



Royal Canadian Air Force Association RCAF 441 (Huronia) Wing Newsletter – September-October 2020

Vol 4 Edition 5



1. RCAF Mission Statement:

The Royal Canadian Air Force Association is a national aerospace and community service organization that commemorates the noble achievements of the men and women who have served as members of Canada's air forces since its inception; advocates for a proficient and well equipped air force; and, supports the Royal Canadian Air Cadet programme.

2. Last Flight: RCAF Association National President Stephen MacDonnell, P.Eng., MCSCE, November 20, 1958 – August 29, 2020



When he was old enough, Stephen joined the Royal Canadian Air Cadets, eventually achieving his powered-flight wings. He held the position of squadron Warrant Officer and upon graduation he joined the Cadet Instructors Cadre receiving his commission in 1978. Steve served over a decade in the Canadian Forces Reserves and in the early 1990 went back into uniform and served as Commanding Officer of 538 Buffalo Squadron RCAC. During this time, he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force Association, attaining his 40-year service pin in 2019. Steve was heavily involved in the different levels of the Association, at 783 Wing, Alberta Group

and lastly National, holding the position of National President since 2016. He has been a strong advocate for youth (Air Cadets), the Air Force, aviation, and Veterans' rights. Steve enjoyed skiing, sailing, kayaking, and getting into the air whenever possible. He leaves behind his beloved wife Jane, his cherished daughters Heather and Alyssa and several aunts and cousins in Nova Scotia.

3. Honours and Awards:

The Wing awards for 2019 would have been normally been given out at the Wing's Charter and Awards dinner in the Spring. However, due to the COVID pandemic, it was decided to wait until it was relatively safe to do so when met at the Legion again. Fortunately, we were able to hold a socially distanced meeting on Tuesday, 8 Sept, 2020 and the following awards were handed out.



Cooky Ellis,
Member of the Year

Cooky Ellis, Member of the Year - for her outstanding contributions to 441 (Huronia) Wing and her valuable service to the RCAF Association over the past three years. She has been crucial as the head of 441 Wing's Audit Committee and instrumental in ensuring high moral through her involvement in 441 Wing's Christmas Social events. A strong proponent of the aims and objectives of the RCAF Association, Cooky has been strategic in ensuring 441 (Huronia) Wing's ability to sustain these ideals.

Les Ball, Award of Merit - for his outstanding contributions to 441 Wing and his valuable service to the RCAF Association over a period of 27 years. He has been a strong proponent of the aims and objectives of the RCAF Association as a Past-President of the Ontario Group and has been instrumental in enhancing 441 (Huronia) Wing's ability to support these ideals.



Les Ball, Award of Merit



Michael O'Shea, Award of Merit

Michael O'Shea, Award of Merit for his enthusiastic support to 441 (Huronia) Wing as a Director, Deputy Treasurer and an innovative proponent of new ideas. Through his actions he has improved 441 Wing's capability to sustain its commitments to the local community and support the aims and objectives of the RCAF Association. His contributions have been exceptional.

Raywinn Raaflaub, Award of Merit for his outstanding contributions to 441 Wing and his valuable service to the RCAF Association over a period of 57 years. Through continuous promotion of 441 Wing and the RCAF Association in the local community, and his pursuit to honour Air Force history in the area, he has demonstrated strong belief in the aims and objectives of the RCAF Association and has been instrumental in enhancing 441 (Huronia) Wing's ability to support these ideals.



Ray Raaflaub, Award of Merit
for his outstanding contributions to 441 Wing and his valuable service to the RCAF Association over a period of 57 years. Through continuous promotion of 441 Wing and the RCAF Association in the local community, and his pursuit to honour Air Force history in the area, he has demonstrated strong belief in the aims and objectives of the RCAF Association and has been instrumental in enhancing 441 (Huronia) Wing's ability to support these ideals.



Norm Marion,
Certificate of Appreciation

Norm Marion, Certificate of Appreciation for his stalwart support and numerous contributions to 441 (Huronia) Wing. Norm created many means to promote 441 Wing through the production and distribution of Wing business cards for recruiting new members, the creation and maintenance of a Facebook page, continuing the RCAF Anniversary pins for sale to local Veteran and military organizations, & populating the Wing Newsletter, Facebook page and internet site with photos of wing personnel and activities.

Lorraine Carney, Certificate of Appreciation for her selfless contributions to 441 Wing. Her tireless support of her father, Tom Senior, enabled him to continue to play a significant role in the running of 441 Wing. In addition, Lorraine has supported the Wing membership through her involvement with the Christmas Socials, improving the Wing nametags and mailing Wing Newsletters to members without internet access.



Lorraine Carney,
Certificate of Appreciation



Joep Diening,
Certificate of Appreciation

Joep Diening, Certificate of Appreciation - is recognized for his creative efforts and contributions to 441 Wing over the past four years. His dedication and ceaseless efforts towards redesigning and maintaining 441 Wing's website has resulted in an interesting and up-to-date platform which positively presents 441 Wing to the local community and allows members to quickly and easily keep themselves informed about Wing activities and Veteran events in our area.

Superior Home Health Care, Certificate of Appreciation - is recognized for their significant contributions to 441 (Huronia) Wing and the Military Veterans of the Barrie area. For the past eight years Superior Home Health Care has sponsored and organized an annual Veterans Appreciation Luncheon, coordinating the sponsorships and contributions from over 30 local businesses and individuals. Up to 250 veterans, their spouses and guests have been regaled with a delicious lunch accompanied by Marching-In of the Colours, guest speakers, musical entertainment and gift bags upon the Vets' departure.

Well done and congratulations to all of our Wing award winners.

4. Fund Raising:

The winners of the first nine draws for the “\$100 a Month Draw” for 2020 are:

January – Donald Levedag;
February – Allister ‘Mac’ MacDonald;
March – Dave Wismer;
April – Megan Kulkarni;
May – Travis Gaudet;

June – Pierre Pigeon;
July – Kay Broadhurst;
August – Michael O’Shea; and
September – Katie George.

\$100.00 a Month: Les Ball had 300 tickets printed for the 2021 draw with 100 already been given to Wing members to sell! Ticket costs are \$10.00 ea. Contact Les at <loles@rogers.com> if you wish to purchase or sell tickets.

Dinner for Two Anywhere in the World Tickets: Michael O'Shea has tickets available for purchase or to sell. Cost is the same as last year, \$10.00 ea, or a book of 11 tickets for \$100.00. The 2020 grand prize was paid out as cash directly to the winner due to the lack of flights this year. For the 2021 draw, the winner will have until the end of 2023 to take their trip due to the impact of COVID 19. Contact Michael if you are interested in buying tickets or to help sell them. Note the Wing was given \$1,000 by the Kiwanis Club for selling the tickets last year. Like the previous draw, funds from these draws will be used by 441 Wing so that it can carry out its mandate of supporting the two Royal Canadian Air Cadet Sqns that we sponsor in Barrie (102 Silver Fox Sqn) and Wasaga Beach (714 Sqn).

5. Honouring AC2 Stanley Peacock on 13 October, 2020:

On Tuesday, 13 October, 2020, Royal Canadian (Air) Cadet AC1 Stanley Peacock will be honoured at a wreath laying ceremony at his grave in St. James' Anglican Cemetery, 320 Coldwater Rd West, Orillia. AC1 Peacock was killed while building a Fairmile Motor Torpedo Boat at the Orillia shipyard on 13 Oct 1943. The ceremony will start at 11:00 a.m. For details contact Ray Raafalaub or Bill Sergeant. Masks should be worn and social distancing is in effect.

6. Guest Speaker MPP:

Our guest speaker on Tuesday, 8 Sept, was the MPP for Barrie-Innisfil, Andrea Khanjin, who spoke on her values, and what motivates her to give back to her community and country. Our Wing wants to wish MPP Khanjin well on her upcoming wedding and all the best for a long and happy life together.



7. Upcoming Wing Activities:

COVID 19 has impacted many of our regular activities. Below is the current status of planned RCAF Assoc 441 Wing events.

Date	Event	Status
14 Sept	Battle of Britain Flag Raising – Barrie City Hall	1000 hours
20 Sept	Battle of Britain Ceremony – Barrie RCL # 147	0930 hours
13 Oct	Ceremony Honouring AC2 Stanley Peacock at St. James' Anglican Cemetery, Orillia	1100 hours
13 Oct	Wing Meeting	1900 hours
10 Nov	Wing Meeting	1900 hours
TBC - Dec	Wing Christmas Social	1900 hours

8. 90 Years Young – Raywinn Raaflaub's Birthday Flight:

Members of 441 Wing ensured that Raywinn Raaflaub's 90th would be special. Joep Diening took Raywinn for a 30-minute flight around the Orillia area in his son's C150. Raywinn was thrilled to see fellow Wing members come out to wish him well. Everyone enjoyed muffins and cookies with him after singing happy birthday. All the best Raywinn for many more healthy and happy years.



9. RCAF 96th Anniversary Pins:

Norm Marion still has 25 'Sea King 95th RCAF Anniversary' pins from last year and that he has already sold 17 of the 100 Boeing-707 pins; this year's aircraft for the 96th Anniversary. If there are any members who wish to purchase pins, or sell pins, please contact Norm. Bob Thompson, the graphic artist who designed the pins, is asking if the Wing has selected an aircraft for next year as he wishes to start the pins design. Norm is considering

various aircraft types, but more research is required before one is presented to the membership for approval. Price for the pins is \$5.00.

10. 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain:

The 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain will be celebrated with a Flag Raising Ceremony at Barrie City Hall on Monday, 14 Sept, 2020 at 1000 hrs. Dress for 441 Wing members will be blazer and tie with medals since it is forecast to be cold that morning. As well, there will be a Battle of Britain wreath laying ceremony at the Dr. W.C. Little, MM, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 147 in Barrie at 0930 hrs on Sunday, 20 Sept, 2020. Our Wing's Ceremonial Officer has added a military touch to this year's commemorations, which is not to be missed.



PROCLAMATION

I, JEFF LEHMAN, Mayor of the City of BARRIE,
do hereby proclaim

September 14 – September 20, 2020

as

Battle of Britain Week

To commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the
Battle of Britain
and to honour the men and women of the Allied Air Forces,
particularly those of the
Royal Canadian Air Force

I encourage all citizens in the City of Barrie to join in the ceremonies.




Jeff Lehman,
Mayor

11. Assistance Required for this year's Legion Poppy Drive:

Fern Taillefer is the Chair of RCL Branch #147's Poppy Drive. Due to COVID 19, it is more important than ever to assist the Legion with their fund-raising efforts in support of our Veterans. If you can spare some time to help canvas at locations in and around Barrie or be part of the organizing committee, please let Fern know taillefer1746@rogers.com or contact Bill Sergeant.

12. RCAF begins NATO air-policing role in Romania:

September 8, 2020 By [Wings Staff](#)

On Sept 3rd Canada received its readiness certification from NATO for Air Task Force – Romania, at Base Mihail Kogalniceanu. It is an enhanced air-policing mission under Operation REASSURANCE that officially began on September 5th. It includes an RCAF detachment of approximately 135 personnel and six CF-18 Hornet fighter jets.

The Air Task Force will work with the Romanian Air Force under NATO command and control. Operation REASSURANCE is Canada's contribution to NATO assurance and deterrence measures. Air Task Force – Romania is the air component of that mission, which the Canadian Armed Forces has supported since 2014. This newest deployment is the fifth time Canada has sent a detachment to Romania in support of NATO's enhanced air-policing.

“Every year, this Air Task Force provides a concrete example of Canada’s commitment to NATO’s collective defence,” said Major-General Eric Kenny, Commander 1 Canadian Air Division and Joint Forces Air Component Commander. “Air policing is a critical part of NATO’s mandate and is a mission our crews excel at, thanks to their training and experience with our own 24/7/365 NORAD mandate.”

During the mission, Canadian fighter pilots, mostly from 433 Tactical Fighter Squadron (433 TFS), will hold a quick reaction alert posture to augment Romanian air-policing capabilities. They will also fly training missions together with the Romanian Air Force, as well as other regional Allies and partners. This will include patrolling Romanian air space and, if necessary, intercepting any aircraft that enter it without authorization.

13. Contact Information:

New Wing Mailing Address: **401-200 Collier St, Barrie, ON, L4M 1H7**

New Wing E-Mail Address: **441wing.rcafa@airforce.ca**

Telephone: 705-481-1453 (messages only)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/441Wing/>

Website: <https://www.rcaf441wing.com/>

14. 441 Wing Board of Directors (BoD)/ Executive for FY 2020-2021:

POSITION	NAME	PORTFOLIO(S)
Chairman	Bill Sergeant	Newsletter
Deputy Chair	Wally Capsticks	Special Events
Treasurer	Andrea Sloan	Membership Chair / 16 Wing Liaison O
Secretary	Andrew Galton	Honours and Awards Chair
Deputy Treasurer	Michael O’Shea	Fund Raising/Special Projects
Director	Gerry Peppler	RCAF Ad Astral Board Chair
Director	Art Cameron	RCAF Ad Astral BoD Member
Director	Murray Conley	Director of Ceremonies
Director	Joep Diening	Wing Web Master
Director	Norm Marion	Public Relations / Facebook
Director	Randy Rice	Veterans Groups Liaison
Wing Padre	Rev Doug Crocker	Wing Padre