

SPIRIT

783 (Calgary) Wing Newsletter

***ROYAL CANADIAN
AIR FORCE
ASSOCIATION***



***Wing Meets every
4th Monday at 7pm
285 Legion Horton Road
(on hold due to COVID)***



MEET THE TEAM

Chairperson	Rob Caswell
Honorary Chairperson	Col (Retd) Don Matthews
Immediate Past Chairperson	Randy Fisher
First Vice Chairperson	Michelle Gerwing
Second Vice Chairperson	Scott Deederly
Treasurer	Kenn Nixon
Secretary	Cecilia Brugma
Past Chairs Advisory Council	Pat Sulek
Casino Chairperson	Darlene Laroche
Friends of Col Belcher	Pat Sulek
Membership	Anna Lewis
Newsletter	Bev Spielman/Michelle Gerwing
Health and Wellness	Michele Henderson
Sergeant at Arms	Art Hill
Entertainment Chair	Muriel Mymko
Public Relations	Bob Wade
Military Museum Liaison	Bob Wade
Cadet Liaison	Kevin Knight
Advocacy	Scott Deederly
Historian	Grant Whitson
Webmaster/Social Media	Kent Anderson





Message from the Chairperson



November seems so far ago, and a blur to the end of January all at once. I hope, on behalf of the Wing Executive Committee, that you found time to be with—in person or virtually—those who are important to you during the holiday season, and that you found time to hang-up the working and volunteer hats that so many of you wear in order to take a well-deserved rest.

January has seen quite a bit of behind the scenes activity for the Wing. The Past Presidents are meeting to discuss venue options for future in-person meetings once we can safely gather again. An application has gone in for a grant related to Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee year and how we may be able to celebrate with an event. As well, our Second-Vice and Advocacy Director, Scott Deederly, put a substantial amount of work into a Library and Archives Canada application to start exploring a 783 Wing History legacy project.

As we move into our meetings for the first half of 2022, I am looking forward to these opportunities to highlight the stories and service of our Wing members. I am also looking forward to how we can return to certain events that I know we miss and cherish, such as our bus trips to Rosebud, our Charter Tea, Air Cadet Annual Reviews, and Stampede.

Thank you for this continued opportunity to support our fantastic Wing!

Per Ardua Ad Astra

Rob Caswell CD, AdeC
Chairman

783 (Calgary) Wing
Royal Canadian Air Force Association



Happy Birthday to you (Jan/Feb)

Margaret McAllister	2 Jan
Kris VanApeldorn	2 Jan
Marie Harvey	9 Jan
Angele Mullins	11 Jan
Gary Gibson	14 Jan
Ashley Rosales-Spielman	15 Jan
Myra Empey	16 Jan
Michael Mullane	18 Jan
Kendra Fisher	19 Jan
Gord Todd	20 Jan
Keith Spielman Sr	24 Jan
Brandon Lewis	30 Jan
Glenn Traub	3 Feb
Edith McMinn	4 Feb
John Stanford	6 Feb
Bob White	7 Feb
Francesca Fisico	9 Feb
Andrew Spielman	10 Feb
Daphne Ter Kuile	19 Feb
Anna Lewis	22 Feb
Susan Clarke	23 Feb
Mike Inglis	27 Feb



Member Profile

Anna and Brian Lewis have been married almost 42 years this July/2022 with 3 children, 2 granddaughters and one soon-to-be grandson. They have been heavily involved with the Royal Canadian Air Force Association and the Cadet program for over 18 years.

Starting with Navy league in 2004 with their 9-year old son, they both worked at doing what was needed to help the cadet program. Brian was an air cadet in the early 70's which encouraged their youngest to become one as well. That transferred their efforts to work with the Alberta Air Cadet program in 2007 where they both currently hold directorship positions: Brian as PR Director and Anna as the Director of Finance. It was at a 52 SSC parent meeting where we met Keith Mann and R.J. Roe who were giving a presentation about the Air Force Association. They invited parents to become members of 783 wing, which they did in September of 2007. They could not just sit around and dove in to roles that needed assistance at 783. Anna was the Air Force Association Newsletter editor from 2008 till 2011, then Membership Chair 2012 to current, Brian Wing PR Director 2008-2013, Cadet Liaison 2013 – 2014, Board Member at large 2014 to current (basically Jack of all trades to help where needed, mostly electronics/sound, hauling stuff everywhere). Over the years at 783, they have been a part of numerous committees helping where they can and have received a variety of awards to acknowledge their commitment to helping others.

Anna and Brian's greatest joys are working with their grandchildren, cadet program and their 783 Wing.

Anna would spend her life at the NICU with the babies if she could. Before COVID, she had little Kingston (preemie baby) to care for to help their oldest son and family as they are foster parents. Anna worked for decades as a newspaper controller in Kelowna BC, then at the Calgary Sun and now enjoys working as a contractor for a US software firm. In her spare time.... (oops, what spare time?) she enjoys friends and family, crafting/cross-stitch, and her puppy Spec.

As for Brian his work at a local High School has provided ample opportunity to have hands on with hundreds of teenagers as their woodworking shop instructor. Teaching students to build furniture that will last a life time and taking pride in the projects they build is the best reward. In 2022, Brian starts his 5th year in this role but prior to that he enjoyed driving a school bus and working in the construction industry. In his spare time, he is an avid gardener.

Both Anna and Brian were born and raised in the Peace River district of northern Alberta. Anna lived on a farm near Fairview and later moved to Grande Prairie. Brian was raised on a farm 7 miles from Grande Prairie, attended the county school till high school. It was there that they met, married in 1980 and then moved to Peachland B.C. for work and education. They moved to Calgary in 2000 and have loved every minute and every friend that they have made since moving here.



The 2021 Christmas Party





Camp Wright 2022



The development of Camp Wright began in 1968. The Camp was named Camp Wright after Dr. Edwin Wright the resident doctor for Athabasca and one of the founders of this training area.

Our facility is located on approximately 122 hectares of wilderness. This Camp has been carefully planned to bring awareness of the natural environment and provide a training site for youth. We are in the wilderness and must respect our surroundings and its inhabitants.

Our main users are the Air Cadets but also we have other youth organizations, weddings, family reunions, educational or outdoor retreats who come and enjoy our camp.

Many of our buildings are from the 1960/70's and need repairs to maintain a level of safety.

Camp Wright is privileged to have dedicated volunteers (some former cadets) who have assisted in the restoration and maintenance of Camp Wright. This camp is run 100% by volunteers year-round.

As donors, you will be recognized on our website as STAR DONORS and acknowledged at our yearly AGM.

Help us maintain this legacy that Dr Edwin Wright started in 1968.

To donate, please visit: [Camp Wright 2022 by Air Cadet League of Canada - Alberta Provincial Committee](#)

Your laugh for the day...

There's an Air Force guy driving from Ottawa to Petawawa and an Army guy driving from Petawawa to Ottawa. In the middle of the night with no other cars on the road they hit each other head on and both cars go flying off in different directions.

The Air Force guy manages to climb out of his car and surveys the damage. He looks at his twisted car and says, "Man, I am really lucky to be alive!"

Likewise the Army guy scrambles out of his car and looks at his wreckage. He too says to himself, "I can't believe I survived this wreck!"

The Army guy walks over to the Air Force guy and says, "Hey man, I think this is a sign from God that we should put away our petty differences and live as friends instead of archrivals"

The Air Force guy thinks for a moment and says, "You know, you're absolutely right! We should be friends. Now I'm gonna see what else survived this wreck"

So the Air Force guy pops open his boot and finds a full, unopened bottle of Jack Daniels.

He says to the Army guy, "I think this is another sign from God that we should toast to our new found understanding and friendship"

The Army guy replies, "You're damn right!" and he grabs the bottle and starts sucking down Jack Daniels. After putting away nearly half the bottle the Army guy hands it back to the Air Force guy and says, "Your turn!"

The Air Force guy twists the cap back on the bottle and says, "Nahh, I think I'll wait for the cops to show up."

Two crows were flying along slowly minding their own business enjoying the scenery, when all of a sudden out of the blue a Hornet goes screaming past, barely missing the now somersaulting, and wildly flapping crows.

"Oh my God!" exclaims one crow in surprise. "He was sure moving!"

The other crow replies: "I reckon you would be too if you had two backsides and both of them were alight!"

Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges of the air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees, and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there.

My husband and I were watching Forrest Gump at the base theater. The crowd was pretty quiet throughout the film, until the scene when Forrest graduates from college and is met by an Army recruiter. That was met with a shout from behind us: "Run, Forrest, run!"



reminder

From your Membership Director:

Please contact Anna Lewis, our Director of Membership, if you change any contact info at bandalewis@shaw.ca

From your Health and Wellness Director

All Wing members already receive birthday cards. Do you know of anyone in our membership who would appreciate receiving a card of congratulations, or perhaps a card to raise their spirits? Greetings could be sent for many reasons, such as:

- *a “milestone” birthday*
- *best wishes for someone in hospital or convalescing at home*