



The Cormorant from 442 Squadron was in Vernon for a joint exercise with CASARA and GSAR November 1st . Story on page 6.



Congratulations, Bob!

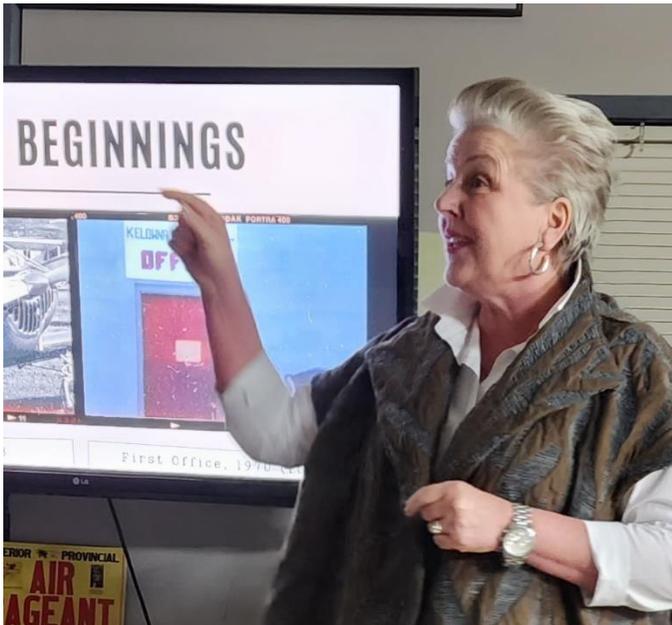
Betty Lee Longstaff, VFC Past-President, presents the first annual **John Swallow Service Award** to **Bob Brandle**.

Bob was our purchasing officer for the past ten years. Before that he was Treasurer for two years.

This award has been established by the VFC Board in memory of the late John Swallow and will be given annually to the member who, in the Board's opinion, have given exceptional service and support to the Club.

Centre for Excellence

Photos by Edie Schleiss and Mr. Quinn



Paula Quinn, Executive Director of the Centre for Excellence, KF Aerospace, Kelowna was our guest speaker at the meeting November 21st. An enthusiastic and dynamic speaker, Paula spoke about how Kelowna Flightcraft began and how Barry Lapointe started in Vernon, took \$7,000 and a passion for flight and transformed it into a multimillion enterprise. It was a very interesting presentation.



THE BUILDING: *With stunning curves, awe-inspiring views and incomparable attention to detail, the KF Centre for Excellence is a magnificent feat of engineering and design. The perfect vessel to deliver an immersive aviation experience.*

THE COLLECTION: *From legendary Second World War fighter planes to iconic airliners—come discover how these aircraft that shaped and defined the world we live in today each share a unique link to our valley and province. Come meet the collection that represents thousands of hours of restoration, maintenance, and passion for the craft.*



Paula Quinn, Pauline Readner, Alison Crerar, Edie Schleiss

PEP Air/CASARA Members to the Rescue!

By Kathy Jorimann, Area Air Deputy for PEP Air/ CASARA, Vernon, B.C. (Central Zone)

(Ed. Several members of VFC volunteer with CASARA; well done, everyone! Photos by Edie Schleiss)

When PEP Air/CASARA members get a request to assist with military training, they hop to attention! (PEP Air = Provincial Emergency Program) (CASARA = Civil Air Search and Rescue Association)

Such was the case in November when **John Jorimann**, the Zone Commander for B.C.'s Central Zone, received a call from Major Malcom Grieve from the Search and Rescue Standardization and Evaluation Team (SARSET) from 442 Squadron in Comox. Major Grieve was requesting a mock crash site be set up where his members could train in homing an ELT and attending to casualties.

Vernon has a perfect site where the Cormorant helicopter can land away from urban development so John was confident that he could meet these expectations. Members of Vernon's PEP Air/CASARA were tasked with locating the materials and setting up the mock crash and the 2 "casualties" researched how they should present their injuries to the SAR Techs. We contacted the local media to have a reporter attend and spoke with other First Responders so they would understand that the Cormorant was on a training exercise and did not warrant any assistance.

John also recognized that this provided an excellent opportunity for collaborating with members of our local GSAR (Ground Search and Rescue) members, so they were contacted and filled in on the task. Not only were they keen on being a part of this training experience, but they also welcomed the opportunity to, hopefully, fly in the Cormorant.

On the day of the exercise, while waiting for the Cormorant, some of Vernon's PEP Air/CASARA members met at the site, set up the mock plane, and turned on an ELT. They also met up with the reporter who was eager to interview various members for their e-newspaper. Meanwhile, 2 other CASARA members met up with the 4



Ground SAR giving first aid to the casualty



GSAR members, provided them with the tasking, and arranged for them to follow in their SAR vehicle to higher ground. From there the PEP Air/CASARA team could begin to home the ELT and re-establish their currency for ground homing.

Once they reached the top of the hill and began homing the ELT, the GSAR crew also used a homing device and a compass to work together and establish the direction of the next homing site.

After triangulating the ELT, both vehicles arrived at the tasking site and introductions were made. The GSAR members immediately took over the task of triaging and looking after the casualties; as they would in an actual “first on scene” scenario. It was impressive to observe the degree of care, and expertise, these members showed towards the two casualties. In mere minutes, they had diagnosed the injuries, retrieved their equipment from their SAR vehicle, and provided supportive care to the volunteers.



Military SAR-Techs arrive and control of the scene is handed over to them

When we received notification that the Cormorant was nearby, bandages were removed, neck braces and backboards were returned to the vehicle, and everyone hid away from sight, to ensure that the helicopter crew could focus on homing the ELT without distractions on the ground.

Finally, the helicopter landed and the SAR Techs emerged in search of the casualties. Again, our “injured” members did not disappoint and the SAR Techs practiced their First-On-Scene skills.



Once the injured were efficiently attended to, the Cormorant crew thanked us all by including us in one of two local flights. Each time we assist them, they reiterate that we provide the squadron with vital opportunities to support their training expectations, and they understand that having the chance to fly with them is the best way to show their appreciation to us!

We are currently awaiting an opportunity to debrief this tasking but, a quick summary would reveal that this tasking provided:

- 7 military members the opportunity to show their competency in homing an ELT and taking over a crash site as first responders.
- 2 PEP Air/CASARA ground homing specialists an opportunity to practice homing an ELT and update currency.
- 8 other PEP Air/CASARA members practice in setting up a crash site and working with other SAR and military professionals.
- team building with GSAR and PEP Air/CASARA volunteers to, hopefully, ensure we are recognized as valuable support in future taskings.
- media coverage to educate the public about PEP Air/CASARA and the capabilities of its volunteer members.
- all participants with a feeling of being appreciated for their dedication and time, by having a unique experience of flying in the big yellow helicopter.

At the end of the day, our smiles revealed the degree to which we had enjoyed all the successes of the day and we agreed that we'll be ready for the next time we're needed!



CASARA members were given an opportunity to “spot” from the Cormorant.

This is Swan Lake



The fully equipped rescue helicopter



John and Kathy Jorimann (plus two other CASARA members) converse with member of the 442 Squadron at the search exercise at Swan Lake

November 1, 2023

Kitchen Stove Donated

Well, we asked and **Walter Zoschke** and **Patricia Neil Lawson** answered!

We needed a replacement stove for the clubhouse and Walter and Patricia donated a new one! It was delivered and installed November 16, 2023.

Thank you very much for the very generous donation!



Patricia Neil Lawson
Walter Zoschke
Pauline Readner
Delivery Persons

Mysterious Donation

These two brand-new slow-cookers showed up at the clubhouse in time for the pancake breakfast on Sunday, November 26th. No one has claimed responsibility but we'd really like to know who to thank!!

This is a very generous donation and it is very much appreciated!

If this was you, please let us know so we can thank-you properly!



New AME at CYVK

Introducing **Mark Johnson** of **Johnson's Private Aircraft Maintenance**, an aviation mechanic to offering his services in the Okanagan. Contact him at 778-980-5908 or email at mjohsonaviation@gmail.com.



An old photo of The Snowflakes – Stan Nelson, Roman Rotach, Rob Kennett, taken from Chuck Ross's RV4.



**Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year**

**May the holiday
season be filled with
good cheer, good
food, good health,
and good friends!**

Some of the delicious desserts from a past flying club Christmas Party.

**VERNON FLYING CLUB / COPA Flight 65
2023 / 2024**

PRESIDENT: Pauline Readner
 VICE PRESIDENT: Derek Riphagen
 TREASURER: Betty Lee Longstaff
 SECRETARY: Marion Ross
 DIRECTOR: Alison Crerar

COPA CAPTAIN: Art Ratte
 COPA Co-CAPTAIN: Derek Riphagen
 COPA Navigator: Keith Readner



Temporary Newsletter Editor: Marion Ross

VFC Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

e-mail: flyingclubvernon@gmail.com

website: www.vernonflyingclub.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/flyingclubvernon>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/vernonflyingclub/>