

## The London Link

May – June 2012

Volume 48, Issue 5



### 427 (LONDON) WING

Air Force Association of Canada

2155 Crumlin Side Road

London, ON, N5V 3Z9

Phone: 519-455-0430

Click on website: [www.427wing.com](http://www.427wing.com)



April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1924 was the official start up of the Royal Canadian Air Force. On March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Wing Members and guests attended lunch at 427 (London) Wing to celebrate the 88th Anniversary of the RCAF. Above is a picture of the special 88<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake with the RCAF logo on it.

## Wing Executive Council (WEC)

1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012

### Executives:

- President: Rene McKinnon 519-471-8003 [renemck@sympatico.ca](mailto:renemck@sympatico.ca)
- Past President Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 [jackjoan@sympatico.ca](mailto:jackjoan@sympatico.ca)
- 1st Vice President Nick Corrie 519-471-4372 [nick\\_corrie@hotmail.ca](mailto:nick_corrie@hotmail.ca)
- 2nd Vice President Rick Holland, CD 519-453-8487 [rholland4@sympatico.ca](mailto:rholland4@sympatico.ca)
- Secretary – vacant
- Treasurer Chuck Hardy, CD 519-452-1379 [chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca](mailto:chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca)

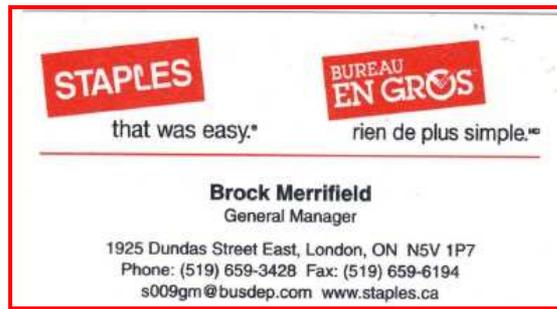
### Chairpersons:

- Entertainment – vacant
- Housing Don Clarke 519-455-9350 [don.clarke@hotmail.com](mailto:don.clarke@hotmail.com)
- Membership Cathy Newman 519-452-1886 [cathy.newman@rogers.com](mailto:cathy.newman@rogers.com)
- Public Relations Rene McKinnon 519-471-8003 [renemck@sympatico.ca](mailto:renemck@sympatico.ca)
- Sports - Golf – vacant – call 427 Wing 519-455-0430
- Euchre Joe (Des) Dessert, CD 519-455-0430
- Wellness and Parkwood Veteran's Liaison: Hilda and Frank Smeltzer 519-657-5759 [fhseltzer@rogers.com](mailto:fhseltzer@rogers.com)
- Food Services Rene McKinnon 519-471-8003 [renemck@sympatico.ca](mailto:renemck@sympatico.ca) and  
Committee Member Flo Douglas 519-455-2432
- Air Cadet Liaison Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 [jackjoan@sympatico.ca](mailto:jackjoan@sympatico.ca)
- Lottery Mike Ryan 519-455-1668
- Sgt-at-Arms – vacant
- Website Judy Grunwald 519-474-2194 [wing427tours@rogers.com](mailto:wing427tours@rogers.com)
- Nominations Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 [jackjoan@sympatico.ca](mailto:jackjoan@sympatico.ca)
- War Graves/Poppies David Smith 519-673-1515 [691s@rogers.com](mailto:691s@rogers.com)
- Fundraising – vacant
- Tours Armin Grunwald 519-474-2194 [wing427tours@rogers.com](mailto:wing427tours@rogers.com)
- Regalia – vacant

### Club Services:

- Bar Officer Jack Finkbiner, CD 519-285-3926
- Bar Steward/Rentals Flo Douglas 519-455-2432
- Padre Frank Mantz
- Editor, *The London Link* Tammy Newman, CD [tammy.simon@sympatico.ca](mailto:tammy.simon@sympatico.ca)
- London Veterans' Memorial and Graves Committee Rep and Heritage and History  
Chairperson – David Smith – 519-673-1515 [691s@rogers.com](mailto:691s@rogers.com)
- Canadian Forces Liaison Officer: Lt Ali Ullah [ali.ullah@forces.gc.ca](mailto:ali.ullah@forces.gc.ca)

**Reminder** – If you move or change your e-address, please let Cathy Newman know.



### **AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION of CANADA MISSION STATEMENT**

The Air Force Association of Canada is a national aerospace and community service organization to: commemorate the noble achievements of the men and women who served as members of Canada's Air Forces since its inception; advocate for a proficient and well equipped Air Force; and, support the Royal Canadian Air Cadet program.

#### **Message from the President 427 (London) Wing, Mr. Rene McKinnon**

Time seems to be moving quickly since the previous Link was issued. For those who may not have been advised, our venture with The Secrets of Radar Museum has come to an end. We met with them and offered a proposal to their board. Their membership, in reviewing it, voted not to continue with this initiative. One concern was the amount of space the Wing was able to provide for their display purposes. We will continue to look into more new opportunities.

We have the nominations for Wing Executive and Chair Persons meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are looking forward to welcoming new members on the board. Will you be on the board supporting the Wing with your valuable contribution?

This June, the Wing will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of receiving its Ontario Charter. (Details are on page four.) Recently, we celebrated the 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RCAFA. Thanks to all who participated. We were able to graciously entertain 74 members and guests. If you missed it, the cake is on the cover of this issue of the London Link. After the luncheon, we showed a Leavens Brothers colour movie from the 1944-45's. It was about the London airport during its busy WWII time. (Note: We learned that when the next Friday afternoon movie is scheduled, we will have popcorn!!)

Please check the calendar as there are some important items coming up. The Ontario Group AGM, from May 18<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup>, will be addressing items such as

- The new membership guidelines presented by Dean Black,
- The upcoming changes to the AFAC Constitution and By-Laws, and,
- Another item that will impact every Wing in the Association – the New Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act.

We will need to put together committees to review, revise and ensure compliance with these changes. There are deadlines to be met and the more assistance you, the

members, are able to provide, the stronger the Wing will be.

A copy of the pending AFAC Constitution & By-Laws, including the Policies and Procedures Manual along with the Not for Profit document, will be available, on request, at the Wing. Please review them and submit your questions, concerns and suggestions so that we may be able to take them to the Kitchener meeting on your behalf. Thanks,

**Last Post:** It is with our deepest sympathy and condolences that we take this opportunity to inform you of the passing of:  
February 21, 2012                      Laverne Mulley  
February 27, 2012                      Marilyn Grigg



**Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.**

**Annual Western Region Golf Tournament**, for 403, 404, 411, 412, 427 and 432 Wings on Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Location is Sunset Golf Club, 1973 London Line Rear Sarnia, Ontario N7R 7H2. Call 519-344-8050 to confirm your participation. Payment is due on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Send cheque to: 403 (Sarnia) Wing, 415 Exmouth St, Sarnia, Ontario N7T 8A4. Registration is at 10:30 with a tee off time of 11:00. Fees are \$50, which includes your golf cart. Website: <http://www.sunsetgolsarnia.com/>

**Tour Survey** – Armin Grunwald, Chairperson of the Tour Committee, would like your help. The following is a list of proposed trips. If you are interested, please mark “1” for one person and “2” for two people. If you have other suggestions, please add them.

- International Military Tattoo (Hamilton)
- Diamond Aircraft (London)
- War Plane Museum (Hamilton)
- Military Museum (Brantford)
- Elgin Military or Railway Museum (St.Thomas)
- NavCan (London)
- CFB Borden or CFB Trenton
- Labatt’s Brewery (London)
- Rush Fruit Winery (Aylmer)
- Quai Du Vin Estate Winery (St.Thomas)
- Playhouse (Grand Bend)
- Lunch/Dinner (Port Stanley or Port Dover)

**FIFTY?** On Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, we will celebrate our 50th Anniversary of the Ontario Charter of 427 (London) Wing.

- Time: Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
  - Menu will be a roast beef lunch and a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake
  - Cost of Ticket: \$10.00 per person (tickets MUST be presold)
  - Movie to be shown after lunch
  - Location: 427 (London) Wing, AFAC, 2155 Crumlin Side Road, London
- Purchase tickets in advance at the Friday lunches or the Wednesday euchre games at the Wing or by contacting Flo Douglas or 519-455-0430.

With the end of the Second World War, airmen returning home to London wanted to continue their interest in aviation both as flyers and friends.

- April 2, 1947 – the London Air Force Association was formed with a constitution and by-laws.
- March 15, 1950 – 427 (London) Wing received its charter from the RCAFA and, today, is one of the leading members of what has now become the Air Force Association of Canada (AFAC) with more than seventy Wings across this country.
- June 14, 1962 – Subsequently, 427 Wing was incorporated under the laws of Ontario and received its provincial charter and its liquor license in the fall of 1963.

**...On that note, here is a bit of little known information about the building that 427 (London) Wing uses...** The building that is currently home to 427 (London) Wing was erected during the frenzied construction period in the fall and winter of 1939-40. Its history reflects the intense military activity at what was then Royal Canadian Air Force Station Crumlin (London) during the period 1940 to 1960. It is the last representative and still usable building of its kind on the grounds of the London International Airport, and may be the last such in south-western Ontario. The building and its surroundings are important for maintaining awareness of the major historical events and people related to military activities in and around London before, during and following WWII.

It was built to serve as an Airmen's and Airwomen's Canteen, a place to relax and refresh. The Second World War had begun, and thousands of recruits from most of the Allied nations would be coming to Canada to train. In the words of American President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Canada had become "the aerodrome of democracy." RCAF Station Crumlin was among the first to be part of that plan, and later carried on through the further fifteen challenging years of the "Cold War" and the subsequent demands of Canada's participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In September, 1948, Number 420 "Snowy Owl" Squadron, which had been adopted by the City of London during the war years, was re-activated as an Auxiliary Fighter Squadron at this base.

The building is typical of the wooden frame construction type erected during the early days of the war. Each rectangular section is approximately fifty-four feet long and twenty-nine feet wide. Among the memorabilia displayed inside are various paintings and photographs, aircraft models and radio equipment, all providing evidence that documents the historical times, events and major elements with which they are related. From the entranceway, one enters the southern room known as the Lounge. This room contains a bar area, with tables and chairs. The section to the right is the Ballroom, which is used exclusively for Wing meetings and social activities.

As you stand in the entrance to these rooms today, it is easy to imagine the noise from the chatter and the clink of glasses to the left, the lilt of swing band music to the right, and the roar of aircraft overhead, those nearly constant sounds of many years ago.

**Euchre – Wednesdays at 427 (London) Wing, AFAC, 2155 Crumlin Side Road, Starting at 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Des Dessert or Chuck Hardy**



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### **A Brief Word about 427 (London) Wing**

The Air Force Association of Canada (AFAC), of which 427 (London) Wing is one of 65 such Wings across Canada, was established in 1948 to preserve the traditions of the Royal Canadian Air Force, to be an advocacy group for Canada's Air Forces, and to provide support for the Air Cadet League of Canada. The members of our Wing come from all levels of the community and have a common interest in encouraging the best for the community, the province and the country. You will meet Wing members volunteering at the Western Fair and the London Air Show, helping with various church and civic projects and services, participating as members of other military clubs, as leaders or helpers in many community organizations, and particularly by their work with the young men and women of the seven Air Cadet Squadrons we assist.

Membership in the Wing is open to all who have an interest in aviation and are willing to support the aims and objectives of the AFAC and 427 (London) Wing. It is not necessary to have a military or aviation background to become a member. In addition to our work in the community and on behalf of the Air Cadet Squadrons in and around London, our members usually hold one business meeting a month (except for the summer months) and enjoy an active social life, with dances, trips, sports and similar events of interest to mature people.

As well, the Wing can make its premises available for private functions for up to 250 persons and will also provide catering services, all at a reasonable cost. We have rented and catered to birthday, anniversary and wedding parties, and several service and Veterans' clubs currently hold their monthly meeting at the Wing. Call us for more information at 519-455-0430.

**"Thank You" from the Kitchen (the "Happy Gang") of 427 (London) Wing, AFAC**  
Flo Douglas, of the Food Services Committee, tries to say "thank you" to all who donate items to the kitchen of the 427 (London) Wing. She wants to ensure that everyone knows how grateful she is. Donated items such as coffee, tea, desserts, meat, fruits, vegetables, breads and cheeses are always appreciated to help make it a success.

**Happy Gang Needs** – There is a need for a person to move kitchen pots on Thursdays (9:30 – 11:00) and Fridays (10:30 – 12:30.) Also, help is needed in the kitchen for Friday lunches from 10:30 to 1:00. These light duties will include making coffee, setting up self-serve tables, serving lunches and clean up. No cooking or dishwashing required. For further info or to volunteer, please look at the Happy Gang sign-up sheet at the entrance to the kitchen. Anyone can look at the various Fridays and sign up on that sheet for the Friday they wish.



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### **Air Force Wisdom**

- "Without ammunition, the USAF would be just another expensive flying club."
- "What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots? – If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies; if ATC screws up... the pilot dies." (Editor Note: as some of you know, I was an air traffic control officer during my eighteen years in the CF... ATC just does NOT screw up!!!)
- "A smooth landing is mostly luck; two in a row is all luck; three in a row is prevarication."
- "Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up there!"

  
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### Air Cadet Annual Inspections

The following is a list of Air Cadet Squadrons that 427 (London) Wing supports. For their Annual Inspections, we are requesting Wing members to review the dates and come out and show our interest and commitment to our Cadets. There will be a sign-up sheet posted at the Wing for those wishing to attend the Inspections of their choice.

- Tuesday, May 15 – 27 Squadron, Carling Heights Community Centre at 1900. Reviewing Officer: HCol Gerald P. J. Haddon, RCAF, CFSATE
- Saturday, May 26 – 614 Forest City Squadron, Diamond Aircraft Ind. 1560 Crumlin Road, London at 1300. Reviewing Officer: TBA
- Saturday, May 26 – 3 Striker Squadron, Gemini SportsPlex, 667 Adair Boulevard, Strathroy at 1300. Reviewing Officer: Capt(N) Ray Kao, LHSC Chief Physician
- Saturday, June 02 – 599 Marc Garneau Squadron, École Secondaire Gabriel-Dumont, 920 Huron St. London at 1330. Reviewing Officer: Mrs. Brigitte Clement, Principal Gabriel-Dumont High School
- Saturday, June 02 – 741 Elgin Squadron, St. Thomas Memorial Arena, next to St. Thomas Armouries at 1300. Reviewing Officer: TBA
- Saturday, June 02 – 201 Squadron, Dorchester Community Center at 1400. Reviewing Officer: Major Wayne Mott
- Saturday, June 09 – 862 Lightning Squadron, Diamond Aircraft Ind. 1560 Crumlin Road, London at 1400. Reviewing Officer: Col. Scott A. Rowden, Air Attaché, Canadian Defence Liaison Staff, Washington

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**Empty Ink Cartridge Fundraiser for 1947 Aeronca Chief Aircraft Project** – There's a box located at the Wing in which to deposit all empty cartridges. For each one, the Project will receive a donation of up to \$2.50 to sponsor the Air Cadets. This money contributes toward fundraising for the rebuilding of the Aeronca Chief by Air Cadets. For more information, contact LCol (ret'd) Armin or Judy Grunwald.

- This project has been organized to help train Air Cadets, which, undoubtedly, will benefit the Community;
- Cadets can earn a high school credit;
- This is an exciting opportunity for our local Air Cadets;
- The Air Cadet League of Canada has approved the sponsorship of this training project to enhance students' skills in Aviation Technology and Maintenance;
- In 2008, we began the rebuilding of vintage aircraft, which was donated to the Air Cadet Program; the Project will continue for a number of years.



### **Tokens from the Treasurer**, by Chuck Hardy, CD

Since my financial report may make you all feel gloomy, I've decided to start my article on a cheerful note. I'm sure that you all know Frank and Hilda Smeltzer. They are great supporters of our Wing in so many ways. Primarily and most importantly, they dedicate a good portion of their time attending to our members in hospitals, retirement and nursing homes. This means visits, phone calls, cards and, unfortunately, funerals. Their cheerful encouragement surely contributes to a speedy recovery and makes them well suited for their function of Wellness and Veterans' Liaison. Their smiles at Friday luncheons or Wednesday euchre make everyone feel welcome. Serving along with them both over the years has been a wonderful highlight for me.

Our revenue through February 2012 was \$40,074.92 and expenses were \$39,296.05. On February 29<sup>th</sup>, the Wing was \$778.87 ahead but March put us in the red. To bring us back into the black, renew your membership dues as soon as you can.

Wing elections again are fast approaching. Try to do your part to either run for a position or to nominate someone suitable to run and guide us for the 2012/2013 fiscal year. Make an effort to attend the General Meeting on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>, if you possibly can. The turnout in the past has been dismal, to put it mildly.

Persist in inviting and urging people to join and keep coming up with positive new ideas. Partnerships with the FSNA and the Argyle Senior's Group are coming along and attendance at Friday lunches is improving. A lot of the credit for the upbeat and new spirit we feel here goes to the hard work and dedication of President Rene McKinnon.

**63rd Ontario Group Annual General Meeting and Convention**, hosted by 404 Kitchener/Waterloo Wing, AFAC on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 2012... Registration: \$165.00 per delegate and /or spouse. Room: \$139.00 per night plus tax. Reservations should be made directly with the Waterloo Inn: Phone: 1-800-361-4708. Website: [www.waterlooinn.com](http://www.waterlooinn.com) Delegates are reminded that they are responsible for booking their own hotel rooms. For more information contact: Donna Kuehl at [adeline@sympatico.ca](mailto:adeline@sympatico.ca) or at 519-744-3146.

## May

Harry Beukeboom  
Bob Brown  
Peter Brown  
Greg Burnard  
Walter Chmela  
Joan Clark  
Jack Clark, CD  
Baz Daniel  
Jack Finkbiner  
Wayne Harris  
Don Hatch  
Robert Johnson  
Ian Powell  
Cathy Rittinger  
Dave Rowe  
Mike Seabrook  
David Smith  
Chuck Spurgeon

# Birthday

# Brats

## June

Shirley Askew  
Robin Bateman  
Ray Gilleno  
Bob Jones  
Brian Logie  
Isabelle Mitchell  
Sam Newman, CD  
John Pietraszko  
Clifford Robinson  
Terry Rushton  
Bob Sanderson  
Harry Schaeff  
Glenn Sullivan  
George Webber  
Lee Welch, CD



### Continuing Book Sale – MORE books needed to continue being successful

Since June 2011, this has been a great fundraiser. Several Wing Members and guests have mentioned that they have plenty of books they could donate to the Wing for the ongoing Book Sale, but have not done so yet. There are no prices marked as the Wing is relying on the purchaser for a reasonable donation. These books are both hard and soft cover and include many topics. To donate, please drop them off at the Wing during Friday lunch or on Wednesday afternoon at cards or contact Chuck Hardy.

### Second Words, by 2<sup>nd</sup> V/P, Rick Holland, CD

Welcome back fellow members. I hope everyone enjoyed the very mild winter we had. (Editor Note: that weather had certainly NOT made its way to Ottawa, where I live, as we have had at least four feet of snow all winter!) Now we move on to even better weather with the thermostats rising to the double digits. In the last "Link" I gave you information about the CC119 Flying Boxcar. After reading the information below you

can compare what the RCAF had to work with many years ago and the capability they have with this new aircraft. Again this information was taken from the following website. [www.rcaf-arc.forces.gc.ca/v2/equip/cc177/index-eng.asp](http://www.rcaf-arc.forces.gc.ca/v2/equip/cc177/index-eng.asp).

### CC-177 Globemaster III



### Technical Specifications

Length:	53.04 m
Wingspan:	51.74 m
Height:	16.79 m
Empty Weight:	125,625 kg
Maximum Weight:	265,350 kg
Cruising Speed:	Mach 0.74 - 0.77
Maximum Usable Fuel:	82,125 kg
Quantity in CF:	4
Passengers:	Seats 54 on the sidewall or 48 in the centre-line or 90 seats on pallets

**Overview** – Canada’s four CC-177 Globemaster III strategic airlifters were delivered in 2007-2008. The CC-177 in Canada helps provide everything from the rapid delivery of troops and cargo transport to oversized combat equipment from coast to coast to coast and to anywhere else worldwide. Rapid, reliable and flexible, the strategic and tactical CC-177 is equipped with advanced digital avionics, has a maximum range of ~5,500 nautical miles and can carry a payload of up to 72,727 kg, due to its four engines (Pratt & Whitney 2040 series) that produce 18,343 kg of thrust.

To illustrate the power of these aircraft, one CC-177 can haul three CH-146 Griffon helicopters with refuelling tanks, or one Leopard 2 tank, or as many as 102 paratroopers. But perhaps most useful of all, the CC-177's ability to fly long distances and land in remote airfields makes it a premier transporter for military, humanitarian and peacekeeping missions. Only twelve days after entering service with the CF, Canada’s first CC-177 carried out its first operational mission: the delivery of 30,000 kg of emergency relief supplies, collected by the Red Cross and the Canadian International Development Agency, to the people of Jamaica in the wake of Hurricane Dean.

The CC-177 is used for a wide range of strategic and tactical missions and only requires a crew of three: pilot, co-pilot and loadmaster. Pilots can fly wearing night-vision goggles, which provide a significant tactical advantage when flying into hostile territory. It can take off and land on unpaved runways as short as 1,067 metres and as narrow as 27.4 metres, by day or by night. The CC-177 has been supporting Joint Task Force Afghanistan on Op Athena. Since 2007, they have been conducting regular sustainment flights with the semi-annual rotation of troops. Until next time, stay well and....don't forget Friday lunches at our Wing. Bring a friend and introduce them to our Wing.

**Dr. Carolyn E. Dalgity**

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**427 (London) Wing, AFAC and Royal London Military Institute present Tour #26 –** Canadian International Military Tattoo at Copps Coliseum, Hamilton and Dinner at the Elm Hurst Inn, Ingersoll – 56 tickets and seats have been reserved.

- When: Sunday, 24th of June 2012
- Cost Per Person and Payment Date: \$90.00 and 17th of May 2012
- Choose your dinner entrée: chicken, salmon or beef

We are organizing a joint tour and hope both members and guests can join us. Please let us know by e-mail, phone or sign your name in the sign-up book at 427 (London) Wing (including phone # and e- address.) Cheques payable to “RLMI” – mail to below.

- Address: 333 Hartson Road, London, ON, N6H 5B7
- Any questions, contact Armin or Judy Grunwald (contact info on page two)

#### **Basic Flying Rules:**

- Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges of the air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there.
- Every takeoff is optional and every landing is mandatory.
- If you push the stick forward, the houses get bigger. If you pull the stick back, they get smaller. That is, unless you keep pulling the stick all the way back, then they get bigger again.
- Flying isn't dangerous. Crashing is what's dangerous.
- The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire.
- The propeller is just a big fan in front of the plane used to keep the pilot cool. When it stops, you can actually watch the pilot start sweating.
- When in doubt, hold on to your altitude. No one has ever collided with the sky.
- A 'good' landing is one from which you can walk away. A 'great' landing is one after which they can use the plane again.
- Stay out of clouds. The silver lining everyone keeps talking about might be another airplane going in the opposite direction. Reliable sources also report that mountains have been known to hide out in clouds.
- Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it.
- When a flight is proceeding incredibly well, something was forgotten.

May 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Summer dress Golf RAA	<b>2</b> Euchre	<b>3</b> WT	<b>4</b> HL WEC	<b>5</b> LVRC
<b>6</b> GM/ AGM – long service pins	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Golf MAC	<b>9</b> Euchre BCC	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> HL	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Golf	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> RC	<b>18</b> HL 18 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> ...	<b>19</b> ... AFAC meeting ...
<b>20</b> ... in Kitchener...	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Golf	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> HL	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Golf	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

June 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> HL	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Golf RAA	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> WT	<b>8</b> HL WEC	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Decoration Sunday	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Golf +GT	<b>13</b> BCC	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> HL	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Golf	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> HL Fifty!!	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Hamilton Tattoo	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Golf	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> HL	<b>30</b>

The Wing Executive Council (WEC) is composed of the Executive and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees and will meet the second Friday of each month at 1:00 p.m. The General Meetings (GM's) are held on the second Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Check above calendar for meeting dates. There will be NO meetings in July 2012. This is early and for the records. December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012, the Wing WILL have a New Year's Eve Dance. Nippy Watson will provide the entertainment. Details to follow.

- **BCC** – 7:30 p.m. – British Car Club

- **Decoration Sunday** – We will be visiting the war graves. Details to follow.
- **Fifty!!** – 427 (London) Wing's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party. See page four for details.
- **Golf** – At Golfland on Crumlin Side Road Starts, starts at 9:00 a.m. every Tuesday.
- **GT** – Annual Western Region Golf Tournament, see page three for more info
- **HL** – Hot Lunches – from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – **ONLY** \$7.00 per person; Includes soup, salad, entree, dessert, tea and coffee.
- **LVRC** – 7:30 p.m. – London Vintage Radio Club
- **MAC** – 7:30 p.m. – Model Aircraft Club
- **RAA** – Recreational Aircraft Association
- **RC** – 9:00 a.m. – Retired Commissionaires
- **WT** – Wood Turners

### **Operation Stuttgart, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1944**

In early December of 2011 three members of the 427 Wing – Sam Newman, Chuck Hardy and David Smith – visited the home of Hugh Pollock, an RCAF veteran of World War Two. They learned that Hugh flew 36 operations with 420 London, Snowy Owl Squadron as a WO, a wireless operator, on Halifax bombers. 420 Squadron was one of three Canadian Squadrons, the other two being 408 and 419, in existence when RCAF 6 Group came into being on January 1, 1943. Accounts of Hugh's experiences are recorded on almost one hundred letters that he mailed to his father, back home in Canada. All the letters are still in existence and were well written. One letter in particular, about the activities described below, details his memories of his first bombing operation over Stuttgart on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1944.

There were over 700 bombers on the raid with 131 of them from 6 Group. Hugh Pollock's Halifax was in the third wave of the bombing of Stuttgart and was flying at an altitude of 22,000 ft. Just before reaching the target, Hugh's Halifax was hit with heavy flak. The navigator, Briggs, was killed instantly, the pilot was wounded in the legs and the starboard inner engine was hit and feathered. Hugh moved the navigator's body away from his station to a rest position and bomb aimer Ranson calmly took the navigator's position. The Halifax dropped its bombs on Stuttgart and, flying on three engines, dropped to an altitude of 6,000 feet, hugging the clouds over France. Another burst of flak over France damaged the tail. Upon reaching the English Channel, Hugh radioed "May Day, May Day, May Day... navigator killed, pilot wounded, need a fix." Within seconds, Hugh received his fix and the pilot, Sgt. McAdam, landed the Halifax at Friston airfield in Sussex, ground looping with a burst tire. In a letter Hugh wrote to his father shortly after this operation he commented, "There was no panic. Possibly the fact that no one panicked is the reason we got back." During the final months of the war, Hugh served as a WO instructor. The navigator, Sgt. Briggs, who was K.I.A., is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, in Woking, Surrey England.

### **Noise Abatement Procedures**

Air Traffic Control: Eagle 08, for noise abatement turn right 45 degrees.

Pilot: Roger, but we are at 35,000 feet; how much noise can we make up here?

Air Traffic Control: Sir, have you ever heard the noise a jet makes when it hits a 727?