

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

JANUARY 2021

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: Drew Seguin 517-333-4531 → Vice-President: Doug Koons 517-676-5001

→ Treas: Al Spalding 517-881-8757 → 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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Drew Seguin

ea55.president@gmail.com

Welcome to 2021!

It's finally over. And here's hoping things turn around soon for a great 2021. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Now it's back to work.

We had our first Board meeting with the new Board last month and things went fine except for the fact that we don't have much going on at this point. Again, let's hope things turn around with the pandemic in time to make this a great flying year.

I keep plugging away at my project. The holidays, work, and life in general tend to slow things down but I can't complain about the progress. It's on the gear, the engine is in place and mostly wired and plumbed. The next big thing will be fitting and painting the cowl. But first I have to fit the baffling. That's a challenge.



Given we're in the dead of winter I don't expect to see a lot of flying but on those crisp winter days it's nice to get out and shake off the snow.

I think 2021 will bring a lot of progress with electric airplanes. A Elliot's partner in California just finished a gig in Hawaii where they set about to prove the viability of a hybrid aircraft in commercial service. They flew the converted Cessna 337 on a scheduled route across the island of Maui, from Kahului to Hana and back, for about a month. Ampaire is the company. The concept is to convert existing and proven airframes to low or no-emission power.

2021 is going to be a great year. I just know it.

Keep Calm and Fly on.

Drew Seguin

Now, this is what I call dedication



**EAA 55 Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting
December 9 2020**

→ The meeting was called to order by President Drew Seguin at 7:05pm via a Zoom online meeting.

- Present were Drew Seguin, Doug Koons, Al Spalding, John Kuchar, Mark Bathurst, Joe Madziar, John Bobcik, Gabe Blosser, Warren Miller, Jeff Shaud, and Ken Vandenberg. Absent were Bill Purosky. → The Secretaries Report for November 11, 2020 was submitted as printed in the Wing Tips newsletter, Joe Madziar moved to accept and was seconded by Jeff Shaud, the motion was accepted. → Treasurer's Report for November 2020 from Al Spalding was submitted, Doug Koons made a motion to accept and was seconded by Joe Madziar, the motion accepted. Rick Laub wrote a check for the gas bill for the month of November in addition to his builder's hangar rent. → The last member's meeting for 2020 was canceled. An informal meeting of any member interested will be held on December 12th at the Chapter 55 meeting room. → The Board of Directors elections were held by an online vote. Twenty Seven members voted with all the candidates receiving unanimous support with two of the candidates not voting for themselves. The members of the Board of Directors elected are Mark Bathurst, Gabe Blosser, Clarke Borgeson, Ken Drewyor, Rick Laub, Joe Madziar, Warren Miller, Cloe Miner, and Jeff Shaud → The Ray Scholarship application has been accepted by EAA headquarters for the chapter so we have until December 31st to submit our applicant to the EAA. The applicant is working to satisfy some additional details for the EAA before we formally submit their name. The committee must be certain our candidate will complete their flight training and receive their private pilot license otherwise the chapter will not be in good standing for the next applicant. → The Youth Group report from Jeff Schaud. Two youths have flown the RC aircraft and have received their solo status. → Hangar rental

- rates are to be increased next year \$10 for the storage hangar and the builder's hangar. The Chapter rent increase and rising costs of utilities along with holding rental rate steady for the past few years made it wise to cover the chapter increases. A motion to raise the rates was submitted for approval with Doug Koons moving to accept the rate increase and Joe Madziar seconding the motion, the motion was approved. → An individual made an offer to donate a number of aircraft parts to the chapter. A quick look at the parts included a number of fuselages, wings, engines, and other miscellaneous parts that were of unknown condition or of useful value. A more detailed look will be made before a recommendation will be made. A note will be put in the Wing Tips newsletter.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.
Respectfully Submitted, John Kuchar, Secretary

**EAA CHAPTER 55 MEMBERSHIP MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2020**

→ Meeting cancelled; no minutes.

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Wed; Dec. 9th
MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Sat; TBA
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:
**CONTACT DAVE COUREY or DREW SEGUIN
WITH YOUR PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS**



YOUNG EAGLES
by Margie Clark
(margie@eaa55.org)

See you at the airport!

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



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

NEW YEAR: Well, we have made it to a New Year – Welcome 2021 !! Prayers and fingers crossed that 2021 improves as each week passes and overall exceeds our expectations. The business of our chapter has proceeded with the use of ZOOM electronic Board meetings. Many businesses and organizations and other chapters have found electronic meetings to be very efficient and great time savers. They have been a real boon for anyone using attorneys, since attorneys bill travel time and sitting at courts waiting. And, families have found them a great way to stay in touch. It appears that electronic meetings and work-from-home will be a greater part of the future for many.

NEWS: In addition, our newsletter is another great way for us all to stay in touch. If you have pictures, stories, travel ideas, interesting links you have found while trolling the internet, a great book you read, joke, cartoons – anything and everything may be of interest to others in the chapter. Deanna would welcome any of your contributions.

TEW OPERATIONS & SNOW REMOVAL: CRAA has been emailing notices when TEW is closed due to conditions and/or there are any maintenance issues airport users should be aware of. If you have not received any of the recent emails, be sure to contact Bonnie Wohlfert at bwohlfert@craa.com to request that you be added to their email communications list.

THE RECREATIONAL AVIATION

FOUNDATION: is committed to the creation and restoration of recreational airstrips across the country. Their completed projects have been the result of financial contributions, but more because of the hundreds of hours of work by dedicated volunteers interested in establishing and preserving these wonderful spots for current and future pilots. Here in Michigan we can witness their efforts in the reopening of North Fox Island (6Y3) and the Two Hearted (6Y5) Airstrips. If you are interested in being a part of their efforts, please check out their website and consider a membership contribution. www.theraf.org

CARDS & MEMORIALS: Do you know of a member who is ill? Or, a member who has experienced a death in the family? Please contact me at 517-589-5051 or vickie7463@gmail.com so that the Chapter can send a card. (With my sincere thanks to those who have alerted me in the past.)

DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR INFO TO SHARE?? Contact Vickie



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

Meeting was canceled, see you next time at the airport.



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

In-person training. Switch to online training. Back to in-person training. Back to online training. Back to in-person training. That's what our spring, summer and fall semesters have looked like. Fortunately, we have succeeded in completing all our scheduled training with minimal disruptions and minimal COVID-related issues.

Aviation maintenance training is inherently a hands-on program. Due to the extraordinary efforts of our instructors, and outstanding support from the FAA, we have been able to create a program that ensured continuity of training and accomplishment of all required training objectives and outcomes whether in-person or online. While we are planning for the upcoming spring schedule to be as intended in the building, we feel it prudent to look at the implications of having part of the semester taught online. Some classes lend themselves to a portion being taught online, but others (e.g., welding) must be taught in the classroom and the extension of the spring semester may be necessary if we do transition to online training yet again.

One of the most gratifying aspects of our experience has been the reaction of our students. While no one likes online training in our courses, our students have adjusted to the back-and-forth situations with few issues and have accepted the new reality in which we find ourselves. Their performance on lab exercises, examinations and FAA testing is on par with what we experienced prior to the onset of the pandemic, and they are committed to successful completion of the program on-time and with strong employment prospects in mind.

Speaking of employment opportunities, we have been pleasantly surprised with the continued interest in hiring our graduates by employers in the airline, repair, manufacturing and general aviation arenas. The impact of the virus on the various facets of the aviation maintenance field has been significant, but we are still fielding requests to talk to our students. A number of our most recent graduates have been hired by employers both with whom we have previous relationships and also employers new to our program and students. Hopefully that's a sign the economy is already recovering.

Here's to a better 2021.



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

Many good riddance's to 2020!!!!
From closures of flight schools, to dissolving of flying clubs, to people having to sell their beloved airplane. Many things have come to an end. To every end there is a new beginning. You've heard "the only thing that stays the same is change", and that's a good thing. This past year as a CFII and small

businesses owner there have been lots of changes and adaptations. Not all bad mind you. A good pilot is always learning, right?

One young eagle flown and a half dozen flight reviews giving in one year. Sad. But, much needed time of reflection of what truly matters, the blessed ability and freedom to fly. You don't know what cha got till it's gone so, stretch your wings and fly, let go, be happy with what you have. We need our personal thrust, weight, lift & drag to stabilize this year. Thrust forward don't let negativity weigh you down. Lift up positivity, try something new, think in a new dimension, don't be a drag, make the best until someday we will all head west. Happy New Year! See you at the airport.

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:

Chapter 55 T-Shirts; size L or XL; only \$15.00 each for chapter members. Vintage Chapter 55 Sweatshirts; size L or XL; only \$15.00 each.

Pure Michigan Maple Syrup John & Connie Bobcik 517-543-8238; jbobcik@gmail.com We can deliver to EAA hangar for pick-up.

For sale!!!! 16 acres, 4 bedroom 3 bath, hangar, horse barn, runway, forest, pond, hunting, 2 big hills Haslett Schools Williamston township, 865 Barry Rd Haslett \$478,000 \$450,000 if no realtor contact Gabe Blosser 517- 896-0020



FOR RENT:

Space for rent in common hangar; best for low wing but might accommodate high wing aircraft. Tim Martinson; 517-803-0462; tmartins1575@yahoo.com

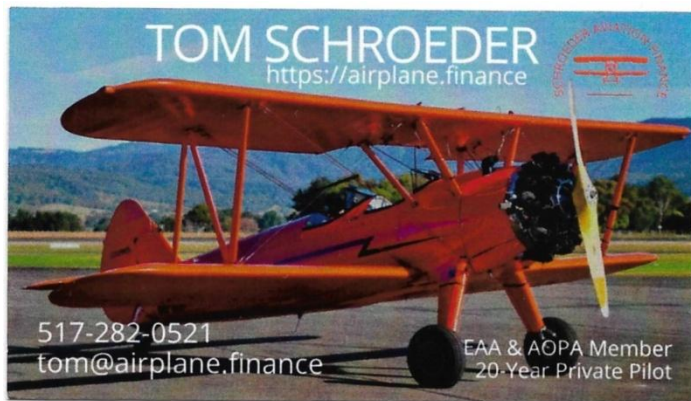
Excutive/corporate heated hangar space available. Includes pilot lounge, kitchen, bathroom/shower, conference room, TV. Cloud9 248-921-0092

Do you have anything you want to sell?? Additions and corrections, contact Deanna McAlister zirconmoons@gmail.com

EAA55 = CHAPTER BUILDERS

Members who are working on or completed homebuilts or restorations ... (Have I missed anyone? Additions, deletions & corrections appreciated):

- David Alexander; Aventura II
- Gabe Blosser; Bushmaster SuperCub Amphib
- John & Connie Bobcik; Kitfox
- Ivan Bradley; Zenith CH650B
- Dave Cook/Greg Hover; RV-6A
- Ed Crouse; Rans
- Ken Drewyor; Kitfox
- Ron Gorsline; Zenith 650
- Ralph Gregus; Zenith 750
- Dave Groh; Stearman; AT-6 restoration
- Chuck Hacker; Zenith 701
- Greg Harris; Zenith 750 project
- Gordon Hempstone; Avid Magnum project
- Steve Houghton; RV-7A
- Doug Koons w/BPurosoky; Glastar
- Rick Laub; Sling 4
- Wm. (Bill) Long; Kolb Firefly Ultralight
- Terry Lutz; RV-8
- Doug MacKenzie; Zenith 701
- Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-12; RV14A project
- Warren Miller; Fisher 303 ultralight
- Chuck Moore; REVO Lt Sport Evolution
- George Moore; KIS Pulsar 150
- Gary Nicola; Grumman Traveler restoration
- Jim Palmer; Glasair III
- Bill Purosoky w/DKoons; Glastar
- Pat Salow; Zenith 701
- Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub EX2 ; EX3 project
- Jeff Shaud; RV-7 project
- Jim Spry; RV-8
- Tracy Tillman/Lisa Colletti; (2) E-LSA Bailey-Moyes 914 Dragonflies; (1) E-LSA Alatus-AL12 sailplane
- Ken Vandenbelt; Stearman project
- David VanderMolen; Zenith 750 project



WEB EVENT CALENDARS:

<http://www.eaa.org/en/eea/events>

<http://www.fly-ins.com/>

<http://www.michigan.gov/aero/>

Mason Jewett Field FBO:
Great Lakes Air Repair
517-525-3673

Maintenance - Painting - Upholstery - Engines

FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS

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.