

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

DECEMBER 2017

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: Margie Clark 517-853-1418

→ Treas: Al Spalding 517-881-8757 → Secr: Vickie Vandenbelt 517-589-5051 → Editor: Deanna McAlister 517-795-8171

www.EAA55.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Pat Salow (president@eaa55.org)

A big THANK YOU!!

As I look back to the year and a half I served as president and as vice president before that, I am struck by the gratitude I feel for the hard working members of Chapter 55. At one point during Mason Aviation Day I had more members asking what needed to be done than jobs without a volunteer. According to Webster's Dictionary a volunteer is: "a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task." One could say Chapter 55 is the definition of volunteer.

A special thank you to the Board of Directors and officers, without the experience of the Directors guiding and giving advise my job would have been much more difficult. The dedication of the Directors is exceptional and an example of true leadership. They ALL are active members and readily step up to do what needs to be done and are great historians who put the "what" and "why" of club activities into perspective.

The officers (your officers) Al, Vickie, and Dave perform countless behind the scenes activities without fanfare, or acknowledgements; but without them the club would not function as smoothly as we have all come to experience.

This is my last "President's Message" and I find it bitter sweet. It was a monthly task I knew I must complete, but it was one that took me in different directions each month. I was never at a loss for subjects given the many activities of the club. Again,

thank you to everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

Safe Flying, Pat

BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Wed; Dec. 6th MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:15am; Sat; Dec. 9th with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am (meeting will start 15 minutes early to accommodate program scheduled)

UPCOMING BREAKFAST TEAMS:

December

Kyle Chmielewski Stan Chubb Cliff Hale Wyatt Holmes John Karlen Wm (Bill) Long Dan & Margaret Schiffer

January

Errick Baker Lloyd Brown John Caron Joe Madziar Michael Rosencrans Judith Pierzynovski Jim & Carol Sawyer





November Breakfast Team:

Bruce VanFarowe, Margie Clark & Michelle Potvin shared some kitchen duties in November.

Honors also go to

Morris Hickman and Steve Potvin (not shown).

CHAPTER 55 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY:

Thank you to all who participated in the EAA
National member survey. Your input is appreciated.
Roughly 40% of Chapter 55 members responded.
But, the national survey was not specific to the activities of EAA55. As a result, your Board has devised a more "Chapter 55 specific" survey. We would sincerely appreciate input from every member. Your advice will help the Board establish a direction that best fills the needs of the majority of our members. A form is attached and will also be available at the meetings. VP Dave Courey has volunteered to compile results.

If you can't be at the meetings, you can scan & email your survey to dcmi@regan.com or leave the form in Pat Salow's folder on the

SURVEY DEADLINE:

directors table.

Conclusion of the **January 13th** meeting.

EAA 55 Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting
November 8, 2017 → Meeting was called to order by
President Pat Salow at 7:00pm. → Present: Pat
Salow, Dave Courey, Al Spalding, Vickie
Vandenbelt, Mark Bathurst, John Bobcik, Bob Clark,
Margie Clark, Doug Koons, Warren Miller, Bill
Purosky, Ken Vandenbelt & Jack Voss. Guests: Julie
Bauer, Jim Spry, Carol Spry. → Secretary's Report of
10/11/17; Bill Purosky made a motion to approve the

minutes as published; Doug Koons supported; motion carried. → Treasurers Report as of 10/31/17; Mark Bathurst made a motion to approve; Warren Miller supported; motion carried. >Pictures from Morris Hickman; tabled. → Nominating Committee; Jack Voss reported Al Spalding will continue as Treasurer; Drew Seguin advised he would run as Secretary; not sure how to motivate any other members to step up. →2018 Chapter Calendar; No pictures have been submitted from members; Carol Spry did up a calendar from her file pictures; Margie Clark made a motion to approve \$525 for 75 calendars; Jack Voss supported; motion carried. > Member of the Year; nominations discussed; Margie Clark made a motion to approve Member of the Year; Bob Clark supported; motion carried. Vickie Vandenbelt volunteered to have name plate done. Consumers Energy Light Rebate; Pat Salow reported that the application is done and rebate TBD. →2018 MDOT Airport Directory Events Listing; Pat Salow advised he could be listed as contact; Board decided the Dawn Patrol (DP) will be June 10th; 7am-11am and Mason Aviation Day (MAD) will be August 18th 7:30am-2:00pm (sandwiches/chips/cookies for lunch; no steak dinner). > Christmas Party; board decided to not hold the White Elephant Gift Exchange; Margie Clark will purchase the dessert; Vickie Vandenbelt made a motion to approve up to \$200 for door prizes; Doug Koons supported; motion carried. And, Bobcik's will donate some prizes. → Newberry Aviation Scholarship applicants; Phil Tartalone has retired from EMU so Vickie Vandenbelt will secure new contact. Mark Bathurst will circulate application to LCC students. Doug Koons, Jack Voss & Al Spalding agreed to be the scholarship committee. Deadline for applications from both EMU and LCC is December 15th. →EAA55 Member Survey; discussed revisions. Forms to be provided at November, December & January meeting & in newsletters with return to Dave Courey by the conclusion of the January membership meeting on 1/13/18. → Vickie Vandenbelt reported that our check in the amount of \$775 for the 2017 YE credits has been received and deposited. > Webmaster Craig Tucker is moving away and submitted his resignation; we will announce for a replacement at the membership meeting. >Meeting Room has been winterized and will also announce Saturday. → Wheel Chocks; donated by Greg Rheeder and Pat Salow will auction on Saturday. → Member Awards; certificates and pins for officers & coordinators come directly from EAA National based on our application

submitted last December; Pat Salow and Margie Clark will compile chapter volunteer awards. →Elections will be held at Saturday meeting (providing we fill slate of officers). → Doug Koons will solicit help on Saturday to bring in the picnic tables for winter storage. →Jon Vrabel of CRAA is planning a TEW Tenants Meeting and hopes to have a date to be announced at the Saturday chapter meeting. → Vickie Vandenbelt reported on Yankee Air Museum new campaign to "Build a Museum" and asked if there was interest in Chapter 55 making a donation; no interest noted but Pat Salow will advise members Saturday. Yvickie Vandenbelt asked if EAA55 would like to do a Gift Basket for the MACC Holiday Mixer Silent Auction: Margie Clark made a motion to approve \$30 for gift certificates; John Bobcik supported; motion carried. > Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm. → Respectfully submitted, Vickie Vandenbelt, Secretary

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting November 11, 2017 → Meeting was called to order by President Pat Salow at 9:30am with approximately 41 members and 2 guests present. → Following the National Anthem, Pat Salow recognized and thanked all our veteran members present. →November breakfast team was thanked and the December team was announced; guests were introduced. → Secretary's Report 10/14/17 motion to approve; supported; motion carried. → Treasurers Report 10/31/17; motion to approve; supported; motion carried. >Bill Bezdek volunteered to coordinate the White Elephant Gift Exchange at the Christmas Party. → Webmaster Craig Tucker is moving away and EAA55 seeks a volunteer to assume this responsibility. >Chapter Member Survey Forms were announced and available; the Board seeks input from all members; deadline will be the conclusion of the January meeting; Dave Courey has volunteered to compile the data and report back. >Greg Rheeder has donated a set of wheel chocks which were auctioned off later. → Mark Bathurst announced that Jon Vrabel, CRAA, will hold a TEW tenants meeting at LCC on Wed Nov 29th at 5:30pm. → Pat Salow informed members of the Yankee Air Museum "Let's Build a Museum" campaign if anyone wants to make a donation. → Doug Koons asked for volunteers to help bring the picnic tables in for winter storage. > Morris Hickman has donated several pictures to the chapter for display. >Elections; Jack Voss announced the slate of candidates - Drew Seguin, President; Margie Clark, Vice-President; Al Spalding, Treasurer; and

Vickie Vandenbelt, Secretary; all approved and will assume office at the December Membership Meeting. →Pat Salow conducted the auction for the donated wheel chocks; Doug Koons & Bill Purosky won with a bid of \$30. →Bill Bezdek spoke on the FRIB and had a sample of the high voltage cable. →Mark Bathurst introduced our speaker, Todd Cotter, who did an outstanding program on cold weather aviation operations. →Meeting adjourned at 10:01am. →Respectfully submitted, Vickie Vandenbelt, Secretary.

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

NOVEMBER 2017:

Todd Cotter; Winter Flying Prep & Maintenance

DECEMBER 2017:

Randy Coller; "He's Making a List & Checking It Twice"

JANUARY 2018:

Allan Hollaway; Maker Space & 3D Printing

FEBRUARY 2018:

Rick Sutton; Flight #2501 crash in Lake Michigan 1950

MORE IDEAS WANTED



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

Happy Holidays everyone! It is cold out there but still great for flying.

We will be announcing our Young Eagle of the Year at the January meeting.

Hope to see you all there.



ADULT EAGLES by Greg Rheeder (greg@eaa55.org)

Ho Ho. Merry Christmas to all and especially for all our friends at EAA Chapter 55. It was a good year for us at the Rheeder home. Although I traveled for work many days I tried to get in as much flying as I could.

I think we all need to be grateful for our blessings, family, health, friends and airplanes. I know I'm thankful for all we've received.



Winter weather looks as if it's finely set in. Less flying, more relaxing and plenty of good times with the kids and grandkids.

Here's to wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New year.

Looks like my Ercoupe is ready for Santa,,,



NOTES FROM CAPE JUBY by Terry L. Lutz (terry.lutz@attglobal.net)

We are all aware of the LCC's Aviation Technology Program because it's literally "just down the street" from Chapter 55's hangar and meeting room. Established in Mason originally under the direction of Mark Cosgrove, it is now in the very capable hands of Mark Bathurst. Since Mark took the reins, some amazing things have happened, including selection by Delta Airlines as a preferred school for the aviation maintenance technicians they will need in the future.

Mark Cosgrove was promoted to become Dean of Technical Careers at LCC. This was a well-deserved promotion, and I imagined that his office was somewhere at the LCC campus in downtown Lansing. When I found out where his office is actually located, and learned of the programs they have available, I was literally stunned by the fact that right here in the Lansing area was a gem of a facility where careers can begin.

The Lansing Community College West Campus is located in Delta Township just south of I-96 near the intersection of Creyts Road and Mt Hope Highway. This amazing facility was completed in 2004 and includes the Michigan Technical Education Center and an extensive Technical Training Center. The facility itself is not what you would expect of a college environment. It is bright, modern, and as up to date as it could possibly be. A student entering the building for the first time will instantly see that their dreams of the future are possible.

As I drove toward the building, I noticed a large asphalt paved area that appeared to be a driver training facility for police officers. I wondered "what police department does their training here?" As Mark would later point out, LCC itself does the training. A graduate of their program would be fully trained to start work as a law enforcement officer for any municipality. LCC can also train firefighters to enter the workplace.

What I saw inside was equally eye-opening from a job standpoint. We have all heard about computer aided design, or CAD. More recently, there is a lot of activity in the field of 3-D printing. And we are all aware of numerically-controlled machines, where a computer takes the CAD design to produce a final machined product. At the LCC's Technical Training Center, a student can design a part on a computer, then send that design to a 3-D printer where the part is made out of a low-cost plastic material. The part is then brought back to the CAD area where dimensions are checked for accuracy. If it all checks out, the design is then sent for final manufacturing on a numerically-controlled machine.

Mark continued the tour to the area for welding training. The welding equipment is provided by Lincoln Welding, and Lincoln updates it every 2 years with new equipment. We're aware of virtual reality goggles, where you can experience swimming with sharks, or driving a race car at Indianapolis. In the welding training lab, you put on a welding helmet, exactly like the one you use for actual welding, but when you put the simulated welding element to the simulated metal part, what you see is a

virtual reality image of a simulated arc along the part. The image will tell you if you are too close or too far from the part, and let you know if you are going too fast or too slow. You are actually graded on your ability to accurately weld a simulated part. The only thing missing is the smell of burnt metal. From there, you have the opportunity to perfect your skills with actual welding using up to date equipment.

The final area on the tour was the robotics lab. The training here ranges from very small tasks on small parts, to large assembly and transport processes. LCC has the ability to set up a reconfigurable robotics process, to carry out a wide variety of operations, such as positioning, inspecting, sorting. What you can learn here is absolutely amazing, and as I mentioned earlier, a student has the ability to see their future while learning these new skills.

As someone who remains inspired by the future, but is quite far away from academic training, when I see the Aviation Technology Program in Mason, I say to myself "if I had the time, there's some training I'd like to take". But when I saw the LCC Technical Training Center, I immediately began thinking "I want to go back to school!" We are very fortunate to have LCC in our community, and it goes without saying that we are very fortunate to the have "the two Marks" to make their technology programs so successful.

Mark Cosgrove recently purchased a Stampe, which is a biplane of wood construction, originally produced in Belgium and later produced under license in France. Mark's airplane is in fairly good condition, but like many old airplanes, sometimes you need to peel off the fabric and see what the bare bones look like. While the airplane is not in bad condition, there is some wood work to be done. So, new techniques need to be learned and parts need to be cleaned and prepared to meet with the new pieces Mark will have to make. He has a nice heated shop to work in, and the wings and other parts are stored in a trailer next to the shop. The airplane will eventually be powered by a Lycoming O-320 engine.

Operation Good Cheer is an annual event where a large number of Christmas presents are delivered to orphaned children around the state of Michigan. It is run by Child and Family Services of Michigan, which is located in Okemos, but the event itself occurs at the Oakland-Pontiac Airport, KPTK. OGC is held each

year the first Saturday in December. This usually brings pain to the brain of most pilots because the weather is usually just plain awful. But this year, something happened and the weather was beautiful, with light winds and almost tolerable temperatures.

Of course, everyone who signed up for OGC was also able to actually show up! IFR capable aircraft and pilots are usually dispatched first, followed by VFR aircraft. With great weather right from the beginning, there was a surge in departures that put a lot of pressure on the people who loaded the trucks that would take presents out to waiting aircraft. The result was a large backlog of airplanes that needed to be loaded, with no trucks available with presents. When they were finally loaded, there was a second surge of airplanes that needed clearance to depart Pontiac.

Here are some final numbers from this year's Operation Good Cheer:

Total pilots signed up for operation Good Cheer: 299 (204 IFR, 95 VFR)

Actual pilots that flew: 243 Multiple missions by pilot: 19

Total children served: 6,470 (4,069 via flying) Total Gifts Delivered: 19,410 (12,207 via flying)

Different airport destinations: 20

Total Mission Count: 252

Overall average gifts/airplane: 42

Here are some pictures from the event, where Kurt Gubert and I flew from Pontiac to the Midland-Bay City-Saginaw Airport (KMBS) to deliver a bunch of gifts. The little bicycle you see was part of the load, and it was almost like putting together jigsaw puzzle to get it in!





I hope everyone is looking forward to the Chapter Christmas party. Remembering last year, we had quite a bit of snow that evening. I wonder what's in store for us this year? In any case, with really cold weather approaching, take Todd Cotter's great advice about pre-heating and warm those engines up before you start. Snow and ice make it more difficult to move airplanes, so when you see the opportunity, lend a hand to your fellow pilot if you can.

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



TIDBITS
by Vickie Vandenbelt (vickie@eaa55.org)

2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUES:

Payments are now being accepted. When submitting your renewal dues, it is helpful to use the renewal application form. This ensures your listing in the Chapter 55 Membership Roster at www.eaa55.org is accurate. Up to date information means you, or someone trying to reach you, has access to the correct information. And, prompt payment assures your delivery of the EAA55 monthly newsletter, along with notification of any EAA55 and/or airport news.

WANTED CHAPTER WEBMASTER: Craig

Tucker is moving away and we are losing our most excellent webmaster. Our chapter desperately needs someone to step up to this position. If not you, maybe a child or grand-child would welcome this experience.

FROM MEMBER RON PEARCE: Two Minutes of aviation majesty for WWII aviation buffs. If you weren't able to make it to England in July to see in person at The Imperial War Museum in Cambridgeshire, here is the link: http://player.vimeo.com/video/ 93587997



Todd Cotter presented our November program with lots of great information about winter flying and plane maintenance.

THE EAA55 CHAPTER MEETING ROOM has been "WINTERIZED". This means the heater under the kitchen sink and the heater in the bathroom have been turned on to keep our pipes from freezing. PLEASE be certain the CABINET DOORS under the kitchen sink are firmly closed. And, PLEASE be certain both the BATHROOM DOOR and the STORAGE ROOM DOOR are closed and firmly latched. If each of us could check on the room each time visit the airport, we hope to avoid the problems of last year.

THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR COOPERATION.



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

Pervious articles over the past year have extensively discussed the state of the aviation industry as it relates to the shortage of skilled aircraft maintenance technicians. Both maintenance technician and pilot shortages have forced employers to raise starting salaries, offer sign-on bonuses, enhance benefit packages and create partnerships like the one LCC now has with Delta Air Lines.

In discussing the program, one of the questions most commonly asked during presentations to civic organizations, school groups and individuals interested in the program is "Who is your typical student?" The answer is not simple.

Traditionally, students in FAA-approved aircraft maintenance programs were mostly high school graduates and former military members. In the past, once someone started in an occupation, the tendency was to stay in that career field for the entire time in the workforce. That has changed.

Our students still come from high schools and the military, either former military members or members currently in the National Guard or Reserves.

Additionally, however, we have seen an increase in individuals interested in a career change who are already in the workforce. Many of our students have been working in a field not particularly interesting or rewarding, and are looking for a change. We have a greater number of students who already have college degrees, whether it is an associate degree or even a bachelor degree. Recent students have come to LCC's aviation technology program with a bachelor's degree in music, zoology and other non-maintenance related areas.

Regarding our student demographics, women and self-identified diverse students represent an increasing percentage of our program's population. The age range of our students is late-teens to midfifties. We attract students from most of lower-and mid-Michigan, but based on the NBC and MSNBC news pieces highlighting our program that aired in September, we have received inquiries from Texas, Florida and states in between.

Increased awareness of the program, interest in a career change, significant salary opportunities and

long-term advancement potential have created strong interest in our program. Year-over-year increases in interviews and commitments to enroll in the class starting in August, 2018 leads us to believe wewill have yet another record number of students. If you know of individuals who may be interested in a career in aviation maintenance technology I strongly encourage they contact us soon as we may be at capacity before classes begin. The opportunities are virtually unlimited.



EDITORS PROLIX By Deanna McAlister (zirconmoon@hotmail.com)

Have a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year! Get up and enjoy the dense atmosphere!

FLY-OUTS:

- Big Rapids Soup Lunch; 11am-2:00pm; each Saturday
- · Brighton Breakfast; 9am; each Saturday
- Hillsdale Breakfast; 8am-11am; 3rd Saturday each month

FLIGHT TRAINING AT TEW:

Great Lakes Air Ventures; Dale Foerschler; http://greatlakesairventures.com/ Cloud 9 Flight Training; Tracy Tillman; http://cloud9flighttraining.com/2017/09/20/web-site-up/

Spartan Wings Flying Club; http://www.spartanwings.com/

IFLYPLANZ; Kyle Chmielewski; http://iflyplanez.com/

HANGARS FOR RENT AT TEW:

Lloyd Brown; 517-589-8619

KBS Trust; Deanna McAlister; 517-795-8171

Tom Tuttle; 734-216-7532 Dave Carlson; 517-881-6174

EAA55 = CHAPTER BUILDERS

Who is working on or completed homebuilts or restorations ... your input for changes or corrections would be appreciated...

Erric Baker; Mini-Max project Kyle Bradford; several Pietenpol John & Connie Bobcik; Kitfox Dave Cook/Greg Hover; RV-6A

Kurt Crandell; Tierra II

Ed Crouse; Rans

Grant Dowell; Citabria Restoration

Ken Drewyor; Kitfox

Mike Franzago; Starduster project

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/Bill Purosky; Glastar project Wm. (Bill) Long; Kolb Firefly Ultralight

Terry Lutz; RV-8

Tim Martinson; RV-6A & RV-12 project Chuck Moore; REVO Lt Sport Evolution Aircr

George Moore; KIS Pulsar 150

Gary Nicola; Grumman Tiger restoration

Jim Palmer; Glasair III Steve Potvin; RV-7 project Pat Salow; Zenith 701

Drew Seguin; Carbon Cub project

Jeff Shaud; RV-7 project

Jim Spry; RV-8

Craig Tucker; Gyrobee Gyroplane project

Ken Vandenbelt; Stearman project John VanderMolen; Zenith 750 project

Contributions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Deanna McAlister (zirconmoon@hotmail.com)

Deadline: 1st of each month.

CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS

HANGAR FOR RENT: EAA55 Builders Hangar; \$115 month plus gas; Drew Seguin 517-333-4531

LOST & FOUND: Someone left a trailer light tester and 8mm socket in the meeting room ??

FOR SALE:

Pietenpol Aircraft; have two; make offer; for complete info contact Kyle Bradford; 517-663-3083

Various Headsets; Nav/Com Aviation Radio; Oxygen System; Gyro Stabilizer; Portable Intercom; Garmin

GPS. Phil Tartalone; ptartalone@mac.com

1/4" 5-ply Birch faces w/Popular inner plies, MIL P6070, \$30 ea; .040, 2024-T3, 2'x4', \$15 ea; upholstery fabric; abt 2 yds; Voltage Regulator, Cessna PN C6110010201, \$100; Hand Mic \$50; David Clark headset, \$150; Graco Series 700, HVLP paint sprayer with several nozzles & accessories; plus 3M respirator; make offer. Prices negotiable. Gary Nicola; glnicola@att.net or 517-898-6387.

ASA CX2 Flight Computer; works great; \$65.00; Greg Rheeder 517-315-3247

Maple Syrup; Pints, Quarts, and Half Gallons; John & Connie Bobcik 517-543-8238; jbobcik@gmail.com

Honey; various sizes; Gordon Hempstone 517-515-1454

Mason Jewett Field FBO:
Great Lakes Air Repair
517-525-3673
Maintenance - Painting - Upholstery - Engines

POCKET CALENDAR:

Dec 10 = Christmas Party
Jun 10 = EAA55 Dawn Patrol
Aug 18 = EAA55 Mason Aviation Day

FLYERS FROM OTHER AIRPORTS POSTED IN TEW TERMINAL

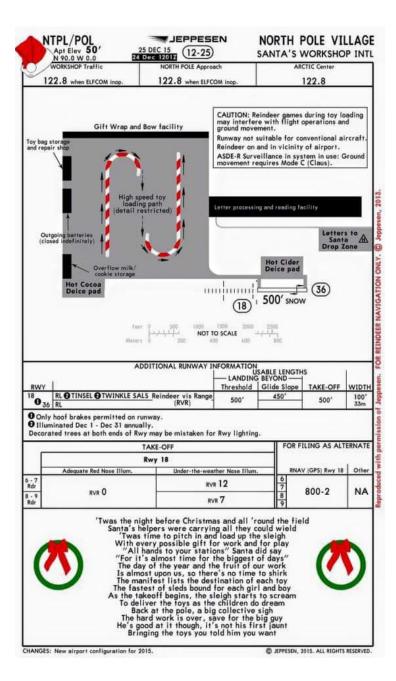
WEB EVENT CALENDARS:

http://www.eaa.org/en/eaa/events http://www.fly-ins.com/ http://www.michigan.gov/aero/

> BE SURE TO LIKE "EAA CHAPTER 55" ON FACEBOOK !!



OOPS!! That shouldn't have happened!!



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 <u>last Saturday of the month</u>. 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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