

Newsletter of 408-437 Wing



WING MATE

OCTOBER 2018

Royal Canadian Air Force Association of Cana-

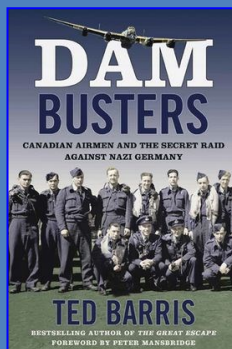
President's Message



Our annual Bangers 'n Mash was a good time for everyone as usual who partook in the evening's activities. The guest of honour a.k.a. the Banger was very tasty and there were enough for seconds who wanted more. The band '**Avalon's Garden**' was excellent as usual.

I will not be present at the October 15th meeting; John Wreglesworth will carry the 'Talking Stick.' I will be attending the National General Meeting at Calgary. It is now held every two years, just as well, it's a nice ride but frankly nothing of real importance comes from it.

I'm spending Wing funds to go there for one reason, to be briefed on *The Plan*. The Plan that should have had its Genesis after the NAGM out west at Saskatoon 2013 where men were men and women were women, and everyone knew the difference. But I stray; the one superseding issue that is the least spoken of. On 19 November 2013 at the Saskatoon NAGM the assembled were told that by the early 2020's we would no longer exist as an organization as we know it. Almost 5 years to the date. We were shown charts depicting the decline in Wing membership, then, and subsequent general meetings. At the 2016 May NAGM we unanimously past a resolution lowering the number of required members to maintain Wing status. Is there anyone else other than me who sees this a problem, a red flag, not a solution? Wings were told to go forth and multiply. Nonsense. So is there a plan to raise our profile so the right people know we even exist? What is the Plan to advertise and attract membership? How is it funded? And who is directing it? And finally what is the benefit of sending dues to Ottawa?



818 Toronto Falcon Squadron



By Jackie Johnston

Thank you to everyone that attended our Ceremonial Annual Review in June. It was a fantastic day, as always! Flight Sergeant Sinnathuria was awarded the Legion Medal of Excellence and WO2 Johnston received the Lord Strathcona Medal. Well done!

15 Cadets attended summer camp this year, including Flight Sergeant Thompson who took Survival Instructor and WO2 Deonarine and Flight Sergeant Sinnathurai who staffed at Trenton.

Our Senior NCOs attended a development weekend on September 8th and 9th. Regular parade night resumed on September 10th. Tagging followed quickly on 20th -23rd. The cadets raised a total of \$6,100.

On September 17th the squadron was invited to participate in the Change of Command parade of the Toronto 7th Regiment.

Ground school was up and running by the end of the month and we have 2 candidates for both glider and power scholarships.

PLEASE NOTE

OUR OCTOBER GENERAL **MEETING** WILL BE HELD ON THE **THIRD MONDAY** BECAUSE OF THE THANKGIVING WEEKEND. THE GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE OUR VERY OWN TED BARRIS PRESENTING HIS LATEST BOOK.

McDonnell F2H Banshee

The Grey Ghosts Aerobatic Team



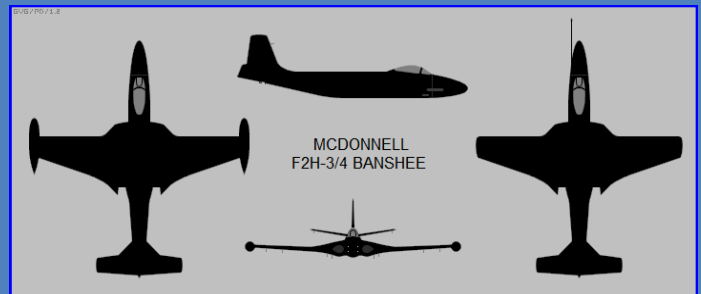
The Banshee entered US Navy service in 1948 as its second carrier jet fighter. It served with distinction with the USN in Korea. The Banshee replaced the Royal Canadian Navy's Hawker Sea Fury as the RCN's first and only jet fighter. The RCN acquired 39 Banshees from 1955 to 1958. Banshees operated from shore bases and from the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure after 1957. The Banshee was the RCN's last fighter and was not replaced when retired in 1962. A total of 805 were made.

The Banshee was manufactured by McDonnell Aircraft Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri, was accepted by the U.S. Navy in 1948 and served at naval stations in Florida and Virginia, and on three aircraft carriers.

The Banshee alternated service between shore base HMCS Shearwater and the carrier HMCS Bonaventure. It was also used as part of the Royal Canadian Navy's aerobatic team, the Grey Ghosts.

Procured second-hand from USN, the McDonnell F2H-3 Banshee was the only carrier-based air defence jet fighter used by the RCN from 1955 to 1962. Until the CF-18 Hornet, the Banshee, also nicknamed the "Banjo", was the only Canadian military aircraft armed with AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles. The Banshee was a rugged and reliable, all-weather, fleet defence and ground attack fighter.

The Banshee was well liked by pilots because of its good performance on the deck and in the air, as well as its all-weather capability, 800-mile tactical radius, and Mach 0.8 speed capability.



Bangers & Mash Night...September



110 Black Hawk Air Cadet Squadron

The new academic year began with the Squadron Sponsoring Committee (SSC) meeting on September 11th. Chairman Peter Rebek confirmed the membership of said committee with the duties assigned to each:

Kitt Hunter-Wolff remains treasurer; Helen Briand will be the special projects coordinator; Arianna Copotorto will coordinate screening registrations and fundraising activities while Cecile Thompson (past chair, 2004-2017) will be the liaison officer with the new sponsor, 408-437 Wing.

The SSC will meet monthly on the first Tuesday in 2018-19; however, everyone is invited to pitch in when there is a special event such as tag day, September 20-23, to count money and drive cadets to various malls and plazas.



Our portable is aging and has had a new roof some time ago. The front door had to be replaced after a break-in. A funny story here: After being told by the school board that guns of any kind could no longer be kept on its property, we had difficulty finding storage spaces for our own rifles. But the thieves walked away with them...problem solved! Now it's the lights that

require our attention after a fluorescent fixture fell off the ceiling.

New year, new problems...what else is new?

By Cécile Thomson, Liaison Officer



Bangers & Mash Night



Lest We Forget

The Wing Records with Sadness the Passing of...

Charles Harold Casson

5 September 2018

Alex Cook

23 September 2018



We will remember them.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

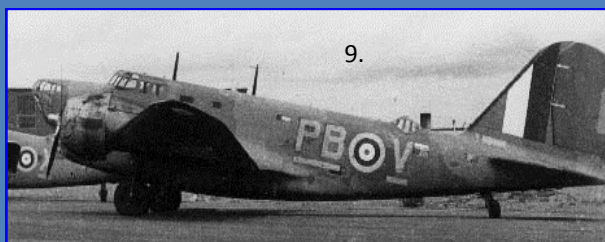
Robert Adams
Paul Barker
Richard Johnston
Jacques Marion
Art Mead
Frank Morgan
Kathy Parker
Peter Rebek
Dennis Thompson



Shamelessly Stolen from Sam Neuman: Nick Czernkovich

I took my dad to the mall the other day to buy some new shoes. He is 76. We decided to grab a bite at the food court. I noticed he was watching a teenager sitting next to him. The teenager had spiked hair in all different colors - green, red, orange and blue. My dad kept staring at her. The teenager kept looking and would find my dad staring every time. When the teenager had had enough, she sarcastically asked: "What's the matter, old man, never done anything wild in your life?" Knowing my Dad, I quickly swallowed my food so that I would not choke on his response. I knew he would have a good one! In classic style he responded without batting an eyelid "Got stoned once and had sex with a parrot. I was just wondering if you might be my kid."

WW 2 Light/Medium Bomber Quiz



1. Lockheed Hudson 2. Martin B-26 Marauder 3. Martin B-26 Marauder 4. Handley-Page Hampden 5. Vickers Wellington 6. Bristol Blenheim 7. Handley-Page Hampden 8. Douglas B-18 Bolo/

Answers to Quiz