



Sabretache

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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February 2015



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CMHS Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on

**Tuesday,
February
17th,
2015**

7:00 pm

At the
Petty Officers' Mess

From 1958 through 1969 a uniquely Canadian aerobatic solo aircraft performer, known as the Red Knight, gained a reputation for providing flying exhibitions at smaller airfields which were not included in the larger flight demonstration team's schedules. This demonstration aircraft was unusual in that all of the maneuvers were performed within the boundaries of the airfield so that all of the action was in full view of the spectators throughout the show.

The aircraft used was a Lockheed T-33 MK III "Silver Star", the Canadian version of the venerable Lockheed T-33. The T-33 was created by lengthening the fuselage of the Lockheed F-80 "Shooting Star" and adding a second seat with controls. Lockheed built over 5,690 of these aircraft, and Canada built an additional 656 which were known as "Silver Stars".

The Red Knight program came to an abrupt end on July 13th, 1969 when the Red Knight pilot, 23 year old Bryan Alston, was killed after performing for some Italian Air Force Officials when the aircraft he was flying lost power and crashed inverted after attempting a forced landing. This crash effectively ended the Red Knight program.

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CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The
CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is a non-profit registered society
which fosters the study of the
military and the police, and the heritage of
Canada, the British Empire, and the world
as well as the preservation of military
artifacts and records.

The CMHS meets once every calendar month
at:

Petty Officers' Mess
HMCS Tecumseh
1820 - 24th Street SW
Calgary AB T2T 0G6

All are welcome to attend

Notice of Next Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on
Tuesday, February 17th, 2015
19:00 (7:00 pm)

At the Petty Officers' Mess, HMCS Tecumseh.

Members are reminded that an offering of foodstuffs for the Legion Food Bank is considered your unofficial entrance fee to our regular scheduled meetings.

The unofficial agenda of this meeting will be:

- Introduction of guests, Minutes of last meeting
- Correspondence, Membership report
- Treasurer's report, Old business / New business
- Break, Show & Tell

The President, Kevin R. would like to invite everyone to remain after the meeting for an informal time of fellowship.



Dave Barker Brian Grover Al Young Beau Warrinan
 Bill Grip Lloyd Hubbard C.B. Lang



The spectacular low flying of the Golden Hawks is noted as an "altimeter check" by F/L Price at their RCAF Station Chatham headquarters.

In 1959, the Royal Canadian Air Force celebrated its 35th anniversary along with 50 years of powered aviation in Canada. To mark that special occasion, a team known as the "Golden Hawks" were created and were first equipped with 6 Canadair Sabre Mk.5 aircraft and later with the Mk.6 version. The airplanes were distinctively painted in overall gold with a stylized red and white hawk emblem painted on each side of the fuselage. In 1960, with the growing popularity of the "Golden Hawks", their pilots received new Air Force blue flying suits and red flying jackets that became their trademark along with a new team patch.

The "Golden Hawks" airshow typically lasted for 25 minutes. The team was originally created to last for only one year, but due to outstanding international acclaim they carried on until 1964. Budget restraints forced the team to disband. In total, they gave 317 air demonstrations and they also became the first RCAF display team to visit the USA in 1960.

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the Calgary Military Historical Society

January 20th , 2015

Meeting called to order by President Kevin R. S. at 7:16 PM 21 members in attendance.

Minutes of previous meeting. Discussed several revisions and complaints. Call for approval by Mikey C. Seconded by Bob McP.

Newsletter. Discussion of stories. Member Stuart E. inquires if we have changed logo of newsletter with picture of Nursing sister. Editor explains its only temporary.

No Guests, No correspondence.

Membership.

Report by the noble Brian H. Membership totals 40 with a new member signed up at gun show.

David G. questions member if they know a list of members who have not paid and can they mention that the group needs their support.

Martin U. States that he is doing a new membership list and will be in touch with these people also and will remind them of their obligations.

Treasures Report.

Listing of monies collected from book auctions, donations etc. Listing of future and present expenditures.

Acceptance of Treasures Report moved by Brian H. and seconded by Mike C. Approved

Old Business

President Kevin R. gives his report on the Christmas party. Thanks those who attended and has only heard good comments on it.

Mike C. proposes that the group consider going next year to a new facility that sounds interesting. Tony Roma's will offer a good deal. Members suggest bringing this up next October and everyone agrees.

John E. reports on Legion 285 may be moving so that could also influence decision

James B. Asks about gun show times and Pres. Kevin R. states that members can find out about times by going to Facebook "Gun shows Canada". Which lists them.

Dave L and Mike C discuss funeral of Ken Taylor. Members reminisce about stories of his collections.

Dave L. tells of his widow wanting people to visit some time and he will set this up in the future.

New Business

Dave L., discusses questions asked of him via the web site, as the Club Historian and how he answers them.

Asks members if they would like a presentation of his methods of extracting information from all sources.

Members agree to **not** having a "Show and Tell" next month and Dave will provide ideas and glues to finding answers to your questions.

Mike C— talks about Imperial War Museum and the new information they are putting out.

David S.— mentions Canadian War Diaries that are on line are not dated accurately.

Al D.—discusses problems in the Naval Veterans Club.

Break ,

Draw by ticket master and many happy winners.

Show and Tell

Stu. E.-shows award and parchment presented to him and 75th anniversary of WW2. Request forms from Vet. Affairs.

John E. Gun show finds WW1 #36 Mills bombs. Discusses how he quickly checked them for safety. Dispatch Riders boots WW2.

Gary M.—found badge of Canadian warrant officer. Gives history of Coat of Arms and proclamations associated with them.

Darrel K. -=Calgary Highlander Unit Accommodation from Ottawa for the most soldiers sent to Afghanistan. Other old badges

Minutes Continued next page

Minutes continued. Show and Tell

Dave L.—New copy of Princess Mary box and its contents.

Bab McP. —Gun show finds of medals. Version of UN Korean Medal. Japanese Monarch Medal and Chinese Medals

Mike C. -Medals to a family. (Father and Sons) Fenien Raid to Boer War. Discussion auctions and prices Medals to Joseph LaFlamee with 33 years service. Discussion of Meritorious medals issued by Canadian Gov't.

Martin U.— Relatives memories and history, in Lincoln and Welland Regiment. Letters written by soldier to his wife that has become a book.

Indra.-Has started album on members of the society.

Al M. WW2 Rhodesian General Service medals.. Listing and tracking of these medals.

Don S.— Russian Currency from 1912

Allan.— Period copies of Hitler's watercolors from WW1 Album. Experiences of that time and the propaganda associated with them. General discussion follows.

Al. D.— discusses show about Civil War Group

David G.— “Wait for me Daddy” coin issued and story of Khaki University run by Canadians in WW1.

Motion to adjourn —Tony G. and Mike C.



Golden Hawks Aerobatic Team on their visit to RCAF Sea Island in the late 1950's. Note the Sea Island hangar in background

L to R, Standing - Bill Stewart, Ralph Annis, Ed Rozdeba, J.T. Price and Jim McCombe. In the car (believed to be a Sunbeam Alpine) Dave Tinson and team leader Fern Villeneuve.

The "Sky Lancers" were another European-based aerobatic display team from the Royal Canadian Air Force. In 1955, 2 (F) Wing, based at RCAF Station Grostenquin in France, created an aerobatic team known as the "Sky Lancers". The team performed 20 shows in the 1955 season. The following year, 4 Wing based at RCAF Station Baden-Soellingen in Germany generated the team with the same name, but using a different color scheme on the aircraft and new pilots. Unfortunately, on 2 March 1956, a tragic accident occurred during a training flight and four of all five Sky Lancers' pilots were killed. The solo pilot Les "Stretch" Price was not flying with the team that day. Consequently, the RCAF suspended the further formation of aerobatic teams for several years.

