



EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

NOVEMBER 2023

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: Margie Clark 517-712-2203 → Vice-President: Doug Koons 517-676-5001

→ Treas: Drew Seguin 517-333-4531 → Secr: John Kuchar 517-203-9976 → Editor: Deanna McAlister 517-795-8171

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

→ Flight Advisor : Terry Lutz → Adult Eagles : TBD

Website: chapters.eaa.org/ea55



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Margie Clark

ea55.president@gmail.com

Hope everyone is staying well and enjoying our fall color change. Leaves are falling, temps are dropping, blustery winds are all around. It's definitely making it a challenge to get out and enjoy our fall season in the air. The winds at the airport are keeping everyone on their toes to try and fly and see the changing colors before they are all gone. Please be safe!

Just a reminder that at this next meeting on November 11th is our election of officers. The new officers will be taking over at the December general meeting.

In addition to the election, we will be deciding if we continue Dawn Patrol on the same Sunday as in the past or if we should move it to a different weekend. Please come out to the meeting and be part of the discussion and decision making.

Come for breakfast from 8:00am to 9:00am, hangar talk continues till 9:30, then starts our General meeting which is followed by our presenter Dave

The ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023, at our own EAA55 Hangar.

Social Hour 3:30pm to 5:00pm; Dinner at 5:00pm followed by the infamous "White Elephant" Gift Exchange filled with lots of jokes and laughter!

Cost is \$15.00 per person; Reservations and money must be received by December 1st.

2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

In order to remain a member in good standing, your Chapter 55 dues for the new year must be paid by **FEBRUARY 15th**. Prompt payment assures your delivery of the EAA55 monthly newsletter, along with notification of any EAA55 and/or airport news. Dues can be paid by mail, at a meeting, or left in the folder for the Treasurer - for everyone's protection, please do not leave cash. We ask that you complete the renewal form even when paying in person so that we can assure that the information on our website is accurate and up to date. The online Membership Roster will be updated after the February 15th deadline.

CHAPTER 55

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Nov. 8th

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Sat. Nov. 11th
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

NOVEMBER:

Dave Trojan – Leon Cleaver, Warbird Collector

DECEMBER:

EAA55 Membership Awards

JANUARY:

TBD

**CONTACT PAT SALOW WITH YOUR
SUGGESTIONS**



Thank you [October Breakfast Team](#).

(VOLUNTEER WANTED: Photographer to get a photo of the team each month)

UPCOMING BREAKFAST TEAMS:

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Rockwood Shepard	Stan Chubb
John Vandermolen	Nathan User
Steve Houghton	Allen Jenks
Jennifer Jacobs	Mike Lawrence
Dawn Koepplinger	Edward Maturuk
Jeffery Kemm	

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for Dec. 10, 2022:

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Board Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2023:

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2023:

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Board Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2023:

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for April 8, 2023:

Not yet provided for publication

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for July 8, 2023:

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Board Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2023:

→The meeting was called to order by President Margie Clark at 7:03pm. →Present were Margie Clark, Doug Koons, Drew Seguin, John Kuchar, Warren Miller, Jeff Shaud, Bob Clark, Greg Hover, David James, Ken Drewyor, Gabe Blosser and Gary Nicola. Absent was Michael Rosencrans. Also attending were member Gilda Tucker and the commander and assistant commander from the Civil Air Patrol. →Secretarys Report for September 6, 2023, was submitted; a motion to approve was made by Greg; was seconded by Dave James; motion was approved. →The Civil Air Patrol Commander and Assistant Commander requested a lease signed document for their use of the Chapter 55 meeting room for their meetings. A lease agreement will be provided to them. →Treasurers Report for September 30, 2023, was presented by Drew Seguin. The donation by Adam Fogg was transferred to the Newberry Scholarship Fund. A motion to accept the transfer was made by Greg Hover; seconded by Gabe Blosser →Ray Scholarship report by Doug Koons was that Cal McAlister is taking his written exam tomorrow and hopes to take his check ride within two weeks, His headset from headquarters arrived and will be presented to him at the Saturday meeting. Doug will manage the Ray Scholarship for one more year. →Youth Group report from Jeff Shaud is they met on September 24th with Mindy Ray and had a tour of the LCC facility. They also talked with the Hawker group at LCC. They continued to work on the wing project. Greg Hempstead (Gordon Hempstone?) adjusted the shear so it works like it should and is in working order. Dave Cook donated two brand new air drills and two used air drills to the group. Next meeting the group plans to decorate the holiday float for the Mason Lighted Parade. They are working with the Michigan 99ers on a compass rose project. →Nomination are still requested for the Chapter officers for next months membership meeting election. →Chapter Christmas Party is on December 10 at the Chapter meeting room, Volunteers are needed to help setup right after the December membership meeting. →Newberry Scholarship selection committee will be headed by Joe Madziar. Drew Seguin, Ken

Drewyor, Jeff Shaud, and John Kuchar will be on the committee. Mindy Wright will be the contact person at LCC. →Warren Miller brought in some airplane parts to sell for the wife of a deceased friend. He has marked prices on the items. →Dawn Patrol will be on June 9, 2024 and Mason Aviation Day will be on August 17, 2024. →Young Eagles will be in June, July, and August next year immediately following the membership meeting. We will be doing an additional Young Eagles event May 18, 2024 at the Owosso airport with as many pilots and ground crew that we can get to volunteer. Gabe Blosser also mentioned that EAA304 Jackson would like to fly Young Eagles and will contact Margie to discuss the possibilities. Also the Lansing Regional International Airport has asked us to participate in flying Young Eagles at a Special Olympics event they are planning to host sometime in August, possibly August 24, 2024. →Doug Koons has taken the signs down to refinish them with help from Cal with the work. Our big round wooden sign is down and it is rotted beyond repair. Doug made a request to approve \$200 for a new modern logo sign; motion was seconded by Gary Nicola, the motion was passed. →Doug also reported that someone turned the meeting room door handle too far when it didn't unlock and broke a piece inside. He had to take it apart and replace the part for a cost of \$50. If the door doesn't unlock when the code is entered, do not force the handle trying to make it open. →Doug is also taking orders for EAA 2024 calendars at a discount cost of \$8 each. →Doug also asked to think about nominating a member of the year. →Doug has put the bathroom and storage room into winter mode so please be sure to keep the door to the bathroom AND the storage room firmly closed after use. →The Youth Group stripped the paint off the door between the builder's hangar and the storage hangar and put the first coat of primer on it. →Drew Seguin reported that Dan Shiffer has resigned from the CRAA board. →Dave Courey has moved to the UP so we need someone to fill his job of getting persons for programs at our membership meetings. →Lockup persons are needed for securing the building after the membership meetings. Board members do this as part of their board duties. →There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.
→Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary.

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for October 14, 2023:
Not yet provided for publication.



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

NEW MEMBERS: Chapter 55 welcomes new member Leonard (Skipper) Russell. Skipper is interested in drone flying. We also welcome new member Robert Kerr. Robert is a hot air balloon pilot. And another welcome to Lisa Fredline and Julianna & Todd Buning. Lisa, Julianna & Todd are all involved with the Civil Air Patrol and our Chapter Youth Group. Plus, we welcome new Student Member Nadia Harshbarger

WARREN MILLER: Speedy recovery wishes to Warren who recently had knee surgery.

YEAR-END GIFTING & DONATIONS: If you are thinking of year-end charitable donations or would like to honor someone special, we hope you will consider EAA Chapter 55. Chapter 55 is a 501c3. Your donation can be designated for your choice of one of our funds. Attached is an easy to use form for your convenience. Tuesday, November 28th, is designated as GIVING TUESDAY.

2024 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: As another year draws to a close, it comes time to think about submitting your dues for the 2024 year. Dues can be paid by mail, at a meeting or left in the folder for Treasurer Drew (for everyone's protection, please do not leave cash.) We do ask that you complete the application form when paying so that we can assure that your payment is properly documented and that the information on our website is accurate and up to date. The online Membership Roster will be updated after the February 15th dues deadline.



YOUNG EAGLES COORDINATOR
by Margie Clark
(margieclark172@gmail.com)

If you have an opportunity to fly anymore youth this year, be sure to let myself or Doug know how many you have taken up. Doug tries to keep the tally sheet on the bulletin board as up to date as possible. If you are in need of registration forms, log books, certificates or wings there is a supply in the blue topped container on the front table.

We can always use more pilots and ground crew at our events. If you are considering being a Young Eagle volunteer, please complete the Child Protection Policy and then print off your certificate and leave it in the Young Eagle folder on the officers table.

Thanks so very much to all who have helped this past year and prior. Without your assistance we could not make this program be successful.



YOUTH GROUP

By Jeff Shaud

(jlshaud@wowway.com)

See you at the hangar!

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



EDITORS PROLIX

By Deanna McAlister

(zirconmoons@gmail.com)

See you at the airport!!!!

EAA Chapter 55 is a 501(c)3 non-profit. Donation gifts to Chapter 55 are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. If desired, donation gifts can be designated specifically for the Youth Group, for Young Eagles, or for the Newberry Aviation Scholarship. An acknowledgment receipt of your donation gift for tax purposes can be provided on request.

Tax ID#90-0423493



FREE RADIUM INSTRUMENT TESTING AND TRAINING

By Dave Trojan (dtrojan60@gmail.com)

Many instruments made up until 1960s had the luminous paint, needed to read them at night, based

on Radium. Radium is one of the most radioactive chemical elements and is 1000 times more radioactive than Uranium. It has a half-life of 1602 years and decays into radon gas. This means 70 years old instruments are still active and will be for the next thousands years. Are you worried or just want to be extra safe around gauges that may contain radium? I can check any and all your gauges, instruments and anything else that you may suspect of containing radium free of charge. I have been trained by the U.S. Air Force to identify and test for radium. I can also provide training to you on how to identify radium gauges. Testing is FREE of charge using my portable Geiger counter testing device. I can also safely dispose of any Radium gauges that you may have. For more information on this subject: <https://theaviationist.com/special-reports/radioactive-materials-in-flight-instruments/>

If interested in testing and or training on this issue, please contact Dave Trojan at dtrojan60@gmail.com or cell 808-386-0609

NOVEMBER PRESENTATION BY DAVE

TROJAN: "Leon Picked Them Up"

The presentation is about a pioneer Warbird collector Leon Cleaver who began collecting in the 1970s when the Warbird era began. Salvaged aircraft and parts have gone from worth only their weight in scrap metal, to relics sought after by collectors. At one time there were at least 26 aircraft or major parts of aircraft in Leon's collection. The presentation will detail what happened to some of his aircraft and artifacts. I will also talk about how I'm restoring and trying to find forever homes for pieces of aviation history.





EXPENSIVE HAMBURGERS

By Bill Purosky/Doug Koons

October 4th, Doug setup a trip to Clare Municipal (48D) but were advised by Dan Schiffer that the airport was undergoing a restoration of its pad and there was no access to the terminal area. Doug changed our destination to Gladwin Zettel Memorial (GDW). They also have two courtesy cars available if more than 4 people show up. Doug sends out a text to a number of pilots and gets responses regarding how many are coming so we can plan ahead. It ended up that we would fly the yellow bird up as well as Bruce would fly his Cessna 172. Dan Schiffer also joined us and flew his R44 helicopter. Dan mentioned that he had experienced a 20-knot tail wind at about 500 feet above the ground. Doug flew up and we experienced a 25-knot tail wind at about 1500 feet above the ground. We were reading 140 knots from the GPS while indicating 115-knots on the airspeed gauge. Got there in record time. We signed out one of the courtesy cars and drove downtown to Maxes on Main. A good restaurant at reasonable prices. In order to get out of the car, you have to get one of the guys who ride in the front seat to open the door to the back seat. That is because the car is an old police car and has no handles to open the door from inside in back. So you got to be friends with the guys up front or starve! We all got different meals, but Bruce's was the most challenging. He ordered the club sandwich. When it arrived, we all watched to see how Bruce was going to handle it. With no exaggeration, the thing was at least 5 inches high. You would have to have an alligator mouth to take a bite of this sandwich. He had to peel off the first two pieces of bread to be able to eat it. After telling a whole bunch of lies to each

other and solving all the problems of the world, we headed back to the airport. It was my turn to fly back to Mason into the headwind. We took off on 27 and turned south and climbed to 2500 MSL. After leveling off, we noted that the airspeed was 115-knots indicated and the ground speed was 90-knots. To add insult to injury, it was also bumpy all the way back. About halfway back to Mason, the headwind relaxed a bit and we were getting 100-knots ground speed. All together a good flight and a great lunch.

On the 18th of October, Doug organized a flight to Marshall (RMY) for lunch. Neither Doug nor I had been there in the past, but Mike mentioned to us that there was a restaurant within walking distance of the field. The group that showed up was Dan, Bruce, Mike, Tim, and of course Doug and me. The terminal there is really great and obviously relatively new. It had quite a few leather chairs that reclined for your comfort. Lots of glass looking out at the runway and approach areas. It has a small kitchen, a pilot's lounge with a computer system tuned to weather and large clean rest rooms. We didn't inquire about a courtesy car since the restaurant is a short walk directly behind the terminal building across the access road to the airport. The restaurant, The Emerald, is part of the golf course adjacent to the airport. The lunch menu was extensive and all the orders we received were quite good. No complaints! A place to come back to for a future lunch.

On the 23rd of October, Doug organized a flight to South Haven (LWA) Regional for lunch. We have visited here for lunch in the past and looked forward to getting a lunch at the Chinese Buffet in town. We filled the ramp with airplanes! The group that showed up here was John and Connie, Dan, Bruce, Tim, and Doug and me= along with two new members to the group, Chuck Moore and his brother, Doug, from Texas who was visiting. Chuck flies an RV-12. Luckily, the courtesy car here is a van that holds 6 plus a pickup truck that holds 3. One more and we would be out of luck! In our great anticipation for Chinese, we happily set out to the restaurant. However, to our surprise, when we got there, we found the restaurant was closed on Mondays. Bummer!! So, John quickly got on his phone and found a restaurant just around the corner from us and we loaded up and headed out. The place looked like it had been there for a while, but we

invaded it anyhow. It was relatively small inside but had a table that would fit us all. Unfortunately, there were two guys sitting at that table. They graciously agreed to move to a smaller table, and we settled in, all 9 of us. The waitress warned us that there was only one cook on, and we may have to wait a little to get our food. This ended up being better than it looked; the food was very good. I ordered a hamburger (half pound of beef) rare but not cold and the cook hit it on the button. Very tasty! Of course, we all ate too much but I was lucky. It was Doug's turn to fly home. That means that I could get some shuteye. I must admit that he did find smooth air and a tail wind that put us back to Mason in record time. Again, another great lunch find. We will be back!



NOTES FROM CAPE JUBY

By Terry Lutz

(terry.lutz@attglobal.net)

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)

CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: RV-6 tail kit; miscellaneous 2 x construction lumber 8 to 16ft. Contact: Greg Hover; 517-862-8966.

WANTED: Your old Gauges, Instruments, cockpit parts. Looking for non-airworthy gauges, the older the better, for use in static display instrument panels. I collect and restore old aircraft instrument panels for collectors and museums. I'm a member of the international Aircraft Cockpit & Instrument Panel Collectors Group. I also work with many Aviation Museums to restore their aircraft such as the Selfridge AFB Museum, Wurtsmith Air Museum, and the Yankee Air Museum. I recently restored FG-1D Corsair panel for the Selfridge AFB

Museum using old gauges and parts. Old instruments can be used to fill holes in panels and can be used for parts to restore other instruments. While not all damage can be fixed, broken parts from two or more identical indicators can often be salvaged to create a single, functional whole.



I'm especially looking for Clocks, Altimeters, Gyros, Fuel gauges, and Airspeed indicators. I'm also looking for toggle switches, warning lights, and old control boxes. I don't mind getting my hands' dirty digging through hangars looking for stuff. One pilot's junk is another's treasure! If you have old gauges, instruments, and cockpit parts please contact Dave Trojan at dtrojan60@gmail.com or cell 808-386-0609

Do you have anything you want to buy, sell, or trade?? Contact Deanna McAlister zirconmoons@gmail.com

HANGARS FOR RENT AT TEW:

Lloyd Brown; 517-589-8619

Tom Tuttle; 734-216-7532

Gabe Blosser; 517-896-0020

EAA55; Common Storage or Building hangar space; Margie Clark; 517-853-1418 (waiting list)

SENDING EMAIL BLASTS:

The best way to do a broadcast email to our Chapter 55 membership is to "reply all" to your latest newsletter email. Update the "Subject" enter your message and delete the old subject matter content.

This will insure you get the most up-to-date membership roster.

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:

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 Bonanza
Lewis (Bob) Clark; Cessna 172
Randy Coller; Cessna 182 & Hot Air Balloon
Dave Cook; RV-6A (w/Greg Hover); Taylorcraft Ultralight
Ken Drewyor; Kitfox (sold); Mooney M20C
Richard Floyd; Cessna 310
Adam Fogg; Piper Warrior II
Donald Frank; BE35P
Mike Franzago; RV-8
Ralph Gregus; Zenith CH750
Dave Groh; Stearman; Citabria; Beechcraft Bonanza; and Travelaire; PT-17; AT-6 restorations
Greg Harris; Zenith 750 project
Ward Harris; Cessna 177B
Steve Houghton; RV-7A
Greg Hover; RV-6A (w/Dave Cook)
Mark & Jennifer Jacob; C-120; Beech 18, C-34 project
Doug Koons; Glastar (w/Bill Purosky)
Rick Laub; Sling 4 project
Terry Lutz; Luscombe & RV-8
Edward Manturuk; Lancair ES
Doug MacKenzie; Zenith 701
Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-14A; RV-9A project
Don & Deanna McAlister; Cessna 172
Chuck Moore; RV-12
Gary Nicola; Beechcraft Bonanza & Grumman Traveler restoration
Jim Palmer; Glasair III
Bill Purosky; Glastar (w/Doug Koons)
Pat Salow; Zenith 701
Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub EX2 & Carbon Cub EX3

Jeff Shaud; RV-7 project
Tom Sheehan; C-170 & Aerosport & Funk B85C; Lincoln-Page 1928
Rockwood Shepard; RV-9A
Jim Spry; RV-8
Jeff Stetson; Aeromot Ximango
Bruce Thorburn; Cessna
Ken Vandenbelt; C-172; C-170; Stearman project
John VanderMolen; Zenith 750
John Yurkon; J3C-65; PA28-181; C-172P

Mason Jewett Field FBO:
Great Lakes Air Repair
517-525-3673
Maintenance - Painting - Upholstery - Engines

POCKET CALENDAR:

December 10th Christmas Party

FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS POSTED

IN TEW TERMINAL w/special thanks to Tony Kruckeberg of LCC. Be sure to check these flyers out if you are looking for a weekend place to fly !!

WEB EVENT CALENDARS:

www.eaa.org/eea/events
www.funplacestofly.com/aviation-events.asp
www.michigan.gov/aero/

CRAA BOARD MEETINGS:
4th Monday of the Month @ 4:30pm
Marion "Babe" Ruth Community Room
Terminal Building, Capital Region Int. Airport

Aviation Humor



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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