



Big Easy Wing

Volume 3, Issue 7

July 8, 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

JD Olson &

Donald Allen

Safety

Don Clausing

Meeting Date

Saturday

July 13@ 10 am

Lakefront Airport

Terminal Bldg

2nd floor

Conference rm.



From the Left Seat

David Capo, Unit Leader

SWARMED!!!

I hope you had a wonderful July 4th holiday. At Lakefront Airport (KNEW), we (especially our Mx Officer, Terry Clausing) have been fighting a massive swarm of little flies called "midges". These bugs have been a problem for several weeks and seemed to be caused by the influx of fresh, polluted water pouring into the lake since the Bonnet Carre spillway opened last February. The swarms are so thick that it is impossible to work in or around the hangar when the bugs are present. The mess they leave behind is awful. The dead bugs, their crap and the filth left by their massive numbers presents a smelly and dirty clean up. I was with Terry today and he had done a yeoman's job of clean up only to have to turn around and do it again. The stinky little pests never seem to go away. Due to this infestation, the hangar is not safe for public use. Therefore, our next meeting will be held in the beautiful KNEW terminal building in the second-floor conference room. We will have a discussion concerning a new aircraft that a group of your fellow members want to procure. There will be a presentation concerning flight operations and pilot qualifications in advance of our annual safety meeting in September. I am also expecting a guest speaker from the airport. The planned tower visit is postponed.



At our last meeting which was held in Hammond (KHDC), our beloved member, Paul Cutrer received the most prestigious award granted by the FAA, the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award recognizing 50+ years of safe flying. Administrator Larry Wells, the regional FAAST director flew into KHDC in his beautiful Cessna tail dragger to present the award along with an amazing audio/video presentation about the award and Paul's career. Pictured with Paul is Larry Wells.

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Unit Leaders' Article continued

Here are a few tidbits about Paul: Did you know he is not only a US Navy TopGun School grad but was an instructor?! Wow move over Tom Cruise!

Paul had a distinguished career flying with Eastern Airlines and later, Southwest Airlines. Upon retiring (yeah right) he became director of operations for Gray Aviation, a position he holds today. We are all very proud of Paul. When you see him, please share your congratulations to this amazing aviator. Way to go Paul!



The room build out has been put on hold until the bug situation abates. Let's hope with the spillway closing soon, the bugs will soon be gone. See you at the terminal on Saturday, July 13 at 10am.

Operation Officer's Report - JD Olson

With the recent reconditioning of the Wing's PT-17 Stearman, we're just a step away from flying it on a regular basis. That brings a few things to mind as we prepare to do so. First, we face the challenge of Lakefront Airport closing its main runway, 18R/36L, for an extended period starting late this month. With the "long" (6,867' x 150') runway closed, we will have to use the shorter and narrower (3,967' x 75') parallel runway, 18R/36L. A challenge, indeed. Quite obviously, we will need to do most of our training, including touch-and-go and full stop landing practice, at other airfields in the GNO area.

Second, I will be putting out a notice soon for those who have signed up for our PT-17 Aircraft Sponsorship that will spell out the requirements needed to begin training in the Stearman. In addition to prior-to-flight qualifications, it will address priority for the start of training with the biggest drivers being who can be checked out the soonest, based on prior "tailwheel" aircraft experience, as well as availability to fly, in order to get them certified for the public "Rides" program in which the PT can begin generating revenue to offset its cost of operation. More to follow on that as soon as the draft has been run past our Unit Leader and our Chief Pilot for their input and concurrence as fellow members of BEW's Flight Evaluation Board (FEB).

Last, the Aircraft Sponsors are advised to make sure all your qualifications, and past and current flight experience have been updated in Kastrack because in order to begin training in the Stearman, all elements of your cockpit experience will be reviewed by CAF HQ upon receipt of the Transition Letters we will be submitting soon on each pilot. Bottom line: It's best to get your ducks in line (as the saying goes) as soon as possible.

Fly (and Drive) Safe!



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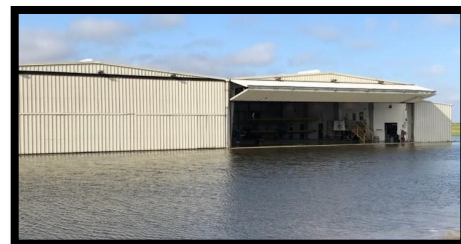
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Safety Officer's Report - Don Clausing



Hurricane season is upon us. Last year, we started on our plan for hurricane preparedness. We developed an outline of task and ask for members to join our Hurricane Hangar Group. As you can recall from last year, we had 2 threats that required action on our part. In September, due to T.S. Gordon our aircraft had to be flown to Hammond. In October, Hurricane Micheal which tracked northeast of us and slammed into Mexico Beach Florida caused water to rise all the way to our hangar door for 2 days.



Here is what was devised in 2018. We still need to further develop this Hurricane preparedness procedure:

1) Awareness (60 hours)

- To send an email to all members indicating that a potential threat is eminent. By communication officer (*please be sure to log into KAStract to ensure your email and cell phone is up to date*)
- To contact Airport Director to receive their directives (50 miles hour winds the airport stops flights). By Unit Leader
- To contact identified Pilots (approved PT 17 and Stuka) and receiving airports/hangar (Hammond Gray Aviation). By Operation Officer, Pilot Officer and Paul Cutrer of Gray Aviation

2) Standby (48-60 hours)

- To prepare BEW hangar by raising items (tools/furniture) to office area and by removing pertinent supplies and paperwork. By BEW volunteers
- To contact an identified person of the potential need of the golf cart removal. By Unit Leader
- To fly aircrafts to Hammond/Gray Aviation. By designated/available Pilot

3) Response (0-48 hours)

- To remove golf cart (by trailer or driven to a more secure hangar at KNEW), By designated person
- To do a final check and secure hangar (electrical panal/box turned off, doors secure and tied down, all signage removed) By Safety Officer/ Maintenance Officer

Items to update: List of approved pilots given to operation officer, update member phone and email list, complete an inventory of hangar items.

Please send suggestions and/ or become a *Hurricane Preparedness Volunteer* by contacting me at a meeting or by email.



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PX Officer's Report — Shirley Colomb

Please mark your calendar for the CAF Air Power History Tour scheduled for October 3-6. The PX will need some help for this Hammond event. At our August general membership meeting, I will have a signup sheet for members to help with set up, tear down and with sales shifts. Also, if anyone would like to join the PX committee, please send me an email or let me know at the upcoming meetings. The present PX committee is comprised of: Carol Olson, Mary Ann Clemons and Donald Allen. If anyone has any suggestions for PX items, please let one of the committee members know. We will be having a PX meeting after our August membership meeting to look at items to purchase for the Hammond Air Power History Tour show.

Membership Report-- Shirley Colomb

Sorry to say, I know of no new members joining in June. There are several members still on our roles who have not rejoined. Members are our greatest assets; please consider rejoining. Or, if you know of someone who has not rejoined please give them a call. It is very easy to rejoin. Just visit our [website](http://bigeasywing.org) and click on the word *Membership* itself on the menu bar (not the categories below it). Then click on [Join Us](#) (*this will send you to our Square Store*). Scroll down until you come to the membership category and select Big Easy Wing Renewal. That's all there is to it. Remember the mission of CAF is to *protect these rare flying monuments to freedom for future generations through preservation, education and exhibition*. We cannot do it without you!

BEW Meeting Dates:

July 13 -Saturday- @ 10 am 2nd floor Conference Room Lakefront Terminal Bldg

August 10 -Saturday- @ 10 am hangar

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

October 12 -Saturday @ 10 am hangar

November 9 -Saturday @ 10 am hangar—election of officers

December 7 -Saturday @ 6 pm—Christmas Party

Upcoming Events

- 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 AirPower 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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Executive Officer's Report - Robert Claypool

Korrecting the Konfusion!

There has been a lot of confusion on how to find and login to KAStrack. My article this month will focus on clearing up some of this confusion.

It's all in the Definition...

REGISTERING YOUR ACCOUNT

Typically, before you can use a member website, you have to register for it first, inputting your email, username, phone, etc. This is similar to registering for an account at your bank, Amazon, or eBay to buy all those WWII artifacts. Upon successful registration, you will have created a **User Profile** which typically includes your username, personal details, and password.

1st layer of confusion... when we first setup KAStrack, we took the existing CAF member list and directly inputted it. This registered and created user profiles for existing members. This means members that joined the Big Easy Wing after March 2019 will need to REGISTER for an account with KAStrack.

For those VERY FEW that need to register, the easiest way is to go to our public page <https://bigeasywing.org/about/application/>, scroll down to the end, and click on the "New Member" link.

LOGGING IN TO YOUR ACCOUNT

For 99% of us, this is where we start. First, choose your weapon! I suggest using the Edge, Chrome, or Firefox Browser. Internet Explorer users will find many websites do not render correctly, KAStrack included. Our KAStrack website is located at <http://cafbew.kastrack.com>.

2nd layer of confusion... if you have applied for a lakefront access card, they also use KAStrack. Their login information is separate from ours and it is like going to Galveston for Mardi Gras... Do not be confused: it's not the same! Just use the url listed above, and everything will be okay.

Your Username.

Remember how we mentioned that we created user profiles for many of our members? Unless you created it, your username is your first name followed by a period and your last name. So Buck Rogers becomes "buck.rogers" and that is what is entered in the user name field.

Your Password.

If you never knew your password, or you forgot it, just click the "Forgot Password" link underneath the password field. This will prompt you to enter your username or email, and it will email you a link to change your password. If you don't receive an email, your email address was either not entered into the system correctly, possibly due to your hieroglyphics (See 3rd layer of confusion) being misinterpreted. If you do not received a password reset email, please ask Shirley or me to check on that for you. Please do not 'REGISTER' again, as you will then be prompted twice for dues from the system!

3rd layer of confusion... Remember how we mentioned that we created user profiles for many of our members? We did so by using the Big Easy Wing registration forms you filled out by hand. And let me be the first to tell ya... ain't nobody in our group winning any awards for penmanship!

I hope this article clears up some of the confusion. We have a wealth of information on this site for our members, so please log in and get familiar!

Blue Skies and Tailwinds,