



Big Easy Wing



Volume 7, Issue 12

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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

Financial Officer

James Myrkis

Maintenance Officer

Terry Clausing
clautj@cox.net

Operations Officer

Mike Scott
mmscott86@gmail.com

Safety Officer

Richard Wood
hurkhunter@yahoo.com

Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year!

Membership Meeting/

January 13th

10am



Unit Leader—Harold Buchler

Greetings!

On behalf of the Officers of the Big Easy Wing, I want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. My article for this month will be a recap of highlights of this past year.

In March, we were visited by the 1904 Media Group who were doing a documentary on Warbirds. They filmed Jared Spencer in the Big Easy Wing's JU-87 Stuka replica. The footage shot was used in a documentary that aired in July on the Smithsonian Channel. Also, we also held our annual Ground School. March was also the month that the Commemorative Air Force held its annual Winter Conference in Dallas. This is a informative event to attend.

Next, we held a flight day in April where we saw ten people ride on the Stearman. We also hosted several classic cars on that day. We brought our Stearman to Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi for their "Thunder Over the Sound" air show. A wonderful show and we were even given rooms. I hope we will be invited again. Additionally, our Stearman had its annual inspection.

The Big Easy Wing held a Mother's Day flight event in May. The event was an immense success. The Wing also hosted the "Ex-Cons" from the former Continental Airlines. Kevin Duxworth hosted the party at our hangar.

June saw the Stearman get new tires and painted hub caps. The Father's Day flights day was another successful fund raiser. Again, we had the British Automotive Club and their vehicles at the hangar.

In July, The Wing hosted the Young Eagles Fly Day at the hangar. The members of the EAA Chapter 261 visited the hangar and participated in the activities planned for the youths. We noticed that most of the children were under ten.

In September we hosted the Quiet Birdmen and the Ninety-Nines. We were visited by the Pan Dorium Belly Dancing Company that day. In September we lost our long-standing friend and Finance Officer, Jeff Segner. His loss was especially painful to all who knew him. We will miss him dearly.

October saw the Big Easy Wing participating in the Hammond Air Show. Our Stearman as well as the PX was there the entire weekend. The Big Easy Wing played host to the Civil Air Patrol's New Orleans Search and Rescue Exercise at the end of October. Three of the Civil Air Patrol's plane took part as well as members from three different Squadrons in the area.

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8550 Lloyd Stearman Dr.
New Orleans, LA 70126
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info@bigeasywing.org

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Chief Pilot—Mike Scott



Greetings!

I hope you all are having a wonderful holiday season. I'm writing this as one of my last newsletters for a while, as I will be deploying next month to Japan for the next four months with the Air National Guard. While I'm gone, we will strive to have a plan in place for an interim Operations Officer and Chief Pilot. During that time, we should still hopefully be able to have rides and participate in events like the NAS JRB New Orleans Airshow in Belle Chasse.

The past month, since our WWII event, has been eventful. I was able to fly a few revenue riders on our ride's day, including the parents of my squadron mate, Tim Dannolfo. I was also able to do another instructional flight with one of our new prospective pilots, Kris "Fungus" Caldwell. I am hoping to finish his pilot checkout in the Stearman before I deploy next month.

We had a great Christmas Party in the hangar, and it was very nice to get everyone together one last time in 2023!



Merry Christmas!

Stay safe.



Tim Dannolfo & Family

Thanks again to Terry Clausen for his continued work on maintaining the "N'Awlins Lady", my airplane, and various other planes in the local area.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday with your family and friends.



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Wing Leader continues

Later in the month of October, a few members participated in the Stennis International Airport Halloween Kids event. For a few short hours, this proved to be a good revenue event for our wing. I hope we can join in next year.

In November we held the election of Officers for the upcoming new year. All the incumbents were reinstated, and James Myrkis join the board as our treasurer. In addition, we flew 3 WWII Veterans that were all older than ninety-eight. They were like kids in a candy store. It was a special day for me to see this.

In December we held our annual Christmas party and installation of Officers. We had General Paul Tibbets IV install the officers and assist in our annual award program. We recognized the accomplishments of 2 of our members, Terry Clausing and Kevin Duxworth. When you see them, please congratulate them.



General Tibbets, Mike, Terry,

I want to thank all our members. Without you, these magnificent events that I listed would not have occurred. There is no way we could have had any of these events listed without your service and dedication to our wing. So, thank you! I am looking forward to another fun year. See you at the hangar!

Safety Officer— Rick Wood



Merry Christmas!

Another safe year and another Bew Christmas Party is in the books. It looked to me that everyone had a wonderful time and there were plenty of excellent food and door-prizes to go around.

Here are some things to remember this holiday season:

Outdoor lights and decorations need to be made for the outdoors. When plugging in light from one string to another make sure the plug is watertight. And remember power strip or not made for the outdoors.

Remember there will be lots of people on the roads going to see family and to parties. I know the members of the BEW know how to drink responsibly but you do not know about the other drivers. College students will be out of school and will be partying hard and they will be on the road so think before you drive.

I want to see everyone in 2024.

Here's to a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !



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Educational News— Roger Jeffrey



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We are currently developing our course curriculum for the Kaydet Training Program for the Boy Scouts, and this is the month we will be looking for volunteers to sign up as instructors. There are requirements from the Boy Scouts, that need to be met in order to be qualified as, what they call, a “Merit Badge Counselor”. The process is pretty straight forward. It consists of completing the Boy Scouts Youth Protection Training, BSA Online Merit Badge Counselor Training, and submit to a Criminal Background Check.

Instructors will be needed for the following topics:

- Safety - Airport Operations (Airport layout, markers & signs, Tower functions & the language they use.
- Aerodynamics (What makes airplanes fly, the forces that act on an airplane, how does an airfoil generate lift, etc.)
- Aviation (Explain operation of piston, turboprop, and jet engines, explain various certification)
- Charts & Navigation (How does GPS work, Aeronautical Chart terminology, plot a course on the chart
- Aircraft Pre-Flight (How to pre-flight an airplane, what is a pilot looking for)
- Flight Simulator Operation (Parts of the simulator, demo flying skill, fly a plotted course from New Orleans Lakefront to Slidell or Hammond airport)
- Careers in Aviation (Job responsibility, income, need in today’s job market)

I am confident that we have the talent within our Wing to successfully instruct young people in these areas, so please indicate your interest to Shirley or myself. We look forward to having instructors in place by the beginning of the new year, and hope to begin the Kaydet Training Program by March of 2024.

Please send me an email: rjrogerjeff@gmail.com

Maintenance Officer—Terry Clausing



Greetings!

The Stearman, N’Awlins Lady, gave an outstanding performance this year. N’Awlins Lady served us very well. Her annual is due soon and I hope to have this completed in February. Thus, she will be ready for our Ground School and for the March Belle Chase Blue Angels Air show. Currently I am assisting both Mike Scott and Bill Triay with their annual inspections and performing general upkeep around the hanger. Have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!



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Adjutant-Shirley Colomb



Happy Holidays!

We have had a terrific year with flights and sales. However, we all need to do better at recruitment. In 2023, we had only 4 new members to join. Unfortunately, we had a few not renew. Please reach out to some members that you have not seen in awhile or who may live somewhere else. If you have not renewed please take the time to call me or text me and I will be happy to take your credit info over the phone. Don't think we do not need because we do. Dues may be paid *Online* by going to our BEW website online store, call me or you can mail me a check.

Checks mailed to:
CAF Big Easy Wing
c/o Shirley Colomb, Adjutant
281-413-4525
1216 Brockenbraugh Ct
Metairie, LA 70005

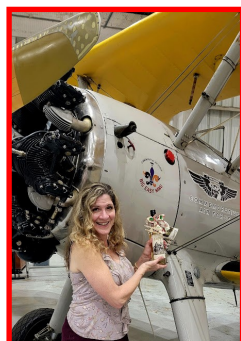


Christmas Social-Shirley Colomb

Ho! Ho! Ho!

I want to thank everyone who contributed to this delightful and successful event. Many of you brought tables and chairs, some helped with our Saturday morning set-up and others helped with evening pickup. There is no way an event this size could be accomplished without the help of our members and friends, so thank you. Once again, the food was outstanding. Everyone out did themselves. By the end of the evening there was very little food left.

I was pleased that the alcohol distributor I contacted donated several bottles of wines that I think fits well with CAF mission. The companies bottle logo pays tribute to the liberation of France. Thus, the it is called "Liberation de Paris." Here are our winners of the wine.





COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

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Christmas Party Photos

