

CHAPTER 55 EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2010



Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each Month

EAA Chapter 55 Hangar - Mason Jewett Airport – 643 Aviation Drive, Mason, MI 48854

Pres: Ken Vandenbelt 589-5051 Vice Pres: Bill Purosky 214-2729 Treas: Al Spalding 676-3370

Secr: Vickie Vandenbelt 589-5051 Editor: Warren Miller 214-2656 (all Area Code 517) www.EAA55.org

Climb and Maintain Flight Level 55

Happy Anniversary to us !! EAA55 is celebrating our 50th anniversary this month !! (ok, we are a year late but all the more reason to celebrate). We have arranged for the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce to do a ribbon cutting at 9am sharp at our meeting on Saturday, Dec 11th. We hope the snow will hold off so that we can take the picture with the EAA55 hangar roof in the background. In addition, invitations have been extended to Chamber members, local dignitaries, TEW owners/tenants and local aviation groups to join us for a free Pancake Breakfast from 8am to 9am that morning.

**Board of Directors Meeting
December 8, 2010, 7:00 pm.
Chapter Membership Meeting
December 11, 2010
Breakfast 8-9 Meeting 9:30 am.**

I received a note: "The FAA has proposed a new rule that requires all pilot certificates to include photos of the certificate holder. The new proposal meets requirements under the

Intelligence Reform & Terrorism Prevention Act, which requires the FAA to issue plastic, tamper-resistant pilot certificates with photos. The move is just the latest in a series of security steps initiated by the agency, including converting paper licenses to plastic to accommodate holograms and an ultraviolet-sensitive layer that prevents tampering, altering and counterfeiting. The cost to pilots for added security: \$22 for a certificate that expires after eight years. Pilots applying for a new certificate will have to pay that price immediately. Pilots with current certificates would have from three to five years to renew their certificate, depending on their type of certification. Get ready to say "cheese" and to fork up some bread."

Jim Spry & Vickie Vandenbelt will collaborate for the next chapter night to be held on Saturday, January 22. The chapter will provide the main dish (suggestions?) for a potluck. Jim agreed to head up a euchre tournament. We hope to round up some prizes (in case anyone wants to re-gift there White Elephant?). Plan to gather at 6pm, eat before 7pm and start the euchre games shortly thereafter.

I am checking to see if we can get the movie "Pearl" for a February movie night (see ad in latest Sport Aviation).

We've set the dates for our 2011 events - check the pocket calendar. Unfortunately, looks like MAD will be competing with the Alma Open House again. Just too many events and too few weekends in our summer!!

Our program this month will be awards presentations to members recognizing their service to the chapter this past year.

Hope to see you all at the meeting for our 50th Anniversary Celebration. Merry Christmas & wishes to all for a prosperous New Year.

Share the Passion,
Ken Vandenbelt, President

Breakfast Teams

<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Dave Courey	Kyle Bradford
Kevin Cozik	Lloyd Brown
Brian Eakin	Pete Chestnut
Max Hall	Ken Drewyor
Dave Keller	Cliff Hale
Steve Meyer	Gordon Hempstone
Pat Salow	Dan Pheils

EAA Chapter 55

Board of Directors Meeting, November 10, 2010

→Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm. →Directors present: Ken Vandenbelt, Al Spalding, Vickie Vandenbelt, Joe Madziar, Doug Koons, Jim Spry, Dave James. Absent: Warren Miller, Bill Purosky, Ed Search →Secretary's Report dated 10/6/10; Joe Madziar made a motion to approve; Dave James second; all approved. →Treasurers Report dated 10/31/10; Vickie Vandenbelt made a motion to approve; Doug Koons second; all approved. →Young Eagles; Doug Koons reported EAA55 applied for reimbursement of YE credits for YE purchases in 2010. He has adjusted some of the YE

numbers on the web to jive with National info. Might have 12 more YE to fly in upcoming week. →Discussed the calendars & expanding awards to members who worked chapter events other than just YE. Doug Koons made a motion to expand awards to workers, Joe Madziar second; all approved. Doug will solicit info if there are members who wish to purchase calendars & order. →Joe Madziar made a motion to buy golf shirts for the YE pilots; 13 at a cost of \$22 +/- each. Dave James second; all approved. →Doug Koons will take care of donating copy machine to Goodwill. →Insurance Building Value info pending. →Fire Extinguisher servicing pending. →Member of the Year & Past Presidents Plaque; Doug Koons suggested he make the plaques & could be done for less expense than buying extension & new plaque. →Event dates for 2011; decided on Sunday, June 12th, 7am-Noon for Dawn Patrol and Saturday, August 20th, 7:30am-4:00pm for Mason Aviation Day. Info to be submitted to MDOT for publication in the Airport Directory. →November meeting; election of directors; no new nominations. →Christmas Party; Al Spalding advised reservation & money must be received by Monday, Nov. 29th. →Newberry Aviation Scholarship; Joe Madziar, Al Spalding & Vickie Vandenberg agreed to be on the committee to review applications. →Member of the Year; discussed and selected. →Ken Vandenberg advised receipt of letter thanking EAA55 for our donation of water, chips & cookies to the "Mason Cares" event at the fire station. →USAF Museum trip; Dave James is thinking late January/early February; soliciting input on sign-up sheet. →Joe Madziar made a motion to adjourn; Vickie Vandenberg second; adjourned at 8:58pm.

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Gen'l Membership Meeting, November 13, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 9:30am; approx. 38 members present. →Following the National Anthem, President Ken Vandenberg thanked the breakfast team and thanked Dave Groh for the fresh donut treats!! →Secretary's Report dated 10/9/10; motion to approve; second; all approved. →Treasurers Report dated 10/31/10; final MAD figures show \$86 profit; no unusual income/expense; motion to approve; second; all approved. →Membership; new member Louis Bacon (Dick's brother). →Elections; Tom Botsford made a motion to approve the ballot of directors unanimously; second; all approved. Dave James, Doug Koons, Joe Madziar, Warren Miller, Ed Search, Jim Spry elected for another two year term. →YE; Doug Koons advised YE credit reimbursement & adjustments to pilot numbers. →Membership; dues are payable for 2011. →Xmas Party; need \$\$ by Nov 29th. →USAF Museum Trip; Dave James/Bob Smith coordinating. →EAA55 Storage Hanger; space available. →2011 Event Dates selected (see pocket calendar). →Update Bart Smith; home & welcomes visitors. →Report: Ivan Kerr suffered a fall. →Discussed Past Presidents; need input on the early years for plaque. Warren Miller to contact Jim Palmer & Dick Bacon to contact Mrs. Howard Gostnell. →Discussed EAA55 50th Anniversary. Will arrange a Chamber ribbon cutting. Membership expressed preference for regular meeting day; will try for December. Membership also suggested inviting chamber members & others to breakfast. →Bill Bezdek showed copy of 1942 Motors Magazine with history of auto companies; models; & motors info. →Motion was made & meeting adjourned at 9:58am. →No program.

TIDBITS ~

By Vickie Vandenberg

NEW MEMBERS: Chapter 55 welcomes new member Louis Bacon (brother of our very own Dick Bacon).

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2011: Treasurer Al accepts payment at meetings or by mail. Only \$25.00 per member plus \$15.00 for each family member. Prompt payment is greatly appreciated by our newsletter editor & webmaster because it is a real pain if we have to take you off the lists; then add you back on.

BATHROOM/SUPPLY ROOM DOORS: The chapter meeting room is now in "Winter Mode". The electric heater is on in the bathroom and it should remain set at 50-55 degrees. The bathroom door AND the supply room door must remain CLOSED at all times.

BART SMITH UPDATE: Bart has returned home but is confined to a wheel chair. He invites you to drop by. If the garage door is not open - just come on up the front ramp, pop your head in the door and give a holler. 204 Steven Street; Mason, MI 48854. Phone 517-676-2146

LLOYD BROWN UPDATE: Lloyd is fighting prostate cancer. Joyce reports that Lloyd has started radiation treatments. He will have a treatment five days a week for 8-1/2 weeks. He has also had a Lupron shot, which he will have every 4 months for a year. They say the treatments will make him tired eventually, but his spirits are up and he's going strong for now. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. 3069 Hull Road; Leslie, MI 49251. Phone 517-589-8619

GREAT LAKES INTERNATL. AVIATION CONFERENCE SIGN-UP: there is a sign-up sheet in the meeting room for those interested in attending the conference on January 8th & who wish to car pool with other EAA55 members. New location is EMU; cost has been reduced & it is now a one-day event. Pre-registration form is attached.

USAF MUSEUM SIGN-UP: Dave James is coordinating EAA55 members who are interested in going (probably late January/early February). There is a sign-up sheet in the meeting room or contact Dave directly.

EAA55 APPAREL: An order form is available if you wish to purchase EAA55 hats or shirts. Costs are subject to change due increases from the cotton market. Please advise if you would be interested in window decals, license plates, jacket patches, or coffee mugs with the EAA55 logo.

CANCER WALK: In October, Julie Spalding invited me to join her in the Making Strides Against Cancer Benefit Walk in Lansing. Ran into Pat & Karen Salow. Seems Pat made a commitment to dress in pink if his team reached their fund raising goal. They did and picture of Pat is attached. Many thanks to Pat for "taking one for the team".



And, before you guys poke fun at him - his wife tells me that the outfit was a real "chick magnet". All the women were coming up to get their picture taken with him - so there !!

KZOO AIR ZOO NEWS: Thanks to a generous grant, the Air Zoo is expanding its experiences & attractions with a 50,000-square-foot exhibit hall addition to its Main Campus beginning

this month. The addition will provide space for new & current exhibits, aircraft, a 4,000-square-foot archive & an expanded library. Construction is estimated to be completed in mid-2011. The extension is part of an expansion plan that was developed four years ago to relocate the Michigan Space Science Center & the WWII naval aviation exhibits, which are currently housed at the East Campus, to the Main Campus. It will also allow for the expansion & relocation of the Restoration Center to the East Campus, where visitors can view & participate in the restoration process. The East Campus will close to the public on Jan. 1, 2011. The Air Zoo will continue offering **free general admission** with the option to purchase wristband packages or individual tickets to experience rides & attractions. EAA55 might want to plan a field trip to KZoo after completion this fall.

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE EXTENDED: Stuff is still on sale thru Dec 31st or while supply lasts!! Price list on display. Stop by & pick up a treat.

Young Eagles

By Doug Koons

Hi Everyone, Our chapter gave 238 kids there Young Eagle rides this past year. Chapters 55 members and pilots have now flown 2,579 kids. Thank you all for all the great help this year. I hope to see everyone at our member meeting on Saturday. I have awards for Christmas. Thank you, Doug

Notes from Cape Juby

By Terry L. Lutz, Chapter 55 Flight Advisor

As the year 2010 draws to a close, the work here at Airbus is accelerating. Long flying days mix with short periods of sunlight. We recently finished a campaign to carefully investigate the wake vortices trailing behind the A380. With a multi-national crew of pilots and engineers, we accomplished over 400 passes through the wake of the A380 and A340-600 in 5 individual flights. The longest flight was nearly 7 hours. I could have flown from Paris to Detroit!

In October, I was assigned to some test flying in Seville, Spain. We currently have 3 A400M military transport aircraft in flight test, with a fourth to come on line before the end of this year. The A400M is a 4-engine turbo propeller airplane, which in size is between the C-130 and C-17. It utilizes the Airbus fly-by-wire design technology, so when you climb in the cockpit, you very quickly feel at home with the basic stick and rudder part of the airplane.



Our flight test area is over the Mediterranean Sea, just east of Gibraltar, and just south of Malaga. The weather was very good, and we could almost reach out and touch North Africa. In fact, the maps we see as school children don't really depict what you see when looking south into Africa. There are quite a few mountains not far inland, which is different than most of us might expect.

During the week I flew out of Seville, we were doing mainly performance testing in different configurations. The test set up was to establish the proper airplane configuration (flaps, gear, and sideslip as required by the engineer, then accomplish saw tooth climbs with one engine shutdown and the other 3 at takeoff power. Target speeds were between 1.3Vs and 1.1Vs, and the requirement was to keep airspeed within +/-1 knot of the target. That's a pretty tight tolerance, but the combination of a good flight control system and a good head-up display (HUD) made the task quite a bit easier. Keeping pitch attitude constant generally keeps airspeed constant, and the HUD helps a lot.

From a flight test standpoint, the most important consideration is subsequent failure of an engine on the same side. In that case, you have to lower the nose, regain airspeed, and execute the engine relight procedure for the engine already shut down.

We had a few evenings to visit the center of Seville. There is a lot of history there, centered on a beautiful cathedral. Christopher Columbus is said to be interred in the cathedral, which was actually a mosque until 1245AD. The Place de Espana is a stunning building and plaza featuring colorful ceramic tiles. It was used as a backdrop for Star Wars Episode I, where Anakin Skywalker is a young lad. I had planned to visit the barber of Seville to say "Figaro" for all my friends back home, but alas we arrived so late that the shop was already closed.

In October, I ran across an article titled "The Acorn Days". It was written by Denham Scott, whose brother worked for Donald Douglas at what is now 25th Street and Wilshire Blvd in Santa Monica. Denham Scott eventually found work at Lockheed when they were building the wooden version of the Lockheed Vega. The "Acorn Days" tells the story of the men who started the early aircraft companies. It was a time when seeds were planted and large companies were just beginning to grow. Here are some vignettes from the story:

- The Martin Company began in an abandoned church in Santa Ana, CA. When Curtis was flying exhibitions, Donald Douglas ran the company and did the engineering, while Larry Bell ran the shop.

- The Douglas Company was started in a barbershop in on Pico Blvd in Los Angeles. The barber shop was still there in 1968.
- Lockheed built the first Vega at 1040 Sycamore Avenue in Hollywood.
- Claude Ryan leased an old airfield in San Diego for \$50 per month and started the Ryan Company.
- Curtis and Douglas teamed to start North American Aviation.
- Curtis ran a flying school in Inglewood and taught William Boeing to fly. Boeing moved to Seattle and formed Boeing Aircraft.
- The Wright and Martin companies merged and a man named Chance Vought became Chief Engineer.
- Martin left Wright-Martin and moved to Cleveland, taking Larry Bell with him. Donald Douglas joined them and designed the Martin Bomber, which Billy Mitchell used to sink the Osfriesland.
- Donald Douglas moved back to California in 1920. Jack Northrop, Jerry Vultee, and Ed Heinemann (designed the A-4 Skyhawk) became engineers at Douglas Aircraft.
- Jerry Vultee left to become Chief Engineer at Lockheed.
- Jack Northrop started his own company, called Avion, and would later found Northrop Aircraft.
- Jerry Vultee left Lockheed to start what would become the Vultee Aircraft Company. It later merged with Rueben Fleet's Consolidated Aircraft Company to become Convair.
- Glenn Martin closed up shop in Cleveland and moved to Baltimore and established Martin Aircraft. Larry Bell moved to Buffalo and formed Bell Aircraft.

Thus the fledgling aerospace business was formed in Southern California in the 1920s. But there should be an update to the story. The great oak tree that was born of these acorns has undergone many changes. Many of its branches and lush green aviation foliage are gone. Of the original branches, here are some of what remains:

- Douglas merged with McDonnell to become McDonnell-Douglas, which has been purchased by Boeing.
- Lockheed merged with Martin to become the Lockheed-Martin Company and absorbed General Dynamics, which was formerly Convair.

- North American Aviation is gone.
- Northrop and Grumman merged to become Northrop-Grumman Corp.
- Bell merged with Textron to become Bell-Textron.
- Learjet became Gates-Learjet, which was purchased by Bombardier.
- Beech, Piper, and Cessna remain as manufactures of light airplanes, and are now joined by Cirrus Design. Piper has absorbed Columbia Aircraft. Is more consolidation in on the horizon?

If you are looking for some good reading during the winter months, here are some titles you will enjoy:

1. "War Pilot", by Richard C. Kirkland. One of our Chapter 55 members thrust it into my hand in September, and it is a very interesting story about WWII in the Pacific, and helicopter operations in both Korea and Viet Nam.
2. "Corky Meyer's Flight Journal". A memoir of a Grumman test pilot from WWII to the F-11 Tiger. Corky had the opportunity to fly most of the WWII fighters on all sides of the war, and rates them on their abilities in combat.
3. "The Blond Knight of German – a biography of Erich Hartmann". Flying mainly on the Russian Front, Hartmann is the highest scoring ace of all time with 352 aircraft shot down. It is a view of WWII we do not often hear about.

During this holiday season, please take the time to remember fellow chapter members who are challenged by health problems, and to remember people less fortunate than those of us who are privileged to fly. And never forget to say a prayer for those members of our Armed Services who serve their country in faraway places. By comparison, it makes lending a hand to your fellow pilot seem very easy.

From the Flight Surgeon

By Gregory Pinnell, MD

Senior AME/ Senior Flight Surgeon USAFR

A frequent question I get from pilots is can I fly with cholesterol lowering medications and what documentation is needed. The general rule of thumb is that all the common medications to treat elevated cholesterol are allowed. When starting a new medication it is wise to allow at least a few days to make sure there are no side effects. If already on the medication and any symptoms occur (such as unusual muscle aches) it is smart to ground yourself until you can consult with your prescribing physician. A simple notation on your next aviation physical is all that is needed. Fly Smart and Safe!

CLASSIFIED

HANGAR SPACE: EAA55; \$70 month; Ken Vandenbelt 517-589-5051. Others; Deanna McAlister 517-851-7047 or Lloyd Brown 517-589-8619

FOR SALE:

Pietenpol; Model A powered; fuselage sides built; extra fuselage; with trailer. Contact Kyle Bradford 517-663-3083 for details.

2009 Kitfox; Model 4-1200; Rotax engine; many extras. Jack Toman 517-882-8331.

KIS TR-1, Subaru Legacy engine, low time, well maintained; vacuum gyro horizon & compass; electric turn & bank; Garmin 250 GPS nav/com; Collins Mode C transponder; cruise 170 mph. George Moore 517-536-1034.

Hunting Camp; 1/8 share. 157 acres bordering on the Houghton Lk State Forest/Roscommon Line. Dick Bacon 517-230-7808

Rans 2007 S6S Coyote II; 88 hrs; Rotax 912; many extras; \$49,000. Ernie Lutz 517-676-4601

DTV antenna; analog or digital TV; \$20.00 George Moore 517-536-1034

Telex ProCom 200 noise canceling headphones. Bart Smith 517-676-2146

Generac Generator; \$350.00 Greg Hover 517-676-5126

Yesteryear Aviation; new surplus hardware & burning barrels; 517-676-4416

Avon Products & Natural Beauty Soaps. Deanna McAlister 517-596-2506

BEACON AVIATION RIDES: Mike Marhanka 517-485-9190/ Jim McFarland 517-944-7796; sirjames1@sbcglobal.net

Contact Warren or Vickie to place your ad here!

Santa's Check Ride Class 50E News Letter USAF

Submitted by Kyle Bradford

Santa Claus, like all pilots, gets regular visits from the FAA and it was shortly before Christmas when the FAA Examiner arrived. In preparation, Santa had the elves wash the sled and bathe all the reindeer. Santa got out his logbook and made sure that all of the paperwork was in order.

The Examiner walked slowly around the sled. He checked the reindeer harness, the landing gear and Rudolph's nose. He painstakingly reviewed Santa's weight and balance calculations for the sled's enormous payload. Finally, they were ready for the check ride. Santa got in and fastened his seatbelt and shoulder harness and checked his compass.

Then the Examiner hopped in, carrying to Santa's surprise, a 30.06 rifle. "What's that for?" asked Santa incredulously.

The Examiner winked and said, "I'm not supposed to tell you this, but you're going to lose an engine on takeoff."

POCKET CALENDAR:

Dec 11 =EAA55 50th Anniversary
Open House & Ribbon Cutting

Dec 11 =EAA55 Xmas Party

2011

Jan 8 =Great Lakes Aviation Conf.

Jan 22 =EAA55 Potluck/Euchre 6:00

Jun 11 =Young Eagle Rally

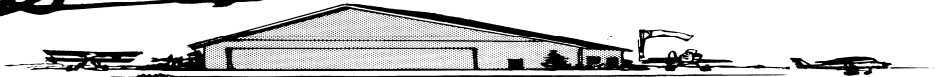
Jun 12 =EAA55 Dawn Patrol 7am-Noon

Jul 9 =Young Eagle Rally

Aug 13 =Young Eagle Rally

Aug 20 =Mason Aviation Day 7:30-4:00

Wingtips →



Bill Purosky
200 Shoemith Road
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