



# Big Easy Wing



Volume 6, Issue 4

April 5, 2022

## Officers:

### Wing Leader

**Harold Buchler**  
hbuchler@bellsouth.net

### Executive Officer

**Robert Claypool**  
rclaypool@computercc.com

### Adjutant/Development

**Shirley Colomb**  
shirleycol@yahoo.com

### Education Officer

**Jim Buchler**  
jbuchler@outlook.com

### Finance Officer

**Jeff Segner**  
espundia@aol.com

### Maintenance Officer

**Terry Clausing**  
clautj@cox.net

### Operations Officer

**Mike Scott**  
mmscott86@gmail.com

### Safety Officer

**Richard Wood**  
hurkhunter@yahoo.com

### Drug/Alcohol Supervisor

**Karl Shearer**  
kshearer22@outlook.com

**Donald Allen**  
donaldA28@hotmail.com

## Membership Meeting/ Ground School

**April 9 @ 10 am**  
**Lakefront Hangar**

## Unit Leader—Harold Buchler



Greetings!

Ah Springtime.!

The Wing had a very successful month of March. It was our version of “March Madness.” Along with the Bayou State Escadrille, the Big Easy Wing participated in NAS-NOLA Airshow. Our

Stearman was on static display throughout the event. The Wing’s Operation Officer, Mike “Hansel” Scott flew the plane, along with Terry Clausing, over the Naval Air Station. While on display the cockpit was open to visitors who wished to have their picture taken while in the plane. The line for photos was long and continuous. The donation box set up received a good workout.

On Sunday, the last day of the Airshow, Hansel got approval from the Air Boss to take the plane back to Lakefront. Our “girl” took off just before the Blue Angels took to the sky. Mike flew her around the pattern before departing for Lakefront with Rick Wood in the front seat. On a side note, two weeks after the flight, Rick still has a smile on his face.



This past month we held a successful ground school. It was put together by our XO, Robert Claypool. In addition to the sessions presented, Robert arranged to have an outstanding speaker. See more about this in his report. Bravo Zulu, Robert.

Don’t forget that we still have the canned good donation box from the Christmas party. Our goal is filling the box prior to donating it to Second Harvest. Please remember to bring some canned goods when you come by the hangar. Also, “GiveNOLA Day” is one of our fundraisers for the unit so please help us by promoting this event with co-workers, family and friends. Also, please visit our website. Doug Webb has posted some awesome pictures of events we have participated in. Check out his pictures and other members who have shared their pics of airshows. See you at the hangar.



COMMEMORATIVE  
AIR FORCE

Big Easy Wing  
8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.  
New Orleans, LA 70126  
Next to FAA tower

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

On the web:  
[bigeasywing.org](http://bigeasywing.org)



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl Click on icon



## Executive Officer-Robert Claypool



“Ground School? We don’t need no stinkin’ Ground School!”

I would like to thank everyone that helped with Ground School last month! Thanks to Harold for “voluntolding” to organize it 😊. Thanks to the Instructors, Mike Scott, Austin Woods, Rick Woods, Rich Gray, and Terry Clausing. And thanks to Kevin Duxworth for volunteering at Kitchen Duty. From my informal polling, it seemed that everyone enjoyed the curriculum and the experience.

Lessons Learned from some of the feedback and my own observations:

**Observation:** Only a few of us ‘pre-registered’ which created guess work for proper food ordering and class locations.

- **Improvement:** Start on the classes earlier, and have the registration form available at the Jan / Feb meetings

- **Improvement: Remove electives (See Observation 2)**

**Observation:** Loadmaster and Maintenance should not occur at the same time / Marshalling and Loadmaster should not occur at the same time

- **Improvement:** Different electives are not needed until we grow a little larger. Add ~1 hour to the event and have everyone exposed to all the classes.

**Observation:** When trying to introduce our guest speak, Colonel USMC (Ret) Bob Jablonksi, **I was befuddled because Bob’s bio sheet was so remarkable.**

- **Improvement:** Pick speakers that have no accomplishments.

**Observation number 3** is correct, but the improvement is written in jest! However, on that subject, a very special thanks to our guest speaker, Bob Jablonski. It is always a pleasure to have a speaker that is not only interesting and entertaining, but also humble in his service. And if that isn’t enough, I am proud to announce that Bob is now a new member, having joined the CAF and Big Easy Wing!







Big Easy Wing  
8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.  
New Orleans, LA 70126  
Next to FAA tower

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

On the web:  
[bigeasywing.org](http://bigeasywing.org)



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl Click on icon



## Operation Officer—Mike “Hansel” Scott



### Greetings Big Easy Wing!

The month of March was exciting and active for the Big Easy Wing. I'd really like to highlight the hard work of Terry Clausen preparing the “N’Awlins Lady” for its annual inspection and would really like to thank Pat Quigley for knocking out the annual inspection. Pat flew across the lake in his plane and knocked out the inspection free of charge!! I took Pat up for a post-maintenance check flight around the city and she flew very well. If you see Pat and Terry, thank them for their hard work on the airplane!

St. Paddy’s week saw some great weather and fortunately winds that were low enough to ferry the Stearman to and from our home airshow at NAS JRB New Orleans in Belle Chasse. I enjoyed flying over with Terry prior to the airshow on Thursday. Many thanks to the maintainers at the 159th Fighter Wing for helping recover our airplane, store it for the bad weather overnight, and then help us tow it out to static display the next day. As it always does, the “Bayou Militia” went above and beyond.

The airshow saw fantastic turn out thanks to ideal weather. It generated much interest in the airplane and our unit. There was a constant line of people wanting to sit in the airplane and many who visited the PX tent and bought items there. Thank you to all our volunteers who worked all weekend!

A highlight for me personally was getting to fly the “N’Awlins Lady” back to Lakefront with Rick just before the Blue Angels. It was great do a low pass in front of the crowd to highlight the BEW, right as my two good friends and former students of mine, “Willy” and “811,” were taking off opposite direction in Navy F-35C’s!

As the weather continues to improve, we look forward to giving ride flights and generating some revenue for the wing, potentially bringing on some new pilots, and attending local air shows or fly-ins where the weather and when time allow. Stay tuned!





Big Easy Wing  
8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.  
New Orleans, LA 70126  
Next to FAA tower

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

On the web:  
[bigeasywing.org](http://bigeasywing.org)



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl Click on icon



## Adjutant Officer—Shirley Colomb



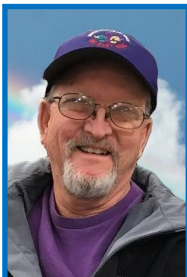
Happy Easter!

Participating in the Belle Chase provided us with a good opportunity to recruit a couple of members. Overall, this month we had 3 new members and one renewing member. I want to welcome our new members: Paul Marot of Slidell, Jonathan Bridier of Raceland, and Robert Jablonski of Mandeville. Also, thanks Jeff Shaw for renewing your membership with us. We are pleased to have you all as members of our wing. **Thanks for joining!** There were several who took applications at the show. We will wait and see if any join'

You can always pay your dues by using our *Online Payment* by going to our BEW website [online store](#) or you can mail me a check.

**Checks mailed to:** CAF Big Easy Wing c/o Shirley Colomb, Adjutant  
1216 Brockenbraugh Ct. Metairie, LA 70005

## Safety Officer —Richard Wood



Hello Everyone,

First, I want to thank everyone who help make the Belle Chasse Air show such a success. The volunteers who assisted with the plane learned a lot. Each time we do this, we learn more ways to improve it. In the future, the ropes and chains need to be set up differently to create a walkway leading up to the wing. Also, I know that I saw kids grabbing the windshield getting out of the front seat, so we need to be conscious of this. In addition, someone needs to be around the donations stand to limit the people from crowding around the plane. I, personally, do not think it is a good idea to put people in the back seat. I am afraid the radio may be hit. But like I said. It is a learning experience. Once again thanks to all who helped by picking up the kids and placing them in the plane. It was hard work. Most importantly we collected a lot of money, so the donation box was a great success. Thanks, Glenn, for making our box.







COMMEMORATIVE  
AIR FORCE

Big Easy Wing  
8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.  
New Orleans, LA 70126  
Next to FAA tower

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

On the web:  
[bigeasywing.org](http://bigeasywing.org)



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl Click on icon



## PX Officer-Shirley Colomb



Hope you enjoy this crazy weather we are having!

At the Belle Chasse Airshow it was difficult for us to deal with the odd weather patterns we are experiencing. The three days of the show were super windy and the first day was rain. It flipped over our table, blew away our applications and knock over our Stearman history sign. But we endured, because it was not hot, we shared some camaraderie and had fantastic entertainment—the Blue Angels. Thanks to everyone who came out!

We grossed over 1500 dollars between sales and donations. Although the show arrangements were cumbersome, the outcome was great. And with any show, you learn. So, get your self ready for mid-June. We are planning to participate with the Pensacola Midway Anniversary show. Mark your calendar now!



## Maintenance Officer-Terry Clausing



Hi!

It has been a busy couple of months. Getting the plane ready for annuals, keeping up with rally points and then prepping for the airshow. It was fun hopping a ride with Mike over to Belle Chase.

Now, I am repairing the hangar door. Once again, I have the scissor lift from our helpful member, Bill Triay. Thanks!

Please come prepared this weekend for washing both planes. I will pull them out, run engines and then we will do a light washing. If you have any soft towels and buckets please bring them. Be sure to wear something that can get wet.

On another note— our N'Awlins Lady has company. Another plane has joined our menagerie. Thanks Mike for bringing her.





Big Easy Wing  
8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.  
New Orleans, LA 70126  
Next to FAA tower

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

On the web:  
[bigeasywing.org](http://bigeasywing.org)



Ctrl click on icon



Ctrl Click on icon



## Development Officer—Shirley Colomb



### ***GiveNOLA Day returns on May 3, 2022!***

GiveNOLA Day is a 24-hour event hosted by the Greater New Orleans Foundation. Within 24 hours on May 3, the community is ask to give to local nonprofits. Your Big Easy Wing is a non-profit. Be sure to speak and promote this with family, colleagues and friends. Together, let's inspire people to give generously so that we can make our wing stronger.

**Who can make a donation on GiveNOLA Day?** We believe that anyone can be a philanthropist. Anyone can make a donation to a nonprofit that has created a profile on [Givenola.org](http://Givenola.org)! The minimum donation is \$10.

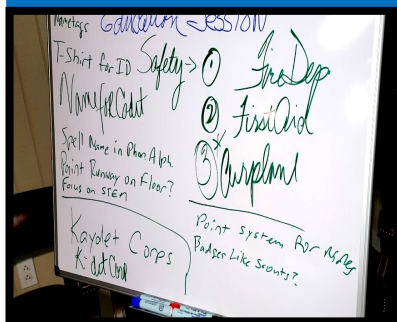
**How can I make a donation on GiveNOLA Day?** On May 3, starting at 12:00 a.m. and for the next 24 hours, go to the home page and use your credit or debit card to donate to our wing. You can search for our nonprofit by name, category, or parish. Participating nonprofits have a donation page where you can enter the amount you want to donate. Donations begin at \$10 and there is no limit to the maximum size or number of donations you would like to make.

This year our focus is on youth educational growth. We are starting from scratch and we need your help and the help of your friends. This is something very new to us. However, other units have programs and the Civil Air Patrol, CAP, have done it for years. CAF and the CAP has materials and links on their website.

We are seeking your donations to assist with purchasing materials and covering the cost of the student attendance fees. Your donation will help foster a youth's STEM education and social development program. Stearman. **Please visit: <https://www.givenola.org> and type in big easy wing in the "Find organization or in the "Find Your Cause" space.**



## Education—Austin Wood assisted by Shirley Colomb



Hi Guys

This is the first time the BEW is addressing education. At ground school, we had a good turn out of members interested in participating in this endeavor. At this first meeting, we shared some great ideas. We came up with a possible name, our goal, and a couple of lessons.

This coming Saturday, we will have an educational committee meeting while the rest of the unit will be washing the planes. So I would like to invite Harvey, David, Doug, Karl, Warren, and Tom to join us in the office. Shirley will be leading the meeting. It is difficult for me to attend meetings on Saturdays.

Shirley has contacted the educational coordinator for the Civil Air Patrol, Jo Lynn Ergle. She has provided us with the CAP site for education. Both David Capo and Harvey Burns are working with this site. We will use all the information and materials to create the Big Easy Wing curriculum .

## Upcoming Events



April 5-10

Lakeland, FL

Midway Anniversary Show



June 15-18

Pensacola, FL



June 17-18

Monroe, LA



July 23

Lake Bruin, LA

## Upcoming Meetings

General Membership	April 9	10 am	hangar
General Membership	May 14	10 am	hangar
General Membership	June 11	10 am	hangar
General Membership	July 9	10 am	hangar
General Membership	August 13	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>.



Big Easy Wing  
8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.  
New Orleans, LA 70126

