



*August 2016*

## 971 WING NEWS

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### PRESIDENT'S PERCH

This is my second attempt at communicating with the Wing in a “newsy way”. The first was three months ago (May 16). As I see it, a lot of the uncertainties noted in my first missive have been overcome, or at least faded into the background, and I believe the Wing is now on a reasonably sound footing, at least for the foreseeable future:

- Our finances are sound
- Our Social Program is active
- Our ceremonies are proceeding on schedule
- Our “Business Plan” is being executed

My one big concern is that our membership is dwindling for various reasons, mostly because Father Time keeps marching on. Very sadly - and as you well know - we have lost four members to the Grim Reaper in recent times. Two additional members have also vacated the area, and the Wing, one because of problems with altitude, the other because of job opportunities elsewhere. In the interest of stemming the tide, we are launching a recruiting campaign aimed at active duty CF personnel and CF personnel retired or retiring in the area. But we can also reach well beyond that. If you have friends or colleagues whom you think might be a good “fit” with our group, I encourage you to invite them to a Wing function, and we will see how things unfold from there. Remember, we are not just a Canadian organization. We have embraced US active duty military, US retired military, and US business folks. Indeed, our many American members have contributed so much to the Wing over the years, as demonstrated by their current presence on the Wing Executive (Champion, Freimuth V, Freimuth R, Rallis).

This space left blank in the hope that additional literary inspiration might help fill it.

Sadly, that didn't happen.

### 971 WING EXECUTIVE

I am pleased to introduce two new members of the Wing Executive:

Darrell Levitt: He is not really new - more like a refurbished soldier.



show up in force to pay our respects to those few airmen and support Personnel who fought so valiantly to defeat the Nazis and thus ensure the continuation of our way of life.

- More details will be provided by email as the ceremony draws closer.

Remembrance / Veterans Day Ceremony:

- As always, this ceremony will commence at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.
- Thursday 11 November, starting at 11:00 am, at the Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) on Emory Circle, Colorado Springs.
- More details to follow by email as the event draws nearer.

## NEWSLETTER

The Wing has been without a newsletter for almost two years, and the negative effects of that void have indeed surfaced slowly and steadily.

We have discussed this matter at length in the Wing Executive, and we agree that we need to re-establish our newsletter with an editor. We are not looking for the type of literary masterpiece produced by George after his countless hours of research. What we are looking for is essentially what you are reading right now, and that should not be a daunting challenge. We are looking for a vehicle to provide news about the Wing to members of the Wing. Anything beyond that would be welcomed, but would certainly not be necessary. It is expected that most of the material will be provided by members of the Wing Executive, with the Editor doing little more than collating submitted drafts into a finished product.

So what do you say Wingers. Please consider undertaking this important Wing function.

## FINAL THOUGHT

I hope you will find the above information interesting and useful.

Art Nielsen\_