



May 2016

971 WING NEWS

INTRODUCTION

What you will find hereunder is not a newsletter per se, certainly not a George Sweanor style newsletter, but rather a collection of newsy items that relate to the Wing and may be of interest to you. Much of the material surfaced at an executive meeting a few days ago; some of it is my own.

You will notice I have used a larger font for this message to assist those of you who may be hearing impaired.

WHITHER THE WING

We have gone through a period of dormancy recently when the future of the Wing was being questioned by many of us, including me. It now appears that we will be recovering from that dormancy as you will see from information that will follow. Certainly, the current mood within the Wing Executive is positive, optimistic and up-beat. We are all working hard to make the Wing a positive experience for its members.

WHAT THE WING NEEDS

We had a philosophical discussion on this point, and reached a general consensus on three pillars of success for the Wing:

- An active Social Program
- An effective communication system
- Meaningful projects in support of the RCAFA

There was emphatic agreement among us that the Social Program is most important. It is the core of our existence. That is where we interact, discuss issues and ideas, build relationships, and find common bonds and reasons to continue as members.

There was also emphatic agreement that our communications need to be improved. A proper "Newsletter" was identified as a requirement. We will

be working to get a Newsletter up and running as a priority. We realize full well that replacing George and his standard will be a daunting task. We are not asking for that. We are just asking for somebody in the Wing to step up to produce a product akin to what you are reading right now. Any takers?

The “Projects” (Action Plan) was supported generally, but with some reservations. This will not be a problem. It is a voluntary program. Those who support it will do so and participate. Those who do not support it will not. It is as simple as that. The Wing will respect the desires of all members regarding this program.

SOCIAL PROGRAM

You will be happy to note that the Social Program is building up some steam.

Starting this June, we can expect to see five successive months of house parties (Jun – Oct). Wow! So get out your dancing shoes. You will receive dates and details from Val in due course. Stay tuned.

Also, our next Christmas Party (Jan 17) has been reserved.

BUSINESS MEETING

There will be an important business meeting at the June social. Important but not long.

We need to approve the 2016 Budget. The budget proposed by the Wing Executive is attached for preview. You will also note that figures outlining our financial status are listed.

We need to present the proposed 2016 Action Plan for comment. No vote is necessary. This plan represents a compilation of the Wing’s non-social activities, and a copy is attached. I request you review the plan and identify areas of involvement that may be of interest to you. We can get you involved.

THANK YOU JIM BERWICK AND RICHARD GRAHAM

You will note from the budget that our Entertainment Account is quite flush with money. That is mainly due to the fact that Jim Berwick and Richard Graham have not accepted any monies from the Wing when they have

hosted. Their generosity is greatly appreciated, and I want the Wing membership to be aware that this has been going on. “Bravo Zulu” to both of you. “Bravo Zulu” is naval flag signal talk meaning “very well done”.

MEMORIAL DAY – MONDAY, 30 MAY

The Wing supports this important event every year. Please mark the date and plan to attend. Normally, a one-hour ceremony takes place starting at 11 am. The normal venue is The Retired Enlisted Association on Emory Circle, Colorado Springs. This year, we are thinking of scheduling a Wing breakfast at a nearby restaurant before the ceremony. Stay tuned for a more detailed email when we have more details to offer.

TRIBUTE TO BARRY EDWARD – 21 MAY (2-5 PM)

The Wing will honor Barry at this event. At this juncture, we are working on the “how” part.

CANADA DAY GARDEN PARTY

This event will be held on 30 June, vice the traditional 1 July (actual birthday). No other details at this time.

Hope you find this informative and useful.

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