



## Wings & Tails



### Shopping Extravaganza!!

It happened again! Mysteriously, things started to collect in the Hangar. They would show up on our doorstep causing our members to sort, organize and display them on tables. A slow trickle at first, but then it erupted to the point where every Tuesday for 4 months, an army of volunteers lifted, carried, opened, cleaned and sorted and when it was near completion, MORE things arrived! We recruited Connie to keep us organized and on track. Before we knew it, the Hangar was packed to the rafters. And then they came. Lined up by hundreds, (ok, maybe by the tens to make a hundred) but they came. Waiting in line for the doors to open so they could stream in and scoop up all their treasures. Then drop their donations in the jar and retreat to sit and wait for the process to repeat itself again in a years time.



You may feel like I'm being a bit dramatic, but I am still astonished by the amount of support we receive from our local community when it comes to our annual Hangar Sale. Not only with their donations of household items but the attendance and monetary donations that play such a key role in sustaining the museum every year. This years event, which ran from May 17-19th, was no different. There are always comments by the patrons who stop in about how

they look forward to the event every year and how it has become a family tradition for some people. Then there is always the newcomers, who's eyes nearly pop out of their sockets when they see the abundance of items laid out in front of them. By the end of the 3 day event, things had pretty much been cleared out. Thanks to some coordination with another local group having a yard sale and a truck



full of items picked up by the Canadian Diabetes Association, the Hangar was back to it's original state, to lay and wait, for the donations to start accumulating again!

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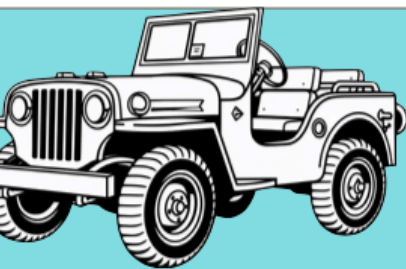
Awards & Events





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

## The Jeep Project



The 1942 Willys Jeep represents one of the most iconic and influential vehicles in both military and automotive history. Its origins are rooted in the early years of World War II, when the U.S. Army recognized the need for a lightweight, all-terrain reconnaissance vehicle. In 1940, the Army issued a request to automobile manufacturers for a prototype of such a vehicle, with rigorous specifications including four-wheel drive, a maximum weight of 1,300

pounds, and the ability to carry a machine gun. Only a handful of companies responded, including American Bantam, Willys-Overland, and Ford. Ultimately, Willys-Overland's design, which used a powerful "Go Devil" engine, proved to be the most capable and was standardized for production in 1941.

By 1942, the Willys MB—the official designation of the wartime Jeep—was in full-scale production. Though Willys-Overland was the original producer, Ford was also contracted to manufacture identical vehicles under the designation GPW (General Purpose Willys), using Willys' design to meet the enormous demand. The vehicle's design emphasized simplicity, ruggedness, and utility. Its flat fenders, foldable windshield, and open body layout allowed it to be easily produced, repaired in the field, and adapted for a variety of roles including ambulance, supply carrier, reconnaissance unit, and



even as a weapons platform. Primarily developed for the American military, Allied countries like England, Canada and even Russia used Willys Jeeps during the war. The Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) utilized Willys jeeps for a variety of purposes, primarily as personnel carriers, but also for reconnaissance, towing, and as field ambulances. They were valuable workhorses for transporting personnel, military police, and signal corps, and could also be fitted for medical use or to tow light weapons



The Jeep quickly gained legendary status among Allied troops. It was praised for its versatility, durability, and reliability in harsh conditions—from the deserts of North Africa to the forests of Europe and the islands of the Pacific. General Dwight D. Eisenhower famously called it "one of the tools that won the war." Its adaptability also extended beyond military

use; after the war, surplus Jeeps were sold to civilians and adapted for agricultural, industrial, and recreational purposes, eventually laying the groundwork for the modern SUV market.

Recently, the idea of restoring our '42 Willys Jeep was brought forward. After multiple discussions it has been decided that it would serve the museum best to restore the '42 to working condition with some attention given to period specific authenticity. Partnerships have already been formed with outside experts who are more than willing to provide guidance and suggestions as our team of museum members starts this

labour of love. The first task on the list is to prepare the work shop to accommodate the process and then evaluate the current condition of

the Jeep. If you would like to participate in the restoration process or have information regarding our '42, please do not hesitate to reach out, or even better, pop in to see her in person.

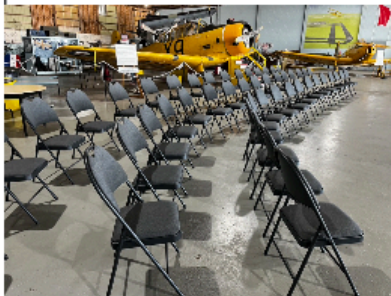




## Rental Events

The museum continues to be a popular rental venue for events. This past spring the museum was rented out in an official capacity to Elections Canada and was used as a polling station for the Federal Election.

In May, Haldimand County rented the Hangar for an employee appreciation event. Staff members from the Roads, Fleet, Parks and Facilities divisions were treated to a meal and social time amongst the planes in the hangar. Museum staff welcomed the Mayor, Councillors and over 100 County employees and offered tours through the facility. The venue was very well received there were many comments about returning for future visits.



With the increasing amount of rental requests and events being held at the museum, the decision was made to replace and upgrade the chairs and tables. We now have a fleet of nicely padded sturdy chairs and light weight folding tables. These amenities are stored and transported on the repurposed carts that held the original tables and chairs. As word spreads, the museum is likely to receive more requests for rentals and these new upgrades will allow us to provide a top notch facility.



Special "Shout Out" this edition goes to Connie McKay. Connie stepped up to the plate and kept things organized for the Hangar Sale. She took on the task of managing the priced items, the regular sale items and all of the volunteers. Fortunately, we provided her with a quick response vehicle so she could get to where ever she was needed without delay. Thanks Connie!



This past March, our President, Frank Phillips represented the museum at the Dunnville Chamber of Commerce Community Awards Night. Nominated in 2 categories, No. 6 won the Award for Innovation. The award is given to a business or employee of a business who has made considerable contributions towards



innovation within their industry or organization. The recognition was based on our partnership with Remembering Their Faces, a program that was outline in our last newsletter.

## Out And About In The Community

Dunnville Lions Club  
Home & Garden Show



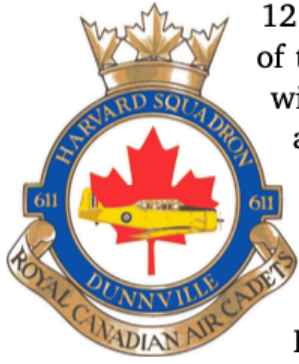
Dunnville Mudcat  
Festival

Want to see us at your event? Don't hesitate to reach out and ask.





## Cadets On Review



The Air Cadet Program in Canada is a national youth program for young people aged 12 to 18 that focuses on leadership, citizenship, physical fitness, and aviation. It is part of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets, one of three elements in the Cadet Program (along with Army and Sea Cadets), and is sponsored by the Department of National Defence and supported by the Air Cadet League of Canada. The Air Cadet Program remains one of the largest youth programs in Canada. Thousands of cadets across the country participate in local squadrons, summer training, and international activities. The program maintains strong aviation roots, with opportunities to earn glider and private pilot licenses. Locally, the 611 Harvard Mark II Royal Canadian Air Cadets stand as a testament to the positive impact of youth development programs, fostering discipline, community involvement, and a passion for aviation among its members.



No. 6 Museum  
President Frank  
Phillips

In June, No.6 RCAF Dunnville Museum was proud to host 611 Harvard Squadron's yearly review. The Annual Ceremonial Review (ACR) is the most important event of the Air Cadet training year. This event is the opportunity for the cadets to display what they have learned over the past training year to their families and assembled guests. It is also the opportunity for the Squadron to honour deserving cadets by presenting them with various awards. Museum President, Captain Frank Phillips (ret'd) served as the Master of Ceremonies that saw Major Don Bryce review the Cadets.



611 Harvard Squadron  
Commanding Officer &  
No. 6 Museum Member,  
Captain Scott Durward



The **Memorial Project** will be completed this season. Anyone interested in purchasing a memorial stone should contact the museum for details!  
Cost for the engraved stone is \$100

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Are you interested in  
history, aviation,  
storytelling or preservation  
work? Do you like being a  
part of community events?  
Consider becoming a  
museum member, contact  
us to learn more!