

O. S. O. M. M.

NEWSLETTER

OSOMM has spent a busy month putting together a CFB Penhold Chapter. The response is overwhelming and we're becoming an effective group.

Many of us have learned that constructive criticism is a powerful tool. Other forms of criticism accomplish little. On page 2 of this newsletter you will note a partial list of OSOMM objectives. Half have already had action taken. Success is not always guaranteed, but, "it is better to have tried and failed then to never have tried."

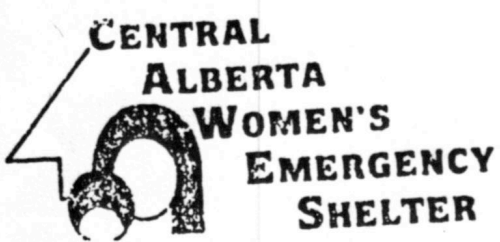
Daycare/drop-in daycare is a major issue to many families on this base. The community council has arranged to provide a PMQ for this purpose if members of the community would agree to organize and ensure the proper operation of a licensed facility. HURRAY for 3 women who have stepped forward from our ranks and have agreed to this challenge. Those of you who will benefit from this service make sure you show your support and appreciation, its going to involve alot of time and hard work.

The base authorities are considering arranging seminars for those who would like to be more informed about pensions, wills, insurance etc.. It is encouraging to see this renewed interest in the spouses of military members.

Progress is being made. Women can be active contributing members of their communities, and although.....

"There are mountains in our way,
...we climb a step every day."

The following is reprinted from a letter written by the Executive Director of Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter.



To Whom It May Concern

It is with great pleasure that the Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter endorses the endeavors of the Organization of Spouses of Military Members.

The current women's movement is for all women and we are very pleased to see organizations for women develop and take into account the different needs of different women.

The nation wide movement of O.S.O.M.M. indicates an awareness of the different needs of military wives.

It is very important that these women be recognized as responsible contributing members of their military communities.

C.A.W.E.S. fully supports this new born organization whose stated purpose is " to improve the status of women and the quality of life of the members through mutual support and sharing of informations."

Congratulations O.S.O.M.M.!!!!

If we can be of any assistance please call.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Boyd
Mary E. Boyd
Executive Director

For those of you who would like to know, here is a partial list of OSOMM objectives:

OSOMM would like to: 1. Organize an activity and programme centre, providing a mutual aid service to the women of CFB Penhold and their families.

2. Organize a Daycare/Babysitting Co-op for families of CFB Penhold.
3. Petition for traffic lights at Junction 2 and 2A.
4. Petition for a family dental plan.
5. Workshops will be arranged for topics such as; Assertiveness, Streetproofing, Child Alert, Addiction, Easing Moves for our Children, etc..
6. Regular monthly meetings and newsletters.
7. Organizing a family resource centre.

Although this is not a complete list, it will give you an idea of some of the tasks we would like to accomplish as a group.

OSOMM would like to thank all the women who attended our meeting in September. We had an excellent response with attendance of 40 women including 2 representatives from Calgary. We have increased our organizing committee as well as our membership. We hope you all had fun watching "the entertainment" and singing our Loyal Order of the Clump Song. Our next meeting in October's second week will be announced. You are all welcome and if you have anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to speak up.

PLEASE NOTE: We understand that women's organizations have been started in Lahr, Baden, and London Ontario. If anyone knows anything about these organizations or anyone involved, please let us know.

CFB CALGARY has a huge, lovely new community centre. Twenty-five percent of the Currie Community Centre is controlled by the women. The front page of their information pamphlet prints, "Woman, wife and mother, Be I one, two, or all three, I know the most important one is ME". The CFB Calgary Women's Centre is a drop-in and activity place where all woman in the military community are welcome and encouraged to visit and make use of the many programmes and presentations offered by the centre. A babysitting co-op is also available in this community centre. We have spoken to the executive of the Women's Centre, and they have agreed to assist us in some of our objectives.

A letter writing campaign has been initiated for a FAMILY DENTAL PLAN. Representatives from CFB Calgary, Edmonton, and Cold Lake have been contacted and a joint effort from as many bases as possible will soon be in the works.

The Federal Government has established a Task Force on Child Care in Canada. They want to know about your experiences with any kind of daycare. Please write by mid-October to: Task Force on Child Care
151 Sparks St. Suite 1005
Ottawa, Ont. K1A 1C3

A BABYSITTING COURSE sponsored by the community council is being conducted on the base. The class is full, however another course will be held in the spring. Please call Roxanne Levitt 886-5296 for info.

JUSTICE WITHOUR FORCE IS IMPOTENT, FORCE WITHOUT JUSTICE IS TYRANNY
Blaise Pascal

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