

WINGS & TAILS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NO. 6 RCAF DUNNVILLE MUSEUM

Telling the stories of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, the No. 6 Service Flying Training School, and the RCAF Veterans, to the Communities of Canada.

Volunteers Transform Museum

by Museum Curator, Peter Gay

Through the efforts of our volunteers, we're making significant progress toward a "New Look" for the Museum and a more efficient use of space in the Museum and the static display area in the hangar.

Cleaning Up, Clearing Out, and New

Construction. By clearing out materials stored throughout the hangar, we've increased the space available for static displays by approximately 1,600 square feet. We'll be constructing new storage and exterior maintenance equipment rooms. The area above the washrooms will eventually become the Museum office and include space to store artifacts and to prepare displays.

Lighting and Fans. New LED lighting and fans have been installed above the radiant heaters in the hangar. The improvement in lighting level is dramatic--never before have there been shadows under the wings of the aircraft! We expect that the operation of the fans in forcing warm air down into

the hangar will allow us extend our open season by two or more months, providing more opportunity for visitors to tour the Museum and for the hangar to be used for events. The lighting and fans were funded by a combination of private donations and reserve revenues. We're also expecting grant monies from Haldimand Hydro.

New Museum Entrance Layout. The photograph below left shows the entrance to the Museum when office equipment and materials and sale inventory were kept there. The photograph below right shows

After



the new, spacious entrance area with some of our new

cabinets awaiting displays that will set the stage for the rest

Continued on next page

Volunteers Transform Museum

Continued from previous page

of the Museum. The office equipment and materials will eventually be relocated to the new Museum office, along with a computer system. The sale inventory has been moved to a storage cabinet between the Museum and the meeting room. In the future, samples of items for sale will be strategically placed throughout the Museum.

Other Major Projects. Future projects include refurbishing the washrooms, and renovating the original Fire Hall, the 25-yard Range, and the Butts building. To defray the cost of the renovations and new displays, we'll be applying for funding from several grant programs. Private and corporate donations are very welcome. If you wish to make a general contribution or contribute to a particular project, please contact the Museum.

Raising Harvard #2963. The recovery of the Harvard that crashed in Lake Erie on June 19, 1943, by the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association (CHAA) Dive Team is scheduled to begin within the next few months. Two members of the Dive Team and I will be travelling to the Canadian Conservation Institute in Ottawa for training in the proper conservation techniques for the artifacts that will be recovered. A special "kickoff" of the project is planned for the Open House on July 2.

A Tip of the Wing...

Many thanks to the 2016 Memorial Garden flag sponsors:

RCAF - Joe WeirAustralia - In memoryUnion Jack - Floyd Smelserof Jim BirdNew Zealand - Ed FranksUS - April Cormaci &Canada - Smilka DeanIan Durand

...and to the sponsors of our aircraft:

Cornell - Lynda Bain Nieuport - Mike Villeneuve Tracker - Floyd Smelser

More Aircraft Sponsors Needed!

Three of our vintage aircraft are still available for a 1-year sponsorship:

Fleet Finch Spitfire Yale

Each sponsorship is \$500 and your name will appear on the description panel next to the aircraft. Sponsor the plane of your choice by calling Frank Phillips (905-701-7670).

A Letter from the President

Our 2016 summer season promises to be an exciting one. We'll have many opportunities to show visitors our wonderful Museum and the changes that are taking place to make the artifacts and information more accessible and to expand the displays. We started off with a very successful yard sale fundraiser during our season opening weekend—so successful that it will now be an annual event. We're looking forward to a great turnout for our August concert featuring the talented Tia McGraff. The Dunnville Agricultural Fair is returning in late August, and we expect it to bring in record number of visitors to the Museum again this year. None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers who give up so much of their time for the Museum.

Your President, Don Oatman

Don't Miss the Chance To Win \$1,000!

For our annual "Super Draw 100" lottery, only 100 tickets are available at \$50 per ticket. At each monthly meeting, a \$20 winner is drawn for each week since the last meeting, and one, \$50 winner is drawn for the month. Winning tickets go back in the draw so you can win over and over again! The final draw is held at the Elimination Draw night. This evening consists of a buffet dinner, entertainment, and a Silent Auction, all included in the purchase of a Super Draw ticket. That night, every 10th ticket drawn wins \$100, but the tickets don't go back in the draw. One ticket is left and the lucky ticket holder wins \$1,000. More than 100 items are on offer for the Silent Auction, including a variety of gift baskets, artwork, jewelery, gift certificates, books, home decor items and more.

Our Elimination Draw this year will be held on Friday, August 26, at 6 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.). If you don't have a Super Draw ticket for this year or don't come as the guest of a current ticket holder, you're invited to come and see what it's all about for the cost of your dinner (\$5.00). Call Sandy Murphy at 905-774-3068.

In 2015, we made a net profit of \$1,453.45 on the Super Draw and \$800.95 on the Silent Auction. The Super Draw is one of many fundraising raffles and lotteries the No. 6 Museum holds every year. The revenue generated helped us purchase several items and pay for expenses incurred in the running of the Museum.

Tickets are now on sale for our 2016-2017 Super Draw 100. If you would like one or more tickets, call Sandy now. The tickets will go fast!

611 Harvard Squadron 33rd Annual Ceremony and Review

On May 28, 611 Harvard Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets held their 33rd Annual Ceremony and Review (ACR) in the Museum hangar. Chief David Warnick, District Fire Chief, Station 9, Dunnville, inspected the Squadron. He was joined during the inspection by Admiral Sir Ian Dewar-Adair (ret.) of Her



Top Recruit; **Corp. Jack O'Hara**, Optimist Club of Dunnville Award for Top Level 1; **Corp. John Graves**, Rotary Club of Dunnville Award for Top Level 2; **Flt. Corp. Alexander Auger**, Lions Club of Dunnville Award for Top Level 3; **Flt. Sgt. Jonathan DeGois**, Kuiper Memorial Trophy for Overall Top Cadet;

Majesty's Royal Navy. Many local dignitaries attended, and all of the service groups in Dunnville were represented.

The highlight of the event for the cadets and their parents was the awards ceremony where cadets are recognized for their hard work. The following awards were presented:

Corp. Jack O'Hara, Squadron Warrant Officer's Award for Proficiency; Sgt. MacArthur Napper, RCL BR 142 Award for Professionalism; Sgt. David Heffner, Major Paul Tambeau Award for Top Dress, Drill and Deportment; Corp. Aaron Carte, Lawrence Corey Award for Most Dedicated Cadet; Flt. Corp. Nikita Garrison, Lieutenant Colonel J. E. Twelves Award for Most Improved Cadet; Sgt. MacArthur Napper, Captain ML Tardif Award for Top Drill Team Member; Air Cadet Violet Lambert, Merigold RCAF Memorial Trophy for

Season Opening Yard Sale

The Yard Sale held in the hangar at the Museum during the season opening weekend, May 21-23, generated income exceeding \$3,500, double last year's!

Thanks to the many donations, half of the hangar was filled with tables offering a variety of treasures (and a little "trash"). Shoppers found

decorative items, housewares, books and videos, collectibles, glassware, china, tools...and a

few items that defied identification. Donations arrayed around the tables included a sewing machine, an organ, shop and garden tools, a talking Christmas tree, furniture, and bicycles.

Many thanks to Sandy and Jack Murphy who coordinated the sale and to the volunteers who helped with setup, publicity, staffing the sale, and packing up the remainders. Also thanks to the Dunnville Agricultural Society for removing the remaining items. **Sgt. David Heffner**, The Royal Canadian Legion Medal of Excellence Presented to the Cadet Who Exhibits Leadership and Community Support in the Squadron; and **Flt. Sgt. Jonathan DeGois**, The Lord Strathcona Trust Medal for Excellence in Leadership, Physical Fitness and Considered Top Cadet in the Squadron.

The Commanding Officer's Award for Outstanding Service to the Squadron was presented to Mr. C. J. Ricker of Dunnville and Mr. John Chorko of Creepsville Haunt.

Air Cadets is for young men and women ages 12-18 interested in aviation and military life. Currently, there is no cost to parents. 611 Harvard Squadron meets every Tuesday night, September to May, 6:30 p.m., at the Royal Canadian Legion in Dunnville. For information, contact Captain Richard J. Twelves (call 905-928-6022 or send email to richard.twelves@cadets.ga.ca).

Draw Tickets Available Now for "Harvards Up Early" Limited Edition Print

This limited edition, framed print of a painting by Lance Russwurm captures two Harvards belonging to the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association flying over their base near Tilsonburg, Ontario. It is on display in the Museum. The overall size of the piece is 15-1/2" wide by 13" high. The print itself measures 7" wide by 4-1/4" high.

Tickets are \$1 each. They are available now at the Museum and will also be available at the Open House on July 2. The draw will take place on September 10, 2016, at the Museum.





Mark Your Calendar!

Annual Open House

Sat., July 2, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Historical exhibits, crafters/vendors, vintage aircraft, classic cars, and more, Memorial Service at the Memorial Garden, 11 a.m.

Annual Chicken BBQ

Sat., July 2, 4 - 6 p.m.

Advance Tickets Required. Tickets \$15. For tickets, call the Museum or purchase at Art Service Office Supply, Dunnville.

Tia McGraff: "Concert in the Clouds"

Sat., Aug. 13, 8 p.m.

Tickets \$20. Tickets will be available at Art Service Office Supply, Dunnville, or by calling the Museum. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Elimination Draw & Silent Auction

Fri., Aug. 26, 6 p.m. Final draws, lunch, entertainment, Silent Auction. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Doors Open Haldimand

Sat., Sept. 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Veterans' Dinner

Sat., Oct. 1, 5:30 p.m. **Dunnville Golf & Country Club** Call the Museum for tickets.

Remaining 2016 Monthly Meetings & Lunch

July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10. Museum Meeting Room, 10 a.m.

2015-2016 EXECUTIVE

Officers Don Oatman, President Peter Gay, 1st Vice Pres. Frank Phillips, 2nd Vice Pres.

Tim Logan, Secretary Joanne Villeneuve, Treasurer

Directors: George Cowell, Ian Durand, Arnold Link, Don Messner, Jack Murphy, Paul Segui

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Building/Grounds - Jack Murphy Fundscrip - Rick Pleasance Lottery - Sandy Murphy Membership - Joanne Villeneuve Merchandise - Lynn King Museum - Peter Gay Newsletter - April Cormaci Website - Ian Durand

Tia McGraff: "Concert in the Clouds"

On August 13, the No. 6 Museum is pleased to present Tia McGraff in concert. Tia is an internationally renowned and award-winning Americana/ Country songstress from Port Dover. Her talent has been described as "haunting and soul-gripping." She has 6 international CD releases,

4 videos on CMT Canada, various film and television appearances, and many award nominations to her credit. For more information, visit www.tiamcgraff.com.



Tickets are \$20 and will be available at Art Service Office Supply in Dunnville, from Museum members, and by calling the Museum.

Our partner for this event is The Safety Zone--Community & Children's Safety Village of Haldimand-Norfolk.

Dunnville Agricultural Fair Returns

For the second year, the Dunnville Agricultural Fair will be held at the former Dunnville Airport. Some of the action will be in the Museum hangar as it was last year, and the Museum will be open for tours. Come for the competitions, entertainment, food, midway, and more on August 19 and 20. Visit www.dunnvillefair.ca for more information.

NO. 6 RCAF DUNNVILLE MUSEUM

536 Port Maitland Rd., Dunnville Airport, Hangar 1

Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 232, Dunnville, ON N1A 2X5
Phone:	905-701-7223
Website:	www.rcafmuseum.org

www.rcafmuseum.org

Visit the website for photos, upcoming events, and more. If you don't have internet access, visit your local library.

Hours: Victoria Day weekend through Labour Day weekend: Saturdays & Holidays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sundays 1 - 5 p.m. Tuesdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., year round. Remembrance Day, noon - 4 p.m. To arrange for a tour, call 905-701-7223.

