



# Big Easy Wing

## Officers:

### Wing Leader

David Capo

dcapo1203@aol.com

### Executive Officer

Robert Claypool

rclaypool@computercc.com

### Adjutant

Harold Buchler

hbuchler@bellsouth.com

### Development

Shirley Colomb

shirleycol@yahoo.com

### Education

Jim Buchler

jbuchler@cox.net

### Finance

Jeff Segner

espundia@aol.com

### Maintenance

Terry Clausing

clausstj@cox.net

### Operation Officer

Mike Scott

mmscott86@gmail.com

### Operation Assistant

Donald Allen

donalda28@hotmail.com

### Safety/Facility

Wayne Breaux

wtbreaux@cox.net

## Membership Meeting

**May 8th @ 10 am  
Lakefront Hangar**

**Volume 5, Issue 5**

**May 5, 2021**



*From the Left Seat*

*David Capo, Unit Leader*

## 2022 and Beyond!

Greetings! As we approach the end of 2021 and my term as Unit Leader, we must look to the future. When I leave office, I will have been in unit leadership for almost five and half years. I also am the first leader of the Big Easy Wing. Therefore, it is incumbent upon me to make all of us aware that a regime change is imminent. So, what do we do about it?

I will be initiating a new training class for any BEW member who meets the CAF criteria for Unit Leadership and desires to have his or her name placed in nomination for that role in October when the nominations are put forth for wing membership consideration. The classes, I refer to as PLTC (Professional Leadership Training Class), will be held once monthly starting in July and running through October. These classes will be closed to only those members interested in being seriously considered for unit leadership. Please no tire kickers! Attendance in these classes in no way insures one's election to office anymore than it prevents anyone, qualified by CAF unit rules, from offering themselves for office. The purpose of the instruction is to try and build toward a smooth transition from my administration to the next with as little disruption as possible.

If you are interested in being considered for unit leadership, these classes will help you in determining if you want to do this job. Trust me, being a unit leader is what CAF CEO Hank Coates said is the "toughest job you may never have... and the pay stinks!" Contact me by phone or email if you are interested. I'd like a firm count by July 1.

**Four Years and Counting** -On Sunday, May 2, we marked our fourth anniversary as a wing in the CAF. Four Years! Can you imagine? What a way we have come in so little time. Thanks to Shirly Colomb and her merry band of party planners, we had a great time. Joining us that evening were the crew members of "DOC", the B-29 Superfortress that visited us last week. Lead by PIC Mark Novak, a CAF member and Flight Evaluation Board Leader, the "DOC" crew got a personal tour of our facilities and were entertained by our warm and friendly BEW membership. We had a great time and if you missed the party, I'm sure you will enjoy the photos in this newsletter.

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COMMEMORATIVE  
AIR FORCE

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## Operation Officer—Mike “Hansel” Scott



Greetings!

We have had a busy start to May as the weather has been warming up and people are getting out of the house. This past weekend, we had a great local event with the B-29 "Doc" in town visiting and flying rides, along with our own Stearman the "N'Awlins Lady" flying rides. We were fortunate to have new member and current

Pensacola-based Stearman pilot Phil Webb in town to help fly rides as our own Ben "Evil" Cook prepares to move to Boise, Idaho in the coming weeks. Thank you, Phil and Ben, for the great work over the weekend! The weekend was capped off with a nice hangar party hosting the crew of "Doc" - thanks to all those who set that up.



On Tuesday the 4th, "**Give NOLA Day**", we also flew two local schoolteachers in the Stearman, Heath Barker of Christian Brothers Schools and Eric Walters of Junior Achievement of Greater New Orleans. Ben was able to wait and find a break in the weather to get both teachers airborne over the city, much to the delight of their young students. Give NOLA Day helps spread awareness for local charities and helps us raise donations to keep our pieces of history flying

Our sincere appreciation goes out to Ben Cook for all of the hard work he has put in to help with the flying program, between local rides, training, and helping with the maintenance of both the Stearman and the Stuka replica during his time in New Orleans. We will miss seeing Evil in the pattern and over libations in the hangar, but we trust we will still see him making the trek from Idaho to visit in the future!



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## Development Officer-Shirley Colomb

On Give NOLA Day we flew two educators. Our passengers were Eric Walter, Junior Achievement Impact Manager for Greater New Orleans, and Heath Barker of Christian Brothers School. The first flight flew over Christian Brother's City Park campus followed by the Canal Street campus. The second flight flew



Eric Walters

over Hynes UNO campus. It was a rainy morning but by 11 am the weather improved. We had several members helping us. Thanks to Terry Clausing, Rick Wood, Kevin Duxworth, and Pilot Ben Cook. We had Mike Williams as our still photographer and Joey Harmon, who works with Charles Marsala, as our videographer. Thank you everyone!



Heath Barker

## OPS Officers reports continued from page 2

Lastly, we are faced with a very important issue that I would like to ask all of your help with! That is the proposed runway closure of Lakefront's Crosswind runway, 9 / 27. The airport authority has proposed closing this runway, which is our only crosswind option at this airport. This is of VITAL importance, as on many occasions we would not be able to fly at all with winds out of the East or West. Not only would this hamper our ability to fly these historical aircraft, but it would also greatly affect all of the general aviation aircraft based at Lakefront and keep people from visiting.

I am asking YOU to reach out to any number of your politicians, by phone or by e-mail. Feel free to write a letter (certified letters are about \$4) to the Airport Management authority, the FAA, and the Mayor, and call any one of these people listed below. We cannot let our airport become a victim to closure like Meigs Field and so many others have been in the past. Please let them know how important Lakefront Airport Runway 9 / 27 is to local flight operations and insist to them that it cannot be closed!

### Contact:

Wilma Heaton, Chair  
Lakefront Management Authority  
6001 Stars & Stripes Blvd., Suite 219  
New Orleans, LA 70126

Mr. Lacey D. Spriggs, Manager  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Southwest Region, Airports Division  
Louisiana/New Mexico Airports Development Office, ASW-640  
10101 Hillwood Parkway  
Fort Worth, TX 76177

Mayor Latoya Cantrell New Orleans  
1300 Perdido St 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
NOLA 70112  
(504) 658-4900

### Contact:

Matthew Willard, House of Representatives: (504)-283-4261

Senator Karen Carter, State Senate: (504)-568-8346

Senator Bill Cassidy, US Senate: (504) 838-0130

Senator John Kennedy, US Senate: (504) 581-6190

Governor John Bell Edwards of LA: (225) 342-0991





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## Safety Officer --Wayne Breaux



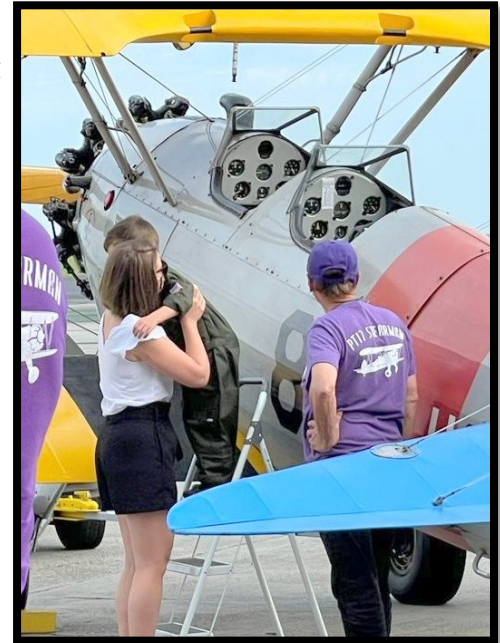
We had a very successful Flying weekend (April 30-May 2). The Stearman was on display along with B29 Doc. The PX tent was open and rides were sold. I have to report that there were no safety incidents.

While our aircraft was on the display, the area was roped off. We owe a big thanks to our loadmaster (Rick

Kiser and Richard Wood) Terry Clausing for escorting on lookers and conducting escorted tours besides escorting riders to the plane. Throughout the weekend, there were controlled and interested on-lookers.

We had the 50 pound fire extinguisher and ladders that were secured by the load masters. All in all everything was a successful and safe event. Everyone who worked this event is to be commended.

We will have a **safety presentation by Karl Shear this Saturday**. Please try to attend.



**THINK  
SAFETY  
FIRST**

## Big Easy Wing Education Library by Doug Webb

The Big Easy Wing Educational Library is now operational. On the large entertainment center's upper left compartment there is a sign for the checkout list for the library. Open the door and inside is a clipboard with the checkout sheets. There is a section for each title where you record your name and date checked out/in. Please print legibly. There are blank sections at the end of the form for books which have been added to the collection but haven't made it onto the list yet. If you encounter that situation just enter the title of the volume you check out on a blank block. There is a pdf file with a pictorial listing of all available titles posted on our web page under the Education section. You can view that file to see what titles we have available before you come down to the hanger. Please treat all books with respect when you check them out. If you add a title to our library, please let me know by sending the title and author to me at [dswebb@att.net](mailto:dswebb@att.net). Thanks, and I hope you find some good reading!



Mike Williams



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## Membership

Welcome to our Newest Members:

Pat Quigley of Slidell —recruited by David Capo  
Jerry Whitman of Slidell —recruited by Pat Quigley  
Jan Oreck of New Orleans rejoined  
Marcus Steinfelds of New Orleans  
Jeffrey Baumgarten of New Orleans —recruited by Robert Claypool  
Phil Webb of Pensacola—recruited by Mike Scott



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). **Meetings are usually the 2nd Saturday of the month.**

### Checks mailed to:

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

## Lakefront Airport Aircraft Mike J. Williams, Jr.

On May 4, 2021 members with of the [CAF Big Easy Wing](http://bigeasywing.org) were treated to a once in a lifetime surprise. While the BEW was preparing for a ride Marine One, the President's own helicopter, flew right over the hangar. Marine One was doing check flights ahead of the President's arrival Thursday May 6, 2021 for his visit to the New Orleans area.



CAF Big Easy Wing members got the opportunity to get up close to the Arizona State University Global Airborne Observatory aircraft. The group is in the area surveying Louisiana coastline. They are taking reading using state of the art surveying equipment.



Also, the C-17 Globemaster III was taking off after an overnight stay at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport. This C-17 is assigned to McChord Air Force Base in Tacoma, Washington.



Photo by Mike Williams Website: [blackknightpro.com](http://blackknightpro.com)





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## Airshow/PX /Rides Report—Shirley Colomb

The PX was out last weekend (April 30-May2) for the B29 “Doc” visit. The attendance was not great but we did well. We made over 300 dollars in PX sales, recruited one new member with a potential of 4 more, and we sold 8 rides.

We have a wonderful PX crew and they did a great job. Glenn Metzler handled the loading and unloading of the trailer. He has this down pat. Donald Clausing, Terry Clausing, and Ben Cook helped with the moving of the trailer. Donald Allen, Jim Riviere and his wife, Linda, and Doug Webb were our official workers for sales, however several pitched in (Glenn Metzler, Bill Mattheessen, and Wayne Breaux).



Rick Wood and Rick Kiser were loadmasters. Jeff Segner, David Capo, Harold Buchler, Jim Buchler, Warren Spears, and Alex John helped wear needed. Ben Cook and Phil Webb from the Pensacola wing were our pilots. And, of course Terry worked it all. Thanks everyone who helped!



Glenn Metzler

## Unit Leader's report continued from page 1

### Thank You Lt. Col. Ben “Evil” Cook

Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, marked a big day for the BEW. We flew two “GiveNOLA Day Flights” that day with Ben Cook at the controls. Flying as passengers that day were Mr. Heath Barker, long time teacher and former head of school for Christian Brothers School (CBS) in City Park and Mr. Eric Walter, Program Manager for Junior Achievement of Greater New Orleans.



Mr. Barker flew with Evil over both campuses of CBS while approximately 1300 students witnessed the flyover from their school yards on the ground. Mr. Walter flew over Hynes School at their campus at UNO. All the students enjoyed the experience.

## Congratulations !



David Miller received his pilot license (R)

Pat Quigley received the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award



Mike Hall Acting FAA Safety Team manager (L) Patrick Quigley (R)

## Anniversary Party Kudos—BEW wants to say Thank You

Thanks to all that helped out with set up and clean up at our Anniversary Party.

Special thanks to Jeff Segner for the main course, Kevin/Dawn Duxworth for potato salad, Rick Kiser for the beer, David Capo for the cake, Richard Wood for the ice and Donald Allen and Shirley Colomb for photos.

It was a delight to have members from the B29 join us.

See page 8 and 9 for more photos



## Upcoming Events

May 8-9	Barksdale AFB Air Show	Barksdale, LA
July 10	Blue Angels Pensacola Airshow	Pensacola, FL
July 26-Aug. 8	EEA Airventure	Oskosh, NE
Oct 9-10	CAF Wings Over Houston	Houston, TX
Oct. 16-17	Hammond Air Show	Hammond, LA
Nov. 5-6	Blue Angels Homecoming Airshow	Pensacola, FL



## Upcoming Meetings

General Membership	May 8	10 am	hangar
General Membership	June 12	10 am	hangar
General Membership	July 10	10 am	hangar
General Membership	August 11	10 am	hangar



## 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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## 4th Anniverary Party



Don, Rick Kiser & Mark Novack B29



Rick Wood, B29 crew, Glenn Metzler



Don Clausing Mark Novak(B29) Kevin Duxworth



B29 crew with Richard Wood



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Phil Webb (L) Mike Scott (R)



Judith Kiser (L) Beth Buchler and Dawn Duxworth



Peanut watching his dad, Donald (Duck) Clausing fly with Ben Cook



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