



# Mosquito Bytes

[www.calgarymosquitosociety.com](http://www.calgarymosquitosociety.com)

## Important info about donations:

- You will receive a tax receipt for any donation over \$20.
- Every dollar raised is matched one-for-one by the City of Calgary.
- Donations for services or materials also contribute to our fundraising, plus they're eligible for tax receipts too.
- Those made through the [ATB website](#) will be matched with an additional 15%.

Mosquito Bytes is the official newsletter of the Calgary Mosquito Aircraft Preservation Society.

If you have an interesting story or news items relevant to our organization, please contact the society at:

[calgarymosquitosociety@hotmail.com](mailto:calgarymosquitosociety@hotmail.com)

## The CMS in 2013: Progress and Loss

I know they are not related, but at times it can feel like karmic balance. As an organization, we have done very well this year, and we have lost some very good supporters and friends.

We have made good progress on the restoration of both the Mosquito and Hurricane. We continue to live up to the promises we have made to Honour and Educate through our attendance at special events at Nanton (7 in 2013!), our representation at conferences, our web stories and articles published on sites like Warbird News and in Britain at War (thanks to Trevor) and through our many public presentations at the likes of the 99s, the Chinook Country Historical Society, Historic Calgary Week and many more.

And we have lost friends; too many for one year. Most recently we lost our society Vice President and wartime Mosquito navigator, Bob O'Connor. Earlier this year it was 410 Squadron veteran Pat Anderson. Dedicated volunteer, former Canso owner and all around cool guy Loyd Haffey passed away in March. In May it was veteran Weldon Stacey, whose wartime experiences are among the most diverse I have ever come across.

We mourn their passing and offer our condolences to their friends and family as we continue to Honour them.

We owe a large thanks to many of you, our active volunteers. This past year our members put in over 2,200 hours restoring the Mosquito, cutting timber, copying plans, writing out parts tags, removing hydraulic lines, shopping for steel, taking photographs, keeping our finances in order, staffing our displays, selling raffle tickets and doing a hundred other things which all contribute to our success. Thank you. The City of Calgary in recognizing the value of your volunteer efforts credits your time at \$15 per hour, which this year adds up to more than \$33,000.

We also owe thanks to those who support us financially, the City of Calgary, the province of Alberta through the Community Initiatives Plan to the tune of \$50,000. The Calgary Airport Authority backed us to the tune of \$7,500 with the Alberta Treasury Branch topping up their contribution with an additional 15%. Aero Aviation threw another \$5,000 in the pot. Imperial Esso and Cenovus through

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Next Public Meeting:

The next CMS general meeting will be **February 12** at the Phoenix Foundation, 320 - 19<sup>th</sup> Street SE. [Click here](#) to download a map.

This will be the 2014 Annual General Meeting.

*"We mourn their passing and offer our condolences to their friends and family as we continue to Honour them."*

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*“...we need to get this done; no stories, no excuses, by Aug. 1.”*



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## Mosquito Bytes

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their employee support programs each contributed \$1,000 thanks to the efforts of members. And of course our friends at WestJet again came through with a pair of fly anywhere tickets that we raffled off for a profit of nearly \$10,000. With our membership renewal in March, over 65% of renewing members made an additional donation. Wow! That is support.

Our funding situation needs to get wrapped up this year. After a bit of ‘to and fro’ with the City, we came to the understanding that we yet need to raise \$115,000 in cash by August 1 of this year. We have an application in with Historic Resources that could be worth up to \$50,000. Our funding partners Nine Lions are hard at work for us, as is new member Dave Simms who has now contacted and applied to over 50

companies and foundations. We can see light at the end of the tunnel. And we need to get this done; no stories, no excuses, by Aug. 1.

And we’ve had fun and enjoyed the support of some people with particular skills and expertise. For two days we enjoyed the Airdrie Airshow and talked to thousands of people about our efforts. People who worked with Spartan and operated our Mosquito like Bob Bolivar, Brian Hind and Elizabeth Fleming have been very active in providing us with invaluable information about the modifications to and work done by our Mosquito. Author Robert Stitt is now thoroughly committed to the first comprehensive book about Spartan Air Services.

Some of our members made it to Hamilton to witness the flight of Mosquito KA114 where they experienced

firsthand the thrill of ten Merlins in formation. Cool stuff.

Stay tuned for a preview of 2014, as we look forward to the first flight of the Mosquito in Victoria. Look for an upcoming web story about one of Canada’s greatest WWII aces, a man who cut his teeth on our very Hurricane when it was stationed on the west coast. Come join the fun in early August when we throw the party to celebrate the successful completion of our funding drive and continue to join us for the many special events already announced by our hosts in Nanton. And keep an eye open for an upcoming ‘Wants and Needs’ list that you may be able to help with.

Thank you all, and Happy New Year.

*Richard de Boer  
President •*

## Scott McTavish

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### Bob O’Connor

Calgary Mosquito Society Vice-President Bob O’Connor passed away in his home on December 25. As of this newsletter Bob’s family has not announced a date for a funeral or

memorial service. An announcement will be emailed to the membership as soon as plans have been made.

In the meantime, visit the CMS website for a two-part story about Bob’s military service and his dedication to our society and sharing our heritage with others. •

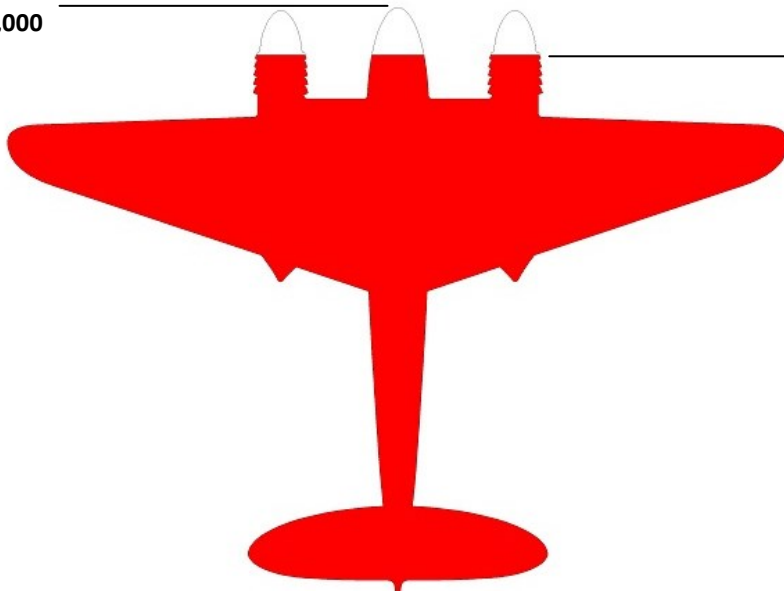
Calgary Mosquito Society

C.O. Richard de Boer, President  
1021, 3235 - 56th Street NE  
Calgary, AB, T1Y 2X7  
Canada

Phone: 1-403-235-1350  
E-mail: calgarymosquitosociety@hotmail.com  
Web: www.calgarymosquitosociety.com



Goal:  
\$1,600,000



Currently:  
\$1,370,000\*

Start:  
\$0

\*estimated



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A special thank you to all of our Wings program sponsors; **The City of Calgary, Rangeland Truck and Crane Ltd., Alberta Culture, Aero Aviation Ltd., Scott McTavish, Aero Propeller of Calgary Ltd., Richard de Boer and WestJet Airlines.**

A minimum \$5,000 tax-deductible donation is all it takes to become a Wings spon-

sor and ensure lasting recognition of your support restoring both airplanes. Plus, every dollar donated is doubled by our partners at The City of Calgary. We're also excited to use AT-B's Cares program, which matches all donations made through [their website](#) or through the links on our [web-site](#) with an additional 15%.

Visit the [website](#) for an up to date listing of all sponsors and supporters.

Contact us if your interested in volunteering, either with the airplanes or in support of the society, especially in the area of fundraising. •



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**Richard de Boer**

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