

HONORING AMERICAN MILITARY AVIATION THROUGH FLIGHT, EXHIBITION AND REMEMBRANCE

A message to Our Volunteers

This article by Jay Hunt, Volunteer Development Co-ordinator at the Vintage Wings of Canada (VWoC) appeared in the November 2016 issue of the Roundel, the VWoC newsletter. It is reprinted here with Jay's permission because your editor believes this is one of the best overviews of why it is we do what we do at the RMWCAF too.

VWoC has its new hangar and remarkable fleet of Historic military aircraft at the Ottawa/Gatineau Airport (CYND) airport just outside the Capital City of Ottawa.

Hit the "ENGLISH" button at www.vintagewings.ca/ to learn more about this great organization.

For those of us who live in the National Capital Region, we are indeed fortunate to have an amazing collection of vintage aircraft in our backyard. To preserve one of the premier collections of historic aircraft in the country or elsewhere, requires an enormous financial and people commitment. At Vintage Wings of Canada, we place an emphasis on volunteerism to offset many of the direct costs associated with restorations, flight operations, and maintenance. As we discussed in our last Roundel, the increased use of volunteers – together with corpo-

Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals.

Unknown

Volunteers are not paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.

Also Unknown

rate sponsorships and private donors – has enabled us to lower our operating costs while also improving public access to the hangar. Most importantly, volunteerism allows us to achieve our charitable goal of educating, inspiring and enabling young people to achieve their full potential, and we constantly strive to expand the number of youth we support.

The results from the enduring personal commitment from hundreds of volunteers is evident by the success we achieved throughout this year. After weeks of planning by team leads and a core of regular volunteers, we established new partnerships with youth groups and we grew our volunteer base to organize and support several key events, most of which occurred in June. Our CEO, Peter Allen, referred to the personal heroics of so many

them below.

I often ask myself what makes volunteers give freely of their time, at their own expense, to return to the hangar again and again. The obvious answer is that they love the aircraft and appreciate the opportunity to be around them, to observe the progress on aircraft restoration projects, and to watch them fly. But there is more to it because, as I've discovered, so many of you have no previous connection to aviation. In essence, volunteering simply makes us feel good. It fulfills us with a sense of accomplishment and it is a uniquely personal reward for each of us. For the retired amongst us, we get to give our free time to something worthy, and we contribute whatever experience and expertise we can to

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RMW AIR SHOW SCHEDULE - 2017

MONTH	DAYS	LOCATION	SHOW	TBM	CUB	STATUS
Mar	18-19	China Lake, CA	NAWS with Blue Angels			Pending
Apr	1	Riverside, CA	Airport 25th Anniversary			Possible
May	20	Peru, IL	Avenger Gathering			CONFIRMED
Jul	16	Cheyenne, WY	WYO Air Guard TB			Pending
	22-23	Idaho Falls, ID	Extreme Blue Thunder BA			Pending
	22-23	Great Falls, MT	Flight Over The Falls TB			Pending
Sep	2-3	Steamboat Springs	Wild West Air Fest			CONFIRMED
	9	Wendover, UT	Wendover Air Show			CONFIRMED
	16-17	Montrose	Tribute to Aviation			CONFIRMED
	23	Durango	Aviation Celebration GK			Pending
	23-24	Colorado Springs	Pikes Peak Air Show BA			Pending
	30-10/1	Grand Junction	Airport Open House TB			CONFIRMED
Oct	7	Prescott, AZ	Airport Open House			CONFIRMED
	21	Alamogordo, NM	Holloman AFB O/House			Pending
	28-30	Dallas, TX	Wings Over Dallas RB			Possible

Cols Thompson and Mummery are doing the Air Show scheduling thing with a vengeance!

Watch for Updates

Pick the shows you want to "Crew" early.

Contact Col Thompson and VOLUNTEER!

rvtglt38@earthlink.net

BA = Blue Angles
 TB = Thunderbirds
 GK = Golden Knights
 RB = Red Birds

HAVE YOU EVER TRAVELED TO AN AIR SHOW IN "309"?

Are you a new member of the Rocky Mountain Wing Commemorative Air Force (RMWCAF)? Have you been a long time member but just never could see yourself climbing into the beautiful Grumman airplane we so affectionately house, maintain, support, wipe oil off of, put on display and most important of all - FLY!

Do you think that because you don't go to our hangar every Saturday and work on "309" or the Cub that you aren't entitled to attend an air show on board "309"!

If you think that - STOP!

Your Wing is just that - **YOUR WING!** Just pay-

ing those substantial CAF dues each year and then adding on our Wing dues (have you paid **Your Wing** 2017 dues yet?) entitles you to full and complete membership - and allows you to participate at whatever level you choose. If you elect to just pay the dues for support - **Your Wing** is most appreciative and thankful. But those dues entitle you to so much more!

There are thousands of individuals that ache to be able to ride in our spectacular airplane! Wow! A ride in an actual WWII Torpedo Bomber! Many (that can) will gladly pay the fare to ride in "309" for just 20 minutes. And to think you can ride "for free!" Well, maybe not

"free" but those dues you've so kindly paid **Your Wing** provide the opportunity to ride at "no additional charge."

Your Wing is growing and has plans to grow and expand even more. Yes, **Your Wing** has some catching up to do both financially and operationally but those efforts are already well under way.

Your Wing has new members actively working hard alongside long time members that still push **Your Wing** forward..

Yes, Your Wing has established some training requirements you need to complete before climbing aboard "309" to assist at an Air Show. This training is to insure that all

Your Wing's operations are performed in the most safe way possible and in an efficient manner. Watch Propwash for training schedules.

So what are you waiting for? Contact Col Bob Thompson (Operations Officer and Air Show coordinator) or Wing Leader Col Kent Taylor and Volunteer to become part of an Air Show Crew. It is FUN!

Col Bob Thompson
 970-921-4088

Col Kent Taylor
 970-201-7592

JUST DO IT!

Volunteers are love in motion

Unknown

Col Tom Howe Propwash Editor

Our Volunteers (cont.) Vintage Wings of Canada



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move VWoC goals forward. For younger people, such as high school students seeking volunteer hours or hunting for future career opportunities, volunteering is a good way to gain experience and to network with those who can help. Regardless of our ages, backgrounds or personal motivations, volunteering is further enhanced when we know our efforts are helping to promote youth education and preserve aviation history. We

also create friendships with likeminded volunteers, and enjoy spending time with visitors who share a passion for aviation. It is our volunteers who lovingly care for and polish the aircraft, keep the hangar in spotless condition inside and out, ensure that aircraft movements and operations are conducted safely, conduct tours for our many visitors, and carry out the many other jobs that are needed. Looking ahead, volunteers will continue to play a crucial and growing role at Vintage Wings. All volunteers are encouraged to be-

come full members of VWoC.

Volunteers bring expertise, energy and enthusiasm to the hangar and the airfield, and we want excite others to join the organization. The need for volunteers at VWOc has never been greater. Plans are underway for an ambitious slate of events and activities for Canada's 150th birthday year. How much we can accomplish is dependent on the number of volunteers who step forward and say I want to be part of this exciting year.

To all VWoC volunteers I say Thank you for your service. To those who haven't yet volunteered, I say Come and join the team.

The rewards are great, and you will be paid back in ways no other activity can match. If you want to know more about how you can join us, please contact me directly or come and visit the hangar!

Jay Hunt

Volunteer Development
Co-coordinator
jhunt@vintagewings.ca

2017 AT BMW - WHY WAIT - HAVE SOME FUN!

*By Col Tom Howe
Editor*

The Rocky Mountain Wing Commemorative Air Force (RMWCAF) started 2017 with new Wing Leader Col Kent Taylor calling the January Staff Meeting to order – Saturday January 14 at our GJT CAF Museum. More than 20 Colonels were present – a very encouraging turnout indeed. Col Taylor's theme was how we change our wing to have more growth, more volunteerism, more activi-

ties, more sponsors, more facilities, more airplanes, more...

As noted on page 2 of this issue Cols Thompson and Mummery already have our 2017 Air Show schedule taking shape with our first possible show in Mid-March – that is less than two months away from this issue's publication date. Are you ready to support China Lake or Riverside California shows?

Do you have family/friends in the Chicago area? "309" will be leaving for Peru, IL (about

100 mi west of downtown Chicago) in mid-May to participate in a gathering of TBMs to be held there on Armed Forces Day, May 20, 2017. "309" will be joining a dozen more TBMs – one of the largest gatherings of Grumman Avenger's in many, many years. Be sure to sign up early if you want to attend this fascinating event. We need to make sure this venue is fully supported. It is a great opportunity to gather income to help offset our current debts.

Not able to travel away from

the area to assist at Air Shows – never fear ... the PX Ambulance¹ is here! Plans are underway to revitalize this Wing asset and make concentrated efforts to put forth the mobile bill board and PX sales into many venues throughout the Central Mountains and western slope. Do you know of a group or association that has a gathering, jamboree, market, street show, festival, car show, horse show...any event that we can display our Ambulance, set up a small

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“Keep 'em Flying”

WING LEADER'S REPORT

By Col Kent Taylor
Wing Leader

CAF RMW Members

Big turnout, great meeting Saturday – terrific way to start the new year!

Thanks to all who turned out to participate in the planning session, and a special THANK YOU to:

- Tom and Jay Jackson - who will be our new PX Officers
- Kathryn Bennett - who is our new Marketing Officer
- Keith Sweinhart - who is our new Recruiting Officer
- Byron Huffman - who is our new Ambulance Events Officer
- Randy Peebles - who is our new Deputy Museum Curator

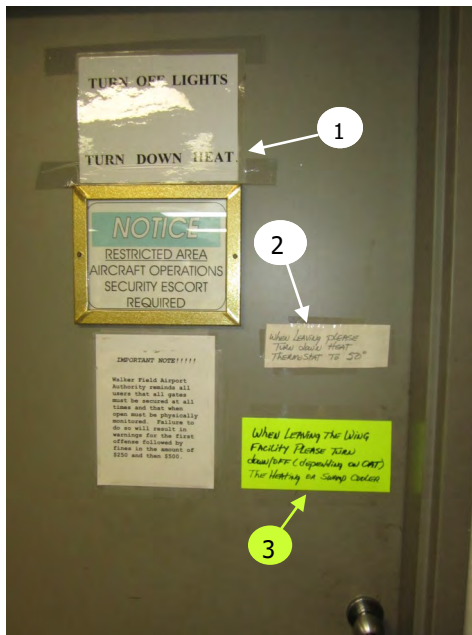
We're still looking for Staff Officer deputies. We're going to have a lot to do this year,



and the staff would welcome your help. If you'd like to lend a hand, and learn a bit about one of the staff positions, please contact me or any of the staff officers: Rich Connor (Exec), Gabe Toth (Finance), Bob Thompson (Operations), Robert Owen (Safety), Dick Maddock (Maintenance), or Becca Walter (Adjutant).

We covered a lot of ground in the meeting. Financially, we're pretty deep into red ink, and we have set objectives to retire the debt, rebuild operational reserves, and GROW the Wing. We've set objectives of 20 new members, and \$100,000 in new sustaining sponsorships + corporate donations + income from special events. To meet these objectives, we'll need to make some changes in the way we

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



This Photo shows the inside of the door from the RMWCAF Museum onto the aircraft parking area. As a result of an earlier Propwash article about members leaving the heat (AC) on after leaving the museum, Col Kay Johnson posted **additional (3!)** notices on this door to remind users to adjust the heat before leaving. Col Johnson said the next time he visited the museum, the heat had been left on all night the night before....

WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

do business.

We did some brainstorming around recruiting and fund-raising, and quickly recognized that a lot of the suggestions applied to both recruiting and fund-raising - they both require:

- branding and awareness building (the community has to know who we are and what we do)
- marketing
- advertising
- promotions & events
- developing new relationships and partnerships
- personal "selling"

Our PIO, Marketing Of-

ficer, and Recruiting Officer quickly rose to the challenge and formed an RMW Growth Team to start turning ideas into Action. Contact any one of them if you'd like to help.

While all of this may sound somewhat daunting, I can tell you from more than a few similar experiences, the process can be energizing, personally rewarding, and great deal of FUN!

Every member can have an opportunity to participate in the adventure. There will be planning and prep work going on most every Saturday morning, and TBM/Hangar Maintenance most Wednesdays starting in February when Dick Maddock gets back from his vacation. Stop in either day around 10:00 and join the party!



A Great Turnout!

RMWCAF STAFF OFFICERS

Wing Leader Kent Taylor
 Executive Officer Rich Connor
 Finance Officer Robert Toth
 Adjutant Becca Walters
 Operations Officer Bob Thompson
 Maintenance Off. Dick Maddock
 Museum & Mess Sergeant Dorothy Dutton
 Safety Officer Robert Owen
 Judge Advocate Gerald Feather
 Marketing Officer Kathryn Bennett
 Public Information Officer Tom Dennis
 PX Officers Tom / Jay Jackson
 Newsletter Editor Tom Howe
 TBM Aircraft Coordinator Bob Thompson
 Cub Aircraft Coordinator Charlie Huff
 Ambulance Coordinator Byron Huffman
 Facilities Manager Kay Johnson
 Recruiting Officer Kieth Swinehart
 Grants Officer Dave Shepard

HAVE SOME FUN!

(CONTINUED)

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PX, talk to attendees about joining our organization, and of course gather donations. If you do, then plan to arrange for the PX Ambulance¹ to attend and plan to support that effort yourself. It's not hard. Watch future Propwash issues to learn how to schedule the PX Ambulance¹ and/or support one of the appearances.

Watch for efforts to Market our organization, its members and capabilities as Cols Kathryn Bennet and Tom Dennis begin to coordinate efforts to put our best propeller forward in the media and throughout central and western Colorado. **Col Kathryn Bennett has volunteered** to bring her marketing expertise to the aid of our Wing. She'll need help so be ready to volunteer and give our new Marketing Officer a hand when needed.

Col Dick Maddock is getting confused trying to figure out which way to place his four sided hat on his one sided head, so **Col Keith Swinehart has volunteered** to use his decades of professional recruitment talents to off load Col Maddock's current Recruitment Officer duties. We need our membership to

grow for our Wing to grow.

Also willing to lessen Col Maddock's dilemma, **Cols Tom and Jay Jackson have volunteered** to assume the PX Officer duties to help offload Dick Maddock. **Col Maddock will continue to volunteer as Maintenance Officer.**

When will you **volunteer?** Next wing staff meeting is scheduled for Satur-

day, February 11th, 10:00 AM, RMWCAF Museum & Hangar.

COME JOIN THE FUN!

[1] We really need to "name" this "Ambulance" vehicle so appropriate "Nose Art" can be created and the vehicle's exterior be completed. Send the Propwash your suggestions (howet@tds.net).

WWII QUIZ

ANSWERS ON PAGE 6

The Air War

What was the original name for the U.S. P-51 Mustang Fighter?

- A. Colt B. Apache C. Thunderbird D. War Horse

Naval Operations & Sea Battles

Identify the first battleship to be sunk by an attack from dive bombing planes.

- A. HMS Ark Royal B. USS Arizona C. *Marat* (USSR)

Thanks to author Timothy B. Bensford



Staff Mtg. Bullets Jan. 14th Mtg.



Wing Leader Col Taylor and his Colonels of the Trapezoid Table.

With apologies to the Arthurian Legend



We (you) are Connected!

Col Gabe Toth in his always miserly ways has equipped the Hangar / Museum with WiFi and VoIP. Phone # is the same.

Login = RMWHANGAR

Password = tbm309



MAINTENANCE REPORT

*By Col Dick Maddock
RMW Maintenance Officer*

After our first engine start with the backfire problems, we found the left exhaust cracked. We removed it and had it welded and replaced. We made some adjustments on the carburetor, bringing the idle from 900 rpm to 625 rpm. Restarted the engine; it was a good start this time.

Replaced the remainder of the cowl flap bushings with the new bushings we received from Arizona.

We are still working on the second seat folding hood; had the broken bracket welded (we are looking for a new

one). We found two curved pieces of Plexiglass in the loft. We'll see if one of them will fit better than the one we are currently using.

I want to remind everyone that we work on the plane every Saturday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m./10:30 a.m. until ? You need not be an A&P or know anything about airplane maintenance to help work on the plane. There are always people to supervise. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

I want to thank Tom Jackson for donating a 12 ton hydraulic press to the wing. It will be put to good use!

Keeping our new Volunteer Spirit at high volume, plan on Joining Col Maddock's "Wrench Wranglers" and "Broom Bosses" on a Saturday or Wednesday sometime soon. No experience necessary! Earn an appreciation for our Grumman Masterpiece.
No appointment Necessary!!



Two New CUB Sponsors !!
The "Yellowbird" will soon be "Flying High" with the new Sponsorship help of Colonels:
Col "Becca" Dennis Walters
and
Col Tom Dennis
Thanks to members like this the RMWCAF will Fly High too!

WWII QUIZ (SEE PAGE 5) ANSWERS
The Air War
It was the Apache.
Naval Operations & Sea Battles
C. The Soviet battleship Marat was sunk by German Dive bombers in the port of Kronstadt in Sept., 1941

AS OF 1/14/2017
A TOTAL OF RMW **55**
MEMBERS HAD PAID THEIR
2017 DUES - HAVE YOU???