

Carp, Ontario
Friday, 28 November, 2014

To all Challengers owners and enthusiasts:

**INVITATION TO THE 25th ANNUAL
ICOA WINTER WEEKEND RENDEZ-VOUS
“A QUARTER CENTURY OF CHALLENGER WINTER FUN”**

Again this year, with the help of Mr. Bryan Quickmire of National Ultralight Inc., Canadian Distributor of the Challenger aircraft series and the help of many members, COPA Flight 121 (Carleton Place, ON), is organising the annual International Challenger Owners Association (ICOA Canada) Winter Weekend Rendez-Vous. This is the 25th edition of our event and we will celebrate this great accomplishment together – 25 years of winter fun and frolic with our Challengers.

This event will be held on the weekend of Friday, 30 January, to Sunday, 1st February 2015, at the beautiful Fairmont Le Château Montebello, 392 rue Notre Dame, Montebello, QC. The GPS co-ordinates for the hotel are: N 45 39 W 74 57.

This year, our Rendez-Vous will feature five Saturday "hangar flying" sessions. Refreshments will be served at 10:30 hrs and again at 15:00 hrs, courtesy of National Ultralight Inc.

At 11:00 hrs in the Quebec Room, Bryan Quickmire, owner of National Ultralight, will present "Goodbye E6B - Hello Digital Flight Planning & Management". Bryan will demonstrate flight planning and management using a variety of devices, applications and information sources. Questions and discussion will be welcome.

After lunch, starting at 14:00 hrs, there will be four sessions in two parallel tracks.

At 14:00 hrs in the Ontario Room, John Baker from Baldwin, Ontario, an Independent Rotax Maintenance Technician (IRMT), will give a presentation on the best way to take care of your ROTAX 2-cycle engine in the real-world.

At 14:00 hrs in the Quebec Room, Luc Vaillancourt from Ottawa, Ontario, will give us an informative presentation on how to survive, should you ever go down with your ultralight. Being a bush pilot for over 40 years, Luc taught survival and orienteering, is an Instructor/Examiner with the Canadian Ski Patrol and is a past member of the Sûreté du Québec (QPP) Mountain Rescue Team.

At 15:30, after a refreshment break, there will be two more concurrent sessions.

At 15:30 hrs in the Ontario Room, Vincent Landreville from Ottawa, Ontario, an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) as well as a Challenger owner, will talk about aircraft maintenance logbooks, their importance and how to fill them properly.

Also at 15:30 hrs, in the Quebec Room, Bryan Quickmire will host a panel of four Challenger owners who are presently assembling XL-65 kits. All are first timers who will share with the audience their triumphs and their challenges. They will also offer tips and techniques for everything from organizing the workshop to managing time to fabricating the airframe.

Finally, the evening's post-banquet entertainment will feature a combined presentation by Kevin Brown, Bruce Marshall, Claude Roy and Patrick Vinet about their wonderful experience when all four flew their Challengers to Eastbello 2014 on Canada's Atlantic Coast.

Montebello Radio Frequencies

**Enroute: 122.75 Mhz
5 nm from Montebello: 123.2 Mhz**

Saturday morning is usually your best time to observe the airplanes coming in and buzzing all along the Ottawa River. Anyone with an air radio should monitor the two frequencies mentioned above.

Last year, our 24th Rendez-Vous was held in this same venue. In the week prior to the event, it was so cold and snowy, the weather phrase "Polar Vortex" was coined. Most flyers from Southern Ontario were forced to come by car, with one notable exception.

Kevin Brown was the exception and in doing so, he won the "Farthest Flown" Award for his flight from his own airstrip near Owen Sound, Ontario. That was the only way for him to come to Montebello last year, as all the roads in his area were

closed! Mike MacNeil from Ottawa, Ontario, won the "Best Show Plane" Award with his beautiful 2008 ROTAX 503-powered Challenger II registered C-IGKT. The "Dave Allan" Award, in the memory of the late Challenger builder Dave Allan, recognizes the highest levels of technical achievement in the Challenger world. It was won by Dan Pandur, from Westlock, Alberta, a long-time Challenger builder a repair person and a flight instructor operating in Alberta. Finally, the prestigious "Maurice Vinet" Award, honouring a Challenger pilot who exemplifies the passion for flight of the late Maurice Vinet, went this time to none other than Kevin Brown from Desboro, Ontario, who certainly shows a lot of determination in his pursuit of Challenger happiness. Kevin has been a participant to many of the long-range flying adventures over the years. He is a staunch supporter of the Challenger community.

Again this year, a group of owners of ski-equipped Challengers is planning to fly in formation from southern Ontario to the Challenger meet. We would like to extend an invitation to other Challenger owners to join them along the route and help them in this aerial odyssey. This group will originate from the Toronto area and will proceed generally eastward to Montebello, adjusting their route to meet up with others along the way.

You can also come on your own or, better still, organise your own group to come to the Challenger Rendez-Vous! Let me know of your intentions to fly to Montebello and we will help you with contacts and use of the Challenger website to promote your own adventure flight.

Of course, flight planning is subject to weather. The group may leave a day or two early or get back a day or two late. Either way, this is true adventure. It is a great opportunity for you to build flying memories that will last you a lifetime. Groups usually can alter their plans to accommodate other Challengers. For more information or to indicate your desire to join this Southern Ontario group, contact Bryan Quickmire at bdq@challenger.ca or 705-721-9811.

Again this year, our group will be the hotel's prime customer during that weekend as I pre-booked for you a block of thirty Fairmont rooms (35) for Friday evening and sixty five (65) rooms for Saturday evening. You can personally reserve one (or many) of these rooms until Friday, 19 December 2014, after which any of the hotel's remaining rooms will be on a "first come, first serve" basis at the regular rates. Price wise, the hotel offers us a very special group rate of \$209.00 per room per night (many rooms have two double beds). This is a good bargain considering the luxury and comfort of this hotel. Le Château Montebello also offers an impressive selection of recreational facilities for the whole family to enjoy. You can make your hotel reservations by either calling the Fairmont Hotel Reservation Centre at 1-800-441-1414 or faxing your request directly to Le Château Montebello at 819-423-5283. Please, specify you are part of the Challenger group, so you can get the special rooms and group rates.

Year after year, the deluxe buffet supper formula is a success. Having our own buffet and banquet room means we can all be together in casual clothing, we can move around freely and talk "Challenger Talk" all evening long with everybody. Again this year, le Château's biggest reception room, the Canada Room, holding a maximum of 200 people, will have a deluxe hot-cold buffet served with bar facilities available in the same room. Jeans are perfectly acceptable in our banquet room as well as throughout the hotel during the whole weekend.

As in previous years, the hotel will make one invoice covering everything for the banquet except personal bar expenses. The hotel will not collect individually at banquet time, which means I have to collect the money from everyone in advance.

Again this year, the price for the banquet is \$60.00 per adult and \$30.00 per child (under 12) which includes all taxes and a 15% service charge. The hotel will need to know the exact number of people who will be attending this buffet by Monday, 26 January 2015. Therefore, I need a firm commitment of your presence to the banquet one week prior to the event by Friday, 23 January 2015. Your confirmation will be in the form of a personal cheque sent to me at the earliest convenience and dated 23 January 2015 at the latest. The amount of your cheque will cover the full amount of your reserved seat(s).

Once again, if for any reason anyone from your group does not show up for supper, Joan, my wife, will be manning the banquet reservation table at the entrance of the "Canada Room" banquet hall. She will do her utmost to sell your seat(s) at the door on the night of the banquet. Providing we are successful in selling your paid seat(s) to someone else, once Montebello is over, I will return your money in the form of a personal cheque sent to you by mail.

Hotel rooms and banquet places are limited. Every year, attendance can reach or surpass the hotel's full capacity of 200 people. We work on the principle of "first come, first serve", so please make an early commitment on your personal or family schedule for this special event, making this one your best and most important Challenger activity in 2015. Whatever the weather, whatever the means of transportation (by Challenger preferably!), come and meet all your flying friends.

Every year, Montebello serves as an ideal launching point for discussions on the upcoming summer float trips and other flying adventures. This year's theme for the whole weekend will be "25 years of Challenger winter fun".

Personally in 2015, I plan to organise another summer float flying adventure. This year, Canadian Challengers will have a long way to go, as we will be going to the 9th Edition of Westbello 2015, in Wetaskiwin, Alberta. The whole adventure will

depart from the Ottawa (ON) area and will stretch about 3,000 kilometres one way. Departure time will likely be on the morning of Saturday, 27 June, 2015, and will stretch over a period of three (3) weeks. This particular adventure requires all participating pilots to have a minimum of one full year of flying experience, plus at least one season of float flying experience. People involved in the trip will take lots of pictures and will subsequently prepare a feature presentation of their flying adventure to be given at an upcoming Challenger event, probably the 2016 Winter Rendez-Vous in Montebello.

If you are interested to join us or provide help on this adventure, please contact me personally at my home phone number indicated below.

Like every year, we encourage the more experienced people at Montebello to seek out the less experienced ones, the new faces, and simply do their very best to help the newcomers in their quest for flight. Conversely, I ask all the newcomers who will be there to leave any shyness behind and come forward with their salutations and questions. Montebello is one's best bet for gaining knowledge from the experience of others. Go for it!

In conclusion, let me invite you, once more, to keep current with the latest Challenger news through the Challenger website at www.challenger.ca. Be sure to leave an email address of where to reach you on the Challenger website notification list, so we can send you an advance notice and regular updates on all of our activities.

My wife Joan joins me in wishing you all "Season's Greetings" and lots of good flying in 2015.

Major (Ret.) C. "Crash" Roy
Royal Canadian Air Force
Director, ICOA Canada and
Representative, COPA Flight 121, Carleton Place, Ontario
1986 Richardson Side Road
Carp, Ontario
Canada K0A 1L0
(613) 836-7243 (Home and Fax)
arm-roy@bell.net