

Regina Chapter, Canadian Aviation Historical Society Activities Report covering 2022

January – Member Peter Maw’s Zoom presentation on a 1986 trip that had him watching and photographing airplanes on the Gulf Coast of Florida, including the USAF special operations centre at Hurlburt Field, the annual William Tell air defence exercise at Tyndall Air Force Base, the Naval Aviation Museum at NAS Pensacola, and the complex of US Army helicopter training facilities around Fort Rucker, Alabama.

February - Will Chabun’s Zoom presentation on the life and aviation career of RCAF officer Ralph Cargill Davis, who began his RCAF career in the 1930s and ended it as CO of RCAF Station Saskatoon.

March - Zoom presentation by Donna Cox, whose father served at the wartime 5 Bombing and Gunnery School at Dafoe, Saskatchewan, leaving behind a number of high-quality photographs.

April - Zoom presentation by private pilot Gus Zelinski, who did not let losing his right hand in a 1972 farming accident deter him from realizing his dream to be a pilot.

May – Two events, starting with a CAHS table, staffed by four chapter members, at a May 5 career fair and trade show sponsored by the Saskatchewan arm of the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association, and a Zoom presentation by Steve Molinelli, general manager of the new Saskatchewan Aviation Museum and Learning Centre in Saskatoon.

June – Our chapter had a display at the annual open house of the Regina Flying Club.

September: Will Chabun's PowerPoint presentation on the challenging early days of the Saskatchewan air ambulance service, a warmup for his presentation of same at the CAHS national conference later that month in Winnipeg, which was attended by three chapter members. On September 27, several members also participated as "actors" in a disaster simulation exercise held by the Regina Airport Authority.

October: photos and discussion from the recent CAHS conference, plus photos of the new home of the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada, the historic aircraft park outside 17 Wing, aircraft under restoration there and, finally, the Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum in Brandon.

November: Zoom presentation by veteran photo survey pilot-entrepreneur Patrick Gropp. One week later, there came "Supper with the Snowbirds:", the successful resurrection of a long-standing event in which our chapter and 600 Wing of the RCAF Association had collaborated to bring together, over supper, member of the Snowbirds air demonstration team and air cadets from four local squadrons.

(Because there were two events in late November, we decided against having an event in January.)

During this year, our chapter has maintained the monthly publication our chapter newsletter, *The Windsock* and four-page *Windsock Extra* collection of aviation photographs. We have also recorded many of our presentations and had them posted to the society's channel on YouTube.

- **Prepared by Will Chabun**