

## EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

June 2024

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: Rick Laub 616-755-6255 → Vice-President: John Kuchar 517-920-5351

→ Treas: Drew Seguin 517-333-4531 → Sec: Gilda Tucker 517-203-1865 → Editor: Julianna Buning 517-599-6563

→ Young Eagles: Margie Clark → Webmaster: John Bobcik → Youth Group: Jeff Shaud → Membership: Vickie Vandenberg

→ Flight Advisor: Terry Lutz → Adult Eagles: TBD

Website: [chapters.eaa.org/ea55](http://chapters.eaa.org/ea55)



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Rick Laub

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

Summer is here! Thanks to everyone who turned out for the Young Eagles event in Owosso.

There were not as many youth as expected – by all reports, Chapter 55 delivered on all fronts.

Thanks to Margie, as always, for taking the lead on this event. We will be hosting our own first Young Eagles event of 2024 in June followed the next weekend by our Dawn Patrol Pancake Breakfast. If you have not yet signed up, please do.

I want to extend a warm and thankful WELCOME to Julianna Buning who is taking the reins from Deanna on this issue of Wingtips. Thank You!

Also, thanks to Greg Hover for taking the lead on both the Dawn Patrol and MAD this year. If he asks you for your help, please say “YES!”.

See you at the meeting.

### CHAPTER 55

**BOARD MEETING:** 7:00pm; June 5th

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

### UPCOMING BREAKFAST TEAMS:

#### June

Bill Bezdek  
Don Frank  
David Cook  
Lisa Fredline  
Lee Paquette

#### July

Karen Hover  
Bruce Thorburn  
Ivan Bradley  
Albert Esser II

### EAA Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, May 8, 2024

→ The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm by President Rick Laub. In attendance were Rick Laub, Gilda Tucker, Drew Seguin, John Kuchar, Jeff Shaud, Gabe Blosser, Ken Drewyor (arrived 7:15), Bob Clark, Greg Hover, Gary Nicola, and Warren Miller. Absent were Dave James and Michael Rosencrans. Also in attendance were non board members Doug Koons and Margie Clark.

→ Secretary's Report was noted; Drew made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Doug; motion carried. → Treasurer's Report was noted. Gilda made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Gabe; motion carried. → Doug Koons announced that our 2023 Ray Scholarship recipient Cal Hayslette has completed his final check ride! Cal has completed all the necessary requirements and is now

### SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

#### JUNE-JULY-AUGUST:

Young Eagle Rally

#### SEPTEMBER:

Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (tent)

**CONTACT PAT SALOW WITH YOUR  
SUGGESTIONS**

an officially licensed private pilot. → Recoating the member hanger roof needs to be completed as soon as possible. The only holdup now is an insurance issue. Drew is handling this issue and is expecting a speedy resolution. Gilda made a motion that the board approve the \$6,000 expenditure needed to complete the roof project, with the provision that the insurance issue is resolved; Greg seconded the motion; motion carried. → April Youth Meeting was scheduled for the same day as the LCC Drone Safety Day on the Lansing Community College Campus. The plan was to simply conduct the Youth Meeting at LCC and allow the youth to participate in the drone activities. However, insurance issues rendered that impossible. Thus, the youth could “volunteer” to show up at LCC to participate unofficially. Several did so. Rick Laub was at the event and gave a glowing report of the success of the venture. Since the next scheduled youth meeting falls on Mother’s Day, (May 12th) the meeting is cancelled. → Insurance for upcoming events is handled by John Kuchar. We are covered for Dawn Patrol and Mason Aviation Day. He is still working on insurance for Civil Air Patrol. → Saturday after next (May 18th) is the Young Eagles event in Owosso. Pilots from other chapters, or from other than our chapter, will be on hand to help out. We are still in need of flight line workers. (Signup sheets are out on the tables for this event & our upcoming YE) Lunch will be provided at the Owosso event. Snacks and water will also be available. We will be setting up inside the terminal. → Close out this month will be handled by Greg Hover, who switched with Gabe. Gabe will handle the October close out. → Greg Hover is organizing Dawn Patrol and Mason Aviation Day events. Workers are needed. Indicate willingness to volunteer by utilizing the sign-up sheets. → Deanna has resigned as newsletter editor. Gilda will find a way to get the May newsletter out. A call for those interested in taking over the editor position will go out at the upcoming member meeting. → Doug repainted the picnic tables at a cost of approximately \$61. → Gary mentioned that this Saturday from 11am-1pm is a flyover at the National Mall. Discussion ensued over how to align the technology to view the event on our hanger screen. We would tie into it after the completion of Dave Trojan’s presentation. → The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm. → Respectfully submitted by Gilda Tucker, Secretary.

## **EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting, Saturday, May 11, 2024**

→ Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Rick Laub. → After the National Anthem, Rick thanked the breakfast team: Pat Salow, Frank Garcia, and Joe Madziar. The June breakfast team consists of: Bill Bezdek, Don Frank, Dave Cook, Lisa Fredline, and Lee Paquette. → There were thirty members present including new member James Wise, a cardiac nurse who wants to earn his private pilot license and fly his family on trips. There were no guests. → Secretary’s Report was noted. John Kuchar made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Joe Madziar; motion carried. → Treasurer’s Report was noted; after a brief summary of the report by Treasurer Drew Seguin, Margie Clark made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Jon Iversen; motion carried. → Jeff Shaud was not available to give the Youth Report, however Rick Laub gave a recap of the recent meeting of the youth. Although unofficial, (due to insurance issue), the Youth met at Lansing Community College to participate in Drone Safety Day. The event was a successful venture. → Doug Koons announced that our 2023 Ray Scholarship recipient Cal Hayslette successfully passed his final check ride and is now an official licensed private pilot! He took his mom on his first ride with a passenger. → Margie Clark is heading up the Young Eagle event in Owosso next Saturday. Workers need to arrive by 9am to set up a safety barrier, as rides will begin at 10am. The safety barrier is to keep people away from the airplanes. A nearby restaurant will be providing a complimentary lunch to workers. Water will also be provided on site. Flight line workers are needed, not only for this event but for all Young Eagle events associated with our chapter. Our chapter has flown over 5,000 youths. Our recent Ray Scholarship, Cal Hayslette came first to our chapter as a Young Eagle. Drivers going to Owosso can help carry games and entertainment for those waiting for rides. Some are saying there may be as many as 1000 who will want rides. There are five pilots from our chapter and there will be other pilots as well. All who work directly with the youth need to have an updated Child Protection Form on file with Margie. Jeff Stetson asked if he could bring his glider as a static display (just for viewing). The answer was an emphatic “Yes”! \* John Kuchar thanked everyone who signed the card when he was in the hospital recovering from hip surgery. He appreciated everyone’s concern and care. → Doug Koons has

headed up the roof resurfacing project. The only holdup is a liability insurance issue. \$6,000 was approved at the board meeting to complete the project with the stipulation that the insurance issue be resolved prior to initiating the work. → Dawn Patrol on June 15th is being organized by Greg Hover. Those willing to volunteer are encouraged to sign up. → Rick Laub mentioned that Doug Koons painted the picnic tables recently as well as mowed the lawn, redid the Dawn Patrol Banners, and fixed the broken lock on the chapter hanger door. Thank you, Doug! → Deanna McAlister has resigned as newsletter editor. We need someone to take over the position. Julianna Buning stepped up to volunteer for the job. → Joe Madziar mentioned that the breakfast team found that there were missing items in the kitchen that needed to be replaced prior to preparing the meal. A Sterno can holder and two Sterno cans are gone, plus some kitchen utensils. Some food was also missing that was needed for the breakfast. → Jon Iversen mentioned that the “Wings of Mercy” Michigan chapter “Wings For Michigan” is having a flying contest to raise funds. The contest covers a lengthy time frame. Details are available on their website. → Gilda Tucker mentioned that Wings of Mercy leader Cody Welch will be speaking in Flint at Mott Community College on Friday, May 17th. → Dave Trojan mentioned several upcoming Aviation events: Selfridge (Air National Guard Base) airshow June 8-9th. Willow Run “Thunder Over Michigan” July 20-21. B25 “Sandbar Mitchell” warbirds of glory Museum fund raiser May 18th 6 – 9pm. EAA304 Jackson breakfast May 26th 7am – 2pm. → On June 14th – 15th the Relay for Life takes place. Karen Meirdorf keeps our chapter informed of this event. At the conclusion of the relay all who desire can walk the track of the Corrigan Oil Speedway at 5:30pm on June 15th. The track is near College and Cedar. Today’s winner of the 50/50 raffle is Dave Vandermolen. → Dave Trojan will be our program presenter today. → meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. → Respectfully submitted by Secretary Gilda Tucker.



**MEMBERSHIP**  
by Vickie Vandenberg  
([EAA55.mems@gmail.com](mailto:EAA55.mems@gmail.com))

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** A hearty welcome to our new WingTips editor, Julianna Buning !! And

continued thanks to Deanna McAlister for her years of getting our news out to our members !!

**CONDOLENCES:** to the family and friends of former member Dick Bacon. I recently learned of his passing on March 21, 2024. Dick, along with his wife Barb, were members for many years, as well as volunteers at all our events. Here is a link to obit: <https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/obituaries/ppet/0786622>

**CHAPTER EVENTS:** Hope you are helping to “push” the information about our upcoming events. Word of mouth, Facebook, emails and posting flyers are the best and cheapest forms of advertising !!

**BOOKS:** There is a box of books by the “FREE MAGAZINES” bin – free for the taking or free-will donations accepted.

**OLD AIRPORT DIRECTORIES:** The new 2024 Airport Directories are starting to arrive in the mailboxes of registered owners. If you have any older versions of the directories that you wish to “repurpose” – I am collecting them for distribution at our fly-ins.

**2024 AERONAUTICAL CHARTS:** Per Terry Lutz email, he has a small supply of the new charts and sent info to locate airports where they can be picked up. I have asked CAAA and they are going to try to get a supply to have available at the TEW terminal. If you get a new one, Jeff Shaud is looking for donations of your old ones.

**MAGAZINES WANTED:** We are looking for a supply of relatively current (past couple years) supply of aviation magazines. There is a specific tub in the meeting room for your contributions. We plan to put these out for our patrons at our events this summer.



**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**  
**Charles (Chuck) Moore**

Our Spotlight this month features Charles (Chuck) Moore. Chuck joined our chapter in 2015 but spends September through May in South Carolina. He has a private pilot license and owns a Vans Aircraft RV12. His main interest in Aviation is – flying!

Chuck is a Financial Advisor and when not working or flying can be found on the golf course. If there were no limitations Chuck would not change anything!



**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**  
**John Yurkon**

John joined Chapter 55 on November 13, 2021 and is current as private pilot, ASEL, AMEL, and Instrument. John enjoys airplanes in general and just hanging out with pilots.

Career-wise John is an Operations Development Staff Physicist for NSCL/FRIB. When not at his job John enjoys gardening and listening to Short-wave radio. With no limitations to hold him back John would “probably be restoring vintage aircraft or getting an ICON AS and seaplane rating.



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

A big shoutout to the members that came to Owosso Airport on May 18th to help with a Young Eagle Event. Unfortunately, we only flew 31 youth but they were very appreciative of the opportunity to fly. They were able to experience something new and exciting. And I believe we gained a new Young Aviator member as well as a new volunteer. A win-win all the way around. The airport manager was on site and could not compliment enough on how well organized everything was. He was very impressed with how well EAA55 worked together and invited us back anytime we would want to do this event there again. Thank you pilots: Bob Clark, Doug Koons, Bill Purosky, John Bobcik, Jennifer Jacobs, Mark Jacobs, Terry Lutz, John Orme (from Owosso) and Reid Baldwin (from Linden). Thank you volunteers: Connie Bobcik, Karen Hover, Julianna Buning, Drew Sequin, Jeff Shaud, Bill Bezdek, Allen Jencks, Frank Garcia, Jeff Stetson and youth members Daniel Adams, Patrick Buning and Ryan Jacobs.

A big extra thank you to Jeff Shaud and Bill Bezdek for transporting all the necessary provisions we needed for this event. I certainly couldn't have done it alone! YOU ALL ROCK! Hope to see you all on June 8<sup>th</sup> for our first Mason rally! We invite all of our members to join us following the general meeting to volunteer even for an hour or two. It is EAA INTERNATIONAL YOUNG EAGLE DAY! If you're not sure what you can help with ... just ask... I'm sure we can come up with a job for you. I've already had multiple phone calls and emails inquiring about the YE Rally.



**YOUTH GROUP**  
**By Jeff Shaud**  
**([jlshaud@wowway.com](mailto:jlshaud@wowway.com))**

See the minutes for information.



**RELAY FOR LIFE**  
**team Heartwood Glad Rags**  
**by Karen Meirndorf**  
**([krmdorf@yahoo.com](mailto:krmdorf@yahoo.com))**

Relay is coming to a community near you. Starts Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 5pm until 10am Saturday.



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



## FROM THE EDITOR

By Julianna Buning

([juliannabuning@gmail.com](mailto:juliannabuning@gmail.com))

Thank you for welcoming me into this position. I am excited to be able to do my part in helping the chapter. I have enjoyed working with Jeff Shaud in helping with the youth group and am looking forward to getting to know the adult membership.



Sample of suggested items

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

## SUGGESTION BY DAVE TROJAN:

Aviation sale at Pancake Breakfast ...

Currently collecting aviation related items to be used for sale at upcoming pancake breakfast. Items include aviation art, decor, aviation books, aviation decor, airplane toys, aircraft parts, and anything aviation related that customers can easily carry and buy at the pancake breakfast. Especially looking for items for children. This is also a good opportunity to clean out your hangars if you have something to donate. There will be a table available for customers to view and purchase the items while they are waiting in line to pay during the breakfast. All proceeds go towards EAA Chapter. Just drop off the items at the EAA hangar along with suggested price.

(Editors Note: There will be some books available at the Chapter May meeting so that our members get first pick. And, we are taking contributions of recent aviation magazines to have available for free at summer events.)



## FREE RADIUM INSTRUMENT TESTING AND TRAINING

By Dave Trojan

([dtrojan60@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dtrojan60@gmail.com) or cell 808-386-0609



## EXPENSIVE HAMBURGERS

By Bill Purosky & Doug Koons

Maybe next month ....



## NOTES FROM CAPE JUBY

By Terry Lutz

([terry.lutz@attglobal.net](mailto:terry.lutz@attglobal.net))

Maybe next month ...



Contributions, corrections and additions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Julianna Buning ([juliannabuning@gmail.com](mailto:juliannabuning@gmail.com))

**Deadline: Wednesday preceding the 1st Saturday of each month.**

Joe Madziar "Breakfast Teams" ([madziars@msn.com](mailto:madziars@msn.com)) and Pat Salow "Monthly Programs" ([salow@icloud.com](mailto:salow@icloud.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 MAGAZINES:** We are looking for a supply of relatively current (past couple years) supply of aviation magazines. There is a specific tub in the meeting room for your contributions. We plan to put these out for our patrons at our events this summer.

**FREEBIE:** Top quality, nearly supersonic 55 gallon drum, used once, very gently. May have enough residual airshow smoke oil inside to keep your aerobatic R/C airplane smoking for a long time! Will help you haul it, no problem!!

**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](mailto:dtrojan60@gmail.com) or cell 808-386-0609



### **HANGARS FOR RENT AT TEW:**

Brown Family; 517-589-8619  
Tom Tuttle; 734-216-7532  
Gabe Blosser; 517-896-0020  
EAA55; Common Storage or Building hangar space;  
Rick Laub; 616-755-6255 (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; w/Travellaire; 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 proj  
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-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:**

June 15th EAA55 Dawn Patrol Pancake Breakfast  
August 17th EAA55 Mason Aviation Day

### **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:**

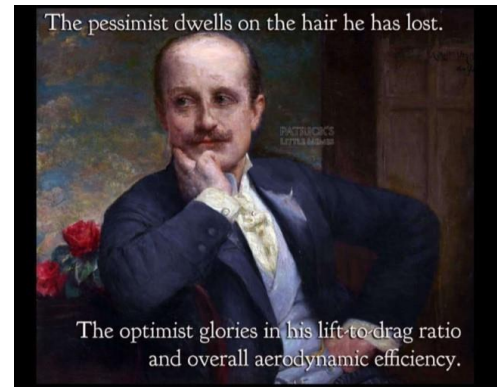
[www.eaa.org/ea/events](http://www.eaa.org/ea/events)

[www.funplacestofly.com/aviation-events.asp](http://www.funplacestofly.com/aviation-events.asp)

[www.michigan.gov/aero/](http://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



### **MASON JEWETT TENENTS & USER MEETINGS:**

First Wednesday of the second month of each quarter. The 2024 meetings will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup>; May 1<sup>st</sup>; August 7<sup>th</sup>; and November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in a classroom at the LCC Aviation Technology facility.

**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 Wednesday preceding the first Saturday of each 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.