

THE LONDON LINK



427 (LONDON) WING — ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
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Camp Blackdown 2015

AT CAMP BORDEN, ON AUGUST 13TH, 2015 almost 3,000 Air, Army and Sea Cadets held final graduation for two, three and six week courses at summer's camp. I attended as a Wing member, and as a parent. A large crowd of parents were on hand to watch the cadets graduate on a very hot August afternoon. Below are pictures taken during the event. Congratulations to all!



-Brent Elgie

Wellness/Parkwood Liaison

Message from the President

WELCOME BACK FROM WHAT WE HOPE WAS AN ENJOYABLE SUMMER. So, all rested and with gorgeous tans we look ahead to an exciting and venturous year. We are working with the Carpenters Union on upgrading the former Navy washroom to wheel chair accessibility. You have seen the DTZ advertising promoting the leasing of the building next door. A long lease would be most beneficial to the Wing. Get the word out to all you friends and acquaintances that this may be the a great opportunity for them.

The days of air shows keeps dwindling but in any case we just love air shows and keep showing up. The Recent Brantford Rotary Charity Air Show produced the best regalia sales over the last few years.

Our Battle of Britain promises to be a great success and we are proud to have RCAF Honorary Colonel Lorenna McKennitt as a special Guest of Honour. This is a Battle of Britain event we hope you all will be able to attend.

Later this month we have the Doors Open London on September 26 & 27. With the space next door we will display expanded Spirit of Flight Aviation Museum and Wing exhibits. Coming soon, we will be making announcements on three fundraising opportunities for the Wing.

The Ontario Group Annual Convention for London in May of 2016 will be looking for volunteers very soon. Members who may consider assisting with the convention, please let us know.



-Rene McKinnon
President

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (RCAFA) MISSION STATEMENT

The RCAFA 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 2015 – JUNE 30TH 2016

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			
Secretary	Chuck Hardy, CD	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Peggy Clark	226-448-5248	peggyclark@live.ca

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Vacant Positions – Food Services, Bar Officer, Entertainment, Sports and Sgt-at-Arms – 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	Don Martin	519-289-5880	donmartin013@gmail.com
Wellness/Parkwood Liaison	Brent Elgie/Sam Newman Hilda Smeltzer	519-539-5956	lgair@execulink.com
Fundraising	Terry Rushton	519-472-2473	trushton@ody.ca
Regalia	Terry Rushton	519-472-2473	trushton@ody.ca
Euchre Club	Des Dessert, CD	519-455-0430	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Museum	Howard Johnston	519-657-2499	hjohnston@rogers.com
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 Pablo Calcaterra	519-673-1515 519-690-0601	691s@rogers.com pablo.calcaterra@outlook.com
Tours	Armin Grunwald, COM, MSM	519-474-2194	wing427tours@rogers.com

CLUB SERVICES

Bar Officer			
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			

Over 1000sqft 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.



Per Ardua

IMAGINE YOU ARE A YOUNG MAN, 24 years old, working in the accounting department of the Ford Motor Company at their office on Danforth Avenue in Toronto. You like accounting, are good at your job, live at home with your parents and have many friends. It is the summer of 1941 and your future looks bright.

The war had begun in Europe two years ago. After a seeming lull from September 1939 to April 1940, later referred to as “the phony war,” things began to pick up as war spread across Europe. While the Canadian government was still calling for volunteers to join the services, it was also conscripting single men into the army. You know it is just a matter of time, so you finally decide to enlist in the air force, try for air crew and have a “little adventure.”

Your “little adventure” takes you from Toronto to some unusual places: Valcartier, St. Hubert, and Victoriaville, all in Quebec; then to Stanley, Nova Scotia, Moncton, New Brunswick, and Summerside, P.E.I. You embark from Halifax on the Queen Mary, dodge submarines and arrive at Greenock on the west coast of Scotland; then on to Bournemouth and later to Dalcross, which is near Inverness. Later you leave Scotland to travel to Abingdon near Lands End, England. While on a training flight over the Bay of Biscay you get the opportunity to attack a Nazi submarine. Next you travel to Limavady, Ireland, before you go to Tunberry, Scotland, to practice torpedo drops at night from a height of fifty feet. Training completed, your next move is a quick stop at Rabat on the west coast of Africa before going on to Tripoli in Libya and then Cairo in Egypt. As the war progresses you are moved north to Benghazi in North Africa and later to Foggia, southern Italy. From Foggia you spend many interesting evening hours over Germany, Austria, Northern Italy, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Bulgaria, France and Greece. Finally, in mid-summer 1945, wearing your air force uniform with the rank of Squadron Leader on the sleeves and the Distinguished Flying Cross on the chest, you take the train from Halifax to Toronto’s Union Station, where your mother and father are waiting for you.

Your name is Walt Irwin. You were a member of the 427 (London) Wing for several years. In 1998 you squeezed your war memories into a little booklet of about 30 pages and donated a copy to the Wing. Members can find it in the magazine rack at the south entrance. You would like the members to read your booklet, even take it home to read it, and then return it so others can share in your “little adventure.”

*-Reg Lowrie
1st Vice President*

Suggestion Box

YOUR IDEAS AND HELP NEEDED! The 427 (London) Wing Executive has been checking the suggestion box which is located on the table by the entrance door, next to the Ink Cartridge Recycling collection box. There have been many wonderful suggestions but none have come from the box. Sometimes it is difficult to remember during lunch or events what members have suggested so please put your ideas in writing for us to review and bring forward to meetings. Drop them, in writing, in the locked Suggestion Box and the Wing Executive Council (WEC) will review your written suggestions at its meetings.

Do you have any new Fundraising ideas?

Do you have any recommendations or suggestions?

Are you happy with the building, services, events, times, lunches, meetings etc?

We look forward to hearing from you!



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Euchre News

EUCHRE RECONVENES on Wednesday, September 9th. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend weekly. There has been a time change, games will now commence at 1:15pm instead of 1:30pm. Buy-in is still only \$1 and there are weekly prizes. Hope to see you there!



Sarnia Golf Tourney

OVER THE SUMMER, our very own members, Fred Pettit and Diana Cuthbert, entered the Sarnia Wing's Better Ball Tournament and tied for a first place finish. A repeat from last year! Congrats Fred and Diana!



Ride Needed!

An associate member who lives at Springbank and Wonderland needs a ride to and from the Friday luncheons at the 427 (London) Wing. Willing to pay \$18 - \$20 towards gas. I can be reached at 519-453-3179.

-Lynn Bates

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Treasurer's Report

WELL, WE HAVE COME TO ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR END, effective June 30, 2015. I am making some slight adjustments to the monthly reports, primarily to make it easier to accurately maintain should the government ever decide to have a look at our books.

The result of last year's budget and the presentation of this year's budget will be presented at the next board meeting. Once approved, I will attach it to the monthly report and post it on the bulletin board.

I have requested that all money; cash, cheques, debit and credit, go directly through Flo and the cash register. Over time, I will learn the cash register so that I can take over should Flo not be available.

All requests for cheques must be accompanied by receipts, invoices or quotes. Emails without sufficient back-up will no longer be recognized. I am not trying to be difficult, but this is a requirement of the government.

With the Navy vacating the west-side of the building, we will be struggling to make ends meet. We hope it gets rented out quickly on a permanent basis. In the meantime, it is available for special events - please let your friends and family know.

It was great to see all of those who renewed their membership. I am hoping that more members will volunteer to help on committees and actively participate in Wing events. Your contribution is necessary in order to maintain our Wing.

If you have any questions or comments, my door is always open. I attend most Friday luncheons or you can email me at peggyclark@live.ca.

*-Peggy Clark
Treasurer*

Notes from the Secretary

WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE DISPLAY CABINETS for the Spirit of Flight Aviation Museum (SOFAM) the continuing book sale was moved to the common area near the stairs leading to the western half of the Wing building. We hope that the former Navy side can be leased soon. Once the walls are patched and painted, the west side will be available for short term rental for meetings, anniversaries and other events. Already, the Wing is using it for some meetings.

We are pleased that Howard Johnston has stepped up to the plate as the Chairperson for SOFAM. He sees the museum as a "Project of the Wing." With Howard and David Smith on the committee, a new spirit of cooperation and mutual support is developing. Stay tuned for announcements from Howard and his committee soon.

Many changes are taking place at 427 (London) Wing. A number of fundraising opportunities are being pursued. President Rene welcomes all ideas and thoughts to help make the Wing and Museum prosper as we go forward.

You will see some changes to the financial reports on the notice board as Peggy Clark brings new vitality to her job as Treasurer. She spends a lot of time on the books and takes a lot of pride in presenting a clearer picture of the Wing finances that all members can easily understand.

Finally, please come to the Wing when you can and help spread the word that we welcome visitors from London and region to our friendly club. Hope you all had a wonderful summer!

*-Chuck Hardy
Secretary*



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Association Tie

IN APRIL 1965, THE RCAF ASSOCIATION rolled out its new tie. Dark blue in colour, with a pattern of RCAF Association heraldic crests interspersed on the tie. The item seems to have been very popular.

This year is the 50th anniversary of that tie. Is there anyone out there who might (still) own one, and can share it with us? If there is, they qualify for a \$100 shopping spree in the kitshop, for surrendering the tie to us.

We are interested in knowing if there might be a market for a resurrection of this unique tie, but with our new association crest on it. Please let us know and please spread the word about our \$100 offer to the first person able to send us their original RCAF Association tie.

-Dean C. Black

Lieutenant - Colonel (Ret)

Executive Director/CSO - RCAF Association

222 Somerset St. West, Suite 405

Ottawa, ON K2P 2G3

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Hot Lunches

HOT LUNCHES ARE SERVED EVERY FRIDAY from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and include soup, salad, entree, dessert, tea and coffee. Cost is \$8/person. You may have noticed we've added signage to Crumlin Rd. to entice new visitors for lunch. We've had some success and have seen some new faces pop by to join us!

As always, Flo and the Happy Gang send out a resounding 'Thank You' for the continued donations that help them continue to serve delicious food, week-after-week!

Western Fair Offer

THE WESTERN FAIR IS OFFERING DISCOUNTED TICKETS to all London International Airport employees and tenants. The group rate saves you up to 47% on your gate admissions fees to this year's Western Fair (September 11 - 20). The offer is valid for purchase until September 7 at 11:59pm. Please contact one of the Wing Executive Members for more information.



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Spooner Memorial Stones

TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO READ OUR LONDON LINK, which is this bulletin you are focusing on in front of you...

I draw to your attention the fact that we have an on-going project of selling Legacy Stones to our War Veterans of all Services; Wing Members (Regular or Associate); ex-Cadets or particular Cadet Organizations; family and/or friends; as well as visitors who might have a general interest in or in connection to aviation. Of course, these Legacy Stones will be laid and blessed in our Spooner Memorial walkway at the Wing Quarters here on the London Airport property, 255 Crumlin Rd.

One only has to walk up and down our Memorial Walkway to see the variation of tributes on our stones to realize that there are many reasons for deciding upon purchasing a Memorial Stone and supporting our 427 (London) Wing, RCAF Association organization. If you haven't donated to the Wing before in this fashion, perhaps you could consider it, so that we can send in our last order for this year to our engraver, this September.

There are order forms up on the Main Bulletin Board of our clubhouse, but email submissions are easily accepted. Essentially, the cost for one name, or one line is \$100. Two lines, the basic price is \$125 and 3 or more, well we usually negotiate from \$150 depending on what all is engraved on the stone. Should you wish to have "In Memory of" or "KIA" (Killed in Action) as an opening line, there is no charge. We are presently utilizing red coloured patio stones and engraving will be sandblasted.

The Spooner Committee reserves the right to locate the stones in the order they are received. Please make your cheques payable to '427 (London) Wing, RCAF (Assoc)' and on the bottom left-hand corner, mark 'Spooner Memorial'.

Bring your orders to the Wing or mail:

Sam Newman, Spooner Memorial Funds
989 Apache Rd.
London, ON N5V 2V7

My phone number is 519-452-1886. If I can answer any of your questions or assist you with ideas on what you might consider being engraved on your requested stone.

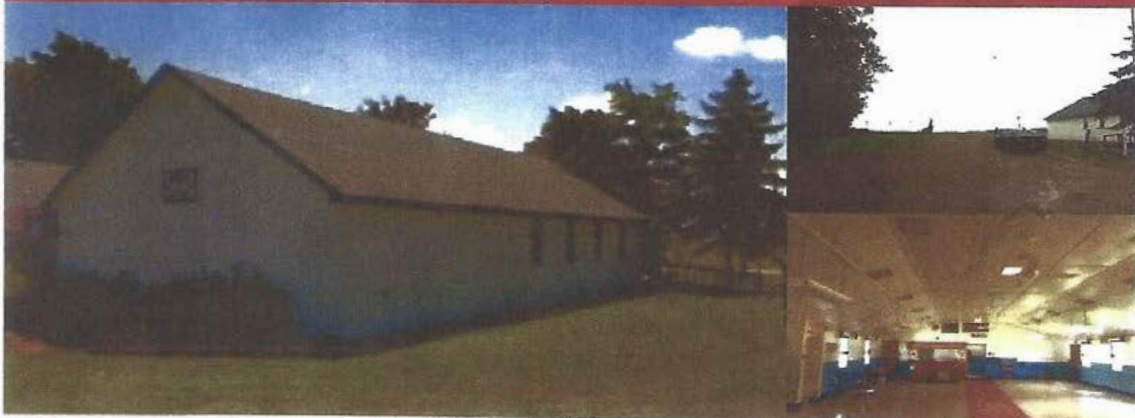
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To all members.

The departure of the Navy Association from their long time home next door has presented to all of us at the Wing an exciting opportunity. We are looking for a long term rental. Membership support in advertising and promoting this property will add significant value as we continue to maintain our historic property long into the future.

There is a broad range of allowable uses that may be considered. If you find any one who has an interest please contact our Sales Representative and he will be able to assist you.

A web site address: www.icx.ca/propertydetails.aspx?propertyid=15995145&pidkey=-1681303076

During the term of our lease agreement we are making this property available to interested parties for dances, weddings, meetings, conventions, seminars, show rooms etc. Whatever would fit the bill for a morning, afternoon or evening event. A short term rental will also be considered. Contact Flo for rental information. The Wing is on the march. Let us see what we will be able to create.

Rene

Canada, Eh!

*Buffalo News Article about Canadians
Written by Gerry Boley*

MISCONCEPTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES ABOUT CANADA are quite common. They include: there is always snow in Canada; Canadians are boring, socialists and pacifists; their border is porous and allowed the Sept. 11 terrorists through; or, as the U.S. Ottawa embassy staff suggested to Washington, the country suffers from an inferiority complex. With Canada Day and America's Independence Day just past, this is a great time to clarify some of these misconceptions and better appreciate a neighbour that the United States at times takes for granted.

With the exception of the occasional glacier, skiing in Canada in the summer just isn't happening. Frigid northern winters, however, have shaped the tough, fun-loving Canadian character. When it is 30-below, the Canucks get their sticks, shovel off the local pond and have a game of shinny hockey.

The harsh winters have also shaped Canadians' sense of humour. Canada has some of the world's greatest comedians, from early Wayne and Shuster, to Rich Little, Jim Carrey, Russel Peters, Seth Rogan, Mike Myers, Leslie Nielsen, John Candy, Martin Short, Eugene Levy and "Saturday Night Live" creator and movie producer Lorne Michaels.

The suggestion that Canadians are soft on terrorism is a myth. Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau backed down the Front de Liberation du Quebec terrorists during the 1970s. And the 9/11 Commission reported that terrorists arrived in the United States from outside North America with documents issued to them by the U.S. government. Likewise, the Canadians in Gander countered despicable terrorist acts with love and caring to their U.S. neighbours when planes were diverted there.

Americans glorify war with movies, but it is the Canadians who are often

the real "Rambo." The Canadians are anything but pacifists and their history is certainly not dull. Be it on the ice or battlefield, this warrior nation has never lost a war that it fought in – War of 1812 (versus the United States), World War I, World War II, Korea and now Afghanistan. During the '72 Summit Series, Soviet goalie Vladislav Tretiak said, "The Canadians have great skills and fight to the very end."

In hunting the Taliban in Afghanistan, U.S. Commander and Navy SEAL Capt. Robert Harward stated that the Canadian Joint Task Force 2 team was "his first choice for any direct-action mission."

Contrary to Thomas Jefferson's 1812 comment that, "The acquisition of Canada will be a mere matter of marching," the wily Native American leader Tecumseh and Maj. Gen. Isaac Brock captured Brig. Gen. William Hull's Fort Detroit without firing a shot. The Americans never took Quebec and when they burned the Canadian Parliament Buildings at York, the White House was torched in retaliation.

Canada consolidated its status as a warrior nation during World War I battles at Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele, Somme and the Second Battle of Ypres, where soldiers were gassed twice by the Germans but refused to break the line. By the end of the war, the Canadians were the Allies' shock troops.

In the air, four of the top seven World War I aces were Canadians. Crack shots, the names William "Billy" Bishop, Raymond Collishaw, Donald MacLaren and William Barker, with 72, 60, 54 and 53 victories, respectively, were legendary. These were the original Crazy Canucks, who regularly dropped leaflets over enemy airfields advising German pilots that they were coming over at such and such a time, and to come on up. Bishop and Barker won the Victoria Cross, the highest award for gallantry.

The pilot who is credited with shooting down the Red Baron, Manfred von

Richthofen, with a little help from the Australian down under, was not Snoopy but Roy Brown from Carleton Place, Ont.

During World War II, Winnipeg native and air ace Sir William Stephenson, the "Quiet Canadian," ran the undercover British Security Coordination under the code name Intrepid from Rockefeller Center in New York, as a liaison between Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. Stephenson invented the machine that transferred photos over the wire for the Daily Mail newspaper in 1922. Americans were not aware that the BSC was there or that it was stocked with Canadians secretly working to preserve North American freedom from the Nazis.

Also little known is that Intrepid trained Ian Fleming, author of the James Bond series, at Camp X, the secret spy school near Whitby, Ont. Five future directors of the CIA also received special training there. It is suggested that Fleming's reference to Bond's 007 license to kill status, his gadgetry and the "shaken not stirred" martinis, rumoured to be the strongest in North America, came from Stephenson.

When Wild Bill Donovan, head of the U.S. OSS, forerunner of the CIA, presented Intrepid with the Presidential Medal of Merit in 1946, he said, "William Stephenson taught us everything we knew about espionage."

American military writer Max Boot wrote recently in Commentary magazine that Canada is a country that most Americans consider a "dull but slavishly friendly neighbour, sort of like a great St. Bernard." Boot needs to come to Canada, have a Molson Canadian and chat about Canadian history. He owes his freedom to Canucks such as Stephenson and the courageous soldiers and fliers of the world wars who held off the Germans while America struggled with isolationism.

(cont'd on pg. 10)

(cont'd from pg. 9)

Canadian inventions such as the oxygen mask and anti-gravity suit, the forerunner of the astronaut suit, allowed U.S. and other Allied fighter pilots to fly higher, turn tighter and not black out with the resulting G-force. The 32 Canadians from the Avro Arrow team helped build the American space program and were, according to NASA, brilliant to a man. The most brilliant, Jim Chamberlin, chief designer of the Jetliner and Arrow, was responsible for the design and implementation of the Gemini and Apollo space programs.

Although Canadians have had a free, workable medical system for 50 years, they are not socialists and there are not long lineups, as some politicians opposed to Obama care suggest. The writer of this article has had a ruptured appendix, hip replacement, pinned shoulder, blood clot, twist fracture of the fibula and broken foot, and in every case, there was zero cost to me. Canadians have and value a medical system for all Canadians that is free with minimal waits. That is not socialism; that is caring about fellow Canadians.

Americans may be surprised by the Canadian content in their life. Superman – “truth, justice and the American way” – was co-created by Canadian Joe Shuster, the Daily Planet is based on a Toronto newspaper, and the 1978 film’s Lois Lane, Margot Kidder, and Superman’s father, Glenn Ford, were both Canadians. The captain of the starship Enterprise was Montreal-

born William Shatner. Torontonian Raymond Massey played Abraham Lincoln in 1956. And as American as apple pie? Ah, no. The McIntosh apple was developed in Dundela, Ont., in 1811 by John McIntosh.

Many of the sports that Americans excel at are Canadian in origin. James Naismith from Almonte, Ont., invented basketball. The tackling and ball carrying in football were introduced by the Canucks in games between Harvard and McGill in the 1870s. Five-pin bowling is also a Canadian game. Lacrosse is officially Canada’s national sport, and hockey – well, Canadians are hockey. And Jackie Robinson called Montreal “the city that enabled me to go to the major leagues.”

To make everyone’s life easier, Canadians invented Pabulum, the electric oven, the telephone, Marquis wheat, standard time, the rotary snowplow, the snowmobile, Plexiglas, oven cleaner, the jolly jumper, the pacemaker, the alkaline battery, the caulking gun, the gas mask, the goalie mask and many more.

Canadian inferiority complex? That is another myth. Never pick a fight with a quiet kid in the schoolyard. Never mistake quiet confidence for weakness. Many a bully has learned that the hard way. Canadians are self-effacing and do not brag. That does not mean we do not know who we are. We are caring but tough, fun-loving but polite and creative, and we share with each other and the world. Our history is exciting but we don’t toot our horn. The world

does that for us. This is the third year in a row that Canada has been voted the most respected country in the world by the Reputation Institute global survey.

Perhaps once a year around our collective birthdays, Americans can raise a toast to their friendly, confident neighbour in the Great White North.

Written by Gerry Boley, a high school teacher, university lecturer and writer living in St. Catharines, ON



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Grounded at Petawawa

DURING THE FIRST DECADE OF THE 1900's, Canada stood on the threshold of being a world class aviation leader. But it lacked the political will and the hour of bright promise passed like an aviation Camelot.

Since Orville Wright lifted off a track at Kitty Hawk in 1903, there was great competition to fly a measured kilometre. A prize of \$10,000 was put up in France, but it went unclaimed until 1908 because the Wrights did not read Paris newspapers and also had no intention of exposing their secrets to foreigners. It wasn't until 1908 that Henri Farman flew the measured circuit in one minute and 28 seconds. Sustained powered flight had arrived in Europe.

What isn't widely recognized is how far advanced two Canadians were at the time. Six months before the Farman flight, Casey Baldwin and John McCurdy, recent engineering graduates from UofT, had come to Baddeck where Alexander Graham Bell had a summer home. They became part of a brainstorming group which Bell had assembled. Glenn Curtiss, who produced engines in Hammondsport, New York and Lt. Thomas Selfridge rounded out the think tank which by September became the Aerial Experiment Association. Early in 1908 the AEA set up shop in Hammondsport and in March of that year Casey Baldwin flew the Red Wing from Lake Keuka. Ever the showman, Curtiss billed it as the first public flight of a heavier than air machine in America.

May

The White Wing flew in May of that year and the AEA suddenly seemed to be threatening Wright dominance. It was also challenged by the French as Bleriot, the Farmans and the Voisins continued to

improve their designs. Friction developed between the Wrights and the AEA over patents, a controversy which would occupy lawyers for a decade. On February 28, 1908, James McCurdy flew the Silver Dart off the ice at Baddeck. It was the fourth machine built by the AEA whose days were now numbered because Curtiss was contracting on his own.

Bleriot flew the English channel in 1909 and France went on an aviation binge. England took a more prosaic view of things. A.V. Roe was arrested because tramps complained that the noise of engines running up in his workshop kept them awake at night. The first official powered flight in England came on October 16, 1908. Samuel Cody, an American working on contract, made a brief flight in an undistinguished machine which lacked the sophistication of the Red Wing in which Baldwin had flown seven months earlier. Yet the Canadian government looked to England for guidance in aviation.

The AEA broke up in 1909 and McCurdy and Baldwin set up an aircraft plant at Baddeck. Bell contributed the Silver Dart and the new company produced three "aerodromes." The Canadians had the engineering and flying skills to attract international attention and Alexander Graham Bell pleaded for support.

Canada was on the brink on an aviation industry. The Master General of Ordnance recommended to the militia council that an aviation policy be established. Council agreed to provide all help short of money. Col. R.W. Rutherford and Maj. G.S. Maunsell were strong proponents of aviation and demonstration flights were scheduled for Petawawa in August 1909. The Canadian Government incurred its largest aviation expense on this occasion when a shed was built to house the Silver Dart. Lumber was on hand at the base

but laths and tar paper cost the people of Canada \$5.

The demonstration was bizarre, hinting at what was to come. Even before the deputy minister of Militia and Defence told the Ottawa Journal: "We must wait a great many years yet and experiment much more before the true use of these machines can be demonstrated."

At Rheims that month, Glenn Curtiss won a major international race clocking an average speed of 46.5mph. At Petawawa, the Silver Dart was clocked at 50mph but it was wrecked when the nose wheel struck a knoll while landing on an ill-prepared sand dune. A second machine, the Baddeck 1, was selected for the demonstration flight. It had never been flown before and McCurdy's flight in the Baddeck was shortened when a switch failed. Most the official party headed for Ottawa. McCurdy repaired the switch and took off again the next day. This time he crashed, suffering minor injuries. In fairness to the politicians, who were rapidly straddling the fence, the demonstration was not convincing.

Maunsell logged 50 successful flights in the Baddeck 2 that fall and continued to press for an aviation policy. The militia council favoured retaining the services of the airmen on a \$10,000 grant basis. Cabinet rejected proposal. Frederick Borden, minister for the militia and defence, explained Canada's air policy: "The government is largely guided but the action of the War office in England in this respect." The statement came two months after Cody's brief hop in England while the Baddeck had been successfully flown all fall. Canada looked for leadership to a source with less experience than the two Canadians. In 1910 McCurdy and Baldwin closed the plant at Baddeck and Canada lost aviation's bright promise.

-end



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BIRTHDAY BRATS



SEPTEMBER

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Rene McKINNON • Mitch MITCHELL • David O'BRIEN
Albert PAGEOT • Patrick RULE • Walter SCHUSSLER
Lorne SPICER • Claude VIGEANT • Kenneth WATSON
John WEBSTER

OCTOBER

Angus CAMERON • Tanya DEAVILLE
Joseph DESSERT • Flo DOUGLAS
Armin GRUNWALD • Bette HEXTER
Glen KNUPP • Don MARTIN • Ernest POLLOCK
Ernie REGAN • Thomas TABOROWSKI

“We have to be able to grow up. Our wrinkles are our medals of the passage of life. They are what we have been through and who we want to be.”

-Lauren Hutton

A Little Poem

Another year has passed
And we're all a little older.
Last summer felt hotter
And winter seems colder.

There was a time not long ago
When life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand
About 'Living in the Past'.

We used to go to weddings,
Football games and lunches.
Now we go to funeral homes
And after-funeral brunches.

We used to have hangover,
From parties that were gay.
Now we suffer body aches
And wile the night away.

We used to go out dining,
And couldn't get our fill.
Now we ask for doggie bags,
Come home and take a pill.

We used to often travel,
To places near and far.
Now we get sore asses
From riding in the car.

We used to go to night clubs
And drink a little booze.
Now we stay home at night
And watch the evening news.

That my friend is how life is,
And now my tale is told.
So, enjoy each day and live it up...
Before you're too damned old!



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427 (London) Wing
Royal Canadian Air Force Association

The Battle of Britain Dinner **September 12, 2015**

Guest of Honour: Loreena McKennitt,
Honorary Colonel RCAF

Location:
2155 Crumlin Rd.
London, ON

Special Presentation:
Barry Sandler: VP, Veterans Memorial Parkway
Wood Carving of Spitfire Pilot

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Living History – RAF/RCAF Pilots 1940s

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427 WING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2015

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

OCTOBER 2015

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

LEGEND

<p>BCC British Car Club, meeting at 7:30 pm</p> <p>BOB Battle of Britain, see advert. pg. 13</p> <p>DAN Halloween Dance, stay tuned for details!</p> <p>DOL Doors Open London, see advert. pg. 12</p> <p>FO Fanshawe Optimist's Club, meeting at 7:30pm</p> <p>GM General Meeting at 1pm</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>RAA Recreational Aircraft Association, meeting at 7:30pm</p> <p>TIGB Tiger Boys, Guelph</p> <p>WD The Women's Division join us the 4th Friday of each month for lunch</p> <p>WDC Warrior's Day Celebration, Western Fair</p> <p>WEC Wing Executive Council, 9:30am</p> <p>WT Wood Turners, meeting at 7:30pm</p>
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