



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.

MEMBER NOTICES

Monthly Meetings Suspended Until Further Notice

Members will be notified via email or telephone when monthly general membership meetings resume.

Executive Committee Recommends Postponing 2022 Elections

COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have substantially disrupted many aspects of Museum operation over the last two years. Major projects have been postponed and fundraising and social activities cancelled or curtailed. The usual process for making major decisions (bringing recommendations to the general membership at monthly meetings for discussion and decision) has been disrupted. The few monthly meetings that were held were sparsely attended.

Elections for officers and directors would normally be held this year. Nominations would be put forth at the February meeting, nominees would be asked to decline or stand for election at the March meeting, and the members present at the March meeting would vote, including any proxies received in advance.

In addition to the sparse attendance at the few meetings that have been held (not representative of the extent of the membership), the February meeting has been cancelled and the status of the March meeting is in doubt.

After much discussion, current officers and directors all declared their willingness to continue in their positions for another year.

If you object to postponing the elections until February 2023, please contact President Carolyn Burrage (cdburrage@gmail.com, 905-768-2677).

Letter from the President

I am beginning to feel like a broken record. Our unique Museum was again closed to the public because of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The last Executive Committee and monthly general membership meetings were in October 2021.

We had to cancel our annual Christmas Meeting and Social, which I am sure we were all looking forward to. We also had to cancel the January and February 2022 monthly meetings. I have my hopes up that we can have an Executive Committee meeting in February. As you read on the first page of the newsletter, officers and directors recommend postponing elections until 2023. All have generously agreed to give their time for another year.

If all goes well, we will be able to have a monthly meeting in March and hold our Annual Yard Sale at the summer season opening weekend in May. The Yard Sales are our best fundraisers. We've earned enough money from them to weather the financial storm we have been going through for the last two years.

On a positive note, when you return to the Museum, I am sure you will like the improvements to the Museum and the hangar that have been able to be made. Our dedicated volunteers continue to work diligently to make our Museum a very special visitor attraction.

HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU IN MARCH.

Your President, Carolyn Burrage



Mark Your Calendar!

MUSEUM SEASON OPENING

Sat. & Sun., May 21 & May 22

ANNUAL YARD SALE

Sat. & Sun., May 21 & May 22

Yard Sale donations are now being accepted.

To make arrangements for delivery or pickup of donations, call the Museum (905-701-7223) and leave a message, or contact Carolyn Burrage (cdburrage@gmail.com, 905-768-2677). No clothing or furniture, please.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022

If you have already renewed, THANK YOU!

If not, please send in your renewal (\$50/person) as soon as possible.

Renewal receipts will be sent by mail.

A Tip of the Wing...

To our 2022 Memorial Garden flag sponsors:

Australia - Veronica Head & Jeanne Cowan

Canada - Lori Lymburner & Shirley Poolton

New Zealand - Sherri & Stan Swayze

RCAF - Sandy Murphy in memory of Jack Murphy

Union Jack - Lynda Bain

United States - April Cormaci & Ian Durand

And to our 2022 Aircraft sponsors:

Anson - Don Oatman

Cornell - Lynda Bain

Fleet Finch - Carolyn Burrage, April Cormaci & Ian Durand in memory of Derek Burrage

Nieuport - Sherri & Stan Swayze

Tracker - Pam Carom

Yale - Joanne Villeneuve

The Mosquito remains available for sponsorship at \$200. If you are interested, contact the Museum.

Tentative Dates

ELIMINATION DRAW & SILENT AUCTION

Aug., date to be determined.

SGT. WILSON'S ARMY SHOW

"HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN"

Sat., Oct. 8, 2 p.m.

Museum Hangar

Tickets \$20

Billets for five crew members are needed. If you have a spare room, please call the Museum (905-701-7223) and leave a message.

2021 Financial Report

#6 RCAF DUNNVILLE MUSEUM - YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT 2021		
Balance forward January 1, 2021		\$29,873.80
RECEIPTS		
Fund Raising (Yard Sale)	\$8,918.65	
Fund Script	\$1,075.00	
Silent Auction & Pop & Water Sold	\$803.05	
From Lottery Account	\$2,348.00	
Dues	\$4,225.00	
Donations	\$1,003.00	
Meeting Receipts	\$86.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$1,742.00	
Winter Storage	\$750.00	
Museum Jar Donation	\$1,923.00	
Flag & Airplane Sponsorships	\$2,000.00	
HST Rebate	\$1,516.86	
Memorial Donations	\$6,861.90	
Mileage Cheques	\$11,839.84	
Rebate for Gas Well Licence	\$524.94	
Cabinets Sold	\$1,035.00	
Calendars Sold	\$260.00	
		\$46,892.24
		\$76,766.04
DISBURSEMENTS		
Hald. Cty. Hydro	\$2,085.45	
Operating Expenses	\$2,163.24	
Property Tax & Insurance	\$7,044.00	
HST	\$1,742.28	
Museum Expense	\$858.64	
Fund Raising Expense (includes signs & carts)	\$789.59	
Insurance	\$4,228.00	
Newsletter	\$550.40	
Web-Site (includes yearly fee)	\$630.00	
Office Expense, Postage & Post Office Box Rental	\$574.75	
Recognition Plaque	\$124.90	
Alarm Monitoring (yearly)	\$240.00	
Cleaning Service	\$625.00	
Lawn Mower Fuel & Maintenance	\$748.81	
Funeral Flowers	\$375.00	
Oil, Gas & Salt Resources	\$109.58	
Cabinets & Moving Costs	\$3,081.72	
Yrly Mileage	\$12,289.84	
Norm's Water	\$120.00	
Internet Monthly Charge	\$1,019.88	
Defibrillator Battery	\$181.64	
Annual Fire Inspection	\$125.00	
Veterans Voices of Canada (donation)	\$300.00	
Court Costs	\$120.00	
Gift Cards	\$2,501.50	
Advertising (Curious Magazine)	\$275.00	
Bank Charges	\$75.29	
		\$42,902.22
Bank Balance December 31, 2021		\$33,863.82
Investment at Royal Bank G.I.C \$6027.34 - Tractor Fund		

Submitted by Joanne Villeneuve

2021 Lottery Report

The year 2021 was again a year of challenges and, unfortunately, made it very difficult to fund raise, therefore, our proceeds from lotteries was down considerably from previous years.

We did have some raffles and lotteries, realizing a profit of \$2,013.05 combined, being down considerably from previous years. 50/50 raffles were held at the limited number of monthly meetings, and also at the yard sale, making a profit of \$415.00. We are very appreciative that Haldimand County extended the Lottery Licenses we had.

Word was received from Nevadaman in January advising that Avondale was no longer going to be selling Nevada tickets from their stores. This will be a considerable loss of revenue for No. 6. We realized a profit of \$7,000 to \$8,000 each year on the sales of these tickets. Letters were sent to Avondale expressing the importance of the selling of the tickets to our museum, but to no avail. An effort will be made to find another location to sell the tickets, but, unfortunately, there will be several charities looking for outlets, as several of the Avondale Stores in Dunnville sold Nevada tickets for the various service clubs and charities.

The Super Draw 100 Lottery continues to be successful. We were able to hold our Elimination Draw in August, with the theme "Christmas in August." The event was held taking as many precautions as we could to make it safe. The evening consisted of dinner, entertainment, silent auction, and the draws. The Elimination Draw realized a profit of \$1,492.55, and the Silent Auction \$773.50, for a total of \$2,265.80.

The decreased revenue received through the lotteries has not allowed us to cover as many expenses as in previous years, but did pay for some. A detailed Financial Statement giving full details of receipts and expenditures is included below.

The support and cooperation received from our members and the community is appreciated.

2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENT	
NO. 6 RCAF DUNNVILLE MUSEUM 1999 INC.	
LOTTERY ACCOUNT	
Balance forward from 2020	\$3,971.62
<u>INCOME</u>	
Raffle Lotteries Proceeds	\$ 520.50
Proceeds from Super Draw 100	<u>1,492.55</u>
Total Income	\$ 2,013.05
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Memorial Garden (Flags & Rope)	883.66
Bank Charges/Purchase of Cheques	159.56
Transfer to General Account (Museum Rent)	<u>2,348.00</u>
Total Expenditures	3,391.22
Balance as of December 31, 2021	2,593.45

Submitted by Sandy Murphy



Gift Cards Available

Many thanks to all who purchased FundScrip Gift Cards in 2021. The Museum receives a rebate on the cards we sell, so your purchase is important. \$25 cards are currently available for Dollarama, Giant Tiger, Home Hardware, and Sobeys. More cards will be coming in this year. To purchase gift cards, call the Museum and leave a message.

Membership Report

(As of December 31, 2021)

Individual Members	55
Corporate Members	14
Life & Honorary Members	<u>41</u>
Total	110

Submitted by Joanne Villeneuve

Improvements at the Museum

The Beeline sign on Pt. Maitland Road attracts many visitors to the Museum. The wind storm on December 11, 2021, flipped the sign over and caused damage. After several years of good service, it was time for a little TLC anyway. Volunteers cleaned and repaired the sign, and installed new, plastic sheeting. New pre-fabricated panels will be installed on the top row (saying "No. 6 RCAF Museum") and bottom row (saying "For Tours: 905-701-7223") of the sign. Specific event information will fill in the middle rows of the sign.

Museum volunteer Tim Logan installing new, plastic sheeting



The Museum has access to half of Hangar 1 for its aircraft and stage. Up until now, the wall dividing the hangar stopped short of the ceiling. This has caused problems during some months. In particular, the hangar rafters are quite attractive to birds with the expected result. For Annual Yard Sale setup, this meant covering all the tables with plastic sheeting at all times. And it was an annual task to clean the hangar floors. On December 14, 2021, S. Langeraa Construction closed the space to the ceiling.



Yellow Rooster Is a Popular Innovation (Excerpt from *The Skywriter*, July 1943)

Among the many innovations at No. 6 Service Flying Training School is the "Yellow Rooster" – something to really crow about...a yellow slip of paper...is attached to daily routine orders twice a week, and ...contains a brief item concerning something really outstanding accomplished by the Station....[One] showed our rooster flying around a globe, at the top of which an inquisitive bear perched precariously on the top of a barber-striped North Pole. This little sheet carried information that in 1942, in flying hours and distance, aircraft from No. 6 S.F.T.S. flew considerably more than 400 times around the world.

*Thanks to members Scott and Lucia Durward for purchasing a business ad in the 2022 newsletters!
If you would like to put in an ad for your business or commemorate a personal milestone for a member, please call the Museum and leave a message.*

Scott and Lucia Durward
Integrated Pest Management

SL SAFETY GROUP

Residential and Commercial
Free Estimates
289-339-0816

2020-2022 EXECUTIVE

Officers

Carolyn Burrage, President Tim Logan, Secretary
Frank Phillips, First Vice President, Joanne Villeneuve, Treasurer

Directors: Lynda Bain, Don Hart, Lori Lymburner, John McKay,
Steve McKay, Sandy Murphy, John Van Luttikhuisen

Past President: Don Oatman

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Building/Grounds - Arnold Link & Stan Swayze	Membership - Joanne Villeneuve
Facebook Page - Don Hart	Merchandise - Lynne King
Fundscrip - Pauline Phillips	Museum - John Van Luttikhuisen
Lottery - Sandy Murphy	Newsletter - April Cormaci
	Website - Tim Logan

THE NO. 6 RCAF DUNNVILLE MUSEUM

Location: 536 Port Maitland Rd. (Hangar 1), Dunnville
(former Dunnville Airport)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 232, Dunnville, ON N1A 2X5

Phone: 905-701-7223

Website: www.rcafmuseum.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/rcafdunnvillemuseum/

Hours: **Normal open hours are suspended.**

**Tours for small groups may be available.
Please contact the Museum.**

Normal Hours: Victoria Day weekend through Labour Day weekend: Sat. & Holidays, noon-5 p.m., and Sun. 1-5 p.m. Tues. year round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Remembrance Day, noon-4 p.m. To arrange a tour, send email through the website or call 905-701-7223.

Animal Life at the No. 6 SFTS

Excerpts from *The Skywriter*

Corporal Rochester – Base Mascot

(January 1943, from the obituary of Corporal Rochester)



Corporal Rochester enlisted on November 1st, 1940....The writer remembers very clearly his introduction to active service, when two airmen—among the first on the newly opened station—by means of crumbs, coercion and cuss words lured him to the airport where he soon made his home....

No part of the airport was out of bounds to Rochester and he was seldom late for parade. It was really odd to see him, eager and alert, in front of the band, and on the first beat of the drum he was away, marching as smartly and with as much pride as any man on parade. No social functions could be held on the Station unless Corporal Rochester placed his seal of approval on them.

[He] enjoyed another privilege—he was the only member of the Station personnel to enjoy free rides on the bus, but in spite of the fact that he never paid, he was insistent that he have a seat of his own choosing, and it was more than anyone dare do to insist upon him relinquishing it....If perchance Rochester should miss the bus, he was sure of the company of at least two or three airmen, for [he] knew more tricks when it came to hiking than the man who first invented the idea. Corporal Rochester would walk sedately into the road in front of a car. If the driver failed to recognize him or refused to stop, Rochester knew another trick, and would leisurely lie down in front of the next one, which was practically forced to stop, and when the car door was opened, Rochester nonchalantly climbed in and waited for the ride either to or from the airport. And his choice of cars that were actually going to the airport was really uncanny....

Regulations probably would not permit a full military funeral for Corporal Rochester, but it is safe to say that when he was buried, he had an escort--official or otherwise--and his grave will never be neglected.

Gertrude Goat: Posted to Dunnville

(June 1944)

Among recent W. D. arrivals to this station is AW2 Gertrude Goat, W-67^{7/8}, pictured...as a civilian. Credit for her recruiting is owing to S/L Walsh, WO Champagne, WO Wingate, and Sgt. Stretton.



Affectionately known as “Gerty” by her many friends, AW2 Goat hails from Grimsby. She has already been on parade, has appeared at several dances, and has been officially introduced to the C.O. She has been classified provisionally as Mascot Standard, and her training here will be under the supervision of the Station Band.

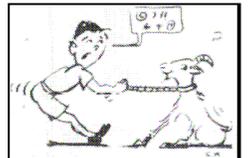
(August 1944)

Gertie the Goat...is no respecter of position or protocol, as demonstrated recently, and she depends solely on her feminine wiles to get away with it.

During a recent officers’ drill period on the parade square, Gertie broke loose from her keeper and wandered into the midst of the marching officers.

Flying Officer Gemmill attempted to shoo Gertie, but Gertie wasn’t going to be shooed. His persuasive powers exhausted, F/O Gemmill ordered the offending goat removed.

The remover was Flying Officer Allan. He pulled Gertie from the front. Nothing happened. He pushed her from behind. Nothing happened. The harder he pulled and pushed, the deeper Gertie dug her hooves into the tarmac.



In desperation the officer grabbed her by the horns and tail, and pulled both ends simultaneously. Even this ungentlemanly conduct didn’t budge Gertie.

In the end, Flying Officer Gemmill ordered Gertie to be carried off and tied to the flagpole. Thus rudely interrupted in her play, Gertie watched the remainder of the drill period with a baleful eye.

Umbrigo: Right From the Horse’s Mouth

(June 1944)

Umbrigo, the horse with the Air Force career, was bought by WOII Jack McGeehan, WOI Bud Milligan and P/O Ward McConnell for \$60, with a rig and bag of feed thrown in to clinch the deal. Umbrigo is sweet sixteen, sway back, and can fly like the wind, but only in an up and down motion (she would do better on a merry-go-round). She’s a wayward little thing, running away twice, once in Port Maitland and once in town. The resplendent hack drawn by the graceful and elegant Umbrigo makes frequent trips to Port Maitland. For Sunday afternoon drives, see the owners.

