



Royal Canadian Air Force Association RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing Newsletter – 2nd Quarter 2018

Vol 2 Edition 2



1. Annual Charter and Awards Dinner: (by Norm Marion)

On Friday April 27, 2018, members and guests of RCAF 441 (Huron) Wing gathered at the Barrie Legion to take part in the Wing's 60th Charter and Awards Dinner. In addition to the scrumptious roast beef dinner prepared and served by the members of the Barrie Legion's Ladies Auxiliary, it was an occasion to make several award presentations and celebrate the milestone anniversary of the formation of the Wing.

Throughout the dinner various presenters took turns at describing to the audience some of the main events in the life of 441 Wing, from its humble beginnings in the kitchen of one of the founding members, through the decades-long stay on highway 90, to today's Wing as we know it. The host and Master of Ceremony, Lieutenant-Colonel (ret'd) Bill Sergeant, presented RCAFA Long Service pins to several members including Sherry Tobin-Green and Brian St-Jean (5 years); Jim Purchase (10 years); Rob Warman and David Wismer (30 years); and Bill Buck (40 years). Other deserving members who were absent from the ceremony will be presented their pin at a later date. These include James Carman, Claire and Denis Lajoie, Norman Saulnier, and Mark Tobin (5 years); Gerry Pepler (10 years); Stanley Bieniawski and Jean-Claude Charron (15 years); Beverley Hiltz (40 years); and Ronald Steers (55 years).



Bill Buck receiving his 40 years Service Pin from President Bill Sergeant at 60th 441 Wing Charter and Awards Dinner, 27 April 2018



WO1 Jeffery St. Jean commanding the outstanding 102 Silver Fox Sqn Colour Party at the 441 Wing Charter and Awards Dinner, at RCL # 147, Barrie.

In addition to RCAFA Long Service pins, a Wing Member of the Year award was presented to Jane Coxon in recognition of the services she rendered to the Wing throughout the year, including special events such as the 68th Ontario Group Convention held in Orillia last year, hosted jointly by 441 (Huron) Wing and 429

Georgina Wing. Congratulations to all recipients, and many thanks to Bill Sergeant for coordinating the event, to the Air Cadets from 102 (Barrie Silver Fox) Squadron who provided the Colour Party, and to all those who helped making this event a success.

2. The latest member of 441 (Huronian) Wing, Vic Lefaive (left), was initiated by Past President Bob Coxon during the Wing's April 10 General Meeting at the Barrie Legion. Vic had a long career with the Air Force, including a tour as Wing Chief Warrant Officer at 16 Wing Borden. Welcome aboard Vic!



3. Our New Wing Padre:

The members of 441 (Huronian) Wing would like to welcome our new Wing Padre, Rev Douglas (Doug) Crocker, B.A., M.Div of Stroud Presbyterian Church. He humbly accepted our offer to be our Wing Padre at the Charter and Awards dinner in April. Born in Edmonton, Alberta, he is the son of a Presbyterian minister and the middle of five children. The Crocker family moved to Toronto where Doug received his education. Doug and his wife Ann have 4 children of adult age, and a nearly trained Labrador retriever named "Frannie".

We look forward to having Padre Doug at all of our special Wing events and at those meeting that he is able to attend.

4. Key Dates for the 441 (Huronian) Wing Calendar:

- 18-20 May – 69th Annual Ontario Group Convention in Sarnia
- 03 June – D-Day Parade at the Legion and Reception, 1100 hours
- 12 June – Wing Meeting at Legion
- 15 June – Wing Annual Report – Part 2 due
- 28 June – Dedication of Vimy Sacred Soil at Memorial Square
- July – August – Summer Break
- 10 Sept – Battle of Britain Flag Raisings – Barrie and 16 Wing
- 11 Sep – Wing Meeting at the Legion
- 16 Sept – Battle of Britain Parade in Barrie
- 09 Oct – Wing Meeting at the Legion
- 11 Nov – Remembrance Day Ceremonies
- 13 Nov – Wing Meeting at the Legion

5. 69th Annual Ontario Group Convention in Sarnia

The 69th Ontario Group AGM took place at the Holiday Inn, Point Edward, ON from 18 – 20 May 2018. It was attended by Bill Sergeant, Bob and Jane Coxon, Sandy and

Cooky Ellis, and Andrea Sloan. The host for the weekend was 403 (Sarnia) Wing. Those in attendance were delighted that all events were held at the hotel and the only off site event was the Companions Tour. There were two resolutions that were voted on. The first was to hold, as a minimum, one Regional meeting per year, commencing in 2019, and this was carried. The second was one that needs to be discussed at each Wing, and it was to raise the portion of the dues that would be paid to Ontario Group annually by \$3.00. This increase will then be discussed at the fall Regional meeting once the results of the Wing discussions are known.

The new Ontario Group Executive is:

President: Bob DeMillo

Vice-President: Susan Arsenault (an election was held for this position)

Treasurer: Jim Scherb

Our Wing was awarded three “Awards of Merit” at the Gala Dinner on the Saturday evening. These awards will be re-presented to the deserving people at our next meeting on Tuesday, 12 June 2018.

The next Ontario Group AGM will be held in Kingston on the May long weekend, 2019.

6. Battle of Britain Parade 2018 - Barrie:

Murray Conley is heading up the Wing Committee for the Battle of Britain Parade 2018 at Barrie’s Cenotaph, Memorial Square, to honour the sacrifices made by those in military service, past and present. We will be doing this in conjunction with 16 Wing, Borden. If you wish to be part of this committee, please let Murray know.



7. Honours and Awards:

Andy Galton recently joined this committee. If you would like to be part of it to ensure that deserving members are given the recognition they deserve, then let Committee Chair Tom Carney know. He, Mark Tobin, and Bill Sergeant wrote up a number of submissions for consideration at the Group and National levels. More nominations from our members are encouraged.

Pictured on the left is Jane Coxon receiving her “441 Wing Member of the Year for 2017” Certificate from President Bill Sergeant at the Charter and Awards Dinner held at the Barrie Legion, BR 147 on 27 April 2018

8. Recruiting New Members:

We are still looking for new members. We have increased our membership to 64 members and counting. Normand Marion has put an advertisement in the Coldwater Legion newsletter. We also have our website and FaceBook page. It was suggested that

we design a business card that can be handed out at events telling prospective members about the Wing and its benefits. Norm Marion will make up a draft card.

9. RUSTY Engines & Kiddie Planes: RCAF Assoc Volunteers Help Out

(By Norm Marion)

Inside a hangar at a small airport near the village of Edenvale, Ontario, several people in blue coveralls are busy working on small aircraft and engines, doing whatever it is that aircraft technicians do inside an aircraft hangar. This could be a typical day at any small airport in the country. Except that, in this case, some of the aircraft and engines are older than the people working on them, and the workers are volunteers from the RCAF Association. This group of five or six volunteers belong to 441 (Huron) Wing and 429 (Georgina) Wing of the RCAFA.

"It all started when a gentleman donated an old aircraft engine to the [Edenvale Classic Aircraft] Foundation," says Murray Conley, a volunteer and member of the Board of Directors at the Foundation. "It came in boxes and boxes of old, rusty, bits and pieces."

The Foundation counted around 9,000 hours of volunteer work last year. At this time the Foundation maintains four serviceable aircraft, and the team of RCAFA volunteers juggles several restoration projects. Anyone interested in joining the team, please contact Murray Conley at (705) 431-5282, email: fayeandmurray@gmail.com. Volunteers meet every Thursday to work in the hangar. No experience necessary!



10. Public Relations Activities:

Norman Marion continues to do a great job with our 'RCAF 441 Wing' FaceBook (FB) page. He is posting articles that he writes about various activities at our Wing. If you do not have a FB account, you can use the following link to access and view the FB page. <https://www.facebook.com/441Wing/> If you wish to submit articles or announcements for the Newsletter, please send them to Norman Marion or Bill Sergeant.

11. Speakers for our Meetings:

April – Peter Levedag, Experiences flying the CF-100 Canuck
May – WO1 Jeffery St. Jean – 102 RCAC Sqn, Barrie – Trip to Hawaii
June – Julie Simmonds – 714 RCAC Sqn, Wasaga Beach
September – Sheilagh Hudson, Barrington Retirement Manner
October – Murray Conley
November – Brian Garvey – How I Became a Positive Person

If you, or someone you know, would like to talk about a subject that would be of interest to our members, please speak with one of our Directors.

12. Contact Information:

Mail: Box 324 Barrie, ON L4M 4T5
 E-Mail: < admin@rcaf441wing.com >
 Telephone: 705-481-1453 (messages only)

13. Wing Executive (As of 10 May 2018 prior to voting in the 2018-2019 Executive):

POSITION	NAME	PORTFOLIO(S)
President	Bill Sergeant	Newsletter
Deputy President	Tom Carney	Chair Honours & Awards
Past President	Bob Coxon replacing Ken Stacey	Initiation of New Members
Treasurer	Andrea Sloan	Membership Chair / 16 Wing Liaison Officer
Secretary	Jane Coxon	Special Events / Scout Group Liaison
Director	Art Cameron	
Director	Gerry Pepler	RCAF Ad Astral Chair Board
Director	Murray Conley	Director of Ceremonies
Director	Jim Purchase	Sick and Visiting
Director	Stan Bieniawski	
Director	Norm Marion	Public Relations / FaceBook
Director	Joep Dening	Wing Web Master
Director	Wally Capsticks	
Director	Andy Galton	Veterans Groups Liaison
Member	Sherry Tobin- Green	RCACS Liaison for 102 Silver Fox Sqn and 714 Wasaga Beach Sqn
Wing Padre	Rev Doug Crocker	Effective 01 May 2018