

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

AUGUST 2021

Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each Month

EAA Chapter 55 Hangar; Mason Jewett Airport; 643 Aviation Drive, PO Box 443, Mason, MI 48854

→President: Drew Seguin 517-333-4531 →Vice-President: Doug Koons 517-676-5001

→Treas: Al Spalding 517-881-8757 →Secr: John Kuchar 517-203-9976 →Editor: Deanna McAlister 517-795-8171

→YE Cordinator: Margie Clark → Webmaster: John Bobcik → Youth Group: Jeff Shaud → Membership: Vickie Vandenberg

→ Flight Advisor : Terry Lutz → Adult Eagles : TBD

www.EAA55.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Drew Seguin

ea55.president@gmail.com

It Flies!

Yes, the rumors are true. N88259 made it's first flight on July 31.



Elliot did the first three flights. I know I'm biased, but I can't say enough about the value of having a professional do the first flight(s). Maybe I could have done everything he did and approached it with the same planning and care. But would I?

The good news is we have our own qualified test pilot right here at Chapter 55, Terry Lutz. When you're ready to make the leap I highly recommend giving Terry or someone else with Flight Test training and experience a call.

The first flight was completed exactly 2 years from when I took delivery of the first container from Cubcrafters. Covid was a factor, good and bad. It slowed down delivery of some components and

resolution of some issues. But it gave me plenty of socially distanced things to do too.

And how does one eat an elephant? One bite at a time. I made it a point to spend some time on it pretty much every day.



Tuesday Potluck's are a thing

We've been having potluck dinner most Tuesdays at the EAA Hangar. 6:00. We get a sponsor who provides the main course and people just show up for dinner and casual conversation. Come on down.

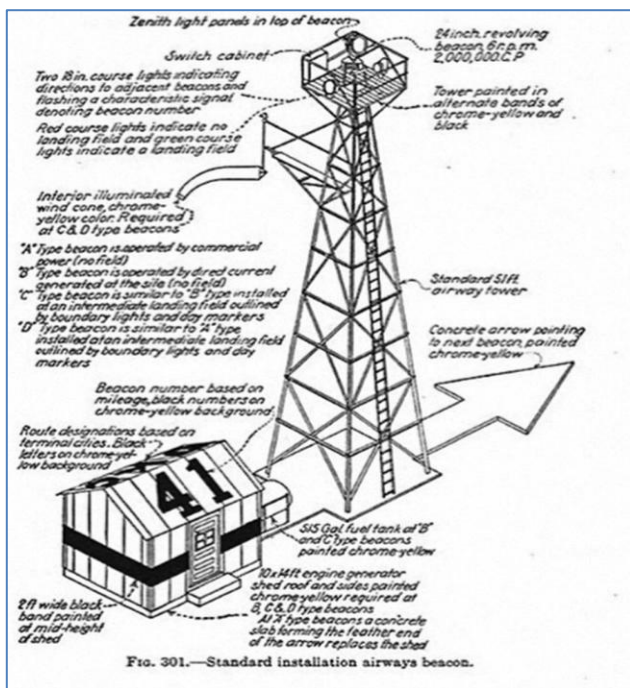
Young Eagles this Saturday

We will be having our third and final Young Eagles event this Saturday immediately following the Chapter meeting. We need pilots and grounds operations people. If you have questions please call Margie Clark at 517-712-2203.

Mason Aviation Day

M.A.D. will be the following Saturday, August 21. Again we will need volunteers for many positions in the event. There's a sign-up sheet at Chapter 55. Let's hope for great weather and a big turn-out to make up for cancelling last year's event.

I ran across this about the old Airways Navigation system.



And a couple of pads still in place



Stay cool and keep flying!

Drew Seguin

Oh Dang!...



EAA 55 Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting July 7, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Drew Seguin at 7:09pm.

Present were Drew Seguin, Doug Koons, John Kuchar, Joe Madziar, Warren Miller, Jeff Shaud, Rick Laub,. Absent were Al Spalding, Mark Bathurst, Clarke Borgeson, Gabe Blosser, Ken Drewyor, and Chloe Miner. Margie Clark attended as the Young Eagles coordinator. → The Secretary's Report for May 5th and June 8, 2021 were presented; Doug Koon made a motion to accept, Rick Laub supported; the motion was approved. □ The Treasurer's Report for June 30, 2021 was introduced. Adam Fogg of Fogg Oil made a \$1500 donation to the Chapter. Joe Madziar made a motion to accept, Rick Laub supported; the motion was approved. → The Ray Scholarship Committee reports the candidate had some problems with a pop up form that was eventually overcome. She has a first class medical certificate and student pilot application to submit and needed to scan as PDF's to submit online. → The Youth Group report from Jeff Shaud that their meeting was held at the Chapter meeting room with four attendees. A trip to the Kalamazoo Air Museum was suggested, possibly making it a fly-in as an activity. Their next activity will be a small engine teardown and reassembly over the next 6 to 8 weeks. A small space for doing the teardown

will be set up. A donation of a flight simulator was made to the Youth Group and is set up in the meeting room. Their next meeting will be this Sunday July 11th. → The next membership meeting will be Saturday July 10th with a short meeting before the Young Eagles flights begin. The next Young Eagles flight is this Saturday July 11th for the second month this summer. → Margie Clark reports she needs to buy soda pop and candy bars to sell during the Young Eagles flights. The Civil Air Patrol group may have some of their members helping with the Young Eagles event. → The Yankee Air Museum C-47 “Hairless Joe” went very well with three flights being made. → There will be a presentation this September on an interesting turbine engine,

The Meeting adjourned at 8:34PM.

Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary EAA Chapter 55

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting July 10, 2021

- The meeting was called to order at 9:32am by President Drew Seguin with 37 members and 3 guest attending.
- Following the National Anthem, Drew Seguin announced that this would be a short meeting so that we could begin the Young Eagles flights.
- Drew thanked the breakfast team and announced next month’s team. Jim Palmiter, Cal Hayslette, Jeff Hall, Clarke Radcliffe, Lynn Towns and Gary Nicola will be the team for August.
- The Secretary's report for May and June were introduced; Joe Madziar made a motion to accept, Mark Bathurst 2nd the motion; the report was approved.
- Treasurer's report June 30th was introduced; Gary Nicola made a motion to accept, Ivan Bradley 2nd the motion; the report was approved.
- The Youth Group’s next meeting is scheduled for July 11th. The June meeting had four youth attend. They will be running some small engines, then tearing them down and reassembling them for the next 8 to 10 meetings. Sale of parts from two donated RC aircraft raised \$185. A donation by James Blair of a Microsoft Flight Simulator 10 and computer has been set up in the meeting room.
- The Ray Scholarship Committee has a candidate that needs to submit her medical certificate and student pilot certificate. She has until the end of October to submit her application for this year’s scholarship program.
- Young Eagles flights last month totaled 88 kiddos and brought the Chapter 55 total kids flown above the 5,000 number.
- The Yankee Air Museum C-47 appearance and flights was a success for them and for our chapter.
- The presentation for September will be on turbines by John Hanlen and October’s presentation will be by the FAA. .
- Capital Area Regional Airport Authority will hold their September 4th meeting at The Lansing Community College facility at 4:30PM. All Chapter 55 members are encouraged to attend to show our support for Mason Jewett Airport.
- Our Tuesday evening pot luck dinners are happening with 15 to 20 people attending. Join us for good food and good conversations.
- There is a roaster available to anyone who wants it. There also is a knee board that fits the seat track of a Cessna aircraft.
- Terry Lutz’s Chechia contact that was looking for relatives of a WWII pilot who was downed near his village has been given the name of an aunt and some other relatives in the US thanks to help from Greg Harris.
- Grimes Field Airport Champaign, Ohio is restoring a B-17 at their facility. A live stream is available.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:52am.
- Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary EAA Chapter 55

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Wed: Aug. 11th
MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Sat; Aug. 14
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am

Thank you, July Breakfast Team:

I van Bradley, Greg Hover and Bruce Thorburn



AUGUSTS BREAKFAST CREW

Jim Palmer
Cal Hayslette
Jeff Hall
Clark Radcliffe
Lynn Towns
Gary Nicola

SEPTEMBER

Connie Bobcik
Dilon Blair
Ron Goodnoe
Mike Lutz
Lee Roach
Thomas Roach

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

**CONTACT DAVE COUREY or DREW SEGUIN
WITH YOUR PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS**



YOUNG EAGLES COORDINATOR
by Margie Clark
(margie@eaa55.org)

Young Eagles

Thanks to all the pilots and volunteers we had last month. Couldn't do it without all of you!

Please plan on coming out and lending a hand at our next event on August 14th following breakfast and a quick meeting.

See you all at the airport!

Margie

THE EAA MISSION: To grow participation in aviation, by inspiring people to fly, build, volunteer and outreach to promote aviation.



MEMBERSHIP
by Vickie Vandenberg
(EAA55.mems@gmail.com)

NEW MEMBERS: Chapter 55 welcomes new member Scott Basel. Scott has Cessna 150, Sonex, Onex and Mini-Max on his list of planes and projects. We also welcome new student member Isabella Arriaga.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Margie Clark on her recent retirement !!

AirVENTURE AWARDS: Congratulations to Carl Franz (Howell MI) on receiving the Tony Bingelis Award for Tech Counselors. Also, congratulations to Douglas Conciatu (Macomb MI) on receiving the Young Eagles Leadership Award from Phillips 66.

FLAGS FOR SALE: Many of you are aware of the American Legion Flag Program which places flags for display on important holidays of the year. EAA55 participates and a flag is placed on Aviation Drive and Eden Road. But, did you know they also sell flags?? Not just U.S. flags, but also State of Michigan flags and Service Flags for all branches and POW/MIA flags. If you need a flag, please consider supporting local. I have attached a copy of their order form.

DO YOU HAVE ANY MEMBER NEWS OR INFO TO SHARE?? Contact Vickie

HANGARS FOR RENT AT TEW:

Lloyd Brown; 517-589-8619

KBS Trust; Deanna McAlister; 517-795-8171

Tom Tuttle; 734-216-7532

Gabe Blosser; 517-896-0020

Dave Paul; 517-525-3575 (and for sale)

Tim Martinson; see Classifieds



YOUTH GROUP

By Jeff Shaud

(jlshaud@wowway.com)

August 2021 EAA55 Young Aviators Youth Group Activity

Youth Group Flight

A big thank you to those pilots who volunteered their time, aircraft, and fuel to fly the kids on Sunday July 25, 2021: Bob Clark, John Bobcik, and Pat Salow. It was a beautiful day to take the kids for a flight.

Flight Simulator

You may have noticed a new addition to our library section of the EAA 55 meeting room at the hangar. Through a generous donation, the youth group has acquired a flight simulator package. The package includes a yoke, rudder pedals, a throttle quadrant, and Microsoft Flight Simulator 10 software. The system is not up and running just yet. A small repair is being made to the yoke assembly. A big thanks goes out to Mr. David Alexander for working to get this package set up for the kids to enjoy and take their flight learning to the next step.

I.C. Engine Project

The Young Aviators youth group was able to start their internal combustion (I.C.) engine project on Sunday August 8, 2021. Our first lesson included learning the four-strokes of an I.C. engine: intake, compression, power (or ignition), and exhaust. The children also learned what it takes to sustain a running I.C. engine: fuel, air, and ignition. After our classroom learning we gathered in the EAA 55 Builders hangar to begin our practical experience with two Predator 6.5 HP 212cc four-cycle engines.

Our first task was to uncrate the engines and inspect them for shipping damage. Next, the kids learned the major parts of these engines: the fuel tank, starter recoil, air cleaner, carburetor, spark plug, exhaust manifold, flywheel/fan shroud, and the crankshaft output shaft. Since our objective is to completely disassemble, inspect, and reassemble these engines, it was important that we demonstrate that these engines do, indeed, run! The kids learned how to fill and check the level of the crankcase oil. The engines were then mounted, with the appropriate fasteners, to a test stand fabricated by Mr. Jim Spry. We then add a small amount of gasoline (non-avgas!) to the fuel tanks. The test stand, with the mounted engines, was then moved to the outdoors where each of the kids had the experience of starting and running the engines.



After running the engines and exercising the throttles generously, they were shut-down, allowed to cool, and the fluids were then drained back out of the fuel tanks and crankcases. The kids were amazed at how contaminated the fresh engine oil had become in just the short amount of time they were operated. They learned that engine break-in is one of the most critical aspect of long engine longevity and frequent oil changes can significantly extend the life of an engine. Next, we began our tear-down by removing the engines from the test stand and placed them on the tear-down bench generously donated to the youth group by Mr. Bill Perosky and Mr. Doug Koons. By



the end of our meeting session, the kids had the air cleaner housings and fuel tanks removed and stored on the shelving unit. This is about all we had time to accomplish during our meeting on August 8th. We will take a short break and not meet on our regularly scheduled meeting of August 22nd because of Mason Aviation Day on Saturday August 21.

The youth group is still in need of two more Harbor Freight Predator 6.5 HP 212cc horizontal shaft engines. Ideally, it would be nice to have an engine for every 2-3 youth group members to work on. This would allow each youth group member to have hands-on experience with all aspects of the engine operation and overhaul. If you are interested in making a donation of one of these engines to the youth group, it would be greatly appreciated. These engines can be obtained from Harbor Freight (local stores in Lansing & Jackson) for approximately \$140.00. Your donation is tax deductible. We are also looking for new and/or used tools: small tool boxes, 1/4" & 3/8" drive metric & SAE socket sets and ratchets, metric & SAE combination wrenches, screwdrivers, pliers, ball-peen hammers, plastic dead-blow hammers, shop rags & blue paper towels.

A Plea For Help!

I am asking for help in the form of mentorship in the youth group program. As you may be well aware, the EAA national program for child protection requires I have at least one other child protection trained adult in attendance while meeting with youth during chapter activities. If there is no other adult mentor

present, I am forced to cancel our youth group meeting. If you would like to assist, become a mentor, or offer your experience as an instructor to teach/share a valuable life skill, please talk to Jeff Shaud cell: (517) 712-6482. The child protection training is very easy to complete, on-line, through the EAA national website.

Future Activities

We have some exciting activities planned for this year and could certainly use your help in mentoring these young ladies and gentlemen in some of the finest experiences of their lives. Our goal, this year, is to provide Young Eagle flights to YG members at least once a month on the 4th Sunday of each month, June/July/August/September. If you could volunteer your time and aircraft, or assist as ground crew; it would be greatly appreciated.

I would like to plan a YG visit to the Kalamazoo Air Museum sometime this summer. I sure could use help making this happen. I envision an early morning fly-in to the facility and an arranged guided tour of not only the museum, but the restoration shop as well. If someone knows how the logistics of this can be accomplished, please let me know, and of course; I'm looking for volunteers to assist with this activity.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be Sunday September 12, 2021 at the EAA Chapter 55 hangar meeting room from 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM.

If you have ideas for YG activities, please contact me via my cell phone (517) 712-6482 or email jLshaud@wowway.com. Let's keep the interest of general aviation going by mentoring youth through the EAA Chapter 55 Young Aviators youth group. Thank you!



LCC - MASON JEWETT CAMPUS

By Mark Bathurst

[\(bathursm@star.lcc.edu\)](mailto:bathursm@star.lcc.edu)

As the aviation industry emerges from the devastating effects of COVID-19, the demand for aviation technicians is once again on the rise. It's starting to feel more like it did before COVID. Prior to COVID, our students were seeing opportunities from employers in record numbers. That is again the sense

as we talk to companies interested in hiring our graduates.

Our graduation is August 2, and 40 students will receive their certification that enables them to test for their FAA Airframe and Powerplant license. That's the highest number of graduates in recent years, and given that our capacity is 50 students per year, students have persevered in spite of the COVID-related restrictions.

In its most recent [pilot and technician outlook report](#), issued in 2020, Boeing estimated that 739,000 new technicians would be needed worldwide during the next 20 years, much of it due to the large number of recent and upcoming retirements in the field. That includes 192,000 new technicians needed in North America, [assuming that air traffic will recover to 2019 levels](#) within the next few years, according to the report.

Companies are now beginning to ramp up their recruitment and address the technician shortage. Students at LCC spend 24 months getting their certificates of completion for FAA licensure, and can also attain two associate's degree in aviation maintenance technology with five additional core courses. Graduates have a wide array of options, from working in line maintenance on a commercial aircraft, working for a manufacturer to help build an aircraft or working in repair facilities, both large and small.

Even before the pandemic, aviation maintenance technicians were much in demand. Airframe and powerplant [A&P] certifications issued in 2019-20 rose by 10 percent over the previous year to 7,363, according to the Aviation Technician Education Council's latest [Pipeline Report](#). Certifications dropped by 10 percent in the last academic year, likely due to COVID impacts, according to Crystal Maguire, executive director.

Enrollments at A&P schools also dropped by 2 percent last year nationwide, following a record increase of 13 percent in enrollments in 2019. Retirements in the field still outweigh the growth. "Right before COVID we knew we needed to increase our annual output of new mechanics by 37 percent to meet 20-year demand," Maguire said. "If the long-term demand isn't impacted by COVID, as suggested by last year's Boeing outlook, we will need

to increase our output while also making up for the 2020 'supply' impacts," she said, noting that she has yet to run the numbers for needed output this year.

We have a number of students who, prior to graduation, have received several job offers that they're considering. They're able to study things like company benefits and location and what they really want to see happen with their career, instead of just taking the first job that comes along to them because that might be all that they get. It's great to see our career field returning to normal.



EDITORS PROLIX

By Deanna McAlister

(zirconmoons@gmail.com)

See you at the airport!!!

Contributions, corrections and additions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Deanna McAlister (zirconmoons@gmail.com)

Deadline: 1st of each month.

Joe Madziar "Breakfast Teams" (madziars@msn.com) and Dave Courey "Monthly Programs" (dcmi@reagan.com)

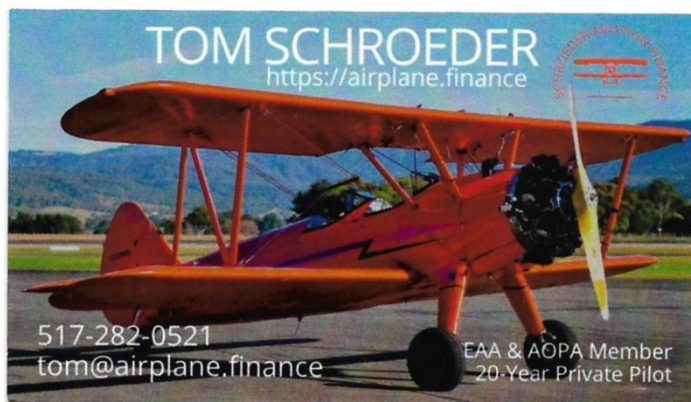
WANTED:

Ray Scholarship Coordinator is in need of a laptop (PC based) donation for our selected candidate to run one of the approved PPL ground school programs. Contact Jeff Shaud @ 517-712-6482.

CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS FOR SALE:

Chapter 55 T-Shirts; size L or XL; only \$15.00 each for chapter members. Vintage Chapter 55 Sweatshirts; size L or XL; only \$15.00 each.

Pure Michigan Maple Syrup John & Connie Bobcik 517-543-8238; jbobcik@gmail.com We can deliver to EAA hangar for pick-up.



FOR RENT:

Space for rent in common hangar; best for low wing but might accommodate high wing aircraft. Tim Martinson; 517-803-0462; tmartins1575@yahoo.com

Do you have anything you want to sell?? Additions and corrections, contact Deanna McAlister zirconmoons@gmail.com

EAA55 = PILOTS, PLANES & BUILDERS:

Here is a list of those who are working on homebuilts and/or restorations, as well as pilots and their planes ... Additions, deletions & corrections appreciated:

David Alexander; Aventura II
 Mark Bathurst; Cessna 172
 Gabe Blosser; Bushmaster SuperCub Amphib
 John & Connie Bobcik; Kitfox 7SS
 Ivan Bradley; Zenith CH650B
 John Caron; Cessna 172
 Stan Chubb; Beechcraft Debonaire
 Lewis (Bob) Clark; Cessna 172
 Randy Collier; Cessna 182 & Hot Air Balloon
 Dave Cook; RV-6A (w/Greg Hover); Taylorcraft Ultralight
 Kirk Curtis; Cessna 182
 Ken Drewyor; Kitfox (sold); Mooney M20C
 Adam Fogg; Piper Warrior II
 Donald Frank; BE35P
 Mike Franzago; Stearman; Starduster project
 Ralph Gregus; Zenith CH750
 Dave Groh; Stearman; Citabria; Beechcraft Bonanza; and Travelaire; PT-17; AT-6 restorations
 Chuck Hacker; Zenith 701
 Greg Harris; Zenith 750 project
 Ward Harris; Cessna 177B
 Steve Houghton; RV-7A

Greg Hover; RV-6A (w/Dave Cook)
 John Karlen; Cessna 340
 Dawn Koepplinger; Cessna 172; Aeronca Sedan
 Doug Koons; Glastar (w/Bill Purosky)
 Rick Laub; Sling 4 project
 Terry Lutz; Luscombe & RV-8
 Doug MacKenzie; Zenith 701
 Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-12; RV14A project
 Don & Deanna McAlister; Cessna 172A
 Chuck Moore; REVO Lt Sport Evolution & RV12
 Gary Nicola; Beechcraft Bonanza & Grumman Traveler restoration
 Jim Palmer; Glasair III
 Bill Purosky; Glastar (w/Doug Koons)
 Pat Salow; Zenith 701
 Dan Schiffer; Bell Helicopter
 Tom Schroder; Cessna 172
 Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub EX2 & Carbon Cub EX3 project
 Jeff Shaud; RV-7 project
 Tom Sheehan; Cessna 170 & Aerosport
 Jim Spry; RV-8
 Jeff Stetson; Aeromot Ximango
 Bruce Thorburn; Cessna 206
 Ken Vandenbelt; Cessna 172; Cessna 170; Stearman project
 David VanderMolen; Zenith 750 project
 John VanderMolen; Zenith 750 project

Mason Jewett Field FBO:
 Great Lakes Air Repair
 517-525-3673

Maintenance - Painting - Upholstery - Engines

**FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS
 POSTED IN TEW TERMINAL (with
 thanks to Mark Bathurst)**

WEB EVENT CALENDARS:

<http://www.eaa.org/en/ea/events>
<http://www.fly-ins.com/>
<http://www.michigan.gov/aero/>

WINGTIPS is published monthly by *EAA Chapter 55 of Mason, Michigan*, for the use, education and enjoyment of Chapter members and supporters. Accurate information transfer is our goal; however readers should verify dates and times prior to attending an event.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is the last Saturday of the month. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted material. Photos, sketches or artwork sent by email must be in JPEG or BMP format. Text must be in a Word format or copyable from the email. Submissions may be sent by regular mail and must be accompanied by prepaid postage if you want them returned. Submissions should be sent to: Deanna McAlister, Newsletter Editor.

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