



Big Easy Wing

Volume 3, Issue 5

May 6, 2019

Officers:

Unit Leader

David Capo

Executive Officer

Robert Claypool

Adjutant

Harold Buchler

Communication

Shirley Colomb

Education

Jim Buchler

Finance

Jeff Segner

Maintenance

Terry Clausing

Operations

Jim Helms

Safety

Don Clausing

Meeting Date

Saturday

May 11th

@ 10 am

Lakefront

Airport

BEW Hangar



From the Left Seat

David Capo, Unit Leader

Greetings!

Spring is almost over and Summer is upon us. For that reason, our June meeting has been changed to Hammond. Please update your calendar. The June general membership meeting will meet in Hammond at 10 am at the Gray Aviation Hangar. Our May 11th meeting may be a little hectic. It is a scheduled work-day. Please come out and help us continue with the ready-room rebuild. We plan on starting our workday at 8 am. We will take a break at 10 am for our regular monthly meeting.

Lots has happen this past month. We finally obtained our replacement engine. And, we have a new officer.

Meet Terry Clausing, BEW Maintenance (Mx) Officer

Recently, Sonny Schilleci, our former Mx officer informed me that he needed to step aside from his duties as BEW Mx officer to try and keep up with the huge demands of his business, Auric Avionics. With the new ADS-B FAA rules going into effect next year, Sonny has been swamped with work and could not dedicate the time he wanted to keep the wing flying. We appreciate his amazing service and are very grateful that he will remain active in the unit and help out when available. Thank you Sonny.

Terry Clausing, a graduate of East Jefferson High School, a Delgado trained A&P (a certified air frame and power plant mechanic), an Air Force veteran who worked B-52 bombers in the US and Guam during the Viet Nam War and his 30+ year career at Lockheed Martin (maker of the space shuttle tank at Michoud) will assume the role of Mx officer effective immediately. We all know Terry as the go-to guy when it comes to the hangar, the planes, turning wrenches and simply making things work. As our Safety Officer Don Clausing's kid brother, Terry has been involved in the BEW almost since inception. All of BEW members know the great work Terry has been doing for our organization.

Welcome aboard Terry and thank you for your service, both to the USA and the wing!





COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

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

Contact us:
info@bigeasywing.org

On the web:
bigeasywing.org



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl Click on icon



Three Officers and an Engine! By David Capo, Unit Leader

On Saturday, April 27 of this year, three of your officers made an epic voyage... to secure and return to our hangar, the new Continental engine for the Boeing PT-17 Stearman we acquired last year. Maintenance Officer Terry Clausing, Safety Officer Donald "Duck" Clausing rode with Education Officer Jim Buchler in his son (Kenny Buchler) super-duty F250 pick up truck to Cleveland, MS to the Air Repair restoration shop with our old engine to swap it for a beautiful new one. The men took all day to go up and back. They loaded up the engine at 6am on April 27 and returned at 6:45pm the same day. They traveled over 625 miles. While there, they were treated to a guided tour by Pete Jones. At this beautiful comprehensive facility engines are re-stored to like new condition. Wait until you see ours!

This past Saturday, Terry and I, were joined by a Mx Officer from the Coyote Squadron. He assisted Terry in the mounting of this beautiful recondition engine. A special thanks to all of the folks who got this enormous task completed so well. This week, Terry will put the finishing touches on the engine mount so that the airplane can be returned to service. We can all look forward to that! Our next task is to raise money for a new, metal prop. I'll keep you posted.





COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

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

Contact us:
info@bigeasywing.org

On the web:
bigeasywing.org



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl click on icon



An Interesting Story and a New Member by David Capo

While working in the hangar last weekend with Mx Officer, Terry Clausing, I encountered a gentleman from this past Fall. He is Bill Westell, Mx Officer and A&P with the Coyote Squadron in Corsicana, TX. You may remember that after the WWII Air Sea and Land Festival, we had a hangar full of broken airplanes. One such plane was a beautiful Stinson AT-19 operated by the Coyotes. Bill and Terry worked together to get that plane flying and back home Texas in late October, 2018. He and Terry became friends so Bill came here to the BEW hangar to help Terry and I with mounting the engine. After the engine was mounted, we had a chance to visit in the ready room. I got to know Bill and found out he is a lifelong A&P as well as an IA (inspector). He told me of his long career with McDonnell Douglas and Continental Airlines as well as his love for aviation and New Orleans. He told me, "David, the reputation of the Big Easy Wing is well known throughout the country as being coolest wing in the CAF." He then turned around and joined the BEW on the spot! How cool is that? Welcome aboard Bill. We now have five A&P's and two IA's in the unit.

Bill's perception and our reputation in the CAF is a real tribute to all of you in the Big Easy Wing who make us the "Coolest Wing in the CAF". Thank you all so much for being a part of this now two year old, fully operational and fun wing.



Membership

Welcome to our newest members:

Gary Copp of Madisonville LA

Katie Bowman of Slidell, LA

Bill Westell of Corsicana, TX

KAStrack—go to <http://cafbew.kastrack.com> **Logging In:** If you have not created a file please do so. You *can not* get a BEW badge until you have a file on KAStrack. For new members who created their own profile, please continue to use the username and password you created.

For legacy members, your account username is your first and last name separated by a period. For instance, my account is shirley.colomb and that is what I enter in the Login form. If you have never logged into KAStrack, you are required to set your password the first time you use the system.

Members only section on the website contain name/email addresses of members as well as board meeting minutes. You can access this info by typing in the password—wings



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

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

Contact us:
info@bigeasywing.org

On the web:

bigeasywing.org



Crtl click on icon

Crtl click on icon



Crtl click on icon



Fundraiser—GiveNOLA Day—Shirley Colomb



*Make a gift to support the CAF-Big Easy Wing on May 7th. Your gift will help preserve World War II-era aircraft for the **education and enjoyment** of present and future generations. The CAF Education initiative has a simple goal that builds on developing a deeper engagement in the communities serve. **Education is CAF mandate.** The BEW is the proud gatekeeper of special stories, told through flight, events and artifacts.*

Help support living history events by donating to the Big Easy Wing. We need donations to get our Stearman back to flying condition. We are in need a propeller. And, we are expanding our ready room to house WWII artifacts. We need funds for these projects.

We are ready to serve our community. The Big Easy Wing volunteers support their organization in various ways: restoring historical aircraft to flying condition; piloting aircraft during air shows, assisting with veteran events and developing an educational museum that will tell many WWII stories. Airplanes are not kept behind glass. We want visitors to experience hands-on engagement with science and history.

BEW Meeting Dates:

May 11 @ 10 am hangar June 22 @ 10 am **Hammond**

July 12 @ 10 am hangar August 10 @ 10 am hangar

Sept. 18 @ 6:30 pm hangar-slate of officers

October 3-6 CAF AirPower Tour—Hammond

Upcoming Events

- Lake Charles [CHENNAULT INTERNATIONAL AIRSHOW](#) May 10-12
- 2019 [ACE Camp](#) June 10-14 Gonzales -Event for kids reg. closes 6/1
- EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, WI July 22-28
- Stearman Fly-in Sept. 2-7, 2019, at Galesburg Municipal Airport., Illinois
- [Planes over Pines](#) in Pineville, LA - October 4-5
- **CAF Air Power History Tour** October 3-6 in Hammond
- [Cajun Fly-in Festival & Car Show](#) -Nov. 2-[Houma—Terrebonne Airport](#)
- Stearman Fly-In October 2019 in Jennings LA.
- CAF AirPower History Tour-Oct. 3-6-Hammond Airport-
- Wings Over Houston Oct. 19-20 Ellington Airport