



Big Easy Wing

Volume 3, Issue 9

September 7, 2019

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Don Clausing

Meeting

September 18 @ 6 pm

Lakefront Airport Hangar



From the Left Seat

David Capo,

The Bombers Are Coming!

The Bombers Are Coming!

Greetings,

This time next month, the CAF Air Power History Tour will be set up in Hammond (KHDC) for the first week in October. The B29/B24 Squadron which owns the Air Power History Tour will be bringing some of the most impressive aircraft in the Com-

memorative Air Force fleet. Starting on Monday, Oct. 1st, *FIFI*, one of only two still actively flying B-29s in the world and *Diamond Lil*, one of two remaining B-24 bombers left flying will arrive around noon at KHDC. It has been five years since *Lil* has been in Louisiana. We are planning a press event and all BEW members are welcome. The event will open to the public Wednesday through Sunday with rides on the T-6 Texan, P-51 Mustang, and PT-13 Stearman all days. The big bombers will fly only Saturday and Sunday. I strongly recommend booking your ride online as these flights will sell out. Simply visit the CAF [web-site](#) and click on aircraft rides, choose Hammond and the available time for your ride. If you wait until the event, you may be sorry.



The BEW will have a presence at this event as we are the local sponsor group. Our PX, under the cheerful guidance of our Development Officer, Shirley Colomb, will be set up Wednesday until close of business Sunday. Currently, we are planning a social for Friday evening at our hangar in Hammond. As is our tradition, we host the visiting crews and any new folks that join us during the event. Sign-up sheets for the week will be available at our Sept 18th general membership meeting.

Up Coming Elections

Wing Officer Elections are upon us. The following positions are available for anyone interested in serving: Wing Leader, Operations Officer, Finance Officer, Operation Officer, Safety Officer and Development Officer. More information about each of these positions will be discussed at the upcoming September meeting.

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COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE

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New Orleans, LA 70126
Next to FAA tower

Contact us:
info@bigeasywing.org

On the web:
bigeasywing.org



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Unit Leaders' Article continued

Nominating committee members needed. We are looking for 3 members to serve on this committee. Seek out David if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee.

Please come to this important meeting scheduled for the 18th of September at the hangar. Remember, this is an evening meeting. Nomination of Officers will take place at our Saturday, October 12 meeting and the Election of Officers will occur at our Wednesday evening meeting, November 13.

Gone West

As most of you know, the Lakefront Airport Community lost one of our own in a sudden and tragic accident last month. Franklin J.P. Augustus was killed along with WVUE Fox 8 anchor, Nancy Parker when Franklin's bright red Pitts Special crashed short of the north-south runway at KNEW. A memorial service was held in the terminal building hosted by the Lakefront Area Management chair and our good friend, Wilma Heaton. The terminal was packed, and your unit was well represented by Glenn Metzler and me.



Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of both well respected and loved individuals. They will surely be missed.

Safety Officer's Report - Don Clausing



The CAF Air Power History Tour lands in Hammond in less than a month. Most of us will be driving to Hammond on several days to volunteer and to enjoy the show. In last month's article I addressed airshow safety tips. This month, I would like to present some AAA Safety Rules of the Road.

- 1) Every driver should carry important items like a mobile phone charger, a flashlight with extra batteries, a first aid kit, drinking water, extra snacks and food, booster cables, emergency flares or reflectors, windshield wiper fluid and a basic toolkit with a tire pressure gauge, and an adjustable wrench.
- 2) Always check your car out before heading on a trip-tires, batteries etc.
- 3) Don't tailgate. Don't text and Drive. Always give yourself enough time to get there.
- 4) Signal early and often when maneuvering through and around intersections and leave distance between you and other vehicles-no tailgating.
- 5) Turn on your headlights during twilight hours. That'll make it easier for other drivers to see you.
- 6) Don't leave food or drinks inside your car on a hot day, especially canned beverages, which can explode under high temperatures.
- 7) Sun glare can be a serious hazard. A sweet pair of sunglasses will help you look wicked cool, and it'll help you deal with bright summer sun. Polarized lenses reduce glare. These are essential for the airshow as well.

Operation Officer's Report - JD Olson

Greetings to all as we celebrate the end of the beastly hot Summer and the promise of much cooler Fall weather. As I'm sure our Unit Leader has said in his opening remarks, our PT-17 (actually a Navy N2S rather than an Army Air Corps PT-17...but that's another matter) is nearing the completion of its annual inspection and we're awaiting word on the refurbishment...and hopefully not replacement because of the mega bucks involved...of the propeller.

With the expected "up and up" of the Stearman, those who signed up as Aircraft Sponsors may expect to see an email from yours truly very soon lining out what it takes to get your ducks in line to begin transition training. It involves getting your paperwork up to date and that starts with your CAF Form 601 Flight Experience Resume that needs to be updated annually. Check into your account on KAStack to see when that form is due in your case.

That upcoming email will address not only the paperwork involved but also the fairly extensive tailwheel aircraft experience required of all pilots - acknowledging that some of you already have that background - before the start of transition training in the Stearman. Look for that email within the coming week.

Last, as David announced at the August monthly meeting, we are now looking for a tricycle wheel aircraft to add to our growing air force. Specifically, we've been in communication with CAF HQ to acquire a T-34 Mentor which would allow more pilots to check out in an aircraft better suited to their background and experience. At the same time, it would allow more of our pilots to eventually qualify to fly paying passengers in the CAF Rides program. More to follow on that as things develop.

Fly and drive safe,
JD/Outlaw

Ready Room Expansion Update

The ceiling and AC duct work is the next upcoming projects. As soon as that is completed then the room will be ready for painting and carpeting. Work has been generally taking place on Saturdays. If you are interested in coming out please text or email Wayne Breaux (504-957-9051 wtbreaux@cox.net) or Terry Clausing (281-638-3032 or clautsj@cox.net). We are all looking forward to using this room soon.

As you can see the door to the main office has been cut.



Contact us:
info@bigeasywing.org



PX Officer's Report — Shirley Colomb

The CAF Air Power History Tour scheduled for October 3-6. We had a few people sign up for work time, at last month's meeting. However, still need a few more people especially on Saturday and Sunday morning. On Wednesday the show opens to the public, but I would think the weekend would be our busiest time. So, if you know you are going to the show please see me and sign up to help at the PX table. Do not forget that we need your emergency contact person name and their phone number on the sign up sheet. Looking forward to speaking with you at this up coming meeting.

Upcoming Meetings—Shirley Colomb

September 18 –Wednesday @ 6:00 pm @ hangar

October 12 –Saturday @ 10 am @ hangar

November 13–Wednesday @ 6 pm @ hangar—Election of Officers

December 7 –Saturday @ 5:30 pm @ hangar—Christmas Party

With the end of the year coming, it is time to start planning our Christmas social. Presently, it is set for Saturday, December 7th at 5:30 at the hangar. So, mark your calendar. We had a great time last year. To this year's event, I would like to have a door prize table. With that in mind, I need a few members to join the raffle committee. See me at this coming meeting or email me. Next month, we will address volunteers for set-up and start a food list. But for now, I need help on ideas and items for the raffle.

Upcoming Events

- [Planes over Pines](#) in Pineville, LA - October 4-5
- [CAF AirPower History Tour](#) October 2-6 in Hammond
- [Cajun Fly-in Festival & Car Show](#) -Nov. 2-[Houma–Terrebonne Airport](#)
- Wings Over Houston Oct. 19-20 Ellington Airport

KAStrack

REGISTERING YOUR ACCOUNT

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>.



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In the News —Facebook News

Donald Allen, a member and officer of the BEW fulfilled a life long dream. Donald took his first solo flight on August 15th. Joining the BEW, inspired him to accomplish his dream. Congratulations! Pictured with Donald is Steve Rastanis



Sonny Schilleci, member of BEW and a past officer, participated in a fly-over of the Statue of Liberty in his L-39, Labor Day weekend. On that weekend the Classic Jet Aircraft Association, CJAA, became a part of history.



What an amazing experience!



Please visit [CJAA website](#) and [FB page](#) for more information about Statue of Liberty Freedom Flight 2019.

Members, if you have any exciting flight news about yourself that you wish to share please send an email to: info@bigeasywing.org. It will be posted on our FB page and in our newsletter.