



# Big Easy Wing

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 7, 2019

## Officers:

### Unit Leader

David Capo

### Executive Officer

Robert Claypool

### Adjutant

Harold Buchler

### Communication

Shirley Colomb

### Education

Jim Buchler

### Finance

Jeff Segner

### Maintenance

Sonny Schilleci

### Operations

Jim Helms

### Safety

Don Clausing

## Meeting Date

Wednesday,

March 20th

6:30 PM

Lakefront

Airport

BEW Hangar



## From the Left Seat

David Capo, Unit Leader

Greetings From Dallas,

As I start to write this, I am sitting in a hotel room in the Galleria section of Dallas, TX attending the 2019 CAF Wing Staff Conference. This annual event brings together officers from most all of the units in the CAF from around the world. Yes world! The CAF has units stationed overseas. Well, I can tell you, and the BEW colonels that attended would agree, our unit was a big hit at the conference. Be it our purple shirts (could have sold a few), hats, lighted beads and King Cakes, everyone was talking about your wing and the success we have enjoyed together. President Coates, on more than one occasion, called us out in praise. At the meeting on Sunday, he described the spree de corps as unparalleled in the CAF. Dan Fordice of our wing and the MS Wing said, "if you want to do it right, see those boys in The Big Easy Wing". Thanks Dan.

The meeting was not all rainbows and roses, however. The afternoon before I left for Dallas (2/27/19), I received a devastating phone call from our good friend and member Tom Gibbs of the National WWII Museum informing me that the leadership of that museum cancelled the WWII Air Sea and Land Festival (ASLF). When I arrived at the CAF meeting, that's all anyone could talk about. Well, your Unit Leader went to work to try and save this great October event.

I have now received confirmation that the [CAF Air Power History Tour](#) will come not only to KNEW (Lakefront) on the original dates of October 11-13, 2019 but will for the first time ever, visit KHDC (Hammond) the week before, October 3-6, 2019. Coming as part of the tour will be the B29, B24, a B25, one or two P51's the WASP T6, a C45, another T6 and hopefully a B17 and an PBJ. There could be others but it is still early. This is an exciting opportunity for us and will make history as the first unit to host an event like this in two cities in as many weeks.

I will discuss this and other exciting news from the conference with you at our next general membership meeting Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 in the hangar. See you then and remember to Educate, Inspire and Honor!



## Hammond Meeting

Our Hammond meeting is scheduled for noon on Saturday, March 23. It will be held at Hammond [Northshore Regional Airport](#) in the terminal building. It will be the first of many.



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## Operation Officer's Report: Jim Helms

Recently we held another Marshalling Training Class at the Hangar with a great turnout. Not only did we have new participants but several who attended for recurrent to reinforce the lessons learned the first time around. Thanks to Mike LoProto, Dave Cantin and Don Clausing on the help to make the class a success. We invented a new and crazy concept by having a 2X4 stretched across the back of the golf cart to act as a wing to represent an aircraft. Attending were Dave Capo, Austin Wood, Doug Webb, Glenn Metzger, Joel Madere, Kevin Duxworth, Shirley Colomb and Richard Gray. Dave Cantin is becoming the pro by joining and working with the CAF Marshalling Detachment and had a lot good information to provide.

March is becoming a rapidly busy month with our membership meeting at the hangar March 20th and the Northshore membership meeting in Hammond on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. *"That's All Brother"* will be at Lakefront March 28<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup> and requesting our help.

Sonny Schilleci and Terry Clausing have been working on getting the Stearman ready for the airshow season and recently we were approved by Headquarters to begin our engine runs, ground and taxi tests on the Stuka. For those who didn't know, the Stuka is all together and on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Terry and I began the initial testing with engine runs and low/medium speed taxi tests which resulted in a few minor squawks that can be worked out in no time. Thanks, Terry, for all your time and hard work. If you would like to see the initial run, you may view the link — [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tf\\_hVIAZPRQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tf_hVIAZPRQ)

I will probably be out at the hangar this Friday doing some more engine runs and taxi test if you are you would like to watch if the weather permits it. I am shooting for around noon.



## PX Officer 's Report—Shirley Colomb

With so many new members, we have placed another order for Polo shirts. At our last meeting the PX introduced an all weather logo jacket which went over very well. Please check out these items at our next meeting. If anyone is interested on serving on the PX committee please email me at [shirleycol@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleycol@yahoo.com). We will soon be placing orders for items to sell at the upcoming airshows.



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## Maintenance Officer's Report— Sonny Schilleci

The **Stearman** is prepped and ready for the newly overhauled engine to be installed. We anticipate this in the next couple of weeks and will be asking for volunteers to assist when the time comes. Stay tuned...

The **Stuka** has been reassembled and engine runs and taxi tests performed in anticipation of being on display during the upcoming visit of the C-47, That's All Brother, at the end of March. We are also in the process of replacing all engine oil and fuel hoses and fittings with new teflon flexible hose with fire sleeve and steel fittings.

## CAF Staff Conference—Jeff Segner, Finance officer

I just attended my first CAF Wing Staff meeting and I highly recommend that everyone from the wing attend at least once! Given that it was my first time, I didn't really know what to expect. Well it didn't take long to see that I was welcomed by almost every CAF member that I saw. It was a unique opportunity to meet and talk with many of the people that I saw at the various airshows over the years. Listening to all the "hanger flying" is one of my favorite benefits of being a CAF member. In addition, I attended several of the scheduled seminars. As your finance officer, it was important that I participate in the finance tract, but I also was there for the PX presentation and one of the safety sessions. Lastly, I would like to say that participating in all of the events and listening to the presentations of the wing staff, Hall of Fame inductees and many of our fellow members really drove home the meaning behind our mission statement: *Educate, Inspire and Honor*. In support of the mission statement, I was able to attend the ground breaking ceremony for the COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE'S HENRY B. TIPPIE NATIONAL AVIATION EDUCATION CENTER.



## Membership

Greetings to our newest members: Earl Weiser from Metairie

## Thanks!

Membership renewals for 2019 are coming in. Thanks to everyone who has rejoined. Please visit KAStrack to see if your membership dues spot has turned green. If you have not paid as of yet, please do by visiting our [website](#), by mailing your dues, or by bringing a check to our March meeting.

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## Safety Officer—Don Clausing—Marshalling

Thanks to Dave Cantin and Mike LoProto for assistance with our last marshalling training. If you participated please check KAStack for your certificate that our Operation Officer, Jim Helms created. Both Jim Helms and Dave Cantin located several Marshalling training files. Please check our website for these PDF files and videos.



As stated in last months newsletter, there are Marshalling training available for anyone who wants to join the *2019 CAF Marshalling Detachment*. If you are serious about becoming an official Marshaller please contact [kathleentx@aol.com](mailto:kathleentx@aol.com). Kathleen will hook you up with dates and required forms.

When you email Kathleen, please include your name, colonel number, phone number, email address and physical address. There is a cost of \$25 to join the Marshalling Detachment. Kathleen will send you the 2019 Marshalling Calendar, an application, and hold harmless agreement. If you prefer, or have questions, you may also contact *Dave Cantin* at [af@cantin.org](mailto:af@cantin.org).



## Upcoming Events

- **‘That’s All Brother’ —Lakefront Airport– March 28-31**
- April 2-7 Lakeland Florida  **SUN FUN**  
A BRIGHTER FUTURE THROUGH AVIATION
- Keesler Air Show—[Thunder Over the Sound](#)— May 4th and 5th
- Lake Charles [CHENNAULT INTERNATIONAL AIRSHOW](#) May 10-12
- Stearman Fly-in Sept. 2 – 7, 2019, at Galesburg Municipal Airport. Illinois
- Planes over Pines in Pineville, LA October 4-5
- Stearman Fly-In October 2019 in Jennings LA.
- **CAF Air Power History Tour** October 3-6 in Hammond and October 11-13 at Lakefront Airport



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## "That's All, Brother" visits Lakefront in March



D-Day veteran, "That's All, Brother" will be visiting the Lakefront Airport at New Orleans, Louisiana as part of our Spring Tour. After the Spring Tour, the aircraft will fly to Normandy and participate in the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Here is your opportunity to tour and fly in the aircraft that led the main airborne assault on D-Day.

Living History Flight Experience...\$249.00 per person.

Tours of the aircraft...\$5.00 per person. Children under 7 free.

Schedule:

**Friday, March 29:** Ground Tours and Rides

**Saturday, March 30:** Ground Tours and Rides

Sunday, March 31: Ground Tours

You can pre-book your ride by visiting their [tour website](#).

*Members mark your calendar and be prepared to help!*

## KAStrack —Members please log in and check your status

Visit KAStrack and check on your status. Robert Claypool has updated the document section making it much easier to locate files. If you have not visited KAStrack please do so. Robert will be at our meeting to help anyone who is still having difficulty logging in. Please go to <http://cafbew.kastrack.com>

## 2019 Meeting Dates



	Date	Place	Time	Where	Event *
General Membership Meeting	March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Hangar	10am	Lakefront	
General Membership Meeting	March 23	Airport	Noon	<b>Hammond*</b>	
<b>"That's All Brother"</b>	<b>March 28-31</b>	<b>Hangar</b>	<b>5:30</b>	Lakefront	<b>Probably a Social Friday 29th</b>
General Membership Meeting	April 17	<b>Hangar</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Lakefront	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary	April 28	<b>Hangar</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Lakefront	<b>Probably a Saturday Social</b>
General Membership Meeting	May 11	Hangar	10am	Lakefront	
				<b>Hammond</b>	
General Membership Meeting	June 22	Hangar	10am	Lakefront	
General Membership Meeting	July 13	Hangar	10am	Lakefront	
General Membership Meeting	August 10	Hangar	10am	Lakefront	
General Membership Meeting	September 18	<b>Hangar</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Lakefront	Slate of Officers
				<b>Hammond</b>	
<b>CAF Air Power History Tour</b>	<b>October 10-13</b>	Hangar		Lakefront	
CAF Air Power Social	October 12	Hangar	5:30 pm	Lakefront	Social
General Membership	November 9	Hangar	10 am	Lakefront	Election of Of-
<b>BEW Christmas Social</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<b>Hangar</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Lakefront</b>	<b>Holiday Social</b>

**\*Future Hammond dates will be discussed at the March 23 meeting**

**\*Events dates and times are not definite**

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