



# 351 SSC News



**351 Silver Star Squadron Sponsoring Committee**

**Volume 3, Issue 1**

**August 31, 2013**

## **Message from Chairperson – Godfred Wong**

This year, we have been going through tough times and good times. We had successfully split our Squadron to make more opportunities for our Cadets on training. We beat our set target for Spring Tagging by over \$1,400. All the money will be going back to our Cadets for extra activities. We got the funding from Ontario Trillium Foundation for improving our Band equipments.

I would like to thank you for all SSC members and some parent helpers. Without them, I cannot do everything by myself.

There will be a lot of things to do in the coming year and wish that more parents to get involved as SSC members, CV (Civilian Volunteers) or monetary donations.

We would like to hear from you. Please feel free to email me at [ssc-chair@351silverstar.com](mailto:ssc-chair@351silverstar.com).

## **Welcome Message from Commanding Officer – Major Adam Mobbs**

Welcome back! As your new Commanding Officer, I am thrilled to embark with you on the adventures of a new training year!

The vision of the Air Cadet program is to provide a relevant, credible and proactive youth development organization, offering a program of choice for Canada's youth while preparing them to become the leaders of tomorrow through a set of fun, challenging, well-organized and safe activities. Based upon my observations of the last training year, 351 Silver Star Squadron is a well positioned to be the organization of choice for Markham youth. Under the direction of the previous Commanding Officer, Major M. Holowatyj, this Squadron should be proud of the many accomplishments it has achieved.

Lastly, the staff and sponsoring committee are always looking for the assistance of valued volunteers. Feel

free to approach myself or Mr. Godfred Wong with a desire to **HELP OUT**.

Looking forward to a great training year!

## **SSC Finances**

We have a deficit budget at the beginning of the year, so we expect to cut some extra activities. With good tagging results plus parents' donations for a lot of events, we have turned around to a surplus financial year which can help us to have a smooth year.

The coming year will be another challenge. We have lost tagging locations with good income, rising expenses, DND cutting, etc.

We are welcoming parents' suggestion to find more sources of income to maintain extra activities for our cadets.

## **New Nevada Program**

351 Silver Star is launching a new SSC Fundraising Program named "Nevada" this year and is supported by the OPC.

The OPC Nevada program is a shared fundraising initiative across the province. It is fully voluntary, but does provide a good opportunity to generate extra revenue for any Air Cadet Squadron.

Nevada Break-Open Ticket is a lottery ticket that sells in the participating location; funds will go directly to our cadet and benefit our Squadron.

How Can You Help....

**Sell the Nevada Tickets!!**

Parents, if you are holding a business or know someone who is and are interested in being one of our Nevada Retail Location, please kindly contact SSC and we will be happy to provide you with a full



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detail. The OPC have created a revenue sharing opportunity with the licence to increase your profit and support our local fundraising activity.

Help in the Nevada Program!!

Volunteers, please contact our SSC members if you want to help out in this program. The more assistance we may be able to get, the greater support for our Cadets.

### Ontario Provincial Committee of the Air Cadet League of Canada (OPC) Lottery

The OPC Lottery is a long-standing annual project and an essential source of revenue for the Air Cadet Program in the Ontario province. Based on the size of the squadron, each squadron is required to sell a minimum number of books of tickets (quota). In 2012 - 2013, we sold 200 books.

A portion of the sales proceeds is used to pay for all lottery costs (ticket printing, prizes... etc.). The remaining proceeds are used to support OPC gliding program, the Air Cadet Effective Speaking Competition and to cover the hosting expenses associated with the International Air Cadet Exchange Program as well as to contribute to the OPC overhead costs associated with supporting the Squadron Sponsoring Committees.

We need to fundraise in order to offer a full and attractive program. One book per cadet is mandated in order to be considered for the prestigious senior courses such as Gliding and Power courses. It is very important to recognize that it is every cadet's responsibility to buy or sell OPC tickets. Exceptions will only be granted if there is a valid reason and the cadet must inform the Commanding Officer in writing from his/her parents or guardian. Cadets who do not purchase any book will be reported to the Commanding Officer. Selling of books will begin in September. Each book is \$50.00. Cash only and no check please.

The coming year, we had been assigned 220 books and will need parents/cadets to help selling extra books.

### Tag Days

Tagging is the major fundraising event. We are only allowed to have it twice a year on fall and spring. It is mandatory that **ALL** cadets to participate in this event. We will need parents' full support by **STAYING BEHIND** to drive their sons & daughters to and from the tagging stores.



### Squadron Photo Sales

Every year, we will have a photo night. Please support the Squadron by ordering those photos when available. All photo proofs will be posted during parade night for selection and ordering through SSC. All funds collected will be going back to the Squadron's activities.

### Canteen Sales

On every Thursday during break time, SSC will operate a Canteen for cadets' refreshments. All funding will be going back to Squadron's activities. Please provide some spare changes for your sons and daughters to support this event.

### Mess Dinner

Mess dinner was originated about 200 years ago. The purpose is to provide the opportunity for seniors and





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juniors to meet on a friendly but formal occasion and to enable the officer in command to speak to his officers as a group. This year our Mess Dinner was held at Angus Glen Community Center on December 2012. Due to the size limitation, we can only have 70 cadets attended. Looking forward to having a bigger event this coming year.

## Annual Ceremonial Review

This year our Annual Ceremonial Review was held at Markham Village Arena. We have a successful 26<sup>th</sup> year for 351 Silver Star Squadron. This is the most important date for all cadets and showing what they have learnt for the whole year. We had awards, band and drill team, the announcement of the OTF funding and more..



I would like to thank you for those parents' donation for a lot of different refreshments including some homemade cup cakes.



Thank you parents again...

## Awards Banquet

This year our Awards Banquet was held at the Pickle Barrels in Markville Mall. To recognize their achievement and enjoy the fun atmosphere, all parents are encouraged to come next year. SSC has subsidized part of the cost to participate cadets and this year's grand price for raffle is a mini iPad. Please provide them with some money to support this event for next year.

## Change of Command

Every three years, there will be a change in the Commanding Officer. This year the retiring Commanding Officer is Major Mark Holowatyj CD and the new Commanding Officer is Major Adam Mobbs. We are looking forward to working with our new Major in the coming years.



## Testimonial from Major Mark Holowatyj CD— Former Commanding Officer

351 Silver Star Squadron had been one of 16 Squadrons that I assisted during my term as Regional Cadet Advisor from 2005 to 2008. My interaction with the Sponsoring Committee and the staff gave me an insight to the way the Squadron operated.

This previous exposure to 351, helped me when I was tasked with commanding the Squadron as it prepared to be split. Being a Squadron that operated relatively



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smoothly helped make the split seemingly seamless. Adding to the mystique was 351 Squadron's upcoming 25th Anniversary in 2012.

Needless to say, I was very excited when assigned to be the next Commanding Officer with these projects being implemented. On arrival at 351, I was excited and humbled by the dedication and support provided by the Squadron Sponsoring Committee. Even now, thinking back as these projects were being completed, the time spent on the support of 351 Squadron by the Sponsoring Committee is mind boggling. I am in awe of the 'Can-Do' attitude displayed by all members of the Sponsoring Committee. During the past 3 years, 351 Silver Star Squadron was expected to accomplish extraordinary things. This meant extraordinary contributions from the Staff and the Sponsoring Committee. The Staff, Sponsoring Committee and the Cadets all together accomplished the extraordinary tasks expected of us. This could only have been done with the Staff, Sponsoring Committee and Cadets all working cooperatively together in a single common direction until the tasks were completed. This cooperation and collaboration is the reason for the success.

Looking forward, I wish you look back to see what was done and how it was done, to see the blueprint for 351's next successes with your new Commanding Officer.

## **Testimonial from Leon Tang – Service Award SSC member**

It has been an honour and pleasure to serve for the Squadron Sponsoring Committee (SSC) for the past eight years. As a senior member of the committee and having worked with three different commanding officers, I have seen the squadron evolve and mature year by year. Not only have the committee grown, but most importantly, the cadets. I have watched

many young teens enter the cadet program and they have all graduated as mature young adults.

A cadet squadron requires officers and civilian instructors to teach and lead the cadets. However, the SSC helps organize a lot of the events ranging from Mess Dinner, Awards Dinner, Tagging locations, Annual, and even all the school and facility permits we use for our training.

We are always in need for volunteer in the SSC. So please come join us in helping 351 to continue to grow, prosper and strive for the highest quality of youth training.

## **Testimonial from Jay Sabarillo – First year SSC member**

At the time I wasn't really sure on the best way to help in the squadron, but wanted to get involved in any way possible so that I could spend my time wisely while waiting for my son during cadet training.

Along with the other SSC members, I quickly discover why I enjoy being part of the 351 Silver Star. It is amazing to witness how all these busy parents dedicate their time on the squadron. Not only they would help organizing regular parade night throughout the year; they also help the training officer plan and execute related activities and training; support not only their own child but all other cadets whenever they need help. The SSC members had showed me how keen and committed they were and that had made an impact on my social life.

Volunteering gives me a chance to meet new people, communicate with members of the squadron and most importantly, playing a part in this life-enriching program. I appreciate the opportunity as a SSC member and I am looking forward to seeing cadets and I grow over our years in 351 Silver Star.