



The Step

8 March, 2011

**We regained the website Domain Name:** [bcfloatplane.com](http://bcfloatplane.com) Please change your "favorites/bookmark" to this *shorter URL* instead of "[bcfloatplaneassociation.com](http://bcfloatplaneassociation.com)"

#### **Preauthorization for BC Parks lakes**

The [lakes preauthorization form](#) now runs from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> so approvals can be sent out by May. We hope/think this will work better for all of us. PLEASE remember to try to be as accurate as you can when checking off lakes you'll visit, and to report whatever you observed again at the end of the season. End of season reports can (should) be submitted from Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> through Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. Thanks. Our participation in this is important to our access to the Parks lakes.

#### **Sharing memberships with other floatplane associations**

Cameron Fraser has come up with another great idea! Sharing memberships for the Presidents of all the floatplane associations around the world. This will keep us all advised of the issues & accomplishments of the other organizations, and perhaps someday we will all be under the umbrella of a worldwide organization. Sometimes size DOES matter. ☺ We need to be strong & proactive to maintain our freedoms.

#### **Unauthorized use of outpost camps**

We know that cabins in the wilderness can be used in an emergency, but just to use someone's outpost cabin as a free place to stay is not very considerate. Apparently trespass & theft have been a problem in some outpost camps so please be very considerate when tempted to use someone else's wilderness improvements.

#### **New poster calendar**

A reminder (a beg?) to send hi-res floatplane related photos to [dave@airdave.com](mailto:dave@airdave.com) so we can have some fresh pictures (**yours?**) on next years' calendar.

#### **Announcing BCPILOTS.NET**

Another online forum for BC Aviators: [www.bcpilots.net](http://www.bcpilots.net) is a new place for BC pilots to share news, info, pictures, questions, planes for sale, whatever. Go give it a look, maybe become a founding member, &/or help to create something fun/useful/etc.

### Website "progress"

The website now has well over 700 photos for your perusal. Do go & have a look around, and post some of your own. Easily create an "album" (or a few) for yourself, and upload your favorite flying (or whatever) pictures, & enter a bit of a description too, so the rest of us know what we're peeking at! ☺ "Places to fly" should be ready soon too. These are features that we can share our experiences w/all BCFA members!

You can now update your profile to include your cell #, your Spot URL, multiple aircraft, etc. Please do check out your profile info & make sure that whatever you choose to share is accurate. The website now has many more enhancements, and more are planned to make it a more useful & interesting resource for us all. Go & check out the new features [www.bcfloatplane.com](http://www.bcfloatplane.com) & let us know what you think.

### Training and Pilot Re-Currency

AC Airways is contacting the COPA Flights to inform the members of new Training and Pilot Re-Currency courses we are now offering. For the larger clubs we will come to your facility if that is preferred. We are asking flights to book in advance (one per month) or individuals may contact us directly for other dates at our Hangar. See: [www.acairways.com](http://www.acairways.com)

All clubs will receive a discount price for what they might be interested in, and should contact us as early as possible to secure a date that works for the majority. This course is approved by Transport Canada and we will sign all participants log books, this endorsement may help some individuals with insurance renewals etc. We are working with Tim Cole to use our facility to help with the Copa convention.

Regards,

**Mark Capadouca**

President

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### Awards for AGM Attendees

We plan to have some FUN awards for "various things" @ our AGM meetings from now on, and would like to have enough ideas so that we can have different ones each year so you don't really know what to expect. ☺ Please send your ideas to [membership@bcfloatplane.com](mailto:membership@bcfloatplane.com) Thanks! Let's have fun with this.

(I'll be asking you for your ideas @ the AGM too. ☺)

### **2011 Rust Remover" in Pitt Meadows (YPK)**

Date/location confirmed: @ Maxcraft Avionics on 30 Apr. 2011. Plan to come for the Fun, & good info! Volunteers to help out are always welcome. Please think about some ideas for interesting speakers for our events, we're always looking for interesting speakers! Email your suggestions to [membership@bcfloatplane.com](mailto:membership@bcfloatplane.com)  
Thank You!

### **2011 COPA Convention**

COPA 2011 Convention in Langley BC being held June 24 - 26th 2011.

See: [www.copacon2011.ca](http://www.copacon2011.ca)

Volunteers needed. Please email Wendy at [copavolunteers2011@gmail.com](mailto:copavolunteers2011@gmail.com)

### **2011 BCFA AGM & Nimpo Lake Weekend**

Mark your calendars, & plan to attend the meeting/party/flyin this year on July 16-17<sup>th</sup>. We're lining up a great agenda again, and will be looking for member input on some items. If you've attended before you know what a wonderful time it is, and if you've not been here with us yet, do treat yourself to a fun weekend full of info, entertainment, camaraderie, food/drink, useful door prizes & BCFA merchandise, airplanes to peek at, pilots/builders to visit with, incredible flightseeing, and surely more stories to take home with you.

We have plenty of dock space (over 100 yds. now), an amphib ramp with lots of concrete parking, 1600X100' dirt strip, and even 3900' of asphalt @ Anahim (CAJ4) which is only 15 road minutes away. Wayne, the airport manager, knows who to call for your ride.

This year we're going to Yellowknife!

### **Group flight to Yellowknife!**

We're planning to make a group flight to the Midnight Sun Flyin @ Yellowknife this year, right after our AGM & Nimpo Lake weekend. Their dates are July 22-24<sup>th</sup>, the weekend after ours. **You're invited!**

So far it's just an idea, and preliminary planning/research is happening now. We're considering the route, fuel, places to stay (& see), etc. Looks like a 1.5 day trip up (& back) and 3 days in Yellowknife. Perhaps two groups (fast/slow) so the C185's don't have trouble keeping up with the Cubs. Some of the organizers of the Yellowknife flyin plan to come down to Nimpo this year too!

A whole week of bombing around in your plane! **YeeHaw!** So now that you know that...

Please let us ([membership@bcfloatplane.com](mailto:membership@bcfloatplane.com)) know if you'd like to join us, or even if you're considering it. We'll have to book motel rooms early (to get any) so let us know by the end of March if you are (at least planning) to go, and if you want a room or will camp (Motel in High River w/2 queen beds is \$80). Include your email address & phone # so we can keep you updated on plans/etc. We'll hold a "Mission Briefing" before we set out and provide printouts of the trip plans/itinerary. Everyone will have a "BCFA Flight Supplement". Also important... if you have anything that would resemble a pirep on that trip we'd appreciate your input. Thanks.

### **A Ride For Vytas**

We have an offer for a presentation and door prizes at the AGM from the BC/Yukon director for SPOT. He would love to come to Nimpo IF he (& possibly his son) can get a ride from the lower mainland & back. Many of us are going north (Yellowknife) after the AGM so getting him to/from Vancouver is proving to be tough this year. If you can give him (them) a ride to/from Nimpo please send a note & contact info to [membership@bcfloatplane.com](mailto:membership@bcfloatplane.com) Thank You.

### **BCFA Corporate Sponsors for 2011**

We'd like to thank our Corporate Sponsors, and to remind everyone of the businesses that are supporting our organization. They deserve your support in return!

We appreciate their association with us not only for the cash flow, but also important is the credibility we get by being supported by well-known businesses like:

**AeroSport Power** [www.aerosportpower.com](http://www.aerosportpower.com) 250 376 2955

Their engines consistently take top spots at the Valdez, Ak. competitions.

**Inland Communications Services** [www.icsavionics.ca](http://www.icsavionics.ca) 250 376 1121

They've been selling, servicing, & installing avionics since 1972.

**Progressive Air** [www.progressiveair.net](http://www.progressiveair.net) 250 376 6226

They are known & supply aircraft operators worldwide.

**Van City Seaplanes** [www.vancityseaplanes.com](http://www.vancityseaplanes.com) 604 716 0536

Providing door to door floatplane service.