



Royal Canadian Air Force Association

RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing

Newsletter – 1st Quarter 2019

Vol 3 Edition 1



1. RCAF Mission Statement:

The Royal Canadian Air Force Association is a national aerospace and community service organization to: commemorate the noble achievements of the men and women who have served as members of Canada's air forces since its inception; advocate for a proficient and well equipped air force; and, support the Royal Canadian Air Cadet programme.

2. New Members: Major Terry Barton being welcomed into RCAF 441 Huronia Wing by President Bill Sergeant and Past President Bob Coxon, 8 Jan 2019. As well, our Wing has had the pleasure of welcoming three other new members at recent meetings: Robert Debling, Michael O'Shea and Kent Smerdon. Both Michael and Kent are former RCAF CF-101 Voodoo pilots. Robert is a former Metal Tech with over 28 years service in the RCAF.



3. With a very heavy heart, Judi Steers informed us of the passing of her dad, Ronald G. Steers, on Sunday afternoon 13 January, 2019 at Windsor hospital after a short battle with pneumonia. Ronald served as a Sergeant in WW II and was a long time member of our Wing, having joined in 1963. Cremation has taken place. There will be a gravesite service in May at Glendale Memorial Gardens in Etobicoke, but the date has yet to be set.

4. Key Dates for the 441 (Huron) Wing Calendar:

- 12 Feb – Wing Meeting at Legion
- 12 Mar – Wing Annual Report – Part 1 due. Honours and Awards Submissions due at the Regional Level.
- 12 Mar – Wing Meeting at Legion
- 23 Mar – Central Region Meeting at 447 Wing in Mount Hope.
- 09 Apr – Wing Meeting at Legion
- 27 Apr – Annual Charter & Awards Dinner at the Legion. Doors open 1630 hrs.
- 17-19 May 2019 – 70th Annual Ontario Group Convention in Kingston.
- 1 June – Wing Annual Report – Part 2 due
- 11 Jun – Wing Meeting at Legion
- July – August – Summer Break
- 09 Sept – Battle of Britain Flag Raisings – Barrie and 16 Wing
- 10 Sep – Wing Meeting at the Legion
- 15 Sept – Battle of Britain Parade at 16 Wing, Borden

5. Honours and Awards:

The Wing Honours and Awards Committee are looking for nominations from its membership for the following awards:

- Member of the Year;
- Award of Merit – up to four nominations will be forwarded to the RCAF Association Ontario Group for consideration;

Other awards that the Wing H&A Committee are looking at are for Wing of Year; the 408/437 Wing Award for Best Wing Annual Report - Punctuality, Concise, Complete, Balanced; and the Wing Bulletin Award. Since we are a 'Class B Wing', i.e. less than 125 members, it might be worth considering.

6. Wing Christmas Social – 2 Dec 2018: (Article and Pictures by Norm Marion)

On Sunday December 2, 2018, members and guests of RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing, RCAFA, gathered inside the Air Annex of the Base Borden Military Museum to take part in the Wing's annual Christmas Luncheon. Located inside an original 1917 Royal Flying Corps Canada aircraft hangar, the museum provided an ideal backdrop to the gathering.



Cookie Ellis and Jane Coxon were the primary organizers of this year's Wing Christmas Social at the Air Annex Museum. We were joined by members of 429 (Georgina) Wing; Vern & Donna Conklin, Les Ball, and Don & Berniece Hannon as well as representatives of 714 Air Cadet squadron.



It also offered plenty of decorum for a presentation by Second World War Veteran Tom Carney's daughter, Lorraine, who talked about her dad's memories of Christmas spent in a theatre of war. The event was well attended by members and guests. We would like to thank all who attended and all who contributed in so many ways to make the event the success that it was. Special thanks go to our host and Master of Ceremony, President Bill Sergeant; Jane Coxon and Cookie Ellis who organized the catering, games, gifts distribution and much more, and Lorraine and Tom Carney for the wonderful story about Christmas in war time. Thank you all!

7. CF-105 Avro Arrow at Edenvale: (Courtesy of *Ian Adams/Metroland* – 21 Nov 2018)
The Edenvale Aerodrome will soon be home to Canada's aviation history. The aerodrome on Hwy. 26 east of Stayner has been designated the host of the Canadian Air and Space Conservancy, which was forced to move from its former home at the Downsview Airport in 2011 — with its artifacts warehoused at a variety of sites over the last several years, most recently a storage facility in Caledon.

The exhibits include a full-scale replica of the Avro Arrow that was built in 1998 by engineers who had worked on the real thing in the 1950s. Aerodrome owner Milan Kroupa reached out to the museum's board members after he heard about the existence of the Arrow. "I was quite interested in bringing it here, and that's how the discussion started," he said. He also agreed to fund the cost of moving the museum's contents — more than 20 storage containers — up to Edenvale.

Kroupa has a 8,000-square-foot hangar available with high ceilings, and the museum could be open by early next summer. There will be some artifacts on display outside, but the majority of the pieces — including the Arrow replica — will remain indoors. He will also be reconfiguring the area so it will be easily accessible to the public. "It will be a nice addition to the airport," Kroupa said.

The Edenvale Aviation Heritage Foundation (EAHF), which attempted to acquire a Lancaster bomber owned by the City of Toronto, will be involved in restoring the artifacts.



Edenvale Aerodrome owner Milan Kroupa (left) and Murray Conley of the Edenvale Aviation Heritage Foundation with a model of the Avro Arrow. - Ian Adams/Metroland

8. Review of 2018 - Air Force Activities: by LGen Al Meininger
We can honestly say that 2018 has been an extraordinary year for the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). The year was bookended by the Sea King, with the last east coast

operational flight of our maritime helicopter taking place in January and the official farewell and final flights taking place in December. It's hard to say farewell to an old friend such as the Sea King, but the Cyclone is proving to be a tremendous asset to the RCAF and the Royal Canadian Navy, and the first operational deployment of the Cyclone onboard HMCS Ville de Quebec was a tremendous milestone.

This year also brought our participation in a major UN peacekeeping operation, with stellar work being carried out by our Air Task Force personnel in Mali under Op Presence. We also continued our contributions to Op Caribbe and Op Impact. On the space aspect of "air and space power," we are now an integral part of the Combined Space Operations Centre in California, with a member of the RCAF serving as the combined deputy director.

Meanwhile, at home, our ongoing, essential SAR missions continued, as well as sovereignty operations and exercises in the North. We responded to several Op Lentus missions, including fires in British Columbia and Manitoba, flooding in Kashechewan, Ont., and storm damage on les Îles de la Madeleine. We also participated in marking a number of significant anniversaries this year, including the 60th anniversary of NORAD. We also marked the 100th anniversary of the Royal Air Force and, as part of those celebrations, sent a contingent to the United Kingdom to undertake Public Duties—guarding the residences of Her Majesty the Queen.

2018 also brought the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, as well as the 75th anniversary of the Dambusters Raid. In April, I was privileged to attend the opening of the International Bomber Command Centre in England, which is mandated to preserve and honour the memory of all those who served in the Command. I was reminded powerfully of the courageous contributions of our RCAF personnel, noting that we lost some 10,000 RCAF personnel during the bombing campaign.

9. Increase of Dues for 2019-20:

As noted in a report from the RCAF Assoc National AGM from 10-13 Oct 2018, the portion of the dues paid will be increasing by \$8.00 per person. The National dues will be going up by \$5.00 and the Provincial portion, as voted on at our Wing and at the Regional meeting, will be going up by \$3.00 next July for the 2019-2020 dues.

10. Recruiting New Members:

We are still looking for new members. We have increased our membership to 68 members and counting. Normand Marion has put an advertisement in the Coldwater Legion newsletter. Norm has been given authority to advertise for Wing Membership in the Borden Citizen and as well to purchase business cards that members can hand out at events telling prospective members about the Wing and its benefits. We would like to see our membership grow to 75+ in the coming year.

11. Public Relations Activities:

Norm Marion continues to do a great job with our 'RCAF 441 Wing' FaceBook (FB) page. He is posting articles that he writes about various activities at our Wing. If you do not have a FB account, you can use the following link to access and view the FB page. <https://www.facebook.com/441Wing/> If you wish to submit articles or announcements for the Newsletter, please send them to Norm Marion or Bill Sergeant.

12. Speakers for our Meetings:

08 January – Norm Saulnier – NCM Professional Develop Update

- 12 February – Capt Seattle Tobin-Green – Experience on Deployment to Mali;
 12 March – LCol Gabe Doré, CO RCSU – Strategic Overview of the Cadet Program from a Canadian Forces perspective.
 09 April – WW I Movie Night – “They Shall Not Grow Old” by Peter Jackson.
 27 April – Charter and Awards Banquet – Guest Speaker required.
 11 June – Guest Speaker TBD

If you, or someone you know, would like to talk about a subject that would be of interest to our members, please speak with one of our Directors.

13. Contact Information:

Mail: Box 324 Barrie, ON L4M 4T5
 E-Mail: < admin@rcaf441wing.com >
 Telephone: 705-481-1453 (messages only)

14. Wing Executive (As of 10 May 2018 prior to voting in the 2018-2019 Executive):

POSITION	NAME	PORTFOLIO(S)
President	Bill Sergeant	Newsletter
Deputy President	Tom Carney	Chair Honours & Awards
Past President	Bob Coxon	Initiation of New Members
Treasurer	Andrea Sloan	Membership Chair / 16 Wing Liaison Officer
Secretary	Jane Coxon	Special Events / Scout Group Liaison
Director	Art Cameron	
Director	Gerry Pepler	RCAF Ad Astral Chair Board
Director	Murray Conley	Director of Ceremonies
Director	Jim Purchase	Sick and Visiting
Director	Stan Bieniawski	
Director	Norm Marion	Public Relations / FaceBook
Director	Joep Dening	Wing Web Master
Director	Wally Capsticks	
Director	Andy Galton	Veterans Groups Liaison / H&A
Member	Sherry Tobin- Green	RCACS Liaison for 102 Silver Fox Sqn and 714 Wasaga Beach Sqn
Wing Padre	Rev Doug Crocker	



*You are cordially invited to attend the 61st
 441 (Huron) **Wing Charter and Awards Banquet**
 on Saturday, April 27th, 2019 starting at 1630 hrs at the
 Royal Canadian Legion, Branch#147, Barrie*



We will have a sit-down dinner with all of the trimmings, including salads and dessert, along with tea and coffee. A bar service will be available. (If you have any special dietary needs or allergies, please let Andrea know when you RSVP)

RSVP to Andrea Sloan at 705-734-9449 or by e-mail at admin@rcaf441wing.com no later than Friday, 20 April, 2019. Send cheque to the Wing address shown above or pay at the door.