



# Wings & Tails

A 25th Open House Anniversary Celebration

Mother Nature spoiled us once again on July 6th as we welcomed visitors to our open house under bright blue skies. This year marked the 25th anniversary for the museum and we were happy to see a large crowd come out and celebrate with us. An

assortment of approximately 100 classic cars and trucks lined the apron in front of the hangar. Members were kept busy serving food and giving tours of the museum. Visitors browsed the tables of vendors and interacted with representatives from local service groups, sports teams and historical organizations all while being entertained by a medley of songs from "Elvis". By early afternoon the roar of radial engines could be heard as the sound of 3 Harvards, courtesy of the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association, conducted a series of fly overs. The day was a great success and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for our 26th season.



Yearly Membership Dues Are Coming Up! Don't Forget To See Joanne To Renew Yours.

## Christmas Meeting and Lunch

It's about that time of year again when you start to think of what to buy me for Christmas. Just a reminder that our December 14th meeting will be followed by our annual Christmas lunch. Please plan on attending and spending some social time catching up with members and the activities of the previous season. Spouses are always welcome and we ask that you bring a non-perishable donation for the local food bank. If you plan on attending you can RSVP in person to Sandy or email us at

[no6newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:no6newsletter@gmail.com). For those wondering about that aforementioned gift, I wear a size XL and blue really makes my eyes sparkle. Come join the merriment as we gather together to celebrate the holiday season.



## This Issue Features:

Happy Anniversary

A Trio Of Legends  
In The Hangar

Election Time

Memorial  
Enhancements

A Word From The  
President



Questions or comments? Contact the newsletter at  
[no6newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:no6newsletter@gmail.com) or on our **Wings & Tails** Facebook Page

## We've Been Busy



Staffing The Museum



C.H.A.A. Fly In Fly Day



Researching  
Donated Items



General  
Maintenance



Selkirk Heritage Day



One of our hardest working members is Stan. Every Tuesday you'll find him navigating a lawnmower across the museum property keeping the grounds neat and trim. Recently, he accidentally ran over his beloved grass cutting hat but I'm happy to report that he has found a replacement, hopefully this one will have a strap.

## Kick'n It Old School In The Hangar

This years Elimination Night Draw was held on August 17th. Attendees enjoyed a wonderful dinner finished off with a celebratory 25th Anniversary cake. There was also a silent auction with a fantastic assortment of items. The night was hosted by our own Sandra Murphy who delighted the crowd with her humorous anecdotes and skits and ensured that the program ran in a timely and organized manner. The

Past President Don Oatman and current President Frank Phillips prepare dessert.

show stopper was returning friend of the

museum, Brent Freeman. Better known to many of us as "Elvis", he sang ballads from the King and engaged the crowd with his antics and personality. Everyone enjoyed his renditions of Presley's classics and were ecstatic when he returned after his first break

and performed as Buddy Holly. The night rolled on and after his second break the crowd was treated to appearance by "The Killer", Jerry Lee Lewis. The crowd sang along with all the hits and music filled the hanger to the rafters. Laughter and smiles were

the order for the night, and the biggest smile of all was on the face of Bob Boan who ended up being the last one standing in the draw and taking home the grand prize.



*Congratulations*

## Memorial Garden Enhancement

During a meeting earlier this year members voted on a recommendation to make enhancements to the existing memorial located on museum grounds. It had been noted that modifications needed to be completed on the Harvard mount in order to make it safer. It was decided that this would also be the opportune time to enhance the memorial with some work around the base. With the help of local contractors the airplane mount will be stabilized and improved, the area will be excavated, concrete will be poured, the area will be painted and the memorial stones will be arranged within the design. This monumental task has already begun and an official unveiling and ceremony will be scheduled for the spring. These enhancements will help mark the dedication of the members past and present as we celebrate our 25th year.



Concept image courtesy of Ethan Postma

As we approach the yearly recognized day of Remembrance I continue to be amazed at the connections to the past that the museum offers to families of those who served. In just the last 10 months alone, the museum has helped at least 6 families find pictures, artifacts and stories of their loved one(s) who trained at No.6 RCAF Dunnville. To see and hear the emotion from the families truly makes spending time at the museum priceless. In no way does our voluntary time compare to those who dedicated their lives to serving their country during the war, but it makes me beam with pride knowing that we are keeping their stories alive. Great work everyone!



A special **THANK YOU** to our friends in the Dunnville's Own Tiny Stitchers (D.O.T.S.) group for their generous donation to the museum. Earlier this year D.O.T.S. held one of their shows in our hangar. We welcome all collaborations with local organizations and look forward to working with them again in the future.

## THANK YOU



### Vote!

2025 marks an election year at the museum. Although it is not likely to be as volatile as the November elections south of the border, it still plays an important role in the daily operations of the museum. Nominations will take place in February at the meeting held on the 8th. Following a month of campaigning, debates and lots of shaking hands and kissing babies, voting will be held March 8th. All successful candidates will serve a term of 2 years. A candidate must be a member in good standing with the museum. Positions include:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Director(s)



Additionally, there are multiple roles, that do not require votes, to fill on committees such as:

Grounds & Facilities (work parties)  
Public Relations (Social Media & Newsletter)  
Museum (staffing & tours)  
Merchandise  
Lottery  
Membership

Everyone plays an important role at the museum and any help is greatly appreciated. All positions are volunteer and are rewarded by the gratitude of our patrons.



## From The President

Hello to all members, old and new alike! It's hard to believe another season at #6 has ended. This year warrants a special mention as it was our Twenty-fifth Anniversary.

It was an exciting year for museum for unique events. It all began with the total solar eclipse on April 8th. The guests started arriving shortly after 7:00 AM. Just prior to the eclipse, the scattered cloud opened making the event clearly visible to all in attendance (wearing their eclipse glasses of course). People from all over the GTHA and beyond attended. One couple even came from Oregon as their research identified #6 as the best place in North America to view it.

Our other two showcase events, the Hangar Sale, a major fundraiser, and the July Open house were well attended by community members, guests, and others from outside of the Dunnville area.

New this year was the Dunnville Community Theatre performing their 50th Anniversary production, 'NEXT' in the Hangar. Both nights in June were sold out and again provided us with the opportunity to highlight our facility to the attendees.

The Elimination Draw evening had a different spin this year, entertainment-wise, with a guest appearance by Elvis and friends.

We had a highly successful year with attendance at a record of more than 1500! This does not just happen without our many volunteers. I must thank all the members who volunteer countless hours to staff and maintain the museum, cut the lawns, maintain the buildings, prepare delicious lunches, make the coffee, etc., etc. The list goes on and on, so I say sincerely, "THANK YOU"

As an aside I want to add that attendance at our monthly meetings has been declining of late. We are averaging only 15-20 members. I would urge you to attend the meetings if you have not been lately. They are informative and provides you, the member, the opportunity to give input for the continued success of #6.

Frank Phillips CD  
President  
#6 RCAF Dunnville Museum



Recently, the Dunnville Chamber of Commerce hosted their Haldimand Business Breakfast Meeting in our facility. The open space of the hangar and smaller meeting room easily accommodated the ~110 guests who enjoyed a meal, speeches and workshop.



### 2025 Meeting Schedule

January 11	July 12
February 8	August 9
March 8	September 13
April 12	October 18**
May 10	November 8
June 21**	December 13

All meetings begin promptly at 10:00 and are followed by a light lunch provided by members.

Private tours are still offered throughout the year. Contact the museum to arrange a walk through the past for your group or organization.