



Read about the Vintage Wings inside

Winnipeg Area Chapter of RAA Canada

October 2011

Executive

President: Jim Oke: – 344-5396

Past President: Ben Toenders – 895-8779

Memberships: Steven Sadler – 736-3138

Secretary: still looking for a volunteer

Treasurer: Don Hutchison – 895-1005

Directors

Harry Hill - 888-3518

Bert Elam – 955-2448

Ken Podaima – 257-1275

Jill Oakes - 261-1007

Gilbert Bourrier – 254-1912

Bob Stewart – 853-7776

NEWSLETTER:

Bob Stewart Box 22 GRP 2 RR#1 Dugald, MB R0E 0K0

Phone: 853-7776

Email: stewart8@highspeedcrow.ca

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 20, 2010

AGM, Elections, Arro and First Flight Awards

Nov. 19, 2010

Tour planned to Wahpeton Airport, Wahpeton North Dakota

Dec 10, 2010

Christmas potluck

January 2011

Rust Remover – date and location to be finalized

Election of Officers and Directors – October 20th

We're always looking for Officers and Directors to bring energy and new ideas to the Executive. If you are interested in serving on the Executive or have someone you'd like to nominate, please contact Jim Oke at 344-5396. Elections will be held at our regular meeting on October 20th.

Also at our October meeting Raymond Firer will give a presentation on, "My time with the South Africa Air Force (SAAF)"

How does someone from Winnipeg get interested in joining the South African Air Force?! Raymond Firer's presentation will cover what interested him about aviation, how he got into the South African Air Force, and the training programs he experienced. In addition he will share the oddities, near misses and camaraderie - the joys and frustrations of flying in South Africa! Everyone welcome.

Champ Recovering Project

There appears to be enough interest in recovering the fuselage of a Champ aircraft this fall/winter. The project will include the removal of the old fabric, inspection of the airframe, recovering the fuselage, doping and finishing up to but not painting. The project may take 8 to 10 sessions. If you are interested in being a part of this project and learning about fabricating an aircraft- no experience necessary, please contact one of the members of the executive. We are still looking for someone to lead this project, if interested, please let a member of the executive know.

2011 Model Build – November 5, 2011

Hello to all Model Building engineers, Moms, Dads, Grandpas, Grandmas, Uncles and Aunts. I would like to urge you all to register as early as possible so as to not be disappointed. We have spots for only 36 participants and expect to fill every spot. This year's models are called "**Legends of the Air**" and are all wood Biplanes such as the Fokker Triplane, Albatros DV, Nieuport 17, Bristol Bulldog, Curtis Goshawk and the Spad SXIII. These are all laser cut wooden kits with an approximate wingspan of 8 inches. I have built a couple of these myself and build-time was approximately 5 – 6 hours each with regular wood glue provided with the kits. We will be providing fast-set glue to reduce build times.

Once again our Model Build event will be held at the Lyncrest Flight Centre on Saturday, November 5th commencing at 10:00 am sharp. As mentioned, this year's build will be somewhat more challenging but the main focus will be to provide an opportunity for some fun time together.

Registrations will be restricted to children 10 years of age and up.

As with last year's event, there will be a superb culinary lunch experience consisting of gourmet hotdogs, savoury beverages and an array of other delightful goodies prepared by our master chef and airport manager, Mr. James Goold.

Like last year, we will have on hand some well-experienced model builders to assist and guide participants to make your day as enjoyable as possible. To entice you even more, this year we will be drawing from all registered participants a special prize of a free ride in an "ACRO Sport II" biplane piloted by our own Dr. Jill Oakes who constructed this airplane herself. There will also be a second prize of a radio-controlled model airplane and a third prize of an advanced model airplane kit provided by the Recreational Aircraft Association - Manitoba Chapter.

This year's registration will cost \$20.00 per parent & child to offset the cost of the event. The Springfield Flying Club has generously donated the use of the Flight Centre for our event so any and all surplus funds generated will be donated to the Lyncrest Flight Centre to help with their operating budget.

We ask that all registrations be submitted prior to October 28th. To register, please contact Gilbert at gilgis@mymts.net or phone 254-1912. Registration fees will be collected on the day of the event.

Hope to see you there!

Gilbert

Project tour – 19 November – Wahpeton Airport, Wahpeton North Dakota

Our chapter is looking into the possibility of doing a project tour to Tri-State Aviation at the Wahpeton Airport, Wahpeton North Dakota (just a few miles from Fargo North Dakota) on the weekend of November 19 and 20th. Tri-State Aviation is involved in fabricating World War II aircraft parts which eventually led to the restoration of P-51 Mustangs and other WWII fighters. If you are interested in joining this tour, please contact Jim Oke at wmjoke@gmail.com or phone 344-5396. Also please advise Jim if you will make your own motel arrangement or would like to stay with the group at a moderately priced motel. Spouses and friends are all welcome.

COPA For Kids

83 Youth enjoy flights at Lyncrest Airport

The beautiful fall weather held and the annual COPA for Kids flights went off without a hitch.



On September 24, 2011, COPA pilots, based at Lyncrest Airport and Winnipeg and Ken Pierce from Beulah, MB, gathered to fly scheduled flights of youth from Winnipeg, Lorette, Oakbank and the surrounding area.

Volunteers arrived at Lyncrest Airport at 8:30 a.m. to set up and prepare for the arrival of our guests and their parents.



After the pilot briefing the first flights began at 8:45 a.m. Passengers registered and were introduced to their pilot and then pilots and passengers were escorted to their aircraft. The pilots did a walk around with their passengers and explained the basics of flight. The passengers were then buckled into the aircraft and went for a flight which lasted about 20-30 minutes. The pilots encouraged the youth to fly along with them, handle the controls, and experience flight as a co-pilot.



After the flight pilots and passengers had their photos taken and were escorted back to the flight center where they received their COPA for Kids certificates. Once their flight was completed COPA provided a lunch for all their guests. This was our most successful COPA for Kids flight yet with 83 flights and ten pilots.



Thanks to everyone who showed up to enjoy a flight, and thanks to all the volunteers for giving their time to make this a successful event. Thanks also to the pilots for donating their time, their aircraft and their fuel to make this a memorable experience for everyone who went for a flight. Please watch the calendar, lyncrest.org, for our next scheduled COPA for Kids

Yellow Wings

Flying vintage aircraft ... a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in 2011!! Recently retired Air Canada Captains, Peter Moodie, Larry Brown, and Gerry Norberg, and recreational pilot Jill Oakes (back up) were selected by Vintage Wings of Canada to fly the Fleet Cornell, Fleet Finch, and Boeing Stearman for the central leg of a cross-country tour commemorating the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP). We were absolutely thrilled. All three aircraft were still under restoration. The Cornell was the first vintage aircraft to be test flown; Peter Moodie got a fantastic dousing with several pails of water after his first flight at the Vintage Wings Headquarters at the Gatineau Airport! The Finch was still in a million pieces, many sitting on a shelf marked "Finch Parts Only" in the Vintage Wings hangar. The Stearman was waiting for the paperwork required to import the plane back into Canada; once it was finally ready for flight, Larry Brown completed the familiarization flight and royally doused with buckets of water! The Finch's one-piece upper wing needed to be rebuilt several times, which was one of several set backs, making it doubtful that it would even be used as part of the tour. Larry and Peter picked up the Stearman and Cornell in Moose Jaw from the Alberta-based crew and flew the vintage aircraft to Regina and Brandon. By the time the aircraft arrived at Brandon, the Finch had been trucked out to the Brandon BCATP museum and assembly was completed hours before the BCATP flight demonstrations were scheduled to begin. Miraculously the Finch was able to join the flight demonstrations and the Manitoba team was complete.

Brandon BCATP Flight Demonstrations

The Brandon flight demonstration was a fabulous experience with the Brandon Chapter of the RAA working with the Museum to produce an excellent show attended by about 2000 people. The crowd was able to be just a few feet from the aircraft (on the other side of a chain link fence) as we prepared our aircraft for flight, pulled the prop through 9 times on the radial engines to prevent hydraulic oil locking, started the engines, and taxied into position. When our engines started the crowd gave the planes a standing ovation! We demonstrated each plane in the air and

every time we flew in front of the bleachers the crowd rose to their feet clapping. The enthusiasm for these beautiful antique planes was infectious, and was topped by Ross Robinson's Harvard, Vintage Wings Harvard, and the grand finale was Al Nimmo in Ross Robinson's A-26 doing a fly past!



The Finch arrived at Brandon in pieces, Peter Moodie is seen here helping unload the pieces which were then reassembled and test flown at Brandon before joining the tour eastward. About 2000 - 2500 people at the BCATP Museum gave the Yellow Wings a standing ovation as we did our walk-arounds, pre-propped the engines, and started the engines just a few feet (on other side of chain link fence) from the audience.



Yellow Wings at the BCATP Museum. Mat Dupuis, Al Nimmo and Ross Robinson flew in Ross's A-28 and Harvard which caused quite a stir over Brandon while the Brandon RAA members helped the Brandon BCATP Museum set up for over 2000 visitors.

The Tour



Fleet Finch at Portage la Prairie getting a look over by air force pilot cadets rides out of Ross Robinson's hangar for two days. Then the tour of vintage aircraft headed south

The next stop was at Portage La Prairie Southport Base! When the Yellow Wings tour landed the military and civilian pilots in training milled around the aircraft, especially amazed with the antique Harvard as many had flown contemporary Harvards! It was fascinating to spend a bit of time on the base and we sure appreciated the warm hospitality, including great meals and accommodation.

Enroute to St Andrews Airport, we flew over Larry Brown's family out camping before curious landing at St Andrews where we gave sponsored

to Oshkosh. One of the most memorable legs of that trip was when each of the Yellow Wings aircraft landed one right after the next, taxiing off of the active runway in split timing precision. Throughout the cross country legs, each of us, were in awe at the sound and feel of these antique aircraft as they rumbled across the blue Prairie sky to the next airport. At many stops, we met veterans who had trained in this type of aircraft; their faces lit up and shed 70 years when they climbed back in an aircraft they had last sat in so many years ago. This was one of the highlights of the tour!

Oshkosh

Flying into Oshkosh was like never before. The pre-departure review of traffic procedures, calling in over Fisk, following in a line of aircraft of every description, the ATC controller calling "Yellow Wings aircraft wag your wing, nice wag!", and then the turn onto final, Runway 36...the sight of rows and rows of aircraft, tents, and people...and then after touching down and exiting the runway, it was so much fabulous sharing the vintage aircraft and waving at everyone who had come out to watch for the arrival of the Yellow Wings Commemorative Tour. One man waited behind the line abeam the button of the runway for two days in the hopes of getting some awesome photographs of the Yellow Wings aircraft touching down at Oshkosh - he got the photograph he was looking for!

The vintage War Birds were parked at War Bird Alley. Larry and Carol, Peter, Rick and Jill spent the week answering questions, helping people in and out of the planes, and inspiring others with new insights on the BCATP. On Friday, when the Vintage Wings' Fairey Swordfish arrived, we helped share the stories and amazing features of that vintage aircraft as well.



Carol and Larry Brown beside the Stearman they flew



Fleet Finch



Harvard



Boeing Stearman

It seemed like Oshkosh was over as fast as it had started and Monday morning we were flying eastward, around the outskirts of Chicago and right over downtown Detroit to Windsor, Ontario. The Canadian Historical Aircraft Association Museum at Windsor had wisely invited the Yellow Wings to join them for the grand opening of their museum so the museum and ramp was packed full of even more 'yellow wings'. Television, radio, magazine and newspaper reporters shared the excitement with the community.

After Windsor, we flew north east to Sarnia, where the local flying community hosted another air show and the Finch got mobbed by a crowd as soon as the engine was cut. One of the team leaders, Dave Hadfield, hosted us at his brother, Astronaut Chris Hadfield's gorgeous cabin on an island in the St. Clair River. We spent a terrific evening singing and playing music with these two talented pilots before heading northeast the next day to participate in the Gathering of the Classics at Edenvale Airport near Toronto. Each of the Yellow Wings planes gave sponsored rides and were one of the main attractions. Another highlight was meeting up with Gerry and Maryjane Norberg, next time he will be able to embrace the opportunity! Bert Elam and Carrol Brown came out to enjoy the show and it was a lot of fun catching them up on the tour adventures on our way back to Toronto where Air Canada brought us back down to earth in Winnipeg.

The Yellow Wings British Commonwealth Air Training Plan Commemorative Tour truly was inspiring and educational. The flying exhibition of vintage aircraft was a most creative and resourceful way of learning Canadian history and the meaning and importance of the airmen who flew these most amazing flying machines! As Larry and Peter said, based on 45 years of flying all around the world, "Flying these vintage aircraft into Oshkosh was the most perfect day of flying we've ever had!" As Jill summed up, "It was "Fabulous!" and an opportunity of a lifetime. The Yellow Wings commemorative tour was a perfect example of commemorating, educating and inspiring – Vintage Wings' mission.

Jill

Vernon Flying Club newsletter

If you are interested in reading the Vernon Flying Club newsletter, check out the following website: www.vernonflyingclub.com then click on the news tab.

2012 Membership Form

Winnipeg Area Chapter RAA

Trial (\$25)

Student (\$25)

Full (\$50)

Required Information

| | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| Name | | OFFICE USE ONLY |
| Mailing Address | | Renewal Date |
| Phone(s) | | Chq. Cash Other |
| E-mail | | Initials |
| Are you an RAA national member? ⁽¹⁾ | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Do you give permission for your information to be made available to other Winnipeg RAA members? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

Optional Information

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Do you own an aircraft? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Make/model: Registration: | Are you a member of other aviation groups? | EAA: <input type="checkbox"/> COPA: <input type="checkbox"/> Others: |
| Are you building or restoring an aircraft? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Make and model of project(s): | What Pilots licences and ratings do you hold? | |

Please make cheques payable to: RAA - Winnipeg Chapter
 Mailing Address: RAA c/o Steven Sadler PO Box 703 LaSalle Mb. R0G 1B0

Notes:

- 1) RAA Winnipeg contributes \$15 per member towards the insurance program maintained by RAA national. This program provides liability insurance to cover local chapter events. The \$15 does not provide membership in RAAC.**