

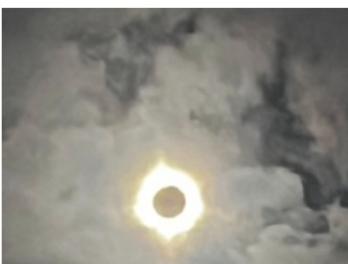


Wings & Tails

Mother Nature did not disappoint with the celestial show that she provided to museum attendees on April 8th. Approximately 2500 people came out to the museum grounds to witness the solar eclipse which

resulted in just over 3 minutes of complete darkness beginning at 3:17 pm. Onlookers were amazed as the moon passed in front of the sun causing a sudden drop in temperature accompanied by a chorus of bull frog croaks from the nearby marsh. The crowd was comprised of young and old, some who had travelled from as far away North Carolina and Colorado. Members of the K/W Astronomy Club were present

as well as a group of students from Waterloo University. Museum volunteers helped organize parking, sold 50/50 tickets and provided tours of the museum to those who attended. The day was a phenomenal success and won't soon be forgotten by all of those who were present.



Don't miss out on buying your 2024-2025 Super Draw 100 Ticket! See Sandy Murphy for details.

This Issue's Main Features:

Eclipse Event

D.O.T.S. Show

Hangar Sale

DCT Production

2766 Soars Again

Bombing Run

Garden of Quilts

On May 29th, Dunnville's Own Tiny Stitchers (D.O.T.S.) group arrived in force to set up for their "Garden Of Quilts" event. Within hours the hangar was transformed from an open space to an iron grid work of pipes used to display beautifully handcrafted quilts. Over 400 people attended the event to see ~ 160 quilted items on display and to shop from the vendors selling their creations, supplies and tools of the trade. The event culminated with a winner being picked to take home one of the handcrafted quilts.





Questions or comments? Contact the newsletter at
no6newsletter@gmail.com or on our **Wings & Tails** Facebook Page

Clearing Out The Hangar

From May 18 - 20th, members staffed the annual Hangar Sale. In February, local citizens began dropping off unwanted household items at the museum. After sorting, cleaning and ensuring all items were in working order, they were placed in the open area of the Hangar. Larger items such as furniture or antiques were researched and offered via a silent auction process. By the middle of April the space was filling up fast and items kept coming. Event coordinator

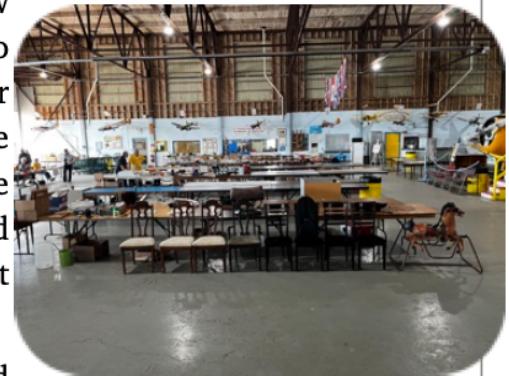


Lori Lymburner did a phenomenal job keeping everything and everyone organized. With much anticipation the first day finally arrived and at least 100 people were lined up 45 minutes before we opened the doors. With Brian's patented egg sandwiches fortifying their bellies members opened the doors at 8:00 and watched the crowd fill boxes, bags and shopping carts with their newly found treasures. For 3 days our members helped park cars, package fragile purchases, load cars and of course, give tours of the museum. Along with their generous monetary donations, many of the attendees spoke of how much they look forward to the yearly event which saw at least



1000 people come through the door. With the final day "\$5 All You Can Carry" Promotion, members were very happy to see

the Hangar emptying out. By the evening of the 20th there were very few items left. Thanks to the generosity of our community, the proceeds from the sale will help fund ongoing projects at the museum.



After 3 days of hard work, all of Lori's organizational efforts couldn't stop the members from getting a little "loopy" and having some fun with a couple of left over items. Please keep the Hangar sale in mind when you start that spring cleaning in the new year and are looking to get rid of your gently used housewares.



Volunteer Today!

On June 13th we lost a dear and cherished member of our museum family. Lori Lymburner served as the Treasurer on our Executive Committee but more importantly, she was a friend to many of us. A devoted animal lover, Lori was never lacking of a story about some antics that her chickens, cats or dog had done. Quick to volunteer to play a role in many of the events that we ran at the museum, she would offer an honest opinion when asked for input, but she would always preface it by holding your forearm and saying "I don't want to seem pushy, but....". Our thoughts go out to Lori's family during this time, we will cherish our memories of her and laugh about the times we spent together. "What though the radiance which was once so bright, be now for ever taken from my sightWe will grieve not, rather find, strength in what remains behind."



The Hangar Hosts A Theatre Production

On the evenings of June 14th and 15th, the Hangar hosted the Dunnville Community Theatre's homegrown production of "Next". Both nights of the event sold out which saw over 300 patrons take in the show.

Guests were treated to a lovely meal and if they were inclined, a gin based "Why, Why Why Delilah" cocktail. To quote from their social media page, "A night Dunnville Community Theatre should be proud of. We couldn't have asked for more! Teamwork that



worked tirelessly and fluently. Family and friends who came out and showed their love and support. Cast members who gave it their all and helped their other cast members and crew members when needed. Crew members who had an incredible amount of work to do in a space that is someone else's home. Our audience

was incredible!"

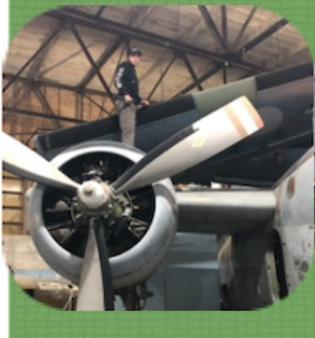
The production now moves down the road to Fisherville where they will be hosted by the Lion's Club. If you missed this performance, be sure to check out their website for future dates and ticket availability.



After months of tedious cleaning and repair, Harvard 2766 is soaring once again over the patrons of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 142 - Dunnville. Be sure to stop by and raise a glass to those who served in the full sized version. Thank you to all who helped in the restoration of this iconic piece.

All Work And No Play?

Tuesdays have been the traditional weekly work party at the museum. There is always plenty to do such as grounds keeping, cleaning, setting up for new events and general maintenance. Of course there's always a pot of Ross Watterworth's coffee brewing and some tasty treats on the table. Camaraderie is abundant as are the smiles and laughs shared by the members that show up to help out. Amongst all the joking the jobs get done, new projects are developed, visitors are welcomed to the museum and the work list grows. If you find yourself with some free time on Tuesdays between 10:00 - 1:00, head out the museum for some socialization. We will likely put you to work, but every little bit helps.



Every Item Tells A Story - "Bombing Run"

As you wander around the museum you'll come across several practice or "dummy" bombs. Five of these 25 pound practice bombs would have been slung from the bottom of the wings of a Harvard and dropped on targets in Lake Erie or the upper Grand River. The top end of them would be packed with a small explosive charge to release smoke and indicate where the bomb had landed to judge accuracy.

Recently, a member of the local community came to the museum seeking some information. He was directed to us by the local library where he had been researching an event that had greatly impacted his family. He told us of a story regarding a Harvard that had taken off from No. 6 Dunnville to practice bombing on a target in the upper Grand River. He stated that upon reaching the target the trainee released the bombs but the mechanism failed to drop them. He immediately returned to the airfield to diagnose the problem. While en route, the five 25 pound dummy bombs spontaneously released and crashed through the roof of his grandparents house! Unfortunately, his grandmother had become so upset about the damage, she suffered a heart attack and subsequently passed away later that night in hospital. He stated that the story had been told multiple times through the years and had become legendary at family gatherings. He was attempting to confirm and validate some of the facts.

Fortunately the museum possesses all of the Base Diaries and Log Books for the years of operation. On a Log Book entry dated April 7, 1944, it states:

"At 1200 hrs yesterday, word was received at the station by the Chief Instructor that a pupil accidentally released 5 bombs in the vicinity of the Bombing Range on the Grand River. Four of the bombs entered the roof of a house through two holes and entered the sidewall....considerable damage was caused in the house by the noses of the bombs going through partitions, walls and furniture. Initial reports of the house being on fire were not true, but the base fire truck and crew responded to the scene. Steps were taken that afternoon by the Works Building Officer to have members of his staff temporarily repair the damage, clean up the plaster scattered about, fix broken furniture, etc.

There was a certain amount of loss in the fruit cellar where one of the bombs eventually came to rest." The name of the pupil was not contained in the report.



Personnel load practice or "dummy" bombs on to Harvard Mk III



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Lottery Results

It has been a busy year so far for our lottery coordinator Sandy Murphy. Thanks to her efforts the museum has been able to hold 50/50 draws at our events. During our eclipse event in April Manda Ivezic from Kitchener took home a prize of \$439.50. Vicky McCurdy of Lowbanks won \$183.50 from our draw at the Home and Garden Show. Dennis Briggs brought home the ultimate treasure from the Hangar Sale draw in May when he won \$627.00. In our next edition we'll announce the winners from the July Open House and the Elimination Night draw. Don't forget to grab your 2024-2025 Elimination Draw tickets, they're 50% sold!