



HARVARD HISTORICAL AVIATION SOCIETY

presents,

Harvard Flyer

SPRING 2023 ISSUE



From the day of the Harvard Historical Aviation Societies Inception, our organization has been fueled, organized, and pushed forward by our amazing team of volunteers. As we have continued to take on new projects (and advance our current ones!), our volunteer base has continued to grow. From managing our financials, to building aircraft blueprints, to selling merchandise at air shows, the Harvard Historical Aviation Society would not be where it is today without those who support the history and believe in keeping our history alive here in Central Alberta. This will be the year of the volunteer, as we celebrate those who whole heartedly give there time.

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS



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The Airspeed Oxford Project : The Momentum Continues!

Progress continues on Harvard Historical Aviation Society's Airspeed Oxford project. The focus right now is on the cockpit area. Rebuilding an airpolane is so much more then just engines and wings. The team of volunteers has been working tirelessly cleaning old components, and sometimes preparing to rebuild them from scratch. This involves high quality woodworking and machining skills, and we couldn't be happier to have such a dedicated and hardworking group of people working on this project.

Shane has just about completed refurbishing the control column parts and has reassembled them. As you can see from the imagery, these were in a dire need of a great cleaning! Our interiors guru Dave has been working on the rudder pedal assembly and that is just about completed as well! Vern is still working on building the wooden cockpit floor. This is a time consuming and tedious project, and he continues to work to ensure we have a floor that is built to the quality of a brand new Oxford! Once the flooring is complete the team will begin to fit seats, rudder, and control column. Next steps are cockpit side walls, throttle quadrants and continued cockpit assembly. The Oxford is starting to look like an airplane, and we are always looking for volunteers who want to be a part of this wonderful project! Contact info@penholdbase.ca to be a part of history!





The Erase Of History - Our Purpose To Continue

Only a few months ago, the Red Deer Regional Airport saw the destruction of the airports oldest building, and one of its most recognizable structures. The Home of the Red Deer Flying Club, CASARA Search and Rescue, and meeting place of the Harvard Historical Aviation Society was demolished to make room for other paving and construction. Since the closure of the Penhold Base, and the renaming of Mynarski Park (now Springbrook) which removed the name from the community of a WW2 hero; we have seen the demolition of Andersons of Craigmyle School, named in honor of a mother who lost all three sons at battle (the ultimate sacrifice), and have seen more and more of these buildings demolished and removed, only to have history and conversation become the conduit to continue to honor the past.



To those who were able to spend time within these buildings and understand the significance they played on our history, you will consider yourself honored. To listen to the old timers tell tales of the days of the Penhold Base, and living in the community of Mynarski Park. To hear the sounds of the Harvard flying overhead, and visit the many sporting events, dances, and gatherings held on the base for the community.

The Harvard Historical Aviation Society will continue to work to keep Central Alberta's aviation history alive. To ensure that those who worked on this base, gave their lives on this base, and contributed dearly to our freedoms, are not forgotten.





GET READY TO JOIN US ACROSS WESTERN CANADA!

Summer is coming and so are all of the events you have been missing! We cant wait to see you out on the road, enjoying aviation and supporting your local airports and clubs! Are you looking to catch us on the road? Check below for the events coming up over the next few months!

2023 JULY 16th Lacombe Fly In Breakfast

2023 APRIL 27th HHAS Volunteer Appreciation Supper (Innisfail Airport)

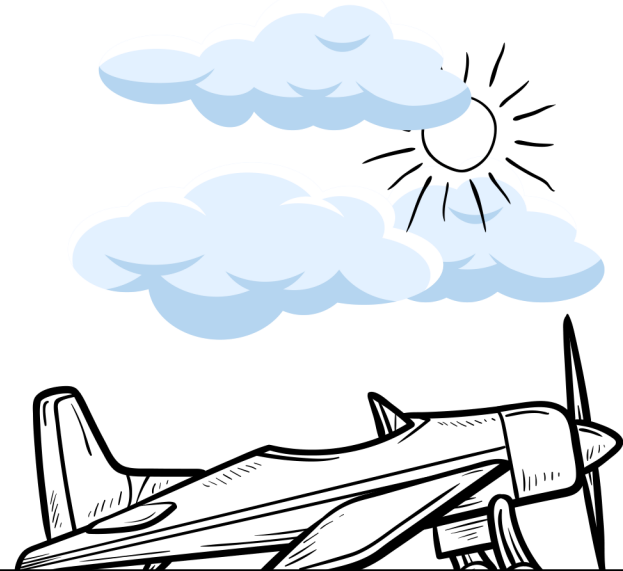
2023 MAY 7th Red Deer Fly In Breakfast

2023 SEPTEMBER 23rd Girls in Aviation Day (Red Deer Regional Airport)

2023 JULY 29/30 Red Deer Airshow & Air Races

2023 AUGUST Nanton Museum Event

**Watch our social media for upcoming information regarding out monthly aviation chat coffee gatherings!! We are looking forward to seeing everyone again this summer as we talk history, events, stories, and meet some local veterans!



Volunteer Spotlight: Mike Sutherland

If you are wondering who is the one cracking jokes at our board meetings, and keeping things lighthearted at all times, you will want to turn and take a look at our longtime volunteer and board member Michael Sutherland! You may recognize Mike, as he is also a prominent actor within the Central Alberta. So what brought him to the Harvard Historical Aviation Society? Mike is also a huge lover of aviation, aviation history, and all things airports! Mike recently retired from a long and wonderful career with NAV Canada, where he worked in Air Traffic Services!



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The Tiger Moth Project : Prep For Airworthiness

The Tiger Moth project saw one wing covered in fabric by a variety of volunteers; then rib laced and finishing tapes installed before the cold season forced us to retreat. It has been ironed smooth and ready for a paint booth. It will undergo the spray coats once the weather warms up. A big THANKS goes out to Consolidated Coatings of Riverside Calif for the donation of the Polyfiber materials. We appreciate the kind donation of space in the Innisfail Flying Club hangar to do this work. The fuselage is to the stage we need to invest in instruments and some associated wiring and plumbing.

Sourcing parts and particular components seems to continue to be a time consuming part of this project. Our team has exceptional contacts across the globe, but can always use help in this area! Are you experienced in historical aircraft part sourcing? We could use your help! Contact penholdbase.ca to become a part of the Tiger Moth team!

Starting April 17th, Tiger Moth Worker Bee get togethers will start back up on Monday Nights at 7pm at the Big Bend Airport (Innisfail), and will also take place Saturdays 8am-Noon. All are welcome to attend, no experience necessary!

Are you looking to sponsor a part of this project build, or donate to the Harvard Historical Aviation Society?

Here are some of the upcoming items we will need on this project and the approximate values:

Airspeed Indicator	\$750
Sensitive Altimeter	\$580
Engine Tachometer	\$625
Tach cable (long)	\$100
Electric Turn and Bank indicator	\$880
Oil Press/temp gage	\$320
Com Radio antenna	\$180

**Eventually we will need a prop (left hand screw) \$6100
and flying wires which are quoted at \$15,000**

If you are interested in helping with costs of any of the above, it would be greatly appreciated. Tax receipts are available for your donation! Reach out to info@penholdbase.ca for more information or to place a donation.





A Connection Between Staff at No. 36 SFTS, Penhold and the Royal Family

By Bill McKay

During 1941/42 Peter Horsley was an instructor at No. 36 SFTS Penhold. He was among the group that ferried the first Oxfords from Halifax to Penhold in the summer of 1941. He hung out with some of the other instructors who were married and lived in Innisfail. During this time he seemed to be active in the local social scene. He attended local dances put on for the airmen who were training at the bases in Bowden and Penhold. He also had a local girlfriend. However Horsely wanted to be more actively involved in the War effort and he applied at every opportunity for a combat role. Finally, in 1943 he was posted to a Mosquito Operation Conversion Unit a Greenwood, Nova Scotia. This lead to an active combat role back in Britain. On June 23, 1944 his Mosquito was shot down near the coast of Normandy. He survived for there days before being rescued. His navigator died in the crash.

After the war Horsley remained in the RAF.. On August 2, 1949 he was appointed Equerry to Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth, Dutches of Edinburgh and His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. An equerry is an officer of a royal household or court who acts as a personal assistant to a member of the royal family. Horsley was one of three or four personal staff who assist the Royals in carrying out their duties. In Horsely's case his duties as Equerry required less than a third of his time the other 70% was with the RAF.

King George VI died on February 6, 1952. Horsley became temporary Equerry to Queen Elizabeth on August 5, 1952. During his time as Equerry Horsley advanced in rank in the RAF from Squadron Leader to Wing Commander. He also kept up his flying including flying jets.

On May 11, 1953 Horsely was made Equerry to Prince Philip. He was part of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in June, 1953 where he was required to wear full RAF Ceremonial Dress which hadn't been used since before WWII and was never used again after the Coronation. During the Coronation Horsley was also in charge of ensuring that Prince Philip's sisters and their German princeling husbands had a good time. They all stayed in Buckingham Palace.

Horsely arranged for Prince Philip to take flying lessons at the RAF base at White Waltham where Philip graduated from flying a Chipmunk to a flying a Harvard. Prince Philip was presented with his wings on May 4, 1953. In the end Prince Philip wanted to fly an aircraft that could accommodate up to six passengers to fly from London to Balmoral. The aircraft chosen by the RAF was a De Havilland Devon DH 104 which Philip flew.

Horsely accompanied Prince Philip on his tour of Canada in 1954 and in 1955 he returned full time to the RAF where he was in the news frequently. Near the end of his RAF career Horsely was promoted to Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Strike Command. On June 15, 1974 he was made Knight Commander of the Order of Bath, by the Queen. When he knelt down for the Queen to put the collar around his neck the Queen softly murmured "You have grown into a rather stout Air Marshal, Peter!" Horsely resigned from the RAF in 1975 for a varied career in the private sector.

The information for this article was primarily from: Sounds from Another Room: The Autobiography of Peter Horsey. 1997. 241 pages. Leo Cooper, Barnsley, UK. Some additional information was from the RAF biography of Horsley (<http://www.rafweb.org/Biographies/Horsley.htm>)



Prince Philip at the controls of his specially outfitted Heron





Support The Harvard Historical Aviation Society With Our DeHavilland Tiger Moth Project!

Be a part of history! We are fundraising for our Tiger Moth Project with a commemorative patch! Stitch your patch on a coat, a bag, or even your favorite leather vest you take on your Harley! 100% of profits from the sales of this crest will support the build of the Tiger Moth, and support the Harvard Historical Aviation Society bring back a piece of history to Central Alberta!

Patches are \$10.00 Each and can be ordered by contacting info@penholdbase.ca



Wanting to Assist With A New Project? The Harvard Historical Aviation Society has been donated two Link Trainers; and are hoping to get one of these Link Trainers running and functional! Looking to take on the challenge? Get in touch with our team at penholdbase.ca



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- Community Programming
- Facility Retention and Growth
- Recovery & Restoration of Historic Aircraft

1 year: \$20.00
Lifetime: \$200.00

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VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUPPER

APRIL 27th
5:30pm
at Innisfail Flying Club
RSVP to Jodi by
April 24TH

jodi@penholdbase.ca





