

December, 2004



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The Windssock

Alberta Aerial Applicator Association 2004 AGM REVIEW

The 2004 Alberta Aerial Applicators Annual General Meeting & Conference was held at the Red Deer Lodge, November 15-16, 2004. It was another successful conference with approximately 80 delegates in attendance. Delegates were able to develop contacts and attend sessions applicable for re-licensing credits, mingle with exhibitors and catch up with old acquaintances.

The Wild Rose Protective Fund Annual General Meeting was held on Monday morning. Topics discussed included 2004 Season and Membership review, amalgamation of the Prairie Protective Fund and the Wild Rose Protective Fund, bylaw changes, retired members, aircraft cap and payout policy. The 2005 Board of Directors was selected. Congratulations to Darren Tiede, Peter Hansen, Wayne Stier, Harvey Abbott,

Clark Oberholtzer and Tom Kinniburgh.

Grant Churchill presented the first credit session from CEDA Reactor on Preparedness and Preplanning for Emergencies with Crop Care Products. Grant's energetic presentation was filled with numerous emergency planning ideas and suggestions. He only was able to provide the tip of the iceberg of his knowledge. Wayne Boyd from Alberta Environment presented the provincial regulations and perspective on emergency response and release reporting.

Paul Laflamme from Alberta Agriculture updated delegates on Pest Management issues. The update included an overview of the 2004 season and expectations for 2005.

Jock McIntosh of Alberta Environment, attended again this year to discuss updates and

issues regarding legislation. Topics discussed included; water quality; licence re-certification; Operation Clean Farm; biting flies class of aerial certification; and West Nile Virus. Areas of concern in 2004 were; off-target property damage related to weather conditions; crop residues; low flying; and notification.

Allan Denesowych of Yorkton Aircraft Service delivered the final credit course offered. Allan covered cleanup and maintenance of spray equipment. He offered many valuable tips. Comments following the presentation included; "I wish I would have heard that two years ago, I could have saved myself a lot of money!"

The AAAA Annual Business Meeting finished off the afternoon program. Topics discussed airport, airstrips and road usage; airport use

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY JAMES SPENCE

A warm thank you to all the members who attended the 34th AGM in Red Deer this year. Also, a thank you to the Allied Industry and Government officials that again made the license re-certification credit sessions a success. The participation of the sponsors, which included 4A's members, Allied Industry as well as non-aerial application related companies, was greatly appreciated this year. Last but not least, a thank you goes out to everyone who let their name stand for nominations, as well as the Directors who were re-elected. The board of directors and executive board will remain unchanged for the 2005 term.

Participation in the sessions and convention was very good, with many pre-registered. With a less than stellar season for many in 2004, I was pleased to see that all those who came to Red Deer were in good spirits. This past season brought some unique challenges to our industry and some interesting topics of discussion, not only in the Annual General Meeting but also in the various conversations during the convention. The members spoke on our bylaws, professionalism, airport & road usage, and rocketry at the AGM this year. Some of the issues discussed will be brought to the CAAA level in Reno and some will be brought to CAIR.

Members who renew for 2005 will find an additional resource in their renewal package. The document will contain the Airport Policy & Use Guidelines which have been created to not only assist those members who travel to different airports, but for those that work only out of their home base. This document provides a good basis from which operators can add to their own company policies. As many learned at the Spill Response session this year, we all can learn new things to can help us and are easy to incorporate into our own businesses.

As I finish writing this message, I am in the final days of wedding preparations for Jennifer and I, which will have happened the Saturday following Red Deer. I'd like to thank all of you for your support and wish you all a Happy Holiday Season!

Merry Christmas from the
AAAA Board of
Directors and the Office

Congratulations to Jen and
James Spence on their
November 20th, wedding
held in Strathmore, AB.

*All the best for
your future
together*



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guidelines; The Canadian Rocketry Association 2005 Conference; and a variety of reports. The election of the 2005 board of directors completed the meeting.

Monday evening's entertainment was provided by Darryl Makk, a Calgary comedian. He entertained the group with his humorous way of looking at daily living. The silent auction concluded following the entertainment, raising over \$3000 for the AAAA. A big thank you to all supporters of the AAAA who donated and purchased auction items.

The AAAA extends a special thank you to all of the sponsors and exhibitors who supported the association, not only at the Annual General Meeting, but also throughout the year. Please remember as the new season starts, these are the companies supporting your association. A full list of sponsors can be found below. Thanks again for your continued support.

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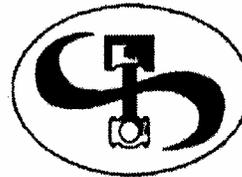
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Calendar of Events

CAAA AGM

HOTEL VANCOUVER FAIRMONT

VANCOUVER, BC

FEB 24-26, 2005

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APPLICATIONS & CHEQUES DUE

APRIL 30, 2005

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CHEQUES CASHED

JUNE 15, 2005

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DEADLINE FOR GAP CLINICS

JUNE 15, 2005