



Big Easy Wing

Volume 4, Issue 10

October 7, 2020

Officers:

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Executive Officer

Robert Claypool

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Adjutant

Harold Buchler

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Development

Shirley Colomb

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Education

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Finance

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Operations Assistant

Donald Allen

donalda28@hotmail.com

Safety

Dave Cantin

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Facility

Wayne Breaux

wtbreaux@cox.net

Meeting

October 14@ 6 PM

Lakefront Hangar



From the Left Seat

David Capo,

Happy Fall!...

The first time in the history of the Big Easy Wing, we are participating in the New Orleans Lakefront Warbird Fly-in for the weekend that was originally set to be the Belle Chasse NAS Air-

show. We have encouraged the Gulf Coast Wing to participate in the Warbird Fly-in with their B-17, C-45 and T-6. We will join them with our Stearman. This will be another great opportunity working again with the "TR's" selling rides, PX and gate.



Lakefront Airport is collaborating with us to pull this off. We are going to need everyone to sign up to be a part of this first ever event. Along with our Px and rides tent, Harold and I are working to finish our aircraft carrier flight game for kids. It will be set next to the tent and manned by individuals trained in youth protection. This will be a blast kids young and old alike!

There will be sign-up sheets available at our next meeting as you are encouraged to join us for a fun weekend. One can also expect that we will have some sort of hangar event to celebrate the visiting crews.

CAF National Elections

Dallas, TX: On Friday, October 23, 2020, the CAF will hold its annual elections for two open seats on General Staff. All CAF colonels are encouraged to vote, either in person at the Dallas CAF headquarters at 4:00 pm that day or by requesting an absentee ballot. If you cannot attend in person at the Dallas Executive Airport, you should request your ballot by emailing Donna Blalack at dblalack@cafhq.org. Please include your address, email and colonel (member #) in your request email.



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Election Committee Chair—Donald Allen



VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!



As we approach the end of 2020, it is time for us to address election of officers. At the October meeting, we will review the nominees for the open board positions given to the Election Committee by the Nomination Committee. Nominations will still be accepted from the floor at the October meeting but will close after the October General Membership meeting.

The positions and incumbent officers are:

Adjutant -Harold Buchler
XO -Robert Claypool
Maintenance -Terry Clausing
Education -Jim Buchler

All of the incumbents have agreed to run for another term.

NOTE: These officers are elected to serve a 2 year term starting in January 2020 and expiring in December 2022.

Operations Officer is also open to fill a one year unexpired term. We currently have one nominee, Mike Scott, for this position.

Please visit this website <https://commemorativeairforce.org/caf/documents/10> ((in **unit manual section2**) for each officer's responsibility). Job descriptions for each position are on pages 2-8 to 2-14.

ELIGIBILITY TO BE ELECTED AS AN OFFICER OR TO VOTE IN AN ELECTION REQUIRES THAT YOU ARE A CURRENT MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE CAF AND THE BEW.

BEW members will be E-mailed the final ballot with board positions / nominees after Oct meeting for members that can't attend the Nov. 14th meeting to vote in person. The completed ballot cannot be E-mailed but must be printed, filled out, and mailed via the US postal service. The ballot must be received on or before Nov.12th. Mail in ballots will be opened and counted at the Nov.14th meeting.

Mail ballots to:
Donald Allen
40041B Emerald Dr.
Ponchatoula, LA 70454

Election Committee Members:

Chairman: Donald Allen (985 974-7241)
Jeff Shaw and Mary Ann Clemons



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Representing the Big Easy Wing -- Dave Cantin

Arsenal of Democracy -- To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII 59 aircraft were assembled in the Washington DC area to conduct a flyover of the capital. I was fortunate to be selected to work the event as a Marshall at Culpepper Regional Airport where 54 of the 59 aircraft were stationed. The other five aircraft, two B-29s, a B-17, a PB4Y and a C-47 were stationed at Manassas Regional Airport. While the official flyover was scheduled for Friday the activities actually started the Monday before when most aircraft arrived. Many of these pilots had not flown together and had not rehearsed the formations to be flown so Monday afternoon through Wednesday was consumed with practice flights of each of the various groups that flew in formation. One of the perks of working this show was that during practice the pilots took the opportunity on every flight to bring a sponsor or



Pictured L to R: Tim Reynolds, Dave Cantin and Vernon Rooze



volunteer along for the ride, so I let them force me into the back of a T-6 in the #6 slot of a formation of 6. I also had the pleasure of marshalling in the aircraft that 101 year old Lt Col Robert Vaucher flew in on. Col Vaucher was the lead pilot of the 525 B-29s that flew over the USS Missouri as a show of force during the signing of the Japanese surrender and for the AOD event was the honorary AirBoss.

Thursday was rehearsal day where the cameras were rolling and we had to look sharp. The start-up, warm up and launch of each group of aircraft was carefully choreographed to account for the sequence they flew over the Potomac River, the different aircraft airspeeds and staging areas. The rehearsal was actually done over Culpepper Airport and went smoothly. It was well photographed from both a helicopter in the air and on the ground which turned out to be fortuitous as that was the last time they would fly. On Friday Marshallers arrived at 6:30am to help clear the entire airport ramp of all vehicles and people while TSA, the Secret Service and a very efficient C4 sniffing German Sheppard inspected every aircraft. After that it was show time. We all took our positions while watching the weather as the remnants of Hurricane Sally was approaching and we had a narrow window



to pull this off. The Tiger Moth and Stearman fleet were first to take off and were to be followed by the L birds but shortly after the last Stearman was in the air the plug was pulled. Weather in the staging areas was quickly deteriorating and we had run out of time.

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Representing the Big Easy Wing --Continued-Dave Cantin

The Friday night survivor party seemed a bit strange since we hadn't survived yet, but it was a great time to socialize with everyone while "off duty" and also to see those assigned to Manassas. I had the pleasure of meeting veteran and former WWII Museum board chairman Paul Hilliard, and 95 year old Connie Palacios, a riveter who helped build the B-29 "Doc".



Saturday was the backup flyover day and was another 6:30am start so the Survivor's party evening didn't last very late. We arrived with optimism as the rain seemed to have passed but the ceiling was very low and wasn't predicted to improve so our efficient German Sheppard never got started. The show was called off and there were no other available windows to do it. Saturday ended up being a pack up to go home day for most of the aircraft. We were asked to not say anything about the cancellation until after 11am as the broadcast was still going to occur but with footage of the rehearsal and of the last AOD in 2015. Those at Culpepper on Thursday ended up being the only ones who would see the show. While it was a huge disappointment for everyone for the event to be cancelled, from a Marshalling perspective we had a great week with a ton of action. These are a couple links for videos of AOD.

<https://ww2flyover.org/>

<https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2020/september/30/101-year-old-wwii-b29-pilot-honored-with-superfortress-flight>

Unit Leader's Report continued

And who do you vote for? This is the first time since I have been a CAF member that we have a choice. You should have received an email from the CAF which included the candidates. There are five nominees and two will be elected by simple majority. I am familiar with all but one of the candidates. Jordan Brown piloted *That's All Brother* when the C-47 came to New Orleans a year ago. He is a great guy and professionally qualified. Taylor Stevenson has been in touch with me several times this past year. He is a legacy in that his father saw service as General Staff (GS) member, so Taylor knows what's involved and is committed to bringing an outsider's view to the board. Too often, the GS has been made up of the same insiders. Taylor would be a breath of fresh air. Any of the other three candidates would make excellent additions to the GS. Happy voting!



95-Year-Old Vet to Fly in the BEW Stearman

After the successful flyover for 111-year WWII vet, Lawrence Brooks, last month, I was contacted by the son of WWII vet who was hoping to catch a ride in a Stearman. He was set to fly in a Stearman that was destroyed in accident when it stuck feral hogs on the runway. I told him that we would be happy to fly him. However, with the expected storm in the gulf, those plans are on hold.

Due to Hurricane Delta, *our Saturday meeting is postponed to Wednesday, October 14*. Hopefully, we will survive this storm without much damage but we are preparing the hangar. Our Stearman will remain on the Northshore until this latest storm has passed. Stay tuned !



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Holiday Social—Shirley Colomb

Every year our Christmas Party is an outstanding event due to the number of members who attend, supply food and help with decorating the hangar. Once again, the Billy Mitchell Senior Squadron Civil Air Patrol will be joining us. Their group will assist with food and drinks as well as participate with set-up day. I need everyone to mark their calendar for *Saturday, December 5th*. Set-up will be in the morning starting at *9 am* and *we should be finished by 11 am*. **The party is scheduled for 6 pm.**

In case you are concerned about coming, we will be following Covid 19 guidelines. The six foot table will be space 6 feet apart and will have 4 chairs. Of course, chairs can be rearranged for larger groups. We request everyone to wear their masks as they enter the hangar. If the weather is not cold or wet, one of the big doors will be open. For the food, I am looking for 3 volunteers to be server. Soft drinks, beer and water will be available.

We will need about 18 tables, about 100 plates, and 25 tablecloths. Donald Allen will be handling the plasticware. Check with Wayne about extension cords needed. Please see me at this meeting about signing up for set-up and food items. We will do this again at the November meeting. This is a family event so children are welcome.



Safety Officer's Report-Dave Cantin



I wish I wasn't still talking about hurricanes but there's another disturbance in the gulf so even with this nice cool weather we can't let our guard down. The preparation for hurricane Sally went smoothly since we didn't let our guard down after Laura passed through. The Stearman was still across the lake and our ability to store aircraft and other vehicles at the McDermott hanger across the taxiway is very convenient. We ended up with several inches of water in the hanger from high tides and easterly winds but the preparation worked great, as did the cleanup. Thanks to everyone who came out. We couldn't do it without you. So the moto this month is to stay vigilant and don't let our guard down either at home, work or hangar This active hurricane season is far from over.

caf@cantin.org 504-616-3604





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Membership—Shirley Colomb

January 1, 2021 is approaching. The BEW membership renews at the beginning of the calendar year. The BEW thrives because of its members. *YOU* are our most important asset. We hope that we are engaging you through our communications, activities, events, and socials. We are thankful for your membership. How many units or clubs can say they had the Aeroshell Aerobatic flying team members at their hangar.



It is easy enough to renew. Just go to the BEW [webpage](#) and click on the picture of the Stearman propeller. You can also see me at the meetings. I will take checks, cash or credit card.

Note: When you renew your **CAF** membership this year online you will get a confirmation email as soon as the payment is made. CAF will send renewal letters via email now in an effort to reduce overall cost to the organization. As you update **KAStrack with your renewal date**, please add your CAF email letter to the attachment section which is under the renewal date and add **your CAF number** to the Comment section.. If for some reason you cannot get into *KAStrack*, please send the renewal letter to me at info@bigeasywing.org.. I will help you complete this task.

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

NO Lakefront Airport Warbird Weekend

With the airport onboard for this event it looks like it's really going to happen. The dates are Friday to Sunday Nov 6-8 so mark your calendar. Our wing leader asked me to organize it so consider this a [call for volunteers](#). The Gulf Coast Wing will bring their twin beech and B-17 as well as their newly acquired T-6 so we have a nice progression that WWII pilots followed during training from primary trainer through basic, multi-engine and to the B-17. We may also have a surprise guest aircraft. While the airport is hosting the event we can count on doing most the work to make it happen so we'll need a lot of BEW volunteers. This will include everything we did in Opelousas (except driving there) and more since it's in our back yard so there's room for everyone to play a role. The event will be in the large Ball Park lot that we drive around as we come to our hanger with access from the corner gate and parking in front of the boat houses. We'd also like to host a Saturday evening meet and eat with the GCW in our hanger if we can pull that off. So if you can help in any way for one or all of the days please contact me, Dave Cantin at caf@cantin.org or call/text 504-616-3604. I'm also open to your ideas on how we can make this better.



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In The News



Congratulations to Dave Cantin,-- Col. Dave Cantin was awarded recognition as a "Patched" Marshaller on 22 of September at the 2020 Arsenal Of Democracy event held in Culpeper, VA. You can find additional information about the "Patch" on page 9 written by Col. Tim Reynolds, CAF Marshalling Detachment Leader.



Congratulations to Lt Colonel Ben Cook - Ben is one of our 3 Stearman pilots. He retired from the 122nd Fighter Squadron of the Louisiana Air National Guard. Ben was the Deputy Operations Group Commander of the LAANG's 159th Fighter Wing. Ben celebrated his retirement party at our hangar. The BEW wishes him the best of luck in his future endeavors.



Congratulations to Donald Allen—Donald achieved a lifelong dream today. He passed his FAA practical exam and officially became a licensed pilot.



Donald's Flight Instructor Stephen



Tony FAA Examiner shaking Donald's hand

Development —Shirley Colomb

Once again, we will be offering an opportunity for someone to wing this year's raffle item. BEW has this unique Holiday Wreath for its raffle. The lucky winner will be announced at our December 5th Christmas Party. This wreath is valued at \$125.00. Chances are \$5.00 each or 5 chances for \$20.00. You will have the opportunity to take chances at our October, November and December meetings. If you are unable to attend, you may purchase tickets online on our website. Just shoot me an email and I will complete the raffle card for you. Last year, Jim Shaw won the Christmas Holiday Money Cake.



Helping Our Neighbors—Calcasieu, Cameron and many other parishes were devastated by Hurricane Laura. Several members made donations at our September meeting. Checks were made out to Second Harvest. Coordinator, Richie Gray, brought our donations which totaled \$1000.00 as well as food items to Second Harvest which is located at 700 Edwards Ave. The officers would like to thank everyone who made a donation either through us or online. The Big Easy Wing has always and will continue being an active participant in its community.

Laura

Upcoming Meetings

General Membership	October 14	10 am	hangar
General Membership	November 14	10 am	hangar
General Membership Social	December 5	6 pm	hangar

Upcoming Airshow Events

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

NO Lakefront Airport Warbird Weekend— November 6-8



Fly N'awlins Lady

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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Marshalling Detachment News—Sent by CAF Marshalling Detachment Leader

The Uniform Patch and insignia have been around since the Roman era. Patches were used to distinguish which army, division or group for whom one was fighting. They inspire pride and spirit, and often were awarded to commemorate significant events or accomplishments. Military patches in America began with the British about the 1800's, but was reserved for high ranking officers. It wasn't until the Civil War that American troops adopted the use of patches. The patches indicated rank and expertise, and were hand sewn by a soldier's loved ones back home. Each patch therefore was unique to each soldier. Their use however was minimal due to a shortage of cotton and thread.

After the Industrial Revolution came World War One and the patch hit its stride. Sewing and embroidery machines were in use, and the Army's 81st Division is said to have made use of the first patch with a consistent design. Soon nearly every division sported it's own patch design. In World War Two, patch design became more intricate and specialized from Infantry to EOD, to Medics and Pilots. Patches also served as recognition for a job well done. Many patch designs included well known cartoon characters of the time including those of Disney.

On 22 Sept., at AOD 2020 in Culpeper, VA., the Big Easy Wing's Dave Cantin received his patch with the Marshalling Detachment, and was awarded recognition as a "Patched" Marshaller. The Marshalling Detachment patch Dave has earned displays a propeller representing the type of aircraft typically worked. The Latin motto diagonally across the patch reads: "*Servare et Defendere*" meaning to "Serve and Defend". The color gray represents the CAF, and the orange and white reflect the standard airport safety colors. The 16 squares on the safety flag represent the number of founding members. Dave spent two years as a trainee learning the various aspects of the aircraft served by the Marshalling Detachment. During this time he also voluntarily taught several Big Easy Wing members the art of safe aircraft marshalling using a golf cart and a length of 2 x 4 for the wings. He has spent countless hours and miles on the road traveling to numerous airshows to practice the art of aircraft marshalling.

The Marshalling Detachment is strengthened by having Dave on the team. I am personally proud of Dave's effort and accomplishments, to have awarded Dave his Patch, and honored to count him as a friend. Congratulations Dave!

Article by: Col. Tim Reynolds

CAF Marshalling Detachment Leader

