



Big Easy Wing

Volume 2, Issue 9

November 3, 2018

Officers:

Unit Leader

David Capo

Adjutant

Harold Buchler

Communication

Shirley Colomb
Education

Jim Buchler

Finance

Jeff Segner

Maintenance

Sonny Schilleci

Operations

Jim Helms

Safety

Don Clausing

Membership Meeting

Saturday

10 AM.

November 10,
2018

Lakefront
Airport

BEW Hangar



From the Left Seat

David Capo, Unit Leader

Happy November Colonels!

November means October is over! What a month. We participated in seven days of airshow action at two different locations, hosted the second CAF president this year, threw a party in our new hangar for visiting CAF crews and guests from around the country, showed off the hangar to three different school groups including a corps of cadets and we had a Batmobile! WOW! I cannot thank you enough. Without you, none of what happened would have been possible.

WWII Air Sea and Land Festival

We had dozens of members working the Festival as we ran three separate operations. Shirley Colomb and her merry band of "Pxers" ran a smooth operation in the Weddell Hangar while Terry Clausing, Bill Mattheessen, Don Clausing, Jim Helms and Rick Kiser ran the tent by the Stearman and Batmobile. Many others joined in while a few of us like Doug Webb and I covered the hangar. Thank you to Jim Helms for letting us auction off a ride each day in his magnificent Batmobile. He and Jim Riviera also provided much needed golf carts for site transportation.



Freedom Then and Now, Hammond, LA

At KHDC, Hammond, for four days including set up, The Big Easy Wing was a prominent part of the show. Our beautiful Stearman along with Jim Helms' really cool RV8, Jim Shaw's Christian Eagle and Sonny Schilleci's amazing L-39 fighter jet were all on display proudly showing off the amazing talent and assets associated with our wing. Once again, thank you to Shirley and her PX crew. We sold out of most of everything she said. Donald Allen was there every day helping whenever and wherever needed all four days. The Olsons (J.D. and Carol), Jim Riviera and most of the officers had a presence all weekend as well. Great job people!



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Big Easy Wing
8550 Lloyd Stearman
Blvd
New Orleans, LA
70126

Contact us:
info@bigeasywing.org

On the web:
bigeasywing.org



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Maintenance Officer's Report —Sonny Schilleci

Greetings Troops,

An update from the Maintenance side of the house.

As most everyone is aware we are now caring for our Stearman and 7/10 scale replica Junkers Ju 87 Stuka Dive Bomber (Sturzkampfflugzeug). We are currently taking care of some minor maintenance items on the Stearman and have started a thorough inspection of the Stuka in anticipation of returning it to flight status. Although the Stuka is in the Experimental category and cannot be used for the rides program we strongly believe it will be a highly sought after aircraft for static display at airshows and aviation events as it is a one of a kind aircraft.

Stuka update: We will be replacing all rubber hoses and any non-aviation hardware with all new FAA approved parts. We found a patch that was done to the left fuel tank that we did not like so the tank was removed and it will undergo a weld repair for a permanent fix. Oil analysis was performed on the engine and no abnormalities were noted. We will perform another analysis at 25 hours flight time once we are going again.



Stearman update: Currently on condition maintenance only.

Both aircraft will require ADS-B upgrades for the upcoming mandate and could use some good radios installed as well. Any donation for these items and maintenance will be greatly appreciated.

We were also left with a hangar full of broken Warbirds after the WWII Land, Air and Sea Event. I want to send a special thanks to Terry Clausing who has been at the hangar on a daily basis to not only work on our aircraft but has been donating his time working on the aircraft from other Wings. Thank you Terry!



Unit Leaders Report Continued

Hammond Here We Come!

Starting January of 2019, The Big Easy Wing will also hold monthly meeting at KHDC Airport. I will be arranging an initial meeting there to lay out a calendar for Hammond for the rest of 2019. It is the desire of your officers to meet the needs of our enthusiastic Hammond members by having more activities up there as well. This will in no way take away from our south shore folks. The unit is growing, and your officers are excited to rise to the challenge. Stay tuned to this newsletter for more info on this.

Our Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 15 at the hangar. Will be lots of fun. See you at the hangar on Saturday, November 10 at 10am for our regular monthly meeting. Happy flying!



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

Big Easy Wing
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Blvd
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Operation Officer's Report—Jim Helms

October was an exciting month for the Big Easy Wing. Thanks to the assistance of many volunteers for making it all possible. October 12th thru 14th was the WWII Air, Sea and Land Festival. We had the Stearman on static display with all the WWII aircraft from other Wings. Thanks to Rick Kiser for tying her down securely. The membership booth and PX were inside the Weddell hangar recruiting and selling items representing our Wing. Have you seen the Stearman caps or T-shirts? Awesome!!!!

The Batmobile was staged next to the Stearman and it was a big hit. Everybody love taking photos by it. On the plus side, we made a few dollars for the wing by raffling a ride on Saturday and Sunday.



many pictures were taken inside the hangar of the Stuka as the Stearman outside on display. Several asked and received our Stuka Patch for their flight suits. After the Festival, our hangar looked like we are hoping for in the future.

Our Stearman and Stuka had several guests. Another Stearman, a North American T6, a Stinson AT-19 and my favorite, an FG-1D Corsair. What a treat to see an almost full hangar.



On the 20th and 21st was the Airshow in Hammond. The first in 27 years. On the 18th, thanks to Jim Shaw, David Capo and Paul Cutrer for helping me get the Stearman, another aircraft and most of the display items up to the airport. The 19th, Harold Buchler and Donald Allen were instrumental in procuring a spot for our aircraft and setting up the tent display. The two-day Airshow was very successful with the signing of more members and PX Sales. With only two Airshows. I was amazed by the support and the number of newly recruited Colonels. Between the 2 airshows we recruited 15 members.

Again, questions about the Stearman but more surprising was how many asked why the Stuka was not present and how to view it. Word has somehow gotten out and we were flooded with questions and support. Looking forward to next year when we can be more involved in local Fly-ins and Airshows around the Southern and Southeastern States. Thanks again to each of you for your hard work and support.



The Stearman was a huge success with 100s of questions and interest. Although not on display outside, we proudly showed the Stuka to special quests and CAF Staff from Headquarters and other Wings. They were in awe and in full support of seeing it fly again. As





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Election Notification—David Capo, Unit Leader

Greetings BEW Colonels,

Seems like everyone is in the election spirit. We at the Big Easy Wing are too. At our December social, we will not only celebrate the season with a great party in the hangar but will also conduct an election of officers for next term. As is the tradition in the CAF, election of officers occurs on a staggered basis. This year, the Wing will hold elections for four officers:

Executive Officer
Adjutant
Maintenance
Education

These officers will be elected to serve a two-year term expiring in December 2020. Due to a vacancy, an election to fill the unexpired term for the Development Officer will also take place next month. That term expires in December 2019.

I have asked members, Mary Ann Clemons clemonsm36@yahoo.com Doug Webb dswebb1@charter.net and Donald Allen donalda28@hotmail.com to serve as election committee members. They will oversee the election and nominating process. The slate of candidates are as follows:

Executive Officer - Robert Claypool
Adjutant - Harold Buchler (to be re-elected)
Maintenance - Sonny Scilleci (to be re-elected)
Education - Jim Buchler (to be re-elected)
Development - Shirley Colomb - to fill a one-year unexpired term

Nominations will be accepted in advance as well as from the floor on election day which is Saturday December 15, 2018. Any paid CAF colonel who is also a wing member is eligible to run for any office. You must be a current member of the CAF and Wing to vote and we encouraged all current members to vote. You will be receiving an email from the election committee letting you know the details of the election.

Special note - Thank you to Harold Buchler for filling in as Executive Officer for the balance of this year. His service was greatly appreciated. Thanks Harold!

Christmas Social

Coming in December, we will get together to celebrate the holidays and a successful first full year for the Big Easy Wing. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, December 15. We are looking at starting around 5 PM. It will still be daylight at that time and will make it easier for your arrival. Also, starting early will hopefully give you an opportunity to view a beautiful sunset. It will be a potluck-BYOL party, so be thinking about what you will like to bring. There will be music, camaraderie, and an enjoyable evening. If you would like to serve on the decorating committee, please send me an email. We will probably set up Saturday morning around 10 am. Looking forward to hearing from you.





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PX Officer's Report—Shirley Colomb



Sales were very successful at both Airshow events. The toy items were sold out except for what is in the hangar display case. If you have any suggestion for items to add to our inventory, please send me an email. We have purchased some Stearman T-shirts and our newest and only female cadet, Clotile Cantin- (Dave Cantin grand-daughter-our first female cadet) did a great job modeling the shirt and assisting with sales at the Hammond. Airshow.

At this November general membership meeting, we will have our logo polo shirts, long sleeve cotton shirts, t-shirts, lanyards and caps for sale. We would appreciate all members buying our logo lanyard to hold your personal ID card. If you have not had your photo taken, you may email me a-head photo shot of



yourself or you may wait until the November meeting where it will be taken. If you have not received your ID card, we will be printing a new batch of ID cards for those who previously had their shots taken. Check out KAStack to see if your photo has been added. For the 2019 members,

your photo, if it was taken, was added if you completed the form on the KAStack website. *Thanks to all of our photographers.*

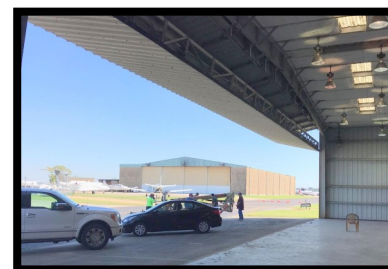


Safety Officer's Report— Donald Clausing

With our general membership meeting and then next month with our holiday party, we all need to be vigilant around our aircraft. Keep an eye out for our guests that are touring our hangar to keep them safe. We need to remind ourselves that our hangar is located on a very active airport. Do not go out and just walk about. There are movement and nonmovement areas. Ask someone if you are not sure on where you may go. When attending meetings, please park near the fire station. There is a gate entry, please close the gate after you enter.



The regular volunteer crew worked on repairing the South-Hangar door, this Saturday. They did a great job accomplishing the task while implementing safety procedures. Great job!





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Membership— Welcome

We are appreciative of all the members that joined this month. We had a total of 15 members join—either at the WWII Air, Sea, and Land Festival or at the Hammond Airshow, plus 2 more at the Houston Airshow. Thanks for becoming our 2019 members.

Gil Arevalo from Harvey, La.
Gregory Boggs from Folsom, La
Kevin Duxworth from Metairie, La.
Marissa Coursiere from N.O. La.
William Parrish from Diamondhead, MS
Darrell Prather from Round Rock, Tx
Jeff Shaw from Pontchatoula, La.
Thomas Slack from N.O. La
Richard Wood from Baton Rouge area

Bob Banister from St. Rose, La
Kelly Demarca from New Orleans, La
Troy Fitting from Harlingen, Tx
David Miller from N.O. La.
Frankie Poirrier from Marrero, La.
Michael Saladino from Metairie, La
Mark Sigler from Covington, La
Austin Wood from Baton Rouge



Membership Dues are due January

All 2018 members will need to renew their membership with the BEW. The BEW membership is based on the calendar year. Please think about bringing your check to the upcoming meetings but definitely have your dues in by the January meeting. Mail your check to Jeff Segner a 1482 Broadmoor Drive

Slidell, La. 70458. You may also pay online by visiting our website.

CAF membership is annual and is based on your start up date. ***You must be a member of the CAF to join our Wing.***
www.commemorativeairforce.org

Due on Renewal Date	Due in January
CAF	Big Easy Wing
Colonel: \$200	Big Easy Wing: \$50
	Active Military: \$25
Cadet: \$40	Cadet: \$10