



*They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.*

For the Fallen Poem by Laurence Binyon



**Royal Canadian Air Force Association
RCAF 441 (Huronia) Wing
Newsletter – October - November 2021**

Vol 5 Edition 5



1. RCAF Association Mission Statement:

The Royal Canadian Air Force Association is a national aerospace and community service organization that commemorates the noble achievements of the men and women who have served as members of Canada's air forces since its inception; advocates for a proficient and well-equipped air force; and, supports the Royal Canadian Air Cadet program.

2. Chairman's Message:

As we are putting this Newsletter together, there appears to be some good news on the pandemic front with the number of doses administered reaching 87% for the first dose and 82% for the second. This has contributed to the downward trend in Covid case numbers for Ontario, which has in turn emboldened us to hold in-person meetings again at the Barrie Legion. To ensure that those who do not feel comfortable yet attending in-person meetings, Michael O'Shea and Joep Dening have made it possible for members to attend the meetings via Zoom. Per Ardua Ad Astra.

3. Last Flights:

Leora (Lolly) Alberta Westgarth-Taylor

December 7, 1923 – Aug 18, 2021

Lolly passed away peacefully at the Grove Park Care Home on Wednesday, August 18 2021, at the age of 97 years. Beloved wife of the late Clifford "Westy" (1975). Dear mother of Terry, Catherine (Cyril) and the late Brian. Proud grandmother of Jeffrey, Colin, Peter, Joanne, Carol, Brandi, Melanie and great grandmother of 11. Will be missed by extended family members and dear friends. There was a private family interment at the Barrie Union Cemetery. Online condolences

and memories may be left at www.steckleygooderham.com.



Harry William (Bill) Blakey, age 78 of Barrie, ON, passed away peacefully on the morning of August 5, 2021 at Victoria Village Manor.

Bill was born March 1, 1943 in London, Ontario and was a graduate of H.B. Beal Secondary School. A retired Warrant Officer, Bill served 35 years with the Canadian Armed Forces and was a proud member of the Royal Canadian Air Force Assoc 441 Wing since 1997. He was an active volunteer at Royal Victoria



Hospital in Barrie where he served for 15 years in the hospital library. Bill enjoyed travel and spending time with his family - sharing laughter and creating memories. Bill is survived by his loving wife Gail Blakey, his sons Ryan (Sabrina) and Will (Melissa), his stepdaughter Sandra (Giselle), and his beloved grandchildren Quinn and Carter. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother.

A Celebration of Life took place on Sunday August 22 at Traditions Banquet Hall, Sheba Shrine in Barrie. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Royal Victoria Hospital.

4. Honours and Awards: Wing Awards:

On 19 August, Andy Galton, the Wing H&A Chair, handed out three well deserved 2020 awards to members of our Wing.

The award for 441 Wing Member of the Year was presented to Wing Chair Bill Sergeant for his valuable service to the RCAF Association over the past 14 years. His leadership, innovation and hard work have been instrumental in 441 Wing's ability to meet its commitments to the membership and community.



Mr. Gerry Peppler was presented with a 441 Wing Award of Merit – 2020 for his enthusiastic support and leadership to 441 (Huron) Wing as the Board Chairman and a Director for Ad Astral Place for 10 years. Through his dedication and marked concern for its administration, he ensured the effective running of Ad Astral Place throughout that time.

Mr. Murray Conley earned his 441 Wing Award of Merit – 2020 through his enthusiastic promotion of 441 (Huron) Wing and the RCAF Association over the past 44 years. Through his ideas and actions, he enhanced 441 Wing's presence in the local community by organizing events to commemorate Canada's proud RCAF heritage. He also initiated, organized, and commanded the Wing's Colour Party, which has performed at the Battle of Britain Commemorations and the Memorial Service for AC1 Stanley Peacock.



Sherry Tobin-Green and Gerry Pepler being presented with their Certificates of Merit from Wing H&A Chair Andy Galton and Wing Deputy Chair Wally Capsticks



Murray Conley was presented with his Certificate of Merit and Bob Thompson was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from Wing H&A Chair Andy Galton and Wing Deputy Chair Wally Capsticks

Mr. Bob Thompson was awarded a 441 Wing Certificate of Appreciation – 2020 in recognition for his significant contribution to 441 (Huron) Wing. Starting in 2001 at 16 Wing Borden, Bob created the aircraft images that graced the annual RCAF Anniversary pins until his retirement in 2012. In 2019, 441 Wing took over the responsibility to produce the pins and approached Bob to design the images for them. He readily agreed and has since voluntarily provided the designs to 441 Wing, allowing us to continue this important Air Force tradition.

5. Wing Fund Raisers:

The winners of the draws so far for the “\$100-a-Month Draw” for 2021 are:

January – Kosten Hebb #163;	June – Dave Wismer – #240;
February – Les Ball #200;	July – Lee Anne Sergeant – #033;
March – Sherry Tobin-Green #076;	August – Mark Smith - #024;
April - Andy Dockerill – #108;	September – Bill Coyle - #209; and
May – Dave Wismer – #241;	October – Wally Capsticks- #087.

Bill Coyle kindly donated his winnings from September back to the Wing along with an additional amount to assist our bottom line. Thank you Bill.

Tickets for the **2022 “\$100-a-Month Draw”** are now available from Les Ball. Of the 300 tickets that were printed, there are still 200 to be sold. Please contact Les if you would like to buy tickets or get books (5/book) to sell on behalf of the Wing. Tickets are \$10.00 each.

Dinner for Two Anywhere in the World Tickets: Michael O’Shea will soon have the 2022 tickets available for purchase or to sell. Cost is the same as last year, \$10.00 ea, or a book of 11 tickets for \$100.00. The 2022 draw will take place on Valentine’s Day, 14 February. The winner will have until the end of 2024 to take their trip due to the impact of COVID 19. Contact Michael if you are interested in buying tickets or to help sell them. Note the Wing was given \$1,000 by the Kiwanis Club for selling the tickets again last year.

The funds from both draws will be used by 441 Wing so that it can carry out its mandate of supporting the two Royal Canadian Air Cadet Sqns that we sponsor in Barrie (102 Silver Fox Sqn) and Wasaga Beach (714 Sqn).

6. New 441 Wing Members Inducted:



Past President Bob Coxon with new Wing members HCol Renee van Kessel, MPP Andrea Khanjin, and Wing Chair Bill Sergeant at Barrie City Hall, 13 Sept.



Wing Chair Bill Sergeant with new member Andy Dockerill and Ontario Group Past Chair Les Ball. He was inducted on 12 Oct 2021.

We are very fortunate to have three new members who were recently inducted into the Wing. After the Battle of Britain Flag Raising Ceremony at Barrie City Hall on Monday, 13 Sept 2021, the Wing's Past-Chair Bob Coxon inducted HCol Renee van Kessel and MPP Andrea Khanjin as members of the RCAF Association and our Wing. At our October Wing meeting at the Barrie Legion, Past-Chair of Ontario Group Les Ball inducted Andy Dockerill as a new member.

7. Raywin Raaflaub Takes to the Sky (Again):

Wing members and friends gathered on 19 August at the Tail Winds Restaurant at the Orillia-Rama Regional Airport to celebrate Raywin's 91st birthday.



The special guests included MP Bruce Stanton, who was retiring as the MP for Simcoe-North, his replacement Adam Chambers, Raywin's longtime friends Johnnie Snake, his wife, and Karen Steinberg. Raywin arranged to have a couple of draw prizes that were given away before the lunch. In turn, Raywin was given his birthday gifts, which included a hand painted moose horn. Once everyone had eaten, it was Raywin's turn to blow out the candles on his cake and offer a piece to the 17 guests present along with a 'loot bag'. Then it was off for a flight in a 6-seat Beaver pontoon plane. Since the two front seats were reserved for Raywin and the pilot, the other four seats were given away via a lottery to four lucky people. They are seen in the picture below with Raywin prior to boarding the 40-minute flight.



Passengers Randy Rice, Gerry Peppler, Karen Steinberg, Raywin & Bill Sergeant



91-year-old Raywin Raaflaub ready for take-off from Lake St. Jean.

8. Commemorating the 81st Anniversary of the Battle of Britain:

On 13 Sept 2021, Wing members were joined by MPP Andrea Khanjin – Barrie-Innisfil, Mayor Jeff Lehman – City of Barrie, Col. Darryl Taylor – 16 WComd, HCol Renee Van Kessel – HCol 16 Wing, LCol Lyle Holbrook – CO 400 Sqn, CWO Rusconi – 16 Wing Chief, MWO Dave Barsi – A/SWO 400 Sqn to raise the RCAF Ensign at Barrie's City Hall in commemoration of the 81st Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. The ceremony was organized by Murray Conley, who also commanded the Colour Party. Mayor Lehman proclaimed the week of 13-19 September as Battle of Britain Week in Barrie. Scrolls were also presented to 441 Wing by MPP Khanjin and MPP Downey's representative in honour of "the few" who gave their lives during this pivotal battle from 10 July – 31 October 1940 over southern England.



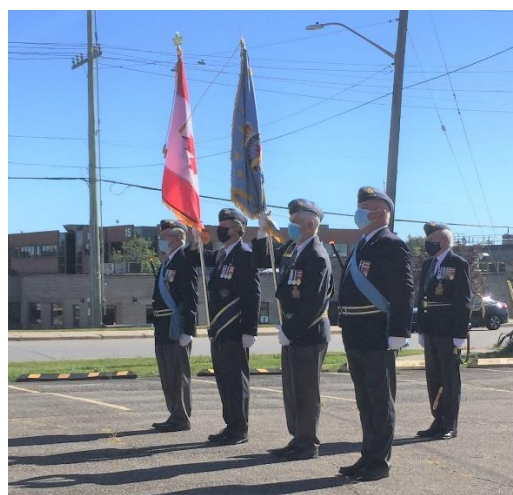
Mayor Jeff Lehman raising the RCAF Ensign at City Hall



Members of 441 (Huronion) Wing and local dignitaries at the Battle of Britain Flag Raising



Dignitaries Doug Shipley, MPP Andrea Khanjin, John Brassard, Second World War Veteran Allister Macdonald and Fern Taillefer at the Battle of Britain ceremony at the Barrie Legion.



The 441 (Huronion) Wing Colour Party consisting of Wally Capstick, Randy Rice, Les Ball, Andy Galton, and Murray Conley on parade.

The Battle of Britain ceremony held on Sunday, 19 Sept at the Barrie Legion was led by the 441 Wing Colour Party with Second World War Veteran Allister 'Mac' Macdonald as its Guest of Honour. It commemorated the 81st Anniversary of the battle. Once again, the ceremony was organized by Murray Conley and was a fitting tribute to the Airmen and Airwomen who turned the tide of the first major air battle of the Second World War against the Nazi threat posed by Operation Sea Lion and its planned invasion of England in the summer of 1940.

9. Annual Memorial Service for AC1 Stanley Peacock – 13 Oct 2021:



Members of 441 Wing and local dignitaries gather to honour AC1 Peacock on 13 Oct.

On Wednesday, 13 October, 2021, Royal Canadian (Air) Cadet AC1 Stanley Peacock was honoured at a wreath laying ceremony at his grave in St. James' Cemetery, Orillia. AC1 Peacock was killed while building a Fairmile Motor Torpedo Boat at the Orillia shipyard on 13 Oct 1943. The annual commemoration was initiated by Raywin Raaflaub, a boyhood friend of Stanley Peacock's in 99 RCAC Sqn, Orillia. Special guests in attendance were Councillors Pat Hehn and Jay Fallis of the City of Orillia, Inspector Coyer Yateman, OPP; Acting Fire Chief Chris Ferry, Orillia Fire Dept; Mr. Richard Purcell, RCL Branch #34 Orillia President, and Ms. Deanna Peacock, a relative of Stanley's.

MC'd by Bill Sergeant, the moving ceremony included the 441 Wing Colour Party, which added to the pomp and ceremony of the service. It was led by Murray Conley with Les Ball, Wally Capsticks, Randy Rice and Andy Galton carrying the mock weapons, the Canadian flag, and the RCAFA 441 Wing Standard. The service consisted of the traditional Last Post, minute of silence, the Rouse, the Act of Remembrance, and the laying of a wreath in memory of Peacock by Orillia

City Councillor Pat Hehn, escorted by Raywin Raaflaub and Deanna Raaflaub. A speech written by Raywin Raaflaub about his memories of his boyhood friend Stanley Peacock was read by Bill Sergeant. This was followed by a Closing Prayer by 441 Wing Padre Doug Crocker. Many thanks to Bugler Tony Beresford for his participation as the bugler and to Norm Marion for reading 'High Flight' at the Memorial Service.

10. RCAF 97th Anniversary Pins:

Following a well-established Borden tradition, commemorative pins were produced again this year to mark the anniversary of the birth of the Royal Canadian Air Force on April 1st, 1924. The tradition of producing buttons or pins featuring a different theme aircraft each year goes back more than three decades in Borden, "Birthplace of the RCAF." Today, the tradition is kept alive through the efforts of RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing, RCAF Association - Barrie.



As this year marked the 75th anniversary of the Consolidated PBY Catalina flying boat being retired from service with the Canadian Armed Forces, we are paying tribute to those who flew, maintained, and served on-board this aircraft. Between 1941 and 1945, the Catalina flying boat and its amphibious version, the Canso, were used extensively in maritime patrol and anti-submarine warfare roles. Flight Lieutenant David Hornell (RCAF) was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions involving a Canso aircraft in the North

Atlantic, and Squadron Leader Leonard Birchall gained fame while flying a Catalina in the Pacific theatre when he spotted and reported the Japanese carrier fleet approaching Ceylon. The Catalina was retired from Canadian service in 1946, but its Canso version continued to serve in a Search & Rescue role until 1962.

RCAF 97th Anniversary pins are now for sale at \$5.00 each (+ shipping) through 441 Wing RCAFA. Note that a small selection of previous years' pins is also available. Contact Norm Marion, (705) 686-3941, norm.marion@amtelecom.net

11. Upcoming Wing Activities:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
9 Nov	Wing Directors' Meeting at the Legion	1800 hrs
9 Nov	Wing General Meeting at the Legion – Guest Speaker is Art Cameron speaking about his CF-104 experiences	1900 hrs
11 Nov	Remembrance Day – Check local service timings	
14 Dec	Christmas Social – see article in this Newsletter	1800 hrs

11 Jan 22	Wing Directors' Meeting at the Legion	1800 hrs
11 Jan 22	Wing General Meeting at the Legion – Guest Speaker TBD	1900 hrs
8 Feb 22	Wing Directors' Meeting at the Legion	1800 hrs
8 Feb 22	Wing General Meeting at the Legion – Guest Speaker Sherry Cullings – RCL Provincial Veterans Svc Officer	1900 hrs

12. RCAF 100th Anniversary Committee:

We are forming a Wing Committee to plan events for the RCAF 100th Anniversary in 2024. Some of the events, depending on their size, will be done in conjunction with the RCAF Association and/or 16 Wing. Ideas that have already been talked about for our Wing by some of our members include: a 'hangar Mess Dinner' at 16 Wing Borden; a choir of Air Force members and Veterans in vintage uniforms; an Air Cadet band in special centennial uniforms that would play concerts throughout 2024, and a Freedom of the City Parade in Barrie (or other community (Coldwater? in this area). So far, the committee consists of Bill Coyle, Jean Maurice Pigeon, Randy Rice, Murray Conley and Bill Sergeant. If you are interested in being part of this committee, please let Bill Sergeant know.

13. Canvassers Needed for the 2021 Barrie Legion Poppy Campaign:

The Legion has been given permission to use canvassers for this year's Poppy Campaign. They will be needing volunteers who will assist the Branch this year. If you have been double vaccinated and would like to assist them this year, please or call the Legion (705-728-1412) and leave a message for Fern Taillefer. Proper COVID rules, social distancing etc. will be in effect throughout the campaign. Last year they did not use any canvassers and relied solely on businesses and donations. This year they really need a good boost with volunteer canvassers. Canvassing begins on the 29th of October.

14. TIME CAPSULE: "The Golden Centennaires": By Randolph Rice

The year 1967 was what Pierre Berton termed "the last good year". It was a year like no other in Canada's 100-year history. Every Canadian from school kid to senior participated in the celebrations. For the Canadian military, it was no exception.

The Canadian Armed Services assembled personnel from the three branches of the service and formed the Military Tattoo which travelled across the country, giving a spectacular show of pomp and ceremony depicting Canada's military heritage.

In addition to the CAF contribution to the tattoo, the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) stood up the Golden Centennaires in 1967 as an aerobatic display team. They had been preceded by the Golden Hawks display team noted for

their distinctive gold paint scheme and flying the F-86 Sabre jet during the 1960's. It had been disbanded due to cuts in the defence budget.



The Centennaires 'Maintenance Team' poses in front of one of the Tutors.



The aerobatic display pilots who flew the Golden Centennaire Tutors in 1967.

Photos courtesy of Raywin Raaflaub, RCAFA 441 Wing member.

The Golden Centennaires consisted of an eight-plane formation commanded by Wing Commander O.B. Philip, CM, DFC, CD and flew the CT-114 Tutor aircraft. It featured a six-plane formation alternating with two solo aircraft. The CT-Tutor sported a blue and gold paint scheme along with the highly visible Canadian centennial symbol.

The team travelled across the country performing 103 shows including the opening and closing of Expo 67 in Montreal, seven shows in the United States, and, believe it or not, two shows in the Bahamas. Accompanying the Golden Centennaires were an Avro 504, a CF-104 Starfighter, and a CF-101 Voodoo. All these aircraft performed at the airshows and really brought Canada's Air Force to the front of the stage.

The team's makeup also included a highly trained ground crew who were responsible for maintaining all the aircraft while on their cross-country tour.

The team was disbanded after the last show of the season, but the Tutors were used to form the Snowbirds a few years later thanks to the efforts of Wing Commander O.B. Philip (1923- 1995) He was instrumental in the formation of the Snowbirds, was made a member of the Order of Canada in October 1992 and was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame in 2015. To this day the Snowbirds soar to entertain Canadians every year.

15. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in 2022:

Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II of Canada will be celebrating her Platinum Jubilee. She ascended to the throne on Feb. 6, 1952, after the death of her father, and was later crowned on June 2, 1953, in Westminster Abbey. The UK is planning a four-day festival, which celebrates 70 years since she took the throne, and will culminate in an energising spectacle bringing

together artists and communities from around the country and the Commonwealth. More than 6,500 performers are set to take part in a festival – the “largest ever put on”, say organisers. The event is scheduled to take place on from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June 2022.

At this time, Canada has not made public any plans to commemorate the event or issue a Platinum Jubilee Medal to mark this rare milestone.

16. Canvassers Needed for the 2021 Barrie Legion Poppy Campaign:
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17. 441 Wing Christmas Social:
The 441 (Huron) Wing Christmas Social for will be held on Tuesday, December 14th, beginning at 6 pm in the upstairs banquet hall of the Barrie Legion. Any Wing member, or their guest(s), who wishes to donate an item for the prize table, please bring it that evening already in a gift bag. This will be a very simple but probably a very needed evening so members can catch up on happenings and also have a bit of fun.

All members and guests attending this in-person event will need to be double vaccinated. Attendees will be checked for vaccination status and need to provide their names and telephone numbers. The number of participants may be limited to whatever is mandated by the Provincial Government for indoor gatherings. There will be chairs spaced out and can be moved.

Since there will not be any tables, instead of games, Jane will read a couple of fun stories. During that time of visiting, Cooky, Lorraine, Jane, will be selling draw tickets. The draws will commence after the stories. The first draw will be the 50/50 draw then the tickets will be drawn for the prizes. After the draws, the Closing Ritual would be said and everyone goes home safely. As people leave, Cooky, Lorraine and Jane will be giving each guest a hand made Christmas ornament as a thank you for attending.

18. CFB Borden Air Show to Take Place in 2022:
CFB Borden has confirmed that its Canadian Armed Forces Day and Air Show will take place on 18 – 19 June 2022. The open house and air show will include several military and civilian demonstration teams and numerous ground displays.

19. Contact Information:

New Wing Mailing Address: 401-200 Collier St, Barrie, ON, L4M 1H7

New Wing E-Mail Address: 441wing.rcafa@airforce.ca

Telephone: 705-481-1453 (messages only)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/441Wing/>

Website: <https://www.rcaf441wing.com/>

20. 441 Wing Board of Directors (BoD)/ Executive for FY 2020-2021:

POSITION	NAME	PORTFOLIO(S)
Chairman	Bill Sergeant	Newsletter, H&A Committee Member
Deputy Chair	Wally Capsticks	Special Events, H&A Committee Member
Treasurer	Andrea Sloan	Membership Chair / 16 Wing Liaison O
Secretary	Andrew Galton	Honours and Awards Committee Chair
Deputy Treas	Michael O'Shea	Fund Raising/Special Projects
Director	Gerry Pepler	RCAFA Ad Astral Project Board Chair
Director	Art Cameron	RCAFA Ad Astral Project BoD Member
Director	Murray Conley	Director of Ceremonies
Director	Joep Dening	Wing Web Master
Director	Norm Marion	Public Relations / FaceBook
Director	Randy Rice	Veterans Groups Liaison
Wing Padre	Rev Doug Crocker	Wing Padre



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