

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

SEPTEMBER 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

Fall is upon us! Schools are back in session, farmers are busy harvesting and pilots are enjoying flying above to see it all. What a great time of year!

Thanks go out to all who helped set up for Mason Aviation Day and to all who came out and worked it. I can't say thank you enough to those who participated as workers or as customers. We had beautiful weather and an awesome attendance! Hopefully, we can do as well next year for both Dawn Patrol and MAD.

Have you considered the possibility of being a leader in the chapter? It is once again that time of year to look for candidates for officers. The four offices are President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. It is for a two year term unless you choose to stay longer. If you are interested in running for office please email or call me with your intentions. If you know of someone that would make a good candidate, please reach out to them and encourage them to sign up. November is our voting meeting for these offices. We must have a full slate of officers in order to run the meetings and be legal.

Hope to see you out on Saturday, September 9th, for our monthly pancake breakfast, lots of hangar talk, our general meeting followed by a FAAst safety presentation. Members and visitors are all welcome!

Happy flying everyone.

CHAPTER 55

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Sept. 6th

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



dtrojan60@gmail.com

Thank you August Breakfast Team.

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

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

SEPTEMBER:

FAA Program - Situational Awareness

OCTOBER:

Goodyear Representative - Care of Tires

NOVEMBER:

Dave Trojan - Aircraft Recovery

DECEMBER:

EAA55 Membership Awards

CONTACT DAVE COUREY WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS

UPCOMING BREAKFAST TEAMS:

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>
Connie Bobcik	Mark Bathurst
Ron Goodnoe	Terry Lutz
Mike Lutz	Chuck Moore
Rick Williams	Brodie Stevens
Joseph Dickson	Jeff Stenson
Kaylee Spencer	Shrye Lantrip

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

Not yet provided for publication.

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

Not yet provided for publication.

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

Not yet provided for publication.

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

Not yet provided for publication.

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

Not yet provided for publication

EAA Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2023:

Published in the July newsletter.

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2023:

Published in the July newsletter.

EAA Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for July 5, 2023:

Published in the August newsletter.

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

Not yet provided for publication.

EAA Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for August 9, 2023:

→Meeting was called to order by President Margie Clark at 7:01pm. →Present were Margie Clark, John

Kuchar, Doug Koons, Drew Seguin, Jeff Shaud, Gabe Blosser, Ken Drewyor, Bob Clark, Greg Hover, Michael Rosencrans, David James, and Gary Nicola. Absent was Warren Miller. →Secretary's Report for July 5, 2023 was submitted; motion to approve made by Drew Seguin; seconded by David James; motion was approved. →Treasurer's Report for July 31, 2023 was submitted by Drew Seguin; motion to accept by Doug Koons; seconded by Gabe Blosser; the report was approved. →Ray Scholarship report by Doug Koons was that Cal had soloed a couple of weeks ago and all the paperwork has been submitted to EAA headquarters and had been approved. A week ago, EAA said it would be 7 to 14 days for the chapter to receive the second check. Cal has a lot of the ground school done and is on the path to be done by the end of October. Cal also applied for a Lightspeed headset as he now qualifies to apply and also has received his shirt for soloing from EAA. →Youth Group report from Jeff Shaud is the Youth Group was hosted by The Capital Region Airport Authority (LAN) with a three hour tour of the Lansing Airport and all of its operations. The next meeting will be this Sunday and they will continue work on the wing project. The group added five new members. The group compass rose volunteer project to paint the compass rose at TEW is a no go from the CRAA. There are some other project that they can do. →The roof project update from Doug is the cost is \$11,000 unless we become a distributor of the company that makes the roofing products we need. It costs \$1,000 to become a distributor. Doug will continue checking options to put a new coating on the hangar roof. →Mason Aviation Day is next Sunday and all the permits have been received. Volunteers are needed to work in all positions for MAD including helpers to do setup this coming Friday. →Margie Clark called for someone to be the chairman of the nomination committee for the election of chapter officers that is coming up in three months. →Terry requested that the pilot briefing be held before the membership meeting so that he will be available to fly Young Eagles. →There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm. →Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting Minutes for August 12, 2023:

Not yet provided for publication.



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

Many, many thanks to the pilots and volunteers that participated in our Young Eagle Rallies this year. Without your help we couldn't hold these rallies to offer these young folks the opportunity to experience The Spirit of Aviation and hopefully grow their interests enough to go on to become pilots some day. If you continue to fly youth through the remainder of the year, please let Doug Koons or myself know how many so we can keep track of our totals. We are able to add to our counts up through December 31st.

Again, THANK YOU ALL!



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

NEW MEMBERS: Chapter 55 welcomes new member Jeffary MacNamee. Jeffary is a student in the LCC program. We also welcome new member Denise Bolen. Denise is a partner in a Cessna 172 based here at Mason Jewett. We also welcome new Student Member Maxwell Buck.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: This month we will host an FAA Compliance Program. Key Points: Foundation; Process and Compliance Action Options. CFIT - the most common type of pilot error in CFIT accidents is the pilot's loss of situational awareness — failing to know at all times, the aircraft's position. Planning and flight condition response can reduce risk. And, yes, attendance at this program will qualify you for *WINGS* credit.

MAD 2023: What an awesome day!! We could not have requested better weather. And, our turnout was fabulous from the time we opened for breakfast right through until we finished up the lunch. And, lots of people enjoying all the different planes. Now is the time to debrief and start brainstorming for an even greater event in 2024.

PICTURES: My big regret was not getting on the field to capture pictures. But we did get a collection from members and friends. In addition to several warbirds, there was a great variety of homebuilt,

light sport, classic and certified aircraft. Thank you to everyone who flew in and to all our members who had their aircraft on display.



AirVenture Champion Cessna L-19 Bird Dog - Thank you Randy M. for coming



Stearman - Thank you Chris D. for coming



Sunrise on the field



Jakey - future Bird Dog pilot.



Beech 18 - Thank you Mark & Jennifer J. for the great fly-bys



Stearman - Thank you Roger B. for coming



PT-19 - Thank you Mike & Penny K. for coming



Stearman - Thank you Dave G. for all the smoke



T6 Texan - thank you Dan & Janet M. for coming

Unfortunately, no one sent me a picture of the Beaver.



Cabin Waco - Thank you Brian V. for coming

SUMMER TALLYS: Our Dawn Patrol was almost a bust. But we did have 5 planes fly in. Estimated breakfasts sold based on income is about 96. Young Eagles; we flew 57 kids in June, 69 kids in July and 65 Kids in August for a total of 191 at rallies this summer. Mason Aviation Day had 72 pilots sign the airport register. We didn't set any records for meals but our numbers were solidly respectable. We served 440 breakfasts and 178 lunch sandwiches. Best of all, we shared our love of aviation with hundreds of folks who came to the field.

DOOR PRIZE SPONSORS: Chapter 55 sincerely thanks Capital Region Airport Authority (\$400 Travel Voucher Fly Lansing); Aircraft Spruce (\$50 Gift Certificate) and Wicks Aircraft Supply (Goodie Bag) for providing the wonderful Pilot Door Prizes for our pilots drawing.

CONGRATULATIONS: to our Mason Aviation Day Door Prize Raffle winners: Greg VanStrien was the winner of the CRAA \$400 Travel Voucher; Bill Wilson was the winner of the \$50 Aircraft Spruce Gift Certificate and Darcy Sorenson was the winner of the Wicks Aircraft Supply Goodie Bag.

AIRCRAFT SPRUCE CATALOGS: We have some Aircraft Spruce catalogs left over from Mason Aviation Day and they are available for pick up in the terminal building.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION: CRAA produced some stickers with EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION for the airport. If you have not gotten one to post in your hangar, there are some extras available for pick up in the terminal building.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS: Chapter 55 is seeking nominations for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for the Board of Directors. Elections that will take place at the November meeting. Per our Chapter By-Laws, it is the duty of the Chapter 55 Board 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 one to two hours depending upon the amount of business. Nominations are open up to the time of election and nominees will be posted at the meeting room on the bulletin board. All newly elected officers shall assume their responsibilities at the December Chapter 55 Membership Meeting. If there is a member that you feel would be a good candidate for an officer's position, please encourage him/her to allow you to make a nomination. And, if you are interested in serving your Chapter in a position, please contact Margie Clark or any current officer.

ROSIE THE RIVETER: If you missed the February presentation at EAA Chapter 55 (or would like to see it again), Rosie will be doing a program at the Mason Area Historical Society on November 15th.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, CHAPTER 55

Chapter 55 was formed in 1959 and 2023 marks our 64th Anniversary



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

Greetings EAA 55 members,

September Meeting Schedule: Our September 2023 Young Aviators youth group meeting will take place on [Sunday September 10, 2023](#) and [Sunday September 24, 2023](#) from 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM. Location will be announced in forthcoming email notifications to youth, parents, and the chapter board of directors.

Young Eagles Event a Boon to Youth Group

Program: Our last Young Eagles Event of the 2023 season has turned out to be a boon for the EAA Chapter 55 Young Aviators youth group. We have picked up four or five new youth members with a few more showing interest once the summer winds down. In addition to new youth joining the organization, we've had a couple of adult leaders pass their EAA child protection training and have generously offer their time and talents to assist with our efforts. I'd like to thank Julianna Buning, Lee Paquette, and Bruce Boardman for all that they do for the youth group.

Young Aviators Perform Community Service at

KTEW: On Sunday August 13, 2023, the Young Aviators performed community service work at the Mason Jewett Airport by cleaning out all of the transient aircraft parking tie-down anchor points on the terminal ramp near the Lansing Community College Aviation Maintenance Training facility.



The youth group first learned of this potential community project from Mr. Terry Lutz. Mr. Lutz encountered a transient pilot wishing to park his aircraft for the day at KTEW, however the aircraft tie-down anchors were so full of dirt, sand, and weeds; the visiting pilot decided to pass on his stay at KTEW. ☹️ By taking on this small but worthy project, the youth group has contributed in promoting visits from transient pilots supporting the overall economic success of Mason Jewett Airport.

Close Encounter of a Shear Kind!: Quite by chance, the youth group was lucky to have Chapter 55 member Gordon Hempstone stop by at our Sunday August 27th meeting while we were attempting to bring the chapter's sheet metal shear back in to good mechanical working order. Gordon was able to assist us with his expertise in set-up and adjustment of the sheet metal shear so that it is properly working and in good mechanical order. Thank you, Gordon, for your help with this useful piece of equipment and for assisting the YG !

Youth Group Tool Donations Rolling In! The youth group would like to thank Mr. Lee Paquette for his generous donation of two brand new compact air drills, #30 and #40 drill bits, swivel fittings, and air tool oil. We would also like to thank Mr. Dave Cook for his generous donation of two air drills and rotary wire brush to the youth group. These drills will certainly come in handy this fall and winter as we begin our learning of aircraft structure fabrication and repair.



The youth group is still looking for donation of aircraft fabrication tools and equipment. On our wish list is a used 18 to 16 gauge 4 ft. sheet metal box bender.

The youth group would also like to thank Mr. David Trojan for the generous donation of the Cessna 150 horizontal stabilizer. This will provide yet another learning opportunity for the youth group.



I, along with the youth members, would like to express our sincere appreciation to those of you who have graciously donated to the youth group fund to help us cover the rent of the EAA55 Builder's Hangar. We would not be able to take on the many skills building and interesting project without your thoughtful contributions. If you have not done so, please consider donating to the Young Aviators youth group Builders Hanger rental fund.

See you at the hangar!

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



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

See you at the hangar!!

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

Tax ID#90-0423493



FREE RADIUM INSTRUMENT TESTING AND TRAINING

By Dave Trojan (dtrojan60@gmail.com)

Many instruments made up until 1960s had the luminous paint, needed to read them at night, based on Radium. Radium is one of the most radioactive chemical elements and is 1000 times more radioactive than Uranium. It has a half-life of 1602 years and decays into radon gas. This means 70 years old instruments are still active and will be for the next thousands years. Are you worried or just want to be extra safe around gauges that may contain radium? I can check any and all your gauges, instruments and anything else that you may suspect of containing radium free of charge. I have been trained by the U.S. Air Force to identify and test for radium. I can also provide training to you on how to identify radium gauges. Testing is FREE of charge using my portable Geiger counter testing device. I can also safely dispose of any Radium gauges that you may have. For more information on this subject: <https://theaviationist.com/special-reports/radioactive-materials-in-flight-instruments/>

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



EXPENSIVE HAMBURGERS

By Bill Purosky/Doug Koons

See you at the hangar!!!!



NOTES FROM CAPE JUBY

By Terry Lutz

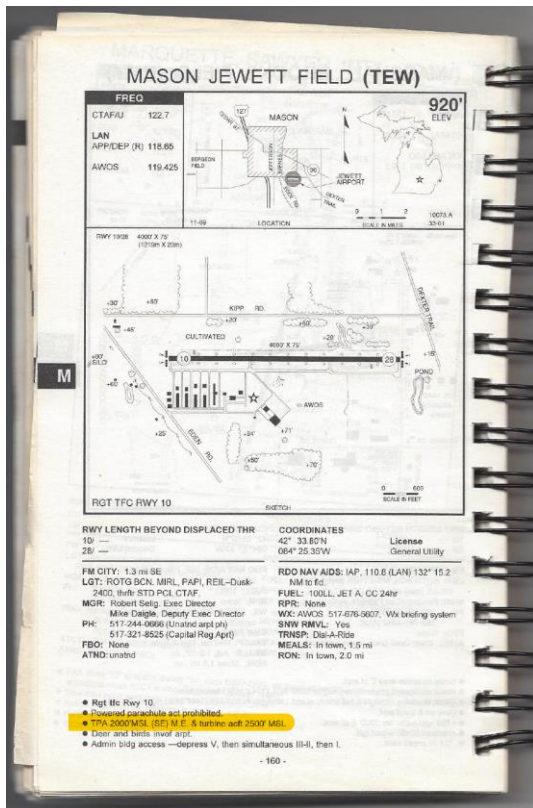
(terry.lutz@attglobal.net)

(reprint due to chopped off version in August)

A few weeks ago, I was waiting on the ramp at KTEW for one of my Cirrus clients to arrive from Alma. When he flew overhead, I asked him what he was using for pattern altitude, and he said “1900 feet”. He did what most people would do. He read the airfield description in ForeFlight (but it could have been the Michigan Airport Directory, Garmin Pilot, the Airport/Facility Directory, etc), saw that the field elevation was 919’ and added 1000’.

No problem! Except, many years ago airport management took steps to provide a small amount of community noise abatement by setting the pattern altitude at 2000’.

This was even published in the Michigan Airport Directory. Here is what the remarks for KTEW looked like in the 2011 Michigan Airport Directory:



The highlighted part says: TPA (traffic pattern altitude) 2000’, ME & turbine acft 2500’ MSL. I believe at the time there were noise complaints

from the subdivision southeast of the airport, right about where we turn base for Rwy 28.

Raising the traffic pattern altitude 100’ doesn’t seem like much but when you say, “we’ll raise the altitude 10% when flying over your house”, it sounds like a lot. Those of us who were around and aware of the change have routinely flown the pattern at 2000’ since then.

Time has passed, people have passed or stopped flying, and some have moved away. The Michigan Airport Directory no longer has the note about flying the traffic pattern at 2000’. And like my Cirrus client, some pilots are flying the pattern at 1900’. Last week, I was doing instrument instruction with the same guy. While sitting at the table in the terminal building, I looked through the glass door and noticed this sign:



A left-over relic from times past? Not really. The students and CFIs that walk through that door are flying the pattern at 2000’, and waiting until 1400’ to make their first turn out of traffic. They represent at least 50% of the traffic pattern operations at KTEW. Dale Forschler, who owns the flight school, confirmed that they teach students to fly the pattern at 2000’.

In June 2023, the FAA released Advisory Circular AC 90-66C titled “Non-Towered Airport Flight Operations”. Among other things, the AC discusses Traffic Pattern Altitudes as noted here: Traffic Pattern Altitudes. Refer to the Airplane Flying Handbook, Chapter 7, and the AIM, paragraph 4-3-3. Enter the pattern in level flight, abeam the midpoint of the runway, at pattern altitude. The traffic pattern

altitude is usually, unless otherwise established for a respective airport, 1,000 feet above the elevation of the airport surface. The use of a common altitude at a given airport is the key factor in minimizing the risk of collisions at airports without operating control towers. A pilot may vary the size of the traffic pattern depending on the aircraft's performance characteristics.

The FAA's guidance is based on studying accidents in the traffic pattern and trying to mitigate those accidents where possible, hence the wording about flying at a common altitude in the traffic pattern. Other than a change in your thought process to fly the pattern at 2000' at KTEW, there really is no downside. On the plus side: most airplanes will be at the same altitude, minimizing the risk of collisions, we are viewed as better neighbors for providing a small measure of noise abatement, and 100' more altitude makes it a little easier to do a 180' power off approach and landing for training, or just for fun.

damage can be fixed, broken parts from two or more identical indicators can often be salvaged to create a single, functional whole.



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

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

HANGARS FOR RENT AT TEW:

Lloyd Brown; 517-589-8619
Tom Tuttle; 734-216-7532
Gabe Blosser; 517-896-0020
EAA55; Common Storage or Building hangar space;
Margie Clark; 517-853-1418 (waiting list)

Contributions, corrections and additions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Deanna McAlister (zirconmoons@gmail.com)
Deadline: 1st of each month.
Joe Madziar "Breakfast Teams" (madziars@msn.com) and Dave Courey "Monthly Programs" (dcmi@reagan.com)

CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED: Your old Gauges, Instruments, cockpit parts. Looking for non-airworthy gauges, the older the better, for use in static display instrument panels. I collect and restore old aircraft instrument panels for collectors and museums. I'm a member of the international Aircraft Cockpit & Instrument Panel Collectors Group. I also work with many Aviation Museums to restore their aircraft such as the Selfridge AFB Museum, Wurtsmith Air Museum, and the Yankee Air Museum. I recently restored FG-1D Corsair panel for the Selfridge AFB Museum using old gauges and parts. Old instruments can be used to fill holes in panels and can be used for parts to restore other instruments. While not all

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:

December Christmas Party TBD

FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS POSTED IN TEW TERMINAL

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

WEB EVENT CALENDARS:

www.eaa.org/eea/events

www.funplacestofly.com/aviation-events.asp

www.michigan.gov/aero/

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.

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