

- July 2016 -



A Fire Boss sits at the ready, awaiting the inevitable forest fires in New Brunswick. Lee and I were lucky enough to get a close-up look at this plane and others at the Miramichi Airport. There was some reciprocal interest in C-FDEP.

President's Message

With the 2016 fly-in season under way I want to remind everyone again that these events are what we make them ... no more and no less!

It was great to see so many KWRAA members and friends show up at the Largo Woods fly-in in spite of high winds, but at the Mount Forest fly-in, in spite of being blessed with great weather, only 4 planes flew in to the event. I know it is summer holiday season, but we would like to see more members turn out at the rest. **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.

In this issue of the Leading Edge, I talk a bit about the upcoming Aviation Fun Day at Waterloo Region International Airport. KWRAA has an opportunity to showcase what we do at this event and builders will be able to show off their planes to the public and other aviation enthusiasts. The plans for the event are being finalized but we are still looking for volunteers,

so please have a read through this article and see how you can participate.

Also, in this issue, you will find a few photos of the aircraft that our members flew in to the Mount Forest fly-in at Tom Shupe's strip.

Lee Coulman and I managed to complete our trek to the 2016 COPA Convention in Yarmouth Nova Scotia and you will be hearing a lot more about that adventure this fall. I am including a little teaser in this issue of the Leading Edge, but Lee managed to get so many great photos of the adventure and we have so many stories to tell that it will take an entire evening this fall to show you the highlights of this amazing journey.

It certainly has been a scorcher at times this summer, with more to come, but there have been some great flying days too!

2016 is going to be a great year for KWRAA!

- Dan

Aviation Fun Day!

Waterloo Regional Airport is planning an event in August they are calling Aviation Fun Day. The airport terminal, maintenance centre, aprons and a number of businesses will be opening their doors to the public to see the inner workings of the airport and get a close up view of some aircraft on static display. There will be rides available for a small fee from WWFC and GLHC.

It should be another great event this year, even without the airshow component. The airport and Region of Waterloo are hyping things up in the media and throughout the community, so there should be a fairly good turn out from the public. Last year the event drew thousands of people and this year we expect even more.

We have been asked to participate again and hope to have a number of member's planes as well as some tables set up to demonstrate aircraft building techniques. We hope to be able to give the public a good idea of what the RAA is all about and maybe even encourage a few potential builders.

As it stands at this point, we hope to have a few aircraft on Apron 4 with the COPA 26 pilots

and probably another display inside the Cadet Training Centre as we have been asked by Ron Gowing to have an airplane inside their building again this year. If anyone would prefer their aircraft inside and you have folding or removable wings, please let me know... otherwise my Highlander will likely end up inside again.

There will be food available in both areas as both COPA 26 and the Cadets will be trying to raise funds that day.

Please volunteer a little of your time on **August 20th** to help us with this event, if you can:

- Display your plane and talk about it,
- Demonstrate a construction technique,
- Assist us in building a display or banner beforehand, or
- Hand out information and talk to people about amateur-built aircraft

We need your help! Please volunteer to assist us on August 20th for Aviation Fun Day!

Thank you,

The RAA Executive

Mount Forest Fly-in at Tom Shupe's Place

Saturday turned out to be a great day to fly and an even better one to join other pilots and their co-pilots at a local fly-in. In spite of the light turnout, the food and fellowship was great.

Thanks again to Tom Shupe for hosting this event at his strip just north of Mount Forest. Tom has a 1600' grass strip with clear approaches. It was very smooth and well-groomed for the attendees flying in this past weekend.

It's unfortunate that so few people actually flew in to the event this year. (See the photos on the next page.) The weather was spectacular and the winds quite favourable, blowing lightly from the north-west right down the runway.

Don't forget to put **August 13th** in your event calendar when we will be flying in to Metz Field

for the MacPat fly-in. There are often a number of ultralights operating from the field and gliders from a field close by, so be sure to check the website for more details and fly-in information as the date gets closer. There is also a link to the most current information shown on the events page of this newsletter.

As I mentioned in my President's Message, "these events are what we make them ... no more and no less!" It takes a conscious decision by every individual member to make these group events what they are... we need everyone's attendance and support!

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

Be There! It's always a great event. - Dan

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Merle's Chinook Ultralight



Ed Connors and Mac flew in together in Ed's Nynja



Lee Coulman flew his Searey of course

Missing from the Fly-in...

Your Plane!



What a beautiful day for an RAA fly-in!

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Yarmouth or Bust!...

As most of our members know by now, Lee Coulman and I just got back from the COPA 2016 Convention in Yarmouth Nova Scotia. Our original plan was to fly both the Searey and Highlander out there and back, but as luck (and probably good planning) would have it; we ended up just taking the Highlander.

We are planning to do a travelogue type of presentation at a fall meeting to fill you in on this great adventure and encourage you to get out of your comfort zone with local flights to try a similar long distance adventure. We will fill you in on the good, the bad and the ugly of planning such a trip and the incredible rewards that come with just such an adventure!

We planned on three stops each way for refueling, a leg stretch, an evacuation of excess fluids and occasionally a stop for the night. Here's a bit of a teaser showing just a few of the many great moments we experienced and great people we met.

On our flight out we stopped at Cornwall, and Sherbrooke for fuel, but due to fog in Yarmouth, we stayed in St. Stephen NB for the night, waiting for it to clear the next morning.



We were treated very well by all the locals we met at all of the smaller airports and even were offered free rides to local motels.

St. Stephen is the home of Ganong Chocolates, so a factory museum tour was in order. After paying the senior's rate we were told to sample all the chocolates we could eat.

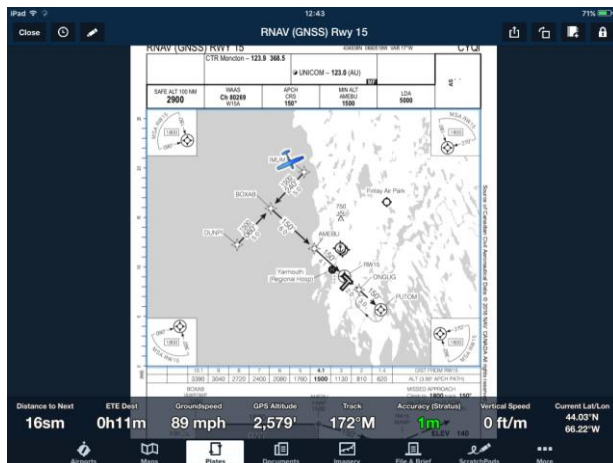


On the way across the Bay of Fundy, near Digby Neck, we made good use the ADS-B functions of Foreflight, the Stratus II and my new Stratus ESG transponder.



We referenced the approach plates to confirm the position of a NavCan aircraft flying precision approaches at Yarmouth... very cool!

With ADS-B out now, the NavCan plane could see my Highlander too!



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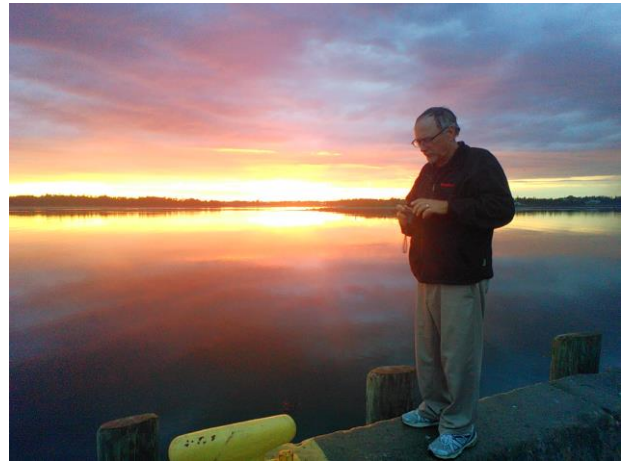
We scored a top floor unit at the Rodd Grand Yarmouth Hotel... what a view!



We enjoyed walks along the harbour and piers each night to get a bit of exercise and experience a bit of the history of Yarmouth.



There were always a few lobster, scallop and ground fishing boats in the harbour, and we met some of the local fishermen.



The sunsets in Yarmouth harbor were amazing to see while we watched for "The Cat" coming in from Maine with passengers and vehicles.



We got to sample some amazing maritime cuisine in the form of lobster dinners and seafood chowders.



We even tried some traditional Acadian dishes like rappie pie with molasses and butter. Rappie pie is definitely an acquired taste.

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The architecture in Yarmouth is very eclectic. There are dozens of large homes there that were once owned by ship captains who tried to outdo each other at sea and at home.



We got to see a rare blue lobster and visit a traditional Acadian village from years past.



One of the best parts of travelling is often the people you meet. This was certainly the case for us on this trip.



Vern, a retired fisherman, was one of most interesting characters we met and acted as a personal driver and guide for much of our time in Yarmouth.



In St. Stephen we had met Chris and Anne who live in Kincardine, Ontario. During our time in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia we spent some of our time hanging around with them and going out for meals with them and other new friends from back in Ontario.

Oh, I almost forgot.... we attended a few seminars at the COPA convention too. It was well organized and there were a number of interesting speakers, but back to the fun stuff...

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On the way back home we stopped at New Germany seaplane base and met a number of members of the Bluenose Flying Club. Many of them fly Rans S7's all built by the same guy.



After meeting a few people and seeing a few planes at Stanley, NS, we headed across the Bay of Fundy at Low tide and got a great view of the mud flats and sandstone cliffs.



We then crossed the Atlantic Ocean... well a small part of it anyway, as we flew across the Northumberland Strait along the Confederation Bridge to PEI and landed in Summerside.



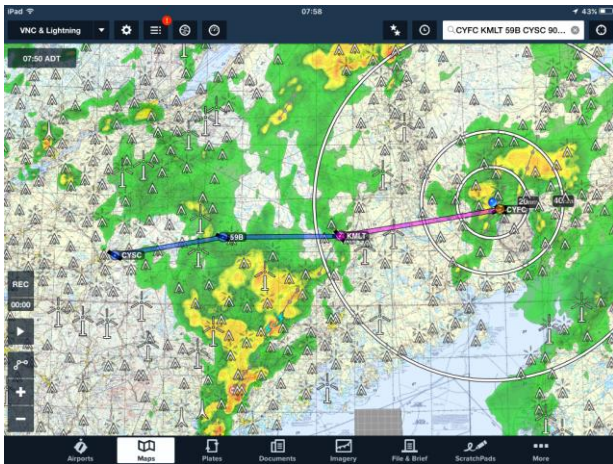
We flew along the north shore of PEI just a few feet above the water for a very unique view of the cliffs and lighthouse at Cape Tryon. The white areas on the cliffs are droppings from the sea birds.



After leaving PEI we headed across the strait to Miramichi, NB where we got to see a number of aircraft used for forest firefighting.



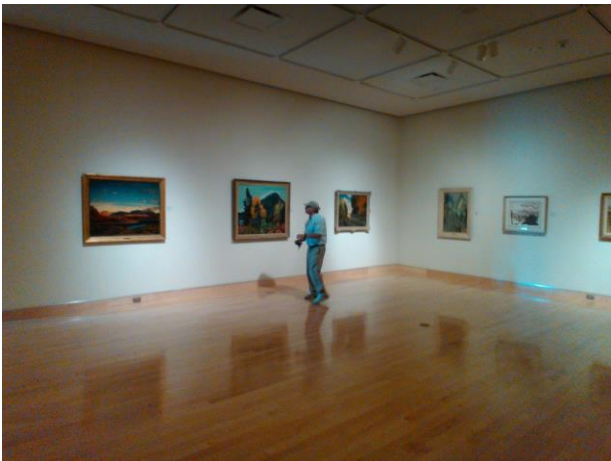
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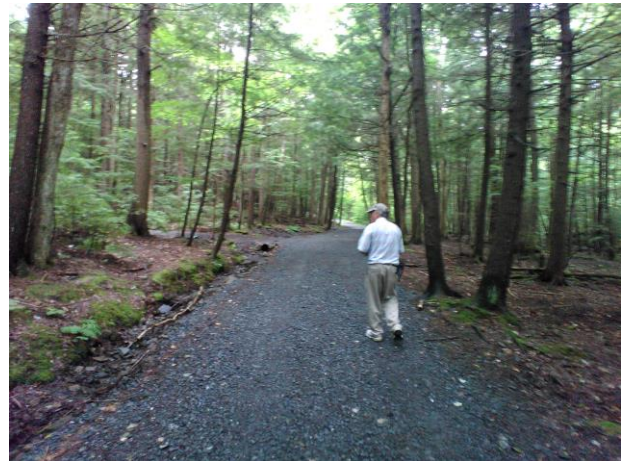
Upon reaching Fredericton, we were storm stayed for three days by a system that stalled over the Maritimes and Maine. We considered going around it, but it was so large we decided to just wait it out.



Lee managed to get a free upgrade on the rental car... he must have horseshoes somewhere... a Mustang convertible...really?? The police cruiser in the background is just a coincidence... honest!



We even checked out the art scene in Fredericton and did some nature walks.



After making our way across Maine and the eastern townships of Quebec, we headed back along the St. Lawrence River from Cornwall to Kingston past the Thousand Islands.



Although we didn't make it all the way back that day and had to camp in Oshawa overnight, overall there is no doubt the trip received **two thumbs up!**



Now, about that COPA Convention in Kelowna, B.C. in 2017.....

Look for the full presentation of “Yarmouth or Bust!” coming to a meeting near you this fall.

What the critics are saying...

“A spell-binding tale of two intrepid airmen making their way across foreign airspace in search of adventure, great scenery, local experiences, and interesting people from far away” – *Editor of The Leading Edge*

“A must see for every aviator of amateur-built aircraft” – *Director of Airmanship and Flight Safety, KWRAA*

“Breathtaking scenery and possibly the best aviation travel story of 2016. Don’t miss your chance to see the entire presentation when you get the opportunity this fall!” – *President of KWRAA*

“I can’t wait to hear more about the COPA seminars at the convention” – *A local Searey pilot*

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

July 25-31	-	Air Venture 2016 in Oshkosh Wisconsin
August 6	-	Gathering of the Classics in Edenvale, ON
August 13	-	KWRAA Fly-In at CMZ2 – Metz/MacPat Field in Arthur (Get Directions)
August 19-21	-	UPAC Convention – Lubitz Field, Plattsville ON
August 20	-	Aviation Fun Day at Waterloo Regional Airport
August 27	-	KWRAA Fly-In at CPR3 in Teviotdale (Tentative) (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>