



The Step

14 March, 2012

More info. On the 2012 BCFA AGM weekend

(For both float & "float-challenged" aircraft) **See the 2012 Brochure:**

<http://www.bcfloatplane.com/file151/AGM-BCFABrochure2011.pdf>

Agenda:

- > Friday July 20, arrivals, meet/greet, get parked & settled in your tent or room.
- > Saturday morning is the AGM. Followed by lunch (provided) and then the guest speakers & presentations. Silent auction is always fun, & will be running and then happy hour & dinner and evening entertainment.
- > Sunday morning breakfast, then the Poker Run, then continue on your way home or wherever your next adventure is!
Full details in the June N-letter.

Accommodations:

108 Mile Golf Resort is adjacent to the airport & BCFA has rooms held for us @ special rate. Call 1 800 667-5233 & mention #1982 @ the BCFA rate.

Enjoy some Local B&B's within a short walk...

Accolog B&B - 108 Mile Ranch 778 485 2838 www.accolog.ca

Barnstormer's B&B - on Watson Lake 250 791 5621 www.fly-bc.com (our Willy Trinker)

Double Dutch B&B - near Watson Lake 250 791 6783 www.bbcanada.com/13034.html

and in 100 Mile House...

walk over to the 100 Mile House Motel & RV Park 250 395 2234

Imperial Motel 250 395 2471 Red Coach Inn 250 395 2266

Land at the only true Cariboo "Downtown" Airport (CAV3) and enjoy the local motels, restaurants, shops within easy walking distance. Maybe "Camping under the Wing" at the Club House is

more you - visit us at www.100milehouseairport.com or

Call Ken at 250 395 6441

Please visit <http://southcaribootourism.ca/> for additional information on places to stay in the beautiful South Cariboo.

Poker Run:

So far, the plan is (*for both floatplanes AND float-challenged planes!*) Subject to change: Sunday after breakfast, registration & buy entry(s), & get your first card (s) @ 108 Mi. Then to Springhouse, then to Bluff Lake, then to Tsuniah Lake Lodge, then to Vedan Lake (Elkin Creek ranch) for the last card, winner selection & a special lunch, then homeward, or wherever your plans might be after the BCFA weekend. We'll pass out our "BCFA Flight Supplement" with the directions, GPS points, traffic frequencies, etc.

Tsuniah Lake Lodge (4th stop) has offered anyone from the BCFA fly-in a special deal, before or after our weekend: \$130/person/night, including dinner & breakfast! Have a look at: www.tsuniahlakelodge.com

Good grass strip & docks. Write to brebner@shaw.ca for info/reservations.

Membership

As you well know, the more members we have, the stronger our voice in maintaining our freedoms to fly. We've all heard too much about areas, strips, lakes, etc, being closed to aircraft, and it's organizations like ours (BCFA & COPA) that stand up to keep what we have. PLEASE be sure to renew your memberships, and *encourage your flying friends to join up too*, for all the reasons you know about. (Here is a little reminder)

As well as the above, we Members can land in most of the BC Parks lakes, our travels are made easier & more interesting with the information on the web site like Places to Fly, the Fuel Map page, upcoming events & news, several free "topo map" sources, folks to contact, and of course this Newsletter! ☺

Our Membership Director will retire this year, after many years of keeping track of us, and reminding us to stay current, etc. Thank you Brenda!! We are looking for a replacement Membership Director...

(so please) Get On Board and help support your BCFA Organization!

We have a great opportunity for you to work with a dynamic group of directors as Brenda Matas is retiring in July 2012. Our membership list is computerized so the job is not very complicated. It requires some persuasion skills and minimal computer knowledge but we have a great Website Director who will gladly help. All the directors have been extremely helpful for the one major mail-out (which you may choose to do or not). There is always a very small mail-out to those without emails (exp's. reimbursed). New ideas will be welcome! Please consider taking this on.

The work is done in January and February so you have the summer free to fly. Please step forward and help this great organization. Thanks.

Preauthorization for BC Parks lakes APPLY NOW

The pre-authorization form is open from Jan 1st through March 31st. It is very important that you be as accurate as you can when checking off lakes you anticipate visiting. And equally important is for you to report whatever you observed at the end of the season with these reports being submitted from Oct. 1st through Dec. 31st.

Our participation in this process is what gives us our access to BC Parks lakes. We need your cooperation so please go to the website and fill in the form now. This info. is important to BC Parks so they have some idea of the usage of these lakes, and they appreciate us as their "eyes in the sky".



New Corporate Sponsor

<http://www.canadianaviatormagazine.com/>

Trevor has lined up another great Corp.Sponsor to help support the BC Floatplane Ass'n. in the form of trading advertising space in their well read magazine. This will give us some great exposure to many more pilots!

BC Bird Breeding Atlas

These folks are needing rides into/out of remote places in BC. If you'd like a great excuse to go for a fly, they will share expenses. See the whole info/request document under "News & Events" on www.bcfloatplane.com

MORE news

While you're on the website, also under "News & Events" there are two new notices. One describes Nav. Canada's plan to cut some wx. services @ Lytton & Clinton, <http://www.bcfloatplaneassociation.com/file155/Public-Project-Charter-Clinton-Lytton-AWOS-EN.pdf> AND the Glider Ops notice @ Langley. <http://www.bcfloatplaneassociation.com/file154/Public-ATTENTIONPILOTS4.pdf>

And... the WINNER IS:

You may remember that we offered \$75. Worth of BCFA merchandise as a prize (carrot) for new entries in the Places to Fly and the Photo Galleries. The recent draw winner is **Kurt Colbin**. Congrat's! (Only 4 people entered) ☺

Speakers & Door prize/Auction items

We need some guest speakers for the Saturday afternoon presentations. Please think of someone who'd be willing/able to give us a ~20 minute talk! Also need some fun/useful items for the Silent Auction table & door prizes. **Please** give this some thought & send your ideas to directors@bcfloatplane.com

Quarry Lake call for volunteers

The BCFA has placed a picnic table and a canoe on Quarry lake which is located on Nelson Island. The local owners have two dates set for volunteer work at the lake, May 20, 2012 to work on the hiking trails that go around the lake and August 24, 25 for salmon spawning rehab work on Quarry creek. Please contact the directors if you are able to help.

Atlin BC Fly-in June 30 - July 2 (extreme NW corner of BC)

First annual Atlin fly-in is this summer! Looks like a great agenda, and lots of parking, accommodations & food @ "The most beautiful place on earth".

See: <http://www.discoveratlin.com/>

Read: <http://www.backcountrypilot.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=8894>

Interesting factoid: Atlin is the only BC town that you can't drive to from BC !

Come join us & have some good NEW stories to tell around the BCFA campfire @ 108Mi.

--- In the BAD NEWS dep't. ---

Cancer attacks Nimpo pilot

A potential tragedy is unfolding here @ Nimpo. Sid Blackwell, a lifelong pilot & long-time charter Beaver pilot has come down with a rare cancer, & needs to go to the States for treatment. Of course this involves a bunch of \$\$, & the family needs help w/that. Sid is a wonderful guy, only 46, and **we** & his young **family** needs him! Please go to: http://www.gofundme.com/fdf6o?utm_source=sendgrid.com&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Emails to donate online, or send a check to: Sid Blackwell, & mail it to Nick Hawes, 1810 Hwy 35, Burns Lake BC, VOJ 1E2.

- - - PLEASE do this & spread the word - - -

BCFA Logo Apparel!

We are getting all the BCFA apparel & merchandise listed on the website so have a peek @:
<http://www.bcfloatplaneassociation.com/member/page/merchandise>

BCFA decided to donate \$500. to the Sid Blackwell fund. Please do consider helping them.

The crew who went to Puyallup had a good time, signed up 4 new & 8 old (renewal ☺) members & made many folks aware of our organization... always a GoodThing!

We're also looking into creating an account on "FaceBook" to add some exposure, especially to the younger folks who may be interested in the activities & info about our BCFA. If there is someone out there who is familiar with the ops of this social media, and would have the time/inclination to keep us current & make posts there, please write to directors@bcfloatplane.com Thanks.

Remember that the BCFA offers free first year memberships to newly rated float pilots!

We're considering some "paid advertising" on our website & in the N-letter. We formed a committee to discuss options, format, limitations, prices, etc, and will post more info on how/if this may work if it seems beneficial, without being detrimental to our Corp.Sponsors.

Please remember & consider our Corporate Sponsors when you do business!

Thanks to these folks who support us:

Coast Dog Aviation

Quality aircraft maintenance/consulting and also specialized Pilot services
<http://www.coastdogaviation.com/>

Harbourside Lodge Bamfield

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Door to door floatplane service

<http://www.vancityseaplanes.com/>

Seaplanes West

Aerocet Float Dealer & manufacturer of engine mounts for Cessna 180, 182 and 185's

<http://www.seaplaneswest.com/>

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