Big Easy Wing

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November 14
Board Meeting -8:30

General Meeting -10 am



Welcome to Fall!

It's November already and the cool weather is here along with the darkness. Winter is just around the corner. Our next regular meeting will be on November 14, and this is election time. James will introduce the nominees at the meeting and we vote this month.

We have a new Stearman Pilot, Charles Andy Wilson, and he will be given a presentation on his profession of flying a fire bomber. Welcome Andy to our wing! I know his presentation will be very interesting. FYW, Andy was bringing our Stearman to the Pensacola airshow, but in route we were informed that they were not going to do static displays, so he was one of several CAF Aircraft that had to turn around and go back to homebase. Sorry about that Andy.

Jared brought our Stearman to Stennis for the Halloween event which was well attended by the public and we ended up selling three rides. Thanks, Jared, to all the members that came to the event and helped with selling rides.

Michael Barnes has brought his plane back to the hanger for at least a couple of months, which is good news. Harold's plane should be back from Baton Rouge soon and will be in the hangar again, and it looks like King Air is still preparing to park in our hanger, but it may be the beginning of the new year before the propellers are finished.

We received a nice thank you from the Cub Scouts-Thanks Roger for all the work you do for our Educational Program



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Get ready for our Christmas party on December 4 at 5 PM. It's a potluck. We're going to set up Friday at 9 AM, please let Shirley know how many in your party are coming so that we can properly prepare seating. Don't forget the entire family is invited.

On Sunday, November 1 the Metairie Rotary club had their social event in our hanger, and they were extremely impressed with our Aircraft and our facilities. The event took place from 3 PM to 6 PM on a very windy day. Several members of the Rotary club told me how impressed they were with our Aircraft and would like to be invited back for another party,

See you on November 14.











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Big Easy Wing

8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr. New Orleans, LA 70126

Next to FAA tower

Contact us:
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Assistant Safety Officer- Karl Shearer



Hello Colonels,

I hope you all got an extra hour of sleep on Halloween night. Yes, we "fell back" an hour, so the sun comes up earlier, but it sets earlier, too. Your afternoon drive may be a bit more gloomy or worse yet, the sun is right in your eyes if you're westbound in the PM.

November is Drowsy Driving Awareness month. As the days grow shorter and we travel more for the holidays, there is a chance we will drive in lower light conditions more often. This makes us more susceptible to driving while we are drowsy. NHTSA reports 644 drowsy driving fatalities for the year 2024, the most recent year for complete records. Drowsy driving accidents are about as common as driving under the influence accidents.

Both cause the driver to be impaired. **Both** result in a lack of awareness to potential threats. **Both** result in slower reaction time.

Prevention is key. Get adequate sleep prior to starting your trip. If you can split the driving duties, please do so. Also, be aware of the indicators of drowsy driving:

Yawning, eye blinking and lane drift are all dead giveaways. Don't be too proud to let someone else take over. Stop and stretch. Get out and take a break. Don't rely on caffeine, but in moderation it increases awareness and shortens response time.

Modern vehicles have built-in safety mechanisms that may sense and make the driver aware of potential impairment. NHTSA and the National Sleep Foundation both advocate for the use of these features and stress that drivers should respond to their warnings. Please don't drive impaired.

As the days get longer, they will get cooler, too. Get your furnace checked by a pro for any carbon monoxide leaks. A CO detector on every level of your house is a must have. If you use a space heater, do so safely. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations and have adequate ventilation.

Call a chimney sweep to check your fireplace and chimney if you plan to use it this winter. A chimney fire from creosote build-up is hard to fight and expensive to repair.

Be sure, be safe, and I look forward to seeing you at the hangar.

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Election Officer- James Myrkis and Tom Slack

This is a reminder that elections are coming up very soon. The following positions are available: **Executive, Adjutant, Maintenance, and Education.**

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, then please send me an email prior to our general membership meeting on November 14 at the following address: jamesmykris@gmail.com. Nominations can also be taken from the floor.

Elections will be held during this next general meeting on November 14. Installations will take place at the Christmas Social in December.

Your nomination committee consists of me, James Mykris, and Tom Slack. You can contact either of us if you have any questions. Thanks so much.

Adjutant – Shirley Colomb





Happy Thanksgiving

Just a reminder, I am accepting dues for the year 2027. We have had at least five people pay on KASTrack already. So, you can pay directly on KASTrack or you pay with me. I will take cash or you can charge with the square. It will help if you do it at this meeting and not at the Christmas Social. Our last 4 members who recently joined do not owe dues again: their dues are good for 2027.



Please see me if you can volunteer to help Friday Dec 4 with set up and please let me know what item you might bring. Once again, it is a family event.

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Educational Officer - Roger Jeffrey



Hello members!

On October 16th we hosted eight Scouts from Troop 230, for our Aviation Merit Badge training course. The visit to the Fire Station and the FAA Control Tower were of particular interest to the scouts. They were very engaged in the flight simulator portion of the class, especially on our newest upgraded X-Plane 12 simulator.







On Saturday November 7th we hosted a visit from a Cub Scout Pack from Belle Chasse, along with adult chaperones. We will give the group a tour of our hangar and an up-close view of our Starman. After a short mid-morning snack break, they will construct paper airplanes as part of their "Air-Of-The-Wolf" activity.





We are working with Troop 230 again for our next Aviation Merit Badge training class, possibly on December 19th

So long for now!

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COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE BIG EASY WING

Assistant Operation Officer - Jared Spencer



October brought beautiful weather for flying and Big Easy Wing members represented at numerous events. Kris, his friend Sean and I met up in Tullahoma, TN for the annual Beech Party where historic beech aircraft meet at a beautiful grass strip and Beech craft Museum in the heart of hilly Tennessee. In attendance were airplanes across aviation history from a 1929 Travel Air biplane, Staggerwings, Beech 18s, up to a Beech Starship. Kris and I got to fly the Travel Air and also got a ride in a Beech 18.

Later in October we were able to meet again, this time with our Nawlin's Lady at Stennis for the Hallowing's event. Hundreds were in attendance enjoying the event, including many young families dressed in Halloween costumes. Kris and Peyton flew Nawlin's Lady out early in the misty morning and I met up with them in the Travel Air. The event was also attended by Batman, who arrived in style in BSE's Bell 47 helicopter. It was a beautiful, partly cloudy and cool day. Before the event kicked off, Kris, through his aviation connections across the country, was able to get us access to an RV-4 that we took up for a short hop. It was fast, responsive on the controls, very maneuverable, and has a great view; about as exciting as it gets without an open cockpit!





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Assistant Operation Officer - Jared Spencer

We also met up with friends from the Mississippi Wing that flew down in a Beech Sundowner, including Roddie and Brandon, who made the very successful Madison events happen. We sold three rides which allowed us to take passengers South towards Bay St Louis, get a bird's eye view of a regatta in the bay, followed by a cruise along the beach of Waveland, exchanging waves with beach goers, before returning to Stennis. A very scenic flight and a perfect day for it. Our newly minted Stearman pilot Andy was able to facilitate the return of Nawlin's Lady the following day. Thank you to James Wells for Hangaring our Stearman at Stennis the evening of Hallowing's.

We finished October with one more rider on Halloween morning. It was another perfect morning for it too; although weather was coming in the afternoon, the distant storm front and high clouds gave good contrast in the air and a light level on the ground that was easy on the eyes. High surface winds from the East meant I was happy to have Runway 9 at KNEW. After the flight we found out the easy way that Messina's Restaurant at the terminal building now has a wonderful brunch on Saturdays and Sundays.



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