

## EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

SEPTEMBER 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: Doug Koons 517-???-???

→ 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)

Greetings fellow members,

Fall has arrived too soon...what happened to our summer? It was a busy summer around the 55 Hangar!

We hosted our first Young Eagle Rally in June followed by Dawn Patrol the next day. July gave us a very busy Young Eagle Rally with our third rally in August having to be cancelled due to the weather .

The following weekend was Mason Aviation Day. We had a great turnout in spite of the questionable weather.

We were able to do all of these events due to the volunteers that came out and worked them. I can't say "Thank You" enough for your participation. Without our EAA members and family members and friends that step in to help we could

not do these great events. You have all pulled together to make EAA55 shine!

Don't forget our potlucks on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00. Someone selects to bring an entrée and everyone else brings something to go with it. (John Kuchar makes sure we always have deviled eggs!) Come out and learn something new about those in attendance. It can be very enlightening!

Be sure to come to the September breakfast and general meeting on the 10th. We will have a presentation by Jeff Stetson on Gliders following the meeting.

Fairwinds to all,  
Margie Clark  
EAA 55 President

**BOARD MEETING:** 7:00pm: Wed: Sept. 7th  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** 9:30am; Sat; Sept. 10th  
with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am



## BREAKFAST TEAMS

### September

Connie Bobcik  
Ron Goodnoe  
Mike Lutz  
Gordon Hempstone  
Joseph Dickson

### October

John Karlen  
Terry Lutz  
Chuck Moore  
Brodie Stevens  
Jeff Stetson  
Shrye Lantrip

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



### **MEMBERSHIP**

by Vickie Vandebelt  
([EAA55.mems@gmail.com](mailto:EAA55.mems@gmail.com))

**NEW MEMBERS:** Chapter 55 welcomes new members Jeffrey Kemm, Allen Jencks and Lee Paquette. Jeff is a private pilot. Allen is a student and owns a Fisher Horizon 2. Lee is a pilot and owns a Sonex.

**THANK YOU:** a huge shout out to our new Student Member Daniel Thomas for all the work he did painting and beautifying our Storage Hangar in preparation of Mason Aviation Day.

**THANK YOU:** to our generous donor who gave the Chapter the Bi-Plane Rocker for our very youngest of Young Eagles. It is a great addition to our "fleet".

### **SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:**

**September  
TBD**

**CONTACT DAVE COUREY or MARGIE CLARK WITH  
YOUR SUGGESTIONS**



### **YOUNG EAGLES COORDINATOR**

by Margie Clark  
([margieclark172@gmail.com](mailto:margieclark172@gmail.com))

Our regular Young Eagle Rallies have come to an end for 2022. June was a slow day with only 78 flights but we definitely made up for it in July with 118 youth flown.

Unfortunately the weather didn't work out for us in August and we weren't able to fly anyone.

A big thank you to all the pilots and volunteers that gave their time to this great program. Without you we would not be able to give these youth the experience of a lifetime.

We can add to these numbers for this years tally up to December 31. If you have an opportunity to fly any youth before the end of the year be sure to get that number to Doug Koons or myself so we can keep track of our totals. Registration forms, certificates, log books and pins are in the blue topped box in the meeting room.



**CONDOLENCES:** to Gilda Tucker on the loss of her husband and past member, Craig Tucker.

**CONDOLENCES:** to Warren Miller and Gabe Blosser on the recent losses in their respective families.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to our Mason Aviation Day Door Prize Raffle winners: Michael Wetherbee, James Power and Brian McKay.

**MAD WRAP UP:** The weather was a little shaky and we had three quick downpours. But, over 33 planes made it to the field. Treasurer Drew has not reported back on the Breakfast and Lunch stats – but breakfast seemed to be very well attended. Hopefully, numbers will be published next month if not this month in another column. All in all, it was a great day spreading the word about aviation and the works of EAA Chapter 55. A big THANK YOU to all the Chapter 55 members who came out to make our event a success !!

**NEW SIGN:** Capital Region Airport has installed a new sign at the entrance to Mason Jewett Field. And, it looks GREAT !!



## **Youth Group Volunteers to Refurbish Jackson County Airport T-33 Trainer**

On Sunday August 28, 2022, the EAA 55 youth group volunteered to assist EAA Chapter 304 with the refurbishment of the Jackson County Airport (KJAX) static display U.S. Air Force T-33 jet trainer aircraft. Although it was a hot and humid day, an excellent turnout of six EAA 55 Young Aviators youth group members and four parents assist with the tasks at hand.

Under the direction of EAA 55 member and aviation archeologist Mr. Dave Trojan, we were able to complete many of the jobs on a “maintenance task list”. Some of the tasks to complete consisted of:

- Blocking off various openings in the fuselage to prevent intrusion of birds, insects, and pests
- Installing bird perch spike strips on the vertical stabilizer
- Rust stopping and painting fuel filler necks
- Removing deteriorated decals
- Fastening various access doors closed
- Fabricating and installing a rudder gust lock
- Fabricate templates for sheet metal engine intake duct covers
- Preparing the aircraft for paint



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

Greetings EAA 55 members,

## **September Meeting Schedule**

Our next Young Aviators youth group meeting will take place on **Sunday September 11, 2022** from 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM at the chapter hangar at Mason Jewett airport. For our last meeting of the month (September 25, 2022), the youth group will again meet at the Jackson County Airport from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM to assist in refurbishing the static display T-33 trainer jet aircraft. I hope to see you at both events, and bring a friend!





As these tasks were completed, they were checked off the maintenance list and quality inspected by Mr. Trojan. After a long, hot afternoon's work, the youth group was treated to a pizza party in the EAA Chapter 304 workshop. We wrapped up the day with a tour of EAA Chapter 304's wonderful aviation museum. The EAA 55 Young Aviators youth group is looking forward to once again volunteering their time on Sunday September 25, 2022 to complete the tasks needed to refurbish this static display aircraft. EAA 55 Young Aviators youth group would like to thank EAA Chapter 304, Mr. Dave Trojan, and our youth group parents for this opportunity to work on this piece of American aviation history.

### YG ISO (In Search Of) Lockable "Worksite" Tool Box

Jobsite Box: 48 in Overall Wd, 24 in Overall Dp, 28 1/4 in O...



We are in need of a lockable worksite toolbox (similar to the one shown in the picture) to store the youth group toolsets. The toolbox does not have to be new or made of steel. Wood construction would work just fine. We just need a secure place to store our tools while in the main hangar. If you have something to donate, please contact Jeff Shaud at (517) 712-6482.

See you at the hangar!  
 Jeff Shaud  
 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))

LCC's fall semester is underway, having completed our summer session earlier in August. We once again are at capacity for our first year students. Our students looked out into the future and have made the decision that aviation maintenance will be a viable career field when they graduate.

The good news for our students is that employers are hiring in record numbers. Passenger airlines have increased hiring based on strong demand, and employers in other sectors such as MRO and manufacturing are also heavily recruiting newly minted A&P technicians. Cargo airlines are actively hiring as the recent shift to online purchases has created significant demand for air delivery of goods nationwide.

One of the benefits of the tight job market is the recent significant rise in starting salaries. The new norm is around \$30 an hour, and many employers are offering relocation allowances, tuition reimbursement, tool allowances and strong benefit packages to ensure their maintenance technician workforce needs are met. Coupled with the fact that our graduates can work anywhere in the United States with their Airframe and Powerplant license, they have an abundance of options from which they can choose, both in location and type of work.

With the advent of cooler weather you will see more activity out on the ramp as our second year students are now finishing their airframe section of the program and are transitioning to their powerplant studies. Our first year students are learning basic maintenance procedures such as safety wiring, airframe components and foundational subjects on which the remainder of the program is built.



## EDITORS PROLIX

By Deanna McAlister

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

It's about fall color tour time. See you at the airport.

## T33 AT JXN

By Dave Trojan

The EAA55 Youth Group led by Jeff Shaud (Youth Group Director) and Dave Trojan (Maintenance Team Leader) volunteered to work on the Lockheed T-33 Shooting Star static display aircraft at the Jackson County Airport on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. It was an excellent opportunity for the youth to get hands-on experience working on an aircraft. A special "thank you" goes to Ben Cassity; Bryant Sowers; Anna Fulger; Venicio Arriaga; Bella Arriaga; Daniel Adams and his dad, Greg.

The Youth Group completed the following tasks in preparation for painting the aircraft:

- Installed new anti-bird screen in wheel wells;
- Installed anti-bird spikes on the tip of the tail;
- Secured loose access panels with screws;
- Installed a new metal gust lock on the rudder;
- Manufactured cover for a missing panel on the underside;
- Scrapped and removed numerous worn stencils;
- Installed foam into open access areas to prevent birds;
- Anti-corrosion treated fuel caps.

SIDE NOTE: Dave Trojan is looking for help with some small sheet metal work for this T-33 static display aircraft. He is in need of engine intake covers and small panel covers. Contact [dtrojan60@gmail.com](mailto:dtrojan60@gmail.com) for more info or to volunteer.

### 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

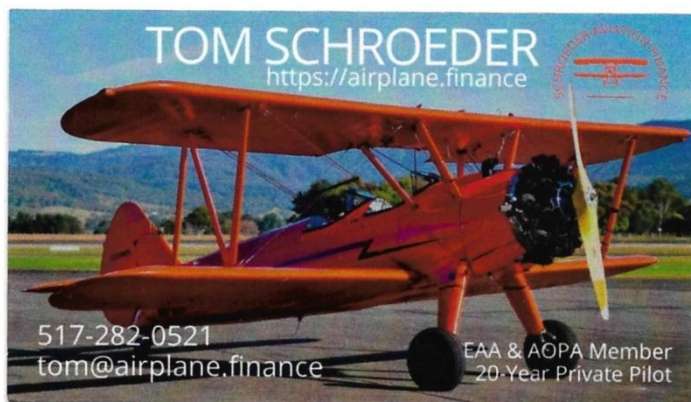
Contributions, corrections and additions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Deanna McAlister ([zirconmoons@gmail.com](mailto:zirconmoons@gmail.com))

**Deadline: 1st of each month.**

Joe Madziar "Breakfast Teams" ([madziars@msn.com](mailto:madziars@msn.com)) and Dave Courey "Monthly Programs" ([dcmi@reagan.com](mailto:dcmi@reagan.com))

## **CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS**

### **FOR SALE:**



### **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  
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**

### **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 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  
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 Koepflinger; Cessna 172; Aeronca Sedan  
Doug Koons; Glastar (w/Bill Puroskey)  
Rick Laub; Sling 4 project  
Terry Lutz; Luscombe & RV-8  
Edward Manturuk; Lancair ES  
Doug MacKenzie; Zenith 701  
Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-12; RV14A project  
Don & Deanna McAlister; Cessna 172  
Chuck Moore; RV-12  
Gary Nicola; Beechcraft Bonanza & Grumman  
Traveler restoration  
Jim Palmer; Glasair III  
Bill Puroskey; Glastar (w/Doug Koons)  
Pat Salow; Zenith 701  
Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub EX2 & Carbon Cub EX3  
project  
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

**FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS  
POSTED IN TEW TERMINAL (with  
thanks to Mark Bathurst)**

**WEB EVENT CALENDARS:**  
<http://www.eaa.org/en/eea/events>

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

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

**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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