

WING TIPS



418 (Belleville) Wing

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR
FORCE ASSOCIATION

10 Dixie Place, Belleville, ON,

K8P 5A9

SEPTEMBER

2022

HAPPINESS

IS FOUND AT

418 WING

**AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION of CANADA MISSION
STATEMENT**

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

HAPPY AUTUMN





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Padre Larry Hurley 613-968-3125

Publicity Pat Hope 613-962-8222

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Sick & Welfare Evelyn Mitchell 613-968-3125

WING MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Belleville Shrine Club, 51 Highland Ave. Executive Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month. General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday every other month except July, August and December.

NOTE: Members will be notified by e-mail or telephone of the date and time of upcoming events and the venue.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Murray Hope
Padre Larry Hurley
FSgt Gracy Joseph
WO2 Maggie Bateman
Rick Verrall
Pat Hope
Evelyn Mitchell
Cynthia Russell

418 (BELLEVILLE) WING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**Murray Hope**

I was feeling that writing this report was a bitter sweet experience. Looking ahead we are off to a new year of activities but also it saddens me to know that this is the last year for 418 Wing. For those who are fairly new to our Wing we will be celebrating the 73rd Anniversary of our Charter at our Charter Night Dinner on Nov.25. Don't forget to put this date on your calendar.

Questions have been asked about what happens when the Wing dissolves and what options the members have. We will be spending more time at the February Meeting to discuss this in detail. However, the following are the three options:

- a) **Transfer to another Wing next Spring.**
- b) **Leave the RCAFA altogether.**
- c) **Become a Member at Large paying regular dues and receiving the Magazine but not belong to a specific Wing**

The Celebration of Life for Bill Robertson will be held on Oct. 14. Pat is assisting Jane, (his daughter). There will be a Poppy Ceremony. Please call Pat if you wish to attend. An email will be sent out closer to the date.

Well, this is our third attempt to hold our Battle of Britain at St Michaels Church in Belleville. First two had to be cancelled because of COVID. This Service will be held at 11:00 am. Please let Pat know if you are attending so she will be able to inform the Church of the number of places to be reserved.

At this time, I would like to welcome Mary Thomas as our newest member. Mary is not a stranger to the Wing. In the past she has attended functions with her (late) husband Pat Thomas and since she has attended a couple of functions on her own. Welcome Mary.

Since the next Wing Tips will not be published before the Poppy Campaign (Nov.

I would like to encourage you to volunteer to help the Poppy Table at the Quinte Mall. Pat is the scheduler for the Poppy Committee. Each weekday there are 3 shifts and on Saturday 2 shifts. Chairs are provided. Pat will be sending an email out closer to the campaign but we wanted to inform you ahead of time so you can give it some thought. Those who call me early get the time and date they want. These funds help Veterans

and Cadets. Any questions ask either Pat or I as we are both managing the table. There are 2 on each shift so you can do this with a friend.

**Per Ardua Ad Astra
Murray**

Membership

Evelyn Mitchell

Welcome to our newest member! Mary Thomas is joining us effective 1 September and will be sworn in at our September 28 meeting. That brings our total membership to 24 regular and 2 honorary members. Our longtime friend Terry Larocque who has recently moved from Ottawa has not renewed his membership this year. Thank you for your faithfulness over the years Terry. Terry was a loyal member for 13 years.

We have said goodbye to our dear kind friend and WWII hero, and 32-year Wing member, William A Robertson, this past summer, just after his 101st birthday. We are invited to his celebration of life on 14 October. We will remember him.

My Story: Sergeant Richard W. "Rick" Verrall, RCAF (Retired)

I was born in Toronto on 11 September 1944 and attended elementary and high school in Toronto and the surrounding area. After completing Grade 10, I held a number of positions, including one with Regal Stationery because I wanted to become a printer. While I enjoyed that role, it turned out that I was too slight--at only 120 pounds--for such heavy, physical work! So, I joined Xerox in the Warehouse and Shipping Departments. However, there was always something else tugging at me. You see, at 16 years of age, I had joined 117 North Star Squadron of The Royal Canadian Air Cadets in Toronto, Ontario. I attained the rank of Sergeant and always took my holidays so I could attend three summer camps at RCAF Station Trenton, Ontario. That is where I got the bug and made my decision to join the RCAF. Interestingly, I commenced my service on the 24th of November 1963, which was only 2 days after President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

My initial Trade was Supply Technician. However, when I completed my Basic Training in St. Jean, Quebec, the Supply Trade was closed, as was the Transportation Technician (Trans/Tech) Trade. I was sent to Trenton misemployed in the Trans Tech Trade at 2 Air Movements Unit (AMU). A few weeks after I arrived in Trenton with some other trainees, the Trans Tech Trade opened up and I was given the opportunity to remuster which I did. Later that summer, I went on my Trades training course at Camp Borden and, upon completion, I was given a preference posting back to Trenton and 2 AMU. Early in 1965, I was asked if I would like to attend the Yukon training course for Trans Techs. After I completed that course, which included a 17-day trip around the world, I was given one of 4 positions open at 437 Squadron for Trans Techs. I flew on freight and passenger flights domestically and overseas. It was an exciting life for a

young man. During my tenure at 437 Squadron, we would have long range-- 30-40 day trips--with the National Defence College to exotic destinations like Tunisia, Ethiopia and Egypt on an annual basis. We also had opportunities to fly with VIPS, including Canada's Governor General. These were simply amazing experiences to be part of.

In early 1968, I was promoted to Corporal and, later that year, I married my dear wife Meryl. In November 1969, I was transferred to 4(T)OTU and was sent on my Instructor's course in Clinton, ON. In late December, I joined the OTU as an Air Transportation Instructor. I trained Flight Attendants on Yukons, as well as Loadmasters, as the Traffic Techs were now called. I qualified as an instructor on CC106 Yukons, C130E Hercules, CC109 Cosmopolitans, and was starting to qualify on the CC137 Boeing 707. In 1970, I was promoted to Master Corporal and, in the Fall of 1972, I was promoted to Sergeant. Shortly after that, I was transferred to Lahr, Germany but I did not accept the transfer, choosing to retire instead. I left the military on 2 May 1973 but please note that I had loved every minute of my service. I logged 5000 hours over my career and it was a truly awesome experience.

After leaving the Air Force, I went to work for Foodex Inc. (Ponderosa Steak Houses). I managed the Belleville, ON Ponderosa for approximately one year and was promoted to District Manager of Sales and Operations for Eastern, ON, which consisted of 7 stores from Oshawa to Cornwall. It was a fun role which I embraced but it was a very big commitment, especially due to the constant travel and weekend work. I left this position after seven years, as we had a young daughter Christine starting school and I wanted to spend more time with my family. Nonetheless, my time in the food service business was another very rewarding experience.

From there, I went on to work for Compact Carpets in Belleville, ON, starting in September 1979. Initially, I worked in the factory and the warehouse and, in 1983, we were purchased by a much larger American company, Interface Flooring Systems Inc. I stayed on and trained in Production Planning, Purchasing and Traffic and, eventually, in 1993, took over the Credit Department as Credit Manager until I retired in April 2009. By then, I had spent 30 years in the carpet business--yet another amazing and rewarding career. After Interface, I went on to work part-time for Belletile, a new carpet tile manufacturer in the city, and set up their Credit Department before retiring fully in the Spring of 2012.

For the last 5 or 6 years, I have been volunteering at the National Air Force Museum, having been invited by my old friend Bob Blake to join him along with Don Reid and Murray Hope. We work weekly on Friday mornings from May through October in the Airpark weeding between the AD ASTRA Stones, helping to maintain the many commemorative beds. This is a favourite part of my week. Now, during the summer vacation, my 14 year-old granddaughter Elizabeth volunteers and works right along beside me. I am so blessed to have had such an amazing life, varied careers and a wonderful family and friends. In closing, I would like to say how pleased I am to have joined 418 Wing RCAFA. Thanks to all of you for making Meryl and I feel so welcome. It is an honour and a privilege to be a part of this group.

**Rick Verrall****Rick and granddaughter Elizabeth****Don Reid**

418 Volunteers Weeding the Ad Astra Stone Beds Pat Hope

Many people are not aware that the Ad Astra Stone Program was the brainchild of past member Roy Skillicorn. Col (ret') Cy Yarnell assisted Roy in presenting this idea to the Museum. Don Reid has been involved since its inception in 1996 and has used his own vehicle to transport most of the 12,000 stones. He and many 418 Wing members have been involved over the years placing stones and all the work involved with the beds and documentation. Included in this has been a lot of weeding and grass cutting.

Murray Hope has been involved for about 20 years in above mentioned tasks besides maintaining the equipment. Thanks to Rick who has come on board in the last 5 years. This summer his granddaughter Elizabeth is earning her volunteer hours for High School.

418 Wing members have contributed many, many hours supporting the Museum in various ways over the years. Kudos 418!!



Battle of Britain Church Service

Pat Hope

The Battle of Britain Church Service will be held at St Michael's Catholic Church at 296 Church St Belleville on Sunday, Sept 18 at 11:00am. Those who wish to parade into the church should form up by 10:30am. Members who do not wish to parade will enter the church and be seated by Pat. Dress will be blues and greys with medals for those who have them. Cadets and some members of 8AMS will be joining us.

Masks are optional. Reception will follow the Service.

June General Meeting

Pat Hope



Larry Hurley, Susan Vincent, Cynthia Russell



Let's eat!

Although our attendance was down for our June Meeting everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

We began with a salad potluck dinner followed by a delicious strawberry shortcake with ice cream. Thank you to those who volunteered to bring the salads.

Following the supper Teresa Comier from the Quinte Wellness Centre spoke to us about opportunities for senior (50+) activities other than the sports. She encouraged us to attend and if we had any ideas of activities, they do not have, she would try to include them in the future. She was not sure of the bus schedule, but knows that definitely the city buses stop there regularly during the day. You will need a membership card which is only \$5. Give it a try. Our Padre Larry Hurley plays crokinole there. Maybe you could talk to him and he can give you an idea about the Senior experience.

Activities and Events Secretary's Notes**Pat Hope**

Sep 18 - Battle of Britain Church Service at St Michael's Catholic Church (See note for details)

Sep 24 - Ad Astra Stone Dedication at Air Force Museum Trenton

Sep 27 - 5:30 for 6- General Meeting Games and Pizza \$10 at Shrine Club.

Oct 25 - No Meeting

Oct 28 - Nov 10- Volunteers needed for Poppy Table at Quinte Mall

Nov 11 - 11:00 Remembrance Day Service Belleville Cenotaph

Nov 25 - 6 for 6:30 **Charter Night Dinner** at Sans Souci. More details to follow.

NO meetings in December and January. Meetings will be in February, April and June.

NOTE:

When food is involved at meetings you are asked to inform me of your attendance (for planning purposes). I will be sending you an email in advance of the meeting as a reminder.

Special Events**Pat Hope**

Murray and Pat Hope were privileged to be VIP Guests at the following:

Aug 11 - Change of Command for 8AMS LCol Emond (see Picture)

Aug 26 - Graduation Ceremony for Cadet Glider School at Mountainview (see picture)

8 AMS Change of Command**Pat Hope**

Murray and Pat were honoured to attend the Change of Command as VIP's at the Museum on Aug 11,2022.

LCol Emond has been very supportive and interested in 418 Wing. In the past 8 AMS has supported us on many occasions. Duties and COVID has put restrictions on how much the military could interact with the community in the past couple of years.

However, I have received phone calls as to how the Wing was coping with the COVID situation.

For many years 8AMS CO's have taken an active part in the Wing when military duties allowed. Our last 2 Liaison Officers have been from 8AMS.

Thank you to LCol Emond for mentioning the Wing and particularly Bill Robertson in his parting address. I know that Bill, our recently passed WWII Veteran would have been honoured.



Lieutenant-Colonel Caden Stiles (left) is joined by Colonel Leif Dahl (centre), 8 Wing Commander, as he takes command of 8 Air Maintenance Squadron from Lieutenant-Colonel Adam Emond (right), during a signing ceremony at 8 Wing Trenton, Ontario, on August 11, 2022.

Cadet Glider Wings Graduation

Pat Hope

Murray and Pat Were honoured to be invited guests at the Gliding Training Course Wings Ceremony August 26 at Mountainview Airport.

Course Cadet Julian Medej not only got his wings, he also received the top cadet award, and the **Royal Canadian Air Force Association medal**. Presenting him with his trophy is Brigadier-General Jamie Speiser-Blanchet and Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) **Dean Black, Executive Director of the RCAF Association.**





PADRE'S CORNER

Rev. Larry Hurley

The no-war God.

The church I attend publishes a prayer request to 'Pray for the people of The 'Ukraine' and asks us to ask God to show his power and stop the war in The Ukraine.

My Christian ideology rejects such requests and the thousand or so similar requests of faith communities around the world, including some in Russia. To me, it appears, in my opinion, the presumed all-powerful God has some limitations. The Ukraine is one of a multitude of on-going and long-standing wars in progress in our world. Can God really show his power and stop the war in The Ukraine? (How about WW1 and WW2 for starters?)

The God we believe in hasn't shown his/her presumed power to stop The Ukraine war let alone the multitude of similar conflicts. In fact, the God of the Old Testament told his chosen people (an invading and marauding tribe) to pillage, kill, burn crops and do despicable things to men, women, children. Yes. God commanded His Chosen Ones to do so! Historically, theologians have tried to dance around this issue.)

Then we have to deal with the New Testament God of Love's message presented through the life and teachings of Jesus the Christ. (Do you sense a conflict?)

The *Jesus and John Wayne* theology has invaded many fundamentalist churches. (There is a book about this invasive issue.)

Sadly, some wars are good for the economy. On the plus side it also gives us an opportunity to donate, and Scammers to get rich on mis-information.

We do our best to offer our prayers, send physical and financial help and accept refugees.

Put feet to your prayers as you are able.

Peace

Padre Larry.

Padre Larry Hurley

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CADET NEWS



608 Squadron Belleville

FSgt Gracy Joseph

608 Duke of Edinburgh Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron Correspondent

We had multiple cadets who followed through with their interest in attending a course during the summer. FSgt Braun is an active member at our squadron going into his fifth year in Air Cadets. This summer he attended the Air Rifle Marksmanship Instructor Course (ARMI) at Connaught Cadet Training Centre (CTC) in Nepean. ARMI was a 6-week course prior to the pandemic but has since been shortened into a 3-week course. The last time FSgt Braun attended a summer camp was for General Training (GT) at Trenton CTC in 2019. The pandemic has since had little effect on the experience provided at CTCs this summer. The only difference was the location of certain camps, the courses being offered and some courses having a virtual training portion. From various parts of Canada, cadets from all three programs, Royal Canadian Air Cadets, Royal Canadian Sea Cadets and Royal Canadian Army Cadets, attend summer camps every year. FSgt Braun mentioned that although there are many cadets, the group activities helped to bond and build connections with the other cadets despite being from different programs. FSgt Braun will be bringing his skills that he gained from ARMI back to the squadron this September to improve and enhance training. ARMI, like every instructor course offered through the cadet program, allowed cadets such as FSgt Braun to be a leader in many ways. This course specifically guided senior cadets on how to run ranges safely, conduct biathlons, to command drill as well as other roles which are beneficial when activities are conducted during the training year. We are excited to return to the Belleville Armouries to start the new training year with skills that cadets from our squadron have gained over the duration of the summer.

Commanding Officer, Capt Justin Leadbeater, appointed a new 608 Warrant Officer First Class over the summer. WO1 Nancy Joseph was presented with her new ranks and this very deserving cadet will bring her extensive knowledge and leadership skills to the command role. WO1 Joseph earned her Glider Pilot wings in 2019 and was honoured to be invited, as a special guest, to visit the current group of Glider Pilot

Candidates on the flight line at Picton Airport on Friday, July 29, 2022. She was able to share information, knowledge, and advice with the newest group of candidates to help them ensure success on their course. WO1 Joseph is entering her second year of university at the University of Waterloo and will age out of the cadet program this year.

We look forward to another exciting training year at 608!



**Newly promoted WO1 Nancy Joseph
with Capt. Justin Leadbeater CO 608 Cadets
(Credit photo FSgt Zuzana Parent)**



FSgt Levi Braun

608 Duke of Edinburgh RCACS

WO2 Maggie Bateman

608 Air Cadet WO2 Maggie Bateman is embarking on new adventures as she heads to the United Kingdom! WO2 Bateman will begin her studies with Queen's University, abroad, as she flies to England to spend her first year at Bader College in a historic 15th century castle near Brighton. At Herstmonceux Castle, she will be immersed in history and the beauty of the countryside. Her academic experience is sure to be unique and stimulating.

WO2 Bateman is fully prepared for challenges and new experiences as she graduates from the cadet program. She developed exceptional leadership skills and always exhibited a very high level of commitment and dedication to 608 and the program. She was an active participant in Band, Effective Speaking, Orienteering, and all community service events. She was an excellent 608 Cadet Correspondent and was always eager to contribute in any way possible. The whole squadron was immensely proud of her as she performed, on trumpet, Last Post, Rouse, and the anthems for the Deseronto Commemorative Service this year. The culminating moment of WO2 Bateman's cadet

career came as she was awarded The Lord Strathcona Medal – the highest honour bestowed upon a cadet – at the 608 Annual Ceremonial Review in June 2022.

We wish WO2 Bateman the very best of luck with her university studies and castle life!



Bader College Brighton, England



WO2 Maggie Bateman

Spencer Russell is Called to the Ontario Bar

Cynthia Russell

418 Wing member and former 608 RCACS WO1, Spencer Russell, was Called to the Bar by the Law Society of Ontario on June 16, 2022 at an auspicious ceremony at the Shaw Centre in Ottawa. He graduated with a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law in 2021 and completed his articles with the Department of Justice in June 2022. He has accepted a permanent position as Counsel at the Office of the Legal Advisor to the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces in Ottawa. Spencer continues his work with cadets as a RCAF reservist serving as a Flight



Instructor with the glider pilot program.

CONGRATULATIONS from 418 Wing !!



704 Squadron Trenton

Capt Garret Watts

Look here for some news in the next issue.

NOV 25, 2022



MARK YOUR CALAENDARS

WHAT – 73RD ANNIVERSARY OF 418 WING'S CHARTER

WHERE – SANS SOUCI RESTAURANT , BELLEVILLE

TIME – 6 FOR 6:30

COST – TBA



























More info to follow. This is an advance notice so you can put that date aside for our last **Charter Night!**

WING TIPS SPONSORS



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 <p>MURRAY AND PAT HOPE Murray Wing Chairman 2006 to Present Pat Wing Secretary 2007 to Present</p>	 <p>CYNTHIA RUSSELL Past Commanding Officer 608 Duke of Edinburgh Royal Canadian Air Squadron</p>	 <p>ROSE FAMILY In Memory of Robert (Bob) and Ann Rose. Bob was a Past Director, Advisor, 426 Squadron Liaison</p>

 <p>REVEREND LARRY HURLEY EVELYN MITCHELL Larry – 418 Wing Padre Evelyn - Membership</p>	 <p>FAMILY OF DOROTHY RILEY In memory of Tom Riley – Past President 1962-1964, 1970-1973</p>	 <p>MARG SUTTON In memory of Ernest (Ernie) Past Director</p>
 <p>In memory of JOHN HATTER RCAF, CAF President, 1995-99</p>	 <p>BILL ROBERTSON  In memory of Vi </p>	 <p>In loving memory of Frank Morrell Forever in our Hearts. Maxine & Family</p>
 <p>ROBERT (Bob) BLAKE  Past Director 2003 - 07</p>	 <p>Pastor Ian and Irene Robb wish the 418 Wing of the RCAFA a healthy and successful 2022-23. May the Wing's dedicated support RCAFA retirees, both past and present continue through these difficult times. </p>	 <p>DOUG GRIMMELL In memory of LAC Jerry Grimmell (My Dad)</p>
 <p>"MICKEY" LAKE & FAMILY (King) Lake President 1972-74</p>	 <p>STEPHEN D. SHIRK </p>	 <p>In memory of Bob and Mildred Graham</p>
 <p>DONNA TUTTELBERG In memory of Peter Past Treasurer 2006-2013</p>	 <p>Thank You Roy & Jill Skillicorn (Roy) Past 1st Vice President</p>	 <p>SANDRA CAMPBELL In memory of Glen Campbell</p>
 <p>Thank You Cy & Phyllis Yarnell (Cy) past Director</p>	 <p>THE CHAMBER FAMILY In Memory of our Mother Alicia (Kenny) Chambers Devoted Wing Member</p>	 <p>SAM & CATHY NEWMAN 427 (London) Wing In Memory of our Friend Sandy Tosh</p>
 <p>TODD MURPHY "Proud Honourary Member"</p>	 <p>R.W."Rick" Verrall  "In Memory of Fallen Loadmasters"</p>	



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