

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

OCTOBER 2020

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 looks like we have a slate of Board of Directors nominees for our November election.

In alphabetical order:

- Mark Bathurst
- Gabe Blosser
- Clarke Borgeson
- Bob Clark
- Ken Drewyor
- Rick Laub
- Joe Madziar
- Warren Miller
- Cloe Miner
- Jeff Shaud

But don't let that dissuade you from throwing your name into the hat. We can always use some fresh ideas.

Due to the Coronavirus situation we will be accepting mail-in or emailed ballots. And I will **personally guarantee** a fair and unbiased election. Heck, we can recount the votes as many times as necessary to insure that every qualified vote is counted.

And Fall is upon us...

We all know how the crisp fall air makes for excellent flying weather. The leaves are turning which gives us Michiganders a special compensation for the coming winter months.

Doug Koons has been organizing Lunch Fly-outs to various airports around the state. If you're interested in flying or catching a ride just let Doug know and I'm sure he'll put you on the broadcast text. And THANKS to Doug for making this happen.

A note about making things happen. This Pandemic has changed life as we know it for all of us. But that's not to say we can't have a good time in and around airplanes. My philosophy has been that I'll support any activities any member comes up with as long as someone is willing to take responsibility for making it happen. Doug's fly-outs is a good example. It doesn't take a lot of effort for him to do it and I'm sure there's some selfish motivation in that he likes the idea. Another example is the Youth Group which Jeff Shaud started.

So if you have an idea for an activity bring it up. As indicated above, if it's a good idea that fits well with some or all of the membership it will evolve accordingly. If not, well it was worth a try. I'll support it and I'm sure there's others in the chapter who'll be right there with you. It's our chapter and it will be as good and as much fun as we make it.

OBTW: I noticed that 100 Low Lead at KTEW is cheaper than Recreational Fuel in Mason. Go Figure.

Drew Seguin

And the good news is, nobody got hurt....



EAA CHAPTER 55 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

→ The meeting was called to order by President Drew Seguin at 7:05pm.

Present: Drew Seguin, Doug Koons, John Kuchar, Mark Bathurst, John Bobcik, Bob Clark, Gabe Blosser, Warren Miller. Absent were Al Spalding, Joe Madziar, Bill Purosky, Ken Vandenberg. Margie Clark, our Young Eagles coordinator was present. →

Secretary's Report for July 8, 2020: The report was submitted as printed in Wing Tips, Bob Clark moved to accept and was seconded by Gabe Blosser. The motion was accepted. →

Treasurer's Report for July 31, 2020 from Al Spalding: John Kuchar made a motion to accept, Mark Bathurst supported; the motion carried. → The September 12th

members meeting was canceled. An impromptu Saturday morning meeting was suggested for those who would like to meet with other like minded members and a possibility of also having a Tuesday evening gathering as was done last fall. → The Youth Group report from Jeff Schaud: Two meetings are scheduled for September at the CARDS field on Otto Road in Onieda Township. The meeting will be from 2-5PM. The RC construction project is on hold. Attendance has been 8-10 students. Radios need to be ordered to continue the build. Jeff would like to order official EAA kits for the next project. →

The Ray Scholarship program is still on hold. There are 3 or 4 possible candidates. Jeff will head up a scholarship committee to review the candidates. A newsletter announcement will be made to call for candidates. → Program presentations are on hold until member meetings resume. → The Christmas party was tabled for this meeting and no action on the Mason Christmas Parade was taken. → Old magazines and miscellaneous materials will be offered to other chapters if they want them → Board of Directors at large are up for election this December. Drew will make a call in the Wing Tips



newsletter for members to seriously consider running for one of the open positions.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary

EAA CHAPTER 55 MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

→ Meeting cancelled; no minutes.

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

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

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



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

See you at the airport!

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)

2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES: As another year draws to a close, it comes time to think about submitting your dues for the 2021 year. I have attached a renewal form for your use. Since it may not be possible to pay at a meeting, Treasurer Al's address is provided for mailing. You could also leave your form & check in Treasurer Al's folder in the meeting room (for everyone's protection, please do not leave cash).

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF

DIRECTORS: In accordance with our by-laws, Chapter 55 is seeking nominations for election of a minimum of **three** to a maximum of **nine** members to serve as chapter directors. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to conduct and control the business and property of the chapter. Meetings of the Board are scheduled for 7:00pm the evening of the Wednesday immediately preceding the second Saturday of each month. Meetings generally last about one hour depending upon the amount of business to be conducted. Directors will serve a two-year term starting with the December general membership meeting. If there is a member that you feel would be a good candidate for this position, please encourage him/her to allow you to make a nomination. Additionally, if you would be interested in serving your Chapter in this capacity, please contact President Drew Seguin or any current officer as soon as possible. (Under normal circumstances, our election would be conducted at the November membership meeting. President Drew will let us know options for this year.)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO WINGTIPS: Our newsletter is information from members to members. Without submissions from our members, we couldn't fill page one. Do you have news to share? Have you done work on your project or plane? Did you find a new airport restaurant? Have you visited a new airport?? Perhaps you found an interesting Internet link to website or video? Did you read a great book you could recommend with a brief review? Have a unique aviation experience?? Have you visited a museum or saw an interesting plane? How about a great joke or cartoon to share? Photos are always welcome too. Articles should be submitted in an unformatted Microsoft Word Document, left justified. Please avoid formatting that includes tabbing, justifying, indenting, use of bullets or multilevel lists, or any other print layout features. Email info to Deanna (zirconmoon@hotmail.com)

HELP WANTED TO RESTORE A PRE-WAR

AERONCA: I received a call from Jerry Ernst of Owosso. He is looking for help on the restoration of his Aeronca. If you or anyone you know would be interested in checking this out... From Jerry: I'm the longtime owner of a pre-war side-by-side 1939 Aeronca N27302 (an earlier version of what the company designated as a Chief after the war). She's been partly disassembled for decades and I have no capacity to repair her by myself. My principal goal is a restoration to get her flying. It is a complete airplane, a 65-hp. Lycoming 0-145B2 engine and a cache of spare engine parts that were accumulated over the years. Current condition: localized damage to one wing from (as I understand it) taxiing into a hangar door. There's some debate about the condition of the wood in one or both wings, which an AI will have to resolve. The fuselage is intact, last recovered in the mid-1980s. The airplane has been stationary indoors for maybe up to 20 years. The Lycoming was disassembled at a shop that was supposed to (but didn't) fix the damaged wing. Currently, the wings are inaccessible and will only be released when I've nailed down a plan and commitment for a renovation. The fuselage is relatively easy to reach. I have enough money to buy needed materials but I have no place to do such work. I'm open to a partnership, or to the start of a flying club, or to an arrangement that changes ownership after a designated number of years, or to any suggested possible resolution. Interested in more information, contact Jerry Ernst; 989-725-9307 or agrat65LA@yahoo.com

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



YOUTH GROUP

By Jeff Shaud

jlshaud@wowway.com

September 2020 EAA55 Young Aviators Youth Group Activity – By Jeff Shaud

Young Aviators RC Aircraft Take Flight!

On Sunday September 13th and September 27th, 2020, the EAA55 Young Aviators youth group was again graciously hosted by the **Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (CARDS)** at their airfield located on Otto Rd. in rural Grand Ledge, Mi. Although both days were less than ideal (overcast/broken, winds gusting 8 to 18 knots) for flight, we were able to get a significant amount of work completed on our RC aircraft. On September 27 the Young Aviators youth group labor paid off with the first flights of two of our Flite Test Explorer RC aircraft.



Designated instructors were available to assist the Young Aviators in getting started flying Explorers. Through the use of a “buddy box” system, the youth had the opportunity to fly their RC aircraft. The youth’s transmitter is coupled to the instructor’s transmitter through a Bluetooth wireless connection. The instructor is able to take control of the RC aircraft with the simple flip of a switch when needed. The simulator practice and the actual flight experience with the CARDS trainer aircraft has provided the experience necessary to fly these model aircraft.

Our next meeting will be Sunday October 11, 2020 again at the CARDS airfield, weather permitting. We will finish our four channel wings (with ailerons) and affix them to the Explorer RC fuselage. This will allow the Young Aviators youth to fly the Explorer with all three aerodynamic axis by having control of the elevator, rudder, and ailerons.

On behalf of the EAA Chapter 55 Young Aviators Youth Group, and from EAA Chapter 55 in general; I would like to thank the members and staff of the Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (CARD) for their hospitality. Partnerships such as this open a world of opportunity for youth to explore the wonderful world of flight.

From the CARDS website:
"The Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (CARDS) was founded in 1970 and is the largest radio control club in the Lansing area. The club [#353] is an AMA [Academy of Model Aeronautics] Gold Leader, and boasts the largest model aircraft runway in the state of Michigan, and hosts some of the state’s largest model aircraft events. The primary focus of CARDS is to increase participation in model aviation in the greater Lansing area. They offer a safe way for others to learn how they can participate in this hobby. The club is always looking for new members, from those who have never flown a model aircraft, to those who have been flying for decades. All pilots are welcome at CARDS." For specific direction to the CARDS airfield please check out their website at www.cardsrc.com.



LCC - MASON JEWETT CAMPUS

By Mark Bathurst

(bathursm@star.lcc.edu)

LCC's Aviation Maintenance Technology program follows the college's semester schedule. As such, we started a new class this August, and our students will graduate two years later, also in August. Our program continues with both a day and evening session, each with about 50 students enrolled. We are at capacity based on classroom size, hangar space and teaching asset utilization.

With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, the hiring pipeline has not completely dried up, but fewer employers than previous are asking to come to our facility to talk with students about employment opportunities. The current economic situation has airlines cutting back flying to levels not seen in 20 years. MRO providers are reporting record levels of work, and cargo operators are flying more than ever. Both are hiring our graduates. Manufacturers are a mixed bag, with some producing less and some, especially in the corporate realm, reporting increased production.

The one constant throughout the industry is the still-aging workforce. The premise behind the partnership we have with Delta is that the usual sources of maintenance technicians was drying up and schools like LCC's were an important source of new mechanics. That is still the case today. With early-out incentives, buyouts and the like, once the economy turns around we expect strong demand once again for our graduates.

We continue to see strong interest from prospective students in our program. As we talk to them, they realize the significant opportunities the career field offers once things turnaround, and they want to be in position to take advantage of the opportunities when they do occur. We are seeing an increasing average age in the students enrolling in the program which supports recognition of what the career field offers.



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)

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.

Bluebird/Songbird Houses; \$20.00 each; proceeds benefit the Mason Sycamore Creek Youth Garden Club; Vickie Vandenbelt; vickie@eaa55.org

Pietenpol Sky Scout; single seat; Lycoming O-145; 65HP; good compression check; all new plugs; runs good and lots of fun ! \$5,500.00. Margaret Bradford; 517-663-3083

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

For sale!!!! 16 acres, 4 bedroom 3 bath, hangar, horse barn, runway, forest, pond, hunting, 2 big hills Haslett Schools Williamston township, 865 Barry Rd Haslett \$478,000 \$450,000 if no realtor contact Gabe Blosser 517- 896-0020





EAA55 = CHAPTER BUILDERS

Members who are working on or completed homebuilts or restorations ... (Have I missed anyone? Additions, deletions & corrections appreciated):

- David Alexander; Aventura II
- Gabe Blosser; Bushmaster SuperCub Amphib
- John & Connie Bobcik; Kitfox
- Ivan Bradley; Zenith CH650B
- Dave Cook/Greg Hover; RV-6A
- Ed Crouse; Rans
- Ken Drewyor; Kitfox
- Ron Gorsline; Zenith 650
- Ralph Gregus; Zenith 750
- Dave Groh; Stearman; AT-6 restoration
- Chuck Hacker; Zenith 701
- Greg Harris; Zenith 750 project
- Gordon Hempstone; Avid Magnum project
- Steve Houghton; RV-7A
- Doug Koons w/BPurosky; Glastar
- Rick Laub; Sling 4
- Wm. (Bill) Long; Kolb Firefly Ultralight
- Terry Lutz; RV-8
- Doug MacKenzie; Zenith 701
- Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-12; RV14A project
- Warren Miller; Fisher 303 ultralight
- Chuck Moore; REVO Lt Sport Evolution
- George Moore; KIS Pulsar 150
- Gary Nicola; Grumman Traveler restoration
- Jim Palmer; Glasair III
- Bill Purosky w/DKoons; Glastar
- Pat Salow; Zenith 701
- Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub EX2 ; EX3 project
- Jeff Shaud; RV-7 project
- Jim Spry; RV-8
- Tracy Tillman/Lisa Colletti; (2) E-LSA Bailey-Moyes 914 Dragonflies; (1) E-LSA Alatus-AL12 sailplane
- Ken Vandenbelt; Stearman project
- David VanderMolen; Zenith 750 project
- John VanderMolen; Zenith 750 project



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

Excutive/corporate heated hangar space available. Includes pilot lounge, kitchen, bathroom/shower, conference room, TV. Cloud9 248-921-0092

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

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

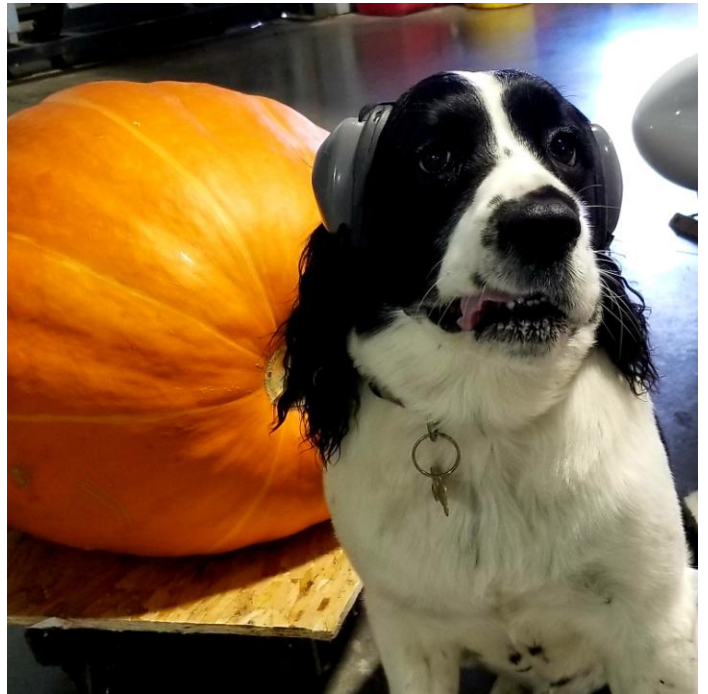
**FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS
POSTED IN TEW TERMINAL (with
thanks to Mark Bathurst)**

WEB EVENT CALENDARS:

<http://www.eaa.org/en/ea/events>

<http://www.fly-ins.com/>

<http://www.michigan.gov/aero/>



The great pumpkin has been found.

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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