

434's Bulletin

Vol. 22 no 1 Sept-Oct 2019



General Meetings

3rd Thursday of each month at

Branch 4 RC Legion

383 Morningstar Avenue

Welland ON

We proudly promote the glorious tradition of the RCAF

434 Wing Board of Directors

2019-2020

Chairman – Bill Heron	C - 289-820-8712
IPP – Don Feduck.....	H - 905-835-1054
1 st Vice Chairwoman – Julia Sheppard.....	H - 905-734-6307
2 nd Vice Chairman - Norm Sonnenberg.....	H - 905-834-6722
Secretary Treasurer - George Groff.....	H - 905-734-4948
Membership Chairman - Chuck Leguerrier.....	H - 289-723-2544
	C - 289-723-2544
Bulletin Editor – James Allan	H - 905-685-6787
Kit Shop Chairman - Mike Mascitelli.....	H - 289-478-6010
	C - 289-686-8636
Assistant Kit Shop Chairman – Rod Lee.....	C - 905-359-1975
Director At Large – Wesley Pierce.....	H - 289-820-9827
Honourary Director – F/L Tom Vance.....	H - 905-834-8155
Wing Padre- Rev John Cathcart.....	H - 905-384-4660

COMMITTEES

Air - Cadets Capt - Julia Sheppard
Audio Visual - Bill Heron
Phone Committee - Chuck & George
Programs - George & Board
Sick/Visitation - Chuck
Publicity - Board

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGIONS

Welland	Branch 4	Office	905-734-3611
		Canteen	905-734-6601
Port Colborne	Branch 56	Hall	905-834-9512
Fort Erie	Branch 71	Hall	905-871-8682

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434 (Niagara Peninsula) Wing

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Royal Canadian Air Force Association of Canada

Chairman's Report September 2019

With the first year of being the President/Chairman of 434 Wing now behind me I have to say it has been a learning experience. It takes effort, co-operation, patience and a willingness to listen to and accept the opinions of all. Without the guidance of our Executive, the year would have had me grasping at straws and I thank them for all that they have done to help me along whilst getting my feet wet.

Looking ahead, we have a couple of items of importance on our agenda. This being August at the time of typing, we are in the planning stages for these upcoming events namely the Battle of Britain Parade taking place Sunday September 15th here in Welland. We have also managed to obtain the services of author Ted Barris who will give his audio visual presentation on the Great Escape this will take place on Saturday October 26th 2pm at Branch 4 RCL in Welland; so we hope for a good turnout as seating is limited.

In reflection, we lost members and family of members over this last year and to all those affected by their passing we offer our condolences.

Our fundraising to date appears to have been successful but again this success comes only with those who give of their time and to those individuals I thank you for that. With the purchase of our Banner and also our Wing polo shirts for these fundraisers I think has also helped as so many times people ask "Who do you represent or what does RCAFA stand for?" so it was decided that rather than have just the letters of the Association we would have it spelled out fully. We believe this has helped with our fundraisers but also gives advertising to the Association and our Wing, we can possibly attribute this to us having 4 new members join the Wing this year.

Our Awards Banquet held in June was a success with good representation from the Association in the form of 2 Ontario Group Past Presidents, our Central Region VP and by 79 Lyndon Davies Air Cadet Squadron. A number of awards were presented and a good many draw prizes were handed out. Once again to all who made that evening a success I thank you.

Our first General meeting is coming up on Thursday September 19th, I am **appealing** to ALL members to try and be present at this meeting as we need all hands on deck for our October Presentation. We need to have everyone participate in this very special event

I look forward to the challenges that no doubt lie ahead and as we move into another year I am confident that with our current Executive/Board our Wing is in good hands.

Bill Heron (Chairman)

434 (Niagara Peninsula) Wing

RCAFA

Per Ardua ad Astra

Secretary/Treasurers' Report

Our finances have recovered as we have had several fundraising projects over the summer.

Our first Giant Tiger fundraising BBQ of June 15 netted the Wing \$ 203.95 and the second BBQ held August 17 netted the Wing \$ 176.00

On Friday and Saturday June 21 and 22 the Wing attended the Women's Classic Air Race which culminated at Dorothy Rungeling Airport in Welland where we sold kit shop merchandise for a total of \$ 628.84

On August 2,3,4 and 5 we attended Canal Days in Port Colborne. We were set up at Branch 56 on the corner of Clarence and Catherine Streets where we sold \$545.00 in kit shop merchandise.

It is also worthwhile to note that at the August Giant Tiger BBQ we also sold kit shop merchandise and made \$ 91.00.

Thank you to all those who volunteered their time to work these events for without you we would not be able to raise this money!

The following programmes are in September:

Thursday night, September 5 is the Executive Meeting to be held at the Welland Optimist Club starting at 7:00 PM.

Friday morning, September 13 at 10:00 AM Wing members and the Mayor of Welland will be raising the Air Force Flag to acknowledge Battle of Britain Week. This takes place at City Hall in Welland.

Sunday, September 15 is the Battle of Britain Parade and Ceremony to be held at Branch 4 Legion in Welland. The parade starts at 1:00 PM and we will need volunteers there by 11:00 AM! We need to set up tables and chairs upstairs in the Legion for after the ceremony and we need members to pick up the pizzas before this event. When the event is over we need to clean upstairs. There will be a phone call. Dress is Blues and Greys.

Thursday, September 19 is our General Meeting at Branch 4 Legion starting at 7:00 PM. This is a Pot Luck Dinner to start our year off. Please contact Jeanette Lee at 905-359-3531 to co-ordinate what food you will be bringing. Once again plates, cutlery and napkins will be provided. Spouses and significant others are invited.

Saturday, September 21 is the Ontario Central Region Fall Meeting of the R.C.A.F.A. To be held at 447 Wing Mount Hope in Hamilton commencing at 10:00 AM. We will leave Giant Tiger Parking lot at 8:45 AM. If you wish to attend, please contact George Groff at 905-734-4948

George Groff
Secretary/Treasurer

Membership Chairman Report

434 Wing membership now stands at 33. We will be swearing in one or possibly 2 new members at the September meeting.. This should bring the number up to 33 or 34. A warm welcome to Brian Howard our new member. It would be nice if we could recruit 5 new members this year.

C Leguerrier

Membership Chairman.

New Banner Identifying 434 Niagara



434 Assistant Kit Shop Chairman Rod Lee and Chairman Bill Heron check out new banner at Giant Tiger fundraiser

Kit Shop News

Hopefully everyone had a wonderful summer and stayed cool.

We have many events approaching like the Battle of Britain is on September 15th please contact me with your uniform needs.

Rod and Jeanette Lee also work on the kit shop and were a part of the canal days team with a very successful weekend.

I'd like to thank all those who helped with the canal day sales.

Kit Shop Director - Michael j Mascitelli

Assistant Directors- Rod & Jeanette Lee.

Hang On To Your Parachutes!

In July, the Federal Government announced an official request for proposals for Canada's 88 new fighter jets! Possible suppliers are:

Sweden—SAAB AB (publ)—Aeronautics

United Kingdom and Northern Ireland—Airbus Defense and Space GmbH (with MBDA UK Limited, L3 Technologies MAS and CAE Canada)

United States—Lockheed Martin Corporation (Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company) (with Pratt and Whitney)

United States—The Boeing Company (with Peraton Canada Corp., CAE Inc., L3 Technologies MAS Inc., GE Canada and Raytheon Canada Limited Services and Support Division)

Are we purchasing a 4th or 5th generation fighter? Apparently Canada continues to pay what has amounted to \$500 million to remain a partner in the 5th generation F-35 development program although the arrangement now appears tenuous. Perhaps if Canada does not purchase the F-35, Russia will offer us its SU-57 as it has with Turkey? Hopefully we will all live long enough to see how this drama unfolds.

The Last Flight

John Feduck passed away on November 20, 2018 in Port Colborne. He was a past member of 434 Niagara and brother of our ex-President, Don Feduck. John was one of the last surviving members of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion which landed in Normandy as part of the D-Day invasion. Half of the Battalion, 328 men, were killed during the Battle of Normandy. Battalion members were the first Canadians to cross the Rhine in Operation Varsity in March 1945 and they were the only Canadian outfit to take part in the Battle of the Bulge in winter 1944-45. They were the first Canadians to confront the Russians, to prevent them from seizing additional German territory. In 2014 John received the Legion of Honour, the French highest order of military merit.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOM!

Fighter Pilot Tom Vance, celebrates his 97th birthday at Alf Beam's July fly in.



"--- of all the flying professions, the brightest and most heroic is that of fighter-pilot--- a fighter-pilot characteristically has not only personal daring and courage, but also lightning-fast speed in getting his bearings and uncommon resourcefulness. He must possess iron endurance; in no other type of aircraft does he have to test such physical stress, such g-forces, as in the fighter."

A.S Yakovlev



Suddenly I was surrounded by eight Fw190s



**434 Niagara Dynamic New
Executive Sworn In**

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Legion

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K Motion Mover

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