

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

JUNE 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

Happy June everyone! Mother Nature has started the month out with great weather...hopefully it will be like this for **Dawn Patrol on Sunday, June 11th**. This is our first fund raiser of the year for the Chapter and we need all hands on deck to make the event happen smoothly. Please consider signing up for a time slot at the grills, helping in the kitchen, flight line security and/or plane parking. If you aren't sure of what you would like to help with - just add your name to the sign-up sheets available in the meeting room and we can assign a task to help out. We will be setting up the hangar for Dawn Patrol on Friday, June 9th starting at 10:30am. Help is also needed that day.



Chapter 55 made Gold again, thanks to the chapter as a whole!!!!

CHAPTER 55

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Wed. June 7th

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Sat. June 10th
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am



Thank you **May Breakfast Team:**
Gilda Tucker and Pat Salow

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

June - July - August - Young Eagles Rallies

CONTACT DAVE COUREY WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS

UPCOMING BREAKFAST TEAMS:

<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>
Bill Bezdek Rick Laub David Cook Randy Collier Lee Paquette	Karen Hover Bruce Boardman Bruce Thorburn Ivan Bradley Jan Angell Albert Esser II

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

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for January 14, 2023:

→The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM by Vice President Doug Koons with 26 members attending. One guest Paul Krieger and one new member Daniel Schmidt attended. →Doug thanked the breakfast team of Bill Bezdek, Gilda Tucker, Bill Purosky, and Doug Koons that stepped in to cover for those who were assigned but never showed up. The breakfast team for February will be Gregg Harris, Dave Groh, Tom Schroeder, Carol Spry, Jim Spry, and Scott Basel. →Secretarys report for December was not available. →Treasurers report for December 31, 2022 was presented; Dave Trojan made a motion to accept, Jeff Shaud seconded, motion approved. →Youth Group report from Jeff Shaud is there wasn't a second adult present so the meeting was canceled. The group is working on the Tri-Pacer wing learning how to drill rivets. The next meeting is Jan 22 in the builder's hangar. Sportys has an essay contest for youth under 22 for \$5,000 and \$2,500 as a second prize. →Ray Scholarship update by Doug is Daniel Thomas our 2022 recipient has 8 or 9 hours left to finish but weather has put a halt to his progress. Doug has turned in all the information required for our 2023 scholarship and should hear from EAA Headquarters the first week of February. →Young Eagles report from Margie was our upcoming Young Eagles flight for the summer and reminds everyone to update their Child Protection Act. →A reminder from Margie to keep the bathroom and storage room doors closed tight when no one is here. We don't heat the building except for the bathroom. →Condolences to Don and Deanna McAllister on the loss of their puppy, a very

big puppy. →Capital Region Airport Authority will hold quarterly meetings here at Mason Jewett and Chapter 55 members should make an effort to attend these meetings. The first one will be February 1 at the LCC facility at 5:30pm. →Rosie the Riveter Day will be Tuesday March 21 at 3PM at the Capital Heritage Hall. →Today's program will be by Dave Trojan. Next month we will have Rosie the Riveter from the Yankee Air Museum and the following month will be by Mark Bathurst and his team on maintenance and April will be Dave Trojan again followed by Gabe Blosser in May. →Jackson County Airport host Jackson Aviation Day on June 24th. →There was no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 9:46AM. →Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar

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 but the Board was able to approve them.

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

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA 55 Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting May 10, 2023

→The meeting was called to order by President Margie Clark at 7:05pm. →Present were Margie Clark, Doug Koons, Drew Seguin, John Kuchar, Ken Drewyor, Gary Nicola, Jeff Shaud, David James, Bob Clark, Greg Hover, Gabe Blosser, and Michael Rosencrans. Absent was Warren Miller. →Secretary's Report for April 5, 2023 was submitted; a motion to approve was made by Greg Hover; seconded by David James; motion approved. →Treasurer's Report for April 30, 2023 was submitted by Drew Seguin; a motion to accept was made by Jeff Koons; seconded by Jeff Shaud; motion approved. Drew reported the Quick Books software was expiring and the new version would cost \$549. He will look into a different software package or using what we have until no longer

functions. A motion was made by Jeff Shaud to allocate the funds for the new software package if it is needed, seconded by David James; motion approved. →Ray Scholarship report by Doug Koons is our 2022 scholarship winner Daniel Thomas was expected to complete his final hour of his training this week but weather and mechanical problems stopped his progress. EAA headquarters authorized a one month extension to use his remaining time to finish. Our 2023 applicant Cal Hayslette has started his lessons but has had to cancel three flight lessons due to weather and mechanical problems and has done ground school lessons ahead of schedule. He needs to do some flight time to get in sync with the ground school material. →Youth Group report from Jeff Shaud is he had to shift the Youth Group Meetings to the May 7 and 21. Two Youth Group were given Young Eagles flights thanks to Pat Salow. →Young Eagles report from Margie was we need to have our Child Protection Act paperwork done for all personnel working with or around kids. We need to have their CPA approval on file with the Chapter. This is for our protection as well as the Young Eagles we fly. We need a few pilots to fly Young Eagle flights on May 24 for the Girl Scouts. We also need to have some members to give talks on aviation and flying to the Girl Scouts to meet their requirements for their merit badge. →MAD update report from Margie is our MAD banner can't be found. We will be doing our food line for DP and MAD differently to make the line move more quickly. We will be doing only scrambled eggs so they can done ahead to speed up the time in the serving line. The Scouts will helping with the cleaning and the clearing of tables and the tear down. →Close out personnel are needed for the rest of the year for our membership meetings. →There will be sign-up sheets in the meeting room for the Young Eagle flights as well as Dawn Patrol and Mason Aviation Day. →There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.
→Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar

EAA 55 Chapter 55 Membership Meeting May 13, 2023

→meeting was called to order at 9:30am by President Margie Clark with 28 members present and 3 guests, Ken & Abbey Mosley from Chapter 333 and Tim Allen. →Following the National Anthem President Margie Clark thanked the breakfast team of Pat Salow and Gilda Tucker. The breakfast crew for June is Bill Bezdek, Rick Laub, David Cook,

Randy Collier, and Lee Paquette. If you cannot make your scheduled time, please contact Joe Madziar. →Treasurer's Report of April 30, 2023 by Drew Seguin was submitted. Bill Purosky made a motion to accept, David James seconded; motion approved. →Secretary's report for April 8th was not available. →Youth Group report from Jeff Shaud was Pat Salow flew two Youth Group members for their Young Eagles flights. The group continued to work on the wing panels. Once they finish the wing project part of it will be turned into a glass top table and auctioned off to raise funds for the Youth Group. →Ray Scholarship update from Doug Koons was Daniel Thomas used his last hour of his scholarship award money and next will take his Cross Country flight. Doug awarded him a hat and EAA t-shirt for having completed his scholarship training. →Young Eagles report from Margie is our first Young Eagles flight will be this coming June 10th and pilots and workers are needed to volunteer to help with these events. Pilots and those who will be working directly with youth must have their Child Protection Act approval beforehand. Margie also requests to have a printed copy to place in her files. →Dawn Patrol Pancake Breakfast Fly-In will be Sunday June 11th and volunteers are needed to set up on Friday June 9th as well as bright and early Sunday morning to work the event. This is our first big event of the year for the aviation community so we need a great deal of help to make this one of the must do events for pilots. →Relay for Life is June 23 & 24 and you can purchase a luminaria for \$10 from Karen Merindorf as well as purchase 50/50 raffle tickets during this meeting. →Chapter 55 has earned our second Gold Medal Award from EAA headquarters for our chapter's aviation activities. We now have one Silver and two Gold Medal Awards. Our past awards will be hung in the hangar behind the grill area. →Terry Lutz made a presentation to the Capitol Region Airport Authority that Mason Jewett needs to start having improvements made. Last year's incident with the airplane running off the runway when they didn't know to modify the AWOS to alert incoming traffic the airport was closed shows the lack of attention to TEW. Terry reported that Mason Jewett is in the small minority of airports within a 60 mile radius of LAN that doesn't have an airport manager. Terry is trying to prod CRAA to begin listening issues that need attention at TEW such as the poor condition of the fuel hose reel and nozzle. Terry has tried to attend CRAA board meetings to make them aware of issues here at

Mason Jewett. Our members need to attend these meetings regularly to make them aware of issues that aren't being addressed. →Program presentation after this meeting will be by Gabe Blosser on his path to becoming a pilot. →Relay for Life 50/50 raffle amount was \$56 and was won by Larry Benjamin. He gave his winnings to the Relay for Life as a donation. →There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 10:05am. →Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary



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

Our first Young Eagle Rally is scheduled for June 10 which happens to be the "International Young Eagles Day"! As always, we will need folks to help at registration, static display, ground control and - of course - PILOTS to fly the youth. Please sign up on the sheets in the meeting room if you are going to participate.



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

Looking forward to a great weekend of Chapter 55 events !!

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



YOUTH GROUP
By Jeff Shaud
(jlshaud@wowway.com)

See you at the hangar!



LCC - MASON JEWETT CAMPUS
By Mark Bathurst
(bathursm@star.lcc.edu)

Spring is definitely here. The weather is changing for the better, and the opportunities for classwork to be performed with hangar doors open and out on the ramp is a welcome change. We are in the midst of our break between semesters, and our students will come back in early June for their eight-week summer semester. At the end of the summer semester, in early August, our second-year students will graduate, and have already begun applying for jobs.

Continuing the trend, employment opportunities are very strong. A number of our second-year students have already received job offers, and employers are contacting us with a frequency exceeding the pre-pandemic era. Current demand for aircraft maintenance technicians derives from several factors.

First, air travel is up. Recent reports indicate people are now flying commercially in greater numbers than in the 2019 pre-pandemic era. As airlines add flights, they need more pilots, flight attendants and mechanics. Second, many employers who offered early out/early retirement options to legacy employees are now scrambling for replacements.

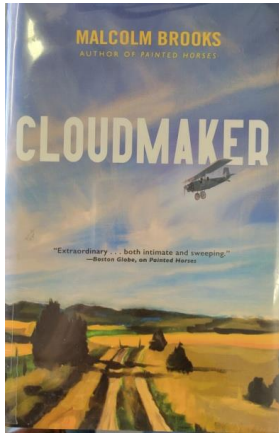
Not knowing how long the COVID restrictions would be in place, and not knowing what the post-pandemic world would look like, employers across the aviation industry significantly reduced head count. As the economy has recovered relatively quickly, airlines, manufacturers, and repair facilities (large and small) and related industries are all still scrambling to find additional help. That need translates to multiple job offers for our students with increased salaries and benefits.

Employers who have talked to us all indicate they see a sustained hiring period. This is good news for our students, and for the health of the industry as a whole. General, commercial and military-related aviation all are significant economic drivers, and with the strong recovery underway, our students are pleased with the choice they made to attend LCC's program. Our fall 2023 incoming class is already at capacity and we have had to create a wait list for others interested in joining us.



EDITORS PROLIX
 By Deanna McAlister
 (zirconmoons@gmail.com)

Its summer weather, great to fly to a sod strip pull out a blanket or bag chair and sit in the shade and read. About airplanes of course. Another book I recommend is Cloudmaker It takes you back into the barn storming days.



Congratulations Daniel Thomas !!!!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, CHAPTER 55
 Chapter 55 was formed in 1959 and 2023 marks our
 64th Anniversary

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



Kids keep our chapter growing. Our future of General Aviation starts with our youth dreaming about being up in the sky.



FREE RADIUM INSTRUMENT TESTING AND TRAINING
 By Dave Trojan

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



EXPENSIVE HAMBURGERS

By Bill Purosky/Doug Koons

Doug and I got the occasion plus good weather to fly to Hart/Shelby airport (C04) with Bruce and Dan and Dan's neighbor, Roger. Bruce flew his new ride, a Cessna 172 and Dan his helicopter. We were able to use the courtesy car, an old full size Ford police car to go to the famous Brown Bear restaurant in Shelby. You have to be good friends with the driver and front seat passenger in this car because once you are in the back seat and the door is closed, you can't get out unless someone from the outside of the car opens the door. We were lucky and were able to get out at the restaurant. The Bear is known for its great hamburgers and those of us who ordered them were not disappointed. When we got back to the airport, we found that the suggested donation for the use of the car is \$40.00 dollars. The reasoning is that the airport is trying to fund the cost of the insurance on a user-based fee. Since there were five of us, that amount was not objectionable but Doug and I will think twice before coming alone in the future.

This is in contrast to the treatment Doug and I received at Hart/Shelby. We flew to the Huron County Memorial Airport (BAX) in Bad Axe. The flight here was great but did experience a little smoky haze due to the forest fires in Alberta, Canada. Not only is the courtesy car relatively new,

but the airport manager, Chris Jackson, has placed restaurant discount coupons for 15% off for our use in the car. There is no suggestion for the donation for use of the car. What a pleasant difference from the Hart/Shelby situation. We drove a couple of miles into town and stopped at the Peppermill restaurant. Very nice and recommended by us if you are in Bad axe. For starters, they serve 4 different soups available each day plus other normal fare to start with. I can attest that the Reuben was first rate. When we returned, we donated a modest \$5.00 for the car, thanked Chris, and climbed in for the return flight to Mason.

On the 20th of May, Doug and I made our usual monthly trip to Big Rapids (RQB). As usual, Beth Ranger greets you as you shut down with chocks in hand. She is usually the Lone Ranger that greets you! (Sorry, couldn't resist.) We come here monthly because there is always something good to eat and a great bunch of guys and gals to talk to. As was the case this day, there are usually 8 to 10 airplanes on the field that fly in for lunch. I've seen as many as 20 planes in our previous visits. You can either bring some food to share with the group or make a donation to the pot for future meals. We donated this time! It takes us about 50 minutes to get here give or take due to winds, so it is a nice flight. Of course, Tom Bottsford and Karen Merindorf are usually in attendance as well. We will continue our trip to here in the future as well.

On the 27th, I went to the Fremont Airport (FFX) Fly in. Doug was busy getting the family house in White Oaks set up for the summer season. I asked a friend of mine, Ron Buel, to take the empty seat and join me for the flight. Ron is a private pilot who has lost his way and I'm trying to get him to realize his mistake. He has let his need to earn a living interfere with his need to fly. We arrived a few minutes before 9am just in time to see a flight of 14 leaving the airport on runway 18 to form up for a flyby in the next half hour or so. They took off in groups as we approached to land on runway 9. Terry Lutz was leading a group of four within the group of 14, I found out later. We also met the Bobcik's there with their fine looking plane. Breakfast was being served and the price was only \$8.00. For that you received a small portion of scrambled eggs, one sausage patty, a couple of small pancakes and coffee. We then took the opportunity to walk the line of planes and kick the tires. Obviously, there is someone at this airport

that deals in the Chinese airplane, the Yak. I counted 15 of them with just a brief look around. If you are in the market for a Yak, you should visit here! Ron and I took the opportunity to post our fliers on their bulletin board for our upcoming events. We then took a slightly bumpy ride back to Mason.

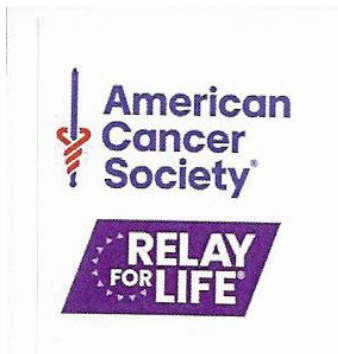


RELAY FOR LIFE
By Karen Meirndorf
Team Heartwood Glad Rags

The American Cancer Society is attacking cancer in many ways. Our Relay is doing everything in our power to create a world without cancer, and making it possible for our community cancer Survivors to celebrate more birthdays.

A big Thank You to everyone who donated or participated in our Chapter 55 "Fact Sign" 50/50 drawings this spring. The money raised exceeded my wildest expectations that will most definitely help us in reaching this year's goal of \$100,000.

Thank you all very very much.



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:

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

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

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; Stearman; Starduster project
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
Dawn Koeplinger; Cessna 172; Aeronca Sedan
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:

Jun 11 = EAA55 Dawn Patrol
Jun 24 = Jackson Aviation Day
Jun 29-Jul 4 = Battle Cr Balloon & Air
Jul 24-Jul 30 = AirVenture
Aug 12 & 13 = Thunder Over Michigan
Aug 19 = Mason Aviation Day

FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS POSTED IN TEW TERMINAL

w/special thanks to Mark Bathurst. 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/

2023 CRAA BOARD MEETING
4th Monday of the Month
4:30p.m.
Marion "Babe" Ruth Community Room
Terminal Building, Capital Region Int. Airport



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.

PERMISSION TO USE original content from **WINGTIPS** is granted to other EAA Chapters provided proper credit is given to the source. Unless so noted, photos and other content are the Editor's.