

## EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

**MAY 2022**

**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: Scott Basel 517-980-0952**

→ **Treas: Drew Seguin 517-333-4531** → **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](http://www.EAA55.org)**



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**by Margie Clark**

[ea55.president@gmail.com](mailto:ea55.president@gmail.com)

Have you been flying lately? Did you have a great adventure or discover a new and interesting place to fly to that others may enjoy? Submit a short article to Deanna about your flight and she will share it thru the newsletter to others.

Bob and I had the pleasure of going to Sun N Fun this year in Lakeland, Florida. Definitely smaller than AirVenture in Wisconsin but just as much fun! Lots of airplanes, vendors and yes, we had a downpour. Found out how sharp rain feels on the bare skin while racing a golf cart across the airport. Unfortunately we got caught in it while transporting folks to the vehicles. All in all, it was a great time.

Looking forward to going back next year! Retirement has given me a new outlook on living!

Meanwhile back home I need to focus on our upcoming fund raiser. Yes, I know I sound like a broken record, but, this is the first DAWN PATROL in 2 years and it is important that we have everyone's help to pull it off successfully. This is a shorter day than MAD but if everyone pitches in it will be a light load for all. I am asking for volunteers to set up the cafeteria area early on Friday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of June. We hold our first Young Eagle rally that Saturday and it makes a very long day when you have to set up the tables and grills the same day. The sign up charts are on the table in the Chapter room and right now are looking very bare. Our Young Aviators have committed to helping out and the Boy Scouts will be here as always. Please consider signing up for what ever time you can commit to. Remember, this is your chapter and we need your help to keep it going.

Don't forget the Tuesday night potlucks at 6:00pm. Good food and great conversation! A good time to come out and see folks you haven't seen for a while and to meet some new members as well.

Margie

### **EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting April 9, 2022**

- The meeting was called to order at 9:31AM by Acting President Doug Koons with 23 members attending.
- □ Doug thanked the breakfast team of Don and Deanna McAlister, Ken Drewyor, Dave Courey, and Dave Trojan. The breakfast team for May will be Anna Folger, Tim Martinsen. Pat Salow, Kathy Flanders, and Gilda Tucker.
- The Secretary's report for February 12th was presented, Bill Purosky made a motion to accept, Gary Nicola seconded; the motion passed.
- The Treasurer's report March 31st was presented; Terry Lutz made a motion to accept, Bill Purosky seconded the motion; the report was approved.
- There Youth Group report met two weeks ago and will meet again tomorrow. At the last meeting they worked on the Aero Educate program from the EAA and worked on gliders. They built some dinner ware plates and test flew them in the hangar. They scratch built some balsa wood gliders including a bi-plane. Tomorrow's meeting will include some Young Eagles flights. A couple of pilots have

- volunteered and any other pilot who wants to fly a Young Eagle is welcome to sign on.
- The Young Eagles report from Margie Clark is she has been working on a special Young Eagles flight in Howell on June 4<sup>th</sup> to help them out. If any pilot who has their Child Protection Certificate is welcome to help out.
- We need volunteers to help out with Dawn Patrol, Young Eagles, and Mason Aviation Day. Sign-up sheets are available.
- Our Ray Scholarship candidate has suspended here formal training for the time being and is pursuing the written part of her private pilot examination. Doug has been working with the Ray Scholarship committee on our next candidate Daniel Thomas for 2022 who has his paperwork in to The Ray Foundation and have received approval for him. We have another \$10,000 for our second scholarship awardee. A lot of work goes into the nomination process and Chapter 55 has qualified a candidate for last year and again this year. Daniel is working to start flight lessons in the first week of May. He is about to take his written exam for the ground portion of his private pilot license and has a good start.
- CRAA at their Board Meeting last week has voted to take the North-South runway proposal off the master plan and to sell the property. The proposal was placed on their agenda on Friday and was voted on the following Monday. Action from Chapter 55, Lansing Community College, and the tenants of the airport is required to change this back door action by the board. Jeff Stetson made a motion for Chapter 55 to spend up to \$1,000 to hire an attorney to challenge the change by the CRAA board to the master plan with regard to the North-South runway. Drew Seguin seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.
- Karen Merindorf was selling 50/50 raffle tickets for the Relay for Life fundraiser, Terry Lutz won \$37.50 and donated the winnings to the Relay for life fundraiser.
- There will be a planning meeting for the Dawn Patrol event coming this June 12<sup>th</sup> preceding the Board of Directors meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Attend if you have input to give.
- Dave Courey will be doing the presentation on drones after this meeting.

- Bill Bezdek reports that Mason schools is looking for a new superintendent.
- Great Lakes Air Ventures seems to be moving operations to Jackson.
- There was no further business so the meeting was adjourned at 10:16AM..

Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary EAA Chapter 55

### **EAA Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting April 6, 2022**

→The meeting was called to order by Vice President Scott Basel at 7:04pm. →Present were Scott Basel, Drew Seguin, John Kuchar, Mark Bathurst, Jeff Shaud, Gabe Blosser, Ken Drewyor, Doug Koons, and Rick Laub. Absent were Margie Clark, Joe Madziar, Warren Miller, and Bob Clark. →The Secretary's Report for March 9, 2022, was presented; Mark Bathurst made a motion to accept; Drew Seguin seconded; the report was accepted. →The Treasurer's Report for March 31, 2022 was introduced; Rick Laub made a motion to accept; Gabe Blosser seconded; the motion was approved. →The Ray Scholarship report from Doug Koons is the search committee has selected another candidate, Daniel Thomas, who has been approved by EAA Headquarters as our 2022 candidate. He has chosen Crosswinds for his flight training and is nearly finished with his ground school from Sporty's. He has good support from his family to meet his objective of becoming a private pilot. Our current candidate Anna needs to complete her written exam for the ground school part of her lessons to receive another \$2,000 and then solo to receive the final \$4,000. She is 7 lessons behind from where she should be according to her instructor. →The Youth Group met March 27<sup>th</sup> and talked about gliders, stability, and the engineering design process and made some foam plate gliders. They also built some balsa wood gliders from scratch. The next meeting will be April 10<sup>th</sup> and they will begin constructing a wind tunnel. Also 7 or 8 youth will do Young Eagle flights. Approved pilots are still needed to do the flights. →The Tuesday potlucks have been well attended with 14 people coming to the last dinner. Pat Salow gave a presentation on the scheduled replacement of gaskets and hoses with some examples found on his plane after 5 years of operation. →Drew Seguin is working on the memorial wall, looking into making space on the wall as well as requirements for the material posted.

→The May members meeting program is open with Dave Courey talking to a couple of presenters. →The t-shirt order will be here in May. →Gabe Blosser will be the close out person for the May members meeting. →In general discussion a partially completed Mini-Max was offered as a donation to the chapter. The offer was not accepted. →No further business was discussed. →Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm. →Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary



The "D" team: Dave Trojan, Don McAlister, Dave Courey, Deanna McAlister

**BREAKFAST TEAMS:**

<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Ralph Gregus	Bill Bezdek
Anna Folger	Denise Cook
Tim Martinson	David Cook
Pat Salow	Randy Collier
Cathy Flanders	Anthony Banks
Gilda Tucker	

**SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:**

**MAY:**  
 "What's That?! (Motor) Glider Talk for Powered Pilots"  
**CONTACT DAVE COUREY or MARGIE CLARK WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS**



**YOUNG EAGLES COORDINATOR**  
 by Margie Clark  
 ([margieclark172@gmail.com](mailto:margieclark172@gmail.com))

Hear ye, Hear ye...calling all available pilots and volunteers!  
 June is coming up soon and our first Young Eagle Rally is scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup> of June which just happens to be THE 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL YOUNG EAGLES DAY! Sign up sheets will be in the Chapter room. Please consider helping out with this event. It's not hard and we will train you at whatever is needed to be done. Let's see if we can help to encourage some of these youth that we fly to become new pilots. They are the future of the industry. If you have questions about what needs to be done just ask, I am more than willing to walk you through what we do. Just a reminder, if you happen to be a pilot, but don't want to fly that day, I need someone to pull their plane out

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

for a static display and explain a preflight to the groups before they fly. This takes an important step away from the pilots that are flying and speeds up the process to get the youth in the air.

Thanks for your time,  
Margie Clark  
YE Coordinator

**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](mailto:EAA55.mems@gmail.com))

**NEW MEMBERS:** Chapter 55 welcomes new member Joseph Dickson. He is a pilot without a plane and is in the market to buy !!

**CHAPTER EVENTS:** time to get the word out about our summer Young Eagles, Dawn Patrol Pancake Breakfast & Mason Aviation Day. Copies of our flyers are attached with this newsletter email. Please email your family and friends. Please print and post at work, church and any public bulletin boards you know about. Copies of our flyers will also be at the Chapter for you to pass out. Thank you, in advance, for your assistance.

**NEWS FROM CRAA:** The CRAA Board has voted to remove the N/S turf runway from the Mason Jewett Field Master Plan and intends to sell the property per the attached copy of the February 28th, 2022, Board Meeting minutes.

**MICHIGAN AIRPORT DIRECTORY:** The 2022 editions will soon be arriving in your mailbox. If you have an extra 2022 or are ready to get rid of your 2021 – I would like them. You can leave them for me at the meeting room. My thanks in advance.

**AMERICAN LEGION FLAG PROGRAM:** If you live in Mason, perhaps you would like to sign up for the American Legion Flag Program. The cost is \$40 a year for the placement of our nation's flag on eight

(8) flag dates from May to November. Your participation supports many American Legion community programs including the renovation project of "The Wooden Soldiers" that you see in front of City Hall. Forms to order are included with this newsletter email. NOTE: A variety of United States, Michigan, and Service flags can be ordered from American Legion as well. And don't forget that worn out flags can be deposited in the special box at the Mason Area Historical Society for a designated retirement ceremony.

### **INGHAM COUNTY REQUESTS CITIZENS**

**INPUT:** Ingham County has hired the *MERIT Network, Inc.*, to help with the County's planning and expansion efforts for broadband services in Ingham County. Ingham County is asking all Ingham County residents to help assist by completing a survey either via online, by smart phone browser, or by text. The survey can be accessed at [www.MichiganMoonshot.org/Ingham](http://www.MichiganMoonshot.org/Ingham) Survey responses are needed no later than June 3, 2022. You may also request a paper survey by calling 517-676-7206.



### **YOUTH GROUP**

By Jeff Shaud

([jlshaud@wowway.com](mailto:jlshaud@wowway.com))

Greetings EAA 55 members,

### **May Meeting Schedule**

The youth group will take a break from our normal meeting schedule to enjoy and spend time with our families on Mother's Day Sunday May 8, 2022. Our next Young Aviators youth group meeting will take place on **Sunday May 22, 2022** from 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM at the chapter hangar at Mason Jewett airport. Please enter through Gate #1. I hope to see you there and, bring a friend!

### **Internal Combustion Engine Update**

As a refresher, through the generous donation of a Harbor Freight Predator 212cc OHV engine by member Gary Nicola, and the youth group purchase of two more Predator engines, the youth group was able to take on the project of learning about internal combustion engines (ICE). Our last year's challenge was to unpack the engines, mount them to a test



fixture, add engine oil and gasoline, and start the engines to demonstrate that they DO run! We then completely disassembled the engines using complete tool sets generously donated to the youth group by member Greg Harris. After learning about all the different parts on disassembly, the youth learned about precision measuring equipment and the importance of tolerances in an internal combustion engine. On Sunday April 24, 2022, after a long winter hiatus from working in the builders' hangar, the youth group began the reassembly process, and continued learning, on the internal combustion engines project.



After a few months off, we had to reacquaint ourselves with the parts and components of the engines. A thorough cleaning of the parts was necessary prior to reassembly. We then began by installing the crankshaft, valve lifter tappets, and cam. Next came the tricky part of installing the piston rings onto the piston in the correct orientation. The piston rings are fragile and break very easily if not installed with great care. The youth next installed the piston on the connecting rod assuring the piston pin clips seated into the piston pin bore grooves. The connecting rod/piston assembly were then offered into the cylinder bore, piston rings compressed, and connecting rod bearing journal mated to the crankshaft. The connecting rod cap was assembled to the connecting rod/crankshaft assembly and the connecting rod bolts were torque tightened to 208 lb.-ins. The youth learned about torque wrenches and the importance of torque tightening critical functioning hardware. The camshaft was installed by timing it to the crankshaft. After the camshaft installation, the crankcase engine cover with main bearing was installed and torque tightened. At our next ICE build

session, the youth will assemble the cylinder heads and install them on the engines.



### Youth Group at Dawn Patrol

The Young Aviator youth group would like to participate at the EAA Chapter 55 Dawn Patrol Breakfast by volunteering on the flight line to park aircraft. Most of the youth group members have received aircraft parking training prior to COVID-19 two years ago. We would like to have a refresher class in aircraft marshalling and to teach our new members the process. Are there a couple of EAA 55 members who would like to volunteer to teach a marshalling class at our next youth group meeting on Sunday May 22, 2022? Perhaps, we could combine this activity with a youth group Young Eagles flight to prepare for our upcoming Young Eagles events (huh, three birds with one stone!)? Please let me know if you would be interested in offering/helping with an aircraft marshalling class for the youth group. See you at the hangar!

Jeff Shaud

EAA 55 Youth Group Director  
(517) 712-6482

[jlshaud@wowway.com](mailto:jlshaud@wowway.com)



**LCC - MASON JEWETT CAMPUS**

By Mark Bathurst

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

The end of LCC's 16 week spring semester is here. Our students finish on May 9 and resume June 6 for the summer semester. The summer semester is a shortened 8 weeks, and classes run longer during the day to make up for the reduced class schedule. Our

second year students will graduate at the end of the summer semester on August 1, and are now actively focused on employment opportunities. There are a significant number of jobs for newly FAA-licensed maintenance technicians today.

As previously discussed, industry surveys are forecasting record number of both pilot and maintenance technician vacancies in the next 10-20 years. Aircraft maintenance employers have been calling with increased frequency asking three questions: When do your students graduate? How many are graduating? When can we talk to your students?

Not only are there vacancies in the United States for maintenance technicians, there are even more in other parts of the world. In the next 20 years, 274,000 new maintenance positions will exist in the Asia/Pacific region. Europe will require 112,000 new technicians, North America will require 132,000, the Middle East will have 51,000 vacancies, Latin America 37,000, and 20,000 positions will be open in Africa.

Our graduates have opportunities to work in any part of the world. The FAA A&P license is recognized and accepted throughout the world since employers know what subject material our students study, the level of proficiency our students must demonstrate on all of the required course outcomes, and the hours spent on the various subjects covered during the two years they are in school. The A&P license truly is the international gold standard for maintenance technicians.

One of the byproducts of the pandemic and the commensurate early retirements and buyouts is the significant ratcheting up in starting salaries for newly-graduated A&P mechanics. Whereas starting salaries were in the low \$20/hour range, they are now consistently in the \$25-\$28/hour range. Added to that are provisions for relocation allowance, tools, uniforms, tuition reimbursement and even flight training. The packages employers are offering our graduates have significantly improved over the past few years based on demand for mechanics and the limited numbers of graduates all 187 Part 147 schools in the U.S. can produce.

Given increased employer hiring needs and increasing industry starting salaries, aviation maintenance is a great career to consider.



**EDITORS PROLIX**  
**By Deanna McAlister**  
([zirconmoons@gmail.com](mailto:zirconmoons@gmail.com))



**By Karen Meirndorf**  
**Team Heartwood Glad Rags**

Relay For Life of Greater Lansing will be held this year on Friday September 23 6pm till Saturday 10am at the Corrigan Oil Speedway in Mason. EEA Chapter 55 is sponsoring an ACS "fact sign", with our chapter name, that is placed along the walking track. Please help a great cause and community event with the purchase of a 50/50 ticket during our pancake breakfast. The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the meeting. Your support enables us to continue ACS lifesaving work and making sure our Survivors enjoy more birthdays. Thank you for your generosity.



**Email Notice:**

The best way to do a broadcast email to Chapter 55 membership is to “reply all” to your latest newsletter email. Just change/delete the subject and content. This will insure you get the most up-to-date membership roster

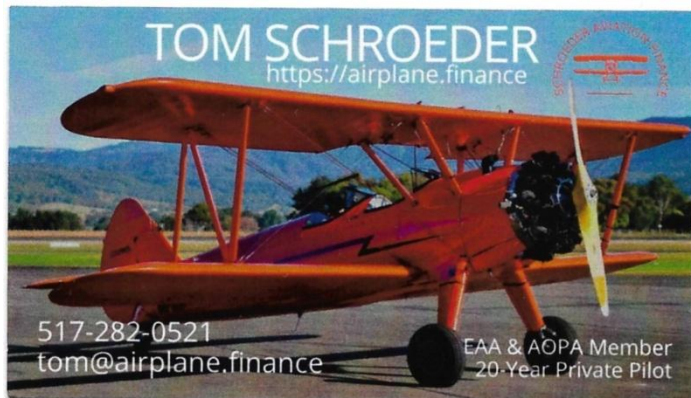
Contributions, corrections and additions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Deanna McAlister (zirconmoons@gmail.com)

**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:**

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



**HANGARS FOR RENT AT TEW:**

Lloyd Brown; 517-589-8619  
 Tom Tuttle; 734-216-7532  
 Gabe Blosser; 517-896-0020  
 Tim Martinson; common hangar; best for low wing; 517-803-0462; [tmartins1575@yahoo.com](mailto:tmartins1575@yahoo.com)  
 EAA55; Common Storage or Building hangar space; Margie Clark; 517-853-1418 (waiting list)

Do you have anything you want to sell?? Additions and corrections, contact Deanna McAlister [zirconmoons@gmail.com](mailto: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 and 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 Coller; 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  
Warren Miller; Fisher303 Ultralight  
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  
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/eea/events>

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

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

June 12, 2022 EAA 55 Dawn Patrol  
July 25-31 2022 AirVenture  
August 20, 2022 MAD Mason Aviation Day

**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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