

## EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

**MARCH 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)

#### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Wow! It's March already! Soon the snowbirds will be returning and we will be busy with the planning for our regular upcoming events. I haven't heard from anyone on what you may like us to try doing at OUR chapter other than the Tuesday Potlucks. They have been well attended and enjoyed by all. Fine food and great conversation! On the fourth Tuesday we also have a short program following dinner.

Come out and join us on the second and fourth Tuesday at 6:00 pm.

By the time this newsletter reaches you we will have started planning on our Chapter fundraisers and will be doing so up thru August. Dawn Patrol is Sunday, June 12 and Mason Aviation Day (MAD) is on Saturday, August 20.

If you would like to be part of the planning session you are welcome to join us at our board meetings in April thru August at 7:00 pm. We will be doing planning at the start of the evening and follow-up with board business afterward. Sign-up sheets will be out starting with the April meeting for Dawn Patrol. There are many different areas we need assistance with.

We were having an issue with our furnace not wanting to stay running once it got warm. Thanks goes to Doug Koons for taking care of that problem along with the grandfather of one of the "Young Aviators". "Team Work" in action!

I had an opportunity to attend a "Young Aviators" meeting and see firsthand what goes on. Thanks goes to Jeff Shaud for heading up this program. These youth are interesting and fully engaged in the projects that they are working on. I watched them take simple everyday items and build rockets from them to learn about stabilization. One of our new members Bruce Boardman was there to observe and lend a hand as well. Stop in sometime and see what they are learning about next.

A request was made for t-shirts so there is a sign-up sheet on the front table if you are interested in ordering. At this time we just need your name and size. Once the shirts are ready we will collect \$15.00 for each one ordered. They will be light blue with a small EAA55 logo on the front shoulder area and a large logo on the back.

REMINDER: if you forgot to pay your dues please get them to Drew before you are dropped from the roster.

Look forward to seeing you at the meetings!  
Margie

**Minutes unavailable at time of publishing. Will be published when they become available.**

**BOARD MEETING:** 7:00pm: Wed: March 9th  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** 9:30am; Sat; Mar. 12th  
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am



We will be in need of registered pilots and ground crew to pull these events off. “Team Work” at its finest! If you are considering working these events please go on the EAA website and complete the “Child Protection Policy” review and forward a copy of your card to me to place on file. It is mandatory for any pilots who participate flying the youth. We have many areas of need besides pilots.

If you have a plane but don’t necessarily want to fly the youth I would like someone to do the static display and run through the preflight process with the groups before they fly. It’s important that we explain all the safety steps that are taken in preparation of flying. This is one less step the pilots that are flying the youth need to do once they have their assigned flight. The parents have been reassured as well by listening in and asking questions along with the youth.

What other jobs are to be filled? Registration, crowd control, flight line and concessions. All easy to learn and do. Please consider volunteering for these rallies. Sign-up sheets will be available soon. If you have any questions about the program or the job duties please call me: 517-712-2203.

Stay warm,  
Margie

**BREAKFAST TEAMS:**

<b><u>MARCH</u></b>	<b><u>APRIL</u></b>
Ward Harris	Don Frank
John Schwartz	Dave Courey
Doug MaKenzie	Don & Deanna
George Spencer	McAlister
Mark Jacob	Ken Vandenbelt
	Dave Trojan

**SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:**

<b><u>MARCH:</u></b> TBD
<b><u>APRIL:</u></b> TBD
<b>CONTACT DAVE COUREY or MARGIE CLARK WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS</b>

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



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

Hard to believe but I am already getting calls asking about Young Eagle rallies. We have 3 scheduled for this summer, June 11, July 9 and August 13.



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

**NEW MEMBERS:** Chapter 55 welcomes new member Bruce Boardman.

**SPEEDY RECOVERY WISHES:** to member Joe Madziar who had neck/back surgery the first week of March. He has a “collar” and has restricted lifting and activity for a couple of months.

**CONDOLENCES:** to Debbie & Dave Groh and family on the loss of their nephew, Jeremy Droscha, in a tragic accident.



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

**REMINDER - NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

**RENEWALS:** Don't miss out on these renewal discounts. Effective May 1st, 2022 - EAA's dues will increase for the first time in twenty-four years, with individual memberships going from \$40 to \$48. However, EAA is offering members the opportunity to renew at the current rates and lock in savings for the future. If you renew your membership before May 1, 2022, you can save:

- \$8 on an individual, one-year membership (total cost of \$40);
- \$45 on an individual, three-year membership (total cost of \$99); or
- \$81 on an individual, five-year membership (total cost of \$159).

Members that renew before May 1, 2022, will have their membership extended by the length of the term selected, regardless of their expiration date. Please see the recent column from CEO, Jack Pelton, for additional information. [Renew Online Now to Lock in Your Savings!](#)

**March 2022 EAA55 Young Aviators Youth Group Activity**

Greetings EAA 55 members,

**March Meeting Schedule**

Regrettably, again due to inclement weather, we had to cancel our youth group meeting of February 13, 2022. Our next Young Aviators youth group meeting will take place on **Sunday March 20, 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!

**Welcome New Member**

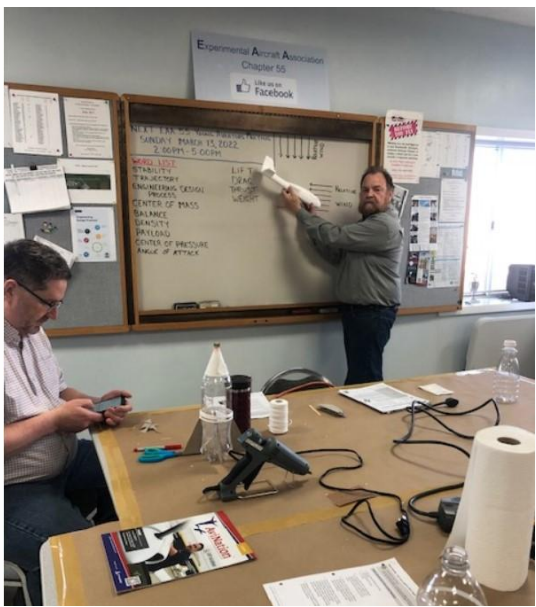
Welcome new Young Aviators adult group member Bruce Boardman. It was nice having you join us for our meeting on March 6, 2022. Bruce is a professor in the Electrical Technology department at Lansing Community College. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge in the youth education. He has taught science and technology, namely robotics, in the Ionia School district.

**EAA AeroEducate Program**

The Young Aviators youth group began its discovery and adventure into the EAA AeroEducate program during our meeting on **Sunday March 6, 2022**. We began our first lesson by discussing how balance affects flight stability of rockets. The youth learned the engineering design process, trajectory, center of mass, balance, density of materials, payload, center of pressure, and angle of attack. We also had many opportunities to discuss careers associated with rocketry and the aerospace industry. Our learning lead us to an experiment of building an aerodynamic model rocket from an assortment of recycled and recyclable materials. The body of our "rockets" utilized one-liter pop (soda) bottles to which we attached fins constructed from shoebox cardboard. We constructed nosecones from drinking fountain conical paper cups.

**2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

In order to remain a member in good standing, your Chapter 55 dues for the new year must be paid by February 15th. Prompt payment assures your delivery of the EAA55 monthly newsletter, along with notification of any EAA55 and/or airport news. Dues can be paid by mail, at a meeting or left in the folder for the Treasurer (for everyone's protection, please do not leave cash.) We ask that you complete the renewal form even when paying in person so that we can assure that the information on our website is accurate and up to date.



After construction of our model rockets, we found the location of the center of gravity by varying the location of a length of string tied around the body tube. We tested flight stability by whirling the rockets around attached to a string. The models were not very stable while “flying” them from the center of gravity point.



The youth then experimented with stability by placing a “payload” of fastener nuts in different locations to obtain stable flight of their rockets. This was a fun lesson, which taught the Young Aviators about balance and stability that will directly relate to stability and weight & balance in aircraft.

In our next AeroEducate lesson, the youth group will learn about airfoil design. We will review the four forces acting on an aircraft in flight. We will also discuss exciting career opportunities in the field of aerospace engineering. Have a look at AeroEducate at [www.aeroeducate.org](http://www.aeroeducate.org)

Some of the highlights of the AeroEducate program are:

- Fun science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities, experiments, projects, and experiences.
- Badging Program - Track your progress, and pick up some bragging rights, by earning badges that are nationally recognized by EAA and other aviation related partners.
- Classroom Activities - aviation-infused to help educators spark interest among youth
- Career Pathways - demystifies the journey, regardless of area of aviation interest
- Database of Youth Aviation Activities - creating nationwide opportunities to participate.

**AeroEducate Mission** is to broaden all youths' access to the world of aviation by providing aeronautical experiences that inspire, engage, and instill The Spirit of Aviation while opening doors to long-term careers and a community of aviation enthusiasts.

### **Internal Combustion (I.C.) Engine Update**

Because of weather cancellations, we took a short hiatus from working on the I.C. engines. More to follow in our next newsletter!

EAA 55 Young Aviators youth group member Anna Fulger performing in the Community Children's Theater production of King Arthur & The Knights of the Round Table at the Perry, Michigan High School.



See you at the hangar!  
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))

Most high school seniors are currently well into their decision-making process about what to do following graduation. If the decision is to continue their education, students have an array of options from which to choose. Some choose to enroll in a four year college (MSU, WMU, etc.) because that's what they consider to be the normal path. Others choose specialized programs requiring less than four years to complete, with that program typically being tightly focused and the result is some type of certification with strong job prospects. Nursing, dental hygiene, robotics, welding and other technical career programs are in this category. Aviation maintenance is included in this category.

There are about 180 FAA-certificated 14 CFR Part 147 schools in the United States that prepare students for careers as licensed maintenance technicians. Five of those are in Michigan. MIAT (near Detroit), SMAT (School of Missionary Aviation Technology) in Ionia and Andrews University in Berrien Springs are private schools that offer the program in various lengths. Western Michigan's program is four years, and LCC's is two years. Obviously tuition and fees vary by institution, and student housing may or may not be available at additional cost.

LCC's program offers significant value for the investment. If a student lives in one of the 15 school districts immediately surrounding LCC, the total cost for the six semester, two year program is about \$27,000. This includes tuition, course (lab) fees, books and other associated college costs. If a student lives out of the local district, but within the state of Michigan, the cost jumps to about \$38,000 for the six semester, two year course. Room and board is not included.

LCC students who wish to additionally receive two Associates' degrees (one in Airframe Maintenance Technology and one in Powerplant Maintenance Technology) need to complete five additional courses on top of the aviation maintenance program. LCC's current tuition rate is \$114 per credit hour. Compared to WMU or MSU, this is a significant savings. And, as I have previously highlighted, the Associates' degrees transfer to both WMU and Sienna Heights

University where our graduates start as juniors with full credit for all coursework at LCC. With almost half the seats filled for this fall's class already, its clear awareness of the value and benefit of the program continues to grow. We have seen higher employer interest in talking to our students than any time in the past decade, and starting salaries are at record highs. Aviation maintenance is a great place to find a career.



## EDITORS PROLIX

By Deanna McAlister

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

It seems to me that "Tula" is ready to fly, after being ignored for a month she wanted to fly in the sunshine. Who else is ready to make the airport a destination once a week to fly or just come out to the chapter hangar and hangar fly! See you at the airport.



By Karen Meirndorf  
team Heartwood Glad Rags

Relay For Life of Greater Lansing will be held this year on September 23 at 6pm until September 24, noon at the Corrigan Oil Speedway in Mason. Chapter 55 is fund raising to place our name on top of an ACS "fact" sign that is displayed along the walking track. Please help a great cause and community event with your 50/50 ticket purchase during our pancake breakfast. Winning ticket will be drawn at the end of our meeting.

Your support enables us to continue our lifesaving work, and we're thankful 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)

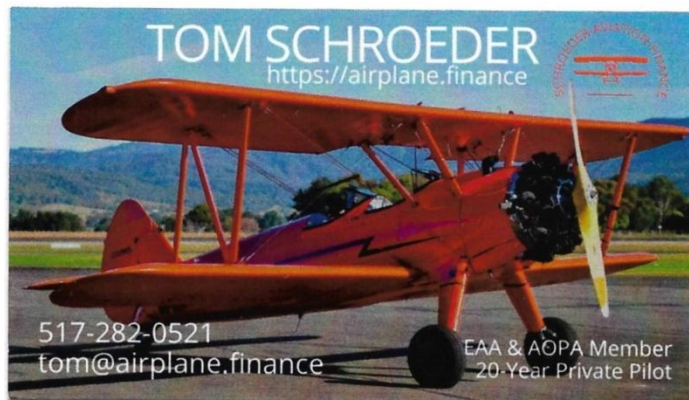
**WANTED:**

Donation request...for our younger attendees. Wanting to encourage the younger families to keep coming out.

Looking for a donation of a high chair in good condition for the chapter room.

**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 Traveleaire; 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 Koeplinger; 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/ea/events>  
<http://www.fly-ins.com/>  
<http://www.michigan.gov/aero/>

April 5-10 2022 SUN-N-FUN  
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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