

CASARA Winnipeg



May 2007

Get your tickets to our annual Wings Presentation evening before Monday. Tickets are \$27.50 each, and they're available from members of the zone executive. Family and friends are welcome.

The following members will receive wings or service pins at the event:

Navigator Wings	20 Year Pins	15 Year Pins	5 Year Pins
Les Beothy	Ron Bay	Chuck Wilson	Gisele Foster
Bill Hilash	John Carley		Al Fraser
	John Davidson	10 Year Pins	Roger Gadd
Spotter Wings	Bruce Freeman		Allan Gawryluk
	Ab Hall	Peter Banman	Jason Gren
Chris Bebber	Hans Osted	Chris Black	Terry Lumb
Les Beothy	Jerry Roehr		Dale Magee
Stu Ferguson	Don Wither		
Ron Gerth	John Williams		

If you have any items for the silent auction, please let Jim Bell know.

Recent Zone Activities

Level 1 28 April

By Jim Bell

We'd like to welcome our new members, who completed their Level 1 on Saturday, 28 April. Kris Bushau – Lapointe, Reagan Kruger, Tom Park, Wayne Stannard, and Dean Waldner are now eligible to fly as spotters on any CASARA exercise. Once a second spotting flight is complete, these members can be called for searches, too. Several other members attended as a refresher.

Zone Annual General Meeting

By Jim Bell

Seventeen members attended our AGM. I was re-elected as zone commander for a third term, thus resigning myself to another year of writing exciting newsletter articles (and it sure would be nice if

someone other than me had written something for this one). Thanks for your support. Ideas to improve the zone are always welcome, so feel free to bring your ideas forward.

Night Navigation Ex 23 April



The night nav ex was originally scheduled for 20 April. The old saw notwithstanding, a red sky at

night turned out not to be a delight, and we had to postpone the ex due to thunderstorms in the area.

The following Monday, four airplanes flew a circuit from St Andrews through Portage la Prairie, Morden, Altona, and back to St Andrews.

ELT Search 14 April

By Jim Bell

After the Spotter Exercise ended, we received a task from JRCC to find an ELT that was transmitting somewhere near River Hill, south of Lac du Bonnet. Since there were no overdue aircraft reported, we elected to fly with one spotter. By 6:30 pm, Alf Northam (nav) and Bob Miller (spotter) joined me in Cessna 172 C-GJKX to see what we could find.

We picked up a strong signal just west of River Hill. We worked around the area thoroughly, but were unable to localise the source, due to echoes from numerous power lines. We followed the signal further east, but though we often picked up a strong signal, it would always fade away as we circled.



The GPS track from the search. The ELT location is marked with a red X in the lower right corner.

As bingo time approached, we tried to contact Lac du Bonnet airport to arrange for fuel, but only got answering machines. At that point, we decided to return to St Andrews. Rather than launch us again, JRCC sent a Herc, which found the ELT in a depressingly short amount of time. It was at Brereton Lake, about seven miles further east than we had searched.

In all, an exceptionally frustrating experience.

Spotter Exercise 14 April

By Jim Bell



Even from 1,000 feet you can still tell that this target is Alf Northam...

Our first attempt at the Spotter Exercise – still four more of them coming up this summer – went quite well. After a brief review of the techniques, eight spotters flew on an essentially identical route, giving each a chance to spot four targets, and bring the airplane to it. Some did very well, some less so, but everyone felt it was a worthwhile exercise.

For those who had a hard time spotting the targets, I encourage you to come out for future exercises to get additional practice, and not to be discouraged. Spotting is the hardest job on the airplane, and only practice will make you better.

River Search 4 April

By Jim Bell

On 3 April, a 63 year old man went missing near the Red River, just north of the Perimeter Highway. Selkirk RCMP were responsible for searching for him, but they didn't task us to assist. Being somewhat altruistic, we offered to search along the river, using our training budget to cover the cost. Despite making three trips along the river between the Perimeter and Selkirk, we couldn't find anything.

Unfortunately, the missing man's body was found in the river earlier this week. Participants were Dave Danyluk, Roland Biber, Alf Northam, and Peter Banman.

Training

The Drift Sight

...is not available this month

Notices

Winnipeg Zone GPS Units

Winnipeg Zone has purchased four identical Garmin GPS units. These units will be used on all exercises, to the greatest degree possible, to allow our navs to fly more precise routes, and to see how they did, after landing. Other zones have been doing this for many years, and we are definitely playing catch-up in this area.

Some exercise co-ordinators will provide GPS routes in advance of an exercise, so that the navs can prepare. Garmin uses a unique format for their files. To open the file, you will need a programme

called Garmin MapSource Trip and Waypoint Manager. This programme is available from us. If you need it, please speak to Roland Biber.

If you are considering purchasing a GPS, we recommend a Garmin, as other companies' units won't be compatible with our equipment.

It's possible to borrow one of our units to become familiar with it. Navs will have priority. Roland is the person to talk to about signing out, or otherwise getting training to use a GPS.

Coming Events

Meet at the Training Centre unless noted.
Exercise end times are *estimates*.

May

6 (Sun) 7 am to 5 pm – Annual Joint Exercise with CASARA Thunder Bay and the Lake of the Woods SAR (LOWSAR) group at Kenora - For this ex, we will need pilots and navs, but no spotters, as the LOWSAR members will be acting as spotters during the ex. We will need some additional personnel to assist in the search headquarters. Five aircraft will participate. Contact Jerry Roehr

11 (Fri) 6:30 pm to 10 pm – Zone Annual Wings Presentation evening - Our 7th annual Wings Presentation will take place at Larters Country Club. Doors open at 6:30, with seating at 7 pm. There will be a silent auction and door prizes. We will present wings to our newly qualified members, and service pins to those who have served 5, 10, 15, or 20 years with CASARA. We strongly encourage all our members to attend. Spouses, family, and guests are welcome. The cost is \$27.50 per person. The price includes dinner. Tickets will be available starting in April. Contact Jim Bell

26 (Sat) 8 am to 5 pm – Provincial Annual General Meeting, The Pas – We will send **four** airplanes to allow our members to participate in the provincial AGM. We will treat this as a long range nav exercise. Contact Roland Biber

June

9 (Sat) 9 am to 4 pm – Northern Nav – Four airplanes will visit airports less travelled - Contact Jerry Roehr

12 (Tue) 6 pm to 10 pm – ELT Exercise – Two airplanes will hunt for an ELT - Contact **Jerry Roehr**

21 (Thu) 7 pm to 10 pm – Spotter Exercise – We'll fly four airplanes to give our spotters a chance to practise their spotting and call – around techniques. Contact **Chuck Wilson**

July

10 (Tue) 6 pm to 10 pm – Creeping Line Ahead Exercise – Two crews will carry out a CLA search exercise. Contact Roland Biber

23 (Mon) 6 pm to 10 pm – Spotter Exercise –
 We'll fly four airplanes to give our spotters a chance to practise their spotting and call – around techniques. Contact Darlene Searcy

best crew. It's a great opportunity to meet fellow CASARA volunteers. We are sending one airplane to participate. If you are available, let your chief know. Contact Jim Bell

August

2 (Thu) 6 pm to 10 pm – ELT Exercise – Two airplanes will hunt for an ELT. Contact Bill Karras

21 (Tue) 6 pm to 10 pm – Spotter Exercise –
 We'll fly four airplanes to give our spotters a chance to practise their spotting and call – around techniques. This will be a day and night exercise. Contact Jim Bell

10 – 12 (Fri – Sun) – Western Canada SAREx, Prince Albert, Sask – Each year, CASARA members from across Western Canada meet in a friendly competition, to see which province has the

Remember to check the recorded message at 338-7185 before coming out for an exercise.

Contacts

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