

The WindsOCK



Stanley Sport Aviation Association Newsletter

Summer 2025



Rain or shine, Stanley members work hard to keep general aviation alive

Featuring photos of Stanley's spring work party and the club's renowned Victoria Day weekend fly-in breakfast event

PHOTOS: (Top) Gayle Wilson; (Side) Greg Sullivan



STANLEY SPORT AVIATION ASSOCIATION

Unit 16 - 50 Airport Road, Stanley, NS B0N 2A0 Ph. (902) 632-2251 CCW4 - N45 06 02 W63 55 14

Unicom 122.8 Weather: <https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/ISTANL31>

<https://www.facebook.com/StanleySportAviation/> <https://www.stanleysportaviation.ns.ca/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Leonard Lowe

Dear Members,

Spring at Stanley Airfield has brought its usual mix of conditions. Following a relatively dry winter, we've experienced the typical wet spring. Despite a few damp spots on the north end of the runway and infield, the overall condition is good. With summer's warm temperatures and steady breezes on the horizon, we expect the field to dry fully, creating ideal flying conditions.

Runway 09/27 received its first cut of the season. Thanks to Jim Ward for taking time out of his busy schedule to get this important job done. The results are excellent—just take a look at the photo here which is looking east to see the great work.

As tradition holds, the club hosted its annual Victoria Day Fly-In Breakfast, one of our major fundraisers. While weather across the Maritimes wasn't ideal, nonetheless we were pleased to welcome about a dozen aircraft. In total, 145 breakfasts were served by our dedicated team of cooks and servers. Many visitors offered high praise—with comments like "What an excellent breakfast!"—making all the effort worthwhile. A big thank you to our reliable clean-up crew for returning the clubhouse to its usual tidy state.

The Executive and Directors extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the event a success. Your contribution of time and energy is what makes our club strong.

We were also pleased to welcome Mike Doiron of Cirrus Aviation Safety Services for his highly regarded safety briefing, allowing members to fulfill their VFR Recurrent Training (CAR 421.05(2)(c)) requirements.

Nearly 30 pilots, both members and visitors, attended and had their logbooks signed—another great turnout!

If you've visited the airfield recently, you'll have noticed some significant changes. The damaged concrete pads from the hangar area—rendered unusable after the fire—have now been removed. A portion at the east end remains viable for future development.

Rebuilding efforts are ongoing. Proceeds from the Fly-In Breakfast have contributed important funds toward this goal. We're currently working with partners to secure additional funding and expect to finalize building plans in the coming months. As you know, fluctuating material costs make budgeting a challenge, but we have a skilled and experienced team ensuring we make the most of every dollar spent.



PHOTO: Leonard Lowe

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *(Continued from Page 2)*

We're also reviewing insurance options for our remaining buildings. A few quotes are in hand, and the Directors will soon bring a proposal to the membership for review and vote. Please watch for a special meeting notice. In the past, many buildings went up without insurance due to the affordability of materials. However, with today's costs, having either insurance or a contingency fund built into our budget is crucial.

Looking ahead to summer, our focus will include ongoing maintenance of existing buildings and infrastructure, along with reclamation efforts on 1,000 feet of the north end of runway 02/20. While a portion of our funds has been directed to rebuilding, we remain committed to maintaining the integrity of our runways and property. Small projects will be happening; please watch for work party notices, as these efforts have been the foundation of our club's success since the 1970s.

Our membership remains strong, with new members joining and a few choosing not to renew. Overall, we're proud of the healthy and vibrant community we continue to build.

In closing, this summer at Stanley Sport Aviation is shaping up to be a true reflection of our members' dedication, passion and vision. While challenges remain, we're well-positioned for continued growth and excellence. With smart planning and teamwork, the future looks bright.

Thank you all for your continued support.

See you at CCW4!

Warm regards,
Leonard Lowe

President, Stanley Sport Aviation Association



Vice-President's Report

The cold, dense air we enjoyed while winter flying has given way to the warmer skies of spring and summer. The field is drying out and more airplanes are reappearing.

This promises to be a significant year for our club as, arguably, the largest single construction project since WWII is planned at the airfield with the building of two hangars and equipment shed all at once. As always, there'll be plenty of opportunity to volunteer, pitch in and lend a hand. This is the foundation of SSSA's success so please step forward when the call goes out.

Mike Whitehead—SSAA Vice-President



Mike Whitehead



Airfield Operations Director's Report

Here we are once again getting ready for another great summer at Stanley Airport.

The water was first turned on to the clubhouse, followed by the trailer line several weeks later. At that time, it was discovered that the underground water line feeding the trailers had collapsed. A new line was purchased and run on top of the ground and the flow was restored.

The work party was very well attended with both new and long-serving members. Saturday's weather was very good, and the volunteers completed most of the tasks on the list. A special thank you to the folks who cleaned the clubhouse and Hilton.

On Sunday, the weather was wet but other work was completed. Ron Manning was able to dig the trench for our new water line and Jason Crowell arranged to have the old concrete pad broken up and piled.



Jim Ward



PHOTOS: (Top and Bottom) Jim Ward

These folks donated their time and equipment to help us maintain this airfield. Robert Cox and I got the concrete all moved and the site smoothed up. Robert's another much-appreciated member who uses his contacts and donates time to help our club.

The following week Ray Bent and Wayne Hatch finished painting the picnic tables. A great work party for sure; thanks to all who attended.

The work that was accomplished had the field sitting in great shape for the annual Victoria Day weekend-fly-in breakfasts. Some new RV owners have or will be moving in shortly. Nice to see the trailer line is set-up in a neat and orderly fashion. Most of these RV owners are very active in the club, whether its working or socializing. This community atmosphere is great to see and it's great for the club.

When I was connecting a hose directly to the pressure tank so Robert and I could clean the mud from the machines, I moved the tank slightly to connect the spray hose. When I did this, a water line fitting which feeds the clubhouse broke. As the photo reveals, the broken fitting was an old metal one which was installed many years ago and was in very poor condition. It was in a six-inch round hole in the concrete floor and four or five inches down. The location made it difficult to repair. Had this fitting broke with no one around, the pumphouse would have suffered serious damage. A good reason why the water should be turned off when no one is camping at the field. Water flow to the clubhouse has since been restored.



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Airfield Operations Director 's Report



I dropped off the whipper snipper that Ray and Wayne donated. It seems to be working fine. A couple shots of prime and some choke and it should start. Please make sure the switch is on. Thanks very much Ray and Wayne for your contribution.



There is a special gas can with mixed gas that needs to be used with this weed eater. There is extra line and an instruction manual in the white bag beside the gas can. It seems to advance the line with a very soft bump on the ground. I will see if there is supposed to be a spring in there that may be missing.



Please remember that most of our mowing equipment is stored in 14 hanger. Gas, fuel pump and oil is also located just inside the door.

The new mower has been serviced and tested on Runway 27 and 02.



Meanwhile, the letters have been mowed, and they look fine. At the time of my writing, the field was still wet and soft in places so I could not tackle the bulk of the mowing initially. Nick Wilson has since mowed 33 and it's now dry and looking good.

At the Victoria fly-in, club member Tom Sabeau was given a tongue-in-cheek certificate for having graduated to the ride-on mower. We'll be welcoming your support on that Tom! We encourage other members to get "certified" to help share the mowing load. Feel free to approach me for instruction on the machine to get you started.



I'm looking forward to a busy year of mowing, repairing, construction and maybe some flying! See you at the airfield!

Jim Ward -SSAA Airfield Operations Director

PHOTOS: (Top and Bottom) Jim Ward



Spring Clean Up

Stanley members pitched in on May 3rd and 4th for another annual spring clean up event to get the airfield ready for the 2025 flying season. SSAA counts on its members to help maintain the field and its operations and ensure Stanley continues as one of the premier flying clubs in the Maritimes. Thanks to all who turned out to help. *PHOTOS by Gayle Wilson and Derek Brown*





Spring Clean Up





Fuel Director's Report

We had a delivery of fuel in May to top up our stock. With the suspension of the carbon tax, we've been able to reduce the fuel prices to \$2.60/L for members and \$2.85/L for non-members.

We've had three fuel keys returned and these have already been re-issued to new customers. I would ask everybody to please make sure the cabinet door to the key switch box is closed properly after use. I've found it swinging in the breeze on several occasions now, not only allowing the ingress of rain water but also bird poop. I know it's old and temperamental, just close it gently and firmly; it does close.

Also, please lay the hose out along the side of the tank after use and not leave it in a tangled mess at the base of the pump. Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable summer flying season. Any problems, I'm only a phone call away.

NICK WILSON—SSAA Fuel Director



Nick Wilson



Membership Director's Report

There has been some change in the membership at SSAA since the last publication of *The Windsock*. We've welcomed two new members —Mike Gittens and Kings Aero — while having had to say good-bye to other members who were unable to renew their membership for this season for various reasons. While we're sorry to see anyone leave, many have expressed a keen interest in returning to the Stanley family when their circumstances allow.

As I've said many times, SSAA operates on "volunteer power" to keep things running smoothly. I'm happy to report that when Stanley's Airfield Operations Director, Jim Ward, put out the call for the annual spring work-party to prepare the club property for the coming flying season, many hard-working members showed up and were able to complete much of the planned work, proving once again that many hands make light work!

Many of you showed up again during the Victoria Day Weekend Fly-In Breakfast on May 17th -18th, not only to enjoy a great meal but also to roll up your sleeves to make this another successful event!

For the last few years, SSAA has held a Welcome Social for all new members on the Friday night prior to the Victoria Day Fly-In Breakfast, but unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances this special evening could not proceed as planned. Even so, many of our new flying enthusiasts came out for the breakfast on Saturday morning —many to help! Hopefully you'll see them around CCW4 often throughout the summer. We're happy to welcome to the Stanley family: Robert Bird, Roberto Cea-Campo, Glen Cook, Mike Gittens, Rick Gullion, Kings Aero, Tyler Noiles, Ernie Prowse, Life Radford and Harold Weston.

Are you looking for other ways to help out your club? Why not consider joining the Board by taking on the position of Director of Special Events, which is currently vacant? Any one of us on the Board would be eager help you organize a few special events/fundraisers throughout the year.

How would that benefit you, you ask? Well, you'd have lots of fun and enjoy the friendships involved. Of course you can speak to any one of the Directors, but I've held that very position and I'd be happy answer any questions you might have as well.



Debbie Murley



Victoria Day Weekend Breakfast Fly-In

Despite inclement weather, Stanley's 2025 Victoria Day Weekend Breakfast Fly-In landed another year of success. Thanks to all the member volunteers and guests who helped support this key fundraising event. Winner of the 50/50 draw was Leona Ward. Leona went home with \$247, after gifting some of that to one of SSAA's youngest members, Scarlett Goldberg.

PHOTOS BY: Jim Ward, Debbie Murley, Greg Sullivan and Gayle Wilson





Victoria Day Weekend Breakfast Fly-In





Safety Director

SSAA would like to thank John Levy for stepping forward at the AGM to become the club's new Safety Director. As John settles into the position, here's a bit of information about him and his connection to aviation.

John has spent most of his life around aviation due to his father's passion for flying and the Piper J3 Cub, he tells *The Windsock*.

"My earliest memories of airplanes began at Stanley when my father would pack us up as kids with an old canvas tent to brave the September mosquitoes in hopes of watching his friends fly with their home-builts at the fly-in."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO: John Levy's J3

Mike is a long-standing member of CASARA, and a former Transport Canada Inspector with years of domestic and international experience in aviation safety and inspection service.

John told *The Windsock* he was happy to see Stanley's airfield is "looking great," and reported, "We all are looking forward to an uneventful yet enjoyable season of flying and activities at our wonderful airfield. "

He began his flying career with the military shortly after university in the 1980s. After nearly 10 years with the Canadian forces, he went on to fly for the airlines until 2021, when he retired. John has a home-built J3 on floats near the South Shore.

As SSAA's new Safety Director, he said he was pleased with the turn-out for the safety briefing held in the clubhouse after the Victoria Day weekend fly-in breakfast May 17, which was conducted by Mike Doiron.



Renowned aviation safety expert Mike Doiron described some of the psychology behind safe flying at a briefing at Stanley May 17. PHOTO: Gayle Wilson



Social Media Director's Report



Derek Brown

The past several months at Stanley have presented some challenging weather for flying. But that's ok for me personally because I've been focused on putting new fabric on my Searey's airfoils. I hope to be flying again next month.

However, generally it was a cold winter, and this spring also has been cold, cloudy and rainy. Although we did enjoy some summer-like weather for our spring work party! We had a great turnout and many helping hands made for a pleasurable and social work event. Volunteers are what makes this club work! Some pictures were posted on our Facebook page.

Despite the marginal flying weather on the May long weekend, we had a great turnout for our fly-in breakfasts on both the Saturday and Sunday. We had some guests arriving by air, but many guests drove in. Mike Doiron's Aviation Safety presentation was well-attended and some great photos of the weekend's events were also posted to our FB page.

Given our well-attended events, it's obvious that social media has been great for spreading the word of upcoming club activities. Thank you to all who came out to support us.

A few summers ago, we had three couples from Alberta arrive at Stanley in three separate aircraft. We welcomed these aviators to stay with us at Stanley and to enjoy our accommodations and other club facilities. They were with us for a week or two. During that time, one of the couples documented their scenic flights over



Nova Scotia and the rest of the maritime provinces. Those videos have been edited into segments and are being posted on YouTube. When each new segment appears, I try and post a link to it on our FB site. So please check them out!

Finally, I am always keen to post any Stanley-related photos or submissions that you might like to pass along. Just send a note to us on the FB site and we will look at posting them. I also look forward to a beautiful, warm and busy social summer of flying and overnights at Stanley. Stay tuned on our FB site for the photos! Bring on the summer!

DEREK BROWN—SSAA Social Media Director



Welcome aboard!

Stanley Sport Aviation Association often profiles new members.

This issue, meet **MIKE GITTENS**.



A self-employed machinist, Mike has been flying since 2008, when he earned his PPL. He's now working on his CPL at Debert.

He and his father have had their Legacy 120x C-FFPF flying since about 2008.

"Personally this is my first [aircraft], and I am currently restoring a Dahne SD1-A GMHI," he tells *The Windsock*. Mike and his father built FFPF, "and we chose it because the project was available to us."

Gittens explained that the aircraft is based on a Cessna 120 and is powered by a 160 Lycoming. However, he notes, "It's very unique and had no traces of anything Cessna."

Lately Mike has been flying throughout Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, "building tailwheel and cross country time." When on floats, he's based at home on Lake Doucette —CDU9 — and on wheels at Yarmouth—CYQI. "I do try and stop at Stanley on my many trips to Debert," he says.



PHOTOS: *Contributed*



12 Spark Plugs for sale

Autolite – UREM40E (over \$60 each at Aircraft Spruce + tax + shipping).

Very few hours. When engine was overhauled new plugs were installed.

Call or text Brian Chappell: (902) 456-2237

E-mail, bichappell@ns.sympatico.ca

Insulated Engine Cowling Cover

Good condition, good offers considered.

Call or text Brian Chappell: (902) 456-2237

E-mail, bichappell@ns.sympatico.ca





Flying fraternity

Stanley Sport Aviation Association salutes CYAU— South Shore Regional Airport—which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. *The Windsock* invited the South Shore Flying Club to tell us what they've planned for this summer. Their reply:

Summer is almost here and it's starting to get busy again at CYAU-South Shore Regional Airport in Greenfield.

Once again we're holding our four seasonal events of two Breakfasts and two Barbecues. These are held Saturdays, with the Sunday being the automatic rain date. (See schedule.)

This year marks a milestone of 50 years of aviation operations at our airport. To celebrate, we're hosting an Anniversary Fly-in event July 12th from 1100-1400. We've invited numerous agencies to come and celebrate with us, including the Canadian Air-Force, DNR, EHS-LifeFlight, officials from all levels of government, and, of course, pilots of aircraft of all sorts who can make it here from the Maritimes and beyond.

This should be a busy and exciting day and we're hoping many alumni who have flown here over the years along with other flying club members will attend. We'll have live entertainment, food tucks, and hopefully will be able to raffle off some local flights.

The Executive Board and members of the South Shore Flying Club (SSFC), which is based at CYAU, continue to work on different projects. We were successful in getting our two new RNAV Approaches published last fall. These have already been used by both IFR and VFR aircraft. If you are driving in, you will see our new sign out by the highway along with a 50th Anniversary banner.

The SSFC is actively working with Queens County's municipal government. Recently, we have had a number of meetings with a professional Asset Assessment Manager who spent hours at the airfield going through every piece of literature that was ever published and evaluated all of the airport property equipment. His final report is soon to be released.

The bottom line is that we have an amazing asset here at CYAU, which often is highly underestimated. We've a beautiful, 4,000 foot strip, halfway between Halifax and Yarmouth. The potential for future development is huge and potential usages are endless: multiple hangars, a flying school, maintenance facility, jet-fuel, runway lights, and the list goes on.

This has been the passion of the SSFC since we took over the operation of the airfield in 2015. It's what keeps us up at night. We have fought many battles—directly for our airfield but for general aviation as a whole and we continue to fight on. You can help us and GA by visiting and flying in as much as possible!

Hope to see you at one of events this Summer! Fly Safe!

The Board and Members of the SSFC

2025 FLY-INS

JUNE	BREAKFAST	
21	8:00AM-11:00AM	
JULY	FLY-IN BBQ	
12	11:00AM- 2:00PM	
AUG	FLY-IN BBQ	
9	11:00AM- 2:00PM	
SEPT	BREAKFAST	
13	8:00AM-11:00AM	

South Shore Regional Airport
80 AIRPORT ROAD, GREENFIELD
CYAU 122.80



Flying fraternity

Aviation clubs and contacts in Atlantic Canada:

Nova Scotia

- **Bluenose Flying Club New Germany - COPA Flt # 186**— bluenoseflyingclub@gmail.com
- **South Shore Flying Club – Liverpool**— Raphael Schaefer, ssfcns@gmail.com
- **Tri-County Flying Assoc., COPA Flt # 63** - Ken Pothier kennethpothier@hotmail.ca
- **Digby/Annapolis Regional Airport – Digby** - (902) 245-5885
- **Annapolis Valley Flying Assoc, COPA Flt # 147** - Gary Dunfield gary@gaspereau.com
- **Kings/Hillaton (CHL2) Aerodrome Canning NS:** <https://kingsaero.com/kings-aerodrome/>
- **CFB Greenwood (CYZX) NS: Freedom Aviation** <http://freedomaviation.ca>
- **EAA Chapter 1051 Scotia Eagles** (located at CHL2 Kings/Hillaton Aerodrome, Canning NS: <http://www.eaa1051.org>
- **Truro Flying Club, Debert, COPA Flt # 188** Derek Shiers - dshiers@bellaliant.net

Prince Edward Island

- **PEI Flying Assoc. Charlottetown, COPA Flt 57** – Barry Martin Bmartin@Islandtelecom.com
- **Brian Pound** - brian@brianpound.ca
- **Summerside Airport & COPA Flt 125** – Dave Thomas drdaveaviator@hotmail.ca

New Brunswick

- **MONCTON AERO CLUB - COPA Flight #112** – Jim Lockyer Lockyerj@umoncton.ca
- **HAVELOCK NB - COPA Flight #27** - Steve Eastwick sdeastw@nbnet.nb.ca
- **Saint John - COPA Flight #193** - Ian Cameron airshow1@nbnet.nb.ca
- **FREDERICTON - COPA Flight #2** - Ray St Lauren
- **WOODSTOCK - COPA Flight #86** - Blair DeGrace bdegrace@acadiantimber.com
- **MIRAMICHI - COPA Flight #39** - Doug Brown nbdbrown@nbnet.nb.ca

Reach out to The Windsock c/o the Editor, Gayle Wilson, at: wilsongdh@gmail.com

STANLEY SPORT AVIATION

Membership Application



Stanley Sport Aviation Members Enjoy:

Use of Stanley airport facilities, ready access to the fuel pumps at best prices possible, use of the clubhouse and bunkhouse with showers, a place to camp, aircraft storage, and great fellowship.

Members are expected to contribute to the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of Airport Facilities to support the Club Mission Statement "Providing Access to Affordable Facilities and Infrastructure that Supports Aviation enthusiasts of all ages."

NAME: _____

PARTNER'S NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

RATING: _____ ENDORSMENTS: _____

FLYING SKILLS: _____

AIRCRAFT OWNED: Year _____ Type _____

AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION _____

PROJECTS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____



COST: Associate Member \$45.00

MEMBERSHIP IS FROM **JAN 1ST TO DEC 31ST**. PLEASE COMPLETE AND REMIT TO MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR, UNIT 16 - 50 AIRPORT ROAD STANLEY NS B0N 2A0.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS CAN ALSO BE SENT TO: ssaviation.membership@gmail.com