



All lined up and ready to go for Discover Aviation on July 15, 2023

Photo by John Gallant



The pilots and ground crew were up early to introduce young people to the thrill of flight. Alas, the smoke made flying impossible so the event was postponed until August.

Photo by Edie Schleiss

Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum (WAAAM)

By Marion Ross

The Pacific Northwest is home to many aviation museums such as the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum (home of the Spruce Goose) at McMinnville, Oregon; The Museum of Flight in Seattle; and the Tillamook Air Museum which is located at a former U.S. Navy Air Station and housed in a former blimp hangar at Tillamook, Oregon. Hangar B, as it is known as, is the largest clear-span wooden structure in the world. We have visited these many times over the years.

Rob Kennett suggested that since we were going to be going right past Hood River, OR on our road trip in July, that we might enjoy a stop at a very nice museum that he had stumbled upon. He recommended WAAAM and we are glad that he did! We spent several hours touring the exhibits and talking with the friendly volunteers.

The WAAAM Air & Auto Museum has one of the largest collections of still-flying antique aeroplanes and still-driving antique automobiles in the country. It isn't often that you find drip trays under the engines of museum pieces!

We stepped back in time admiring the beautifully restored antique aircraft including the 1917 Curtiss JN-4D Jenny featuring an OX-5 90 HP engine, Piper Cub and WACO, Aeronca, and Stearman collections.

Even the cars were fun. There are apparently over 130 cars in the collection. I was particularly partial to the 1914 Detroit Electric but we appreciated the a Ford Model A , Model T, the Packards, Studebakers and something called a Locomobile.

If you like motorcycles, there are plenty to see at this lovely museum at the Hood River Airport. They have Harley Davidsons, Indians, Cushmans and a lot more!

Aircraft, automobiles, motorcycles, tractors, military jeeps and engines all get their day in the sun again at WAAAM. If you happen to go on the second Saturday of the month, you might get to see the volunteers have a "play day" where airplanes fly, cars drive and machines run. And visitors are invited to participate!

All of the antique airplanes have been meticulously restored from the inside out. And, unlike the aircraft at most air museums, these aircraft still fly!

Thanks, Rob, for the suggestion! We'd encourage any aviation buff to plan a visit to the Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum the next time you happen to be close to Hood River.

**1600 Air Museum
Rd. Hood River, OR 97031**



1929 Travel Air 4D



N5339 1928 Boeing Model 40-C "Mailplane" used in the US during the 1920s and 1930s



1931 Aeronca C3 on Edo floats



1930 Long Henderson Longster III with Long Harlequin Motor



I don't know what plane this is but I thought this engine was fascinating!

\$150 Donation to the Vernon Flying Club



Thank-you, **Gerry Richard!**

Gerry generously donated this Honda lawnmower that he had converted into an aircraft tug, to the club to sell. It was gone within hours of posting on Facebook Marketplace for the full asking price! Maybe we should have asked for more?!

3 Knots
5.5 Km/h
3.5 mph

6 Knots
11 Km/h
7 mph

9 Knots
16 Km/h
10 mph

12 Knots
22 Km/h
14 mph

15+ Knots
28+ Km/h
17+ mph

Did you know?
Windsocks are colored in stripes to indicate the wind speed.

Seal
www.onlinegroundschool.com

Murder on Flight 013

By Alison Crerar (as the Captain and Director)

The number 13 was indeed unlucky on the 18th of July - a murder was committed on board a Boeing 747 inbound to Vernon, Flight 013. All passengers were required to stay on board until the police arrived.

Those who had been present in the upstairs lounge at the time of the murder were unable to solve the mystery of who did the deed and, had the police not arrived, the murderer might have escaped detection.



The flight’s Captain Alison made sure order was kept in the lounge and the suspects maintained decorum as they shared the food they had brought aboard. This is, after all, an economy airline!

The victim was Thomas Reed, who was traveling with eight friends and associates to a press conference and gala celebration party to announce the merger of Reed’s company with Lawrence Hendricks’ company. During a violent thunderstorm over Kamloops, the jet encountered severe turbulence which created a convenient cover for someone to murder Thomas. The sounds of the murder were conveniently caught on an audio recording, and the body remained on the floor along with the bloody murder weapon - a letter opener belonging to Thomas Reed himself.

Many questions were asked and accusations made among the eight suspects. Lawrence Hendricks II (**Stu McLean**), young and ambitious, might have been trying to take all for himself. His sister Carla (**Sherrie MacPhee**) had ideas of her own about how things should be run and kept sticking her nose in where it wasn’t wanted! Victor Swanson (**Don Usher**), the



Dianne Usher as Misty Reed with a photo of her dear departed husband, Thomas Reed



Stu McLean as Lawrence Hendricks II, Melissa Brown as Lynda Swanson, Carolyn Hoffmann as Constance Edwards

dapper head of an international charity seemed to think that charity begins “at home”. His wife and assistant Lynda (**Melissa Brown Hewson**), heavily pregnant, had people questioning who was the father of her unborn child and, indeed, she seemed to be rather clingy with George Mulligan (a role reluctantly taken by **Dave Crerar** when Mike Hewson had to leave town at the last moment), star of a TV series. Had his sex appeal opened one too many doors? Lynda and Carla both had eyes for George, who had quite a following of women and was even having an affair with Misty Reed! Ricardo Durante (**Bern Kotelko**, chosen for his close resemblance to Kevin Costner!!!), Thomas Reed’s bodyguard, was a brute of a man with a temper to match. He had failed to guard his boss

and had been in jail for murder, but had he really reformed? And Misty Reed (**Dianne Usher**), the beautiful widow and now beneficiary to a fortune....why was she seemingly not too upset about Thomas' sudden death?

Ahhh, but the murderer - murderess - was none other than the flight attendant, Constance Edwards (**Carolyn Hoffmann McLean**). Not so innocent after all. After looking after her passengers, Constance sought revenge for her brother, Johnny's death after he was killed in the Middle East by a Stinger missile sold by Reed's company. She murdered Thomas with his own letter opener, which had fallen out of his pocket.

The evening was a lot of fun, enjoyed by all "passengers" in attendance. The food brought on board by the suspects and others was absolutely first class, and special thanks go out to the eight "suspects" who did a terrific job ad-libbing their roles. An added bonus was the EMT who came in from a Medivac flight to use the facilities....he came over to check the pulse of the victim and allowed us to take his picture with the 'body'!

A good time was had by all!



Bern Kotelko as Ricardo Durante



Sherrie MacPhee as Carla Henderson



New Aircraft on the Field



Mike Hewson flew via Air Canada to Peterborough, Ontario and brought back this lovely Wagaero Super Cub on amphibian floats. He was accompanied by his father, Jim, a retired float plane pilot from Alert Bay Air Services. A perfect mentor for a new float plane pilot!



Pancake Breakfast

People of all ages enjoy the Vernon Flying Club / COPA Flight 65 monthly pancake breakfasts! This little guy received an extra helping of whipped cream from Dianne Usher!

Fly-ins are welcome!

We host breakfast on the fourth Sunday of every month, except December, from 0830 to 1030.



Photo by Bill More

Excerpts from Locksley Hall, a poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson

Written in 1835 and published in 1842

For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;

Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,
Pilots of the purple twilight dropping down with costly bales;

Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rain'd a ghastly dew
From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue;

Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm,
With the standards of the peoples plunging thro' the thunder-storm;

Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Vernon Flying Club / COPA Flight 65 will be on **Tuesday, September 19th**. Election of Directors and Officers for 2023/2024 is the main focus of the meeting. But don't let that put you off from attending!

Betty Lee Longstaff has declined to be nominated for President but she has agreed to put her name forward for Treasurer. So, who among our members (of at least one year membership) do you think would best lead our club for the coming year? Nominations for all positions are being accepted now!

Nominations have been made and acknowledged as follows:

Vice-President:	Derek Riphagen
Treasurer:	Betty Lee Longstaff
Secretary:	Marion Ross
Director:	Alison Crerar

The 2022/2023 Board has decided to reduce the number of directors from seven to five for the simple fact that we are practically begging members to step forward and it is just too hard to fill all seven positions.

Membership reached 106 for this year and yet most of the work falls on the shoulders of a very few.

We'd also like to acknowledge those members who cannot volunteer because they live and/or work out of town! This is the reality and these members' financial support is appreciated! For example, twelve memberships are needed to pay for the monthly cleaning service.

If you are local, please consider volunteering to help at some of the pancake breakfasts or other activities like the Rust Remover or Discover Aviation.

Many thanks to all those members (and friends of VFC) who DO volunteer! You are very much appreciated!



On the Ramp



Lancair Evolution from Sherwood Park, AB



Piper PA-28R-201T Okotoks, AB



1964 Cessna 172E and Rob McLeod from Creston



Bushby Mustang II Oliver, BC



Cessna 180H from Surrey, BC



Cessna 180K out of Langley, BC



1973 Britten-Norman BN.2A-27, Islander C-GHRK
Great River Aviation, Whitehorse, YT

“The Snowflakes, Van’s RV Formation Flying Team”

By John Crook, Salmon Arm

In the Shuswap you may enjoy the sound of Canada geese honking overhead, but at times there is another sound that can be heard overhead, that of a double diamond formation of small single-engine homebuilt RV aircraft.

This team of RV fliers (named for designer Richard "Van" VanGrunsven) often fly from Vernon to enjoy Salmon Arm Flying Club's Wednesday morning coffee. After flying over the airport, they break formation, land and taxi to the ramp in good order. With the planes shut down, the pilots proceed to share Tim Bits, coffee and hangar yarns.

The RVs, called the Vernon Snowflakes, are a highly disciplined formation flying team of eleven pilots, with combined flying times of almost 10 years aloft. Some built their own RVs while others acquired them. Two members are building an RV-10 and a RV-7 respectively, with help from forgiving wives and enthusiastic friends.



The Snowflakes team flies tail draggers, tandem seaters, side-by-siders and tricycle designs. They include: RV-4 C-GEAU Chuck Ross; RV-6A C-GRBK, Rob Kennett; RV-7A C-FUXI, Franz Fux; RV-7A C-FBJV, John Swallow; RV-9A C-GLGG, Steve Swallow; RV-7A C-FRVJ, Stuart McLean; RV-8 C-FIFF, Ron Townson; RV-4 C-GWYR, Hammy McClymont; RV-9A C-GVYT, Steve Foord; RV-6AC C-GDMF, Dave Fish; RV-9A C-FAJO, Mike Hewson.

The Snowflakes started formation flying in late 2003, led by three pilots: Chuck Ross, Larry Williams and Rob Kennett. Two years later, Stan Nelson, Franz Fux and Roman Rotach joined. Chuck, Rob and Franz are still active in the group.

The name Snowflakes was suggested by Stan's wife when someone made the somewhat disparaging remark that the team thought it was the renowned Snowbirds aerobatic team. The Snowflakes logo was developed by Roman in 2009 when Stan, Roman and Rob participated in the cross-Canada flight to celebrate the 100th anniversary of powered flight in Canada.

Things got more organized when John Swallow began to lead the group. He had flown Canadair-built RCAF CF-86 Sabres in Germany and was selected for the Golden Centennaires, the RCAF's contribution to Canada's 1967 Centennial celebrations. This was the first formation team to fly Canadair CT-114 Tutors, before they became Snowbirds.

The Snowflakes practise often, summer and winter. The job of leading the flights is shared among members as they practise flying different formation positions. Preparation takes them to various airports throughout the Southern Interior.

Well known throughout the Okanagan-Shuswap, the Snowflakes are invited to fly over major community events, including the Vernon Winter Festival and Salmon Arm Fall Fair. Nevertheless, the first priority is Remembrance Day, November 11. Community Remembrance Day services are miles apart, so arriving over an 11 a.m. service requires careful planning. In 2022, nine aircraft flew over cenotaphs in eight communities to honour Canada's war dead. The Snowflakes also fly salutes for veterans celebrating significant birthdays, and have flown memorial flights for fellow pilots who have "gone west," often with the "missing man" formation.

FOR SALE:

2012 RV9A “Dreamcatcher”

CAD \$110,000



Just 250 hours TTSN
Well built by a retired Engineer
Hangared for all but its first few months

Located at CYVK, Vernon, BC

For more detailed information go to: <http://rb.gy/04zqf>

Bill Wilkie
bmawilkie@gmail.com
(250) 308 9485

Arthur is 90 years old. He's played golf every day since his retirement 25 years ago. One day he arrives home looking downcast. "That's it," he tells his wife. "I'm giving up golf. My eyesight has become so bad that once I hit the ball I couldn't see where it went."

His wife sympathises and makes him a cup of tea. As they sit down she says, "Why don't you take my brother with you and give it one more try."

"That's no good" sighs Arthur, "your brother's a hundred and three. He can't help."

"He may be a hundred and three", says the wife, "but his eyesight is perfect."

So the next day Arthur heads off to the golf course with his brother-in-law. He tees up, takes a mighty swing and squints down the fairway.

He turns to the brother-in-law and says, "Did you see the ball?"

"Of course I did!" replied the brother-in-law. "I have perfect eyesight".

"Where did it go?" says Arthur.

"I don't remember."



**VERNON FLYING CLUB / COPA Flight 65
2022 / 2023**

PRESIDENT: Betty Lee Longstaff
 VICE PRESIDENT:
 TREASURER: Bill More
 SECRETARY: Marion Ross
 DIRECTOR: Alison Crerar
 DIRECTOR: Tom Glover
 DIRECTOR: Derek Riphagen

COPA CAPTAIN: Stuart McLean
 COPA Co-CAPTAIN: Stan Owen
 COPA Navigator: Mike Crutchley



Temporary Newsletter Editor: Marion Ross

VFC Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

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