



Air Cadet League of Canada (Manitoba) Inc.

Newsletter

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MANITOBA AIR CADETS EXCELL

HUBBLE AWARD

WO2 Meaghan Flook of 177 (Air Canada) RCACS is this years Air Cadet Winner of the Hubble Award. Presented annually at the Winnipeg Tattoo by the Royal Military Institute of Manitoba, the award recognizes Manitoba cadets who best demonstrate attributes of leadership, citizenship, element support, scholastic achievement, physical fitness and community involvement outside the cadet movement. The award includes a \$500.00 educational bursary.

TOP AMATEUR PILOT IN CANADA

Sancho Mc Cann an ex-cadet with 170 (St James) RCACS and a graduate of both the Glider and Power flight programs, was recently named as the Top Amateur Pilot in Canada. The University of Manitoba student and Civilian Instructor with 170 RCACS has continued his flight training while working as a flight dispatcher with Flying Colors Pilot Training at Winnipeg International Airport. Sancho won first place in the Webster Trophy Manitoba regional competition and placed first in the Webster National Competition Finals at the Edmonton Flying Club in August. A close friend and fellow dispatcher at Flying Colors, WO1 Ryan Mitchell of 170 RCACS, was a close second in the regional competition.

MANITOBA'S GLIDING RESOURCES

The Air Cadet League of Canada (Manitoba) Incorporated owns two Bellanca Scout tow aircraft and three Schweizer 2-33 gliders. These aircraft are utilized to conduct the spring and autumn season gliding familiarization flights for our cadets; as well, they are resources that are leased to the Department of



National Defence (DND) each summer to meet the Air Cadet League of Canada's (ACL) commitment to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the League and the DND for the Air Cadet Gliding Program (ACGP). We also own a launching winch, and two vehicles, a van and a pickup truck. The spring and fall operations take place at our gliding sites at the Brandon and Gimli airports. At Gimli we are fortunate to share the DND hangar for our program while at Brandon the

Flying Club provides a spare room for our operation. The DND summer program is located at the Gimli Air Cadet Summer Training Centre.

All cadets are offered a familiarization flight each year as part of the ACL's mandate. In the recent past this mission, to fly ALL of Manitoba's Air Cadets, has not been successful due to several reasons, but

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mainly because of weather cancellations that have reduced the number of flights. On those days that the weather was suitable the flights were limited due to the number of aircraft available. A second major reason is our inability to get all our cadets to the gliding sites. In a review of our program, ways and means to improve our success rate were explored. It became apparent that the best way to improve the number of cadets flown would be to have sufficient resources available for more flights on the good weather days. That would require the procurement of an additional glider to function from the Brandon gliding site. This would afford a more efficient operation with one tow plane and two gliders which in turn would double our flight potential at the Brandon site.

DEDICATED FUNDS HAVE BEEN RAISED

With this requirement in mind your committee developed a Glider fund and through specifically directed donations has raised more than \$13,000 over the past number of years. The funds raised for this project are near the cost of a used Schweizer 2-33 glider. We have received approval-in-principle from the ACL National Headquarters and the DND to add an additional Manitoba glider to the MOA. We are researching the availability of suitable gliders and we will procure a machine when one is located at a price within our means.

Meanwhile, we continue to add to the Glider Fund with individual contributions. Once we have added a fourth glider to our fleet we will review the need for other equipment required to improve the cost effectiveness of our Gliding Operations. For example, one method of reducing our aircraft operating costs is to utilize our winch to launch gliders. However, when we used the winch we had to rent a vehicle to return the cable after each launch. This was not as cost-effective as having a vehicle on inventory for this purpose. Accordingly, we recently procured a used light pickup truck for this operation. Funds were obtained from the sale of a glider trailer, which was used with a glider we replaced two or three years ago, and from funds available for such projects from the Manitoba Soaring Council and Sports Manitoba. We also require a Van type vehicle to be a support/emergency vehicle for the Brandon site. Again a used Van would be adequate and we are pursuing the availability of a donation or sponsored vehicle for this purpose. Worst case is we will have to purchase a used vehicle. If you are aware of potential contributors, money or equipment, let us know as soon as possible.

GOAL IS TO IMPROVE AT MINIMAL COST

The goal is to improve our Gliding Operations at minimal cost to our Squadrons. To do this we are relying on interested individuals who wish to contribute to the Air Cadet Program. During the past few years we have received contributions from families, individuals, companies and organizations in the community who have considered our goals to be worthy of their support. We continue to seek support from those willing to help us fulfill our initiatives and we encourage you to assist when the opportunity arises.



Of course, all this effort will only be successful if our cadets get to the sites to take advantage of the flights. We ask your support to encourage cadets to participate in the familiarization flight program.

ANNUAL RAFFLE FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

At the 60th Annual General Meeting we discussed a proposal to develop an Annual Raffle to assist Squadron Sponsors to raise funds. While not all squadrons wish to participate, some do, thus a Raffle Committee is being setup under the Chairmanship of Dirwyn Hayes, our Director-at-large. The first raffle will assist funding the 2002/2003 training year and ticket sales will probably commence in the summer of 2002. More information will be provided to the membership as the program unfolds. If your squadron was a dissenter and you change your mind, contact Dirwyn through the Provincial League office or <ddnhayes@mb.sympatico.ca>.

EFFECTIVE SPEAKING COMPETITION

The National Effective Speaking Competition will be held in concert with the National Annual General Meeting of the Air Cadet League of Canada at Niagara Falls, ON during June 13 to 16, 2002. It is planned for the Glen Elwood competition for rural squadrons to take place the weekend of February 8, 9 and 10, 2002 and will be hosted by 575 Terrier RCACS in Portage La Prairie. The competition for Winnipeg area squadrons is TBA. The winners of the two area competitions will compete during Golden Falcon in Brandon, MB to represent Manitoba at the National event.

The topics for this year's competition are:

1. Sixty Years of Air Cadets
2. The Liberation of Holland
3. A Canadian who has made (is making) a difference
4. Why I am Proud to be a Canadian
5. On the Flight Line - A Canadian Aviation Story
6. Canada and the World

Those cadets intending to compete are encouraged to seek assistance from their local Toast Masters Club or community groups who have expertise in public speaking. The Provincial Coordinator for this year's event is Mr. Jack Roberts. Further information may be obtained by contacting the coordinator through the Provincial League office or at <1925jack@mts.net>.

GOLDEN FALCON 2002 - Mr. Ron Pruden Coordinator

Well it's that time of year again; time to plan for Golden Falcon 2002. Remember last year in Winnipeg when 170 and 82 were victorious? The 2002 version of Golden Falcon, for the first time, will be held in Brandon hosted by 82 RCACS, we have had our first meeting and everything looks good. We will be housed in McMaster House at the University of Brandon and eat at their cafeteria, so this may be your first look at campus life. All sports activities will take place at the University, range at Brandon Armoury and Orienteering TBA.

The committee plans to have a big band for the parade this year and need extra band personnel, so if you have a band you will be contacted. There will be a dance on Saturday night and on Sunday, after the Banquet and Medal presentations, a Karaoke night. Everyone will stay until Monday and depart after breakfast. We look forward to seeing you on 17- 20 May at Brandon for a great weekend.

CADET SURVIVAL TRAINING SITE

The Air Cadet 'Flight Line' survival training site north of Gimli is again open for business. The building on the site is being removed and exercises can now be booked at the site through the ACO Air's office. There is no cost to use the site but we expect each group to employ good field habits and leave the location in better condition than it was on their arrival. Any problems or ideas for improvement of the site should be passed through the ACO Air's office.

COME FLY WITH US!

The Region Cadet Air Operations Officer, Major Dean Gillrie, has requested that the League assist in seeking staff for our gliding operations. Any CIC or CI personnel or anyone able to join these groups is invited to 'come fly with us'. A program to train new tow pilots is planned for this winter. Anyone interested in assisting at either the Gimli or Brandon sites should contact either the ACO Air at 1-800-862-0032 or Major Gillrie at 204-833-2500 local 6905. Qualified individuals will be upgraded to fill the positions that are open.

FRIENDS OF AIR CADETS

The Air Cadet League of Canada is forming an Alumni Association and is seeking former Air Cadets to join the organization. If you are an ex-cadet or if you know someone who was, and you or they are interested, check out the following web page <http://www.aircadetleague.com/Friends/Friends.htm>.



NATIONAL SUMMER TRAINING COURSES 2002

Every summer, air cadets have the privilege of participating in one of several National Summer Training Courses, offered by the Air Cadet League of Canada and its partner the Canadian Forces. Selection to these courses is reserved for our most deserving cadets.

The courses are offered at various locations, all across Canada, during the months of July and August and in the case of the International Air Cadet Exchange in other countries around the world. A listing and description of these courses may be found at www.cadets.dnd.ca/vcds.

The selection process is the responsibility of the Local Sponsoring Committee, the Squadron Commanding Officer, the Manitoba Provincial Committee and the Prairie Region Cadet Support Unit (Prairie) and occurs from September to February of the cadet training year.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The main purpose of this NEWSLETTER is to share information with the members, cadets, officers and supporters of the Manitoba Air Cadet family. Consequently, do you have something to pass on to those interested in the Air Cadet program; news, pictures and stories? Is there a subject you would like to see covered? We would like to publish your article so pass it to the Air Cadet League of Canada (Manitoba) Inc. office. We reserve the right to edit your article to fit the format, intent and space of the NEWSLETTER.

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PLEASE PASS ME ON TO OTHER INTERESTED READERS