



Big Easy Wing



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September 19

Board Meeting -8:30

General Meeting -10 am

Volume 10 Issue 9

September 13 , 2026



Hello CAF Big Easy Wing members,

Looks like the hot summer days may be coming to an end. And I am hoping for some cooler weather. I spoke with Harold and he is doing much better. He told me that he wants to start flying his Cessna again after it comes out of its annual inspection. He will fly with another rated pilot. Also, Rick is doing well, and he may be at our next board meeting on **Saturday, September 19**. At the September 12 event in Madison, we did well selling flights. Thanks to Jared and Peyton.

September 19 will be our next board meeting starting at 8:30 at the CAF hanger with the meeting to follow. We have lots to discuss: upcoming events, Stuka progress, and aircrafts housing.

Events:

1) Reserve airport, Saturday, September 26 - Planes and "Pastalaya". The fly in will be serving Southern style pasta dish from 10 AM to 2 PM. 2) Jennings Stearman Show - first few days in October. We may participate since Jared and Kris are interested in participating. Also, we will discuss participating in the Pensacola airshow. We need to discuss if we're going to attend and who the Pilot may be, as well as all the ground crew. I know Kris has been working with Andy to get him certified as our next pilot. With all these events coming up, it seems we are in need of pilots. Mike came back from Germany but will be leaving soon for Japan. Finally, we will need to discuss if we want to do another *poker run*. Since I am hosting the quiet Birdmen reunion in October, I will be very busy, so we need a member to step up to handle our participating airports, send out notices as well as assemble the hands for the envelope. Shirley and I will help since we have done it before.

Hopefully, Harvey will be at the meeting to give us an update on Stuka progress. Last week I met with a gentleman, Tony Nercadante, who was



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speaking with Dylan, our broker for the Stuka. I showed him around the hangar. He seemed impressed. Tony wanted to fly but we couldn't coordinate the timing. However, he said that he would donate to our wing.

The Quiet Birdmen (pilot group) annual reunion will be happening October 14th through the 18th in New Orleans and The Big Easy Wing will be selling Stearman rides Wednesday, October 14 through Saturday, October 17. Kris will be available weekdays 3 PM to dusk and all day Saturday. We need another Pilot Wednesday through Friday in the morning hours.

Starting soon several aircraft are scheduled to be housed within our hangar. At the September 19 meeting, we will be giving *instructions on how to safely use our tug*. A King air C 90, a Beechcraft Baron, and a Piper Senaca are expected to arrive in the near future. Flightline First has loaned us one of their extra universal Aircraft Tow Barrs. Points to remember:

- It is important to remember that the nose wheel on Aircraft is stressed for landing and pulling on the nose wheel is a delicate operation compared to pushing the aircraft.
- It should be made clear the aircraft should never be stowed in the hanger with the parking brake left on because pulling an aircraft with the brake on can damage the nose strut.

Stennis airport has invited us to participate in their Halloween event again this year on Saturday, October 24. Jared will be the pilot, but we will need load masters. if we're going to bring both Stearman 's. Kris will need to fly my Aircraft. It has always been a fun event at Halloween because of all the kids that want to sit in our Stearman.

At the next several meetings, we will be having discussion about upcoming officers' positions. If anyone wants my job, please let me know.

We need to firm up our plans for this year 's Christmas party. Thus, everyone can mark their calendar and get onboard with what food item they will be bringing.

That's all for now folks. Wait! Just in from Madison, MS. We WON the "Wings Choice" airplane award. Congratulation to our team - Jared and Peyton.

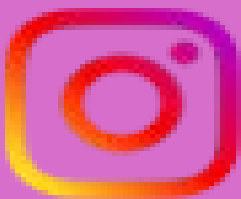


Big Easy Wing

**8550 Lloyd Stearman
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Next to FAA tower

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Assistant Safety Officer- Karl Shearer



Hello BEW,

In July I talked about handheld fire extinguishers. Our hangar is now in compliance and ready for inspection. (Almost.)

The two small (5 lb.) units in the shop and the ready room were out of hydro and required replacement. The 15 lb. CO2 unit at the front door was also out of hydro. This is the one we use as stand-by every time we crank our Stearman. It has been replaced.

Because it was out of hydro, it will go back to the shop with the technician to be tested, (and if it passes) stamped, refilled and reissued to someone else. The technician discharged it before he placed it in his truck and I'm proud to say that it performed flawlessly. Had we needed it, it was up to the task. Very reassuring.

The other three CO2 units on the south, west and north walls are good for now, but the hydro dates may require replacement in the next few years. All the units now have current inspection tags and the required signage to meet inspection criteria.

The foam unit at the base of the stairs is also out of hydro. The contractor informs me that they are not refilling those units because the chemical used is a carcinogen. He also said that since we have sufficient suppression coverage without it, we may remove it from our inventory, or replace it with another type of unit, at our discretion. If we do delete it, we will need to remove the fire extinguisher sign on the wall to be in compliance.

That wraps it up for this month. Be safe out there and before you undertake a safety critical task, remember to ask yourself: "What if?"

I will be creating a form and adding it to KASTRACK as well as my contact.



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

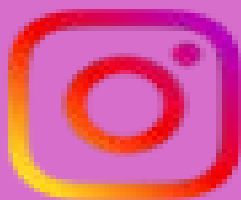
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Operation Officer Kris Caldwell and Assistant Jared Spencer



Hey Members,

What a fun trip!



And so we ventured forth to Madison once again for their “Hangar Hangout” complete with car show and airplane show. It was a dodgy flight up with Payton, our new member and NASA engineer, as navigator. Deviating for weather most of the way included avoiding lightning to the West of Jackson by flying right over their international airport before descending into Madison. After dropping Payton off with his waiting family, I popped over to a grass strip a few miles away to spend the night at the hangar home of David “Candy Man” Mars, another long-time barnstormer.

Saturday morning got off fine with the Mississippi wing once again being wonderful hosts and very helpful to our operations; helping with tables and passengers and of course organizing the entire event. Also in attendance was a TBM Avenger, a P-51 Mustang, T-6 Texan, “Bayou Belle” Bell 47 helicopter, and a L-5 Sentinel among many other vintage warbirds. The car show was equally impressive with probably 40 old muscle cars and off-road vehicles parked in the grass next to the taxiway. The event drew almost 2000 people, and once the rides started they did not stop! We gave 5 before taking a quick break for a sandwich and getting back at it. If it was a hot day on the ground in the sun I would not have known it as I had a constant 80mph breeze the entire time. It was a beautiful partly cloudy day and the ride included spiraling down over a local yacht club, waving to boats on our way across the reservoir next to the airport, followed by some low but spirited sight seeing of the wetlands and shoreline, finished with some higher sightseeing of some large beautiful houses in the woods and hills just North of KMBO. Our riders included a few young men in their early teens who loved the ride. In the mirror I could see smiles ear to ear and “thumbs up”. We also had a lady whose father flew on a B-17 during World War II ride with us. She said she had been thinking about taking the ride for a long time because it was as close as she could get to her father’s experience. I am happy to report she was an adventurous rider who loved the maneuvering (and the ride as a whole) as much as the young boys. Riders let us know their favorite parts were spiraling downwards and flying along the reservoir edge, along a road which also looked like a beautiful drive.

Nancy Gardner was our only female flyer.





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Payton did an excellent job taking care of passengers and logistics. I think our touch down to next take off time was down to about 8 minutes, and in all we sold 8 rides before the heat of the day slowed the event and flow of people down. Payton took care of paperwork, payments, photos, helping passengers in and out of the plane, and pumping the passengers up for their upcoming adventure. The award presentation for the show fortunately happened during my one short break because among the noise we heard “Stearman 1617M” over the loud speakers; turns out our gracious hosts awarded the Big Easy Wing with the “People’s Choice Award” for airplanes at the show! All in all, it was a great day and I am proud to be a part of sharing the unforgettable experience of flying our Big Easy Wing Stearman with so many people. Jim Fowler first flight of the day.



next year.



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Membership – Shirley Colomb



Hello Membership,

Let's give a big welcome to our latest member, **Tim Eckerle**. I will be introducing him at our September 19th meeting. Please show him a big easy wing welcome.

I would like to thank, Peyton Pinson for his presentation on the work that he performs at NASA Stennis Space Center. Also, Peyton was inducted quickly as a Loadmaster so that he could assist Jared at the Madison Show.

This makes for 4 new adult members and a cadet to join us. Be on the lookout for new people at upcoming meetings. Remember it is important to any organization to increase membership.

All members need to be using KASTRACK, (<https://cafbew.kastrack.com/people/users>) please let me know if you have not gotten in and if your information is not getting updated.

If you have any ideas for event, please bring them out at this meeting. Bill will be calling on Kevin to present his idea for October.

Looking forward to seeing you all!



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Adjutant – Shirley Colomb



Hello Friends!

Just a reminder – Major Jim Robinson can be seen on <https://youtu.be/L2o9fV9cfUw?is=eTt5Zxy5D-oeqrVq>

Those members, who worked the Flight of the Flags and met Jim Robinson, are invited to Jim's 105 birthday event at the WW2 Museum on September 24. Please let me know if you are interested so that I can send your RSVP.

This might be the year that our Stearman attends the **Jennings Stearman** event. It is scheduled for **September 30th through Oct 4**. Attendance costs would be on your own. Jared and Kris are both looking forward to attending.

We agreed to participate at the Stennis Halloween event at the Stennis International Airport on Saturday October 25

We have been asked to participate in the **Pensacola Blue Angel Show** on Nov 6-7. We will need 2 people plus pilot for the plane and 5 people for sales and that would mean we would have to have at least 5 rooms for Nov. 5 6 7. Some rooms will be supplied by show. Kris is working to get Andy trained so that we will be able to go. Kris and I completed the form, and I will send it in on

September 15.

September 2026

- 9.12 Madison MS Show – Jared pilot-Peyton Load Master (LM)
- 9.19 BD/general meeting -Tug Training- perhaps hear about Mike Scott's Adventures
- 9.24 Jim Robinson, the World War II veteran who was at the Slidell airport Flag Day event celebrated his 105th birthday at the World War II museum.
- 9.30—10.3 Jennings LA Stearman Show- Jared plus Kris maybe

October 2026

- 10.10 BD/general meeting (nominees for board)
- 10.14-17 Quiet Birdman Flight Days -Kris pilot afternoons
Loadmasters needed -Dom Karl Kevin Peyton
- 10.24 Stennis Airport Halloween flight Jared pilot
Loadmaster needed – Dom? / Karl? /Peyton?



November 2026

- 11.1 Rotary Wine Social - Alex Rafferty (Shirley/Bill/Harold)
- 11.7 Club Scout tour of hangar – Roger
- 11.5-8 Pensacola Show – Pilot Kris? Andy?
LM – Karl /Kevin Sells – Shirley/Glenn/Dawn/Duck
- 11.14 BD/general meeting – elections
Poker run? Veterans Fight Day?

December 2026

- 12.4 Christmas Social- 5:30pm

