

- June 2015 -



Amateur built planes lined up at Cam Wood's fly-in at Largo Woods airstrip in Winterbourne, Ontario. This year's fly-in was another success with a large number of KWRAA members in attendance and a few of their wives as well.

President's Message

Well, the 2015 fly-in season is officially under way. What an excellent start last weekend!

It was great to see so many KWRAA members and friends show up at the Largo Woods fly-in. As always, Cam was a gracious host, opening the doors to his hangar and home for all to enjoy. The chapter is very lucky to have members like Cam that are willing to hold fly-ins on their property and let other pilots have the opportunity to land and takeoff from their personal strip for the day.

I had extended an invitation to COPA 26 (KW) to join us, but given the number of small planes that flew over the strip, took a look and flew away, I suspect they decided it wasn't within their comfort zone and/or aircraft's capability. From the air, the narrow green patch of grass with the river at one end and hydro lines at the

other looks a bit daunting, especially if one is only used to longer and wider asphalt runways.

Thanks to Cam for supplying the BBQ, Mike Thorp for his broiling skills and attendees for bringing salads and desserts. No one left hungry!

It was good to see quite a few of the members' wives at this fly-in. We need to make sure the rest know they are welcome to attend fly-ins.

I am still looking for interesting photos and articles for future newsletters. Consider sharing an idea with the members through our monthly newsletter this summer!

2015 is going to be a great year for KWRAA!

- Dan

The Leading Edge

The following is of course, “tongue-in-cheek”.
Enjoy the photos... - Dan

Members sporting a red RAA hat got to enjoy a hot beverage and stand by the food table telling interesting flying stories while others looked on with envy...



Anyone sporting a yellow Piper Cub hat was segregated into a separate area and forced to talk only to each other, while spectators were bored to tears listening to stories about yellow being the best colour for an airplane...



Anyone who dared cover up their RAA hat with sun glasses or wear a hat that did not sport an RAA logo had to sit in a stone and glass cage and was prevented from leaving by a bilingual guard until they could guess the secret password in both official languages.



Luckily, everyone could look at the planes...



The Leading Edge

2015 Flying Adventures

2015 has been good so far for flying and I have managed to squeeze in over 40 hours of stick time in the Highlander.

Besides circuits on the grass strip at Roseville, I have managed to take a few local flights and a few cross-countries, but not without issues.

Cross countries this year have included a flight along the lakeshore from St. Thomas down to Port Bruce, along the lakeshore to Port Dover, then over to Tillsonburg and back to Port Dover with my brother as passenger. The thermals got a bit harsh as we returned to St. Thomas and he left a gift of previously eaten berries in my plane, but did a good job of cleaning it up too.



I took a flight to Midland with Gord Reed to get some parts for my Zenair amphibious float project. When we returned to the plane we found a flat tire and spent the day trying to get it fixed. We drove back up the next day, installed the wheels from my floats on the plane, checked the brakes, and flew it home.



I also flew to Port Dover, down the lakeshore, out to the end of Long Point and back, over to Port Burwell and back to Roseville with a retired friend from Cambridge Fire Department. The views at Lake Erie are spectacular and at times seem eerily (pun intended) like the Caribbean. In the photo below you can see the white lighthouse at the end of the point and the long sandbar reaching hundreds of feet out into the lake.



The London/St. Thomas chapter of RAA held a fly-in at Warren Field a couple of weeks ago, so I figured I would attend to say hello to a few of the guys I knew when I worked in London and was a member of their chapter too. They had a reasonably good turn out with about ten planes flying in that day. The photo below shows the strip beside Hwy. 402 with a number of planes lined up on the left of the taxiway.



The next photo is a bit fuzzy, but it's an enlargement of the previous photo showing the planes that were there when I arrived, but a few showed up afterward also.

The Leading Edge



I also flew to Rice Lake to have lunch at the Elmhurst Resort pilot lounge with another friend who built a Highlander at his home on Ayleen Lake near Algonquin Park. I don't have a transponder yet, so I planned a route north of Toronto that took me well out of controlled airspace and clear of Brampton Flying Club, and Oshawa airport. The slight northerly diversion only added about 10 minutes to the trip, but made it less stressful for me.



Jack's plane sports the words Algonquin Highlander on the side and a great moose graphic that incorporates a partial maple leaf as part of the design on the tail.



I'm still planning on trying a longer cross-country soon to Sudbury to visit my eldest son Rob, who works at Sudbury Airport as an airport firefighter and airport grounds maintenance specialist.

It's still early in the year, with loads of good flying weather still to come, so I fully expect there will be a lot of flying experiences ahead.

I am so happy to be able to fly an amateur-built plane and to have the time and health in retirement to enjoy this wonderful hobby we call recreational aviation. I can hardly wait to get my floats finished because it will open up another entirely different world to explore with my plane.

I also look forward to a true cross-country through the prairies to BC maybe next year or in 2017. I believe there are a few others in the chapter who may be interested in the trip, so we should start planning soon. I'm also open to an East Coast trip later this summer or early fall. With such a vast country to explore who knows?

- Dan

Correction from May

The width measurement on the aluminum mounting blocks should have read 19mm. not 14 mm.

Upcoming Events in 2015: (Highlighted lines are KWRAA Events*)

June 27	-	Brantford Fly-in and Aircraft Spruce Customer Appreciation Day
June 27	-	Waterloo-Wellington Flight Centre Funfest – COPA Flight 26
July 18	-	KWRAA Fly-In at MacPat Field, Arthur
July 20-26	-	Air Venture Oshkosh in Wisconsin
August 1	-	KWRAA Fly-In at CPR3 (New location being considered - TBA)
August 8	-	Gathering of the Classics, Edenvale
August 14-16	-	UPAC Convention, Lubitz Field, Plattsville
Aug 22***	-	KWRAA Fly-In at Roth Field (Between Pike Lake and Mount Forest)
August 21 to Sept 7	-	Canadian International Air Show, CNE Grounds
September 14	-	September Meeting at 7:30 in the Cadet building at CYKF
September 19	-	Tiger Boys Fly-in, Guelph
October 19	-	October Meeting at 7:30 in the Cadet building at CYKF
November 9	-	November Meeting at 7:30 in the Cadet building at CYKF
November 27ish	-	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.)

**Please check the dates and times before attending any events listed above as they are for reference only.

Please Note: If you know of other fly-ins or planned fly-outs you would like to see listed here for the rest of the chapter to know about, please forward them for inclusion in the next newsletter.

*****Also Note: Kitchener Waterloo Airport (CYKF) is planning an aviation fun day on August 22. Mike is aware and may be changing the date of the Roth Field fly-in to accommodate our members who may want to attend or participate in the Fun Day. More details to follow soon!**

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