

- August 2018 -



The weather was a bit unsettled for the KWRAA Fly-in at Roger Deming's place on July 28, 2018. Only two of us flew our planes in, but a number of regulars drove in to enjoy the event. Here, Mike Shave and I point out the winner of the 2018 Master Chef Award, Mike Thorp who continues to demonstrate his mastery of the barbeque at our fly-ins!

President's Message

Wow... could the weather have been more changeable than it was at the July 28 fly-in at Roger Deming's. We had a mixed bag of wind, rain and sunny skies that kept us guessing for much of the day. It was the perfect example of the old saying, "Don't like the weather... wait 5 minutes"! As usual, I have included a number of photos for those members who could not make it, so they know what they missed! Thanks to Clarence Martens for accompanying me as co-pilot to this fly-in. I hope more of you take the opportunity to ask the builders in the chapter if they want to fly to help keep them motivated and somewhat current as pilots.

On a sad note... this week, we lost one of our long-time members. Gunter Malich had been fighting the nasty effects of chemo and radiation therapy and was showing some signs of improvement after a stem cell transplant. Unfortunately, he contracted pneumonia and succumbed to his illness on Tuesday night.

Gunter was a director of KWRAA and good friend. He will surely be missed! (See page 6.)

In this issue I have included a few photos from the 2018 Georgian Bay Searey Gaggles. Lee and I had a good time once again flying and visiting with some old friends from previous Gaggles.

On a side note, I got a call from the organizers of the *Les Faucheurs de Marguerites du Québec* fly-in we attended at Sherbrooke airport on our way to the COPA convention in Saint John, and I (Highlander C-FDEP) won first place in the "Homebuilt from a Kit" category. Hopefully they will get the results for 2018 posted on their website soon.

With so many excellent events on the calendar in August and September, including the fly-in at Tom Shupe's place in Mount Forest...

2018 is really turning out to be another great year for KWRAA!

- Dan

2018 Fly-in at Deming Field

In the July issue, Mike Shave and I got a cursory mention as a couple of regulars at the fly-ins. This time we were the centre of interest as the only ones who braved the variable weather to fly in to Roger Deming's airstrip.



Roger had things well organized with tents, tables and even a porta-potty already set up when we arrived.



With the strong winds and driving rain off and on throughout the day, it became obvious that a tarp wall would be a great addition to the tents during the downbursts.



The weather wasn't all bad, in fact here's Don pointing out some of the blue skies we saw off and on throughout the day.



It was cool though when the sun wasn't shining, so light jackets were the order of the day.



The Leading Edge

Here, we capture photo evidence of Mike's secret... apparently it's the combination of using the perfect sauce and the attention to detail in timing everything just right!



Roger's 2000' N-S grass strip was in good shape and is plenty wide for any small aircraft and pilot to land there. Too bad the weather didn't co-operate for the inaugural fly-in at this location.



Roger is working on the E-W strip and intersection by adding a bit of fill to level that section. He may also be extending the E-W strip by two hundred feet or so, but that may not be for another year or two. It was obvious Roger has been putting a lot of thought and effort into improving his runways and property to accommodate light aircraft there.



With the closing of CPR3 in October, it's good to see people like Roger are opening up their strips for others to use. I believe this will be the new home for C-GJIB as Lee is being forced to move his Searey to another location. I look forward to hearing from both Roger and Lee this fall at one of our meetings to see how this strip is coming along and how it is working out as a new home base for Lee's plane. I believe Roger may have even applied to have the strip registered, which will give it an official designation and provide him and the strip with some legal protection as an existing aerodrome.

As one friend put it, not only has Roger enhanced his property by improving and registering his aerodrome, he likely raised the property value by a significant amount given the current climate surrounding the Responsible Aerodrome Development legislation in Canada. It has become much more difficult to start a new aerodrome project and finding one that is already a working aerodrome is much more challenging.

Given the work Roger has already done and having flown in there a couple of times now, I look forward to the 2019 fly-in already. I'm sure it's going to be much more enticing for a lot of members and friends of RAA to fly into for these events in the future!

Georgian Gaggles 2018

Wind and weather were a bit of a factor for the 2018 gathering of the Seareys at CYEE Midland/Huron Airport. The Georgian Gaggles as it is known attracted five Seareys and two float planes this year. The first couple of days were scaled back a bit while we waited for more of the planes to arrive, but we managed a sortie to Giant's Tomb for a swim and a visit with some of Lee's friends at Snug Harbour near Parry Sound on day one and a trip over to Orillia for lunch on day two.



One of the reasons for going to Orillia was to check out the new Tailwind Restaurant and the upgraded facilities at the airport. It is quite apparent that the new owner has invested a lot of money to make this a stopping point for food and fuel when heading north and a destination for pilots living in, or visiting the Orillia area. The Lake St. John seaplane base which forms part of the airport is now attracting a lot of seaplane activity. In the short time it takes to have lunch there, it's not unusual on a nice day to see several float planes land in the bay and taxi over to the ramp for fuel and depart again.

As we headed toward Orillia, I gave an old friend a call and let him know we were on our way there. Gary Walsh moved up to Orillia this past spring and was happy to meet Lee and I at Tailwinds. It also gave us the opportunity to introduce Gary to a couple of other Searey owners, John Dunlop and Denis Vogan. John is the Canadian dealer and arranges this gaggle every year for the benefit of Searey owners and friends.



Each evening as part of the trip, all of the pilots/owners and spouses go out for supper at an establishment in the Midland area. It's a great opportunity to share stories of the day's flights and a chance to catch up with people we haven't seen since last year's gaggle.



This year we had Searey owners/builders from Australia, Ireland, USA and Canada. Other than John and Denis, who keep their planes in Midland, Lee and I travelled the shortest distance to get there!

Anyway, the third day (Thursday) was definitely the most interesting with seven planes in total flying in two groups of three and four through the islands of Georgian Bay up to Parry Sound and Snug Harbour, then back to Giant's Tomb before returning to Midland.

The Leading Edge



Although there was a little unsettled weather predicted for later in the day, the morning and early afternoon couldn't have been much better for flying. The wind was from the west, which provided another great opportunity for the Seareys and Highlander to do some splashes in the somewhat sheltered waters between the islands and in the many back bays between Penetanguishene and Parry Sound.

While in the Snug Harbour area, we found a great little bay surrounded by low sloping rocks suitable for taxiing Seareys up onto the rocks.



Not only did it provide us with a great place to park the planes, it provided a great opportunity to have our bagged lunch and take a swim. Seareys do not like docks because of their sponsons, hanging down off the wings, but a flat rock like this or a sandy beach like Giant's Tomb is an ideal playground for Seareys and their pilots to rest and bask in the sun for a while.



The natural scenery on Georgian Bay is rustic yet spectacular in spite of the numerous cottages on the islands and mainland. There are even still a few lighthouses to fly past.



Giant's Tomb was a favourite stop because of its sandy beaches and relative seclusion. On the weekend this beach is packed with boaters, but midweek it's an ideal stop for seaplanes. (2 floatplanes and 5 Seareys here)



The Leading Edge

I am already looking forward to the 2019 Gaggle although John is moving to Tillsonburg, so things are up in the air a little. If Denis doesn't take over the gaggle, who knows... maybe the 2019 Gaggle will be on Lake Erie instead! We already know that Seareys like sandy beaches and Erie has a plethora of those. Who knows, maybe next year I will be

sharing photos and talking about the Erie shoreline including other great places in Ontario like Pelee Island, Rondeau Bay, and Long Point ☺

- Dan



For more information about Gunter Malich's passing go to:

[https://www.therecord.com/announcements-
obituaries-memorials/obituaries-death-
notices/8810574-malich-gunter/](https://www.therecord.com/announcements-obituaries-memorials/obituaries-death-notices/8810574-malich-gunter/)

and

[https://memorials.henrywalser.com/gunter-
malich/3583040/service-details.php](https://memorials.henrywalser.com/gunter-malich/3583040/service-details.php)

Service: **Sat., Aug. 25th, 2018 at 5:00pm**
Henry Walser Funeral Home
507 Frederick St., Kitchener, ON N2B 2A5

Upcoming Events in 2018: (Highlighted lines are KWRAA Events*)

August 11-12	-	Gathering of the Classics in Edenvale, ON
August 11-12	-	Woodstock Flying Club – World's largest private garage sale Info Here
August 17-19	-	UPAC Convention – Lubitz Field, Plattsville ON
August 25	-	Aviation Fun Day at CYKF – Waterloo Region International Airport
September 1	-	KWRAA Fly-In at Tom Shupe's in Mount Forest INFO Here!
September 10	-	September Meeting at 7:30 in the Cadet building at CYKF
October 15	-	October Meeting at 7:30 in the Cadet building at CYKF
November 12	-	November Meeting at 7:30 in the Cadet building at CYKF
November 30	-	KWRAA Christmas Party – Details to follow later in 2018

* 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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