

- August 2016 -



A gaggle of Seareys sits on Giants Tomb Island on one of the many “Splashes” arranged during the 2016 Georgian Gaggles. Each day the group flew a different sortie to various locations around the southern part of “The Bay”.

President’s Message

Once again, the weather cooperated to provide us with a great day for the Aviation Fun Day event. Early reports indicate that it was even more successful than last year’s event. Thanks to some prior arrangements, non-Mode-C aircraft were allowed into the zone to attend the event including Nick Jones’ Nano trike.

Thank you to Gunter and JC for displaying your aircraft, Clarence Martens who worked the “Amateur aircraft building techniques” display at the Cadet building and Ted Welfred who provided some break relief to the rest of us. It’s great to see that there are still a few dedicated individuals that take the time to promote RAA and build stronger links between the public and the aviation community. For some photos of this event go to: http://gusair.com/htdocs/html/aviation_fun_day_16.html

Since the Yarmouth trip, I’ve had the opportunity to fly a few places and experience

a few adventures around Southern Ontario. This was my second year attending the Georgian Gaggles, which is a gathering primarily of Searey owners, but John Dunlop, who organizes the daily fly-outs, meals and events opens the invitation to other seaplane owners who may be interested. This year there were five Seareys and two floatplanes, but so many co-pilots that there was never an empty passenger seat.

The weather was good for the MacPat fly-in, but the attendance was rather low with only four planes attending. The CPR3 – Teviotdale fly-in will be the last one for KWRAA in 2016 and we would like to see more members turn out for it. **Fly in, drive in, bike in, just do whatever it takes to join us at the next one!** Remember that co-pilots are welcome too.

I’m hoping 2016 has been a great year for the rest of you; it certainly has been for me!

- Dan

MacPat Fly-in at Metz Field – CMZ2

Thanks again to Mac and Pat for hosting this event at their strip just north of Arthur ON. It's unfortunate that the weather turned stormy on Saturday, but Sunday turned out to be a great alternate from a weather perspective. Unfortunately, the short notice on the date change meant that a few KWRAA members were unable to attend due to other commitments on Sunday.

As usual though, there were a few die-hards that seem to make it out to most (if not all) of these events. There were only a few that actually flew in to the event this year. The

winds were quite favourable, blowing lightly from the north-west right down the runway.

Don't forget that Saturday is our last fly-in of the 2016 season! This is a new venue for us, but CPR3 (Palmerston/Teviotdale) is a great spot with crossed runways and mostly clear approaches. Come and check out Lee's hangar and home field. We need your support at these events and your opinion on whether this should become one of the regular fly-in locations.

Fly in, drive in, bike in, just do whatever it takes to join us at the last fly-in this year! Remember that co-pilots are always welcome too.

- Dan



Only three planes flew to the MacPat Fly-in this year!



Comfortable temperatures and broken clouds



Good friends and good food... good times!



Mike performed his magic on the barbeque.

More Float Plane Adventures...

A few years ago, my wife Chris and I looked at several cottages and cottage lots and even made an offer on one, but we never did get one. Now, I'm rather glad we didn't. Instead of spending weekends opening the cottage, doing routine maintenance, renovations, dealing with cottage associations, fishing the same lake all the time and eventually closing the cottage up for the winter, I enjoy the freedom of going to whatever lake I want and visiting with whomever I wish, almost whenever I want.

Sure, I don't get to enjoy the pleasure of capital gains, but I avoid the eventual issues of inheritance taxes or other disposition of the cottage. Mainly though, I get to enjoy the travel, stress relief and life-lengthening reduction in blood pressure that comes with freedom and enjoyment of float flying.

To that end, I have taken the opportunity to fly a number of places this summer. Besides the Yarmouth trip with Lee Coulman, I have been to Muskoka several times, up to Sudbury and South River, up to Georgian Bay, and over to the Madawaska Highlands southeast of Algonquin Park.

Granted, being retired helps incredibly with having the time to travel in my Highlander, but there is a certain mental mindset that needs to be overcome before leaving familiar ground to explore with an amateur-built aircraft. It takes a certain amount of time-acquired confidence to leave the patch, then a little more to venture out on day trips. The quantum leap occurs when you have enough confidence in yourself and your flying machine to begin taking longer trips. Given the limited number of landing strips in Ontario, having floats on your aircraft is a big bonus! With 250,000 lakes and rivers in this province, there almost always seems to be something within gliding distance, especially north and east of Lake Simcoe.

Hopefully, we still have a couple of months of float flying ahead this year, but already in 2016 I have accumulated over 100 hours on floats with well over half of those hours involving water take-offs, landings, water operations, or a combination thereof. I've had a number of friends, relatives and RAA members up in my

Highlander to experience the thrill of float flying.

Below are a number of photos taken this summer as I travelled to various locations in Ontario.

When I tell people about my amateur-built float plane, the inevitable question always seems to be, "Do you have a cottage that you fly to all the time?" My response is generally, "No, why would I bother with one of those?"

*Disclaimer – I do own a recreational property in BC that is used for skiing during the winter months when float flying is much too challenging in Ontario... ;-)



Deer Lake near Verner (between North Bay and Sudbury)



Fishing for Bass in a small lake northeast of Sudbury

The Leading Edge



At the seaplane base in New Germany, Nova Scotia



Friends on a small private Southern Ontario Lake



Corn on the cob roasting in the campfire on a remote lake after a bit of rain on a camping trip with G. Walsh



Visiting relatives near Bracebridge on Lake Muskoka



Meeting with Lee Coulman on Conestoga Lake



Crashing a camping trip by Gary Walsh and friends at a remote Muskoka area bass lake. I just dropped in to say hello on my way to another lake in the area.

The Leading Edge



Visiting Scott Neufeld's parents on Bray Lake near South River, and doing a bit of fishing there



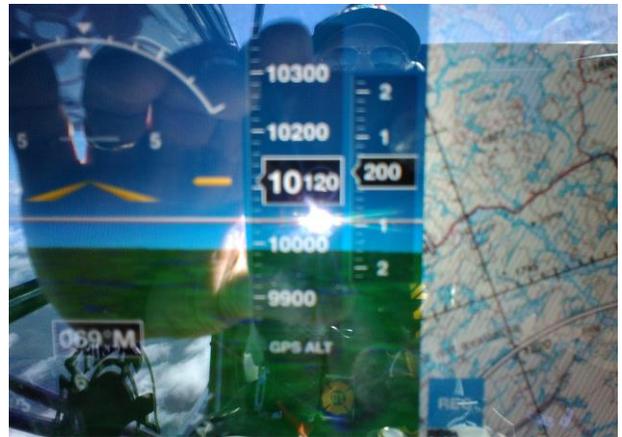
On the beach near the mouth of the Nottawasaga River during the Georgian Gaggle 2016. I departed directly from there after the Thursday night BBQ.



Socketed in east of Lake Simcoe... what next? Even an Over-the-Top rating wouldn't have helped here, but the view was interesting looking at the cloud tops from the clear skies to the west of Lake Simcoe



Sitting on the runway, waiting for the ceilings to lift. About two hours later, the sun and wind cleared out the clouds east of Lake Simcoe



FL100 and still climbing at 200ft/min... high enough... I just wanted to know I could do it in the Highlander.



Not much detail on the ground from way up here... The captain is beginning the long descent to Ayleen Lake... Ensure your seats and tray tables are in their full upright position...

The Leading Edge



Visiting Jack Leroux on Aylen Lake near Algonquin

One SUV company used the line “You Belong Outside”, but a good floatplane will take you places an SUV can’t possibly get to. Whether your plane is on floats or wheels, get out and explore! There’s so much to see and do in this



Fishing a remote bass/pike lake with Jack Leroux

country, province and even just in Southern Ontario. With so many places to go and things to see, it’s a good thing that summer isn’t over yet! Catch you later ... gotta fly!

- Dan

Upcoming Events in 2016: (Highlighted lines are KWRAA Events*)

August 27	-	KWRAA Fly-In at CPR3 in Teviotdale	(Get Directions)
August 31	-	Rotary Charity Airshow in Brantford, ON	
Sept 3-5	-	Canadian International Air Show – CNE Grounds	
September 12	-	September Meeting at 7:30 pm in the Cadet building at CYKF	
September 17-18	-	Air Power Demonstration at London International Airshow	
October 17	-	October Meeting at 7:30 pm in the Cadet building at CYKF	
November 14	-	November Meeting at 7:30 pm in the Cadet building at CYKF	
November 25 (TBA)	-	KWRAA Christmas Party in lieu of a December meeting	

* KWRAA events are fly-in and/or drive-in (Please advise the host in advance if you plan to attend whenever possible.)

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Check out the KWRAA website regularly for the latest event details, chapter information and classified ads. <http://www.KWRAA.net>