



351 SSC News



351 Silver Star Squadron Sponsoring Committee

Volume 4, Issue 1

August 31, 2014

Message from Chairperson – Godfred Wong

This year, we are honored by OPC to receive the Air Marshal Wilfred Curtis Award (2012-2013) -Top Sponsoring Committee in the Toronto Area.



We broke our record after record on both Fall and Spring Tagging. This is our main source of income to fund our Cadets for extra activities. We did have a successful year.

I would like to thank you for all SSC members and our 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.

Welcome Message from Commanding Officer – Major Adam Mobbs

Excited for a New Training Year?

If you answered “yes”, you certainly have great reason to look forward to a fantastic training year. We are ready to engage all members of the Squadron, delivering a credible, dynamic and versatile program which is both fun and challenging. Building on our historic successes, you can expect a few minor “tweaks” this year which include: (1) Introduction to Biathlon Training (2) Squadron Trip to New York City (3) New Marksmanship Equipment (4) Greater individual accountability;

and (5) New level officers (to be announced on the first training night).

Lastly, we are always looking for staff/volunteers to assist in the overall delivery and administration of the Air Cadet program. If you are interested in committing 1 evening per week and 1 weekend day per month, please contact me at your earliest convenience. Previous experience with cadets is not required.

SSC Finances

Due to our exceptional good tagging result, we had surplus this year, so we expect to fund more extra activities coming year.

Every year will be another challenge for us. Due to unforeseeable tagging result, rising expenses, etc, we are welcoming parents’ suggestion to find more sources of income to maintain extra activities for our cadets.

New Nevada Program

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



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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 2013 – 2014, we sold 220 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 again with 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. This year, we are lucky to have Sandringham Holdings Ltd and BrokerTeam Insurance Solutions Inc. to allow us to use his office as our dispatch LHQ.



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 juniors to meet on a friendly but formal occasion and to enable the officer in command to speak to his officers as a group.



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This year our Mess Dinner was held at Angus Glen Community Centre. We had invited parents and guests this year so we can join our kids and get to learn more about the cadet program.

Annual Ceremonial Review

This year our Annual Ceremonial Review was held at Centennial Arena. We have a successful 27th 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.



I would like to thank you for those parents' donation for a lot of different refreshments and drinks. Thank you parents again...



Awards Banquet

This year our Awards Banquet was held at the DragonLegend. This is another new adventure for us and challenges to run the Awards Banquet on an open area but everybody enjoy the unlimited supply of food and drinks.

We invited a parents and guest to share and

recognize their kids 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 prizes for raffle are 2 mini iPads. Please provide them with some money to support this event for next year.

Parent's Night

Starting this year, we are having a parent's night on the first date while the new recruits coming in for training. I noticed that while I am the first year parent and knowing nothing about the program. Should I be wondering what's happening to my kid every Thursday night? Hoping by hosting this will at least have some form of communication with our new and existing parents.

Comments from parents:

1. I am very pleased with the parent's night because it let me know what my son will actually be doing in air cadets program. During the parent's night, at least I have some idea on what is the program all about. I found it extremely useful for us as a first year parent; I was very pleased with the parent's night.
2. The Parent's Night was a short, yet great informational meeting for all the parents to get to know everything about Air Cadets, such as the benefits, the obligations and the activities they will have in their cadet life. We also know who we should talk to if we have any questions. As the parents of new recruits, it gives us a piece of mind as to what we are looking forward to in the future.

Testimonial from Godfred Wong – Outgoing SSC Chair

It is always fun and enjoyable watching your own kid grown. In the cadet program, I had learnt from all the SSC members, Officers and Staff and Parents how we can improve by offering our knowledge, time, and money to make this successful. I have no regret that I have put in so much effect to help 351 for the last 2 years as a chairperson. It is always a challenge to work with people. Everyone will have their own ways of



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doing things, but I found that by listening to different opinions and adapt the best option to run the SSC will have the most benefit to our cadets. I wish that I can pass along this knowledge while I am still a SSC member after retiring. Looking forward to having more parents involve and see you all during every Thursday.

Testimonial from Karolyn – 2nd year SSC member

Being a part of SSC since 2012 evoked many emotions: pride, satisfaction and nostalgia. My first encounter with Air Cadets goes back 14 years, when I forced my daughter to join Air Cadets. I thought that maybe air cadets would teach her discipline and help her to develop some life skills. Little did I know that from being forced to attend weekly training to voluntarily devoting countless hours through drill team, tag days, and soon months of flying scholarships, she gained much more than I can ever imagine any organization can provide. My son then joined 6 years ago and the Air Cadet program continues to amaze me. The passion that my son and daughter both developed through earning their ranks, taking on a multitude of leadership roles, the lifelong friends they have met, and numerous opportunities for growth are proofs that the Air Cadets program is second to none.

It is hard not to feel motivated and passionate when both my kids had such positive and fond memories of cadets. So I decided to become a SSC member to show my support but also came out with new friends and fond memories while learning from other SSC members and staff as passionate as I am.

To anyone who believes in our youth and their

unmeasurable talent and abilities, I encourage you to get involved and ask questions. Find out how the Air Cadets can benefit not just your child but our whole community; how youth can be exposed to amazing opportunities like teaching, flying and travelling just to name a few; how life-enriching memories and achievements can be made through volunteering and/or supporting Air Cadet events.

Testimonial from Hanna –1st year SSC member

Volunteering with 351's Squadron Sponsoring Committee (SSC) is a great way to reach out and help the community as well as 351 Silver Star Squadron. I decided to get involved with the SSC because I thought it would be a great way to help create a better experience for my children, the other cadets in 351 and the community. After joining, I can see just how much work and planning happens behind the scenes, to create the great outcomes you can see on any parade night or other squadron event. Especially at the end of the year during the squadrons Annual Parade I, as well as the other SSC members, can see just how much our hard work has paid off.

Working with the SSC allows you to walk alongside your child and see the great progress they are definitely going to make. The SSC is a team of hardworking, dedicated parents, who choose to help out and work with the great group that is 351 Silver Star. I am proud to be a member of the SSC as that I can say I am a part of all that happens with 351 Silver Star.

Parents don't be shy! New members are always welcome to join the SSC!