

THE LONDON LINK



427 (LONDON) WING — ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
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*The Vimy Centennial “Living Memorials of Honour”
Pas de Calais-Picardie region of France
Honouring the memory of Canadian Veterans of the
Battle of Vimy Ridge*

*Paul R Gagnon
Director, Maples For Vimy
www.maplesforvimy.com*

*Paul and Barbara Ann Gagnon receive a French WW1 canteen from
Marc Desramaut- Vice President (Urban Community of Arras CUA) and
co-organizer of “Maples For Vimy” France operations.*

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	Howard Johnston	519-657-2499	hjohnston@rogers.com
Secretary	Chuck Hardy, CD	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Liyuan Shi	226-977-6128	UPCSLY@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Vacant Positions – Food Services, Bar Officer, Entertainment, Sports and Sgt-at-Arms – call Wing for info

Web-Site			
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			
Wellness/Parkwood Liaison	Brent Elgie/Sam Newman Hilda Smeltzer	519-539-5956	lgair@execulink.com
Fundraising			
Kit Shop	Terry Rushton	519-472-0268	trushton71@bell.net
Euchre Club	Diana Cuthert, CD	519-455-1126	tdcuthbert@rogers.com
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 519-318-9614	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	Cathy Wood		cathyrwood@gmail.com
CF Liaison Officer			

Over 1,000sq ft 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.

- **Call for rental rates • Catering IS an option! Call Flo at 519-455-0430 for more information.**



Message from the President

This is an exciting time at our Wing. In reading thru this Link you will come across a range of recent and current events and a look at what is ahead. Actually, if you check our 1st. VP Reg Lownie's Per Ardua it is an excellent article on our Wing's situation at this time.

Some may be surprised at the activity we are generating and as you will become aware of, moving to a stronger and more vibrant Wing.

Recently Paul Gagnon has returned from the Vimy trip of a life time for him and his group (front page news you might say). To continue: the Vimy Flight's - Cross Canada Tour - has "confirmed" that they will be here at 427 (London) Wing July 14 -16. We are planning on having these vintage WW1 aircraft on static display outside the Wing. A mini air show with an aircraft flying demonstration is planned. Other events are planned and we will be advising you as we are able to set up a daily schedule for this visit.

Those attending the past couple of Friday lunches will have noticed work has started on the wheel chair accessible washrooms & the Wood Turners have completed the construction of their equipment storage room. Any one visiting the West Wing will notice significant changes here. We have the London Amateur Radio Club making a significant contribution to the space they will set up for their Ham Radio facility. We are also making progress on creating space for the Secrets of Radar Museum. We are looking at finalizing this leasing arrangement with them this week. Regarding the Friday lunches our numbers have increased nicely and we expect that increase to continue. And, as inflation and rising costs are always with us we take this opportunity to advise you that with the first hot lunch Friday September 08 the meal will increase to \$10.00. This increase will help our Bar Steward, Flo, continue to source the best prices for our lunches and maintain the high standard she is always able to offer all our members and guests.

With all this in place we hope to be open for showing when the Canadian Aviation Historical Society's convention is here in June.

Regarding the OGAGM in May, please review the message from Sam Newman.

Along with the refurbishing the West Wing the LARC have submitted an article on their organization and "the icing on the cake" is that to date eight of their members have become members of our Wing.

As Reg mentioned, our North East area is becoming what we call a "destination" for London Tourism to actively promote.

Remember AirShow London is on the horizon. With good weather we are looking forward to a great.

Enjoy an excellent, safe summer.

*-Rene McKinnon
President*

Notes from the Secretary

Readers please see in this edition a summary by President Rene McKinnon of the projects underway or planned. As you can see, there is a lot happening at 427 Wing.

Grants will help pay for some of the largest projects, but fundraising by all members is needed and soon. A small fundraiser is the ongoing "indoor yard sale". Thanks to generous donations from a few Wing members, the total deposited is roughly \$1,000.00 this year.

You can help by:

- Buying items
- Bringing in small items that can be sold
- Renew your Wing membership now
- Encourage people you know to come to a Friday lunch
- Make a financial donation
- Attend and participate in General Meetings.



Yes, 2017 is turning into an exciting year for 427 (London) Wing. By the time you read this May-June edition, the renovated washroom to provide accessibility for all will be completed.

See you in next issue.

*- Chuck Hardy
Secretary*

Per Ardua

By now I expect most of us will have the winter tires off the car and it will be a lot easier to get out to the Wing for those great Friday lunches. If you haven't been out recently, you will find that some remarkable changes have been made and some even more remarkable events are on the calendar for this summer and fall.

First off, there are many new faces to meet and chat with as our membership is creeping up. The Wing is pleased to welcome members of the London Amateur Radio Club (LARC), a group that was founded in 1920 and recently named as the oldest amateur radio club in Canada. You can learn more about their history and what they have to offer by contacting them at P.O. Box 82, Station B, London ON N6A 4V3 or at: webmaster@larc.ca. The LARC also boasts more than 100 very active members in and around London, holds meetings from September through June on the second Thursday of the month, and offers a variety of guest speakers and informative discussions on amateur radio. And several have become Wing members which is also very much appreciated. The club is also engaged (as necessary) with these community organizations: London Health Unit, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), CANWARN, and Emergency Preparedness.

Another welcome addition comes as the Secrets of Radar Museum, (SORM) joins us. Following a long search for suitable quarters, SORM will be moving into the refurbished church building that is attached to the west wall of the Wing. We have a long history with SOFM. Back in 2002, two Wing members, Fred and Linda Bates, ably assisted by several other Wing members, collected some radar artifacts that became available following the closure of the Radar and Communications School at CFB Clinton. With no space available at the Wing, the group found empty buildings behind the Parkwood Veterans Hospital and the Secrets of Radar Museum was established. Now those buildings are closing and it is our good fortune to have SOFM under our "West Wing" roof. Check their website at <http://secretsofradar.com/>

Our "West Wing" building has been getting some much-needed attention and our thanks in no small measure goes out to the Thames Valley Woodturners Guild, a group of woodturners over 100 strong, who hold meetings at the Wing every second Thursday of the month from September to June. If you want to learn more about them and what they do, go to <http://www.thamesvalleywoodturners.com>. In addition to building a storage shed for their tools in the common area between the Wing and the West Wing building, several of the members have voluntarily taken on the very tough job of bringing the "West Wing" up to a much higher standard, at little cost to the Wing. In time, our Wing will also house one of the most comprehensive collections of aircraft information, both historical and technical, to complement our Wing mission, which is to "encompass all aspect of aviation, both civilian and military, which has taken place since the early part of the twentieth century."

Please be sure to welcome our oldest and newest friends and associates and thank them for joining us. This expansion of groups and members that are now sheltered under our roof is a key development for all of us. As we raise our profile in the community, and with the presence of the Jet Aircraft Museum just a short distance down Crumlin Road, the possibility of these five organizations to gather interest as a tourist attraction seems a natural evolution and a benefit for tourism for London and the province.

*-Reg Lownie
1st Vice President*



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93rd Anniversary Luncheon

Thanks go to Mr. Drew Brundritt,
Manager, Value Mart Store
Oxford St at Richmond St
London, Ontario
for contributing towards the
93rd anniversary luncheon.

MINI GARAGE SALES

We need some more good donations, and
we also need buyers. Spread the word!
Thanks to donors.

WANTED: VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER

We are looking for a volunteer experienced
fundraiser. Own transportation is needed
as there is no bus service north of London
Airport. Time requirement will vary.
Long term opportunity. Current resume
is required.



*This is not a lineup to sign up for
the RCAF - but Londoners out to
get their 1954 car licenses. Prior to
1973 license plates for vehicles were
purchased once a year and motorists
had until the end of January to get
them. The RCAF recruiting office was
in the same building on Richmond
Street, just south of King,*

*For lots of great aviation history and to
keep up to date
with 427 Wing, follow us
on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/427winglondon*

Wing Member Mel Hymers receives Quilt of Valour



*Quilts of Valour Canada was founded in 2006 by Lezley Zwaal to acknowledge the
significant contribution made by injured Canadian Armed Forces members and
veterans. To date more than 8000 specially designed quilts have been presented to
injured CAF members and veterans.
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See you in cottage country! (Submitted by Sam Newman)

To all 427 (London) Wing Link recipients: You know me as the Wellness Committee Member who sends out Birthday Greetings along with news about our Association.

As you may or may not know, I am a Past President of the Ontario Group. I served a total of 14 years on the Group Executive. In those years of the late 90's and early 2000's, the Group had a massive membership, and we worked hard advocating for the Association, and helping to plan events for our members. There was monies in the Group Treasury in those days, to send our very active Regional Vice Chairs around to help out with aspects of Wing Fund Raising and even helping to solve problems. One of our biggest challenges backthen was ensuring everything was in order for the Group AGM, which was hosted around the province on an Annual basis. Members took some of their holidays in those days to attend, because it was so much fun. Members got to meet members from other Wings Friendships grew over the years, and even as we continually aged during that time, people made it a point to support those 3 – day get-togethers as much as they could. Lots of us still do!

Times are a little leaner now, and the years are catching up on all of usbut the AGM's are still part of our annual Air Force/Aviation entertainment and the fun that went along with it!; we just slow down a little more now to keep a more comfortable pace. My wife Cathy (Membership Chair) and I have likely only missed 2 or 3 Group AGM's, and possibly a few more National AGM's, but you know, we have been all across this Province, and all across this country attending AGM's/ Air Force Conventions. We have had a lot of fun, and made a lot of friends!~.

So this year, next month, from the Friday May 19th to Sunday 21 May, this year's SHINDIG is going to be held in Cottage Country, Orillia, ON and everything will be held at the Best Western Plus Mariposa Inn & Conference Centre, down town Orillia, and the theme this year will be "A Birthday Bash" to help celebrate Canada's 150th existence! We/They need attendees! Please give some consideration to attending this Conference. Essentially there is a Welcoming party on Friday night, Saturday is Business for the Delegates, while the Companions and friends go on a bus trip to a huge Farmers Market, and Library where they will enjoy a presentation of early history of the Region with the celebration of our National Birthday. Lunch will be held at the Leacock Museum, a guest speaker, and a guided tour of the Museum will follow. All done at a leisurely pace so everyone can enjoy the day. You might even find time to hit the Casino, while you are there, and win back all your expenses! Saturday night we will enjoy a wonderful meal (get your Sunday-Go-Meeting clothes out (Blues and Greys are always in style), and Sunday we will finish off any business, pay suitable tribute to our Air Force personnel, from the Past to the Present, and if you stick around on the Sunday night, they have planned a Wind Down Party at the hotel. It promises to be a wonderful weekend, and it will be that if you all will decide to attend!

If there are any questions out there, that you want answers to, let me or the Mrs know. You can get us at (519) 452-1886, or by Email. Don` t be shy. Yes, it costs some money, and you will find the reasonable charges shown on the Registration Form shown above as our 3rd attachment. Get out and try it on for size, you might be suitably surprised! Fill in the application, thrown in a cheque with it, and mail it off to another Past President, Les Ball. His address is on the form. 429 (Georgina) and 441 (Huron) Wings of Orillia and Barrie are co-sponsoring this function this year. They have put in a lot of work planning it and they would love you to come and be part of their celebration! Do let Cathy or I know what your decision is, and again, we` ll answer any questions you may have!

See you up in Cottage Country next month! Y'all Come, Ye` Hear ?
 kindest regards, Sam and Cathy Newman



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Canadian Forces members serving overseas appreciate receiving correspondence from Canadians as well as groups, schools and organizations from across Canada.

Full instructions and addresses may be found at:

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/write-to-the-troops/mailling-instructions.page>

You can also submit an on-line message of support at:

<http://dgpaapp.forces.gc.ca/en/wrt/post-message.asp>



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BIRTHDAY BRATS



MAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Harry Beukeboom, Bob Brown, Harry Campbell, Walter Chmela, Joan Clark, Jack Clark CD, John Gill, Wayne Harris, Don Hatch, Robert Johnson, Hazil Malone, Tom Pillon, Mike Seabrook, Liyuan Shi, David Smith, Chuck Spurgeon

JUNE HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wayne Chuter, Bruce Huff, Brian Logie, Sam Newman CD, Tammy Newman CD, John Pietraszko, Terry Rushton

“The older the fiddler, the sweeter the tune.”

-English Proverb

LONDON LINK SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

**January/February: December 18th • March/April: February 15th. May/June: April 17th • July/August: June 17th.
September/October: August 18th • November/December: October 18th.**

Please forward any articles that you consider of value to the Wing members and we will do our best to get it to print. Sometimes submissions are of such a size that we then make them a two, or three part series.

Looking forward to hearing from you and sharing your photos, stories etc with our members.
(For good reproduction at reasonable size, photos should be fairly high resolution)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE from Cathy Newman

I will be sending out Membership Renewals shortly. In fact, those who receive the London Link by mail should have a Renewal form enclosed, others will be coming soon. I am sincerely hoping that all members will renew promptly, thus avoiding a late renewal penalty fee of \$5. All payments must be received prior to June 30th to avoid this penalty. I'd love to shock Ottawa by having a full membership renewal in prior to our deadline date. With your help I can do it!

Come out and enjoy your fellow members, join us for lunch on Fridays (served between 11:30 & 12:30) where you can enjoy a nice meal, fellowship and an option to pay your renewal by cheque, cash or debit/credit card. We have lots of good times while we support our Association. If you are unable to join us for lunch, you still have an option for payment. A cheque payable to 427 (London) Wing, and mailed to 2155 Crumlin Road, London, N5V 3Z9, or if you prefer, phone the Wing (519-455-0430) and pay by Visa or MasterCard.



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The next CAHS Convention and AGM will be held in London, Ontario, for the first time, on 8 - 11 June 2017. Most convention activities will take place at the Best Western Stoneridge Inn and Conference Centre. The hotel is located just off Highway 401 at Colonel Talbot Road, about a 20 minute drive from the London International Airport.

London is home to the Diamond Aircraft factory, the Secrets of Radar Museum, the Jet Aircraft Museum, and the International Test Pilot School. The Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association in Tillsonburg, the Canadian Historical Aircraft Association in Windsor, the Waterloo Warbirds in Kitchener, and the Canadian Warplane Heritage in Hamilton, are all within a couple of hours' drive. The amazing Henry Ford Museum and the Yankee Air Museum (Willow Run) are just across the US border. The area is rich in aviation heritage, with significant aeronautical activity by the RCAF, de Havilland Canada, and Air Ontario, amongst others.

Convention Registration and Hotel

To register you can also call the hotel directly at 519 652-6022 or toll free at 1-888-471-2378, and quote reservation code 5B0VB6B3. Our special convention rate is \$110 plus taxes, which is held for us until 7 May 2017. A breakfast buffet is included with your hotel registration.

More information

Questions about sponsorship opportunities and general enquiries may be sent to organising committee chairperson Jim Bell at jbelle320@gmail.com.

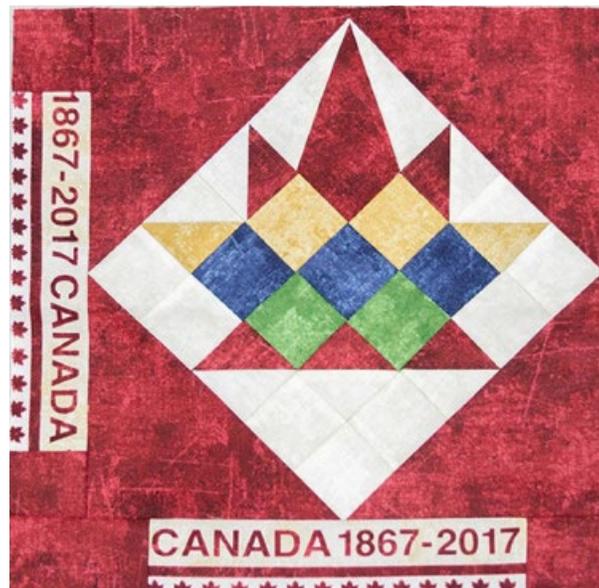
Looking after the Lancaster

The "Mynarski" Lancaster, operated by the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton, is one of only two Lancasters still flying in the world. They are seeking your help, in this funding effort.

All of our members believe in our mission to perpetuate the glorious traditions of the Royal Canadian Air Force. We believe in the importance of perpetuating our stories, helping others understand how courageous the men and women in Canada's air force have been, and continue to be.

To donate, visit Canadahelps.org and search for the Royal Canadian Air Force Association Trust, and the "Heritage" project by clicking on the link. If you would like to donate in honour or memory of a loved one, you may do so at this link. Thank you for supporting such a national treasure.

Tax receipt generated automatically by Canadahelps.org and sent to your e-mail.



Celebrating Canada's Sesquicentennial – one block at a time

Over 100 quilt shops across Canada came together to celebrate Canada's Sesquicentennial by creating quilt block patterns for the TransCanada Block Party. **Joyce's Sewing Shop's** block (above) was chosen as one of the top ten blocks. It will be donated to Quilts of Valour, which supports injured Canadian Armed Forces members past and present with quilts of comfort.

The pattern is available complimentary from Joyce's on Wortley Road or you can purchase a kit that includes the pattern and materials.

Canada Quilt Challenge: Make a quilt using at least 6 blocks from 6 different participating TransCanada Block Party stores with the Canadian Sesquicentennial Collection and enter to win either the grand prize of \$500 or one of the 13 finalist prizes of \$250 each. To get started visit Joyce's Sewing Shop or any of the other participating shops and ask for their free Sesquicentennial block pattern.

www.joycessewingshop.com



Andrew Mynarski

A QUIZ FOR CANADA 150th

- 1 Gabriel Dumont (1837-1906) was a leader of what First Nations group in Western Canada?
- 2 Which famous Canadian rap artist named his first mixtape Room for Improvement?
- 3 The first mosque in Canada was built in which province?
- 4 What was the 10th province to join the Canadian confederation in 1949?
- 5 Which famous general was killed in the Battle of Queenston Heights on Oct. 13, 1812, during the War of 1812?
- 6 Who was the first hockey goalie to wear a protective mask regularly on the ice?
- 7 The 7,821-kilometre Trans-Canada Highway was officially opened at Rogers Pass in what year?
- 8 What pivotal charter was passed in 1982 leading to important changes concerning linguistic, democratic and equal rights?
- 9 Which French-Canadian prime minister famously proclaimed: "The 20th century will belong to Canada"?
- 10 Though she never lived at 24 Sussex Drive, who made Canadian history on June 25, 1993, when she became Canada's first female prime minister?
- 11 The face of which past Canadian prime minister adorns the \$100 bill?
- 12 Canada has two national sports. What are they?
- 13 When did O Canada officially become the national anthem?
- 14 Canada, a name derived from the Huron-Iroquoian "Kanata," meaning village, was adopted by which French explorer?
- 15 Which famous DC Comics superhero comic book was co-created by Canadian Joe Shuster?
- 16 Who was the first female to practise medicine in Canada?
- 17 Which Canadian boxer won a gold medal at the 1988 Olympics?
- 18 On May 5, 1945, Canadian soldiers liberated which European country?
- 19 Who was prime minister of Canada during the Second World War?
- 20 The comic book world's most famous hero, Superman, created by Toronto-born cartoonist Joe Shuster and writer Jerry Siegel, originally worked at the Daily Star, which was patterned after which Canadian newspaper?
- 21 Canada is comprised of how many time zones?
- 22 Which Canadian town has the longest freshwater beach in the world?
- 23 Which Canadian province has the longest tunnel on the continent?
- 24 In what year did all Canadian women aged 21 and over became eligible to vote in federal elections?
- 25 Who was the former slave who petitioned for the creation of an all-Black unit during the War of 1812?
- 26 Which French president fuelled separatist tensions in 1967 when he proclaimed during a speech in Montreal: "Vive le Québec libre!"?
- 27 Which future prime minister participated in the attack on the rebels at Montgomery's Tavern in Toronto on Dec. 7, 1837?
- 28 In what year will Canada celebrate its sesquicentennial birthday?
- 29 The first long-distance call in Canada was placed from the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Montreal to the Globe Theatre in Vancouver via the work of which Canadian inventor?
- 30 Which Canadian province did Louis Riel found?



The Historica-Dominion Institute is the largest independent organization dedicated to history and citizenship in Canada. Its mandate is to build active and informed citizens through a greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, heritage and stories of Canada. To learn more, go to historica-dominion.ca.

Answers on page 12



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Amateur Radio Takes to the Air at 427 Wing

The London Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is Canada's oldest Amateur Radio club, established in 1920. By 1923 the LARC Club Station was in the attic of the YMCA building on Wellington St, between Dundas and Queens. It is said that on a summer evening the raw sound of the rotary spark gap transmitter could easily be heard at Dundas St. if the window was open to vent the ozone. Radio has progressed a long way in the intervening years, first with vacuum tubes, then transistors and integrated circuits, and now with high speed digital signal processing and direct RF digital synthesis.

For the past few years the LARC club station, VE3LS, has been at the Secrets of Radar Museum on Western Counties Rd. behind Parkwood hospital. Sadly the museum has been asked to vacate the location where it has been since 2003, so LARC sought out a new location for our social centre.



LARC members are currently preparing the location of their newest club station at the south end of the western building at 427 Wing. The station will have radios for high frequency operations to make contacts regionally and world wide, VHF rigs for local communications, UHF gear for satellite uplinks, and microwave systems for high speed data links.

LARC members will welcome interest and participation by 427 Wing members, both those who already have an amateur radio licence as well as those curious to find out why we enjoy radio so much.

Amateur radio (also endearingly called ham radio) describes the private recreational use of the radio frequency spectrum for purposes of non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, contesting, and emergency communication. Amateur Radio may truly be called the first social media, as the most common activity involves making world wide acquaintances that have the potential for becoming life long friends.

While the term "amateur" specifies "a duly authorized person interested in radio electronic practice with a purely personal aim and without pecuniary interest" to differentiate it from commercial broadcasting, public safety (such as police and fire), or professional two-way radio services (such as aviation, marine, taxis, etc.), the Amateur Radio Operator is trained and tested for their understanding of key concepts in radio technologies and the government's radio regulations in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio Certificate and that all important call sign.

World wide the two million plus members of the amateur radio service are governed by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) through the International Telecommunication Regulations. National governments regulate technical and operational characteristics of transmissions and issue individual stations licenses with an identifying call sign unique to each operator. There are almost eighty thousand amateur radio call signs currently assigned in Canada.

Radio amateurs may use a variety of voice, text, image, and data communications modes and have access to numerous frequency allocations throughout the RF spectrum, from 137 kHz to 276 GHz to enable communication across a city, region, country, continent, around the world, or even into space via Orbiting Satellites Carrying Amateur Radio, or OSCARs. Radio operators verify their radio contacts with the exchange of 9cm by 14cm postcards called "QSL cards" which are proudly displayed in the ham "shack", along with world maps and certificates of accomplishment.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Wednesday June 28th •Crumlin Creek Golf Course

Tee-off at 2:30 pm - cost is only \$20.00 which includes 12 holes of golf, shared cart and BBQ immediately following. Sign up sheet is on the Wing notice board close to the Wellness area. Sign up deadline is May 30th. Some members may wish to go for the meal only, however, the cost is still \$20.00. The tournament is subsidized by the good people at London's airport.

ARMATEC SURVIVABILITY TOUR. June 9, 2017 \$55.00 including meal. The tour will be followed with a Wine Testing trip to "Quai de Vin" near Sparta, and topped off with a scrumptious meal at Tony Roma's on Wellington!

Sign up and payment deadline for this tour is MAY 12, 2017. Contact Armin and Judy at (519) 474-2194, or sign up on the sheet at the Wing or email wing427tours@rogers.com. Make cheques payable to "Royal London Military Institute" and mail to 333 Hartson Road, London, ON N6H 5B7 before the deadline 12 May 2017.

68th OGAGM

Friday May 19th to Sunday 21 • Orillia Ontario

"A Birthday Bash" to helpcelebrate Canada's 150th anniversary!

Welcoming party on Friday night. Saturday is Business for the Delegates, while the Companions and friends go on a bus trip to a huge Farmers Market, and Library where they will enjoy a presentation of early history of the Region with the celebration of our National Birthday. Lunch will be held at the Leacock Museum, a guest speaker, and a guided tour of the Museum will follow. Contact Sam Newman for more information at sfn.afac@rogers.com

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FRIDGE MAGNET ITEM

Clip and save this list of events that as Wing members, with their friends and guests, will have the opportunity to attend or participate in as volunteers!

MAY 10 Last Euchre Club Meeting with Dinner to follow on May 17th, new members welcome

MAY 12 Last day to register for tour of Armatec Corporation for June 9 visit to Quai du Vin, dinner at Tony Romas

MAY 19 Opening of 68th Ontario Group AGM in Orillia, Wing members may be able to attend social events

MAY 30 Deadline to register for Annual Airport Golf Tournament & Dinner (Wing members only, please)

JUNE 8 Canadian Historic Aviation Convention Meet & Greet at Wing (Wing members only, fee \$10)

JUNE 24 Amateur Radio Club International Field Day at Wing (2 days) open to public

JUNE 28 SesquiFest 2017 begins (5 days) Hosted by City of London (watch for ads) open to public, Wing exhibiting

JUNE 29 Last Friday lunch before Wing closes for month of July & re-opens for lunch August 4

JULY 1 Canada Day festivities in Harris Park, Wing will be present to sell regalia, books & aircraft photographs

SEPT 16 & 17 Doors Open London, Wing open from 10 am-4 pm both days to show exhibits and displays

SEPT 23 & 24 London International Airshow, Wing will be open to public and have food for sale

From MAY 1st – Wing holding Indoor Yard Sale every Friday (except in July) 10 am-2 pm, public welcome

For further information on all Wing participation and on events not included in this list, call 519-455-0430



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420 (CS) Sqn Standard Goes to London City Hall from Page 1

VU 32 Squadron, and a renewed association with the T-33. On 4 Jul 1992, VU 32 Squadron was deactivated and 434 (Combat Support) Squadron stood up, flying T-33s and C-144 Challengers. Further restructure saw 420 amalgamated with 434 to form a "Total Force" Squadron 15 May 1995, the date 434 (CS) was relocated to Greenwood, Nova Scotia; and 420 (CS) Squadron was "zero manned".

Off to London:

As the days of 434 (CS) Squadron come to an end (operations cease 31 Mar 2002), something respectable had to be done with 420's Squadron Standard. Colonel (Retired) Herb Smale, former Base Commander at Greenwood and a native of London ON, had made mention of the closure to members of Air Force Association of Canada - 427 (London) Wing - and the drive was on. Mr Ray Gilleno, a former member of 420 (F) City of London, wrote a letter to the Mayor of London to consider holding the Squadron Standard and Snowy Owl mascot in trust at London City Hall. The Mayor graciously agreed; contacts were named and phone calls began, interspersed with a multitude of e-mails, faxes and digital photographs.

The time and date was set for 14:30 hours on Friday 1 March 2002 for the deposit of the 420 Squadron Standard at London City Hall.

It wasn't hard to find the few remaining "420" Squadron personnel required to make a Colour Party, and "Officer in Charge", there being only seven members to choose from; with a couple of them having previous commitments.

The former 420 "City of London" members were eager to see the return of the beloved owl, "Snowy", and to meet the last members of the latest version of the Squadron. 427 Wing graciously provided a wonderful dinner;

then it was off to borrow weapons for the Escort from 2 Area Support Group; and on to City Hall.

Her Worship, Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco arrived promptly to receive the General Salute, and subsequently accept the Squadron Standard from Major Dave Wilson, witnessed by approximately 30 former 420 City of London members. During the brief ceremony, Major Wilson was presented with a plaque commemorating him for being the last 420 Squadron Operations Officer. Warrant Officer Doug Nicholas was also presented a plaque, as being the "longest serving member of the Squadron - Nov 1977 - May 1995".

On completion of the ceremony and some "photo Ops", it was off to return weapons, and back to 427 Wing to reminisce of "days gone by", with some wonderful stories and old photo albums to examine.

For those of us who had the bittersweet opportunity of performing this historic task, we cannot express enough, our sincere gratitude to all that assisted us in this endeavour.

Pugnamus Finitum.



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. The Métis
2. Drake
3. Alberta
4. Newfoundland
5. Isaac Brock
6. Jacques Plante
7. 1962
8. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
9. Wilfrid Laurier
10. Kim Campbell
11. Robert Borden
12. Hockey and lacrosse
13. 1980
14. Jacques Cartier
15. Superman
16. Emily Howard Stowe
17. Lennox Lewis
18. The Netherlands
19. William Lyon Mackenzie King
20. Toronto Star
21. Six
22. Wasaga Beach, Ont.
23. British Columbia (Mt. Macdonald Tunnel)
24. 1918
25. Richard Pierpoint
26. Charles de Gaulle
27. Sir John A. Macdonald
28. 2017
29. Alexander Graham Bell
30. Manitoba

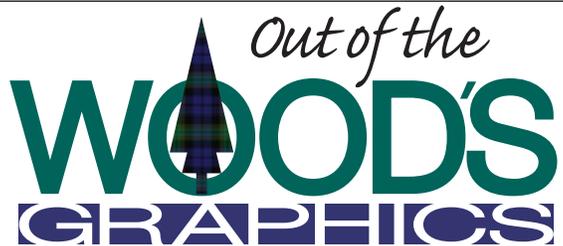


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Sopwith Camel brings perils of aerial warfare back to life

(from Vancouver Sun, March 31, 2017)

The average life expectancy of British and Canadian pilots in the First World War was just 17 hours during an air offensive 100 years ago that was so deadly it was called “Bloody April.”

Planes and pilots tumbled 6,000 metres to the ground, burst into flames or cracked up on landing during the month of April in 1917, killing 245 aircrew in what was the worst period of the war.

The story has been brought to life at the Port Moody Station Museum, which displayed a Sopwith Camel replica airplane for a few weeks as part of its four-year long program to remember the wartime heroism of hundreds of thousands of Canadian military personnel.

Museum coordinator Markus Fahrner said young Canadians, who made up about 20 per cent of the 100,000-strong Royal Flying Corps, faced sudden death every time they climbed into the cockpit. The men weren’t given parachutes, even though the technology existed and the pilots sat atop unprotected gasoline tanks. A bullet or two and the chances were good that the plane would burst into flames and result in a horrific death.

Goheen said that after the war myths were created about the romantic nature of aerial warfare, a world where pilots waved to each other on their dawn patrols and shepherded damaged aircraft back to their own lines, supposedly demonstrating the chivalrous honour code of medieval knights.

“The myths were a creation of the media and Hollywood. There was nothing chivalrous about it. It was brutal, deadly and cruel. You got him, or he got you,” he said.

The Sopwith Camel is named for a hump on the engine cowling, which covered the biplane’s dual .303 machine guns. The model first appeared in 1918 and is a replica built for the Canadian Museum of Flight in Langley.



Museum coordinator Markus Fahrner poses with a replica Sopwith Camel airplane at the Port Moody Station Museum.

4 Sopwiths were built by Volunteers out in BC, loaded in the back of a Glob Master, and flown to France to participate in the Vimy 100th Anniversary celebrations.

Vimy Gala

Around 1,000 people attended a special gala dinner commemorating the 100th anniversary of Canada’s victory in the Battle of Vimy Ridge during the First World War.

Four Canadian divisions began an assault in an attempt to capture the ridge, a key German defensive position. British and French forces had tried to capture the ridge previously, but were unsuccessful.

In the moments leading up to the battle, Pvt. George William Shaw, a bugler with the 3rd Battallion (Toronto Regiment), then about 18 years old, played his brass bugle to rally the troops.

Shaw died in 1976, but his bugle lives on as an artifact from the Great War. The historic horn is now in the possession of Shaw’s grandson, David Cunningham, 64, of London, who played it at the gala.



VIMY GALA APRIL 2017 • Saturday April 1 • London Convention Centre

DID YOU KNOW... that in the 19th century, our London was known as “London the Lesser”? When Irish playwright Brendan Behan (1923-1964) learned there was a London, Ontario he exclaimed: “Why the very name is impertinence in itself!”

May 2017							June 2017 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2 RAA	3 Euchre	4	5 Lunch	6 Barry Saunders 0800-1500	
7	8	9 RAA MAC	10 Euchre	11 WT	12 WEC, Lunch	13 WT 0900-1700	
14	15	16	17 Euchre	18 Ret Comm	19 Lunch OGAGM	20 OGAGM	
21 OGAGM	22	23 FO	24 Euchre	25	26 Lunch/GM	27	
28	29	30	31 Euchre	Notes:			
June 2017							July 2017 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2 Lunch	3	
4	5	6 RAA	7 Euchre	8 CAHS Meet and Greet WT	9 Lunch	10 CAHS	
11 CAHS	12	13 MAC	14 Euchre	15	16 55th Anniversary Lunch	17	
18	19	20	21 Euchre	22	23 Lunch	24	
25	26	27	28 Euchre	29	30 Lunch	Notes:	

- AGM** Annual General Meeting, 1pm
- BBQ** Bar-b-que lunch, last lunch until August
- BCC** British Car Club, meeting at 7:30pm
- COM** Retired Commissionaires, 9am - 12pm
- FO** Fanshawe Optimist's Club, meeting at 7:30pm
- GM** General Meeting at 1pm
- GS** Guest Speaker
- LFC** London Flying Club Reunion

- LVRC** London Vintage Radio Club meeting at 11:00am
- MAC** Model Aircraft Club meeting
- OAGM** Ontario Group Annual General Meeting
- RAA** Recreational Aircraft Association, meeting at 7:30pm
- WD** The Women's Division join us the 4th Friday of each month for lunch
- WDP** Wind Down Party for OAGM, at the Wing
- WEC** Wing Executive Council, 9:30am
- WT** Wood Turners, meeting at 7:30pm