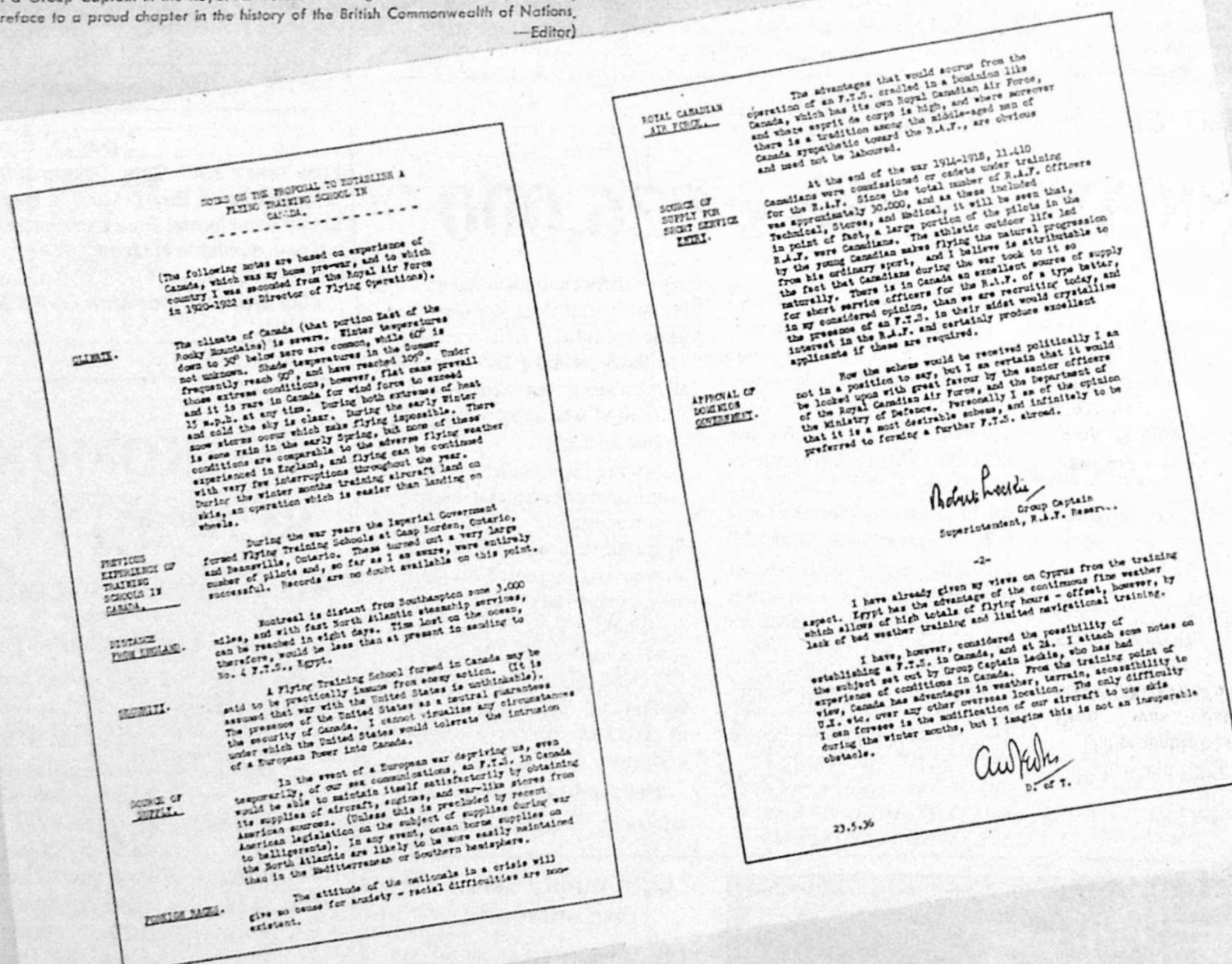
Summary of Aircrew Graduates of the Plan

OCTOBER 1940—MARCH 1945

	Pilot	Nav. "B"	Nav. "W"	Nav.	Air Bomb.	W.O.A.G.	A.G.	Naval A.G.	Flt. Eng.	Total
R.C.A.F.	25,747	5,151	421	7,280	6,659	12,744	12,917	—	1,913	72,835
R.A.F.	17,796	3,113	3,847	6,922	7,581	755	1,392	704	—	42,110
R.A.A.F.	4,045	699	—	944	799	2,875	244	—	—	9,606
R.N.Z.A.F.	2,220	829	30	724	634	2,122	443	—	—	7,002
Total	49,808	9,795	4,298	15,870	15,673	18,496	14,996	704	1,913	131,553

A Background to History

[The remarkable document shown below is an exact reproduction of a memorandum which was prepared in 1936 by Air Marshal Robert Leckie, then a Group Captain in the Royal Air Force. In setting forth his intuitive proposals, Group Captain Leckie wrote the preface to a proud chapter in the history of the British Commonwealth of Nations. —Editor]



Comox Air Force Museum

We wish a Merry Christmas to one and all.

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located at the entrance to CFB Comox

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10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

