



# Big Easy Wing



Volume 7, Issue 2

February 4, 2023

## 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/

**February 11@ 10 am**  
**Lakefront Hangar**



## Unit Leader—Harold Buchler

### Greetings:

As we approach the Mardi Gras season, I want to wish you a safe and happy Mardi Gras!

Some of the highlights for last month included our monthly membership meeting. We had two guest speakers, first Carlton Dufrechou who spoke of his father's Messerschmitt Bf 109 and the times that he was able to fly it. In addition, Carlton brought with him Mike Dickerson who fly missions in the Viet Nam war. He was assigned to VMF-214 the successor to the Back Sheep Squadron of legendary ace Greg "Pappy" Boyington. It was an excellent presentation for all who attended.



Carlton Dufrechou

Mike Dickerson

Our wing along with several other wings are being audited by the CAF. We had a visit from CAF auditor, April Robinson, last week. April worked with Jeff Segner and James Myrkis. They worked all day getting inventory and funds in QuickBooks aligned with CAF requirements.



We were privileged to have the 1904 Media Group contact us about filming our Stuka replica for a project called "Air Warriors" for the Smithsonian Channel. The photo shoot required that one of our members dress the part and taxi the plane. Unfortunately, Mike was unavailable, but we were fortunate to have Jared Spencer step up. Jared was able to wear the appropriate German uniforms that we have without any alterations. The uniform fit him perfectly.



Continues on page 3



### Ground School 2023

One of the bullet points I made last year was in reference to being excited for new leadership of the Saints. Not sure that came to fruition as planned... BUT... we did have a great Big Easy Wing Ground School last year. So, I will take that as a win. And, what's more thrilling, is that the 2023 Ground School is just around the corner!

Ground school is an important part of our CAF requirements. CAF Head Quarters recommends that all members attend their unit's ground school. And why would we not? This is the opportunity to learn or refresh yourself on topics that are vital to the success of our wing. Like last year, sessions will cover everything from CAF rules, regulations, and safety protocols to Big Easy Wing specific operations:

**Pilot's Session**  
**Loadmaster**  
**Education**  
**PX**  
**Maintenance**  
**Marshalling**

Our ground school will be held at the hangar on March 11<sup>th</sup>. We will begin registration at 8:00 AM, and plan to end around 3:00 PM. Based on last year's agenda, we will not offer any breakout courses. We will run through all the general information in the morning, including the pilot session for all members, and then do the training for each of the 'certificated' positions.

There is plenty to learn, and even more to do to help us grow the wing to honor and preserve the legacy of our warbirds!

This meeting is a great opportunity to encourage any of your friends that may have an interest in the wing to join. By the end of the day, you and any of your guests will find a passion for the Big Easy Wing and will better enjoy making a difference in educating on and preserving our history.

Snacks, coffee, drinks, and lunch will be served. So please mark your calendar now and plan to attend the Ground School on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to check the March newsletter for the agenda.

See you at our next meeting!



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





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



I have been told that the series will feature 10 different aircraft- one being JU-87 Stuka. Matt Jepson and Brian Leckey were the 2 guys who did the filming. It was a long day for us all and Jared had hours running the Stuka up and down the taxi lane and then Echo-Charlie. It will broadcast sometime in June. When more definite information becomes available, Shirley will let everyone know.



Several projects are coming up that I would like as many of our members to participate as possible:

First, we are having our Wing ground school which is set for Saturday, March 11. Please see Robert's article and mark your calendar. It is an important day of training for the BEW.

Secondly, the CAF Wing Staff Conference is set for March 16th through the 19th in Dallas at CAFHQ. It is great chance to meet other CAF members from around the country and the chance to promote our Wing.

Thirdly, we are working on flight days. We are looking at the end of March or early April for a Stearman Fly in and Thunderbird car show.

Fourthly, I am applying to CAF for one of the larger planes (FiFi or C47) to join us in an airshow this summer. Once I have a commitment from CAF, I will work with Bruce at Lakefront Airport to get this project going. At that point, I will need a lot of help from our membership.

Finally, our education program is making headway. David Capo, Roger Jeffrey, and Jim Buchler are working on developing our program. You can read what they are doing in David's report.

Due to Mike Scott's schedule and the cold temperatures, we were unable to have any flying days in December and January. Hopefully when spring arrives, we will get back to our mission of flying monthly.

Remember, we generally meet every Saturday at the hangar. When the weather warms up sufficiently, we will have some hands-on projects that need to be addressed.

I look forward to seeing you there.





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)



Crtl click on icon



Crtl Click on icon



## Adjutant Officer— Shirley Colomb



### Laissez les bons temps rouler !!

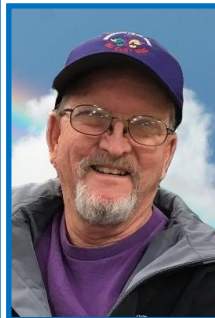
Thanks to a couple of our past members for re-joining. We appreciate your membership and we hope you will join us at our up coming meeting

Besides membership, I also am the communication and social media officer. It is important if we want to grow with membership and with revenue that we promote ourselves. I have consistently heard that “I am not on FB or Instagram” however, I do believe that someone in your family might be. So ask them to LIKE our Page. When we are hosting an event, it is important to get that flier or notice out to your friends, and co-workers. Harold mentioned in his article that we were audited. With that audit comes the disturbing information about how much we need to pay the CAF yearly. Please help raise revenue by promoting our events. Thanks!



Enjoy Mardi Gras and Stay safe!

## Safety Officer— Rick Wood



Happy Mardi Gras Everyone !

With the season of Mardi Gras upon us there are just a few things to think about.

For those of us who will be going to Balls have a game plan for if you plan on drinking.

Have someone who can drive ready for after the party. Let's keep everybody safe. Remember others will be drinking and driving also so keep a keen eye out for them.

When out enjoying the parades pick a place that is well known and stay together.

Enjoy this time of year and stay safe ( and warm) Today times are not like they used to be. I will see everyone at the next meeting.



## Upcoming Meetings and Events

Gen. Membership Meeting	February 11	10 am	hangar
Ground School	March 11	8am-3pm	hangar
Gen. membership Meeting	April 8	10 am	hangar
Stearman Fly-in / Car show	? April 1		
Gen. Membership Meeting	May 13	10 am	hangar



Greetings once again!

This is your Unit Leader *Emeritus* and I'm back but in a much different role. I will be assisting our Education Officer, Jim Buchler, with helping to build our cadet program, our STEM learning and working with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP).

Recently your Unit Leader Harold Buchler inked an agreement with the CAP Alvin Callender Composite Squadron which has been meeting in the terminal of KNEW to share space within our hangar facilities. Don't be surprised if you see uniformed CAP cadets moving about and participating with us at our events. They usually hold their weekly meeting on Monday nights and may use our office and training facilities. This is going to be a great partnership going forward.

As part of my duties as an Aerospace Education Member (AEM) of the CAP, I am learning how their cadet program works, participating in their STEM studies and acquiring STEM kits along with a vast library of aerospace materials. In 2023, I am proud to announce that three of our wing members have also stepped up to become AEMs with the CAP. Thank you to Rick and Austin Wood along with new member, Roger Jeffry. With their memberships in place, we will be able to secure many more STEM kits and library materials. Thanks guys!



As for the cadet program, I have been finalizing the necessary steps to start a pre-cadet program for 9 – 12-year-olds. This will be an exciting entry into the world of aviation and history. As the program develops, Jim and I will keep you posted. Anyone who is youth protection trained and certified by the CAF is welcome to participate.

Next time you are in the office, check out the new flight simulators. Thanks to Austin and Roger, we have these excellent learning tools up and running. They are way cool and lots of fun to use. See you at our next meeting.

## 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

