



Royal Canadian Air Force Association RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing Inc. September - October 2022 Newsletter

Vol 6 Edition 5



1. RCAF Association Mission Statement:

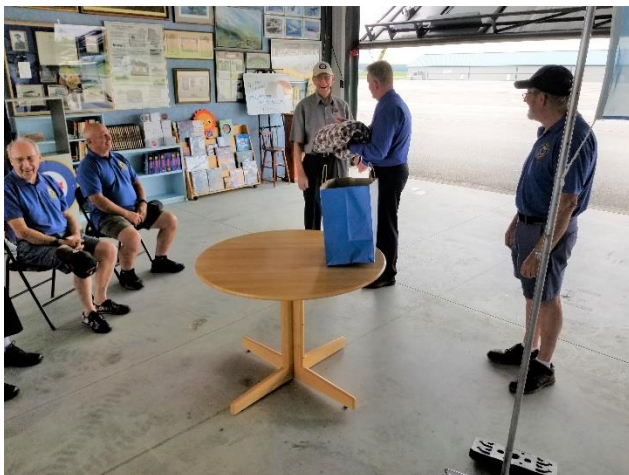
The Association is a national not-for-profit aerospace and community- service organization composed of aviation-minded citizens established to remind Canadians of their country's rich aeronautical tradition and history, to support Canada's Air Force, and to support and encourage the civil aviation component within the country.

2. Chairman's Message:

I hope that you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. A number of Wing members have been busy preparing for events this fall, such as the 82nd anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Others participated in or attended the Quilt of Valour presentation to Mac Macdonald and / or the Celebration of Life for Bob Coxon. We also have the National AGM coming up in Hamilton in October. (see articles below). Per Ardua Ad Astra. Bill

3. Allister (Mac) MacDonald Presented with the "Quilt of Valour":

On Thursday, 25 August, 2022, Wing members gathered with ECAF members at Edenvale to congratulate Allister 'Mac' MacDonald when he was presented with his "Quilt of Valour" from WO Nick Heyegers of the Quilts of Valour Canada Society. Each quilt is handmade, stitched with love and gratitude by grateful Canadians. When he was doing the presentation, Nick stated that Mac was the oldest Veteran to whom he has had the pleasure of presenting a quilt. He hoped that Mac would use it with pride in light of his service to Canada during the Second World War.



Warrant Officer Nick Hereygers presenting Mac Macdonald with his Quilt of Valour.



Mac Macdonald with his daughter Kay and her husband Don enwrapped in Mac's quilt beside the Cornell aircraft.

4. The Celebration of Life for Bob Coxon:

Our Wing honoured Bob Coxon at his Celebration of Life on Sat, August 27, 2022 at the Stayner Community Centre. There were 73 people in attendance, which included RCAFA members from 429 and 441 Wings, family members, and friends from the local community. The Service was led by our Wing Padre, Rev Doug Crocker. It started off with the 'Missing Aviator Ceremony' and then poppies were placed on the wreath in memory of Bob. Eulogies were provided by Kris Foley, Mike McSorley, Murray Conley, Sam Newman, and Everett Horner. They talked about the impact Bob had on their lives, and his wide-ranging interests and activities. During his 37 years as a member of our Wing, Bob provided outstanding leadership as its President and as a Director. When required, Bob took on many other roles and duties, including being a key organizer of the 2017 RCAFA Ontario Group AGM in Orillia. The Wing Colour Guard added to the pomp and pageantry of the celebration, which included the folding up the RCAF Ensign and presenting it to the Jane at the end of the ceremony. Afterward, those present enjoyed coffee, tea, pop, juice and some light snacks while socializing with one another.



Pictures from Bob Coxon's Celebration of Life Ceremony in Stayner.



5. Honours and Awards:



Ontario Group's prestigious "Ed Walker Memorial" award for its "Member of the Year" will be presented to Murray Conley at the Wing meeting on 13 September 2022 at the Barrie Legion by the RCAFA Ontario Group Chair Walter Peckham and the Ontario Group Vice Chair Ferguson Mobbs. Murray has promoted the RCAF Association and 441 Wing as evidenced by his creation of the 441 Wing Colour Guard. He has organized the Wing's annual Battle of Britain ceremonies, liaising with the City of Barrie and 16 Wing staff. He has avidly preserved the aviation history of the local area by working with the Edenvale Classic Aircraft Foundation (ECAAF), and with the Edenvale Aviation Heritage Foundation (EAHF) where he researched the airport's history and is in the process of constructing a diorama of the aerodrome during the 1940's. Well done Murray.

Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers:

Passion, dedication and a commitment to community are the driving forces behind the volunteers who receive the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers (SMfV). The medal recognizes the exceptional volunteer achievements of Canadians from across the country in a wide range of fields and pays tribute to the dedication and commitment of volunteers.

Two members of 441 (Huronian) Wing are being recognized for their outstanding volunteer activities over the past several decades and leadership of various veterans organizations. They are Randy Rice and Ken Stacey.

Randy will be presented with his SMfV medal at the 441 Wing Member's Meeting on Tuesday, 13 September at the Barrie Legion by Wing Chair Bill Sergeant.

Ken Stacey will be presented with his SMfV medal at the Battle of Britain Ceremony at the Barrie Military Heritage Park on Sunday, 18 September by the Mayor of Barrie, Jeff Lehman.

Congratulations to both Randy and Ken – very well deserved !!!!



6. Dr Garry Willard's book "Into the Dragon's Jaws":

The Barrie Public Library (BPL) now has a copy of Dr Garry Willard's book "Into the Dragon's Jaws" that is available for lending to the public. If you are interested in reading it, please contact the BPL to reserve it. Those who have read it, highly recommend it. The BPL is also holding a Local Author Book Market event in December and they will be showcasing authors such as Dr. Garry.

7. Wing Fund Raisers:

The winners of the draws for the “**\$100-a-Month Draw**” for 2022 were:

January – Michael O’Shea #242; May – Robert Rice #109;
 February – Mark Tobin #237; June – Sherry Tobin-Green, #232;
 March – Michael O’Shea #265; July – Allister Macdonald, #135; and
 April – Peter Shaver #141; August – Nancy Cutsey, #204.

8. Upcoming Wing Activities:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
06 Sept	UNTAC Medal presentation to WO (ret’d) Petra Kraft at the Barrie Legion	1400 hrs
10 Sept	Second World War’s Maple Leaf Club Remembrance Event - St. James’ Anglican Church, Orillia	1900 – 2100 hrs
12 Sept	Battle of Britain Flag Raising – Barrie City Hall	1000 hrs
13 Sept	Wing Directors’ Hybrid Mtg (In person at the Legion)	1800 hrs
13 Sept	Wing Members Hybrid Meeting	1900 hrs
18 Sept	82 nd Anniversary of the Commemoration of the Battle of Britain– Barrie’s Military Heritage Park. Dress is Full RCAFA Regalia with Medals	1045 hrs
22 Sept	Veterans’ Club of Barrie Dinner at the Barrie Legion	1700 hrs
11 Oct	Wing Directors’ Hybrid Meeting	1800 hrs
11 Oct	Wing Members Hybrid Meeting	1900 hrs
13 Oct	Ceremony Honouring AC2 Stanley Peacock at St. James’ Anglican Cemetery, Orillia	1100 hrs

9. 82nd Anniversary of the Battle of Britain:

The Battle of Britain Flag Raising is planned to take place at Barrie City Hall on Monday, 12 Sept, 2022 at 1000 hrs. We are also planning to commemorate the 82nd Anniversary of the Battle of Britain with a ceremony in Barrie’s Military Heritage Park on Sunday, 18 Sept 2022. The ceremony is being organized by Murray Conley and will feature the Wing Colour Guard consisting of Murray, Randy Rice, Les Ball, Andrew Galton, and Wally Capsticks along with participation by military personnel from 16 Wing, the RCL #147 Barrie, and local Cadet organizations. If you are available, please plan on coming out to attend one or the other commemorations of this pivotal air battle of the Second World War.

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

On Thursday, 13 October, 2022, Royal Canadian (Air) Cadet AC1 Stanley Peacock will be 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 will be Councillors of the City of Orillia, representatives of the OPP; Orillia Fire Dept; Mr. Richard Purcell, RCL Branch #34 Orillia President, and Ms. Deanna Peacock, a relative of Stanley's.

This moving ceremony will include the 441 Wing Colour Party. The service will consist of the traditional Last Post, minute of silence, the Rouse, the Act of Remembrance, the reading of "High Flight", the laying of a wreath in memory of AC1 Peacock and a Closing Prayer by 441 Wing Padre Doug Crocker.

11. TIME CAPSULE: "A Short History of 441 Silver Fox Squadron":

By Randolph Rice

The Cold War spanned the period 1945 -1991. During that time RCAF and Air Command squadrons came and went. One of those squadrons was 441 "Silver Fox" Squadron. Soon to be a unit of NORAD and a significant tool in the defence of North America.

On June 26, 1987, NORAD'S newest squadron was officially reactivated as a CF-18 squadron at CFB Cold Lake. 441 Tactical Fighter Squadron had returned to Canada, flying CF-18's after more than 30 years serving with NATO in Europe. The Squadron had been deactivated in March 1986 at CFB Baden-Soelingen with the phase-out of the CF-104.

The Squadron based at CFB Cold Lake dedicated two aircraft on full-time alert at CFB Comox B.C., its deployed operating base.



LGen Donald McNaughton, NORAD'S Deputy Commander-in-Chief (DCINC) stated at 441's activation, "It will help us fill in the gap between two squadrons from Tacoma and Alaska".

For LCol Ian Struthers, Commanding Officer of 441 Sqn and a member of the squadron in its CF-104 days, the time ahead was one of challenges and

excitement. It involves taking 203 personnel-including 20 pilots and turning them into an operationally ready squadron.

In addition to the presence of 410 Operation Training Squadron, already based in Cold Lake, 441 Squadron provided additional punch to North America's first line of defence, in addition to 416 Sqn which would also be stationed there.

Current time frame: In recent weeks much emphasis has been directed to strengthening the first line of defence and how significant this continues to be.

As of this date personnel of NORAD continue to provide for our security at a time when it is needed more than ever. Yet their service continues to be unacknowledged by our government's honours and awards system by not awarding a 'NORAD bar' to the Special Service Medal similar to what is done for service in NATO.

Author's Note: A member of our Wing, LCol (ret'd) Billie Flynn, was a former Commanding Officer of 441 "Silver Fox" Squadron in the 1990s.

12. Second World War's Maple Leaf Club Revival – 10 September, 2022:

On Saturday, 10 September, 2022 a group from St. James' Anglican Church, Orillia are recreating the Second World War's "Maple Leaf Club" at their church. The Maple Leaf Club was a place where Airmen and Airwomen, Soldiers, and Sailors could relax and enjoy something to eat, read a book, write letters, or on occasion watch a movie or participate in a dance. This event will run from 1900 – 2100 hrs at St. James' Anglican Church, 58 Peter St N, Orillia. It will feature the "Orillia Big Band" who will perform a concert and provide music to dance to. Tickets are \$30.00 each and proceeds from the event will go to benefit the Sharing Place and the Loonie Lunch Food programs.



13. RCAF Association Biennial General Meeting – 14 – 16 October 2022:

This is an update on the upcoming General Meeting in Hamilton, 14 to 16 October 2022, at the Courtyard by Marriott on Upper James Street.

As of 2 September only 13 registrations have been received, including four (4) directors (RCAF A level) and four (4) directors (Wing level) from 441, 410, 447 and 700 Wings. Of the four RCAF A level directors only three (3) are Group level directors also (Ontario, Atlantic and Quebec). We understand RCAF Association representatives from Pacific Region and Alberta Group plan to participate virtually, however.

Any member planning to participate virtually (on-line) may do so (at no cost from the RCAF Association) but you must also register with the association (accounts@airforce.ca or director@airforce.ca) to confirm your intention.

If a Group-level director plans to participate virtually, and has made local audio-visual arrangements for venue and equipment for the benefit of Wing leaders in their regions, they are expected to inform the association (accounts@airforce.ca or director@airforce.ca) of the details, including the names and affiliations of those participating at the local level.

Finally, directors at the RCAF Association level who also serve as directors at the regional level (formerly Group Presidents) are obligated to reach out to all of the Wing leaders in their regions to learn what their intentions are. Again, we only know of the intentions of leaders from just four (4) Wings, meaning upwards of another 50 Wings have yet to reply to the BGM invitations issued in early July. Group Chairpersons (presidents) are kindly requested to forward to the association (accounts@airforce.ca or director@airforce.ca) the list of Wing numbers, along with the names and e-mail addresses of Wing Chairpersons (presidents) and their intentions to participate 'in-person', or 'virtually', or 'not participating in any form.'

Your immediate response to this request will help the Board of Directors decide on the viability and feasibility of continuing to organize for this event. Circumstances may be such that a down-scaling of the event may be in order, details of which can certainly be shared with the membership after we learn more about the level of anticipated participation.

Thank you for your immediate assistance in this matter.

Dean Black, Executive Director,
RCAF Association, 613-612-7223, director@airforce.ca

14. RCAF 100th Anniversary Update:

On 14 July 2022, Major Alexandre Brault, the new 16 Wing OPI for their RCAF 100th Anniversary Committee, gave a briefing about the potential activities 16 Wing will be planning for this significant milestone. As can be read on the chart below, they have numerous events planned. 441 (Huron) Wing is also planning events during that timeframe too, so the Air Force will be back on the map in 2024.

Events	Timeframe
16 Wg Winter Sports Day – RCAF 2024	Jan/Feb-24
16 Wg Awards - Centennial	01-Mar-24
RCAF 100 th Birthday	01-Apr-24
16 Wg Commemoration – RCAF 2024 (Hgr 11 – Air Force Museum)	5 or 11-Apr-24
16 Wg Mess Dinner – 100 Years	5 or 11-Apr-24
RCAF Centennial TGIT – BBOM, Juno Beach, Jnr Ranks Mess	25-Apr-24
16 Wg Air Cadet Day – RCAF 2024	11-May-24
16 Wg - RCAF Centennial Run	31-May-24
Canadian Armed Forces Day & Borden Airshow	15-16 or 22-23 Jun-24
CFB Borden/16 Wg Commander’s Cup – RCAF 2024	24-Jun
Canada Day (local townships)	01-Jul-24
Barrie Kepenfest – RCAF 2024 Tribute Band (1 hr main stage)	03-Aug-24
Barrie Dragon Boat Festival – RCAF 2024 Race Team	17-Aug-24
Freedom of the City / Battle of Britain Parade (Barrie)	Mid-Sep-24
Barrie Colts – CAF Appreciation / RCAF Heritage Night	Late-Oct-24

15. Contact Information:

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

16. 441 Wing Board of Directors (BoD)/ Executive for FY 2022-2023/4:

The RCAFA has encouraged its Wings to align its By-Laws with the Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA). With that in mind, and to ensure continuity for the running of the Wing, the Directors met after their meeting to confirm who would take which portfolio and for how long (1 or 2 years as per the Wing By-Laws). The new slate and their term of office is specified below.



POSITION-TIME	NAME	PORTFOLIO(S)
Chairman-2023	Bill Sergeant	Newsletter, H&A Committee Member
Vice Chair-2024	Wally Capsticks	Special Events, H&A Committee Member
Treasurer-2024	Andrea Sloan	Membership Chair / 16 Wing Liaison O
Secretary-2024	Andrew Galton	Honours and Awards Committee Chair
Vice Treas-2023	Michael O'Shea	Fund Raising/Special Projects
Director-2023	Gerry Pepler	RCAFA Ad Astral Project Board Chair
Director-2023	Art Cameron	RCAFA Ad Astral Project BoD Member
Director-2024	Murray Conley	Director of Ceremonies
Director-2024	Joep Diening	Wing Web Master
Director-2023	Norm Marion	Public Relations / FaceBook
Director-2024	Randy Rice	Veterans Groups Liaison
Wing Padre	Rev Doug Crocker	Wing Padre