

WING TIPS



418 (Belleville) Wing

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR
FORCE ASSOCIATION

10 Dixie Place, Belleville, ON,

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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”



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WING MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Belleville Shrine Club, 51 Highland Ave. Executive Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month. General Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday except in July, August and December.

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

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Murray Hope
Padre Larry Hurley
WO1 Ethan Lane
FSgt Maggie Bateman
Capt Garret Watts
Pat Hope
Stephen D. Shirk
Evelyn Mitchell



418 (BELLEVILLE) WING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



It is my pleasure to welcome our newest member **Lt Asnk Assefa** to the Wing as 418 Wing's new Liaison Officer.

Your Executive continues to work regardless of the COVID situation.

On 19 September **Pat** and I travelled to Ottawa to pay respects to **Phil Deal** who was laid to rest at the Beechwood Military Cemetery.

On 8th November, **Don Reid** and I joined **Gloria Hatter** and her daughter at the Crown Ridge Retirement Home to present **John** with his 40-year pin as a member of the RCAFA and a crest representing 418 Wing. **John** is the only living Past President of 418 Wing.

Don Reid, John Hatter, Murray Hope



At the November Executive meeting a decision was made to change the meeting schedule for the remaining year 2021-2022. Meetings will be Jan, Mar, May and June. This decision was based on the fact that the Shrine Club's new site renovations are not completed. This decision is not "written in stone". However, let's try to maintain our camaraderie as we adapt to plans that are dependent on the COVID situation.

May I underline the importance of talking to people you meet about our Wing and offering to bring them as your guest to the next meeting.

The next issue of the Wing Tips will be in January. We will, then, be able to enjoy some great photos of our 72nd Charter Night.

Remember that \$20 is due in January for your ad in the Wing Tips. Please contact **Stephen Shirk** if you wish to continue or add a new one.

Hoping that we maintain our good attendance in the New Year. The first meeting will be on 25 January 2022 – further information to follow.

Wishing everyone good health and happiness.

Per Ardua Ad Astra

Murray Hope



PADRE'S CORNER

Rev. Larry Hurley

The Christian Scriptures declare, 'There is no greater love than to lay down your life for someone else.'

The inspired words also state, 'Give to everyone what you owe them...if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour.'

For the past few weeks, we have been reminded to honour and remember those who have fallen. We have heard and read the words 'Lest we Forget' more often than ever.

First: a question: What did you have for breakfast today?

Second: another question: What did you have for breakfast, yesterday?

Unless you work everyday you probably know what you **did** yesterday and if you had a job with shift work, you usually remember the shift you are or were on.

Question three: How many days until Christmas?

We all have experiences when our memory of what happened differs from someone else's memory of the same event.

Our current generation find websites depicting war games. Researchers find them harmful and video creators and defenders say they are innocent games.

One veteran took his grandson to watch *Saving Private Ryan* and his comment after the movie was a simple, 'That's what it was really like.' It's the only time the grandfather spoke about the horrors of war.

Lest we forget may be said by rote, (Like the Lord's Prayer) yet in the recesses of so many minds are visions of sand, mud, swamps, the remnant of forests, fields strewn with bodies, and sounds of the dying, guns, bombs, tanks and assorted mobile weapons.

WW 1 was bad enough, WW 2 more sophisticated, Vietnam, Korea, Afghanistan horrible and now an enemy can load a bomb and fly a Drone remotely to a target and drop it down a chimney, destroying people and the building.

PTSD is now recognized as we gain insight into the inexplicable loss and senseless tragedy that comes with war.

Carved into monuments are names of people who lived, laughed, loved and then were killed in war.

The name may be one of your comrades, or a grandfather, father, uncle, cousin, acquaintance, neighbour or someone who lived across town.

Give to everyone what you owe them... if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour. Hopefully our generation and future generations will be diligent in looking for and living for peace.

Yes, we honour and respect those who died; we honour and respect those who still serve, so we can look for and enjoy peace.

Let Peace be known to **you**.

Christmas is coming. Let's spread some peace and drop in a dram of Joy.

Padre Larry Hurley

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418 WING NEWS

608 Squadron Belleville

FSgt Bateman



FSgt Maggie Bateman Correspondents

As the training year continues, Cadets have had the chance to expand on what we have been doing over the course of the



pandemic. We have begun a hybrid style approach, with lessons conducted both in-person and virtually. With the Squadron going in-person, younger Cadets have had the chance to finally meet face to face for the first time. Being back in the Armouries has been a much anticipated and exciting experience. It has also been a learning experience as we figure out how to best operate in a safe and effective way.

Over the last couple months while Cadets have been transitioning back into in-person meetings, we have continued to teach lessons and learn virtually, and have even conducted activities online. For Halloween, we held a Teams meeting where Cadets were able to show off fun costumes and play spooky Halloween games. During the night, Cadets played games like candy jar guessing, murder mystery, costume guess, trivia, Pictionary, and answered some fun riddles. 608 Duke of Edinburgh Squadron has one Cadet participating in the national ground school, to prep for the national glider scholarship. We also had some of our first-year Level 5^s attend the Level 5 Workshop in order to receive their level qualification. In addition, 608 now has a new Squadron Commander as **Ethan Lane** has been appointed Warrant Officer First Class!



With Cadets being able to participate more in person, we received approval to support our local Legion with poppy sales. Cadets spread out to local stores to help out the Legion with this community service. As Cadets, it is important to understand the significance of Remembrance Day and with that, we held classes for our newer Cadets to help emphasize the importance.



Up until now, all our Cadets have been hoping to be in-person and now they have had the chance to see how the program runs. Under these new conditions, they have become more cognisant of the current situation with the pandemic as we encourage sanitary and safe practices in the community to provide Cadets with the best experience possible. We look forward to all that comes next.



704 Squadron Trenton

Garret Watts

This November marks the 61st Anniversary of 704 Squadron. While acknowledging this milestone we are also acknowledging the unique and challenging times that we are living it. This past year has been one of the most challenging but still a most rewarding experience. For most of the past year we have been learning to deliver a Cadet program in a virtual environment. It has challenged us to learn new skills and develop creative programs. While this has been challenging, we have still continued to help develop the leaders of tomorrow.

Luckily, we have been able to resume some limited in-person activities. We have been very excited to meet again for our continued training and teambuilding. So far, we have been meeting at 413 Wing in Trenton. It is not our usual setup, but it has been helpful to let us meet and resume our key activities. We are now doing training both in person and through virtual meetings. It is very exciting to watch the Cadets be more creative in how they deliver training.



We are also very excited to again be involved in our community. After two years, we had some Cadets participate in Remembrance Day ceremonies in both Trenton and Frankford. It was a small contribution but still very meaningful. Cadets helped to stand sentry and to man flagpoles at the cenotaphs. It is a small contribution but one that the Cadets were eager to make. We have also conducted our first field training day in over two years. It was a great opportunity for Cadets to have some fun outdoors and to learn some new and basic survival skills. To make the day more fun and interesting our staff created an Amazing Race format for the Cadets to run. Despite the rainy and cool weather, the Cadets have a great time.

While we are not fully back to “normal”, new opportunities continue to present themselves. We are looking forward to all of the possibilities that will come up for the rest of this training year.

8 AMS LIAISON OFFICER - LIEUTENANT ASSEFA BIOGRAPHY



Lieutenant Assefa, who goes by the name of **Asnk** was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and immigrated to Canada along with his family in September 1999. The first two years of his Canadian residency were spent in PEI, then settled in Calgary, AB, until he joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in March 2007.

He joined the CAF as Aviation Systems Technician and upon completion of his trades training at Canadian Forces School for Aerospace Technology and Engineering (CFSATE) in Base Borden in December of 2008, he had the good fortune of being posted to 12 Wing, 443 (MH) Sqn in Victoria, BC for 12 years.

While at 443 (MH) Sqn, he participated in various operations onboard HMC Ships such as HMCS Vancouver, HMCS Ottawa, and lastly HMCS St. John's where he was able to see the world and accumulate a total of 486 sea days and was awarded OSM Expedition, Special Svc Medal- NATO, NATO Art5 OP ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR, and NATO Non-art 5 OP Unified Port.

Lt Assefa completed a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Royal Roads University in 2018, transferred to the Logistics trade in May 2019 and attended Logistics training at Canadian Forces Logistics Training Center in Base Borden. Further to completing Logistics training, he enrolled in Royal Military College of Canada for a Master's in Business Administration in 2018 and completed in August of 2021.

While living in Victoria, BC he developed a taste for out-door related activities making hiking, camping, and skiing some of his favourite pastime. He has played soccer since childhood including for CFB Esquimalt Base Team for several years and currently plays in a recreational league through Quinte Social Sports Club. Lastly, having been posted to 8 Wing, 8 Air Maintenance Squadron in April of 2021, **Lt Assefa** is enjoying the challenges of adapting to a new Wing and exploring the outdoor activities the local area has to offer.

Battle of Britain Parade Sept. 19, 2021

Pat Hope

This year our Church Service for the Battle of Britain was cancelled due to COVID. **Murray, Pat** and **Stephen Shirk** accepted the 413 Wing invitation to join them for a Battle of Britain Parade and Service at their building in Trenton.



Although attendance was low Wreaths were laid and a meaningful service was led by a Military Chaplain followed by a short address by 8 Wing Commander **Colonel Ryan Deming**.



*In the background
Chairman Murray
Hope and Vice
Chairman Stephen
Shirk salute the
cenotaph*

Welcome Back September Meeting**Pat Hope**

The first Wing meeting of the 2021-2022 year was held at Sans Souci Restaurant. After a delicious buffet dinner, we were privileged to have **LCol Adam Emond** of 8AMS as our speaker. **LCol Emond** spoke to us about the effect of COVID on the workload with increased responsibilities. He highly praised his Squadron on their efforts and efficiency and how they were able to complete any tasks.



Sandra Campbell, Carol Hagerman, Marg Sutton, Marvin Bailey, Alice Bailey, Don Reid

In attendance also were **CWO Lee Sheard** and **Lt Asnk Assefa** who has accepted the responsibility of our Liaison Officer.



Pat Hope, Murray Hope, CWO Lee Sheard, Lt Asnk Assefa, LCol Emond

It was announced that there will not be a Christmas Party this year. You are encouraged to bring a monetary donation to Charter Night on Nov.25. This will be our Christmas donation for the Salvation Army Food Bank.



Mr. Mark Russell, Cynthia Russell, Irene Robb, Rev. Ed Bentley, Pastor Ian Robb

POPPY COMMITTEE

Pat Hope

This year our Poppy Committee had just a little under a week to get prepared for the Poppy Table at the Quinte Mall. **Murray** and I were responsible for scheduling, setting up, checking stock of supplies and reordering as necessary. The two weeks were exceptionally busy for us.



Don Reid and Sandra Campbell



Marg Sutton and Stephen Shirk

Our Wing should be proud of the number of shifts covered by members of 418 Wing. Considering the size of our Wing this was a fantastic effort covering at least one-third of the shifts.



Stephen Shirk and his daughter Tammy



Marilyn and Doug Grimmel

Next year we hope to have more members involved.

Please consider joining our Poppy Committee which is made up of 3 members from each of the Associations – 418 Wing, Legion and ANAF. At present we only have 2. Contact **Murray Hope** if you are interested.

Remembrance Day Ceremony Belleville

Stephen D. Shirk



It was a great day for our November the 11th Ceremony as organized by the Belleville Veterans Council. This year the President of the Belleville branch of the Royal Canadian Legion **Shirley Stewart** served as the Chair of the Council and coordinated this event. Her introduction was followed by Past Chairman **Stephen Shirk** (RCAFA) playing the National Anthem.

Next **Major Wil Brown-Ratcliffe**, the ANAF Padre, conducted the opening prayer. Bugler **Brian Coughlan** played the Last Post as **Stephen** lowered the flag to half-mast which was followed by a silence. **Murray Hope** with 418 Wing RCAFA read the names of those members who passed away since the last Remembrance Day in 2020. Piper **Troy Dulmage** (ANAF) played the Lament. As Bugler **Brian Coughlan**



played the Reveille **Stephen** then raised the flag from half-mast.
Stephen Shirk – Right Brian Coughlan

Centre

Scripture Reading and Reflections was read by RCAFA Padre **Larry Hurley** with Benediction read by Major **Wil Brown-Ratcliffe**. **Stephen** then played the Royal Anthem followed by a farewell message from the Belleville Veterans Council Chair **Shirley Stewart**.



Chairman Murray Hope



Padre Larry Hurley



**Robert Cuthbertson and Silver Cross Mother
Joan Gregson from Brighton**

LCol Emond and CWO Sheard

After our Remembrance Day Ceremony many remained to greet old and to find new friendships. The weather was perfect for this event. Cool enough to remind us that conflict is not always sunshine and roses. A big thanks goes out to our Veterans, their families, current serving members of the Canadian Armed forces, and to our Police and Firefighters who took time out of their busy lives to show that they care.

We need to also acknowledge **Mayor Mitch Panchuk**, his Councilors, the media and other area dignitaries who openly supported and attended this event. A special thanks to Worshipful Brother **Robert Cuthbertson** who lives in Brighton. He came to our rescue to drive our Silver Cross Mother **Joan Gregson** to the Legion where she was driven by limo from Burkes Funeral Home to the cenotaph. Thanks, **Robert**, for ensuring that Lady **Joan** returned safely to her home.

The Belleville Veterans Council wishes to acknowledge everyone else who supported and attended this event as well. Please take this message home to your local communities and schools. It is important that the next generations understand the reason for holding our yearly Remembrance Day ceremonies. It was great to see the children in attendance today from one local school. This is their memory to cherish.

Thank you!

MEMORIAM

Evelyn Mitchell



E. Patrick (Pat) Thomas

*I am deeply sorry to report that we have lost another friend and member. **Earl Patrick Thomas**, a quiet brilliant man, served in the RCAF as an Air Defence Technician. He has been a member of 418 Wing since 1 Sep 2017. He passed away 14 November at the age of 84.*

Membership

Evelyn Mitchell

418 Wing Membership now stands at **29**, including 27 regulars and 2 honorary members. We are down by one as our liaison officer, who was a Wing member, has been reassigned.

A new liaison person has been selected. **Lt Ansk Asseffa** of 8 AMS has agreed to be our new liaison officer.

Activities and Events

Pat Hope

The Board also decided to not have a Christmas Party as we did last year. Instead, we encourage a monetary donation for a Charity. The Charity chosen is the Salvation Army Foodbank




















Since many activities are COVID dependent keep an eye on your emails for updates. Those with no email will receive a phone call. Thanks










Keep healthy!

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 MURRAY AND PAT HOPE Murray Wing Chairman 2006 to Present Pat Wing Secretary 2007 to Present	 CYNTHIA RUSSELL Past Commanding Officer 608 Duke of Edinburgh Royal Canadian Air Squadron	 ANN ROSE In Memory of Robert (Bob) Past Director, Advisor, 426 Squadron Liaison
 REVEREND LARRY HURLEY EVELYN MITCHELL Larry – 418 Wing Padre Evelyn - Membership	 DOROTHY RILEY & FAMILY In memory of Tom Riley – Past President 1962-1964, 1970-1973	 MARG SUTTON In memory of Ernest (Ernie) Past Director
 JOHN HATTER RCAF, CAF President, 1995-99	 BILL ROBERTSON In memory of Vi 	 In loving memory of Frank Morrell Forever in our Hearts. Maxine & Family
 ROBERT (Bob) BLAKE Past Director 2003 - 07 	 Pastor Ian and Irene Robb wish the 418 Wing of the RCAFA a healthy and successful 2021. May the Wing's dedicated support RCAFA retirees, both past and present continue through these difficult times. 	 DOUG GRIMMELL In memory of LAC Jerry Grimmell (My Dad)
 "MICKEY" LAKE & FAMILY (King) Lake President 1972-74	 STEPHEN D. SHIRK Vice Chairman Wing Tip Editor 	 MILDRED GRAHAM In memory of Bob Past Director

 DONNA TUTTELBERG In memory of Peter Past Treasurer 2006-2013	 Thank You Roy & Jill Skillicorn (Roy) Past 1 st Vice President	 Sandra Campbell In memory of Glen Campbell
 Thank You Cy & Phyllis Yarnell (Cy) past Director	 The Chamber Family In Memory of our Mother Alicia (Kenny) Chambers Devoted Wing Member	 In Memory of a Friend Sandy Tosh
 TODD MURPHY "Proud Honouary Member"	 R.W. "Rick" Verrall "In Memory of Fallen Loadmasters"	



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 to look down on birds,
 to feel freedom in a thing called the stick...

who but I can slice between God's billowed legs,
 and feel then laugh and crash with His step
 Who else has seen the unclimbed peaks?
 The rainbow's secret?
 The real reason birds sing?
 Because I Fly,
 I envy no man on earth.

— Grover C. Norwood