

CHAPTER 55 EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

MARCH 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: Ed Search 882-5867

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

Climb and Maintain Flight Level 55

Those of you who did not come for the February breakfast missed a feast. Bob Smith contributed scrambled eggs and sausage; biscuits and gravy, along with melon to go with our staple of pancakes. Thank you, Bob.

Then, after the meeting, over 30 members and guests traveled to Dave Groh's Yesteryear Aviation for our program on rib and wing construction. Dave made fresh donuts. I had one (or two??). I think our February meeting and program will become known as "Fat February".... but oh, so yummy.



The GLIAC was a great net-working opportunity. A great number of young people and MIAT students were in attendance. Chapter 113 Brighton brought their Pietenpol project to display. Chapter 384 Plymouth also had a booth next to ours.



Special thanks to members Pete Chestnut, Chris Long, Joe Madziar and Dan Pheils for being such good sports after being railroaded into representing Chapter 55 in the "Flying Feud". When asked "name something you would sell in order to get

another plane" - one contestant (and I won't mention any names) said "wife" and it was on the Board !! What a great team they were - and they have a trophy to prove it !!

Jim Spry has agreed to be our Chapter Activities Coordinator and is looking to put together some fly-outs, hangar tours, contests and other ideas you can provide to him.

**Board of Directors Meeting
March 10, 2010, 7:00 pm.
Chapter Membership Meeting
March 13, 2010
Breakfast 8-9 Meeting 9:30 am.**

CRAA has received a \$150,000 grant for TEW and this will be for the start of the fencing project. They will begin fencing the north side of the airport this summer.

Thanks to Barb Cook (Librarian) and Tom Smith (President) of Chapter 113, we have three more boxes of books for our library. Barb is kind enough to sort out their duplicates and donate them to us.

Our March program will be a presentation by Roger Sadowsky from the Jackson Model Rocketry Club.

Ken Vandenbelt, President

Breakfast Teams

<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
Bartley Dixon	Don Burt
Ray Fink	Don Frank
Helen Goodnoe	Deanna McAllister
Ronald Goodnoe	Don McAllister
Ralph Gregus	George Moore
Leo Holmes	Gary Nesbitt
Ted Lakin	Dan Schiffer
Mark Stanton	George Spencer



February Breakfast team cooks:
Joe Pirch, Bob Smith and Phil Tartalone

EAA Chapter 55

Board of Directors Meeting, February 10, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:00am. →Directors present: Ken Vandenbelt, Bill Purosky, Vickie Vandenbelt, Doug Koons, Joe Madziar, Jim Spry, & Al Spalding. Absent: Dave James, Warren Miller, Ed Search →Secretary's Report dated 1/6/10 DKoons made a motion to approve as published in the newsletter; BPurosky second; all approved. →Treasurer's Report - not available →Membership - as reported in newsletter. →Events - first meeting has started things rolling; need to think about budget. →GLIAC - BPurosky has signup sheets; will discuss more at Saturday meeting. →BPurosky made a motion to approve purchase of stand-up sign holders for GLIAC & other events; JMadziar second; all approved. →First Responders Seminar - still in preliminary development.

OLD BUSINESS:

→Dan McGrath was presented with his award as our 2009 YE of the Year. He expressed his appreciation for the award & Student Membership & plans to attend future meetings to meet the group. →Vickie reported that our "One Six Right" & "One Six Left" DVD's are still missing along with the box of mementos from Mary Schwaderer. →ASpalding reported that some peddle planes are listed on Ebay for sale but he has not seen any sold. Suggested we that the plan to GLIAC & see if we get any bidders. →Personal Property Inventory - Warren has a two page list but it is here & he is in Florida. Jim Spry will pursue. →Budget tabled for future meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

→Discussed what chapter wants to do in 2010. JSpry suggested contests, flyouts, other events. VVandenbelt suggested evening gathering to fly members who don't have planes. JSpry is going to explore some options & determine interest among membership. →Discussed need to appoint Asst. Treasurer to fill in until ESearch can resume duties. Decided best to appoint a Treasurer to fulfill the term so Ed doesn't have to worry about it. DKoons made a motion to appoint ASpalding to fill the Treasurers position for the remainder of the term, BPurosky second, all approved. →Discussed that we will need to amend the bank account to delete ESearch & add Al Spalding; Ken Vandenbelt (President) & Bill Purosky (Vice President) will remain on the account(s) as signors also. →BPurosky made a motion to approve ASpalding to purchase a lap top computer & load programs (value not to exceed \$600) for primary use by the Treasurer & YE Coordinator; DKoons second; all approved. →VVandenbelt reported that the EAA Natl Member Rebates have been discontinued. →BPurosky will check on costs of event food permits vs. annual food permits

. →VVandenbelt is working with Bryan Plaunt on securing supply of forks/knives/plates. →BPurosky reported that Beacon Aviation is going to host another Garmin Seminar March 18 & asked if EAA55 would like to do the food. BOD thought that was a great idea & Bill will pursue details. →VVandenbelt is securing pricing to replace our Member of Year plaque and securing a Past Presidents plaque. →VVandenbelt is continuing work on the Operations Manual; will get what we have for Breakfast Procedures posted in the kitchen. →VVandenbelt has requested a supply of the AirBP VISA applications which have 5% rebate on fuel purchases & will report when received. →ASpalding reported that the AOPA VISA also has a rebate for fuel, along with Sporty's & other aviation purchases. →DKoons reported that he & his son completed the County Parks Bridge Construction project so that can be removed from EAA consideration. →BPurosky made a motion to adjourn; DKoons second; all approved & adjourned at 8:15pm.

EAA Chapter 55

Gen'l Membership Meeting, February 13, 2010

→Meeting was called to order at 9:30am; 42 members & 5 guest present. →Following the National Anthem, President KVandenbelt thanked the breakfast team of Joe Pirch, Phil Tartalone & Bob Smith and thanked Lloyd Brown for plowing out the snow. Big round of applause for the special menu cooked up by Bob Smith. →Introduction of guests: Newberry winners Nick Dziad, Justin Patrick, Jason Cook, Kyle Curtiss; Kathy Stanton & John Eiler from EAA304 Jackson; Bob White, Kurt Crandall, & Mr. Long. →Secretary's report dated Jan 9th; motion made to approve as printed in the newsletter; second; all approved. →Treasurers report; no report as Ed Search is in the hospital recovering from a heart attack & surgery; Al Spalding has been appointed to fulfill his term. The chapter has purchased a chapter laptop for Treasurers & other uses. Al is in the process of bringing the paperwork & QuickBooks program up to date. →New Members: Chris Long and Bob & Margie Clark. →DP/MAD Flyers are available; Tom Botsford suggested Chapter be active in Memorial Day & July 4th Parades and consider getting a booth at Spring Fling to promote chapter & events. →GLIAC: Bill Purosky & Phil Tartalone reported on booth & programs. →YE of YEAR: Dan McGrath was presented with award at BOD meeting. We hope to have him at meeting to meet members in near future. →Jim Spry is taking on the task of Chapter Activities Coordinator & needs member ideas for fun stuff. Suggestions include fly-outs, poker run, flying evenings. Ralph Gregus asked if we could have a gathering of the planes or hanger tours to see who has what. Contact Jim with any ideas you might have. →Bill Purosky announced Beacon Aviation is planning another Garmin Seminar. EAA55 will be helping with food. See Tidbits for details. →Al St. George announced he has First Flight Test Cards. Also will post newsletter for Safety Counselors. →Bill Purosky showed the Breakfast Procedures Manual we are developing. He is usually here to start things for the breakfast, but in case he is unable to be here - the procedures outline what to do. The manual will be in the kitchen for access. →Meeting adjourned at 10:04 and proceeded to Yesteryear Aviation for a program on rib/wing building.

TIDBITS ~

By Vickie Vandenberg

EVENTS PLANNING MEETING: Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 14th, at 7pm. Maybe it will be warm enough to have it at the EAA hanger !!

GARMIN AVIONICS SEMINAR: Will be held Thursday, March 18th, at 7:00pm in the Michigan Aeronautics Building at 2700 E. Airport Service Drive, Lansing. Sponsored by Garmin, Beacon Aviation and MDOT. Light refreshments (finger foods) will be served prior to the seminar so arrive early !!

MDOT BUREAU OF AERONAUTICS: Stay connected!! Register your email address on AERO's ListServe at www.michigan.gov/aero to receive the latest information.

EBAY SALES: Kathy Stanton from EAA304 Jackson was at our last meeting. She has an Ebay sales service and specializes in auction of aircraft parts. If you have stuff to sell but don't want to handle it yourself, give her a call at 517-618-4098 or visit her website www.ebthis.com

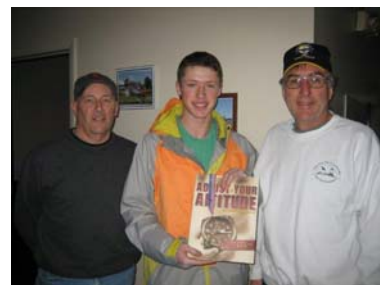
CENTRAL SOLUTIONS: Brian Tort has been of great assistance to EAA55 with the set up of our new laptop and QuickBooks program. Their slogan is "We Fix Computers". They are located on Maple Street in downtown Mason. If you have a need for service, please contact them. I also have a few "\$15 Off" cards that I will put in the meeting room.

CAPITAL CITY AIRPORT RESTAURANT: Capital City Cafe or Cafe LAN (exact name yet TBD) is now serving up food at Capital City Airport. I recently received confirmation that the ramp fee will be waived for those non-commercial single & light twin aircraft based in Mason coming to the restaurant to eat. Crews should present a receipt of their meal to receive a waiver of fees. Current hours are 8am-6pm Mon-Fri; 9am-3:30pm Sat; 6am-3:30pm Sun in the pre-security area. (Subject to change.) They are also planning a March Grand Opening and I will pass on any details I receive.

MICHIGAN AIR TOUR: This year's trip is planned for October 1st thru October 3rd. Flyers posted at hanger.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS: If you shop at Kroger, consider signing up to benefit the Yankee Air Museum. For information about signing up, visit your local Kroger Store or to www.kroger.com to sign up. Kroger donates \$2 million dollars a year to non-profits through this program.

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 55 of Mason has named Daniel McGrath of Okemos to be their "2009 Young Eagle of the Year". Dan (center) is shown here with his pilot Al Spalding (left) and Chapter Young Eagles Coordinator Doug Koons (right). He was presented with a student membership in the Experimental Aircraft Association and other gifts compliments of Chapter 55. Dan was one of 181 "Young Eagles" who received their first airplane flight at Mason Jewett Airport in 2009.



Young Eagle of the Year 2010

Local pilots of Chapter 55 have provided over 2,300 young people with a free airplane ride since the program was launched in 1992. For more information visit www.eaa55.org or www.young eagles.org



Newberry Scholarship Recipients
Patrick, Dziad, Curtiss and Cook

Young Eagles

By Doug Koons

Headquarters has sent me our Young Eagles credits for 2009. Chapter 55 flew 158 kids in 2009 and earned 158 credits for a total value of \$790.00. These dollars will be used for our Young Eagles in 2010.

Notes from Cape Juby

By Terry L. Lutz, Chapter 55 Flight Advisor

My favorite part of those movies featuring Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones is when he gets in a DC-3 and flies across deserts and mountains and oceans to reach some far-off destination. Start the music and imagine flying into the night across Italy and the length of the Mediterranean, to Cairo and over Saudi Arabia to the Arabian Sea, then to Mumbai and Madras before crossing the vast Indian Ocean to Singapore. And south from there across Indonesia, Java, and Bali, East Timor and finally to Darwin, Australia.

Darwin is the largest city in the Northern Territory of Australia. In contrast to the snow you received in Michigan a few weeks back, Darwin was experiencing its annual monsoon rains. Nearly 5 inches of rainfall was recorded during each of the last two days of February. Add the normal temperature in the 90s, and you have plenty of heat to go along with the humidity!

The airport at Darwin serves commercial traffic, but like many northern Australian airports, it has a bare base capability for the RAAF. One side of the airport is for civilian traffic, and the other side has military facilities. Air traffic is controlled by the RAAF, and as you might expect, they are very precise, and

very professional. It is not an easy job because the mixture of traffic includes everything from F-111s and B-737s, to helicopters and light airplanes. Add to that heavy rains and weather diversions, and you can see how difficult the job can be.

Because we would be operating from Darwin for about 10 days, we paid a visit to the control tower and approach control facility to discuss local procedures and the flights we had planned. I learned that one of the controllers had an RV-4 and is building an RV-7. A few days later, I received a call from Scott Hartwich, and was able to spend an hour or so with him at the hangar where he keeps the RV-4.

Like everyone in Australia, Scott is a friendly, easy going guy, and somewhat typical of RV owner-builders. He is married with 3 children, ages 13, 11, and 8). Joining the RAAF at age 30, he became an air traffic controller and after 3 years in the military decided to take the officer training course, and is now a Flying Officer (equivalent to a Lieutenant in the USAF). He specifically chose the assignment in Darwin because of the extensive mixture of traffic and changing weather conditions. Scott hopes that his next assignment will take him south to Williamtown, which is a fighter base with F-18s.

Scott's father, Bruce Hartwich, was a career officer and fighter pilot with the RAAF. He served outside of Australia in England and in Saudi Arabia. Flying the Mirage III, he frequently flew air demonstrations in the Mirage, and was noted for how slowly, skillfully, and perfectly he could slow roll the airplane during a pass down the runway. Scott and his dad decided to build airplanes at the same time. His dad selected the RV-4, purchasing the entire kit at once, and Scott chose the RV-7, purchasing the individual kits as necessary for the building process.

Being retired from the military, Scott's father finished the RV-4 in about 2 years, and flew it from the 1200 foot family airstrip located on 80 acres near Hamilton, Victoria Province (about 2000nm south of Darwin). VH-BPH is equipped with an IO-360 engine and fixed pitch propeller, and has inverted fuel and oil capability. It has electric trim and electric flaps, and at 974 lbs empty, it is the light-weight VFR airplane that Van intended it to be.

With 60 hours on the airplane and with Scott just about checked out to fly it, his father died in a workplace accident while working part time for a local grain company. The RV-4 would become Scott's airplane, and a lasting legacy of an RAAF fighter pilot. Friends came to the aid of the family, including Jon Johanson (who has flown his own RV-4 around the world). A friend helped Scott get completely checked out in the airplane, and Jon Johanson provided Scott with the same fiberglass seat that had flown twice around the world. Scott says it makes a world of difference for him in the RV-4.



Scott flew the RV-4 to Darwin from Hamilton, made a similar round trip to Sale for his Radar Approach Course, and now has about 200 hours in the airplane. He is a typical RV builder, and has no fear of tackling a leaking fuel tank or wiring upgrade to his radios. When he receives his next assignment (hopefully to Williamtown), somehow I think he'll be able to keep family, the RV-4, and the RV-7 project in balance, as he makes the move.

Before leaving for Darwin, I put the word out on the VansAirForce website that I needed to borrow a Garmin 296 GPS to use as a back-up source of position information during our flights in Australia. Mr. T. J. Russell from Melbourne responded, and by the time we reached Darwin, the G296 had arrived at our hotel. We put it through the paces, and it gave great information, particularly in terms of the flight tracker function, where we could easily see the track we had flown just minutes before.

On March 4th, it was time to retrace the Indiana Jones route back to France. We headed north over the East Timor Sea, across Indonesia, talking to controllers in Jakarta and Ujung Pandang. I kept the advancing the "Direct To" function on the G296 as we flew up across Kuala Lumpur and out across the Indian Ocean toward India. When the Low Battery warning came on, I inserted a Direct To to Al Ain in the United Arab Emirates, which would be our destination for the night. The G296 clearly showed the distance and time to our destination, even though it was still more than 2000 miles ahead. That meant that Al Ain was amazingly a part of the Pacific data base offered by Garmin.

With the G296 still providing terrain information over central India, the internal battery was finally exhausted after 6.7 hours of flying. The next day, I figured out a way to temporarily run power to the GPS, and after departing Al Ain, I turned it on and for awhile thought I was in some sort of night mode. All the countries were shown, but only in black tones, with the sea depicted in blue. I continued to use the "Direct To" function toward waypoints in the Arabian peninsula, but the last one it would accept was OJAQ, the airport in Aqaba, Jordan. This is well beyond the range shown on the Garmin website for the Pacific data base.

I continued to use the G296, and found that although no aviation waypoints could be inserted west of Aqaba, the basic outline of black for land and blue for sea, and the names of the countries and seas continued all the way to France. For last 2 hours (with a 120 knot wind directly on the nose), just for fun, I inserted a Direct To for Darwin. At our parking stand in Toulouse, the distance read 7612 nm. For a handheld GPS, the performance was simply awesome!

The calendar says that Spring is just a few weeks away, and with it improving flying weather. But Spring weather can be a false friend. As warm air displaces colder air, it produces stronger winds and more variable weather. Check the forecast accordingly, and leave enough fuel to divert if winds become a safety concern. And as always, remember to lend a hand to your fellow pilot when they need it.

HEADQUARTERS NEWS RELEASE

EAA AIRVENTURE 2010 WELCOMES LEGENDARY BAND CHICAGO FOR OPENING DAY CONCERT

Ford Motor Company presenting July 26 performance on AeroShell Square

EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, Wis. - (Feb. 26, 2010) - After a full opening day of flying on Monday, July 26, at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2010, AeroShell Square will feel the power of more than aircraft, as the legendary band Chicago takes the stage that evening, courtesy of Ford Motor Company.

The performance, free of charge to all AirVenture guests that day, will be held adjacent to the Ford Motor Company Hangar on AeroShell Square, immediately following the afternoon air show.

"One of the questions I regularly receive from EAA members and AirVenture attendees is 'Who will be the opening-day concert at Oshkosh?'" said Tom Poberezny, EAA president and AirVenture chairman. "For the fifth consecutive year, Ford is making it possible for this popular tradition to continue by supporting the appearance of Chicago at AirVenture 2010. This is very exciting news and we're already looking forward to it!"

Like EAA AirVenture, Chicago is known the world over. It has attracted multiple generations of fans over 40 years of recording. Led by founding members Robert Lamm, Lee Loughnane, James Pankow and Walt Parazaider, Chicago's jazz-infused "rock 'n roll band with horns" sound has created hits in five decades – an accomplishment matched only by the Rolling Stones in pop music history.

"Over the past decade, Ford has been proud to be a part EAA AirVenture, The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration," said Kevin Keling, Ford Corporate Events Manager. "We're very happy to help support EAA, all EAA members and this great event in a variety of ways, including bringing top entertainment such as Chicago to aviation's annual family reunion."

Chicago's style is instantly recognizable and has left its unquestioned mark on music history. From their first top 40 hit in 1970, "Make Me Smile," through No. 1 hits such as "If You Leave Me Now," "Hard To Say I'm Sorry," and "Look Away", and classic songs such as "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?" and "25 or 6 to 4," Chicago has created an instantly identifiable legacy that continues to thrill longtime fans and welcomes a new generation to their music.

In September 2008, Billboard Magazine named its Top 100 artists of all time, based on the Billboard Hot 100 singles chart. Chicago's extraordinary career landed it at Number 13, just behind artists such as the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Stevie Wonder and Elvis Presley, and just ahead of Marvin Gaye, Prince and Rod Stewart. Chicago have the distinction of being the top American band on that list.

More information is available at the band's website at www.chicagotheband.com.

The opening-day concert at EAA AirVenture, along with Ford Motor Company's support of the nightly Fly-In Theater, are among the experiences embraced by Ford and EAA to enhance the annual EAA AirVenture convention. Ford also provides vehicles used during the event, a unique one-of-a-kind vehicle for the Gathering of Eagles fundraiser during AirVenture, support for a raffle vehicle and discounts on Ford Motor Company vehicles for EAA members. Ford will also offer additional highlights and benefits for EAA members and AirVenture attendees during this year's fly-in.

EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH is The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration and EAA's yearly membership convention. Additional EAA AirVenture information, including advance ticket and camping purchase, is available online at www.airventure.org. EAA members receive lowest prices on admission rates. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 1-800-JOIN-EAA (1-800-564-6322) or visit www.eaa.org. Immediate news is available at <http://twitter.com/EAAupdate>.

EDITOR'S NOTE: High-resolution photo images of Chicago are available at http://www.eaa.org/news/2010/2010-02-26_chicago.asp.

From the Flight Surgeon

By Gregory Pinnell, MD

Senior AME/ Senior Flight Surgeon USAFR

Hypothyroidism is a medical diagnosis that involves under activity of the thyroid gland located in the forward portion of the neck. Usual symptoms include unexplained loss of hair, weight gain, significant fatigue and sometimes depression. It is treated usually by supplemental synthetic hormone.

The FAA has not been paying much attention to this disorder when it comes time for your flight physical. Until now! Those with this condition are being asked to provide lab reports and narratives from their treating physician at the time of their medical.

The reporting can and should be very straightforward if you have not reported this disease before. The issuance is usually for a two-year period.

Questions? Contact us at www.OK2FLY.com for the answers! Fly safe.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE:

EAA Chapter 55 Hats; \$13 each. Vickie 517-589-5051

TKM MX-12 navcoms (2) with trays, one glideslope receiver, & wiring harness; \$1,200 (firm); like new
Cliff Hale 517-230-2357

Navy blue sheepskins (2) for Cessna 182; look new; \$175 for the pair. Cliff Hale 517-230-2357

Rans 2007 S6S Coyote II; 88 hrs; Rotax 912; many extras; \$55,000. 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

Burning barrels; \$5.00 Dave Groh 517-676-4416

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

Yesteryear Aviation; new surplus hardware 517-676-4416

Military-style Dog Tags; \$5.00 Vickie 517-589-5051

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

HANGARS FOR RENT:

EAA Storage Hanger; \$70 per month or Builders Hangar; \$115 per month plus gas (includes electric) Ken Vandenbelt 517-589-5051

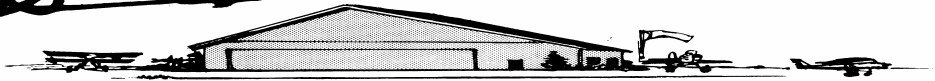
T-Hangars: Deanna McAlister 517-851-7047
or Lloyd Brown 517-589-8619

WILL LOAN:

Zenith 701 jigs & fixtures. Chuck Hacker 517-740-9222

Contact Warren or Vickie to place your ad here!

Wingtips →



Bill Purosky
200 Shoemsmith Road
Haslett, MI 48840