

- October 2016 -



Low and Over by a Harvard ... The roar of that big Pratt and Whitney radial with its propeller tips breaking the sound barrier is unmistakable ... it really never gets old, does it!!!

President's Message

By the time I release the October issue of "The Leading Edge" newsletter, I will have in excess of 120 hours on floats this year. A lot of that time has been spent exploring Muskoka lakes, fishing in many of them, and a flight to Yarmouth, NS, but a good chunk of the time was spent attending local fly-ins.

Besides our own KWRAA-sponsored events, I have been to the Tiger Boys fly-in in Guelph and the Bushhawk Creek fly-in near Straffordville. Wherever I go I am awed by the variety of aircraft and pilots in attendance at these events. There's always something to see and do, and I never seem to leave without having learned something new about aviation, someone in attendance or even about myself.

Over the last couple of years, I have had the privilege of flying with several of the current and past members of our own organization, from our youngest (current) member to our oldest (past) member. At last count, I have flown with at least 11 KWRAA members and

about 20 other friends and relatives. My point here is that we are lucky to be able to share our love of aviation, especially with other pilots and builders who appreciate the work we put into our hobby and enjoy sharing experiences at fly-ins and other aviation events.

Be sure to check out the photo spreads and stories of the two recent non-RAA fly-in events I attended this year.

For anyone still building, I just want to let you know that there will be no shortage of places to go, people to fly with, and people to meet and talk aircraft building stories with once your plane is finished.

We really are lucky to have such a great hobby available to us in Canada and organizations like RAA Canada and COPA are critical in maintaining this great privilege we share.

I'm already looking forward to the 2017 fly-in season!
- Dan

Tiger Boys Fly-In 2016

As usual the Guelph Tiger Boys put together a great fly-in event this year. Gary Walsh and I flew our seaplanes over to check out the action and many displays on the September 17-18 weekend. It was raining on Saturday, but Sunday was a great day to fly over there.



A few of the great looking planes at the fly-in and an indication of how colourful the event was too!



Dozens of light aircraft and hundreds of attendees



From the East end of the taxiway, the line of planes and people appeared to go on forever



Lots of vintage and homebuilt aircraft on display

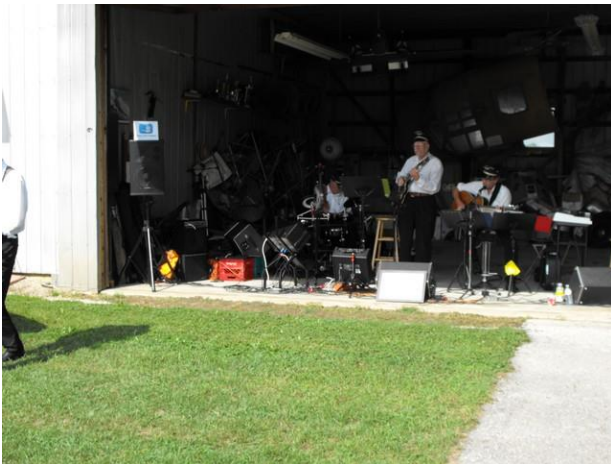


Gord Reed's Pegazair was on display and only awaiting a final inspection before the test flights. We are looking forward to seeing Gord's bird in the air.



C-IRAM was on display. This Jodel model D9 aircraft was built by Geoff Royston many years ago. It carried the C-FRAM registration until Robert Milton of Air Canada fame bought the rights to C-FRAM from Geoff

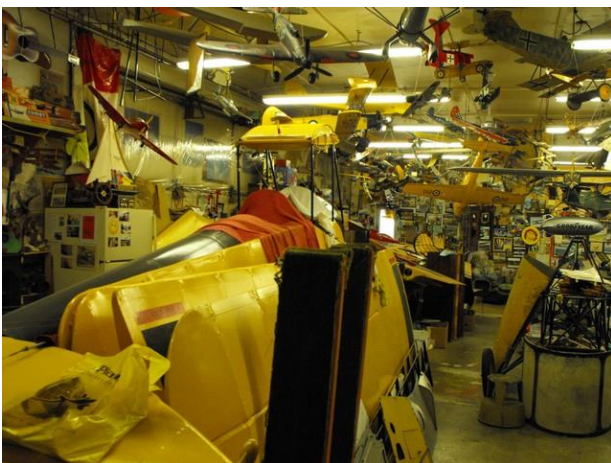
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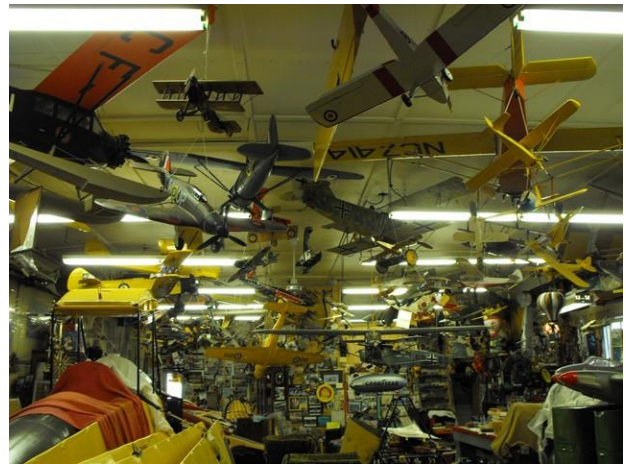
They even had a live band playing in one of the hangars. They were dressed as airline pilots and they sounded pretty good too!



If you have never been in the Tiger Boys Hangar/Museum it is certainly worth the \$5 donation to get inside and have a tour.



Besides all the model aircraft and collectables, they are storing parts and appear to be assembling another tiger moth inside this hangar.



A feast for any pilot or aircraft builder's eyes; this place has something interesting everywhere you look



The Tiger Boys obviously take their hobby seriously... in a lighthearted sort of way. Toys and collectables fill a couple of shelves in their hangar.



There were a number of vintage aircraft and cubs doing fly-pasts and demos throughout the day to keep the crowds entertained and amused

Bush Hawk Creek Fly-in

September 24 was a great day for the Bushhawk Creek Fly-in. This is the second year I have attended and shared my ride with Gary Walsh, who was also anxious to get there. With exception of Oshkosh, this is one of the best fly-ins I have ever been to, in terms of the number of people in attendance and the great variety of aircraft to see.



TJ and LJ Lillam host the Bushhawk Creek fly-in each year at their farm strip southeast of Straffordville, Ontario. It may very well be the only "towered" farm airstrip in Ontario, albeit it is more of an observation tower than a control tower.



There is a camping and rustic cottage area in the woods near the southern approach to the property. The cabins are designed to look like a rustic western town from the 1800's, complete with a jail, a saloon, a sheriff's office and a post office. Each one is a self-contained basic cabin for overnight stays.



The main hangar houses some interesting artifacts including an old fire engine and an eclectic collection of aircraft parts.



There were a number of antique vehicles in attendance and pilots of every vintage wandering around enjoying the Lillam's hospitality.



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They have a small shuttle wagon that runs between the camping area and the main hangar every 15 minutes or so to allow people a chance to tour the place or check out the planes as they arrived and departed from the other end of their 3600' x 100' grass strip.



To put that into perspective, the longest paved strip at Guelph is only 2500' and 40' wide. Maintaining the strip at Bushhawk must be a monumental task at times, since that translates to over 8 acres of grass to mow and roll on the runway alone! Add to that, the camping area and the main lawn at the house and around the hangar, you can appreciate the work it takes just to prepare the grass for the fly-in.

There was a lounge area set-up at one end of the main hangar and the traditional hamburger barbeque with a drink and muffin for desert. A small donation was appreciated to help defray the cost of food at this event as with most fly-ins. I tip my hat to the Lillams for putting on this great aviation event!



Some of the more notable aircraft this year were a couple of Harvards (see cover shot) and a beautifully restored Twin Beech (Model 18, I believe).



Dave and Robin Hadfield of Barrie flew into Bushhawk in their gorgeous Fairchild. Dave is the brother of astronaut Chris Hadfield and part of what could be argued as Canada's "First Family" of aviation. His wife, Robin is an amazing aviator in her own right, flying in air races and being involved in both the Ninety-nines and Ladies Love Taildraggers organizations.

Given the number of unique planes and notable attendees, this is one of the must attend fly-ins each year! Be sure to put it in your 2017 calendar.

For more photos of the event check out Eric Dumigan's airshow photography site at: <http://www.airic.ca/html/bushhawk16.html>

See you at the October meeting at 7:30 on the 17th!

Lee Coulman and I will be doing a presentation about another adventure we had during the first week of October to the Bush Plane Heritage Museum in Sault Ste. Marie and a planned flight up the Agawa canyon to check out the Fall colours. It was a good trip with lots to see, but all did not go as planned... We'll fill you in on the details at the October meeting!

Please note: The RAA Christmas party date has been confirmed on **Friday, November 25, 2016.**

We are back at Ariss Valley Golf and Country Club (Room seats 125 people)

Get it in your calendar now!

Price is now confirmed at \$39 per person.

Tickets are available from Mac McCulloch.

More details to follow at the October meeting.

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

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	-	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>