



# Big Easy Wing

Volume 4, Issue 1

January 7, 2020

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## Meeting

January 11@ 10 AM

Lakefront Airport Hangar



## From the Left Seat

David Capo,

Happy New Year and Yet Another Decade!

As the Big Easy Wing transitions to flight, (the exciting process has already begun), our hangar will be a very busy place. Starting with our first meeting in 2020, on January 11, we will be visited by Col. Bob Heath, Chief Operations and Maintenance Officer for the CAF HQ. He is in town to perform inspections on both of our aircraft as they transition to

flight. However, he has graciously accepted my offer to make a presentation to our unit about the HQ Ops and Mx. This should be an enlightening talk, one not to be missed.

The meeting will be the first to be held in our brand-new offices. Come out enjoy the comfort of your new facility.

As you will read in this issue, a group of your fellow BEW members will travel to Conroe, TX to attend the Gulf Coast Wing's annual banquet and ground school. This will be the first time any of us have had the chance to participate in such an event. In the late Spring, as our aircraft get ready to fly, we will host our own ground school. Stay tuned for details to come.



In March, our agreement with the Lakefront Management Authority for the hangar use will come up for renewal. Please be advised that your officers have already sent a certified letter advising the board of our intention to renew. This year we will again visit their meeting, in purple of course, to show our appreciation. I'll let you know the date when available. Also, this year we will host a meet and greet for the LMA commissioners at the hangar for them to see the improvements we made. It will be brief, less than an hour, but should be really nice, especially in the spring.

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COMMEMORATIVE  
AIR FORCE

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Next to FAA tower

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## Operation Officer's Report - JD Olson

Well, we're off to what we hope will be a flying start to 2020. With the Stearman having completed its annual inspection and flown a few hops in the month of December, including having it ferried by Jim Shaw from Hammond via a circuitous route around Lake Pontchartrain (CAF requires all units to not fly over large bodies of water and Lake P certainly qualifies) down to its home base at Lakefront Airport where "New Orleans Lady" now sits pretty as a picture in the BEW hangar. A work party this past weekend gave both it and the Stuka a thorough wash-down in anticipation of an upcoming visit by someone out of CAF headquarters during our January monthly meeting.

Thanks to our new Safety Officer, Dave 'Cando' Cantin, who is also a member of the Gulf Coast Wing in Spring, Texas, we have a group of BEW members - Donald Allen, Wayne Breaux and Rich and Austin Wood - lined up to attend their annual ground training class on 1 February over in the Houston area. They have been asked to split up into the various classes being offered and to take good notes so they can pass that information along to us as we begin preparations for flight activities in the spring time frame when flying an open cockpit aircraft such as our PT-17 is a bit more comfortable, as our Chief Pilot, Jim 'Batman' Helms, can readily attest.

Speaking of which, we will soon be installing the ADS-B unit required by the FAA in both planes. What is it? It's best to look it up rather than try to spell it out here. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automatic\\_dependent\\_surveillance\\_%E2%80%93\\_broadcast](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automatic_dependent_surveillance_%E2%80%93_broadcast) We're also planning to install a new radio and seat harnesses in the Stearman to have it ready for the CAF Rides program in the warmer weather. Our trusty Maintenance Officer, Terry Clausing, is gathering up all the documentation on the PT-17 that the FAA requires before certifying it for such use.

Upcoming events include an invitation for at least one of our aircraft, if not both, to participate in Columbus Air Force Base's airshow on 24-26 April as part of an array of classic warbirds on static display in its "Wings Over Columbus" (Mississippi) annual event. More to follow on that when negotiations with the base are completed.

And, in a great idea that our Development Officer, Shirley Colomb, has come up with, we're about to start planning a gathering of warbirds from CAF units in the southeastern part of the U.S. here at KNEW for the early part of that same month. As with the above, more details will follow, with much of it included in reports by our Wing Leader and other officers at the 11 January monthly meeting. With that, I will sign off, as always, with...  
Fly (and drive) Safe,

## Wing Leader's Report continued

*The 12 Planes Campaign* has gone quite well. In speaking with Col. Alan Brooks, Chairman of the Flying History Museum of the CAF, he passed on to us that we have raised more money on our Stearman than they have ever seen before. Way to go guys! A special thanks to Col. Shirley Colomb, our development officer for all of her hard work in getting our two planes in the campaign as well as designing our pitch. Way to go Shirley! We will have final numbers to report at the Jan 11 meeting. Looking forward to seeing you on the 11th.

## Safety Officer's Report - Dave Cantin

Welcome to 2020! With the new year comes new resolutions as well as an opportunity to look back on how you did on last year's resolutions. I won't get into how I personally did on last year's! As your BEW Safety Officer my CAF resolutions include making sure everyone is aware of the safety program the CAF has in place. In some respects the CAF Safety Management System (SMS) is quite simple, basically saying:

1. Commit management to safety
2. Manage risks by documenting the best/safest way to do things in procedures
3. Assure safety by following the procedures
4. Provide a mechanism for revising procedures as needed and to report safety concerns anonymously

At the BEW the main areas of operation that we should currently focus on are: Flight Operations (pilots), Maintenance, and Ground Safety. The CAF has a good procedure for each of these areas so if you have not explored the CAF on-line resources I encourage you to go to <https://www.cafoperations.org/>. Start by:

- Scrolling down to the Unit Guides and look at the CAF Unit Ground Safety Guide for good ladder and electrical safety tips among others.
- Scrolling down to Unit Regulations and look at CAFR 60-1 for the aircraft crew regulations. This is the pilot's guide.
- Scrolling down a bit further to CAFR 66-1 for the maintenance regulations.

Once you're in the operations website keep poking around. There's some great info and resources in there. See you at the next meeting.

## Field Trip—Donald Allen

March Field Trip to Charlie Hammond's Air Service in Houma, LA.

The BEW has been invited to Charlie Hammond's Flying Service in Houma for a day of fun and fellowship. Tentatively on March 21st, the BEW members and families will travel (possibly charter a bus) to Houma. Once there Charley will grill some hamburgers / hot dogs while showing us around his flight school and hanger. Charley has put together quite a nice little museum full of interesting aviation artifacts that we will tour. This will be a great opportunity to get to know one another better while meeting other aviation enthusiasts. Mark your calendar and make plans to go in March. It is a family event. Please visit this link to find our more: [Hammond's Air Service](#)

As stated on his website: "When walking into the museum, there's much to see. Hundreds of photos line the walls, some signed by the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels and the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, both squadrons that perform meticulous, entertaining air shows throughout the nation.

The two teams signed photos thanking Charlie for introducing them to float plane flying.

There are tapestries on the walls that date back to the 1920s to the 1930s, depicting the accomplishments of Charles Lindbergh and other aviation greats.

The museum has countless models of all types of aircraft and a book signed by all crew members of the Doolittle raid on Tokyo at the start of World War II. It was given to Charlie by Robert Bourgeois, one of the crew members."



Contact us:  
[info@bigeasywing.org](mailto:info@bigeasywing.org)



## Historical Moments—Celebrating a local Military Achievement



On **Wednesday, January 8, 8:30 a.m.** the annual wreath-laying ceremony honors the troops of the Battle of New Orleans at Chalmette Monument in St. Bernard Parish. It is free event. The United States achieved its greatest battlefield victory in the War of 1812 on *January 8th, 1815*. This is an event that many of you might be interested in attending. In addition, their ***Living History Program will be held January 10–12, 2020***. It is a live re-enactment of the battle. Visit this [site](#) to find more information on this topic

## Development Officer-Shirley Colomb



As David mentioned in his article, we did well with the donations for our Stearman. As of January 6th, the PT 17 Stearman, New Orleans Lady, received 38 donations for a total of \$5,989. Many donations were made from people from all over the United States.

If you missed the opportunity to visit the website, it should be active for another week or so.

Our Langhurst Stuka faired okay online. As of this date, she raised \$525. I think that many people did not scroll down far enough to see her. However, she did receive a few donations off line. We will not know her total amount until the CAF gives us their final report. More info on this will be given at our next meeting.

## King Cake / Mardi Gras Season



Since it is the King Cake season, if anyone is interested in **bringing a King Cake to our January meeting**, please send an email to me, Shirley at [info@bigeasywing.org](mailto:info@bigeasywing.org). Donald Allen *will be bring sandwiches*. Glenn Metzger *is bringing drinks*. *We still need chips if anyone can bring something please let me know*. *On the table, there will be a donation box to supplement future meeting refreshments*.

A little history of the King Cake—a tradition thought to have been brought to New Orleans from France in 1870. It's decorated in royal colors of PURPLE which signifies "Justice," GREEN for "Faith," and GOLD for "Power." These colors were chosen to resemble a jeweled crown honoring the Wise Men who visited the Christ Child on Epiphany. It runs from Epiphany to Fat Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent). It ties with the New Orleans Mardi Gras or Carnival season which officially begins on January 6th or the "Twelfth Night," also known to Christians as the "Epiphany."



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## Upcoming Meetings

January 11–Saturday @ 10 pm @ Lakefront Hangar

February 12 –Wednesday @ 6 pm @ Lakefront Hangar

March 14– Saturday @ 10 am @ Hammond Hangar

## Upcoming Events

[Gulf Coast Wing](#) Ground School February 1 in Conroe, Texas

[2019 Wing Staff Conference will take place February 28 - March 3, 2020](#) -- Dallas, TX

Field Trip to [Hammond's Air Service](#) March 21 -Houma, LA

BEW Fly-in April 4, 2020 Lakefront Airport (tentative)

[Wings over Columbus Airshow](#) April 25-26 - Columbus AFB MS

[Corsicana Airshow](#)—May 16—TX

[Hammond Northshore Regional Airshow | Sep 19 - 20, 2020](#) -Hammond, LA

[New Orleans Airshow](#) November 7-8, 2020 - Belle Chase, LA

## Membership

**BEW membership renews** at the beginning of the fiscal year. So far we have had about 50% of our members renew. We have made it easy. You can go directly to our website and join there. If you are coming to our January meeting, bring your check, cash or credit card and you can pay there. YOU are our most important asset. We **thank you** for rejoining the BEW. Full membership (\$50) Active military membership (\$25) Cadet membership for students between the ages of 13-23 (\$10) Online Payment are accepted: BEW website [online store](#)

### Checks mailed to:

CAF Big Easy Wing  
c/o Colonel Harold Buchler, Adjutant  
3014 Metairie Rd Metairie, LA 70001

## 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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