



Big Easy Wing

Volume 4, Issue 6

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Meeting

June 13 @ 10 AM

Lakefront Hangar

From the Left Seat

David Capo,



A Busy Summer Ahead

As I write this, the Big Easy Wing has just come off of our first general membership meeting since the start of the Covid-19 crisis. We had a great turnout with everyone practicing good safety measures like distancing, masks, etc.

Our speaker was the Chairperson of the Lakefront Management Authority (LMA), Wilma Heaton. She gave a great history of the airport and the LMA. She also christened our new tug (more about that later) and finally extended a warm congratulations to all of you for what you have done in building out the hangar leased to us through an agreement with them. She called us the "real deal"! She was very impressed with our results. Thank you Wilma!

At this meeting, a newly refurbished, 8000 lb. tug was delivered to the BEW hangar. The tug is a donation to us from United Airlines. For years, the tug served on front lines at MSY servicing United Airlines jet aircraft. When the tug was retired, two of our super vigilant members, both United employees, asked to have the vehicle donated to us. Those super great guys, Kevin Duxworth and Frank Christopher, not only secured the donation, but had the tug repainted and branded with our name and a special serial number. When you see the tug, see if you can figure out the meaning of that special number. Thank you so much Frank and Kevin.



When Wilma Heaton christened the tug, it had no name. So therefore, I humbly suggest that we call the tug, "Wilma" in honor of the special lady who enabled us to have a home at KNEW, Lakefront Airport. I will make a formal motion at the next meeting.

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Operation Officer's Report - JD Olson

Well, here we are dealing with the rather ominous trifecta of Covid-19, civil disobedience in major cities, and the start of hurricane season. That could challenge the psyche and morale of people of lesser resolve, strength of character and patriotism than the audience I'm addressing in this article. Please take that as the compliment it's intended to be, fellow members of the Big Easy Wing.

Now, on to business. The good news is that things are finally coming together as far as flight operations are concerned. Our Stearman is 'up' with all the necessary maintenance, replacement or addition of components (new radio, ADS-B and seat harnesses) and the training of our newest biplane pilot, Ben (callsign 'Evil') Cook.

Speaking of which, now that he's passed his check ride with our Chief Pilot Jim Helms, Evil is now in the process of building up his flight time to meet the requirements (15 hours in type) of becoming a certified CAF Rides pilot and he's willing to take up some of our Stearman Aircraft Sponsors (i.e., those who've paid their \$1,500) on those flights. To that end, please contact me at jdolson5@gmail.com if you would like to ride with Ben and I will work out a day and time to do that, keeping in mind that the weather and Ben's busy schedule as Deputy Commander of the 159th Tactical Fighter Wing of the Louisiana Air National Guard are major factors in matching things up.



That said, 'Evil' suggested that there be one exception to the above and that is to allow our trusty Maintenance Officer Terry Clausing the first ride in the aircraft as a way of thanking him for the endless hours of blood, sweat and tears he's put into making the plane airworthy. Our Wing Leader supports this plan so it's now just a matter of making it happen.

The next subject is the scheduled events on the calendar. As I'm sure you'll read in our Safety Officer's article, we're still planning to join the Gulf Coast Wing ("Texas Raiders") in Opelousas the last weekend of June to show off our "like new" Stearman and sell rides to those who come out to the local airport. I know the BEW event coordinator Dave Cantin is still looking for volunteers to help with the proper assistance of getting passengers safely into and out of the cockpit and the sanitation of the cockpit between rides. To that end, I will be giving a briefing and a walk-through immediately following the monthly meeting to demonstrate exactly how it's to be done, especially in the current environment of doing so with Covid-19 safety precautions in place. So, for those interested in learning the how-to of doing this and becoming certified as a fully trained Rides Escort, please bring your face mask and a pair of discardable (neoprene, etc.) gloves to the meeting. Speaking of which, I look forward to seeing you there! And as always... Fly (and drive) safe!

Mindfulness Challenge—Shirley Colomb

As stated in last month's newsletter, the solution to the WWII Crossword Puzzle is on page 9. We have added a new crossword puzzle for this month which is located on page 8. It is about our Wing. Enjoy the Challenge and have Fun!



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Wing Leader's Report continued from page 1

Cadet Takes First Driving Lesson—Under the watchful eye of your Wing Leader, Cadet Kyle Duxworth, took his first driving lesson in the Big Easy Wing golf cart. Kyle was amazing. He quickly learned how to use the foot pedals, manage speed and direction, and impressed everyone who saw him.



Now understand that Kyle is a little shy of driving age, so this was a real experience for him, not mention his dad, Kevin and older brother, Drew. As Kevin and Drew watched in amazement, Kyle negotiated the golf cart up and down the taxi lane in front of the hangar as well as some tricky yet very safe moves inside of the building. He was nowhere near any aircraft so as to not give our safety officer a stroke!

As your Wing Leader, I think it is vitally important that our meetings and events include activities for our youth. At the last general membership meeting, I saw Kyle looking very bored, so I took action to relieve his unhappiness. My idea of driving lessons may seem a bit unorthodox, but it worked. He got a real kick out driving the cart and will no doubt not forget that experience for years!

I, along with a dedicated group of volunteers, are working to get more youth involvement. If interested, contact our education officer, Jim Buchler for more info. I also must remind all of you to get certified by the CAF Education department to work with youth. The youth protection program takes only a few minutes and, in the end, keeps us all safe.

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday June 13** at the hangar. We will have our regularly meeting and after, we will be holding our first ground personnel classes. These classes are open to any and all who want to learn about flight operations, PX and Marshalling. I encourage any and all members to come out and see what the BEW can do as we prepare for our first air show events.

Safety Officer's Report-Dave Cantin

THINK SAFETY FIRST

The key word for this month's safety article is "Transition". Since the wing's inception three years ago we have not been a flying wing. While we flew the Stearman from Dallas to New Orleans and have flown it out of harm's way during hurricane season we've not had a steady flow of flights. That changed in April when our N2S became fully FAA legal both mechanically and for the rides program, and further when our maintenance specialist and pilots became enrolled in the CAF drug program. So, we're in a state of transition to being a flying wing with routine flying events. The pilots ground school was conducted in May and we're going to do the same for members who want to participate as ground personnel. This is a great opportunity and time to get involved. The safety training topics will include:

1. Marshalling for engine start, aircraft departure and return – basically making sure both the aircraft and anyone on the ground is safe
2. Fireguard duties and the proper use of fire extinguishers – this seems intuitive but it's actually not.

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St. Landry/Opelousas Warbird Fly-in — Dave Cantin

After much drama, wringing of hands, cajoling, compromising and scheming we have a final decision (as final as anything is these days). The Warbird Weekend is ON. The event is three days Friday – Sunday June 26-28 with exact times to be announced. It is a fly-in event so in addition to the two Gulf Coast Wing aircraft and our Stearman, any other aircraft from around the area can fly in and the B-17 should attract a lot of them. There will also be classic cars, RC planes, live music great food and all the engaging friendship of that area.

For the BEW specifically, we will have our PX tent and will be selling rides on the Stearman. There are three specific roles our members will be performing: PX Sales, Rides Sales and Rides Coordinator which is escorting passengers from the spectator area to the aircraft, telling them about the aircraft and what to expect, loading and unloading them from the Stearman and escorting them back to the spectator area. All three roles require training which we will do after the wing meeting on June 13. While we have several volunteers, who have committed to the weekend I will try to accommodate anyone wanting to participate, preferably for all three days. If you're interested contact me at caf@cantin.org by June 10th. This will be upon us very quickly. Join us, it should be fun.

These are a few links for the event. <https://www.b17texasraiders.org/index.php/45-la-gulf-coast/249-opelousas-fly-in-warbird-expo>
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2544427112468917>



Youth Protection Article

The good news...getting your program certification to me got a lot easier recently such that all you need to do is tell me you finished the training, test, and background check. I can then check your status online and set you up in KASTrack as being a certified "BEW Event Participant". There are only 14 of us certified so please take a minute to do this. Anyone planning to participate in either the Opelousas/St Landry Warbird Weekend or the activities on July 4th weekend are required to have this certification. It is not only a requirement, it is the right thing to do. The website to get started is below.

<https://www.cafeducation.org/youth-interaction-and-protection>

Safety Officer's Report-Dave Cantin continued from page 3

3. Personnel/crowd control for all but essential ground personnel
4. Manual aircraft movement, both by hand and with a tug

The training is scheduled for June 13th and will be repeated a few times throughout the year. In the meantime, if you're not sure how to perform any of these tasks please don't attempt them. The consequences are serious and there are subtle things that can bite you.

On a separate note, while Louisiana is moving into reopening phase 2 please keep in mind the CAF and BEW have a number of members in the higher risk categories. Also, some of our visitors and guests will be in that same category. While sheltering fatigue has definitely settled in with everyone, we still have the potential to either contract Covid or, if we have it without symptoms, to pass it to someone. Please respect safe distancing and wear a mask if you are within six feet of someone.



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Development—Shirley Colomb



Give NOLA Day has ended for this year. We raised 50% of our goal. Thanks to everyone who donated. In conjunction with Give NOLA Day, the Big Easy Wing was supposed to put on an “Honor Flight” for front line workers. The call to our membership for front line responders resulted in 3 nominations. Our nominees are: 1) Emily Purser, an LSU pre-med student and an ER technician at Baton Rouge General Hospital. She was nominated by Doug Webb for continuing to work in the ER treating patients, including COVID patients although the LSU campus was closed, 2) Staff Sergeant Schentrel Dillon, a Flight Medic in the Louisiana Air National Guard 159th Medical Group. She was nominated by Ben Cook for administering COVID-19 testing throughout New Orleans and other surrounding parishes, and 3) Timothy Power, a ten-year veteran with the New Orleans Fire Department. He was nominated by Wayne Breaux for rescuing sick and injured people during the pandemic. Timothy was one of many firefighters who themselves came down with Covid-19. After his recovery, like many of his fellow fireman, Timothy returned to work.

Unfortunately, a mechanical issue with the plane prevented that event from happening on June 2. Our nominees who were thrilled to be honored with a flight was pleased when notified that the “Honor” flight was postponed and not canceled. Now, we are looking at incorporating their “Honor” flight with the CAF special national event “**United We Fly-Fourth of July**” flight. Big Easy Wing hopes to participate in this event on July 4th. Of course, that depends on the plane, pilots, and the weather. You will hear more about the CAF national event on June 13th.

Membership—Shirley Colomb

Welcome to our newest member,
Warren Spears, from Thibodaux, LA
Looking forward to meeting him at
our June 13 meeting

Please go to our website and rejoin if you have not. Or, if you are coming to our *June 13 meeting*, bring your check, cash or credit card and you can pay then. For those that have rejoined, 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](http://online.store)

Checks mailed to:

CAF Big Easy Wing
c/o Colonel Harold Buchler, Adjutant



PX Class

The PX will be one of the classes that will occur after the June 13 general membership meeting. I hope that there will be many of you at this meeting and that you will stay and join us as we begin to prepare as a "Flying Wing". The following are the bullet points of the PX class:

Prior to Event:

- Inventory—ordering, storage and folding, pricing signs and square updated
- Location of items within hangar
- Square—practice using and connecting to your phone's mobile hotspot
- Supply box checked and packed
- Transportation and packing assignments
- Obtain Volunteers for events

Event Day:

- Assignment of shifts
- Set up—tent and items
- Talking—Smile, talk membership, know the prices
- Charging on the Square/bagging the items/restocking
- Drinking plenty of water

Upcoming Meetings and Events for BEW

General Membership	June 13	10 am	hangar
Opelousas Fly-in	June 26-27		Opelousas
Honor Flight	July 4	10 am	Lakefront
United We Fly-Fourth of July	July 4	Noon	Lakefront
Lake Charles Flyover	July 5		Lake Charles
General Membership	July 11	6 pm	hangar
General Membership	August 8	10 am	hangar
General Membership	September 12	10 am	hangar
Hammond Air Show	September 19-20		Hammond



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Upcoming Events

[Opelousas Fly-in](#)—June 26-27—Opelousas

[Thunder Over Ceder Creek](#)—July 2—Tyler Texas

[Blue Angels Pensacola Airshow](#)—July 11— Pensacola, FLA

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

[Arsenal of Democracy](#) —September 24-25—Washington DC

[Stearman Flyin](#)– October 1-4– Jennings, LA

[Wings over Houston](#)—October 9-11-Houston, TX

[Southren Heritage Air Foundation Airshow](#)—Oct. 16-17— Vicksburg/Tallulah Regional Airport

[Blue Angels Homecoming Show](#)—Oct. 16-17– Pensacola, FLA

[Wings over Dallas](#)—Oct. 23-25—Dallas TX

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

<https://commemorativeairforce.org/events/206> Corsicana Airshow – Nov 7, 2020



KAStrack

REGISTERING YOUR ACCOUNT

For those 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

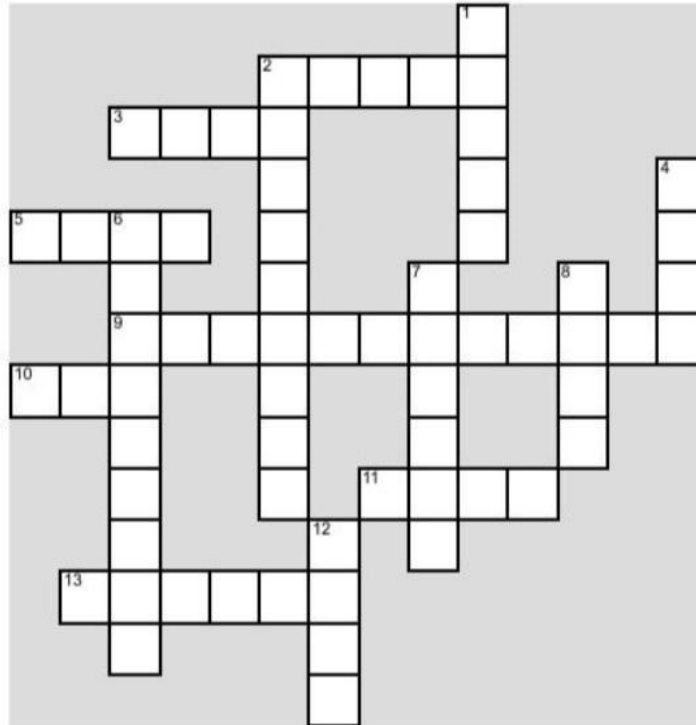
First, choose your weapon! I suggest using the Edge, Chrome, or Firefox Browser. Internet Explorer users will find many websites do not render correctly, KAStrack included. Our KAStrack website is located at <http://cafbew.kastrack.com>.



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CAF Big Easy Wing Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2 One of the CAF's missions is to do this.
- 3 While marshalling making a sideways "8" with your right arm indicates what?
- 5 Marshalling an aircraft with your arms crossed in an X indicates what?
- 9 While starting a radial engine a Marshaller should always have this nearby.
- 10 What used to live in the hanger viewing area?
- 11 The BEW Stearman is from what service branch?
- 13 Jim Helms, the BEW Chief Pilot's call sign is?

Down

- 1 When marshalling an aircraft to start their engine the left hand points toward the engine with the thumb indicating what?
- 2 The Navy SB2C is also called this.
- 4 The Stearman pilot sits in which seat?
- 6 The BEW will participate in their first out of town airshow event where?
- 7 JD Olson, the BEW Operations Officer's call sign is what?
- 8 The ICAO code for Hammond Regional Airport is?
- 12 The ICAO code for Lakefront Airport is?

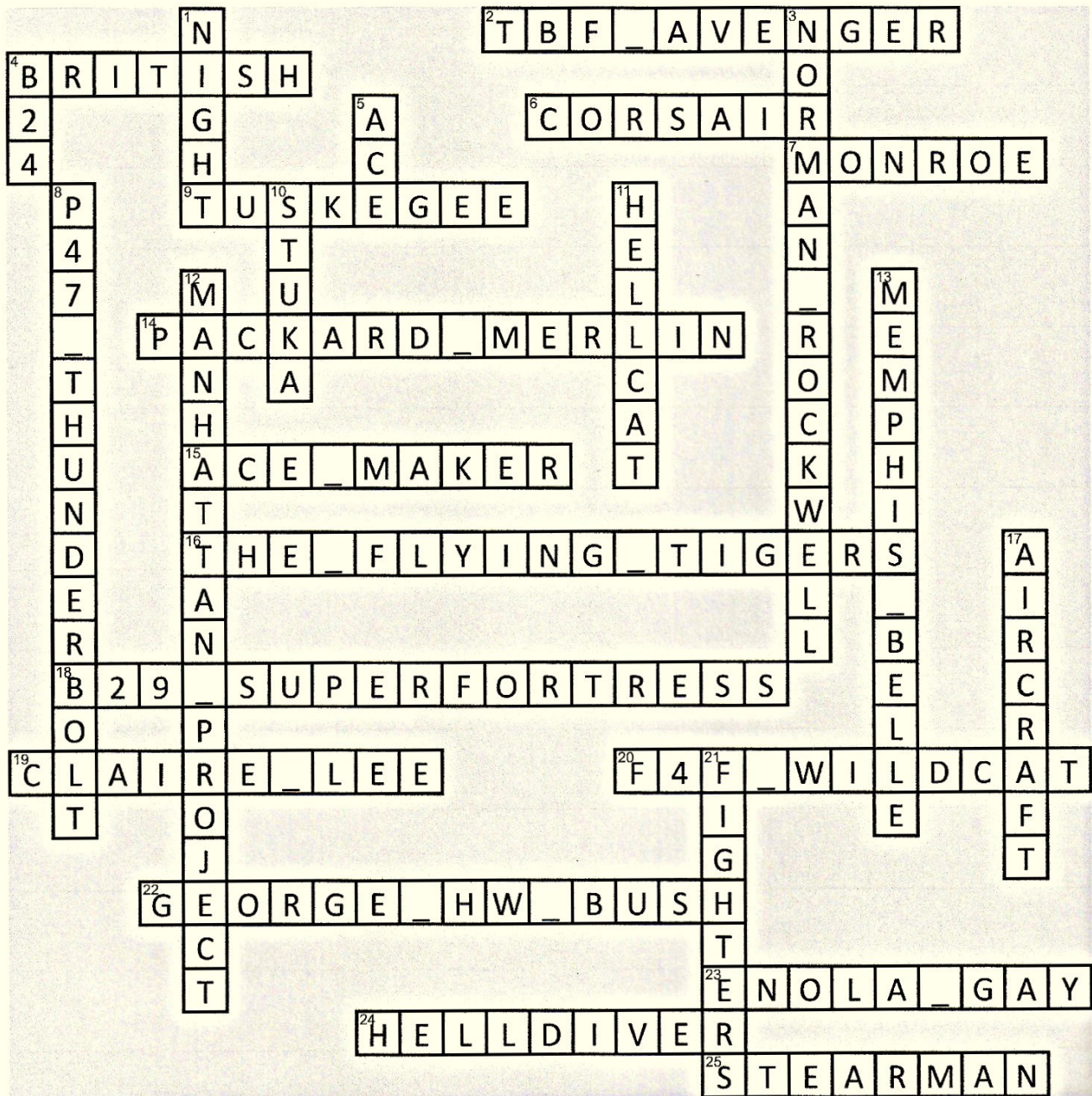
© CAF-BEW Crossword Puzzle II—



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WWII Aircraft history



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