

THE LONDON LINK



427 (LONDON) WING — AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
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legion.ca

November 11, 2013

File: 44-13

Another Successful Poppy Campaign

Dear Editor;

As we approach the final hours of our national Poppy Campaign, and on behalf of the millions of Canadians who have had the opportunity to wear a Poppy this year, I wanted to thank our more than 320,000 Legion members in more than 1,468 Legion branches across Canada, the United States, Mexico and in Europe for their support and dedication for this campaign.

With an estimated 18 million poppies worn this year, the efforts of Canadians to remember the more than 117,000 servicemen and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice has been heard loud and clear.

By making a donation and wearing a Poppy, Canadians of all ages support Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP Veterans and their families, but also many aspects of the communities where we all live. The Poppy Campaign makes it possible for the Legion to operate a Service Bureau which acts as an advocate for Veterans and RCMP members and their families to ensure their quality of life is the best it can be.

Every year, the money collected through the Poppy Campaign is used to provide direct assistance for Veterans and their families who are experiencing financial distress. The funds are used to pay for food, accommodation, utilities, dental and optical services and hospital comforts. The Legion truly cares about all veterans, not just by advocating on their behalf, but by engaging in everyday activities to make their lives better. In fact, the 2012 Poppy Campaign provided more than \$14 million in benevolence to Canada's Veterans and serving personnel.

Again, thank you to the thousands of Legion members who helped with our Poppy Campaign and to the millions of Canadians who have proudly supported all Veterans. Whether they have served in the past or are serving to the Legion there is only one Veteran. We are truly grateful.

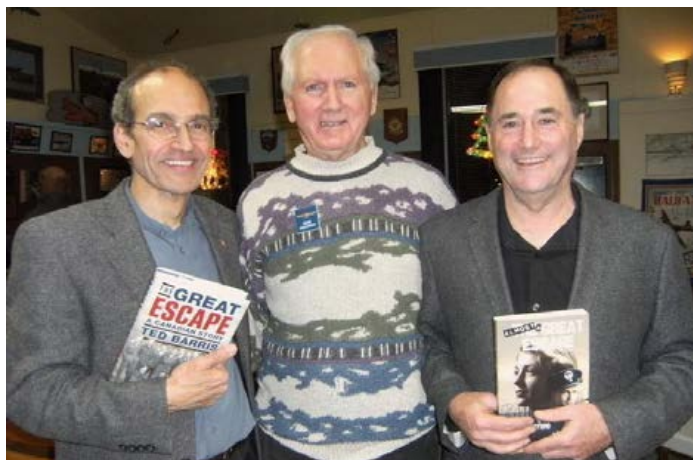
We Will Remember Them,

Gordon Moore
Dominion President
The Royal Canadian Legion



clockwise from far left:

A letter received from Gordon Moore, regarding the success of this years Poppy Campaign; Lorne Spicer representing 427 Wing at the Southwold Keystone Complex Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 10th; Poppies on display at the Canadian Tire Service Bar on Dundas Street East, London, ON; Poppies and cross in our garden beautifully lit by the sun and blue sky.



above: Ted Barris, President Rene McKinnon and Tyler Trafford

427 (London) Wing Hosts Authors

ON THE EVENING of Friday, November 29th, authors Ted Barris and Tyler Trafford shared their incredible stories with over 60 guests at the Wing.

In *Almost a Great Escape*, Tyler told the story of his mother Alice, whose 'One Good Thing' was her relationship with WW2 pilot Jens Muller. Jens was imprisoned in the infamous Stalag Luft III POW camp. Alice promised to wait for his return. Their story was riveting.

Renowned historian/author Ted Barris talked about his new book *The Great Escape: A Canadian Story*, which offered a unique retelling of the Great Escape through first-hand recollections of the Canadians who experienced it.

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 2013 – JUNE 30TH 2014

President	Rene McKinnon	519-471-8003	renemck@sympatico.ca
Past President	Jack Clark, CD	519-686-1303	jackjoanc@gmail.com
1 st Vice President	Reg Lownie, CD	519-667-1989	rlownie@yahoo.com
2 nd Vice President	Diana Cuthbert	519-455-1126	tdcuthbert@rogers.com
Secretary	Chuck Hardy, CD	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Terry Rushton	519-472-2473	trushton@ody.ca

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Vacant Positions – Entertainment, Wellness/Parkwood Veteran's Liaison, Sports, Sgt-at-Arms, Fundraising and Regalia – call Wing for info

Web-Site	Edith Fraser	519-472-0729	thelondonwing@live.com
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
Public Relations	Mary Watson	519-204-8823	mwatsonD518@rogers.com
Euchre Club	Des Dessert, CD	519-455-0430	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Food Services	Rene McKinnon	519-471-8003	renemck@sympatico.ca
Food Services	Flo Douglas	519-455-0430	
Air Cadet Liaison	Jack Clark, CD	519-686-1303	jackjoanc@gmail.com
Lottery	Mike Ryan	519-455-1668	
Nominations	Jack Clark, CD	519-686-1303	jackjoanc@gmail.com
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	519-455-0430	
Padre	Frank Mantz	for more info, ask a member of the Executive	
London Link Editor	Tanya Deaville		tanya427ed@gmail.com
CF Liaison Officer	Capt Ali Ullah		ali.ullah@forces.gc.ca

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.

- Rental rates start at \$200
- Catering **IS** an option! Call Flo at 519-455-0430 for more information.



Message from the President

WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR! And, as you look around these day, you must note we have a fresh new white-slate to start off with. Those of us with driveways may take that with a grain of salt!

Looking ahead there is a lot to be excited about. Our website is growing and expanding and almost everything concerning the Wing is available for your viewing. The Spirit of Flight Aviation Museum is moving forward as we work our way through this process. PayPal will be in place in the near future. The Link is also a valuable asset for all our members. We have a “staff” of writers who continue to submit excellent and interesting articles for our review. A special note in this regard is the article on page 6 “Email Scams”. We are pleased to have received this item from Dean Black, our Executive Director Air Force Association Of Canada. Possibly Dean will become a regular contributor! That would put us on the “Dean’s List.”

Moving down the road we have the Valentine’s Dance on Feb. 15. And, the following week, a Chili Cookoff on Feb. 22 to be followed by an evening Karaoke event. I believe this will be a Wing first. There will also be a St. Patrick’s Day Dance on March 15th. Details will be forthcoming on these events. Watch the Website, the upcoming Links and bulletin boards at the Wing.

Jack Clark has an article on page 4 regarding updates with our Air Cadet involvement. The Wing membership is growing, the kitchen staff continue to provide varied and delicious meals. Rentals are increasing. Things are happening!

One new and very important matter is that the RCAFA, on their website www.airforce.ca, have a Trust Fund that allows interested parties to make contributions to charities and organizations on their list. The Fund is able to issue charitable receipts for contributions. Our Wing is a not-for-profit and is not allowed

to issue tax receipts. This is an exciting opportunity for us. As the Wing is enrolled into this program, we will keep you informed.

We are working on a few matters and our goal is for the betterment of the Wing.

If you would consider assisting at the Wing, your support would be greatly appreciated.

*- Rene McKinnon
President*

Per Ardua

IF YOU ARE A READER who hasn’t surrendered to the alleged joys of reading books on-line, you may be interested in a couple of recent offerings available through the London Public Library. Both these books were published in 2013, both cover widely different historical times, both are non-fiction and both will hold your interest for a variety of reasons.

One summer, *America 1927*, by the transplanted Bill Bryson (from America to England) is an in-depth and fascinating account of important people and events during the months of May to September, 1927. Bryson is a bestselling author who has won many literary awards. In this skillful and often amusing book he brings us the stories of the triumphs and the tragedies of many characters that are still well-known today. Their successes and failures would change the lives and aspirations of people all over the world. Aviation buffs will get the full story about Charles Lindbergh, plus detailed information about the life and times of such notable names as “Babe” Ruth, Calvin Coolidge, Jack Dempsey, Henry Ford, Al Capone, the murderers Sacco and Vanzetti, the Klu Klux Klan, Jerome Kern, Clara Bow, the origins of the Great Depression and the allure and popularity of Broadway and Hollywood productions. All that and more provide an easy-to-read and entertaining summary of a time in America when anything seemed possible - and often

was. The Central Library has eight copies for your enjoyment.

Perhaps more troubling than enjoyable is *Command and Control*, a journalistic account of the past fifty-plus years of attempts by the United States and the Soviet Union to keep nuclear weapons under control, when such control was threatened either by deliberate decisions or by unfortunate accidents. The author, Eric Schlosser, draws on a study conducted by the Sandia National Laboratories of New Mexico and California, a company which oversees the production and security of American nuclear-weapon systems. Their study found that between 1950 and 1968 at least twelve hundred nuclear weapons had been involved in what was described as “significant accidents.” As Schlosser writes: “Most of the danger that human beings faced from nuclear weapons after the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki had to do with inadvertence – with bombs dropped by mistake, bombers catching on fire or crashing, missiles exploding, and computers miscalculating and people jumping to conclusions.”

Among the many examples cited is one which occurred in January, 1995, when then Russian president Boris Yeltsin had less than six minutes to decide whether to launch forty-seven hundred nuclear warheads in response to reports that a missile launched from the Norwegian Sea was headed toward Moscow. Fortunately it was discovered in time that the threat was a weather rocket from Norway sent to study the aurora borealis. More recently in 1980, the accidental puncture of the skin of a Titan II missile in its silo threatened to explode the nine megaton warhead, which if detonated would have wiped out most of the state of Arkansas.

Perhaps after reading his book, you may agree with Schlosser that, as smaller nations obtain nuclear weapons, a nuclear accident is not only possible, but in the long run, inevitable.

*-Reg Lownie, CD
1st Vice President*

Diana's Details

IN LIGHT OF THE WEATHER WE'VE BEEN HAVING, the following seemed appropriate...
"On a bitterly cold winter's morning, a husband and wife were listening to the radio during breakfast.

They heard the announcer say: "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so snowplows can get through conveniently."

So the good wife went out and moved her car as instructed.

A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said: "We are expecting 10 to 20 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snowplows can get through."

So the good wife went out and moved her car again.

The next week they are again having breakfast when the radio announcer says: "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park..."

THEN THE POWER WENT OFF.

The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do, which side of the street do I need to park on so the snowplows can get through?"

Then, with all the love and understanding in his voice that married men always exhibit, the husband replied,

"Why don't you just leave the car in the garage this time!"

All you ladies out there -- forgive me this time, but we need a laugh at this time of year, even if it's on us !

*-Diana Cuthbert
2nd Vice President*

Air Cadet Update

AS THE AIR CADET LIAISON OFFICER OF THE WING, I have been fortunate to be involved in numerous air cadet functions. I have been invited to many squadrons' mess dinners, on many occasions I've been the Reviewing Officer for Squadrons' Commanding Officers Parades, and have also accompanied cadet groups on bus trips.

My latest event was an unusual one, as it was an invitation to be the Reviewing Officer for a squadron I did not know was active. I learned that the 153 VANAVAIR Squadron became one of now eight squadrons that 427 Wing supports. It is located in Tillsonburg.

As a point of interest, the role of a Reviewing Officer of an Air Cadet Squadron is the same as any Reviewing Officer of any Parade. The protocol is the same.

Funding needed to support the eight squadrons is raised by selling 50/50 tickets at our Friday lunches and by donation to the 50/50 fund. Anyone with an interest in the Air Cadet program and/or would like to attend any of the squadrons gatherings please feel free to contact me at jackjoanc@gmail.com.

*-Jack Clark, CD
Past President*

Rick's Ramblings

IT HAS BEEN SEVERAL ISSUES of the Link since I have submitted an article for personal reasons, but will make an attempt to once again be a regular contributor. Our editor Tanya is always willing to accept items from any member so don't be shy, take pen in hand and send something in. A short story, a joke or just a thought might end up in print in a future edition of the Link. The more she receives will give her a choice of items to include and ultimately lead to a more successful Link.

Remembrance Day has come and gone and our hats are off to fellow members who attended parades, did speaking events to our youth, participated in the Poppy campaign, and other activities associated with remembering our Veteran Brotherhood. The act of Remembrance has been passed to us and it is our duty to keep it alive.

At the time of writing (late Nov) we have been walloped by an early winter snow storm. Forecasters have predicted a long cold winter so this might be the start of it (only 5 or 6 months to warmer weather!). Remembering how to drive safely on the slippery roads, how to use shovels without creating back injuries, and just getting around on icy walkways, are just a few of the things that go along with the white stuff. Bottom line is to stay safe.

Our Exec and WEC have been busy planning different events for us over the next few months so don't let their hard work go to waste. **Participate when you can.** Even a Friday lunch is participating. Depending when you receive this edition of the Link, I pass on best wishes for Christmas and New Years to all 427 Wing members and their families. May 2014 bring you good health and happiness. Until next time.

-Rick Holland, CD



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Notes From The Secretary

WRITING THIS ON NOVEMBER 30TH – two weeks before the mid December deadline for Tanya’s January-February 2014 edition. Tanya welcomes articles and feedback from all readers. Best way to reach her is her e-mail address tanya427ed@gmail.com. You can also leave a message for Tanya at the Wing (519) 455-0430.

There are a number of projects on the go at the Wing. They include:

- ✓ Spirit of Flight Aviation Museum Committee – meeting regularly at the Wing under the leadership of the Chairperson – Mary Watson;
- ✓ Consideration of a new method of receiving payments for regalia (kit-shop) and other items;
- ✓ Ongoing improvements to the Wing website at www.427Wing.com. Please visit the site and pass your ideas to the website manager Edith Fraser at the londonwing@live.com. Edith would love to hear from you.
- ✓ Ways to increase attendance at general meetings. Your thoughts are welcome by contacting anyone on the Wing Executive listed on page 2 of the Link.
- ✓ New types of events to bring visitors and members out to the Wing. This includes music at Friday lunch on January 10th.

Please use the white suggestion box or black “snag” book at the Wing to put your thoughts for improvement in writing or speak to a member of the executive team.

Additionally, the Wing Executive and it’s members would like to send a tremendous “Thank You” to Elaine Deaville for jumping in and helping out with Friday lunches, often on very short notice.

Finally, when you receive the Link, it will be after Christmas. A belated Merry Christmas and the best of 2014 to everyone.

*-Chuck Hardy
Secretary*

Membership Reminder

IF YOU MOVE OR CHANGE your email address, please let the Membership Chairperson, Cathy Newman, know your new mailing address or new e-mail address at cathy.newman@rogers.com or by telephone at 519-452-1886.

The Happy Gang

HELP IS NEEDED in the kitchen for Friday lunches from 10:30am to 1pm. No cooking required. For info or to volunteer, please speak to Flo Douglas. Donated items are always welcome to help make our lunches a continued success!



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427 (London) Wing Annual Christmas Luncheon



THIS YEARS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON on Friday, November 15th was a tremendous success for the Wing! With the very generous support of Knights of Columbus, the unprecedented help from many volunteers and donations of simply delectable desserts, we served approximately 115 meals to members, family and friends of the Wing. Lunch consisted of the traditional trimmings, such as turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and veggies, which were accompanied by several salads and as previously mentioned...delicious desserts! A gift exchange also took place, whereupon several guests brought relatively generic, wrapped gifts and took one in return. Much fun and festive joy was had by all in attendance! Thanks again to all of those who made this event possible and to those who made it out to support the Wing.

Email Scams

FOLLOWING IS SOME sound advice that Rene recently received on how to keep yourself protected from thieves, scammers and hackers in this age of modern technology.

Please do not ever reply to any and all e-mails that come from people you do not know.

People – criminals – create this kind of spam using internet server network traffic statistics. If you or anyone in your family using your e-mail address routinely accepts and opens jokes, warm-fuzzy stories and/or religious-type e-mails with holiday greetings, best wishes, or tear-jerking stories, it is the act of accepting and opening and then forwarding such stories that reinforces or strengthens the internet-network-signal of your particular e-mail address. Once these criminals build a list of frequently used and very active e-mail addresses, like yours, they will then point their spam-generating processes at you.

DO NOT EVER OPEN, RESPOND TO OR FORWARD E-MAILS FROM PEOPLE YOU DO NOT PERSONALLY KNOW.

If you are reading an e-mail from someone you do not know, and they are making some sort of offer or pitch, and there is a spelling or grammar mistake, delete the e-mail immediately. True marketing campaigns are designed and crafted and reviewed and tested through extensive processes and multiple individuals before they are ever released to the public. It is because of all this that the likelihood of a spelling or grammar mistake is impossible. So, if you are reading some sort of marketing e-mail and there is a spelling or grammar mistake, then it is a scam.

Dean C. Black, CD, CAE
Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret)


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Publisher/Executive Editor Airforce Magazine
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427 (London) Wing Takes Second Place at Chili Cookoff

THE WING WAS INVITED by London International Airport to attend and/or compete at their 1st Annual Chili Cookoff to support the London Foodbank.

On November 14th, 10 teams came out to compete against “Team 427 Wing”, which consisted of Rene McKinnon and Mary Watson. Mary concocted her secret blend of spices with a traditional style chili. “Traditional” or “Original” style chili has no beans. Historically, it was thought that the popularity of adding beans arose out of economic and health considerations. It is interesting to note that the top 2 chili recipes at the cookoff were those without beans.

Rene provided the cheering and moral support. Moral support was needed as we had some pretty high-end judges on board. They were:

- Mike Smith (*Owner, Joe Kool's Restaurant*)
- Cameron Stea (*Component Manager, Higher Education, King's University College, UWO*)
- Jeannie Cookson (*Chair - School of Tourism & Hospitality, Fanshawe College*)

The judges had a list of criteria on which to judge each chili, such as appearance, separation of oil, aroma, taste in the mouth, and aftertaste, etc. It seemed to take forever for the judging to come to its completion.

The auditors took the judges results and tabulated them in another room. Upon returning they announced a tie for first. Yeah - but which teams tied? Samples were taken from the two pots in question and wait - one was our pot...further tasting and testing continued. Finally winners were announced and alas, we took second. All the more incentive to fine tune this recipe for next year. Upon hearing our of our success, Cathy Newman threw out a new challenge - to bring the recipe back to the 2014 427 Wing Chili Cookoff on February 22nd and give Reg Lownie a run for his title. Challenge accepted. The gauntlet is laid!

427 (London) Wing Bylaws

MEMBERS MAY RECALL that in the last edition of your Link on page 5, two approved amendments in brief were posted. At the General Meeting on November 22, 2013, members approved the following three briefly listed amendments:

- Wording changed in four articles to Wing Executive from Executive Committee to conform with National guidelines. (Amendment #2)
- Wording changed in Article 11.1 to clarify procedure for filling vacancies on the Wing Executive. (Amendment #3)
- Wording corrected at Article 2.6 to read Wing Executive Meeting shall mean a meeting of the Wing Executive. (Amendment #7)

At the same General Meeting on November 22, 2013, members defeated a proposed three part motion concerning approval of membership dues. (Amendments 5, 5A and 5B)

New Proposal – Amendment #8 Motion at General Meeting January 24, 2014

- To add to Chairpersons of Standing Committees at Section 12.1 Spirit of Flight Aviation Museum Chairperson and Spooner Chairperson and at Schedule B duties of these Chairperson. Proposal was posted on Wing notice board on December 13, 2013.


An amended updated copy of the Bylaws will be posted on the Wing notice board in the near future. In addition to that, proposed amendments, as required at Article 28, will be posted at least 30 days prior to a general meeting.

Approved and defeated motions will also be attached to the posted minutes of General Meetings. Please direct questions and suggestions to me.

-Chuck Hardy
Secretary



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Royal London Military Institute and 427 (London) Wing, AFAC

Tour No. 28

23rd Annual Canadian International Military Tattoo

at

**Copps Coliseum, Hamilton and
Dinner at the Elm Hurst Inn, Ingersoll**



**Sunday, 8th of June 2014
Cost Per Person \$110.00**

Closing Date for Final Payment is the 18th of April 2014
55 Tickets and seats have been reserved

Full itinerary can be found on the bulletin board at the Wing
or by visiting our website at www.427wing.com

For further information or to book a seat, contact: LCol
Armin Grunwald and Judy Grunwald, RLMI Tour Directors
or Armin Grunwald, 427 (London) Wing, Tour Committee
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Things I've Learned, *By Omer B. Washington*

I've learned that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to them.

I've learned that no matter how much I care, some people just don't care back.

I've learned that it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it.

I've learned that no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.

I've learned that it's not what you have in your life but who you have in your life that counts.

I've learned that you should never ruin an apology with an excuse.

I've learned that you can get by on charm for about fifteen minutes. After that, you'd better know something.

I've learned that you shouldn't compare yourself to the best others can do.

I've learned that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I've learned that it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

I've learned that you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.

I've learned that you can keep going long after you can't.

I've learned that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I've learned that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I've learned that heroes are the people who do what has to be done, when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.



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Photos: Steve Douglas, a Canadian living in Belgium, of the British Grenadier Bookshop, the [Maple Leaf Legacy Project](#), and [Salient Tours](#), took these photos of Christmas Eve at Holten Canadian War Cemetery at Holten, the Netherlands. Every year, children from the town gather to put a candle on every grave in the cemetery. Holten Canadian War Cemetery contains 1,393 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War, the great majority of whom died during the last stages of the war in Holland, during the advance of the Canadians into northern Germany in April and the first days of May 1945. (Photos are ©2012 Steve Douglas).

Worth Thinking About - Elderly Drivers

Editor's Note: The below email was recently forwarded to my Inbox and I felt it necessary to pass this information along. "The Ontario Ministry of Transportation introduced discriminatory restrictions and special testing for older drivers in Ontario, under the false pretension that older drivers constitute a significantly higher risk in traffic.

In November of 2012, I conducted research, obtaining every valid statistic in Canada and a major Australian Study, that used Canadian statistics. These studies, including statistics from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, revealed that consistently, year after year, that older drivers have had fewer accidents than any other drive group, and as they age, have fewer still.

A charge was laid against the Ministry of Transportation, in November of 2012, under the Ontario Human Rights Act. After six months of intense correspondence, the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal dismissed my complaint, on the grounds that the Ministry, and all it's Agencies are exempt.

I continued my pursuit, by going directly to the Minister of Transportation. After hounding him for a number of weeks, received an email, admitting that the Ministry did not have the statistical justification to enact the discriminatory legislation against the elderly drivers, but proceeded anyway. I presume on preconceived views about the elderly. This does not only make this law illegal, but it violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, The Human Rights Act, The Criminal Code on Elder Abuse and the persons right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

If you are still feeling comfortable, consider what is coming. The Toronto Star recently featured an article called "Driving With Dementia, The New Impaired Driver". In this article, it states that 28% of drivers over 65 years of age and older, have dementia, and suggests that these people should be given a test, presently being used in Alberta, called the Simard MD Protocol. This test has no credibility with the Academics and Professional Organizations, who have come out, stating that they are surprised that a Government would use a test which is not scientific, unreliable, and sets the seniors up for failure. 20% fail, 20% cannot be determined. This test is paid for by the elderly at \$250.00 each time tested, and is paid to a private firm.

Rumour has it, that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation will be introducing the Simard test in April of 2014. Please give this as much distribution as possible, in order to make the people of Ontario aware of what their Government is doing. The only way to exercise our rights is to seek remedy through the Courts, however, only wealthy citizens can afford their rights. Perhaps, with wide distribution, we may find some legal firm, willing to do something as a public service."

Yours Concerned,

Ed. Rockburne, RCMP, Retired.



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Edward V. Rickenbacker

(pt. 6 - cont'd from previous issue)

1943 Mission to the USSR

Still determined to support the US war effort, Rickenbacker suggested a fact-finding mission in the Soviet Union to provide the Soviets with needed technical assistance for their American aircraft. Rickenbacker approached Soviet diplomats and avoided requesting help from President Franklin Roosevelt, due to their prior disagreements. With the help of the Secretary of War and by trading favours with the Soviet ambassador, Rickenbacker secured unlikely permission to travel to the Soviet Union. The War Department provided everything Rickenbacker needed, including a highly unusual letter stating that the bearer was authorized to "visit ... any ... areas he may deem necessary for such purposes as he will explain to you in person," signed by the Secretary of War.

Rickenbacker's trip took him over South America, where he made observations about the conditions there. He stopped in Africa, China and India, at each stop reviewing American operations and

making notes to report to authorities. In Iran, Rickenbacker offered to bring along an American officer, whose unapproved request to travel to the Soviet Union delayed Rickenbacker's party for a few days.

In the Soviet Union, Rickenbacker observed war-time conditions, the extraordinary dedication and patriotism by the populace and the ruthless denial of food to those deemed unproductive to the war effort. He befriended many Soviet officials and shared his knowledge of the aircraft they had received from the United States. He was lavishly entertained and recalled attempts by KGB agents and officials to get him intoxicated enough to disclose sensitive information.

Rickenbacker's mission was successful. He discovered that a commander of Moscow's defence had stayed at Rickenbacker's home in 1937 and personal connections like this, and the respect the Soviet military personnel had for him, greatly aided his information-gathering. He learned about Soviet defence strategies and capabilities. In the distraction resulting from the outbreak of the Battle of

Kursk, he saw a map of the front line showing the locations of all major Soviet military units, which he did his best to memorize. He also persuaded his hosts to give him an unprecedented tour of the Shturmovik aircraft factory. But it was comments made by Rickenbacker during his trip that alerted the Soviets to the existence of the secret B-29 Superfortress program. Rickenbacker observed some traces of capitalism (for example, people were allowed to grow food and sell their surplus) and predicted that the Soviet Union would eventually become a capitalist nation.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill interviewed Rickenbacker about his mission. In the US, Rickenbacker's information resulted in some diplomatic and military action, but President Roosevelt did not meet with Rickenbacker.

Later Life

Although his main home was in New York City for many years, Rickenbacker owned a winter home in Coconut Grove, Florida, near the Eastern Air Lines' major maintenance



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cont'd from pg. 10

and administrative headquarters at the Miami International Airport. For a time, Eastern was the most profitable airline in the post-war era. During the late 1950s though, Eastern Air Line's fortunes declined and Rickenbacker was forced out of his position as CEO on October 1, 1959. Rickenbacker also resigned as the Chairman of the Board on December 31, 1963, at the age of seventy-three. After that, Capt. and Mrs. Rickenbacker traveled extensively for a number of years.

In the 1960s, Rickenbacker became a well-known speaker. He shared his vision for the future of technology and commerce, exhorted Americans to respect the enemy, the Soviet Union during the Cold War, but still uphold American values. Rickenbacker endorsed many conservative ideas. In 1967, when Rickenbacker published his autobiography, a special edition was printed for the employees of Eastern Air

Lines and it contained the following dedication:

"To the Men and Women of Eastern Air Lines – It is with pleasure and pride that I inscribe to you this copy of my life story from the time I was three years of age. You will find therein the source of those principles I used to preach; and if they can help you avoid even a few of the keen disappointments and bitter heartaches that I have lived through, then I will feel well repaid for my efforts. From these principles and our labours together emerged one of our country's great airlines and further developed our great heritage of pioneering. In the years ahead, young, strong hands will carry them into a future which you and I, with all our dreams, can scarcely visualize---that "Parade of Youth" which always was and always will be

*the true spirit of Eastern Air Lines.
-Capt Eddie Rickenbacker"*

Captain Rickenbacker suffered from a stroke while he was in Switzerland seeking special medical treatment for Mrs. Rickenbacker and he then contracted pneumonia. Rickenbacker died on July 23, 1973 in Zürich, Switzerland. A memorial service was held at the Key Biscayne Presbyterian Church with the eulogy given by Lt. General Jimmy Doolittle and then his body was interred in Columbus, Ohio, at the Green Lawn Cemetery.

In 1977, at the age of ninety-two, Adelaide Rickenbacker was completely blind, suffering from failing health and still grieving severely from the loss of her husband. She committed suicide by gunshot at their home on Key Biscayne, Florida.

final installment in next edition

LAST POST

HAMMOND, Denis

Regretfully passed away on Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at age 91. Although he was not a recent member of the Wing, he was a close friend of many long time members, especially those who had close connections with the Air Cadet League of Canada. We have lost an Icon, and We Will Remember!

STEPHENS, Jack

Jack passed away peacefully at Parkwood Hospital on Monday, December 9, 2013 in his 91st year. Jack will always be the cherished husband of Doris, his wife of 60 years. He was a wonderful and loving father to 3 children and many grandchildren. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Jack's family.

GILLEN, Raymond (Ray)



Peacefully passed away at Parkwood Hospital on Saturday, November 2, 2013 in his 86th year. Beloved husband of Kathy and friend to many members of the Wing. You will be missed, Ray.

SCHAEF, Harry M.



Peacefully at Parkwood Hospital on Sunday, December 22, 2013, Harry M. SchaeF of London in his 96th year. Beloved husband of Berneice for 69 years. A long time member of the Wing. Our sincerest condolences go out to the SchaeF family.



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"The secret to staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age."

Lucille Ball

I Love My Job

If you don't laugh out loud after you read this you are in a coma! This is even funnier when you realize it's real! Next time you have a bad day at work think of this guy. Bob is a commercial saturation diver in Louisiana. He performs underwater repairs on offshore drilling rigs. Below is an e-mail he sent to his sister. She then sent it to a radio station in Indiana, who was sponsoring a worst job experience contest. Needless to say, he won.

His letter... Hi Sue, It's just another note from your bottom-dwelling brother. Last week I had a bad day at the office. Before I can tell you what happened to me, I first must bore you with a few details of my job. As you know, my office lies at the bottom of the sea. I wear a suit to the office. It's a wet suit. This time of year the water is quite cool. What we do to keep warm is this... We have a diesel powered industrial water heater. This \$20,000 piece of equipment sucks the water out of the sea. It heats it to a delightful temperature and then pumps it down to the diver through a garden hose, which is taped to the air hose. Now this sounds like a darn good plan, and I've used it several times with no complaints. What I do, when I get to the bottom and start working, is take the hose and stuff it down the back of my wet suit. This floods my whole suit with warm water. It's like working in a Jacuzzi.

Everything was going well until all

of a sudden, my butt started to itch. Naturally, I scratched it but that only made things worse. Within a few seconds, my bottom started to burn. I pulled the hose out from my back, but the damage was done. In agony I realized what had happened. The hot water machine had sucked up a jellyfish and pumped it into my suit. Now, since I don't have any hair on my back, the jellyfish couldn't stick to it, however, my bum hair was not as fortunate. When I scratched what I thought was an itch, I was actually grinding the jellyfish into my bum.

I informed the dive supervisor of my dilemma over the communicator. His instructions were unclear due to the fact that he, along with five other divers, was laughing hysterically. Needless to say, I aborted the dive. I was instructed to make three agonizing in-water decompression stops totaling thirty-five minutes before I could reach the surface to begin my chamber dry decompression.

When I arrived at the surface, I was wearing nothing but my brass helmet. As I climbed out of the water, the medic, with tears of laughter running down his face, handed me a tube of cream and told me to rub it on my butt as soon as I got in the chamber. The cream put the fire out, but I couldn't poop for two days because that area was swollen shut. The next time you're having a bad day at work, think about

how much worse it would be if you had a jellyfish up your bum.

Now repeat to yourself, 'I love my job, I love my job, I love my job.' Whenever you have a bad day, ask yourself, 'is this a jellyfish bad day?' May you NEVER have a jellyfish bad day!!!!



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KARAOKE NIGHT



Sat., February 22nd
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More info coming soon
 at www.427wing.com
 & on the bulletin board
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St. Patty's Dance

Sat. March 15th

Details coming soon

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427 WING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 LVRC
5	6	7 RAA	8 Cards BCC	9 WT	10 Lunch W/MIL WEC	11
12	13	14 MAC	15 Cards	16	17 Lunch	18
19	20	21	22 Cards	23	24 Lunch GM	25
26	27	28 FO	29 Cards	30	31 Lunch WD	

FEBRUARY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 RAA	5 Cards	6 WT	7 Lunch	8
9	10	11 MAC	12 Cards BCC	13	14 Lunch WEC	15 VAL
16	17	18	19 Cards	20 COM	21 Lunch	22 CHI KAR
23	24	25 FO	26 Cards	27	28 Lunch GM, WD	

LEGEND

<p>BCC British Car Club meeting at 7:30 pm</p> <p>CHI 427 Wing Annual Chili Cook-off, info on pg. 13</p> <p>COM Retired Commissionaires, 9am – 12pm</p> <p>FO Fanshawe Optimist's Club meeting at 7:30 pm</p> <p>GM General Meeting at 1pm</p> <p>KAR Karaoke Night starts at 7pm, see advert on pg. 13</p> <p>LVRC London Vintage Radio Club meeting at 7:30 p.m</p> <p>MAC Model Aircraft Club meeting at 7:30 pm</p>	<p>MIL Milestone, the band, playing at lunch, info on pg. 13</p> <p>RAA Recreational Aircraft Association meeting at 7:30 pm</p> <p>VAL Valentine's Dance, see advert on pg. 13</p> <p>WD The Women's Division join us every last Friday of the month for lunch</p> <p>WEC Executive Council Meeting at 9:30am</p> <p>WT Wood Turners meeting at 7:30pm</p>
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