



EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

September 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 → Secretary: Gilda Tucker 517-203-1865 → Editor: Gilda Tucker 517-203-1865

→ 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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Rick Laub

(ea55.president@gmail.com)

WOW! Much to celebrate this month. I made the mistake of signing up for the weather for MAD, and it was low ceilings most of the day, which prevented most folks from flying in. However, the gates had a steady stream of folks showing up from the local community for both breakfast and lunch. Thanks to Dave and Mark (and Jennifer), we had a couple of classic warbirds with the PT-17 and the Beech 18 on display. Ken also brought out his 170 and we had another PT-17 and a Waco fly in. LAN brought over one of the fire trucks, which featured prominently. The real stars of the event? The outpouring of volunteers that made it happen. Both for the Friday set-up and the Saturday set-up, breakfast, lunch, registration, parking, cleanup – it was all hands on deck! What a great group that worked hard and long to make this event a success – Many, many Thanks! And thanks to Greg Hover for taking on the task of organizing both MAD and Dawn Patrol this year. And now, as Paul Harvey would say, is the rest of the story. Back in February, Doug Koons came to the Board meeting and started the conversation about getting the roof recoated as its lifetime had expired several years ago. It was not going to be cheap – likely around \$22,000 to get it done professionally. We could do it ourselves for less than half that, but it would require chapter members to brave being on the roof and putting in 5 days of time. Doug thought he could get the help he needed and we authorized doing it ourselves after working through insurance issues. By that time, summer was upon us with our busy summer schedule. Good fortune came our way when Stan found out a contractor had time in their

schedule to recoat the roof – AND, their price was equivalent to what we would pay to do it ourselves. With Doug's guidance and approval, we gave them the work. Success! But what to do about our "EAA 55" that was now covered over? Doug was on it. After waiting for a string of good weather days, he began the process of marking out the outlines, then cutting in the edges with a brush. Warren Miller – one of our most longstanding members, came out and climbed the roof to help roll in the rest of the paint. Doug's son, Dan, also spent about three days helping bring us back to glory from air and ground. It looks fantastic, and everyone should take a minute to thank Doug for driving this from vision to reality! THANK YOU!

Beautiful Fall flying weather is soon upon us – see you at the meeting!

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

SEPTEMBER:

Capital Areas Radio Drone Squadron (CARDS)

OCTOBER:

Jeff Shaud, Wiring-Ohm's Law, Series & Parallel Circuits

NOVEMBER:

Dave Trojan – topic TBD

CONTACT PAT SALOW WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS

CHAPTER 55

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm; September 11th
MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Sat. Sept. 14th
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am

UPCOMING BREAKFAST TEAMS:

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>
Connie Bobcik Ron Goodnoe Mike Lutz Terry Lutz Rick Williams	Mark Bathurst Chuck Moore Jeff Stetson Skip Russell



August: Tim Allen, Cal Hayslette and Mike Franzago



**“THANK YOU”
BREAKFAST TEAMS**



July: Bruce Thorburn, Karen Hover & Ivan Bradley

**EAA Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting,
Wednesday, August 7, 2024**

→The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Rick Laub. →In attendance were Rick Laub, Gilda Tucker, Drew Seguin, John Kuchar, Warren Miller, Jeff Shaud, Gabe Blosser, Ken Drewyor, Bob Clark, Greg Hover, Gary Nicola, and Michael Rosencrans (arrived at 7:25). →Absent was Dave James. →Secretary’s Report (since there was no newsletter) was sent to members via email. Drew Seguin made a motion to accept the report; seconded by John Kuchar; motion carried. →Drew Seguin (Treasurer) gave a brief summary of the Treasurer’s Report. Gilda made a motion to accept the report; seconded by John Kuchar; motion carried. →Our new roof coating is in the curing process after which Doug Koons will re-apply the famous “55”. →Jeff Shaud gave a glowing report of the Young Aviators Meeting July 28th. Six aviators were on hand for pizza (supplied by Julianna Buning) and then down to work. Topics included Navigation, Dead Reconning, and Course Plotting. The following Tuesday, Jeff again attended the meeting in Howell of the Civil Air Patrol. Thirty-five young aviators were there. Crosswinds Aviation (private flight school) partnered with Eaton Regional Education Service Agency to provide aviation instruction to young people. This is what Jeff went to investigate. →Greg Hover has tried (unsuccessfully) to set up airplane rides for Mason Aviation Day. Great Lakes

Aviation Flight School (located at Mason Jewett Airport) has been sold. The new owner will be James Carpenter. The school is not currently set up to give airplane rides as they have in the past. In an effort to try and secure airplane rides for MAD, Gilda volunteered to contact Grand Air Aviation in Grand Ledge. To the same end, Rick Laub will contact Crosswinds in Howell. Vietnam Helicopter Society will be on hand with a static display of their helicopters. Great Lakes Aviation School and LCC Drone Trainers will both set up tables at the event. CRAA Fire Department will bring a truck. Greg could still use more workers! →Our lawn mower is now functioning. Gabe and Gary got it up and running. →Gilda will be responsible for close out after the August Member Meeting. →Gilda and Vickie plan to work together to get the newsletter out. →The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. →Respectfully submitted, Gilda Tucker, Secretary.

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting, Saturday, Saturday, August 10, 2024

→The meeting was called to order at 9:33 by President Rick Laub. →After singing the National Anthem, Rick thanked the breakfast team; Mike Franzago, Cal Hayslette, and Tim Allen. Next month's breakfast team consists of Connie Bobcik, Ron Goodnoe, Mike Lutz, Terry Lutz, and Rick Williams. →There were thirty-one people present including ten guests. Many guests were young people here for Young Eagle rides and their parents. →Ron Johnson became an EAA Chapter 55 member today! Welcome Ron! →Secretary's Report was noted; Margie Clark made a motion to accept the report; seconded by John Kuchar; motion carried. →Treasurer Drew Seguin gave a brief summary of the Treasurer's Report; Greg Hover made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Jennifer Jacob; motion carried. →President Rick Laub offered a word of gratitude to several members for their over and above efforts in making our Chapter a success: Doug Koons for overseeing our roof job; Vickie Vandenbelt for her effort to get the newsletter out and for her being our liaison to the community; and Margie Clark for seeing that Young Eagles events are run smoothly and organizing workers for MAD set-up. →Jeff Shaud, Young Aviators Leader reported a successful meeting on July 28th. For further details on that please refer to the Board Meeting Minutes. →Margie emphasized that, a) tables and chairs that are borrowed by members must

be so designated on the sign-out sheet near the white board, and b) please do not borrow items just prior to Young Eagles events or MAD. Margie will be out of town during MAD. Joe Madziar & Connie Bobcik will be her replacement. →Boy Scouts are scheduled to be on hand to help with set up and clean up. MAD is our major fundraiser. Please help get the word out to the community. Gilda mentioned that we have yet to find pilots qualified to give rides to the public for pay. Great Lakes Aviation is between owners and is not able to comply with regulations to give rides. Anyone who can suggest a solution, now is the time to come forward! →Doug stated that the roof work is complete. He is waiting for suitable weather to paint the 55 on the roof. →Gary and Gabe got the lawn mower running and the lawn is mowed. →Rick gave highlights of the quarterly meeting of the CRAA (Capital Regional Airport Authority) Tenant Meeting Wednesday August 7th. CRAA owns and oversees maintenance for Mason Jewett Airport. The maintenance number is on the entrance gate. Members were reminded to be specific when describing an issue/problem and to be courteous when making a request. →Drew Seguin's son, Elliot, won the Founder's Award for Best Restoration of a Home Built Aircraft! He and his Thorp T-18 are to be featured in a future issue of Sport Aviation magazine. →The meeting was adjourned at 9:55a.m. →Respectfully submitted, Gilda Tucker, Secretary.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to CHAPTER 55

Chapter 55 was formed in 1959 and
2024 marks our 65th Anniversary

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Don McAlister

I have been a Chapter 55 member since 1999. I have a private pilot license and own a 1959 Cessna 172A with my wife Deanna. I enjoy flying, airplanes in general, aviation history, and just hanging around pilots and airplanes. When not at the airport I can be found camping, boating, and fishing. With no limitations, I would build a hanger home up near Silver Lake Airport. (We have property near there.)

I would own a nice bush plane to keep there. Career-wise I worked at automotive repair (owner of Stockbridge Auto Care) and at a machine shop. I am also a retired EMT and firefighter. I currently work at Plane Food Market. (Editor's Note: Learning to fly was the best thing Don ever did – he met and married his instructor.)



Deanna McAlister

I have been a member of Chapter 55 since 1988. I am current in commercial, FCII, AGI, and a A&P mechanic. I co-own a 1959 Cessna 172 with my husband, Don. I started flying when I was 15 and soloed at age 16. I was licensed at age 17. I received a CFI of Aviation, short of building. However, I enjoy decorating and crafting with scrap airplane parts. My career has been in aviation. I was a Kallita Air freight pilot, also flew Lear 24's MUZ, BE8T aircraft. I was a jet engine mechanic on Lear's, Kallita's and a GA aerogenesis mechanic. I am a flight instructor (retired) in CFII, AGI and A&P. When not at the airport, I can be found working with my husband at the Plane Food Market in Stockbridge. Baking is a new interest. I also enjoy being out in nature: hiking, walking and anyplace it is peaceful and quiet. I also enjoy boating and I am a part of a dance troupe. With no limitations, my dream is the same as Don's - with the additional detail of building a home in the woods out of Beech 18 fuselage. (Editor's Note: Deanna met the love of her life doing flight instruction.)



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

Thanks go out to all of the pilots and volunteers that assisted with our Young Eagles rallies this year. Without all of your support and participation we couldn't have accomplished what we did in giving the flying experience to as many youth as we did. Many, many Thanks from "down under" 😊 (Editor's note: The Clarks are vacationing in Australia.)



YOUNG AVIATORS By Jeff Shaud (jlshaud@wowway.com)

See the minutes for information.

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



FROM THE EDITOR By Gilda Tucker (cwtucker1@comcast.net)

Up until now, you've known me as your Secretary. However, I am now also your Newsletter Editor. As you browse through this issue you'll find lots of pictures of events that took place here this summer.

On September 14th at our Member's Meeting, Bruce Thorburn (Audrey) and Bill Purosky (Gloria) will receive the "Wright Brothers Master Pilot" award for 50 years of safe flying! You won't want to miss that meeting!

After the meeting, (with Young Eagles events done for the year), we resume our programs. This month features Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (CARDS) - All about Drones.

Young Eagles – August



TEW New Fuel Tank Installed



New Roof – New Paint



MEMBERSHIP
by Vickie Vandenberg
(ea55.mems@gmail.com)

NEW MEMBERS:

Chapter 55 welcomes new member Robert Miller; Robert is a student pilot. Also, we welcome new member Ronald Johnson. And, welcome to Peng Zang. Peng is a student pilot and owns a Piper Tri-Pacer 150. Plus, a warm welcome to new Student Members Ryan Greathouse; Khloe and Krista Lennon.

2024 YOUNG EAGLE WRAP UP TO DATE:

May @ 34
June @ 59
July @ 82
Aug @ 92

I'm sure there will be more flights logged before year end, but these were the biggies. "Thank you" to all the pilots and ground crew who made it possible.

MASON AVIATION DAY (MAD) WRAP UP:

160 Adults & 26 Kids Breakfasts Served = 186 GT
89 Lunch Sandwiches sold

2 Planes flew in representing 3 pilots & crew
\$331 Newberry Aviation Scholarship Donations
\$55 AeroMart Sales (great idea Dave Trojan !!)
Special “thanks” to our pilots on the field who brought out planes for people to see (and to Dave Groh and Mark Jacob for flying the pattern for our patrons!) Another big “Thank you” to Aaron Ginsburg of CRAA for all attention to the kids and adults asking questions about the big CRAA fire truck !! Along with thanks to the staff of LCC for providing tours of LCC Aviation Technology School.



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

CONGRATULATIONS: to our Mason Aviation Day Door Prize Raffle winners. Anthony Muldoon was the winner of the CRAA \$400 Travel Voucher; and, David Weisgerber was the winner of the \$50 Aircraft Spruce Gift Certificate.

AIRCRAFT SPRUCE CATALOGS: I had a few extra left over from MAD and they are in the TEW terminal for anyone interested in having one.

KLONDIKE BARS: By the time you read this, our inventory stock will be moved back to the freezer.

MAGAZINES: Unfortunately, no one stepped up to pass out magazines at our YE or MAD events. There is a heavy supply in the meeting room FREE for the taking. I will leave them for anyone who might be interested in them. After the September meeting, they will be donated to charity.

AMBASSADORS: We are all ambassadors for aviation when we are with the patrons who come to our events and our meetings. When folks ask questions - Be sure to let know that our Chapter offers a six-month free trial memberships to EAA National, along with free Student Memberships – as well as our paid memberships to EAA Chapter 55.



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:*

Tim Allen; Fokke DVIII; Sopwith Scout
Mark Bathurst; Cessna 172
Gabe Blosser; Bushmaster SuperCub Amphib
John & Connie Bobcik; Kitfox 7SS
Denise Bolen; Cessna 172
Ivan Bradley; Zenith CH650B
Claus Buchholz; Citabria
John Caron; Cessna 172
Stan Chubb; Beechcraft F33A Bonanza
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); V35 Bonanza
Albert Esser II; Piper Arrow
Richard Floyd; Cessna 310
Adam Fogg; Piper Warrior II
Donald Frank; BE35P
Mike Franzago; RV-8
Dave Groh; Stearman; Citabria;
Beechcraft A36 Bonanza; Travelaire;
PT-17 & AT-6 restorations
Ward Harris; Cessna 177Bravo
Gordon Hempstone; Cobra A
Ultralight & Avid Magnum project
Steve Houghton; RV-7A (Builder) (Sold)
Greg Hover; RV-6A (Builder) (w/Dave Cook)
Mark & Jennifer Jacob; C-120; Beech 18,
Cessna C-34 Airmaster project
Allen Jencks; Fisher Horizon 2
Robert Kerr; hot air balloons
Doug Koons; Glastar (w/Bill Purosky)(Builders)
Rick Laub; Sling 4 project (Builder)
Terry Lutz; Luscombe & RV-8 (Builder)
Doug MacKenzie; Zenith 701 & RV-10 project
Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-12;
RV14A, RV-9 project (Builder)
Don & Deanna McAlister; Cessna 172
Chuck Moore; RV-12
Gary Nicola; Beechcraft Bonanza
Grumman Traveler restoration
Jim Palmer; Glasair III (Builder)
Lee Paquette; Sonex (Builder)
Bill Purosky; Glastar (w/Doug Koons)(Builders)
Pat Salow; Zenith 701 (Builder)

Mason Samson; Aeronca Chief & Piper Tripacer
Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub EX2 &
Carbon Cub EX3 project (Builder)
Jeff Shaud; RV-7 project (Builder)
Tom Sheehan; C-170 & Funk B85C;
Lincoln-Page 1928
Rockwood Shepard; RV-9A (Builder)
Jim Spry; RV-8 (Builder) (Sold)
Jeff Stetson; Aeromot Ximango
Bruce Thorburn; Cessna 172
Ken Vandenbelt; C-172; C-170; Stearman project
David & John VanderMolen; Zenith 750 (Builders)
Michael Weck; Cessna 150
John Yurkon; J3C-65; PA28-181; C-172P

MASON JEWETT FIELD FBO:

Great Lakes Air Repair
517-525-3673

Maintenance - Painting - Upholstery - Engines

CRAA BOARD MEETINGS:

4th Monday of the Month @ 4:30pm
Marion "Babe" Ruth Community Room
Terminal Building, Capital Region Int. Airport

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/

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

MASON JEWETT TENENTS & USER MEETINGS:

First Wednesday of the second month of each quarter. The 2024 meetings will be held on February 7th; May 1st; August 7th; and November 6th 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: Gilda Tucker, Newsletter Editor.