

The London Link

November – December 2012

Volume 49, Issue 3



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

**Remembrance is more than November the 11th
Lest we forget.**



For a collection of veteran's poems and stories, please visit <http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/collections>

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION of CANADA (AFAC) MISSION STATEMENT – The AFAC 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.

427 (London) Wing Executive Council (WEC) – July 1st 2012 to June 30th 2013

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1 st Vice President	Reg Lownie, CD	519-667-1989	rloynie@yahoo.com
2 nd Vice President	Diana Cuthbert	519-455-1126	tdcuthbert@rogers.com
Secretary	vacant		
Treasurer	Chuck Hardy, CD	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca

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Entertainment, Sports, Sgt-at-Arms, Fundraising & Regalia – vacant – call Wing for info			
Housing	Don Clarke	519-455-9350	don.clarke@hotmail.com
Housing Back-up	Chuck Hardy, CD	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Membership	Cathy Newman	519-452-1886	cathy.newman@rogers.com
PR	Rene McKinnon	519-471-8003	renemck@sympatico.ca
Euchre Club	Des Dessert, CD	519-433-4498	
Wellness & Parkwood Veterans' Liaison	Hilda & Frank Smeltzer	519-657-5759	fhs meltzer@rogers.com
Food Services	Rene McKinnon	519-471-8003	renemck@sympatico.ca
Food Services Member	Flo Douglas	519-455-2432	
Air Cadet Liaison	Jack Clark, CD	519-686-1303	jackjoan@sympatico.ca
Lottery	Mike Ryan	519-455-1668	
Website	Judy Grunwald	519-474-2194	wing427tours@rogers.com
Nominations	Jack Clark, CD	519-686-1303	jackjoan@sympatico.ca
War Graves, Poppy Fund, Heritage/ History & Veterans' Memorial	David Smith	519-673-1515	691s@rogers.com
Tours	Armin Grunwald, COM, MSM	519-474-2194	wing427tours@rogers.com

Club Services

Bar Officer	Jack Finkbiner, CD	519-285-3926	
Bar Steward / Rentals	Flo Douglas	519-455-2432	
Padre	Frank Mantz		
London Link Editor	Tammy Newman, CD		tammy.simon@sympatico.ca
CF Liaison Officer	Lt Ali Ullah	705-471-2248	ali.ullah@forces.gc.ca

The Happy Gang – 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. This will include making coffee, setting up self-serve tables, serving lunches and clean up. No cooking or dishwashing required. For info or to volunteer, please look at the Happy Gang sign-up sheet at the entrance to the kitchen. Donated items such as coffee, tea, dessert, meat, fruit, vegetable, bread and cheese are always welcome to help make lunches a success.

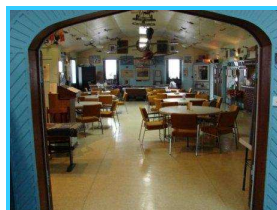


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Book Sale – MORE books needed!! This great fundraiser needs to always replenish our supplies. Books can be both hard and soft cover and on any topic. The books are now also being sold in the bar room. If you have any to donate, please drop them off at the Wing when it is open or contact Chuck Hardy. There are no prices marked as the Wing relies on the buyer for a reasonable donation.

250 Feet² for Rent at [427 \(London\) Wing](#) – This includes two rooms with a bar, kitchen facilities and lots of parking. This clean, attractive setting is great for business meetings, small weddings, family gatherings, holiday events, musical concerts or any type of event you'd like to have. Holds 125. Catering **IS** an option... Call Flo at 519-455-0430 for more information.

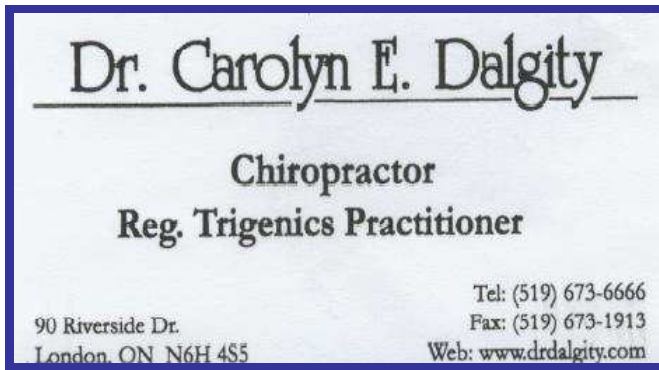


Message from the President, by Rene McKinnon

Our Wing comprises many members of various backgrounds, be they RCAF, Royal Navy, Royal Canadian Army or other non-military associates. I have noticed that you all support 427 (London) Wing in different ways. Some of you, who are not able to get to the Wing regularly, participate by browsing our website and reading the Link as it is published throughout the year. We like being the recipient of your comments sent in by phone-calls, letters or e-mails, as you wish.

Another important group are the ones who support the Wing in a more outgoing and visible fashion. You could call this group the "marching members." Since the last edition of the London Link, the marching members have been present at the following functions. It may not be a complete list but it is just to show some of the activities that have been going on at the Wing. I wish to express my sincere thanks to you all because you are all a very valuable asset to our success.

- Warriors Day Parade
- Spooner Memorial Dedication Service
- Battle of Britain Dinner
- 70th birthday party
- Celtic Thunder presentation
- Doors Open London event
- Yard Sale
- 90th birthday celebration
- ON Group meeting in Sarnia
- Queen's Jubilee Medal presented to two Wing members, Rev. Charles Wright and George Hexter
- Parkwood Vet's attended a Friday Lunch
- Argyle Mall poppy distribution
- Central Ontario Group meeting in Hamilton and the RCAFA Annual Meeting in Hamilton
- 427 Wing sold regalia at the Air Cadet League of Canada's OPC in Mississauga.



Per Ardua, by Reg Lownie, 1st VP

In mid-October, President Rene and I attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Air Force Association of Canada (AFAC) as delegates representing 427 Wing members. The AGM was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Hamilton and took place over two days, Saturday and Sunday. On the previous Wednesday through Friday, members of the National Executive Council (NEC) and other retired senior officers had arrived early to attend NEC committee meetings. The NEC occasionally appoints other members to the executive and to other committees when it feels they should be involved.

The NEC has responsibilities not only for the Association but for its image and connections to the outside world. For instance, one task of the NEC is to keep the Association closely tied to Canada's Air Force and to promote the Air Force in and outside Canada. Thus, it is helpful to have high-ranking retired officers on the NEC who are familiar with recent Air Force developments and who can stay in contact with the serving officers who manage these operations. Another NEC task is the governance of the AFAC, particularly now when they are trying to deal with the new Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (NFP Act,) which means re-writing our AFAC Constitution and By-Laws. This re-write is of great interest, concern and importance to our Group executive and to Wing presidents and members. Many want to be involved and kept current on what is demanded and what is proposed.

Most of the Wings in Ontario are familiar with the draft version of our Constitution distributed by the NEC earlier this year. It was followed by a Position Paper submitted by Ontario Group which soundly rejected that draft, principally because it sought to eliminate the Associate member category or to have Wings pay Regular membership dues for their Associate members. To write and submit that paper was a major achievement by Ontario Group, since the Wings and members of Ontario Group received no detailed information about the Act from the NEC and were pretty much in the dark about what it was all about. Since there was so little communication between the NEC and the Wings, there was some question as to whether the NEC members themselves knew much about the Act.

Given the great lack of information Wings had about the NFP Act, many Wing presidents and members must have been surprised when a letter was received from the NEC calling for volunteers from throughout the Association to help draft our new Constitution and By-Laws. The letter directed any interested member to a Department of Justice website with 293 sections and multiple sub-sections describing the requirements under the NFP Act. Who, of our Association, could possibly have the exposure to, and understanding of the NFP Act that would enable them to volunteer for this time-consuming task? The answer was found in the following paragraph, taken from the minutes of an NEC meeting held in Quebec City on October 14, 2011...

- Orientation and Information Workshop Review: The Chairman indicated item XII (PowerPoint presentation on the NFP Act) would not be required again since it had already been viewed by the NEC members at the orientation and information workshop the previous day. A number of NEC

members expressed their gratitude for the presentations which have been made on this subject over the past **THREE** years. Those presentations have served to clarify the legislation and the options available to the association. The Chairman extended appreciation to the Executive Director for the time and effort put in to ensuring the members of the NEC received frequent informative updates on this and other important subjects.

Three years of frequent information updates for the NEC but nothing for the Wings? My guess is that when the NEC delivers the new Constitution/By-Laws package, the Wings aren't going to like it either!

Seeking Relatives of Robert Edgar Hall Cameron

We are trying to find relatives of Robert Edgar Hall Cameron of London, Ontario. He was a WW2 RCAF Air Gunner serving with the RAF out of Wickenby, with 626 Squadron. He was killed on 25.04.44 with the rest of his crew in England. He was born on August 6th 1923, the son of Edgar Wilson Hall and Margaret Amanda (Emma) Hall of 53 Albion Street, London, Ontario and the step-son of Alexander Nelson Cameron of London, Ontario. A memorial for this crew will be placed at the crash site next year by Chris Stanfield of Colchester, England and he is trying to find descendants of Robert Cameron to let them know about this ceremony of remembrance. If you have any knowledge re descendants of Warrant Officer Robert Edgar Hall Cameron, please contact David Smith, Heritage and History Committee of 427(London) Wing, AFAC at 519-673-1515 or 691s@rogers.com.

Tokens from the Treasurer, by Chuck Hardy, CD

September brought good news. We were close to \$500.00 in the black. Contributing greatly to the profit was the two-day birthday party for long time member, Frank Gilliland. Over the years, Frank has been and continues to be a great supporter of 427 (London) Wing. Many thanks, Frank, as we note you have booked your birthdays at the Wing for many years to come.

Both Judy Grunwald and Tammy Newman are good promoters of the Wing. Judy promptly sends reminders about events and meetings out as well as requests for volunteers. As a result, the Wing Telephone Committee is complete, with one or two back-ups. Tammy excels as editor of the London Link. She has even added to the number of advertisers. So far, she is very kind to the treasurer with little chopping, but may take me to task in the cold winter months ahead. Judy and Tammy, please keep up the great work. A special thanks goes to Natalie in the kitchen. Many of you who come to the Friday lunches will have partaken of the fine desserts and dishes that she makes or helps with.

Expenses exceeded revenue by nearly \$2,900.00 in the slower months of July and August. We anticipate this each year, especially for July when the Wing is usually closed all month. It is hoped that the busy calendar will encourage members, guests and visitors to come out to 427 (London) Wing. Let's see if all the months ahead can produce a profit.



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The End of Another Spooner Season, by Sam Newman, CD

Good day all, I am trying to give you some sort of a wrap-up on our year's Spooner's activities. To be certain, all of you involved in this obsequious committee and, from time to time, other members like Chuck, are to be handsomely congratulated for your input into what has been done around our Club House externally this past spring/summer season. Each of you has contributed immensely to the beautification of our grounds, and I thank you all, sincerely. The grounds, the gardens, the Memorial Wall, the laid stones, the newly mounted flags, the benches, the Walkways, the addition of the "We Will Remember" rock at the walkway entrance, the Poppy display mid way on the South side... the overall appearance of 427 (London) Wing has never looked so good in years and years.

Looking back, I can thank you Lynda, for your letter from four years ago, where in you commented that it was both embarrassing and saddening to see how our Wing had fallen into disrepair. You were quite right to express your sorrow that it had become what it was then. We are grateful that you did something about the conditions, and have returned to help us right the wrong. We are proud of our property, and the result was many, many accolades concerning the condition of the grounds following September's Battle of Britain ceremonies, as well as the laying up of the Legacy Stones.

I offer sincere thanks to the London Horticultural Society for their donation to the beauty that we all see outside the Wing and gratitude to everyone for their input and contribution. Diana, I know it has been particularly pleasing, though somewhat stressful, for all the hours you have devoted to the gardens. Thank you Don; while the new garbage bins that you constructed don't totally come under the Spooner heading, never-the-less, they certainly enhance our general appearance of the grounds. For your information, we have more Legacy stones to have engraved and lay this fall. Hopefully we can get them in before it's too late. Thank you; thank you all. Keep 'er flying gang!

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Warning – Read the following ONLY if you want to laugh out loud. Several months ago, a husband and wife decided to buy a hot tub. They planned to use it at a lower temperature in the summer, to cool off from the oppressing heat and a higher temperature in the winter to warm them up. They put a down payment on the tub to hold it. Shortly afterwards, they hired a contractor to give them a new backyard and, ultimately, a great patio for this new hot tub. Just before the project started, the husband had to go out of town for several weeks for his work. A week into the project, the hot tub was delivered. The following day, the electrician arrived to set things up, test it and get it ready for inspection. He was surprised to see that there was no water in the tub. The wife told him that she couldn't find any hoses in the house and the stores stopped selling them because they were out of season. In talking with her husband on the phone, she asked him where any hoses might be. Her husband said he had thrown them out a month ago, figuring he would buy new next season.

Shortly after that, the contractor arrived and the wife was singing the blues to him. The contractor said he would bring his own hose so the wife could fill the hot tub. So, he brought the hose and turned on the water outside... no water! He went into the basement to turn the water on at source. The source was in the ceiling. To reach it, he climbed onto a chair, put one knee half way up a bookcase and the other knee on top of a fridge. He crawled on top of the fridge and was able to turn the water on. When they went outside to check, water was pouring onto the ground, out of the source in the wall but not through the hose. The contractor explained that someone (the husband?) had a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch hose attached to a 1 inch fitting. Water would always pour out of it. SO... the contractor had to go back down to the basement where he redid his balancing act and turned the water back off. The contractor told the wife that he would buy the proper $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch fitting and then he would try it again.

The wife became quite busy and had not seen the contractor for a few days. She had, however, owned a lovely hot tub for over seventeen days and there was still not one drop of water in it. The only thing she said at this point was "ugh." NOW... the husband has come home. The wife told him about the water situation and so the husband did what they do best – he retried the same efforts. By this time, the wife is just laughing – as if the husband can do any better!! You guessed it, he didn't succeed either. Hubby remembered an outlet in the garage but, to get to it, he had to clear the cord of wood he had stacked. Success! He found the outlet!! He hooked up the hose and ran it from the garage into the house, out the bathroom window, down the side of the house and into the back yard. He turned on the water, asking the wife to tell him when she saw water coming out of the hose in the back yard. Finally and frustrated, the hubby came back to ask why she didn't tell him she saw water.

You already know her answer... because she hadn't yet seen water! Rushing back to the garage, they both saw it pouring onto the garage floor and, once again, not coming out of the hose. By now, the wife is giggling hysterically at what is going on. Her husband turned off the water, refit the hose on the tap and tried it again. Success at last!! They couple were finally able to use the hot tub, which they did for seven or eight days.

After that, the city came in for their inspection. When the city came, they found a deep sink-hole in the corner of the yard which needed to be addressed immediately. The sink-hole was four feet deep and could swallow a dog. Just today, the workers came in to address and fix the sink-hole issue. They took care of that but, on their way out, they let the wife know that they could smell gas coming from her meter. They advised her to call the city directly at 311. She called immediately. Ten minutes after placing her call, three truckloads of firemen with their sirens and lights on showed up with all their gear – we're talking oxygen tanks, pick-axes, battering rams... you know what I mean! The firemen inspected her house and yard and several on either side of her. They could find no smell of gas. The wife was told that gas valves are meant to purge if there is too much gas build-up, which is probably what the city workers smelled.


As a precaution, the gas company was called by the firemen. They came and spent another twenty minutes walking around her house, inside and out. At that point, it was thought to be a closed case... not so much! The wife has just answered the door and it is the inspector from the gas company. He is outside, turning off the gas at the meter. Yesterday, he had noticed something and is here today to fix it. The gas guy said that the triangle from the AC unit, the furnace and a window was too close and was against code. (Of course it would be!!) He said it would take about twenty minutes. It ended up taking twice as long but the gas guy changed the outside hoses to something that would work for the current codes. Finally, the back yard is safe, the hot tub is ready to use and the firemen have been tested. Kudos go out to the wife, who successfully dealt with all of this. (Editor's comment: in case you haven't figured this out, this true story is about me and my husband and our hot tub saga.)

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 Attn: Mr Murray MacKay



Merry Go Round – An A320 Air France is making an auto-approach into Heathrow Airport, in London, England. At 200 feet, the computer decided to make a go-around for no apparent reason and no command from the crew. Here is what we heard on the tower frequency:

- Air France: "London from Air France 1234, it's going around!"
- London Tower: "Air France 1234, report intentions."
- Air France: "Well ... to go with it sir!"



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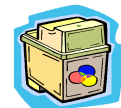
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Empty Ink Cartridge Fundraiser for 1947 Aeronca Chief Aircraft Project – There's a box at the Wing in which to deposit all empty cartridges. For each one, the Project will receive a donation of up to \$2.50 to sponsor the rebuilding of the Aeronca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

- This project has been organized to help train Air Cadets, which 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.



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Share Your Talent with Other Wing Members

There are many opportunities to work with others on the following committees; experience is not necessary for most group work. No long term commitments are necessary but they are more than welcome. If you are interested, please contact President Rene at renemck@sympatico.ca (tel: 519-471-8003) or Chuck Hardy at chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca (tel: 519-452-1379)

- Entertainment
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Food Services
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- Regalia
- Sports
- Fund-raising
- Wellness Committee
- Heritage, Poppy Fund, etc
- Sergeant-At-Arms



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Rick’s Ramblings, by Rick Holland, CD

“AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING, WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.”
As we near November, the traditional month of Remembrance, you will hear these words repeated many times. They should however, be in our minds and thoughts the entire year and not just for one month. There will be many events leading up to and including November 11th that a person can get involved in. If you are able, take the time to attend as many as possible. We must keep the Flame of Remembrance alive. A flame is widely accepted as a symbol of eternal life. An eternal flame at a war memorial symbolizes a nation's perpetual gratitude towards, and remembrance of, its war dead.

Due to personal reasons, I not have been out to our Wing for several months. If you also fall into that category, you might ask yourself, “What’s been happening at the Wing since the last issue of the

London Link.” Well, without going into mega detail, here is a snapshot of some events and activities. Flo and the Happy Gang have produced eight Friday hot lunches, Friday movie afternoons are being tried to get members out, 427 members participated in the Warriors Day parade at Western Fair, a very moving commemorative stone dedication ceremony was held in the Spooner Garden, our executive team was sworn into office, three new members (including our editor, Tammy) were welcomed into the 427 family, the Wing hosted a Battle of Britain dinner complete with guest speaker, Wednesday euchre has resumed, over one hundred and forty visitors were welcomed at our clubhouse on Doors Open London, a yard sale was held and there has been a general meeting.

So if you thought nothing was going on, you would be wrong. I know why I couldn't participate in most of these events but, without offending anyone, the question is... are you okay with the reason you couldn't attend? Our Executive and Wing Executive Counsel spend a lot of time and effort in arranging activities for us to enjoy so they need our support for their efforts. Hopefully you will be able to participate in an event even if it's only a Friday lunch. And, as our editor Tammy says, bring a friend. Colder weather will soon be upon us but that will not prevent activities at our Wing to continue. In closing, and until the next issue, "WE WILL REMEMBER THEM."

Entertainment Opportunities,
by Diana Cuthbert, 2nd VP



As you all know, we have a couple of dances coming up in the near future. We are putting on these dances because they are potential money-makers. Instead of going elsewhere for your celebrations, why don't you and your friends come out to the Wing? The costs are very reasonable, the music is great and the ambience is festive. If you want to continue having a Wing to come out to, you have to support it and these are the ways you can do that. Tickets can be bought in advance or at the door.

- Saturday, 1st December – Nearly Christmas Dance – Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with entertainment from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Music by Nippy Watson. Cost is \$15 which includes a late, light lunch.
- Monday, 31st December – New Year's Eve Ball – Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and entertainment starts at 8:00 p.m. Music by Nippy Watson. Cost is \$35 and will include a buffet served at 10:30 p.m.

November

- Marc Lavictoire • Marilyn Turner • Gerry Coulter, CD
- Al Szawara • Jan Rae-Coulter • Frank Smeltzer
- Bob Lahey • Bob Shiell • Al Horton • JR Weekes • Jack Pettit • Art Parker •

Birthday

Brats

December

- J. Gordon Brown • Len Fallowfield • John Funston, CD
- Peter Garland, CD • Frank Kasawan • Ken Lilley • Mike Ryan • Jeanne Sharpe • Ross Whitney •

- 3rd November – Halloween Dance – Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with entertainment from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Music by Mr. Music. Cost is \$15 which includes a late, light lunch. Tickets can be bought in advance or at the door. Don't forget to invite family and friends.
- 16th November – Decorating party for the Nearly Christmas Dance from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 23rd November – Christmas turkey lunch. Cost is \$10. Lunch starts at 11:30
- Movies – to be held at 1:00 p.m. on dates below. The movies will be offered at no cost, but a contribution would be graciously accepted. The bar is open but please bring you own munchies!

November 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Lunch Movie	3 Halloween Dance
4	5	6	7	8	9 Lunch/WEC Movie	10
11 	12	13	14 Cards	15	16 Lunch & Decorating Party	17
18	19	20	21 Cards	22	23 Christmas lunch & GM	24
25	26	27	28 Cards	29	30 Lunch & Movie	

December 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Christmas dance
2	3	4	5 Cards	6	7 Lunch & Movie	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Lunch/WEC Movie	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Years Ball 	January 1st 2013 – New Year's Levees (dress code in effect for all) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00-12:00 p.m. HMCS Prevost, Becher Street • 12:00-2:00 p.m. Wolseley Barracks Officers' Mess, 701 Oxford St E • 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. 427 (London) Wing 				



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RAF Grave Decoration Ceremony – We Will Remember Them... by Mort Lightstone

I was emotionally moved on Sunday morning, 16th September, 2012 when I attended a Grave Decoration ceremony. It was held in Mount Hope at St. Paul's Glanford Anglican Church Cemetery. The Anglican service in the church took an hour. It was followed outside by the Grave Decoration ceremony. 447 RCAFA Wing and the Canadian Chapter RAF Regiment Association coordinated this event. Their members were supported by a large contingent of Royal Canadian Air Cadets. The cadets were particularly well turned out, highly disciplined and very motivated. They took a major part in the proceedings. They proudly participated with 447 Wing members to form a Colour Party.

Fourteen graves formed a regimented line running east-west, about ten feet from the south church wall. Each headstone proudly displayed the RAF crest along with a name and a date. Each was well groomed. Each plot was tastefully adorned with Union Jacks, an organized array of red and white begonias and blue ageratums. The colours were red, white and blue – how appropriate.

The combined Colour Party took their position thirty feet south and facing the graves. The Air Cadets were on the right and RCAFA and RAF Regiment members on the left. The gentle breeze was strong enough to cause the flags to flutter and sometimes to their full extent. An Air Cadet Sergeant bugler took her position on a short rise of ground just twenty feet east of the last grave. She played the Last Post and Reveille with reverence. Flags dipped; officers and veterans saluted.

In front of the church, fourteen Air Cadets formed a single line. Each held a red carnation. They marched in unison to form a line facing and about five feet in front of the headstones. For each grave, there was one cadet. Each of the names was read, followed by a pause. During that pause, and from right to left, an Air Cadet moved forward. In a half-kneeling position, the Cadet placed the red carnation in front of the headstone. Then, on returning to their position in line, the Cadet saluted.

- LAC Dennis Donohue, November 13th, 1941
- LAC Reginald Gillman, November 13th, 1941
- SGT Edward Doughty, June 23rd, 1942
- SGT Herbert Preston, June 23rd, 1942
- LAC Denis Drayton, November 13th, 1941
- FLT. LT. John Kellow, June 23rd, 1942
- CORP Collin Campbell, June 23rd, 1942
- LAC James Watson, June 23rd, 1942

- SGT Richard Board, December 13th, 1942
- LAC Charles Chadwick, December 13th, 1942
- CORP John Quinn, April 7th, 1943
- AC1 Stephen Proudley, June 10th, 1943
- LAC Sidney Bressloff, December 13th, 1942
- LAC Ernest Johnson, December 13th, 1942
- FO Peter Scott, AFC, May 1st, 1943
- LAC Taunton Pouyat, December 7th, 1943

In the sanctuary, there were some special flowers. They were presented by two students from 33 Air Navigation School, now in their 90s and living in the United Kingdom. They are:

- Flt. Lt. J. H. Hill, MID, RAFVR Retired
- Flt. Lt. D. H. Rowe, RAFVR (T) Retired.

By one corner of the church there was a prominent plaque. It read: **THEY SLIPPED THE SURLY BONDS OF EARTH...** The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP) was inaugurated in 1939 at the onset of WW2 to provide air training for Commonwealth airmen, safely removed from active war zones. Canada sponsored this war-winning plan which produced approximately 140,000 airmen and 45,000 ground crew. Six of the one hundred and seven Canadian BCATP airfields were located in this part of Ontario. No. 33 Air Navigation School at Mount Hope was established in 1941 in addition to No. 10 Elementary Flying School and No. 1 Air Wireless School. Between November 1941 and December 1943, sixteen RAF servicemen in the Air Navigation School died while in training here and, all but two, were buried in St. Paul's Glanford Anglican Church Cemetery. Held annually is a service of remembrance for these men who lie far from home. In 2000, a Remembrance Garden was planted by the congregation and dedicated to the memory of these RAF members.



F/Sgt Charles Wright – was a former RAF Wireless Air Tech from 1943 to 1947 with 6 Bomber Group and was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal at the AFAC National General Meeting in Hamilton on 14th October, 2012. It was presented at the Canadian War Plane Heritage Museum. The citation reads:

"... You were nominated by a serving member of the Association, and that your performance exceeded the standard by which all were judged. Accordingly, we have been asked by the Governor-General to award you this meaningful symbol of recognition for your service to the Patron of the Air Force Association of Canada, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 and to our country."

Mr Wright became a member of the 427 (London) Wing in 1997 and has served on the executive. He holds the Victory Medal, the Defence Medal and the Police Good

President Rene and Reverend Charles Wright with his QE II Diamond Jubilee Medal at the Wing on Oct. 19th



Conduct Medal. In 1998, Mr Wright became the official Wing Padre. He has fulfilled all his duties with decorum, a keen sensitivity and copious amounts of humour.

Congratulations on your medal from all the London (427) Wing members.

If anyone has some RCAF tartan material they are not using, please consider donating it to the Wing. The tartan will be used to make articles like bags and clothing for teddy bears etc. These items will then be sold and all proceeds will go to the Wing. Contact Hilda Smeltzer for more information.



9 Holes For \$10

GolfLand London

1720 Crumlin Side Road
London, Ontario
N5V 1S2
519-659-7070

ANDY BOON
General Manager
519-659-7070
cell: 519-857-4646
andy@londongolfand.com

www.londongolfand.com
E-mail: info@londongolfand.com

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Humour for Lexophiles (those who love playing on words)

- To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
- The professor discovered that her theory of earthquakes was on shaky ground.
- The batteries were given out, free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you can get repossessed.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.