

The WindsOCK



Stanley Sport Aviation Association Newsletter

Fall 2025



*Including photos of
Stanley's 54th annual
Labour Day Fly-In!*

COVER PHOTOS: (Background) Greg Sullivan;
(Campers and flying aircraft) Mark Davidson.

STANLEY SPORT AVIATION ASSOCIATION

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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

This past summer at Stanley Airfield, as well as across much of the province, we experienced an unusually dry season. The nicely cut green runways and ramp areas we're accustomed to quickly gave way to sun-scorched, brittle grass, leaving the property tinder dry. These conditions truly were a double-edged sword.

On the one hand, the lack of growth meant fewer hours spent mowing and less fuel consumed than recent years. On the other, the high fire risk required all of us to remain extra vigilant. Despite this, the flying conditions themselves were exceptional. With firm, dry runways and calm weather, many of our members and guests made the most of the season, logging hours and enjoying the skies under near-ideal flying circumstances.

As always, the Stanley Sport Aviation Association and CCW4 welcomed pilots and aviation enthusiasts from far and wide to our well-known fly-ins. This year, we proudly hosted the 54th Annual Labour Day Fly-In. Thankfully, the weather cooperated and provided good conditions throughout the weekend.

We welcomed many displays, CASARA (Civilian Air Search and Rescue) and local fire departments to mention a few. Our forum on local Floyd Wile taught visitors about his contributions to the war effort. It was a big hit with locals and travellers.

We were thrilled to see a great turnout of aircraft and folks driving in. By noon on Saturday, the parking lot was full and approximately 40 planes filled the infield. Many pilots also took advantage of the chance



to camp "under the wing," sharing camaraderie, stories, and the love of aviation during Friday's traditional corn boil.

Top: Mike Whitehead speaks at a forum on local Floyd Wile. (Jeremy Dan PHOTO). **Right:** SSAA is always appreciative to have the Gore fire department stand in vigil at the Labour Day Fly-In. (Greg Sullivan PHOTO).



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued from Page 2)



I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to making the Fly-In such a success. Your time, energy, and dedication are the true strength of our club, and it is because of this spirit that our traditions



SSAA members Gary Murley (front) and Mark MacDonald were flipping burgers at lunchtime.

PHOTO by Mark Davidson.

continue to thrive.

Construction update

Many of you already are aware that, through the generosity and commitment of our members and supporters, we've successfully secured the funding necessary to begin rebuilding the infrastructure lost in last year's fire. This is a significant milestone for the Association. Initial site preparation and grading have been completed, and the pouring of the concrete pad is soon to follow. This foundation will serve as the cornerstone of

our future construction efforts. We also will be relying on volunteers to complete certain portions of the build, so we encourage members to keep an eye out for upcoming work parties.



Work underway on the reconstruction of buildings lost to last year's fire. *PHOTO by Leonard Lowe*

An exciting element of this new building is the inclusion of a small museum dedicated to the history of both the airfield and our club. This initiative is especially meaningful, as it allows us to preserve and share the stories of the airfield, people, aircraft and activities that have shaped Stanley over the years. We encourage anyone who has artifacts or memorabilia relating to No. 17 Elementary Flying Training School, the airfield or Stanley Sport Aviation, to consider contributing them to this project. Together, we can ensure that future generations appreciate the rich heritage that has brought us to where we are today.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *(Continued from Page 3)*

Looking toward fall

As we transition into the fall season, we find ourselves hoping for rain—enough to rejuvenate our woods and property, though not so much that it disrupts our activities. Soon the brilliant fall colors will arrive, and for many this is the most beautiful and inspiring time of year.



SSAA members work on runway restoration. PHOTO by Jim Ward

Meanwhile, important work on our runways continues. Repairs have been completed on Runway 09/27's pavement, while brush clearing is ongoing on Runway 02/20. Our goal is to extend the usable portion of this runway beyond the intersection by 1,000 feet. These improvements will enhance both safety and functionality for all who fly in and out of Stanley.

Membership and growth

It's with great pride that I share some excellent news about our membership. During the Fly-In alone, we welcomed several new members, and our total is now approaching 150.

This is an accomplishment that we should all celebrate together. As your President, I am genuinely proud to see this growth and, more importantly, to meet the remarkable individuals who have chosen to become part of our community. Their enthusiasm, willingness to help maintain the airfield, and fresh perspectives add immeasurable value to our Association.

While we know challenges—both familiar and unforeseen—lie ahead, we are in a strong position. With careful planning, smart decision-making, and the teamwork that defines us, I am confident that the future of Stanley Sport Aviation is bright. Our club's resilience and adaptability have always been our strength, and together we will continue to build on this foundation.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, I extend my heartfelt thanks for your continued support, your dedication, and your belief in our shared mission.

We look forward to welcoming you back to CCW4, where together we continue to shape the future of Stanley while honoring its proud past.

LEONARD LOWE

President, Stanley Sport Aviation Association



Airfield Operations Director's Report

This summer has been among the driest in recent memory. In 2023, our area received a total rainfall exceeding 48 inches, whereas as of mid-September this year we've recorded only about 16 inches.



Jim Ward

With these dry conditions, government restrictions were put in place—no open fires and no walks in the woods. While these measures may be inconvenient, they are essential for fire prevention. Propane fire pits are recommended as a safer alternative.

Despite these precautions, a fire incident occurred near the airfield when wind toppled a tree onto power lines, igniting the tree and causing the fire to spread to the ground. Thanks to the quick response of the SSAA fire brigade and the assistance of others, the fire was contained until professional firefighters arrived. Had the fire grown larger, windy conditions could have threatened the airfield—a close call for all involved. On a positive note, the reduced need for field mowing due to dry weather has resulted in some fuel savings.

Just before the Fly-In, several projects were completed by many dedicated Stanley volunteers. There included repairs to the clubhouse, painting of the fuel system, modifications and tire replacements for the hay wagon, Runway 27 asphalt patching and runway number repainting, installation of a new windsock, Fly-In preparation projects, and modification and clear marking of recycle bins.



PHOTOS by Jim Ward, and Gayle Wilson

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Airfield Operations Director 's Report

(Continued from Page 5)



These improvements have enhanced the safety and appearance of our airfield, reflecting the dedication of our volunteers and the strength of our community. A sincere thank you to all who contributed their time and efforts to these projects.



Members and their guests are asked to ensure their pets are leashed at all times and that they promptly clean up their pet waste as a matter of respect and hygiene for all at the airfield. Pet waste was recently found between the 305 (21) hangar and the fuel system, where pilots could accidentally tread in it and track it into their aircraft. Elsewhere, campers might track pet waste into their trailers. Prompt removal, wherever it is, is a required consideration for all.

Exciting developments now are underway at our airfield. A new private hangar is under construction, and work has begun on the new club multi-purpose building. Significant resources have been allocated to ensure these projects progress smoothly. During construction,

there may be disruptions to power and increased activity near the driveway. Please drive slowly and respect the work zones.

PHOTOS by Jim Ward

Many individuals have contributed both on-site and behind the scenes to organize and facilitate these developments—thank you for your commitment.

Requests for hangar space continue to be received, with some owners expressing interest in building new hangars. This ongoing growth may lead to a very different-looking airfield in the years ahead. Aviation remains vibrant in our area, and all members are encouraged to participate and enjoy the facilities in whatever way they can.

JIM WARD –SSAA Airfield Operations Director



Safety Director's Report

Our summer flying season has nearly come to a close. It's been another hot and dry summer, and many great flying days at Stanley and across the Maritimes now are behind us; but that leaves us with the hope of even more wonderful and colourful fall days ahead.

We've been blessed with a safe and incident-free spring and summer at Stanley, however that doesn't just happen on its own. Safety begins on the ground and in the air. It can be as simple as a thorough pre-flight or weather and NOTAM search. Or sometimes it's a matter of being in the right place at the right time, as was the case when a small fire broke out next to the airfield recently caused by a sparking electrical line. Due to the quick thinking of members and local residents, a crisis was averted.



PHOTO by Jim Ward

I believe our club, and indeed our airfield itself, owes much of its successful record to its physical setup and the great range of aviation knowledge within its membership. We have wonderful amenities, such as a clubhouse and overnight accommodations for members and visitors from afar. This makes Stanley a sought-after destination where visiting aircraft can rely on a well-kept airfield due to the efforts of members and volunteers. And, uniquely, we have many members who spend much of their time in private



PHOTO by Derek Brown

trailers at the airfield, which provides a sense of security that things are under a watchful eye.

One of our best resources is the wide range of expertise and knowledge in our members. It's comforting to know that if someone needs assistance or has a simple question, there's usually someone around who may be able to help. As well, we traditionally have a speaker brought in to do a safety or recurrent training seminar at our fly-ins. These are highly recommended and always well-attended. As general aviators, we need to stay proficient and avoid complacency.

With fall approaching, we face new threats such as poor weather and icing. We need to stay vigilant and know our aircraft and personal limitations. Stay safe and enjoy!

JOHN LEVY—SSAA Safety Director

STANLEY'S 54TH ANNUAL **LABOUR DAY FLY-IN**



S SAA members and visitors enjoyed another hugely successful fly-in event August 29th and 30th. The parking lot was full and approximately 40 planes filled the infield. Once again pilots were camping under the wing, arriving in time to join members and other visitors in the Friday night, Aerotec Engines-sponsored corn boil and dance. Saturday was abuzz with displays and activities, the Stanley Market, a hay ride and candy toss for the kiddies, hotdogs and hamburgers on the grill and a scrumptious dinner provided by member Robert Cox and his wife Emma, all capped off in the evening with the traditional auction in Hanger 305 (21). A big thank you to SSAA Vice-President and Fly-In Chair, Mike Whitehead, for all your hard work in orchestrating this great event!

Here is a multi-page collection of photos of the fly-in, with special thanks also to photographer Mark Davidson of Newtrailsouthere Photography and Stanley member Greg Sullivan for their many photos, as well as to those others who have sent us theirs!

STANLEY'S 54TH ANNUAL **LABOUR DAY FLY-IN**



PHOTO by David Lordriehl



PHOTO by Greg Sullivan

TOP LEFT, RIGHT PHOTOS by Mark Davidson

BACKGROUND PHOTO by David Lordriehl

STANLEY'S 54TH ANNUAL **LABOUR DAY FLY-IN**



PHOTO by Greg Sullivan



PHOTOS by Mark Davidson, unless indicated otherwise.

STANLEY'S 54TH ANNUAL **LABOUR DAY FLY-IN**



PHOTO by Mark Davidson



PHOTO by
Gayle Wilson



PHOTO by Gayle Wilson



PHOTO by Mark Davidson

PHOTO by David Lordriehl



PHOTO by Greg Sullivan



PHOTO by
Greg Sullivan



PHOTO by Katelyn Brown



PHOTO (Above) by Mark Davidson.

BACKGROUND PHOTO by Dr. David Ross.

STANLEY'S 54TH ANNUAL **LABOUR DAY FLY-IN**



PHOTOS (Left, right and centre)
by Debbie Murley



PHOTO By Greg Sullivan

BACKGROUND PHOTO
by Mark Davidson

STANLEY'S 54TH ANNUAL

LABOUR DAY FLY-IN

With so many great aircraft to choose from, it's always a challenge to select winners in SSAA's Labour Day Fly-In judging competition. Thanks to Brian Chappell and Kevin Layden for once again stepping up to judge. Thanks also to all who entered the competition and congratulations to the winners!

BEST ANTIQUE AIRCRAFT—Cooper Beaudreau for his 1946 J-3 Piper Cub C-FLUW, flown by David Grimes from Porters Lake



BEST AMATEUR BUILT AND BEST OVER-ALL AIRCRAFT —Dr. David Ross for his 2022 RV7A—C-GCOA



BEST FACTORY BUILT—Greg Sullivan for his 1991 Maule C-GUDL



LONGEST DISTANCE TRAVELLED—Steve Eastwisk for his 1947 Cessna 12 SF-SED, flying 79 NM from Havelock, NB



PHOTOS (Top) : by Mark Davidson; (Bottom) by Greg Sullivan



Fuel Director's Report



Nick Wilson

Two members have returned their fuel keys and these have been re-issued to new members.

Fuel sales have been brisk over the summer, with 4000 liters pumped since the end of July. Another top-up has been ordered; this should see us through the fall season.

The tank berm appears to be holding up to the elements well and has had a complete re-paint, which should ensure it continues to do so. The inner tank also looks good and there are no signs of corrosion. The pump filters will be replaced before the cooler months, but at this time show no evidence of water. So far we have dodged the return of the carbon tax, so we do not see a price increase at this time, but the budget has yet to be delivered!

Enjoy Fall flying!

NICK WILSON—SSAA Fuel Director



PHOTO by Jim Ward



Membership Director's Report



Debbie Murley

I'm very happy to report that SSAA's family has grown steadily in the past couple of months with several new Associate members joining the club in August/ September. We wish to welcome: Lorne Hughes, Donald Haché, Jeremy Dann, Colby Boudreau, David Ross and Mark Lynch. We also wish to welcome Tim Stanislow back into the Stanley family. Tim had been a member of the club for a number of years previously and has decided to rejoin. We wish them all the very best flying experiences into and out of CCW4!



PHOTO by Mark Davidson

As many of you know, we just completed the club's 54th Annual Labour Day Fly-In. With the help of many dedicated member (and some non-member) volunteers, the Stanley Market proved to be very successful for the club again this year. We had some great 'new-to-you' items donated as well as a lot of baked goods, including home-made bottled beans! We appreciate all of you who gave so generously ...of your stuff and of your time!

I've often said that, "Many hands make light work,"but it also makes the 'work' more enjoyable! Thank you everyone!

DEBBIE MURLEY—SSAA Membership Director



Social Media Director's Report



Derek Brown

Greeting all!

There has been plenty of activity on our FB site since the last *Windsock* newsletter. Thank you for all your views, likes, submissions, positive comments and support. It's great to have so many of you following us!

I've posted a lot of photos that were submitted to us on FB messenger by several of our members and followers. These include many images from our 54th Annual Labour Day Fly-In. They're great! Keep them coming!

We look forward to keeping you all updated with many more great photos this fall—especially as we rebuild our multi-purpose buildings lost to the fire last year. This is all very exciting stuff!

Again, thank you all for your support! The positive feedback we see on our FB site from our followers is always enjoyed and welcomed by the many members and volunteers at SSAA!

DEREK BROWN—SSAA Social Media Director



Flying fraternity



SHOW OF SUPPORT

Stanley members were out in full force this summer supporting other Maritime flying club activities, including those of the South Shore Flying Club based at CYAU (Liverpool). PHOTOS: (Above and Left) CYAU's 50th Anniversary fly-in event July 12 and Stanley's contingent at their Sept. 13 fly-in breakfast.

CONGRATS CHRISTOPH!

SSAA congratulates member Christoph Both for successfully completing his instructor rating at the Annapolis Valley Flight Training Centre at Greenwood (CYZX). Well done!



PHOTO: Facebook/Annapolis Valley Flight Training Centre Inc.



Flying fraternity

All's well that ends well

After losing his Vans RV-4 in the fire at Stanley a year ago, landing back at the airfield August 23rd in his handsome, newly-acquired RV-4, which he flew over from Brampton, Ontario, was a long-awaited crowning moment.

Enroute, Brian stopped in Sherbrooke, Quebec for some gas before continuing on to Stanley. "Total flying time for the trip was five hours and 30 minutes, with an average ground speed of 165 mph," he tells *The Windsock*. Brian shared some photos of the trip. Good to have you back in action, Brian!



Leaving Brampton



Fuel stop in Sherbrooke



Crossing Maine at 7500 feet



Arriving St. John, NB



Back at Stanley 17:10



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