

# **Big Easy Wing**



#### Volume 7, Issue 3

#### March 1, 2023

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#### **Membership Meeting**/

February 11@ 10 am Lakefront Hangar



#### Unit Leader—Harold Buchler

Greetings:

I hope all of you who celebrated Mardi Gras has a safe and fun filled time. Now that we have a chance to decompress after the parade season, it is time to get back to the business of the Wing.

Our main events quickly approaching are our Ground School and our first flight day of the new year. On **March 11** we will be holding our annual Ground School. This year, like last year, it is organized by our Executive Officer, Robert Claypool. I know a lot of time and effort has gone into making this year's event special. See Robert's article which will detail the days agenda.

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Ground

For those of you who can make it, March 16th through the 19 is the Commemorative Air Force's Members Conference. It is a great

chance to meet members of other units and get ideas on many issues that we all face.

The last big event for March is the Big Easy Wing's Planes and Classic Cars set for March 25. Thank to Bill Triay, we plan on having several other Stearmans fly-in and be on display. Additionally, we will have classic cars make an appearance. Please speak to Bill at Ground School if you would like to bring your classic car. See flier in this newsletter for more details.

Note: the date for our April board and general membership meeting is moved to **April 1**-no April Fool joke..

Now that the warm weather is approaching, I plan on having several work projects around the hangar to tackle. See you at the hangar and definitely at Ground School.

Looking forward to seeing you at Ground School.



The BEW Ground School is approaching!

March 11<sup>th</sup> is nigh, and we should prepare ourselves accordingly! And as I mentioned in the last newsletter, this is a perfect time to invite others that may be interested in joining. The link to register for ground school is (Note: If you are registering more than one person, please register each person individually):

https://cafbew.kastrack.com/webforms/2023-Groundschool or accessed via your phone:



We are proud to introduce the upcoming Agenda for the Big Easy Wing Ground School:

Start Time	End Time	Item
8:00	8:15	Registration
8:15	8:45	Welcome Pledge of Allegiance Introduction of Officers and Committees Ground School Logistics
8:45	9:15	HQ CAF 60-1- Welcome Video from January 2022
9:15	9:45	Guest Speaker-Tom Gibbs of the Gary Sinise Founda- tion
9:45	10:00	Break / Hangar Safety Walk
10:00	11:00	Pilot / Plane Session (Mike Scott / N'awlins Lady)
11:00	11:15	Introduction to PX (Shirley Colomb)
11:15	11:30	Introduction to Education (Jim Buchler)
11:30	12:30	Lunch and Social
12:30	1:15	Maintenance (Terry Clausing)
1:15	2:00	Loadmaster (Rick Woods)
2:00	2:45	Marshalling (Ritchie Gray)

#### 2023 Ground School Agenda



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



#### Executive Officer: Robert Claypool Ground School continues

Unlike last year, we will not do different tracks. However, you will notice the Intro to PX and Education. Interthread will be different courses to choose from, so that you can find something that piques your interest. The registration form will request you to select 2 of the following electives:

#### **Pilot / Plane Session**

Major Mike Scott of the Louisiana Air National Guard will lead us through the inner workings of the Stearman, and cover a history of our N'awlins Lady. Sit back and relax as he regales brave tales of giving rides to passengers, ferrying the aircraft, and the overall excitement of open cockpit flying!

#### Loadmaster (Led by Rick Wood):

Learn the proper way to brief and safely load passengers in the N'awlins Lady! Graduates will be able to properly brief passengers to help them prepare for their flight. The loadmaster will then load and secure the passengers for rides at the hangar or at air shows. When the flight concludes, the loadmaster helps the passenger safely depart, usually right after a picture taken of their smile!

#### Maintenance (Led by Terry Clausing):

Ever wanted to know what it takes to keep these beautiful machines flying? If so, you'll want to take the maintenance course. Our in-house A&P will instruct on the necessary maintenance, he even helped the Big Easy Wing earn the "Outstanding Maintenance" award from CAF HQ. Under the watchful eye of our A&P, graduates will be able to assist with maintenance upon entry of the drug program. Graduates will also be expected to decipher the acronym "A&P".

#### Education (Led by Jim Buchler):

Education is one of the core missions of the Commemorative Air Force. And this is a great time to get involved, as we emerge back into the post-pandemic world. Participants will get to review the existing training programs, as well as help brainstorm on new ideas. Graduates will assist in the educational outreach of the Big Easy Wing after successfully completing the CAF HQ's course on Child Protectivity.

#### PX (Led by Shirley Colomb):

Cha-Ching! Come learn what the sound of sales is all about. The PX tent is one of the primary ways we raise funds for our wing. As an added bonus, when you work the PX tent, you get a space in the shade at Air Shows!

#### Marshalling (Led by Richard Gray):

Our N'awlins Lady is always poised to takeoff... but she must get to the runway first! In tailwheel airplanes, this is a more daunting task than it seems. The angle of the plane makes it difficult for the pilot to see the ground near the airplane. Graduates of the marshalling class will learn how to help the pilot safely manage the trek to the runway. Holders of this training will be asked to assist during air shows and our local rides program.

Representing our organization can be a fun and fulfilling experience, and the ground school is a great way to get and stay involved with the Big Easy Wing! Can't wait to see y'all there!





#### Executive Officer: Robert Claypool Ground School Flyer

Note

- With early Ground School registration, **prior to March 9**, registrants will receive one raffle ticket for a chance to win 2 tickets to the WWII Museum.
- Bringing a potential new member will award member one raffle ticket for a chance on a gift card.
- Please share this flyer with fellow aviation groups.





COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE

Big Easy Wing

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

bigeasywing.org

CONNEMORATIVE AIR TOP

### **Chief Pilot—Mike Scott**



Greetings!



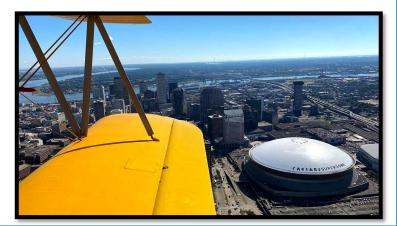
I hope you all had a fun Mardi Gras- I enjoyed it this year as much as always. We are looking forward to ground school training on March 11th. For the pilot meeting I will cover more historical and practical aircraft information about the Stearman biplane.

The "N'Awlins Lady" will soon be entering its annual inspection, so it will be down for a week or two next month. Flying lately has been hampered by weather and high cross winds. Our cross-wind runway, 9-27, has been closed for a month and a half and will be until St Patty's eve. However, it should be open and ready should we need it for the second half of March.

Lastly, our flight event is coming up on March 25th. Spread the word that we are selling rides. I'm excited to take some people flying!

What a view!

Fly safe!



## Maintenance Officer— Terry Clausing



Greetings!

At this year's maintenance ground school, the topic will be Engine/Magneto timing. I will be using the Stearman for the demo.

The current Stearman Annual Inspection will expire on March 31, so the 2023 Annual will start after the Fly-In and will take approximately 1 - 2 weeks if no major problems are encountered. Once again, Pat Quigley has volun-

teered to handle our Annual Inspection

First Flight of the Year 2023—Promote!!!



# Big Easy Wing First Flight Day of 2023 And Stearman Flyin

Take a ride in the BEW WWII Stearman aircraft, meet pilots and watch planes fly and land and check out some cool classic cars.

# Saturday March 25 9 am till 5 pm

Schedule your exciting flight on a 1943 Stearman and view pictures of NOLA like you never have seen before.

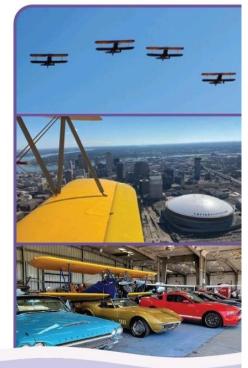
Flights are \$270 if book prior to March 25.

Lunch will be available.

if book prior to March 25. Use this Q- code to book a flight.

New Orlea

New Orleans Lakefront Airport 8550 Stearman Dr, New Orleans, LA 70126



In Memory of David Oreck



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







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Happy St Patrick's Day!

Last month, I brought up the topic of communication and social media. It is important that we all share spreading the news of our Wing and especial-

ly our events. It may be part of my responsibility but growing membership and increasing revenue is everyone's responsibility. I have

consistently heard that "I am not on FB or Instagram" however, I do believe that someone in your family must be. So ask them to LIKE our Page.

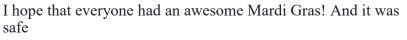
When we are hosting an event, it is important to get that the flier or notice out to your friends and co-workers. If permitted post it in your office. I can not emphasize it enough—we must spread the word— Join the Big Easy Wing" or "Go to our website and sign us for a ride, it is thrilling.

If we all work together then maybe we will find our "pot of gold!"

#### Safety Officer-Rick Wood



Hello Big Easy Wing !



Coming up in 2 weeks is ground school. I plan on discussing ground operations, passenger briefings, the ins and outs of the passenger safety harness and headphones usage.

We are getting into our flying season. March 25 is our first event—a fly in and car show. And with that, we the members need

to be more attentive. With more people in hangar, we need to keep an eye on nonmembers to ensure their safety especially KIDS.

If you see anything that looks unsafe, PLEASE let me know. Let's make 2023 the best year yet !

# SAFETY FIRST

Upcoming Meetings and Events						
Ground School	March 11	8am-3pm	hangar			
Stearman Fly-in / Car show	March 25	9 am	hanger			
Gen. Membership Meeting	April 1	10 am	hangar			
Gen. Membership Meeting	May 13	10 am	hangar			

