



415 (Prince Edward County) Wing
Air Force Association of Canada
P.O. Box 20053
Picton, ON K0K 3V0

CHOCKS AWAY

April – May 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Good Day Fellow Wing Members and Spouses:

Our first formal dinner after our annual winter break, where we met for lunch in Consecon, was most successful. We had an excellent turnout, the catering was up to the usual high standard and in lieu of a guest speaker we initiated four new members. The Wing membership now stands at ninety with the addition of Heather Kingsbury, Dennis and Wanda Lou Quirk and Mario Vacirca.

The Wing executive meets on the first Thursday of every month at the Picton Legion. A major point of this last meeting was the upcoming election of a new executive and the need to have some new members on the Board. Membership on the executive is not an onerous task, and does not demand too much of one's time nor does it require attendance at every meeting. We are looking for volunteers! If time permits you are invited to attend a meeting of the Executive and see if you would consider becoming a member.

On the subject of volunteering my health prevents my attending the Ontario annual general meeting this 15, 16 and 17 May in Sarnia Ontario and the Vice President has a family commitment that he must keep. The Wing is entitled to send two voting delegates. Current Wing policy is to pay the registration fees and the cost of one night's accommodation for our delegates. For further info you may contact me at 613 475-0818.

The Wing is currently discussing financial arrangements for holding dinner meeting at the Legion in Wellington. Subject to the conclusion of these discussions we will be meeting in Picton. At present \$49.00 of your annual membership fee goes to support our Organization at the federal and provincial level. While our administration costs are low and with no other fund raising sources available to the wing it will be necessary to increase dues for next year to \$55.00 for a single and \$75.00 for a dual membership.

On that note I'll close. Looking forward to seeing you all in April.

Per Ardua Ad Astra,

Your Wing President Brian Burke

WING NEWS

Forty-four members, spouses and guests attended our February luncheon meeting held at Branch 509 RCL in Consecon. Two guests who have subsequently become members were Andy Martin and Mario Vacirca.



The Quinte Regional Conference took place on Saturday, 21 March 2009 at the 416 Wing Headquarters located at the Norman Rogers Airport in Kingston. 415 Wing had twelve members and eight spouses in attendance. Our sports team gave their best but took no awards. The fall Quinte Regional Conference will be hosted by 418 Belleville Wing on 24 October 2009.



The March dinner meeting was held at Branch 78, RCL in Picton. Sixty-eight members, spouses and guests were in attendance. Four new members were inducted.

The 2009 Ontario Group Conference will take place on May 15, 16, and, 17 2009 in Sarnia. 415 Wing is allowed to send 2 delegates. If interested, talk to President Burke.

You are encouraged to participate with others from the Association in the CNE Warriors Day Parade on 22 August 2009.

On Saturday, 20 June 2008, 418 Belleville Wing will be hosting the annual memorial ceremony for the members of the Royal Flying Corps who died

while training at Deseronto during WW1. Local wings are usually invited to participate. I will have more on this in the next news letter.

The 2009 National Annual General Meeting will be held 16, 17, 18 October 2009 in Trenton.

PROGRAMS and SOCIAL

The April dinner meeting will take place on **Thursday, 23 April 2009** at Branch 78 RCL in Picton. We will have a bottle draw. Our guest speaker will be C.W. (Bill) Hunt, author, on Dancing in the Sky, the Royal Flying Corps training at Deseronto during WW1. Bill has written extensively on rum running in the Quinte area during prohibition. Please note the change in day and date.

The May Dinner Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 26 May 2009 at Branch 78 RCL in Picton. We will be holding Wing elections that night.

MEMBERSHIP

Wing membership stands at ninety. As stated in President Brian's report, dues for the year 2008/09 will be \$55.00 for single membership and \$75.00 for a dual membership. I believe that this is the lowest dues in the Quinte Region. Dues must be paid no later than 30 June 2009.

HEALTH & WELFARE

We have several members who are suffering a variety of health related problems, and whom I am sure would be pleased to have a visit from those of us who are still mobile.

PICKED UP IN PASSING

Drafting guys over sixty into the armed forces. Courtesy of Don Bengert.

This is funny, and obviously written by a former soldier!
New direction of any war: send service vets over 60!

I'm over 60 and obviously the armed forces think I'm too old to track down terrorists. You can't be older than 42 to join the military. They've got the whole thing ass-backwards. Instead of sending eighteen year olds off to fight, they ought to take us old guys. You shouldn't be able to join a military unit until you are at least thirty-five.

For starters: Researchers say 18-year-olds think about sex every 10 seconds. Old guys only think of sex a couple of times a day leaving us more than 28,000 additional seconds per day to concentrate on the enemy.

Young guys haven't lived long enough to be cranky, and a cranky soldier is a dangerous soldier. "My back hurts! I'm tired; I'm hungry!" We are impatient, and maybe letting us kill some asshole that desperately deserves it will make us feel better and shut us up for a while.

An 18-year-old doesn't even like to get up before 10 a.m. Old guys always get up early to pee so what the hell. Besides, like I said, 'I'm tired and can't sleep and since I'm already up, I may as well be up killing some fanatical SOB.

If captured, we couldn't spill the beans because we'd forget where we put them. In fact name, rank and serial number would be a real brain teaser.

Boot camp would be easier for old guys. We're used to getting screamed and yelled at and we're used to soft food. We've also developed an appreciation for guns. We've been using them for years as an excuse to get out of the house, away from the screaming and yelling.

They could lighten up on the obstacle course however. I've been in combat and didn't see a single 20 foot wall with ropes hanging over the side, nor did I ever do any pushups after basic training.

Actually, the running part is kind of a waste of energy, too. I've never seen anyone outrun a bullet.

An 18-year-old has the whole world ahead of him. He's still learning to shave, start up a conversation with a pretty girl. He still hasn't figured out that a baseball cap has a brim to shade his eyes, not the back of his head.

These are all great reasons to keep our kids at home to learn a little more about life before sending them off into harms way.

Let us old guys track down those dirty rotten cowardly terrorists. The last thing an enemy would want to see is a couple of million pissed off old farts with attitudes and automatic weapons who know that their best years are behind them.

***How about recruiting Women over 50 ...with PMS!!! You think men have attitudes!!! Ohhhh my God!

If nothing else, put us on border patrol....we will have it secured the first night!

Types of Bras Finally Explained.

A gentleman walked into the lingerie department of the Bay and shyly walked up to the woman behind the counter and said, "I would like to by a bra for my wife."

"What type of bra?" asked the clerk?

"Type?" inquired the man. "You mean there is more than one type?"

"Look around," said the sales lady, as she showed him bras in every shape, size, colour and material. "Actually, even with all of this variety, there are really only four types of bras."

Bewildered, the man asked what the types were.

The sales lady replied, "Catholic, Salvation Army, Presbyterian and Baptist."

Still confused the man asked, "What was the difference between them."

The sales lady responded, "It is all really quite simple. The Catholic type supports the masses. The Salvation Army type uplifts the fallen. The Presbyterian type is for the staunch and upright, and the Baptist type makes mountains out of mole hills".

Kids Are Quick. Courtesy of Dave Donovan.

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No Sir. My mom is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No sir. It's the same dog