



Big Easy Wing

Volume 3, Issue 6

June 10, 2019

Officers:

Unit Leader

David Capo

Executive Officer

Robert Claypool

Adjutant

Harold Buchler

Communication

Shirley Colomb

Education

Jim Buchler

Finance

Jeff Segner

Maintenance

Terry Clausung

Operations

JD Olson &

Donald Allen

Safety

Don Clausung

Meeting Date

Saturday

June 22

@ 10 am

Hammond

Airport

Gray Aviation



From the Left Seat

David Capo, Unit Leader

Greetings Big Easy Wing,

In this time of remembrance of one of the single greatest days in US history, D-Day - 6th of June, 1944, we as part of the Commemorative Air Force share in the awesome responsibility of carrying on the legacy of the Greatest Generation. The CAF had six aircraft participating in last week's celebration including "That's All Brother" which visited our wing last March. Maybe you saw the historic flyover on TV June 6.

On to other business; we have had some leadership changes in the wing this past month. Having worked in the not-for-profit arena for 35 years, I have come to expect, especially when working with volunteers, that there will be some changes as the unit develops. Last month, we introduced our new Maintenance officer, Terry Clausung as our charter Mx officer had to step aside to handle his business affairs. Today, I want to introduce Rear Admiral JD Olson, US Navy Retired, as our new Operations Officer. Jim Helms, as I expected, has stepped aside due to his increasing business schedule. Please read JD's and Jim's article in this newsletter. JD has graciously accepted the position and is joined by Donald Allen as Assistant Ops Officer. I have asked both men to take over and they have hit the ground running. Thank you Jim for your continued service and to JD and Donald, best wishes on your new adventure.

We now have a flying Stearman! The new engine is installed and test flights have proven successful. We are now looking forward to Jim Helms being certified as a trainer in the very near future. Jim, JD and Donald will also make up what is known as the FEB - Flight Evaluation Board. The FEB is the final wing say in who flies CAF aircraft. Once approved by the BEW FEB, the pilot's name(s) is/are referred to HQ for final approval for the rides program.

The Stuka is continuing her rebuild and should be ready for flight very soon. Once HQ gives the green light, Jim Helms will take her up. I will keep you posted. Also, as with the Stearman, sponsorships in all three levels will be available to all members.

Remember, our next meeting will be Saturday, June 22 at Hammond Airport at Gray Aviation. Directions: Turn north on Pride Drive off of Hwy 190 (at Piggly Wiggly light). One mile down Pride Drive turn right at the Gray Aviation sign. Looking forward to seeing everyone there. This meeting is for all members both Northshore and Southshore. I hope to see you there! Keep 'em flying,



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Flight Instructor's Report—Jim Helms

Oh, that time of month again to write another article. What do I write about? But you know what? Nothing but good news. If you haven't heard by now, I stepped down as the Operations Officer. But Wait. Before you say OMG, it's a good thing. With my work schedule I did not feel that I was able to perform the duties needed to be your Operations Officer. Maybe it is my OCD nature. Who knows? But after meeting with the officers and explaining my dilemma, I recommended a Colonel that I thought would be great for the position.

Welcome Colonel (or should I say Admiral) J.D. Olson as your new Operations Officer and Donald Allen as his assistant as well as both being on board with me for the Flight Evaluation Board (FEB) which is required by Headquarters. I know both will do a great job and have already stepped up to the Challenge. Now don't think I have left. I will still be the flight instructor and check pilot for those needing to get trained and checked out. So, I will still be a familiar face around the hangar.

On another Very Happy Note, the Stearman has a new engine. Whoopee! We ran the engine for a leak test on the 18th and flew the airplane on the 24th. It has awesome power and performed great. Sure, we have a few minor squawks to work out, but it will do us very proud. During the flight the BEW stickers stayed on the aircraft. Must be a good sign.



When you see Colonel Olson and Allen, give them a big handshake and welcome them to their new positions. They will be Awesome and thanks for all of you for the support I have received in the past and please forward to them.

Operation Officer's Report - JD Olson

Greetings from your new Operations Officer. Jim Helms has done a terrific job as the first Ops Officer of the Wing and he certainly leaves big shoes to fill. In fact, they're so big, it requires two people to fill them! Donald Allen has been recruited to fill a brand-new position, Assistant Operations Officer, to help me with all that goes with this job, especially the paperwork that goes with it. Jim will remain our Chief Pilot / Instructor which will keep him busy enough now that our re-engine Stearman is now back in the air (great job, Terry!) and we expect him to be checking out new pilots in that beauty in the very near future.

My first order of business will be to work with other BEW officers on the team to place SAFETY at the forefront of everything to do with the two aircraft we currently have assigned - the Navy N2S Stearman and the Langhurst Stuka - and any others we may be assigned in the future. To that end, I am presently immersed in studying all that CAF HQ offers that will help us carefully screen potential pilots for our planes and to keep them flying safely soon and well into the future. The new CAF CEO, Hank Coates, has announced a Safety Stand Down coming up in August. More to follow on that as details develop. Until then, if anyone has a suggestion as to how to do things better and safer regarding our operations, please don't hesitate to give me a call at 504-319-4545. If I don't answer, leave a voice message and I'll get back with you as soon as possible. You can also collar me before or after any of our scheduled Wing meetings or social events for a one-on-one chat. As the saying goes..."The door is always open."

Fly (and drive) safe. JD / 'Outlaw' out...



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Executive Officer's Report - Robert Claypool

BEW Stats

The Commemorative Air Force is impressive. It has an impressive number of air-planes. It has an impressive number of chapters / wings. And most importantly, it has the most impressive number (and dare I say *QUALITY*) of committed volunteers!

One of the not so fun things of any organization is managing all these assets. And with the number the CAF has, to call it difficult would be an understatement. Fortunately, our own Big Easy Wing is keeping that simple, since we only have to go to one place check on everything... cafbew.kastrack.com.

So as near the end of the 2nd quarter, let's look at our stats, current as of May 24th, 2019:

We have 108 members and 2 cadets!

38% of our members have signed the 'Hold Harmless.' Thank you to the 41 people that have done so.

58% of our members have paid their dues. Thank you, that keeps us flying!

44% of our members have paid their National CAF HQ dues. NOTE: This number may be skewed by HQ's current tracking system, which doesn't always identify when someone is a member of the Big Easy Wing.

Let's focus on the Hold Harmless this month. It is the easiest (And cheapest!!) one to get compliant.

Steps: Log into <http://cafbew.kastrack.com>

Look at the People Module for any outstanding requirements.

After clicking on "Click Here..." you will see your certifications screen:

People
4 Expired
• 4 (4) Certifications
Click Here To View Your Outstanding Requirements

Click on "Hold Harmless" and you will be brought to the individual certification page.

Outstanding Requirements

Certification	Expiration Date
• BEW Application	--
• BEW Dues	--
• CAF Membership	--
• Hold Harmless	--



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Executive Officer's Report - continued

Click on the
"AdultHoldHarmlessDC.pdf" to
download and print it.

After signing, you may choose to
scan it and submit it in the same
screen where you downloaded it,
or you may choose to bring it
with you to a meeting or work-
day, and we will scan it in and
update it for you.

Ima Compliant: Hold Harmless

Hold Harmless

Please fill out CAF HH Form #1 (Standard Hold Harmless Form)

Attachment(s)	AdultHoldHarmlessDC.pdf
Online training	None
Cost of training	0 USD
Time to complete training / Course duration ?	0.2 hours
Duration certification is valid ?	16 months
1st Notice (Blue) ?	1 month
2nd Notice (Yellow) ?	2 weeks

Membership

Welcome to our newest members:

Sidney Ross of Hammond, Louisiana

BEW Meeting Dates:

June 22 @ 10 am **Hammond - Gray Aviation**

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

September 18 @ 6:30 pm hangar-slate of officers

Upcoming Events



- Minden Airport Minden, LA June 15
- 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](#)
- Wings Over Houston Oct. 19-20 Ellington Airport



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May 2019 Test Flight New Engine



Celebrating 75th Anniversary of D-Day



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