

- January 2024 -



The weather wasn't too bad the first week in December, so I managed to get a sunset flight in over KW and Guelph. This photo shows CNC4 – Guelph Airpark from the base leg of Runway 24 at the centre of the photo and the city of Guelph behind it, on the horizon, blending in with the warm-looking sunset on a cool December day. I had hoped for more flights in December, but the weather deteriorated by the middle of the second week, leaving us with rain, fog and low ceilings for the rest of the month. Maybe it's something to do with the El Nino off the west coast. It's supposed to peak as a strong event in November – January and end by April. At least we don't have to shovel the rain off our driveways and there's always the promise of an excellent flying season in 2024. Let's hope for it anyway. 😊

## President's Message

As we ring in the NewYear, we reflect on the year that was 2023. I hope everyone accomplished a few of their goals and I trust that the outstanding ones will be part of your 2024 resolutions.

My 2024 resolutions:

- Do more flying!
- Improve my piloting skills
- Take at least one long cross-country flight
- Finish rebuilding Aerial One
- Spend more quality time with family & friends
- Get my workspace organized better
- Eat less junk food and get more exercise

Let's see how many resolutions I can keep and how long I can keep them. 😊

In this issue I have included a number of photos from the KWRAA Christmas Party. I know there were a number of you that were unable to make it this year, but wanted to be there. It was a great event as usual.

I had expected that Lee and I would find the time to put together a longer update on the ADS-B situation in Canada. I'll try again next month to get the analysis done before the next issue.

In the meantime, I have included information on VFR weather minima, just in case the weather looks a little marginal but you still have an itch to go flying.

2024 is going to be a great year for KWRAA.

- Dan

## KWRRA Christmas Party

With another year behind us, I reflect on the great year we had at KWRRA. We have had meetings with guest speakers that enlightened us on several aspects of aviation, including flight safety, technology, aircraft construction and even a new aircraft kit on the market.

Many of us also belong to the local COPA chapter, the Breslau Flyers, and although they have much larger numbers in their membership, manage to have fewer people show up at some of their events than we do at KWRRA. I attribute this to the close bonds we have and the genuine interest we have in each other's success with our projects.

The common interests created by the need to build, restore and improve our planes whether they are still in construction or flying helps to build those bonds and helps us to recognize that others not only share our passion but are willing to share ideas that can make our own lives better in the process.

We were fortunate to have so many great members in our own chapter sharing their ideas and passion for aviation, creating so many wonderful memories of fly-ins and events like our Christmas Party.

We held the event at Runways Café at Waterloo Region Airport again this year. In spite of higher costs we are facing the last few years to hold a Christmas Party, members are still attending this event. At \$49 pp. it makes the chapter dues look very reasonable. 😊



Thanks again to Mac and Pat for all the work behind the scenes to set up the draws, decorating for the event, and all of the other work you do for these events that goes unnoticed. We do appreciate it!



We had a number of invited guests again this year and in spite of not actually being paid members, continue to support KWRRA events.





## The Leading Edge

Unfortunately, our regular MC for the event, Mike Thorpe and his wife Hetty could not be there due to another commitment, however he did send his brother Morty to assist Mac.



Someone said Morty was funnier and better looking than Mike, but we all missed Hetty and want Mike back for next year's party as MC.



Terry Little received the 2023 Holy Golly award



Roger Demming received the Larry Edwards Award for 2023.



Lee Coulman received the Joie de Vivre Award



And Don Sinclair received the President's Excellence Award for his ongoing support of the Vision, Mission and Values of KWRAA.



Congratulations to all of our award winners!



## The Leading Edge

I was approached by Mike Shave a few weeks before the party asking about the concept of an award recognizing the resilience and resolve of our members who had an incident with their aircraft requiring a commitment to rebuild and fly again. I know from experience that a serious incident requiring a rebuild is a confidence-shaking event and that the choice to rebuild says a lot about the character of those who decide to rebuild rather than leave the hobby.

Mike offered to create the award and I suggested a couple more names of members who met the criteria. I asked him to present it at the Christmas Party and he offered to say a few words about his inspiration for this award.



Mike expressed his admiration for the members who have been through the process of rebuilding then presented the “Broken Prop” award to Ed Nagle and Terry Little. Gord Reed was also recognized in absentia as a co-recipient with Ed and Terry for 2023.



The annual awards are an opportunity to show our admiration and respect for our friends in KWRAA. It's simple gestures like this that reinforce the sense of community that we get from being part of KWRAA. It's well worth the price of admission in my opinion!



To finish off the evening's entertainment, we got to see Merle and his family climb into their Cessna 206 and taxi off towards the runway for a departure back to Hanover, ON.



Our thanks to the staff at Runways Café for another excellent meal and great service.

Thanks also to all of the KWRAA members, spouses and friends who attended the 2023 KWRAA Christmas Party.


I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and I want to wish you all a Happy New Year on behalf of the KWRAA Executive and Directors.


- Dan

# The Leading Edge

Marginal weather can happen any time of the year, but late fall and early winter can be especially challenging with low cloud, light snow, mist and other impediments to visibility.

Here is a page from the 2006 Aviation Safety Letter that shows the VFR minima for safe flight. Memorize it or print it out and carry it in your flight bag.


Transport  
Canada
Transports  
Canada



**VFR Weather Minima\***

AIRSPACE		FLIGHT VISIBILITY	DISTANCE FROM CLOUD	DISTANCE AGL
Control Zones		not less than 3 miles**	horizontally: 1 mile vertically: 500 feet	vertically: 500 feet
Other Controlled Airspace		not less than 3 miles	horizontally: 1 mile vertically: 500 feet	—
Uncontrolled Airspace	1 000 feet AGL or above	not less than 1 mile (day) 3 miles (night)	horizontally: 2 000 feet vertically: 500 feet	—
	below 1 000 feet AGL – fixed-wing	not less than 2 miles (day) 3 miles (night) (see Note 1)	clear of cloud	—
	below 1 000 feet AGL – helicopter	not less than 1 mile (day) 3 miles (night) (see Note 2)	clear of cloud	—


\* See CAR 602, Division VI – Visual Flight Rules

\*\* Ground visibility when reported

NOTES 1: Notwithstanding *Canadian Aviation Regulations* (CAR) 602.115, an aircraft other than an helicopter may be operated in visibilities less than 2 miles during the day, when authorized to do so in an air operator certificate or in a private operator certificate.

2: Notwithstanding CAR 602.115, a helicopter may be operated in visibilities less than 1 mile during the day, when authorized to do so in an air operator certificate or in a flight training unit operator certificate—helicopter.

Reference: Transport Canada Aeronautical Information Manual (TC AIM), section RAC 2.7.3



# The Leading Edge

## Upcoming Events in 2024:

- *Highlighted lines are KWRAA Events\**
- *Bolded Lines are KWRAA Fly-ins\* (More details on fly-ins coming in the new year.)*
- *Fly-in Data Sheets are available on the KWRAA website at [www.kwraa.net](http://www.kwraa.net)*

January 18	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
February 15	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
March 21	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
Mar 28-Apr 2	-	Sun-n-Fun 2023
April 18	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
May 16	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
<b>June</b>	-	<b>KWRAA Fly-Ins - TBD</b>
<b>July</b>	-	<b>KWRAA Fly-Ins - TBD</b>
July 24-July 30	-	Oshkosh Air Venture 2023
<b>August</b>	-	<b>KWRAA Fly-Ins - TBD</b>
August 18-20	-	UPAC Convention 2023
<b>August 31</b>	-	<b>Damascus Field Fly-in CDF6 - (date to be confirmed)</b>
September 19	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
October 17	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
November 21	-	KWRAA Monthly Meeting – Cadet Youth Dev. Centre at CYKF
November 29	-	KWRAA Christmas Party – Runways Café at CYKF

\* KWRAA events are fly-in and/or drive-in.

KWRAA monthly meetings will be on the **third Thursday night of each month** next year unless we hear otherwise from the Cadet Youth Development staff, since we are using their building and working around their schedule for our KWRAA meetings.

If you know of other aviation events in Southern Ontario advise me and I will append the list.

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## KWRAA Executive Contact Information:

Due to an increase in spam emails, please reach out to me directly for the latest contact information for the KWRAA Executive members. Thank you, Dan Oldridge (519) 651-0651.

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