

The London Link

March – April 2012

Volume 48, Issue 4



427 (LONDON) WING

Air Force Association of Canada

2155 Crumlin Side Road

London, ON, N5V 3Z9

Phone: 519-455-0430

Click on website: www.427wing.com



Wing Executive Council (WEC)

1st July 2011 – 30th June 2012

Executives:

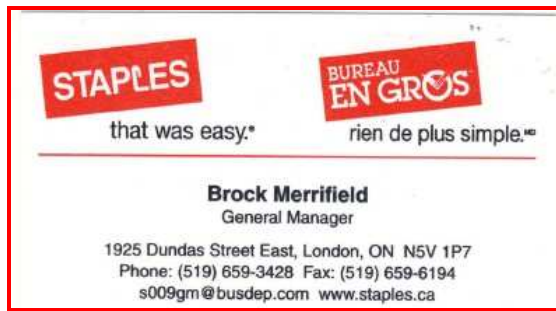
- President: Rene McKinnon 519-471-8003 renemck@sympatico.ca
- Past President Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 jackjoan@sympatico.ca
- 1st Vice President Nick Corrie 519-471-4372 nick_corrie@hotmail.ca
- 2nd Vice President Rick Holland, CD 519-453-8487 rholland4@sympatico.ca
- Secretary – vacant
- Treasurer Chuck Hardy, CD 519-452-1379 chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca

Chairpersons:

- Entertainment – vacant
- Housing Don Clarke 519-455-9350 don.clarke@hotmail.com
- Backup Chuck Hardy CD 519-452-1379 chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
- Membership Cathy Newman 519-452-1886 cathy.newman@rogers.com
- Public Relations Rene McKinnon 519-471-8003 renemck@sympatico.ca
- Sports Joe (Des) Dessert, CD 519-433-4498
- Euchre Chuck Hardy, CD 519-452-1379 chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
- Wellness Hilda and Frank Smeltzer 519-657-5759
fhsmeltzer@rogers.com
- Food Services Rene McKinnon 519-471-8003 renemck@sympatico.ca
- Committee Member Flo Douglas 519-455-2432
- Air Cadet Liaison Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 jackjoan@sympatico.ca
- Heritage and History David Smith 519-673-1515 691s@rogers.com
- Lottery Mike Ryan 519-455-1668
- Parkwood Veterans' Liaison: Hilda and Frank Smeltzer 519-657-5759
fhsmeltzer@rogers.com
- Sgt-at-Arms – vacant
- Website Judy Grunwald 519-474-2194 wing427tours@rogers.com
- Nominations Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 jackjoan@sympatico.ca
- Past Presidents' Jack Clark, CD 519-686-1303 jackjoan@sympatico.ca
- War Graves/Poppies David Smith 519-673-1515 691s@rogers.com
- Fundraising – vacant
- Tours Armin Grunwald 519-474-2194 wing427tours@rogers.com
- Regalia – vacant

Club Services:

- Bar Officer Jack Finkbiner, CD 519-285-3926
- Bar Steward/Rentals Flo Douglas 519-455-2432
- Padre Frank Mantz
- Editor, *The London Link* Tammy Newman, CD tammy.simon@sympatico.ca
- London Veterans' Memorial and Graves Committee Representative
 - David Smith 519-673-1515 691s@rogers.com
- Canadian Forces Liaison Officer: Lt Ali Ullah ali.ullah@forces.gc.ca



Euchre – Wednesdays – Starting at 1:30 p.m.

- Location – 427 (London) Wing, AFAC, 2155 Crumlin Side Road, London
- For more information, contact Joe Dessert (Des) at 519-433-4498 or contact Chuck Hardy at 519-452-1379 or at chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION of CANADA MISSION STATEMENT

The Air Force Association of Canada is a national aerospace and community service organization to: commemorate the noble achievements of the men and women who served as members of Canada’s Air Forces since its inception; advocate for a proficient and well equipped Air Force; and, support the Royal Canadian Air Cadet program.

Hot Lunches (HL) – from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Includes soup, salad, entree, dessert, tea and coffee.
- Open – Fridays, 9 September 2011 to 24 June 2012
- Cost – \$7.00 per person for hot lunches

Last Post: It is with our deepest sympathy and condolences that we take this opportunity to inform you of the passing of:

- November 2, 2011 Clarke Aylward
- November 9, 2011 Bill TenKlooster
- November 11, 2011 Ken Tuff
- November 23, 2011 Ted Cuthbert
- December 1, 2011 Roy Gross
- December 5, 2011 Cecil Ritinger
- December 25, 2011 Barb Burrows (sister of Jack Clark)
- December 31, 2011 Stuart May
- January 3, 2012 W. Jack Stephens
- January 18, 2012 Reginald C. Cavanagh

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.



Tour Survey – Armin Grunwald, Chairperson of the Tour Committee, would like your help. The following is a list of proposed trips. If you are interested, please mark “1” for one person and “2” for two people. If you have other suggestions, please add them.

- International Military Tattoo (Hamilton)
- Diamond Aircraft (London)
- War Plane Museum (Hamilton)
- Military Museum (Brantford)
- Elgin Military or Railway Museum (St.Thomas)
- NavCan (London)
- CFB Borden or CFB Trenton
- Labatt’s Brewery (London)
- Rush Fruit Winery (Aylmer)
- Quai Du Vin Estate Winery (St.Thomas)
- Playhouse (Grand Bend)
- Lunch/Dinner (Port Stanley or Port Dover)



Please contact Armin Grunwald at 519-474-2194 or wing427tours@rogers.com if you have any questions or other suggestions.

FIFTY? That’s right; on June 14th, 2012, the 427 (London) Wing will turn fifty.

With the end of the Second World War, airmen returning home to London wanted to continue their interest in aviation both as flyers and friends.

- April 2, 1947 – the London Air Force Association was formed with a constitution and by-laws.
- March 15, 1950 – 427 (London) Wing received its charter from the RCAFA and, today, is one of the leading members of what has now become the Air Force Association of Canada (AFAC,) with more than seventy Wings across this country.
- June 14, 1962 – Subsequently, 427 Wing was incorporated under the laws of Ontario and received its provincial charter and its liquor license in the fall of 1963.

One of the more interesting features about 427 Wing is the building that it occupies on the grounds of the London International Airport. Built in 1939-40 as an Airmen’s Canteen, a place where wartime personnel could relax and be refreshed, it is believed to be the last still usable building of its kind in south-western Ontario. Post-war, it remained in use throughout the Korean and NATO eras until purchased by 427 Wing on September 1, 1959. Watch out for next year...and remember it's our 50th....keep the ideas coming. Do you think we could get the Prime Minister, the Premier or who do you know that would make this a spectacular event for the Wing? And if the Wing would not be able to handle the crowds, where would we go to make it happen?

"Thank You" from the Kitchen of 427 (London) Wing, AFAC

Flo Douglas, of the Food Services Committee, tries to say “thank you” to all who donate items to the kitchen of the 427 (London) Wing. She knows that she misses people and wanted to ensure that everyone knows how grateful she is. If you wish to donate, items

such as coffee, tea, desserts, meat, fruits, vegetables, breads and cheeses are always appreciated to help make it a success.



Avro Arrow Puzzle

During the St. Thomas Air Show, Pablo and his sons of London, Ontario purchased a 1,000 piece puzzle of the Avro Arrow and finished it with pride after lots of hard work.



Meeting Reminders – Mark on your calendars the meeting dates for the 2012 Wing Year, Wing Executive Council (WEC) (composed of the Executive and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees) and General Meeting Dates (GM.)

- **NEW** – In 2012, the WEC will be meeting the second Friday of each month at **1:00 p.m.** The GM's are on Sundays at **2:00 p.m.**
- March & April's meeting dates can be found on the calendar at the end of the issue
- Friday, 4th May 2012 (WEC)
- Sunday, 6th May 2012 (AGM) (Annual General Meeting)
 - not 13th May because of Mother's Day and not 20th May because of Victoria Day
- Friday, 8 June 2012 (WEC)
- No meeting in July 2012
- This is early and for the records. December 31st, 2012, the Wing **WILL** have a New Year's Eve Dance. Nippy Watson will provide the entertainment. Details to follow.



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Together, we can make a difference!

Kitchen Duty – There is a NEED for a person to move kitchen pots on Thursdays (9:30 – 11:00) and Fridays (10:30 – 12:30.) Please see President Rene McKinnon or Committee Member Flo Douglas to volunteer. Also, help is needed in the kitchen for Friday lunches from 10:30 to 1:00. These light duties will include making coffee, setting up self-serve tables, serving lunches and clean up. No cooking or dishwashing required. For further info or to volunteer, please contact Nick Corrie at 519-471-4372.

Dr. Carolyn E. Dalgity

**Chiropractor
Reg. Trigenics Practitioner**

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Reminder – If you Move or Change your e-Address, please let the Membership Chairperson, Cathy Newman, know your new mailing address or new e-mail address at cathy.newman@rogers.com or telephone at 519-452-1886.

Air Force Wisdom

- "Cluster bombing from B-52s is very, very accurate. The bombs are guaranteed to always hit the ground." – USAF Ammo Troop
- "It is inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed." – USAF Manual
- "If you see a bomb technician running, follow him." – USAF Ammo Troop
- "You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3." – PF Crickmore (test pilot)

Your Ad could appear here. Advertise your business now in the "London Link." Contact 427 Wing for details.


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Empty Ink Cartridge Fundraiser for the 1947 Aeronca 'Chief' Aircraft Project

There is a box located at the Wing in which to deposit all empty ink cartridges. For every cartridge you return, the Project will receive a donation of up to \$2.50 to sponsor the Air Cadets. This donation money contributes toward fundraising for the rebuilding of the 1947 Aeronca 'Chief' Aircraft by Air Cadets. For more information, contact LCol (ret'd) Armin or Judy Grunwald, Fund-raising Chairpersons, Aeronca Aircraft Committee at 519-474-2194 or agrunwald@rogers.com

- This project has been organized to help train Air Cadets, which, undoubtedly, will benefit the Community;
- Cadets can earn a high school credit;
- This is an exciting opportunity for our local Air Cadets;
- The Air Cadet League of Canada has approved the sponsorship of this training project to enhance students' skills in Aviation Technology and Maintenance;
- In 2008, we began the rebuilding of vintage aircraft, which was donated to the Air Cadet Program; the Project will continue for a number of years.




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Treasurer's Wrap-Up, by Chuck Hardy, CD

Canadians are patient people waiting for buses, trains and planes. This patience extends to queuing up for Friday lunches. Before or after the "Q," please consider dropping a few coins in the donation jar. The Wing banker has replenished the coin wrappers, so please get me rolling those pennies, nickels and dimes. Here's my non-sequitur... talking about "Q's" or lines, please look over the books on sale. We have

great prices for great books. Thanks to everyone who have donated books and to everyone who have bought them as well. It all helps your Wing.

This is the time of the year when expenses are more than income. Membership renewals in the next couple of months should help the financial picture out. The mostly mild winter has helped in reduced heating costs and, as well, a few dollars for snow removal. There has been savings from discontinuing the satellite TV service, as the television was seldom used. There is a proposal in the works to rent out some of our space in the members' lounge. You likely have read about that and/or attended the general meeting on February 12th.

Enjoy your tour of this fine edition of The London Link. Let's hear it for Tammy, our editor par excellence. Here's my final request for a "Q." Oh, yes... I'm sure you have a story to tell all readers and Tammy stands by to receive it for a future issue of the London Link. You can send your article by e-mail, regular Canada Post, delivering it in person or carrier pigeon, but please, no C.O.D. All the best everyone, Chuck

<p>March Lynn Bates Robert Cross Justa Gilliland George Johnston Chris Redfearn Hilda Smeltzer John Tevlin, CD Dick Thomas, CD Bill Webster Bill Welsh</p>	<p>Birthday</p> <p>Brats</p>	<p>April Barry Daugharty Don Gilks Judy Grunwald Catherine Herdman Bill Hines, CD Melville Hymers Sonia Kaipainen Al MacPhail, CD Brian McCarthy John McClean Fred Ryder Mike Sydorko Howard Wade</p>
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Second Words, by 2nd V/P, Rick Holland, CD

A very busy Christmas season is over for another year. 427 (London) Wing hosted a very successful New Years Levee and it was well attended by many members and guests. Thanks for your support. We now press on to activities for 2012. As everyone is aware, in June of this year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our charter. The planning committee is busy putting together an event that will make us all proud to be members of 427 Wing. Elections are just around the corner; so, if you can spare some time, submit your name as a candidate for any position you wish. This will be a different type of column, to give you a quick look at one of the RCAF heavy lift aircraft used 50-60 years ago. (Ref: <http://www.rcafarc.forces.gc.ca/v2/equip/hst/boxcar-eng.asp>)

Fairchild – (C)C-119 Flying Boxcar



Aircraft Specifications

- CDN Registration: CC-119
- US/NATO Registration: C-119
- Manufacturer: Fairchild Engine and Airplane Corporation
- Crew / Passengers: crew of five and up to 62 troops or 35 stretcher cases or up to 10,000 lb payload
- Power Plant(s): Two 3,500 h.p. Wright Whirlwind R3350-85 engines.
- Performance: max speed: 402 km/h; cruising speed: 330 km/h; service ceiling: 7,285 m; range: 3,219 km
- Weights: empty: 18,144 kg; gross: 29,030 kg
- Dimensions: span: 33.30 m; length: 26.37 m; height: 8.08 m; wing area: 134.43 sq m.
- Armament: none

Keeping these figures in mind, in the next issue of the Link I will pass on the stats for the newest heavy lift aircraft procured by the RCAF, the Boeing C-17 Globemaster 111,

The Boxcar put into service by the RCAF was actually an evolution of the Fairchild C-82 Packet designed in 1941. First flown in 1944, the C-82 was briefly manufactured by both Fairchild and North American Aviation, but the end of the war saw the latter's production cease, and by 1948 manufacture of the C-82 stopped entirely in favour of the improved C-119. Retaining the Packet's basic design features of twin-tail booms and a clamshell door, the C-119 was slimmer, had more powerful engines, and a relocated flight deck.

When the Boxcar was introduced to the RCAF in April 1952, it gave Air Transport Command (ATC) its first heavy lift transport capable of accommodating 65 troops. They were used in the Army support and Arctic resupply roles, but in the extreme cold of the Arctic winter, aircraft would not stay on the ground any longer than necessary, hence, most resupplies were by parachute drop. When overnight stops did occur, the engine oil was diluted with aviation fuel, the amount of dilution dependent on the forecast overnight temperature.

so you can compare what equipment we had in the past and what we have now. Until the next issue, keep well, and drop in for a nice lunch some Friday.



427 (London) Wing, AFAC and Royal London Military Institute present Tour #26 – Canadian International Military Tattoo at Copps Coliseum, Hamilton and Dinner at the Elm Hurst Inn, Ingersoll – 54 tickets and seats have been reserved.

- When: Sunday, 24th of June 2012
- Cost Per Person: \$90.00
- Final Payment Date: 17th of May 2012
- Choose your dinner entrée: chicken, salmon or beef

We are organizing a joint tour and hope both members and guests can join us. Please let us know by e-mail, telephone or sign your name in the Sign-up Book at 427 (London) Wing (including telephone number and e-mail address.) Make all cheques payable to "RLMI" and mail to address below.


- Address: 333 Hartson Road, London, ON, N6H 5B7
- Any questions, contact Armin or Judy Grunwald (contact info on page two)

Continuing Book Sale – MORE books needed


Chuck Hardy, Treasurer, launched a Book Sale at 427 (London) Wing in June 2011 as a fundraiser. It was a great success! Now we need more books to sell for the continuing Book Sale. Several Wing Members and guests have mentioned that they have plenty of books they could donate to the Wing for the ongoing Book Sale, but have not done so yet. The Wing has not marked prices on the books, but relies on those persons purchasing the books to make a reasonable donation to the Wing for both hard and soft cover books covering many topics. If you want to donate, please drop them off at the Wing during Friday lunch or on Wednesday afternoon at the Card games. If you need someone to pick them up, please contact Chuck at chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca.

More... Air Force Wisdom

- "The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire."
- "When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane, you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash."
- "Never fly in the same cockpit with someone braver than you."

March 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 WT	2 HL	3 LVRC
4	5	6 RAA	7 Cards	8	9 HL WEC	10
11	12	13 MAC	14 Cards BCC	15 RC	16 HL	17 
18	19	20	21 Cards	22	23 HL	24
25	26	27 FO	28 Cards	29	30 HL	31

April 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Golf	4 Cards	5 WT	6 Closed	7
8	9	10 Golf MAC	11 Cards BCC	12	13 HL WEC	14
15 WT	16 WT	17 Golf	18 Cards	19	20 HL	21
22 GM	23	24 Golf FO	25 Cards	26	27 HL Tags	28 Tags
29 Tags WT	30					

- **BCC** – 7:30 p.m. – British Car Club
- **Closed** – 6th April for Good Friday
- **FO** – 7:30 p.m. – Fanshawe Optimists
- **Golf** – Weather dependent, starts at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays from April to September. Place TBA as Golfland on Crumlin Side Road has closed. Price TBA.
- **LVRC** – 7:30 p.m. – London Vintage Radio Club
- **MAC** – 7:30 p.m. – Model Aircraft Club
- **RC** – 0900 – Retired Commissionaires
-  – **St Patrick's Day Dance:** Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Entertainment from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.: Music by Nippy Watson. Cost: \$10.00 (including a late, light lunch) per person at the door, or purchase tickets in advance at the Friday lunches at the Wing or by contacting Jack or Joan Clark (info on page 2.) Held at 427 Wing.
- **RAA** – 7:30 p.m. – Recreational Aircraft Association
- **Tags – Air Cadets** – The 2012 tag days will be the 27th, 28th and 29th of April.
- **WT** – Wood Turners

Drinking Water – Gratefully reproduced from 702 Wing Lethbridge, Vapour Trails Newsletter. You probably already know that you need water to help flush the toxins out of your body... but, did you know that there is a correct time to drink water? According to specialists, drinking water at a certain time maximizes its effectiveness on the body.

- Two glasses of water after waking up helps activate your internal organs.
- One glass of water thirty minutes before a meal helps digestion.
- One glass of water before taking a bath helps lower blood pressure.
- One glass of water before going to bed avoids a stroke or heart attack.
- Lastly, water at bedtime will also help prevent night time leg cramps. Your leg muscles are seeking hydration when they cramp and wake you up with a Charlie Horse, which are painful spasms or cramps in the leg muscles, typically lasting anywhere from seconds to a few hours



Message from the President 427 (London) Wing, Mr. Rene McKinnon

Recently there was a letter sent to all Wing members. It concerned an issue that is significant to all of us. That is – how do we keep the flags flying at 427 (London) Wing? Change! Change is the answer. When it comes to manifesting change, our real job is to focus on the end result. Simply doing what we can, with what we have, from where we are, will always be enough to move heaven and earth or, in our case, 427 (London) Wing, forward. We will earn our wings every day.

As mentioned in the letter, one initiative we are pursuing is that of a possible co-operative venture with The Secrets of Radar Museum and ourselves. To move forward, we needed the support of the Wing Executive and the Wing Membership. I am pleased to report to you that the support from both parties was just short of 100% in favour. As a result, a committee has been set up to investigate all avenues that will allow us to bring this to a mutually satisfactory conclusion. Progress notices will be issued regularly.

The Radar Museum is very excited about the opportunity to be at the Wing and to be at the airport. RCAF and Radar is a good combo. Just ask any pilot. We go hand in hand.

At this moment in time we are committed to moving this program to a successful conclusion as quickly as possible. We have other ideas and suggestions that we believe will be part of a new and exciting era of our Wing. In closing, I must comment on the "silent" membership of our Wing. That is the members who, for whatever reason are not able to get out to the Friday lunch and other functions. One example (of the many who called in) is a member whom I spoke with who has been renewing Wing membership for the last eleven years, but has not been able to get out to the events. We may not get to see all of you, but your support is worth its weight in gold.

Thank you,