



ROAR of the Harvard

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December 2022

P.O. Box 175, Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada N4G 4H5

Phone: 519-842-9922



CHAA member Mel Rolph offered up his driving skills to make sure our wooden mini Harvard model of BZT was available to help welcome Santa to Ingersoll and Tillsonburg. Both Santa Claus parades were held on Saturday November 20th. Service Crew member Diane Lawrence and her daughter Sarah walked beside the wings in the Tillsonburg parade and handed out 1078 candy canes! Great job Mel, Diane and Sarah!

Photos by 104.7 Heart FM (top) and Diane Lawrence (bottom).





MEETING NOTICE!

CHAA will be resuming our regular monthly Members Briefings again! They will be held on the third Saturday of the month at 10 am in the CHAA Welcome Centre. All are welcome.

We are happy to announce that we will be holding our annual Potluck Social on December 17th following the monthly Members Briefing. It will be held in the CHAA Welcome Centre at Tillsonburg Airport. Please stay home if you are ill and masks are optional.



Wings & Wheels was a success!!

CHAA was pleased that we could hold our 13th edition of the Wings & Wheels Family Fun Day on September 17th! After not having it for 2 years due to Covid we had a record breaking day! There were over 360 registered vehicles (some did not register but we know there were over 400 vehicles) and there were 34 happy passengers! Great job to all involved! It was a slow start due to the foggy conditions but we made the best of it! Photo on the left by Diane Lawrence and photo on the right by Shane Clayton.



One of the founding fathers of CHAA, Leonard Fallowfield, and his wife Ila, a long time bookkeeper for the association, were special visitors to the 2022 edition of Wings and Wheels. Terry Scott sat down with Leonard for a brief chat about his thoughts on how the association has grown and prospered over 37 years. You can watch that video by clicking on this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyveBixDGJc>

HELP CHAA's YALE 3399 FLY AGAIN!

In this, our 37th flying season, CHAA has continued to fulfill our mandate: *"To acquire, preserve, restore, maintain, display and demonstrate the Harvard and other aircraft associated with the BCATP and the RCAF."*

The focus of this year's mail out fundraiser is restoring CHAA's YALE 3399 C-GLJH to airworthiness. Below is some information for YALE 3399, compiled by our CTechO, Shane Clayton. As always, your continued and generous support of CHAA is truly appreciated. **Make your donation** at CanadaHelps:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/canadian-harvard-aircraft-association/campaign/help-our-yale-fly-again/> on our website: www.harvards.com - click on the MAKE A DONATION button located on centre of our

Home page, or by sending your cheque or credit card info to:

CHAA, Box 175, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 4H5



NA-64 Yale 3399 A Brief History

CHAA's Yale was built in early 1940 by North American Aviation in Inglewood, California as the 128th aircraft in an order placed by the French government for 230 NA-64 trainers. As France surrendered to Nazi Germany before the entire order could be delivered, the remaining NA-64's were brought to Canada where they were taken on strength by the Royal Canadian Air Force, and were given a new official name: Yale. Our aircraft was given RCAF serial number 3399, and initially served at No. 1 Service Flying Training School at Camp Borden, Ontario where it was used as an intermediate pilot trainer.



Yale 3399 on the flightline at Camp Borden in 1940

In mid-1941, 3399 (along with many other BCATP aircraft) were used in the filming of the movie 'Captains of the Clouds' starring James Cagney. By late 1943, 3399 was removed from pilot training duties and was eventually converted to an airborne wireless trainer. These modified Yales were used to train wireless operators in aerial radio operation and direction finding. In this role, 3399 served at No. 4 Wireless School at St. Catharines, Ontario as well as No. 1 Wireless School at Mount Hope, Ontario until mid-1945. 3399 then went to storage at Brantford, Ontario before being sold as scrap in late 1946.

Yale 3399 in 'Captains of the Clouds'



3399 as a wireless trainer in 1944 following an incident at St. Catharines



3399 eventually ended up at the farm of Ernest V. (Ernie) Simmons who lived southeast of Tillsonburg. Ernie had purchased approximately 38 Yales along with 8 Fairey Swordfish torpedo bombers and a Westland Lysander in the false hopes that another war was imminent and the RCAF would purchase the aircraft back at a profit. This never came to pass, and the aircraft languished on his property until his death in early 1970.



3399 at Ernie Simmons' farm

Ernie's collection was auctioned off by the province on the Labour Day weekend of 1970, and Yale 3399 ended up with Don Goddard of Waterloo, Ontario. After spending years sitting in Don's backyard, 3399 was purchased by the newly formed Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association in 1987.



3399 Under Restoration circa 2000

Initially led by retired Wing Commander Lou J. Hill, CHAA's Restoration Team spent the next 23 years painstakingly bringing 3399 back to airworthy condition. Flying again in May 2010, 3399 was registered C-GLJH in honour of Lou J. Hill. In 2013, CHAA was awarded an Excellence in Restoration Award by the Canadian Aeronautical Preservation Association for Yale 3399's restoration.





In addition to welcoming your donation, we encourage you to **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**, as Annual Memberships expire on December 31st. You can renew your membership on our website www.harvards.com - click on the BECOME A MEMBER button on centre of our Home page or by sending your cheque or credit card info to CHAA, Box 175, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 4H5.

Membership options include:

Single: \$75

Family: \$100

Harvard Hawk: \$15

Life Member: \$1000

CHAA Remembers



Unfortunately due to weather CHAA was unable to do the fly past in Toronto on Remembrance Day. We did however participate in the Ohsweken (October 16th), Shedden and Lambeth (November 6th) Remembrance Day ceremonies. Mike Lawrence also pointed out that on November 6th "we flew over the town of Fingal, the former airbase SW of Fingal, Talbotville as well as the former airfields at Aylmer and St. Thomas. I know our pilots and crew were thinking of the aircrews that flew from all of those places as we passed them by.

St. Thomas was the number 1 relief field for Aylmer, Tillsonburg was the number 2 relief field and somewhere near Talbotville there was a bombing range for the boys of #4 Bombing and Gunnery School out of RCAF Fingal. Photo above by Lambeth resident Sylvia Millar. Photos below by Mike Lawrence. All were taken on November 6th.



Elder Abuse Air Force Awareness Flight

CHAA joined Mike Bremner of the Elder Abuse Air Force for an event back in June in St. Catharines. We were asked to continue the efforts of raising awareness of elder abuse by joining a world record flight around the CN Tower on November 12th. Mike completed 68 laps in a 172 with three of our Harvards joining him for the last two. Mr. Bremner established a world record for the most orbits around a free-standing structure to bring Awareness of Elder Abuse. You can see the Global News coverage by clicking on this link.
<https://globalnews.ca/news/9273691/plane-sets-record-circling-cn-tower-to-raise-awareness-of-elder-abuse/>



Pilots Bill Shepard, Scott McMaster and Poul Hansen were the pilots for the Toronto event. Service Crew member Diane Lawrence, crew member in training Diana Spremo and Harvard Hawk Logan Lawrence were also on hand. Logan was a great help getting the aircraft ready and keeping them clean! He was also one of the passengers for the two laps around the CN Tower. Photo above by Diana Spremo. Photo on the left by Diane Lawrence. Photo below is a screenshot from the news clip.



Remembering Bill Wright



Board Member and long time maintenance volunteer Bill Wright passed away on November 18th. Just a couple of weeks earlier he was able to experience a very special moment. Bill wished he was able to see the airplanes he worked on so lovingly over many years fly one more time.

Through Oxford County Paramedic Association's "Wish to Remember" program Bill was able to experience just that. This wish would not have been possible without VON Sakura House which always provides the most amazing care to its patients, all the amazing members of CHAA who pulled together to coordinate a formation flypast and the members of Oxford County Paramedic Service who volunteer their time for safe/comfortable transportation.

Blue Skies Bill!

Warbirds In The Water update

In the June 2022 edition of the ROAR we featured a story titled "Warbirds In The Water" written by Mike McAllister of the CHAA Dive Recovery Team. Mike has sent us an update to that story.

In the deep and dark waters at the bottom of Lake Ontario off Prince Edward County Ontario, lies a mystery. In 2020 & 2022 after years of research, and a Licence to Carry Out Marine Archaeological Fieldwork obtained by Derek Niles of Orange Force Marine, from the Government of Ontario, several sonar surveys were conducted by the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Recovery Team using the advanced underwater equipment of Shark Marine Technologies Inc. with the aim of finding a lost WWII era fighter aircraft and locating the final resting place of it's pilot Flight Officer Barry Newman (right).



On Sept 10-11th 2022 a team of 9 divers, all volunteers, went out on Lake Ontario to dive on SONAR targets identified by Jim Garrington of Shark Marine Technologies Inc. Four CHAA-Recovery members took part and the other 5 divers were invited by member Paul Darnbrough. Using Shark Marine's Diver held NAVIGATOR portable sonar unit, that was developed for Military Special

Operations, which allows the diver to "see in the dark", several metal objects at an average of 100 feet deep were located 12 Km from shore, within the search area south of Picton indicated by eyewitnesses to the 1952 crash of an RCAF P-51D. The team believes we have found wreckage of F/O Newman's Mustang. A return to the Lake bottom (following Government permission) will be necessary next year to recover artifacts for positive identification. Most of the wreck will be left as is. With help from the public, this story will continue.

For more information on this story or to donate please visit: bit.ly/BarryNewman or scan this QR code which will take you directly to the Go Fund Me fundraising page.



The CHAA Dive Recovery team would also like you to check out these links:

- chaa-recovery.org
- www.sharkmarine.com
- londonscubacentre.com
- thediveacademy.ca



Front Row: Paul Darnbrough, Paul Chapple, Kayla Martin and Mike McAllister

Back Row: Jim Garrington, Durrell Martin, Corey Phillips, Craig Smith and Steve Mueller

Photo by Helen Cooper

CTechO Report – December 2022

We're still looking for additional help on both the maintenance and restoration crews. Please contact me at the hangar on Tuesdays and Saturdays, via email at maintenance@harvards.com or by phone at 519-320-1854 if you are interested. Here's an update on the current fleet status:

Harvard 3830/C-FRWN – Following numerous delays, we finally received the repaired right wing back from Fliteline in mid-September. We had the new skins repainted yellow as well as had the right side wing attach angles NDT inspected before reinstalling the wing on October 1st. A flurry of activity then took place to prepare RWN for flight, including installing a brand new Garmin radio. Two weeks to the day that we installed the repaired wing, '54' flew again for the first time since returning home from Geneseo in November 2021. Chief Pilot Scott McMaster did the honours, and reported that RWN still flies straight and true. It has been flying steadily ever since, and will remain online over the winter and into next spring.

Harvard 20422/RZW – 422 flew the remainder of the 2022 flying season with no major issues, and went in for it's annual inspection on November 12th. No major snags have been encountered so far, and we are planning on replacing the wing-to-fuselage bolts this year as well. It is planned to have RZW back online in early 2023.

Harvard 20242/C-FWPK – 242 also finished up the 2022 flying season without any major issues. The annual inspection commenced on November 12th as well, and luckily it's been so far so good.

Harvard AJ583/C-FHWX – Unfortunately '46' suffered a wheels-up landing on October 8th, however there was minimal structural damage to the airframe. The engine will eventually have to be removed and sent back to Covington Aircraft in Oklahoma for a tear-down inspection. Other than an airframe inspection to find out the extent of the damage, no other work has taken place until a decision has been made about how best to move forward.

Harvard 20304/C-FBZT – Work on 304 has steadily continued, with AME Kerry Wilkinson coming out for several days in October and November. The control cable systems are now essentially complete and rigged properly, and the next task is the inspecting the airframe electrical systems followed by the powerplant-related systems.

Harvard 20321/CF-UFZ/'Bessy' – Our maintenance volunteers have been steadily working on Bessy's cockpit and other areas on the fuselage in preparation for stripping and repainting. However due to some unforeseen circumstances and scheduling delays, we're going to have to push the repainting back to next spring.

Harvard 20436/C-FWLH – No major updates since the last report, however some work is continuing to take place to make 436 appear more complete in order to be used for cockpit tours.

Yale 3399/C-GLJH – No major updates since the last report, however we are making plans to begin working on the Yale once we are given the green light by the board as funding allows.

Harvard 3191/C-FMTX – The restoration crew is good progress in the disassembly, stripping and inspecting of MTX's parts. We're also removing some unneeded components that were installed either postwar or in early civilian life in order to return 3191 to a more accurate wartime configuration.

CHAA Board and Committee Chairs
Contact Information

Position	Incumbent	Phone	Email
President/Chairman	Bill Shepard	519-532-5613	membership@harvards.com
Vice-President	John Britton	519-475-6488	jbcaterham@gmail.com
Treasurer	Robert McRae	519-830-1522	rmcrae422@gmail.com
Bookkeeper	Vacant		
Secretary	David Moore	587-580-5568	mooredavel@hotmail.com
Chief Operations Officer	Allan Paige	(416) 626-3107	apaige@sympatico.ca
Chief Technical Officer	Shane Clayton	(519) 320-1854	s_clayton@harvards.com
Director	Jim Swalm	(613) 296-1073	jhsua50@gmail.com
Director	Walther Irie	(519) 535-8876	walther.irie@gmail.com
Director	Poul Hansen	(647) 932-3483	hansenp@hotmail.com
Director	Melanie Burden	(416) 521-5330	melanieburden@icloud.com
Director	Vacant		
Air Displays Coordinator	Jim Swalm	(613) 296-1073	jhsua50@gmail.com
Aircraft Recovery Team	Walther Irie	(519) 535-8876	walther.irie@gmail.com
Annual Fundraising Banquet	Pat Hanna	(519) 212-6021	p_hanna@harvards.com
Archives, Museum & Scrap Book Chairman	Shane Clayton	(519) 320-1854	s_clayton@harvards.com
Chief Pilot	Scott McMaster	(905) 865-0331	scott@mcmaster.ca
Finance Chairman	Torben Haarbye	(519) 679-1733	torbenhaarbye@gmail.com
Flight Experience Coordinator	Vacant		crewflights@harvards.com
Fundraising	Vacant		
Harvard Hawks	Vacant		
Membership Chair	Bill Shepard	519-532-5613	membership@harvards.com
Public Relations	Terry Scott	(905) 220-4012	t_scott@harvards.com
Publisher "Harvard Happenings"	Sean Voskamp	(519) 404-5935	svoskamp@harvards.com
Publisher "The ROAR"	Diane Lawrence	(519) 686-2690	d_lawrence@harvards.com
Restoration Crew Chief	Jim Swalm	(613) 296-1073	jhsua50@gmail.com
Service Crew Co-Chiefs	Shane Clayton Mike Lawrence	(519) 320-1854 (519) 873-0343	s_clayton@harvards.com m_lawrence@harvards.com
Stores	Pat Hanna	(519) 212-6021	p_hanna@harvards.com



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CHAA contact information:
Phone (519) 842-9922
Email: info@harvards.com
P.O. Box #175
Tillsonburg, ON
N4G 4H5