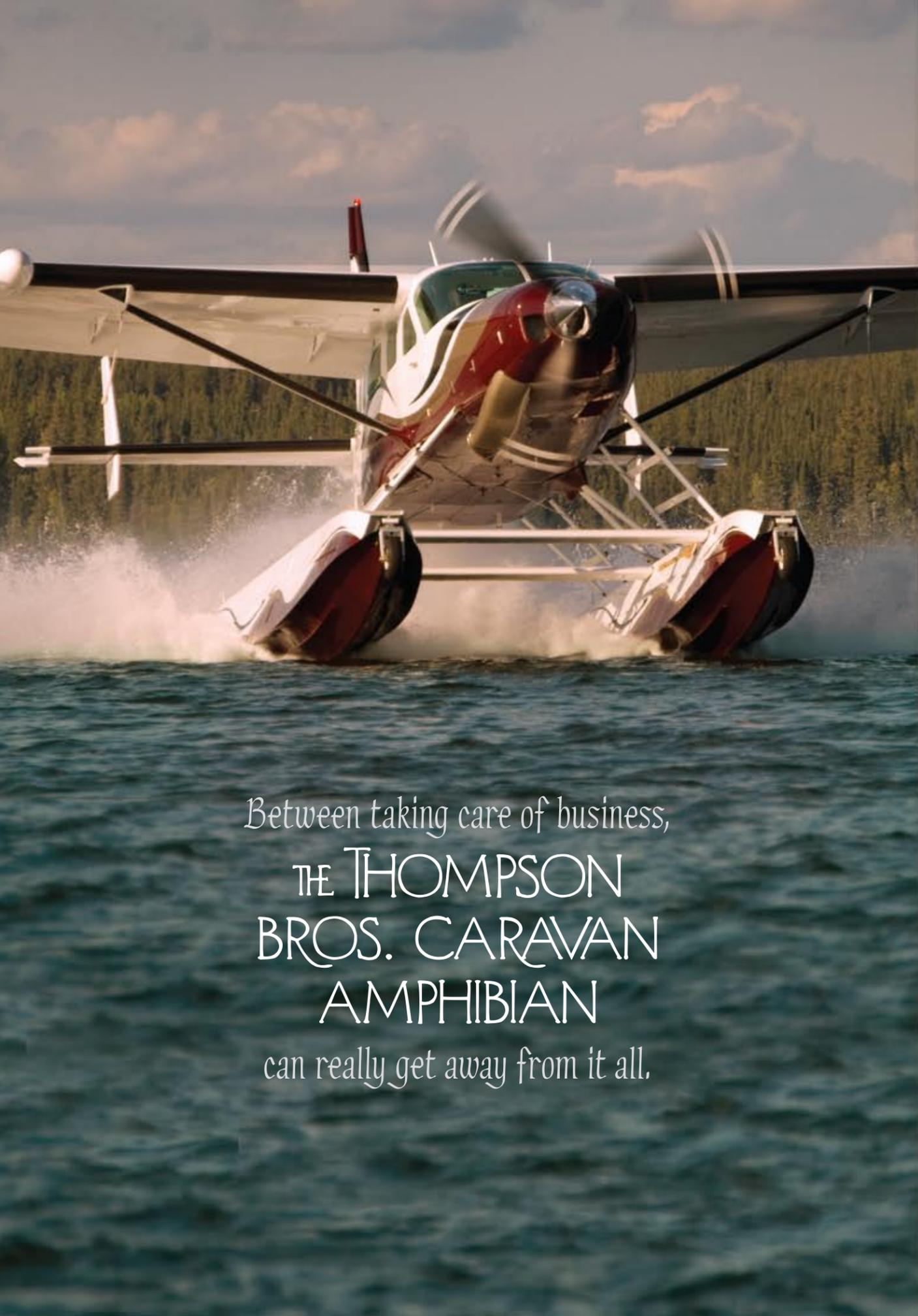


# CARAVAN NEWS



## a LOOK INSIDE...

- ▣ *Executive-equipped Caravan Amphibian goes "on holiday" - Page 2*
- ▣ *Caravan is the main plane of McMurray Aviation - Page 8*
- ▣ *Nantucket Island is Tradewind Aviation's signature service - Page 10*
- ▣ *Caravan's glass cockpit can now see outside - Page 20*



Between taking care of business,  
THE THOMPSON  
BROS. CARAVAN  
AMPHIBIAN  
can really get away from it all.

Direct from corporate headquarters in Edmonton, Alberta, the Thompson Bros. Caravan Amphibian makes its water landing at North Leland Lake, just a few miles south of Canada's Northwest Territories.

*For the past 44 years, Thompson Bros. (Constr.) Ltd. of Spruce Grove, Alberta, located just outside of Edmonton, has earned a solid reputation across western Canada as a prime contractor in all aspects of resource industry and heavy civil construction. Thompson Bros. typically conducts multi-million-dollar projects in highway construction, mining, drainage systems, dam building, environmental protection/reclamation and total site preparation. At Villeneuve Airport outside of Edmonton, the company owns and maintains a fleet of three aircraft, including a Cessna Caravan Amphibian with executive interior that exemplifies the personal/corporate capabilities of the Caravan.*



Not every kid gets a fishing trip in a Caravan Amphibian, only those who are lucky enough to have a best friend whose grandfather is a corporate pilot. Thompson Bros. Chief Pilot Dave Cathcart has logged thousands of hours flying above remote areas of Alberta.



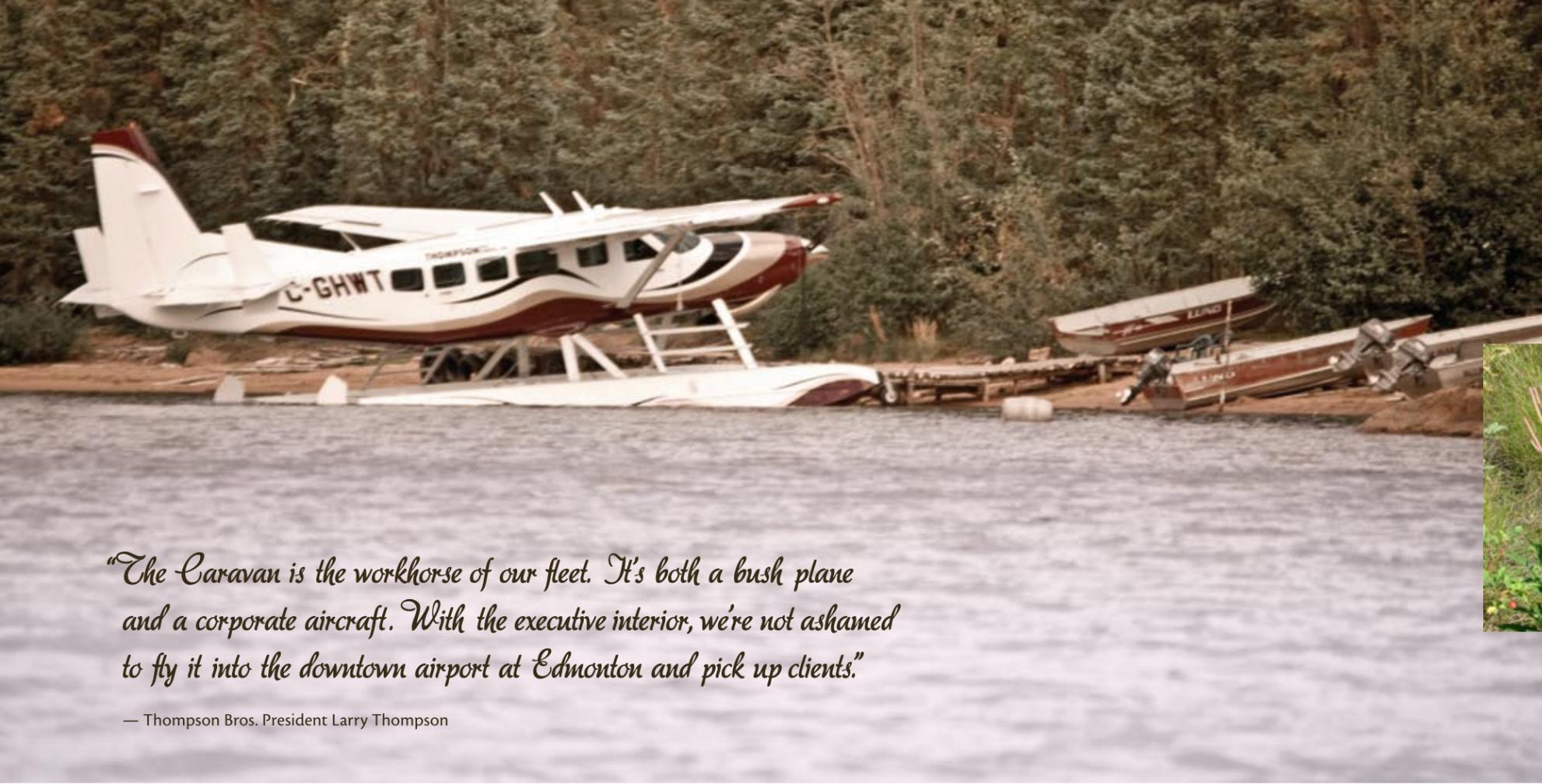
*Amphibian attracts attention at its every destination, whether on land or water*

"When I first landed at one of the camps north of Fort McMurray (Alberta), at least a dozen guys walked up to take a closer look at our Caravan Amphibian," Thompson Bros. Chief Pilot David Cathcart said. "Half of them wanted to know just what kind of aircraft this was, and the other half wanted to climb up and have a look inside."

The "camps," located within Alberta's burgeoning tar sands oil exploration region, to which Cathcart referred, are hardly bush camps. Small cities within themselves, the camps typically have tower-controlled air fields with long, concrete runways which are

there to shuttle workers back and forth from the oil fields to high-rise dormitories. This part of northern Alberta is a juxtaposition of industry and wilderness. Located beneath the muskeg, Canada has over 170 billion barrels of oil recoverable with today's technology, making it second only to Saudi Arabia as an oil resource country.

To the south about 150 miles is the Alberta capital of Edmonton, and the Thompson Bros. Caravan Amphibian flies back and forth between Fort McMurray and Edmonton at least three times a week. On a recent weekend just before freeze-up, the Caravan flew northward a few hundred miles past Fort McMurray as a vehicle for a get-away-from-it-all, well-deserved holiday for one of the company's principals.



*"The Caravan is the workhorse of our fleet. It's both a bush plane and a corporate aircraft. With the executive interior, we're not ashamed to fly it into the downtown airport at Edmonton and pick up clients."*

— Thompson Bros. President Larry Thompson

While the Caravan Amphibian is the best means of getting there, it can't quite compare to the wonders of nature when you're nine years old.



Cottages, a primitive, but fully-equipped camp midway up the east shore of the lake.

Within a couple of hours after a quick fuel stop at Fort McMurray, the Thompson Bros. Caravan Amphibian was safely beached at the outpost camp, beside a row of 16-foot v-hull fishing boats with new Mercury outboards.

### *A dream trip for most any angler*

"North Leland Lake Cottages offers the kind of beauty, isolation and fantastic fishing most avid walleye anglers can only dream about," the *Outdoor Canada* review states. "Imagine mile after mile of stunning natural scenery with nary a soul to disturb you. This is 'drop' fishing at its finest."

The camp actually provides modern facilities including hot and cold running water, showers, propane, stove, fridge, and 24-hour radio communication. Wettlaufer flies in regularly with his Cessna 180 to check on his guests. Typically, North Leland Lake provides awesome late-season action for lake trout pushing 30 pounds, along with pike up to 35 pounds and walleye – Canadians call them pickerel – weighing up to 15 pounds.

"Even though we didn't haul in any of the 30 pounders, this was a relaxing escape that was made even easier by the Caravan," Kostiuk said. "And it was a trip the boys will always remember. Not every job comes with a fringe benefit such as this."

When the lake fishing is slow, maybe that big airplane on floats can attract a bite ...



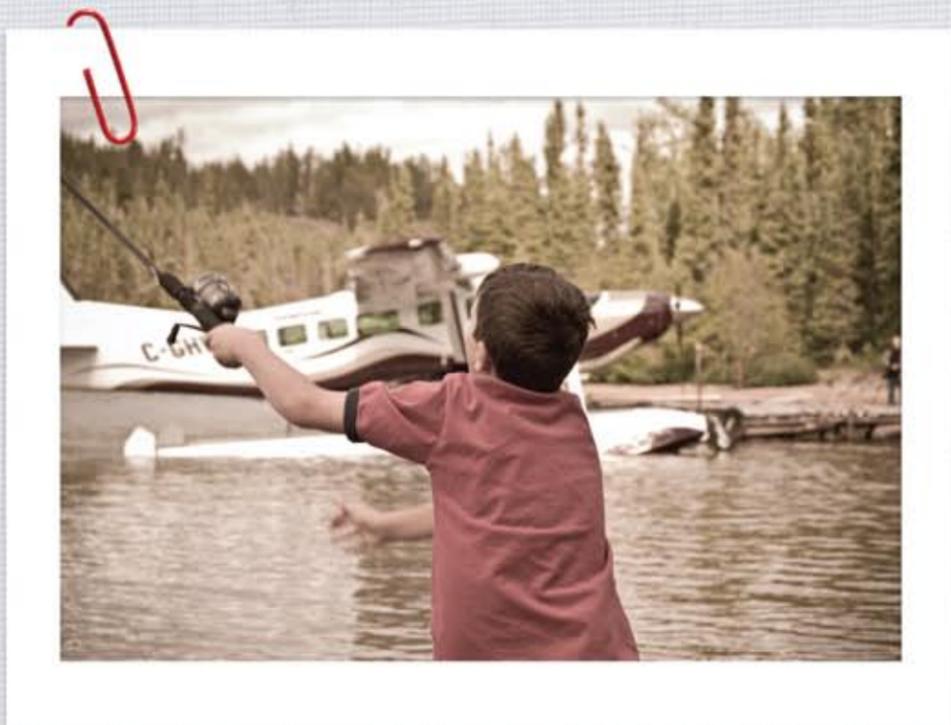
"We've had an extremely busy year with a lot of big projects going on at once," Thompson Bros. Operations Manager Richard Kostiuk said. "So, company President Larry Thompson suggested I take some time off, and he 'ordered' me to take the Caravan Amphibian."

### *Let's see, where can't we go?*

Situated in central Alberta, with a float-equipped Caravan at your disposal, leaves a lot to one's imagination regarding a suitable destination to get away to for a few days. Within hours, Kostiuk and Cathcart hatched a plan to head up to North Leland Lake, a fly-in only destination very

nearly in Canada's Northwest Territories. To add even more fun to the trip, they took along Kostiuk's son, Tony, and Cathcart's grandson, Kyle. The two nine-year-olds are the best of friends, and hardly slept a wink the night before takeoff.

Most of Alberta's fly-in fishing resorts are located in the far north regions of the province. Some Alberta fly-in lodges have been around dating back into the 1800s, while others have only recently been built. Since *Outdoor Canada* magazine recently ranked Leland Lakes among the "top ten ultimate trips" in Canada, Cathcart looked up Glen Wettlaufer, a veteran bush pilot who owns and operates North Leland Lake





*“We can set up a base of operations almost anywhere on very short notice. This includes maintenance and mechanical facilities, office and crew housing for a hundred or more people.”* — Thompson Bros. President Larry Thompson



The only way to get to the camp at North Leland Lake is by floatplane; this is solitude at its finest.

*The Caravan Amphibian is Caterpillar-tough*

The Thompson Bros. equipment fleet consists of approximately 200 pieces of mainly Caterpillar equipment, which is maintained and repaired in their Spruce Grove facility as well as in the field. For two generations, the family-owned business has staked its success on the Caterpillar brand, and the company demands the most durable equipment that can stand up to the harsh Alberta environment.

“Our aircraft, particularly the Caravan Amphibian, can move crews and parts anywhere,” Thompson Bros. President Larry Thompson said. “We can set up a base of operations almost anywhere on very short notice. This includes maintenance and mechanical facilities, office and crew housing for a hundred or more people. The Caravan is the workhorse of our fleet. It’s both a bush plane and a corporate aircraft. With the executive interior, we’re not ashamed to fly it into the downtown airport at Edmonton and pick up clients.”

Also, the Thompson Bros. Caravan Amphibian can be a rare company fringe benefit – not to mention being one cool airplane to a couple of nine-year-olds. ✈️





# CARAVAN IS THE MAIN PLANE of MCMURRAY AVIATION

Even in a remote area such as northern Alberta, the Fort McMurray Airport is tower-controlled. Whatever the season, air traffic is constant, serving the oil sands industry year-round and remote fishing camps during the region's short, busy summers. And the most common airplane on the field is a Cessna Caravan, typically flown by McMurray Aviation.

McMurray Aviation operates three Caravans, including a Caravan Amphibian that goes by the name "Aquaholic."



## Trio of Caravans does triple duty

"Cessna's top-of-the-line Caravan lives up to its grand name," McMurray Aviation General Manager Wade Komarnisky said. "It's our main plane. Even with all the available seating, the Grand Caravan can change roles quickly by converting to a cargo hauler in less than half an hour, doubling its duty. And our Caravan Amphibian provides triple duty."

W.M.K. Holdings Ltd., operating as McMurray Aviation, is a privately owned sole proprietorship company. The base of operation and head office is located within the hangar facility situated at the center of the Fort McMurray Airport. The company has a 703 Air Taxi certificate which allows

them to conduct an air taxi service and a flight training facility for the surrounding area. McMurray Aviation flies clients such as visitors to Canada's famous lodges and resorts, forestry and oil and mining companies to many different locations ranging from scheduled flights to Fort Chipewyan to the most remote fishing camps. Its wide range of services includes general freight transportation, fuel transport and aircraft maintenance, in addition to grocery orders and pick up.

## An area destined to get even busier

Once a footnote in the story of world oil production, Canada's oil sands are considered part of the solution to declining conventional oil reserves elsewhere in the world. There are an estimated 2.5 trillion barrels of bitumen in the Canadian resources which makes it possible to produce 2.5 million barrels of oil per day for over 200 years. In recent years there has been a push to accelerate production from the oil sands and this could quintuple current output levels. ✈️



The oil sands region of northern Alberta is a land of contrasts: concentrated crude oil exploration and development co-exists with thousands of square miles of wilderness.



McMurray Aviation's "three of a kind" Caravan fleet features its workhorse Caravan Amphibian.





*Tradewind Aviation, based at Waterbury-Oxford Airport in Oxford, Connecticut, is a scheduled and on-demand Part 135 air charter operator providing premium, customized service. Tradewind Aviation was founded in 2001, within days of "9/11," with a single Cessna Caravan, on the premise that every flight deserves the highest quality aircraft, crew and service. In addition to its Caravan charter operations, the company manages various Cessna aircraft, including Citation CJ3 and Citation Bravo jets.*

# At Tradewind Aviation

*The only way to get to Nantucket Island is on a Cessna Caravan*



in its forward-thinking management style, Tradewind Aviation offers its charter customers an option for booking what the company calls a Goodspeed Card. As a sort of "season pass," the Goodspeed Card allows passengers to conveniently pre-purchase blocks of time towards any charter for use throughout the year.

Normally, these advance purchases work to everyone's advantage, except for when the operator's margins get sliced to a fraction of normal during a surge in fuel prices as this scenario played out earlier last year. With seats already booked, Tradewind Aviation found itself scrambling to holdoff a flow of red ink. Fortunately enough, Tradewind Aviation's Cessna Caravans came to the rescue.

"Our scheduling staff has the experience to come up with some rather creative solutions, and we were able to fill every seat on just about every Caravan flight," Tradewind Aviation Vice President of Sales and Marketing David Zipkin said. "I'm not sure you could do this with just any aircraft without some degree of passenger dissatisfaction. In our experience, though, we had no complaints. Nobody ever feels crowded in a Caravan."

The lighthouse at Brant Point is a landmark on Nantucket Island; and it's on the approach path to the island's airport.



Tradewind Aviation's "Nantucket Shuttle" provides service to a regular clientele of Caravan passengers who buy season passes.





Tradewind Aviation is headquartered at Waterbury-Oxford Airport in Connecticut, where Tradewind's Caravans share hangar space with Citation CJs.

### *Business began with a single Caravan*

Tradewind Aviation, principally company President Eric Zipkin (David Zipkin's brother) and Vice President David Zara, has literally built its business on the Cessna Caravan. The company began with a single Caravan flown by Zara and Eric Zipkin. Tradewind Aviation's fleet of Caravans has since grown to six, out of the company's total fleet of 15 aircraft.

From November to April, Tradewind operates half of its Caravan fleet in the Caribbean providing first class scheduled service from Puerto Rico to St. Barth, French West Indies. Private charters are offered throughout the Caribbean including St. Barth, Anguilla, St. Maarten, Antigua, Saba and Nevis. Tradewind is the only U.S. turbine air carrier certified to fly commercial flights into St. Barth.

Shortly after meeting on a ski vacation in Colorado, before even starting the business, Zara and Eric Zipkin decided to learn first-hand all they possibly could about the Cessna Caravan. Together, they now have more than 10,000 hours of flying time and numerous type ratings in the turboprop and jet aircraft which they manage, but this included quite a few freight-hauling hours in the Caravan.

### *First, to fly freight is to know Caravans inside and out*

"We spent an entire winter flying Caravan Super Cargomasters in upstate New York," Zipkin said. "We experienced the full gamut of flying conditions. So we can honestly say we know Caravans inside and out. We learned first-hand that this is a solid aircraft you can build a business around."

From its home territory in the New York metro area, Tradewind Aviation offers premium scheduled service from Teterboro and Westchester Airports to Nantucket Island, Cape Cod and the Hamptons. The company also offers



The Nantucket Airport, equipped with an Instrument Landing System (ILS), is actually one of the busiest airports in Massachusetts.



premium scheduled service to Martha's Vineyard, along with Fisher's Island and Block Island off the coast of Rhode Island. With its jet aircraft, Tradewind Aviation can conduct private charter flights throughout the world.

*Nantucket shuttle is the company's signature service*

Tradewind Aviation's signature charter service is its Nantucket Shuttle, which consists of Caravans departing from the New York City area to Massachusetts' Nantucket Island, one

of the premier vacation destinations in all of New England. Besides serving the region's thriving tourism industry, the Nantucket Shuttle allows regular commuters to travel in the comfort of roomy Caravans with executive interiors, effectively avoiding the hassles of commercial airline terminals, security screening and parking. In large part, the success of the Nantucket Shuttle has been built on Tradewind Aviation's unique ability to enable city residents to spend full weekends

in their vacation homes on the island – leaving after working hours on a Friday, then spending two nights on Nantucket and still back to the office on the following Monday morning.

Nantucket Shuttle travelers typically purchase their Caravan seats in advance in "books" of 20 flights. In addition to a pre-determined and sharply discounted rate, book holders also can use their shuttle tickets on any other of Tradewind Aviation's scheduled flights, including those in the Caribbean.



Nantucket Island, where most homes are seasonal, is a scenic delight to tourists, especially photographers.

*The Massachusetts island of Nantucket, Tradewind Aviation's most favored destination, also is nicknamed "The Grey Lady" due to occasional intense fog.*

Nantucket is an island that's frozen in time, with cobblestone streets and more than 80 miles of pristine beaches. The island has a fascinating maritime history, unique shops and galleries and great dining, in addition to sailing, biking and other recreation. Nantucket Memorial Airport is the second- busiest commercial airport in Massachusetts after Logan International and operates year-round. The terminal houses a restaurant, gift shop and car rental agencies. Most Nantucket Shuttle passengers, though, just climb down the airstairs of the Caravan, have their bags handed to them, and walk directly to their car.

*Customer service is key to charter success*

"Air charter remains an effective way to avoid the hassles of airline security checks, illogical schedules and abysmal service," David Zipkin said. "In some cases, chartering an aircraft with us can be cheaper than the airlines. One call to our professional schedulers can arrange everything for the trip, including catering, ground transportation, accommodations, executive services, even tee times." A popular option as airline service continues to deteriorate is corporate shuttles. Tradewind Aviation has created a specialty service of providing regular, cost-effective shuttle service between various corporate destinations.

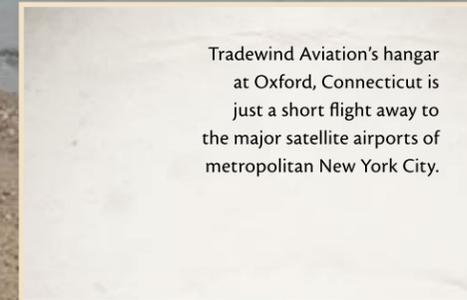
*Caravan has more feasible destinations than any other*

"With the Caravan, almost any airport is accessible," David Zipkin said. "With its superior short field capability, the Caravan can serve some of the smallest fields, including some private strips." The only priority at Tradewind Aviation that outranks customer service is safety. The company flies crews of two on all of its Caravan flights, and the captains must meet Airline Transport Pilot standards. All Caravan crew members receive recurrent training at Flight Safety International in Wichita, Kansas. ✈

*"In some cases, chartering an aircraft with us can be cheaper than the airlines. One call to our professional schedulers can arrange everything for the trip, including catering, ground transportation, accommodations, executive services, even tee times."* —David Zipkin



Rich in history dating back to 19th century whaling days, Nantucket Island is a trademark to maritime New England.



Tradewind Aviation's hangar at Oxford, Connecticut is just a short flight away to the major satellite airports of metropolitan New York City.



Brothers David and Eric Zipkin of Tradewind Aviation were born of adventure, their parents, Elga and Herbert Zipkin traveled to the far corners of the globe, camping at virtually every stop.



Herbert Zipkin and his wife Elga stand in front of their 1978, 172 skyhawk



Equipped with every survival device imaginable, Herbert Zipkin's Land Rover exemplified the true genius of the man, the father of Tradewind Aviation.



# MR. ZIPKIN

*Caravans share hangar space with another all-terrain vehicle - a sacred Land Rover.*



In a revered corner of the Tradewind Aviation hangar at the Waterbury-Oxford Airport sits a 1959 Series II Land Rover 109 station wagon – a symbol of an adventuresome and entrepreneurial spirit that has inspired the success of the company.

The Land Rover also happens to symbolize Herbert Zipkin, father of Tradewind Aviation President Eric Zipkin and Vice President of Sales and Marketing David Zipkin. After a full life as an entrepreneur, aviator and quintessential adventurer, Herbert Zipkin passed away peacefully in his home earlier this year.

Back in the 1960s, Herbert Zipkin became somewhat of a celebrity for his worldwide adventures in the Land Rover 109 station wagon.

The vehicle was modified as a long-distance cinematography expedition vehicle and was used on two half-year-long photo expeditions. The first trip took place in 1959-60, from the UK through Europe, East Africa and winding up at Cape Town in South Africa. The second six-month expedition, in 1961-62, started in Holland and proceeded through Europe and Asia before finishing in Japan. During his trips, Herbert Zipkin shot more than 15,000 feet of movie film.

*What remains is a legacy in film*

"It will take me years and years to go through and digitize all the film," David Zipkin said.

When they were teenagers, Eric and David Zipkin joined with their father in driving the Land Rover across the U.S. in the "Great American Race."

"Dad sat in back and listened to us arguing," Eric Zipkin said.

*Still, "I'd rather fly."*

"I am not a gadgeteer – the additions and modifications were made to fulfill specific needs and to take advantage of all the Land Rover's available space," Herbert Zipkin wrote in the April 1964 issue of Field and Stream magazine. "Not as a form of criticism since the Land Rover is probably the best vehicle ever constructed for this purpose ... In seeking a name for the second expedition, it was apropos to call it IRF – Russo Asian Expedition – the IRF stands for – I'd rather fly." ■

# Caravan's Garmin G1000 'glass cockpit' will soon be able to see outside

After going "all-glass" this year, the Cessna Caravan is taking another bold step in 2009 by adding a synthetic look outside from the Garmin G1000 avionics package.

(A) flight-path marker (B) synthetic terrain, flight hazards



Garmin International has achieved FAA certification of its Synthetic Vision Technology (SVT™), and Cessna Aircraft is integrating this new system into the Garmin G1000 "glass cockpit." Garmin Synthetic Vision Technology (SVT™) will become part of the G1000 avionics suite, which is now standard equipment on all Caravans. Garmin's SVT presents a 3D depiction of terrain, obstacles and traffic on the G1000's primary flight-display (PFD) so that the avionics panel replicates what pilots would see outside the cockpit on a clear day.

Garmin's SVT brings an unprecedented level of situational awareness to Caravan pilots. Pilots can "see" their position relative to terrain the airport, getting a three-dimensional picture without having to interpret a single-dimensional stream of information. While it isn't a total replacement for having actual vision outside the cockpit, SVT provides an important backup to traditional navigation systems.

**Additional SVT features to provide better situational awareness and help pilots fly with greater precision are:**

- SVT intuitively enlarges obstacle(s) as an aircraft approaches it; TAWS based colors are used when the required obstacle clearance is not met or in the case of potential obstacle impact;
- TCAS traffic symbology is represented in 3D which changes size relative to range;
- A Flight Path Marker displays the projected path of the aircraft;
- A Zero Pitch Line clearly distinguishes the aircraft's altitude in relation to nearby terrain;
- Gridlines drawn on the terrain surface enhance distance perception;
- Runway designations and thresholds are superimposed on terrain data;
- Airport Signs depict the identifiers of nearby airports.

The G1000 avionics suite in the Cessna Caravan also integrates Garmin's SafeTaxi®, FliteCharts® and ChartView, which simplify operation, enhance situational awareness, and increase safety during flight and when taxiing.

## CARAVAN NEWS

**Executive Publisher**

Lori Lucion

**Associate Publisher**

Keith Poulos

**Editor / Photographer**

Steve Seibel

**Art Director/Designer**

Stacie Ormerod

**Photo Editor/Photographer**

Ricardo Reitmeyer

Visual Media Group  
Cessna Aircraft Company

Cessna Aircraft Company

P.O. Box 7704

Wichita, KS 67277-7704

Telephone

1-800-4-CESSNA [INSIDE THE U.S.]

(316) 517-6056 [OUTSIDE THE U.S.]

Fax: (316) 517-7850