

CHAPTER 55 EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 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

Before I forget, the September Board of Directors meeting for September 8th has been cancelled and rescheduled for Wednesday, September 1, at 7pm.

Well, hearing the stories from those who made the sojourn to AirVenture (or Slosh Kosh as it is now known), it was definitely different this year. But, that's what puts the adventure in AirVenture !!

All most all of the building painting project has now been completed. The final trim work painting was done predominately by Doug Koons & his son, and we owe them our thanks.

Mason Aviation Day will soon be upon us. Vickie spent three afternoons at the fair passing out flyers and the news advertisements have been ordered. Our final planning meeting will be Wednesday, Aug 18th @ 7pm. Event set-up is tentatively planned for most of the day/evening on Friday. We still have various volunteer positions to be filled for the event, including some sit-down tasks. We are still looking to borrow at least one more pop-up 10x10 canopy. If anyone has a source for some golf carts we could borrow, we'd love to hear about it.

We will not be having a program this month but go directly into our final Young Eagle Rally of the year. We flew over 100 kids in July and have hopes for another great day this month. Doug Koons will be coordinating with pilots to see that each flies at least ten YE so that we maximize the credits we receive from EAA National. Plus, we are still looking for candidate(s) for our YE of the Year Award. Ground crew is needed to help with auto parking, traffic control, and registration. Contact Doug.

We will again be hosting an MDOT seminar for our September program. Tentative topic is "human error" so it should be very interesting. Invitations will go out to pilots around the state so it is possible you will again see our "SUGGESTED DONATION" sign at breakfast. We will move the meeting time up to 9am and follow with the seminar at about 9:30am.

And, we may have a bonus following the seminar. Terry Lutz would like to present a talk he will be doing for a symposium later in the month. Most likely the weather will be warm enough to use the hangar area for the seminar.

For October, we are working on a field trip visit to Highfields for a tour of their facilities and possible lunch.

Joe Madziar, Dave James, & Ed Search have volunteered to head up our Nominating Committee. We will be electing Directors at our November meeting. Please advise if you would be interested in serving your chapter.

Share the passion,
Ken Vandenbelt, President

Breakfast Teams

August	September
John Kennedy	Dick Bacon
Gary Long	Barb Bacon
Jim Palmer	Chuck Cooper
Dave Paul	Chris Long
Rob Smith	Ernie Lutz
Rocky Stone	Ronald Pearce
Roy Thelen	Judith Search
Bruce VanFarowe	Julie Spalding

EAA Chapter 55

Board of Directors Meeting, July 7, 2010

→Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. →Directors present: Ken Vandenbelt, Bill Purosky, Al Spalding, Vickie Vandenbelt, Joe Madziar, Dave James, Doug Koons, Jim Spry. Absent: Warren Miller, Ed Search. →Secretary's Report dated 6/9/10; Bill Purosky made a motion to approve per email; Dave James second; all approved. →Treasurers Report dated 6/30/10; Al Spalding reported that land rent has increased from \$159mo to \$165mo; bills outstanding for DP ads; includes most painting expenses to date. Bill Purosky made a motion to approve; Doug Koons second; all approved. →Al Spalding presented letter recd from Sheriff Gene Wrigglesworth

thanking us for the gift certificates for their golf outing. Al has written a letter to Sheriff thanking him for the Security t-shirts. →Doug Koons advised he had contacted Sheriff's department advising them of the MAD event. Young Eagles rally is ready to go. →Discussed purchase of stands & rope lines for use in cafeteria; need about 50 ft. Board approved purchase if cost is less than \$100 total. →Nominating committee of Joe Madzair, Dave James, Ed Search working on nominations for Directors positions. →Personal Property Inventory tabled. Joe Madzair & Jim Spry will work on marking property. →Building trim painting work; looking for some relief from the heat; maybe next week. →Meeting room remodeling tabled consideration until fall. →Chapter building sign tabled for future thought. →MDOT Seminar preparation for September meeting. →Highfields trip working to coordinate for October meeting. →Joe Madzair advised he is interested in taking the RC planes to see if he can fix them up. →MAD: Discussed possible donations to YAM if they could bring a bomber to MAD. Board authorized up to 100 "Free Breakfast" certificates to be used as radio promotions. Would like to find a tractor for pulling trailer that would be closer than hauling Bill Purosky's to MAD; will ask at member meeting. Still need team leader for Auto Parking. →Al Spalding advised he doesn't have space for the copier. Ask Bill Bezdek if he would like it back or maybe give to CRAA for terminal. →Bill Purosky made a motion to adjourn; Vickie Vandenbelt second; all approved & adjourned at 8:11 pm.

EAA Chapter 55 Gen'l Membership Meeting, July 10, 2010

→Meeting was called to order at 9:25am; approx. 23 members present. →Following the National Anthem, President Ken Vandenbelt thanked the breakfast team. →Secretary's Report dated June 12, 2010; motion to approve as published in the newsletter; second; all approved. →Treasurer's Report dated June 30, 2010; sold 297 breakfasts at the DP, still have outstanding advertising bills but it appears we made money; painting project at \$856 so far; motion made to approve; second; all approved. →Young Eagles are ready to go & lining up. →Nominating committee Joe Madzair, Dave James, Ed Search. →Building painting; major work done; need trim & finish work. →MAD: need Auto Parking leader; tractor Gary Nesbitt may have; pop-up Bill Bezdek has two could use one more; golf carts needed. →Al St. George discussed suggested reading "Tips to Fly By". →Motion was made & meeting adjourned at 9:48am.

Tidbits

By Vickie Vandenbelt

NEW MEMBERS: Chapter 55 welcomes new member Rosemary Duckworth.

"WILL FLY" LIST: Several of our pilots have expressed interest in taking our "non-flying" members aloft. For those of you interesting in an opportunity to go flying - please let me know and provide your contact phone number(s) and I will add you to the list. The list is provided to the pilots and they will contact you when they have a seat open. It may be for a Dawn Patrol, or a lunch, or just a fly around the patch.

2010 YE OF THE YEAR: Pilots & Ground Crew please be on the lookout for potential candidates for our YE of the year award.

We're looking for an enthusiastic youngster to sponsor with a student membership. We need to mark their permission slip so Doug will retain their contact info.

USE OF THE MEETING ROOM/TABLES/CHAIRS: Our meeting room and/or our **OLD** tables & chairs and other equipment of the chapter are available for use by our members on a "sign out" basis. There is a sign-up sheet clipped to the bulletin board. Fill in the information requested; when you plan to remove the equipment and complete it when you return the equipment. NOTE: Our **NEW** tables & chairs are **NOT** available for loan.

SNACK SALES: Thanks to all who purchase our snacks & beverages. I try to keep them stocked with your favorites so let me know if you have a preference. Payment is on the "honor system" & we try to keep prices set to just cover costs with minimum profit.

MASON AVIATION DAY: Sign up sheets are in the meeting room.

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM = KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS: If you signed up for YAM-Kroger Rewards program (or any other), you need to go to the Kroger website to re-assign your rewards to YAM. If you shop at Kroger, consider signing up. Kroger donates over \$2 million dollars a year to non-profits through this program. Visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com

CARDS & MEMORIALS: If you know of a member who is ill or has had a death in the family, please contact Ken Vandenbelt at 517-589-5051 or kv_vand@core.com

WE RECYCLE: Styrofoam coffee cups & clean egg cartons are collected in the box next to the coffee pot stand (please - no paper, stir sticks, etc). Pop cans & water bottles can be deposited in the special trash container.

SIGN THE AIRPORT REGISTER: Remember to stop in & sign the register at every airport you visit. This is important for every GA airport - including TEW.

Young Eagles

By Doug Koons

Hi Everyone, Our chapter flew 131 kids at our 7/10 Young Eagle Rally. We had 12 pilots and a lot of volunteer members who helped with this rally. Thank you all for all the great help.

Our next Young Eagle Rally is 8/14 from 10 to 2. Please come for breakfast and help with this event. I did not get the sign up sheets out in time to allow members to sign up for the this August rally. So please plan on helping and remember we always have fun.

Our new total for Chapter 55 is 2,497 Young Eagles. Look everyone, we are going to break the 2500 mark on August 14, 2010.

Hope to see you all on Saturday. Thank you, Doug

Notes from Cape Juby

By Terry L. Lutz, Chapter 55 Flight Advisor

At the Farnborough Air Show, held the week before AirVenture, Boeing had their B787 on display for the first time outside the United States. I flew in with an A330F that was delivered to Etihad Airlines during the show.



A330F

After giving each other a cautious eye for a day or two, the Boeing team invited the Airbus team to crawl in and around the B787. It is a very impressive airplane, and the wing itself is simply amazing. After the visit, the Airbus team invited the Boeing guys to crawl around and in the A380, A330F, and A400M. Détente in the world of aviation! At the end of the show, the B787 took off and disappeared for several minutes, only to return and make a low pass with a Spitfire on each wing!



B787

Speaking of the A400M (a four-engine turbo-propeller military transport), the airplane is currently in flight test in both Toulouse and Seville (Spain). It has quite a few more buttons and displays than our passenger airplanes. It also has an interesting position on the start levers called "feather".



A400M

The first French-American test pilot crew flew a test mission with the A400M on the 17th of July.



First French-American test pilot team in A400M

AirVenture 2010 is now in the record books, but not for the reasons you might have expected. You can say it was "Sloshkosh", or "Galoshkosh", or any number of creative names to describe how wet and muddy it was the first few days. I flew into Chicago O'Hare, just after record rains in Chicago and Milwaukee caused flooded roads and sink holes big enough to swallow an SUV whole and then some. I met Richard Woodward, who had flown in from Sydney, Australia and together we zoomed up to Oshkosh in a ground-bound rental car.

Arriving on Monday morning, we unloaded our suitcases and camping gear near the entrance to Camp Scholler. No way to get in the woods, even if we had a pass. The roads were simply bogs of mud. We headed for the farm where I usually park, and barely made it to a parking spot. Just ahead of us, a big tractor was pulling a van out of the mud.

But there were signs of hope. As we walked the flight line of experimental airplanes during the middle of the day on Monday, we found two Falcos, and a scattering of Lancairs and GlasAirs. These airplanes have small tires and heavy engines, so it was a sign that the grassy areas were beginning to dry out.

Up in the warbird area, most of the airplanes were either on the old runway or the new Warbird ramp. There were a few airplanes on the grass, including a couple of Mustangs.

I was worried however, when I noticed there were just a few airplanes in the antique parking area. Later in the day, three Howard DGA-15s showed up. They are fairly heavy airplanes (I know, because used to have to push one out of the hangar so

I could fly the Silvaire Bullet). Things continued to get better, and on Wednesday, the antique parking area was completely full, and the flight line was dry enough to park a lawn chair and watch the air show. Life was good again, but I would not want to be the guy who has to fill in all those muddy ruts in Camp Scholler!

Everyone has their own highlights of AirVenture, so here are just a few observations among thousands of memories. While I did not think there was enough DC-3 flying, the 21 ship arrival of DC-3s/C-47s was just spectacular. The flyover was one thing, but the recovery of 21 airplanes on runway 18, spaced 1 minute apart, with landings in front of the crowd was a fantastic sight. If I were King, it would be mandatory for a large formation of DC-3s to grace the sky each year.

On Aeroshell Square were two notable airplanes. The first was the beautifully restored DC-7 in the colors of Capt Eddie's Eastern Airlines. There is a small story behind the preparations to bring the airplane to Oshkosh. When the question of airworthiness was first proposed, the FAA said that the airplane could fly in its original configuration. But as the restoration neared conclusion, the FAA said that it would have to be upgraded to current Part 121 standards, including things like evacuation slides and installation of TCAS. It took most of the group's Oshkosh budget to meet those requirements, so if you dropped a nickel in the hat as a donation, those folks REALLY needed it.



DC-7

The DC-4 parked next to the DC-7 was a Berlin Airlift veteran, and equipped like it could do the mission all over again. At the end of the day, keeping an original airplane flying is keeping history alive, so we will never forget the challenges and hardships it takes to do the hard things, like overcoming the threat of Communism.

Sully Sullenberger and Jeff Skiles flew the DC-7 with the FAA Administrator on board. I caught up with Jeff during AirVenture, and went to see his beautiful Waco YOC. He was showing it to his Dad, who was looking over the airplane for the first time.

I attended a seminar put on by Jack Norris, who described propeller theory in enough detail, but with enough common sense that everyone there could understand what it takes to develop an optimum propeller design. Jack has designed the Whirlwind 200RV propeller, which could be seen on several RVs in the north parking area.



Whirlwind 200RV Propeller on RV-8

Also in evidence was an RV-6 with a propeller designed by Paul Lipps. Two solutions to the same problem, and both work!



Paul Lipps propeller on an RV-6

Favorite son Elliot Sequin provided two presentations about his efforts to race at Reno.



Elliot Sequin

I attended the second one, and Drew Sequin was there also. Elliot described the race course at Reno in some detail, and

described the thought processes behind dealing with emergencies at any point on the race course, and where he wanted to be to put the airplane down on a runway.

Elliot had photos of how he created a new carbon fiber cowl for his race airplane. He showed how you cover the engine in plastic and glue Styrofoam blocks around it, then begin carving it to shape. The finished cowl is awesome! If you want to learn more about Elliot and Wasabi racing, visit WasabiAirRacing.blogspot.com. He's definitely a guy to watch, and it might be a good idea to pass the hat at breakfast and provide an EAA Chapter 55 boost to his racing efforts.

I was asked by the Society of Experimental Test Pilots to provide a presentation to the Flight Advisor/Technical Counselor breakfast on Thursday. What I wanted to say was important enough that I actually wrote a speech. In the world of aviation, accidents are measured in terms of events per 100,000 hours. The commercial accident rate stands at about 0.14/100,000 hours. The rate for military fighter is under 3/100,000 hours. But the rate for general aviation, for which sport aviation is a large subset, is more than 6/100,000 hours. A lot has been done in commercial and military flying to reduce the accident rate. I've decided it's time for the world of sport aviation to do the same, and laid down the following challenge: reduce the rate of accidents in amateur built aviation by 50% over the next 10 years. It is an achievable goal, and within our community are the people who can make it happen.

On Thursday evening, the Society of Experimental Test Pilots presented the Spirit of Flight Award to the EAA member who best exemplifies the spirit of research, development, and flight test. Sponsored by Scaled Composites, the recipient receives a nice plaque, and his name will be inscribed on a permanent trophy that resides at the EAA Museum. I felt very honored to be nominated by EAA, selected by SETP, and provided the award by Scaled Composites, organizations who collectively represent the spirit of aviation on the cutting edge.



Spirit of Flight Award

Summer isn't over yet, and there is still a lot to do to prepare for Mason Aviation Days. There will be plenty of opportunities to help your fellow aviators, whether they be Chapter 55 members moving tables, or pilots flying in for breakfast. A lot of good people are counting on you, and your efforts make a big, big difference.

From the Flight Surgeon

By Gregory Pinnell, MD
Senior AME/ Senior Flight Surgeon USAFR

Oshkosh was a bit soggy and cool but the news from the Aero-medical world was hot. It appears the Federal Air Surgeon will expand use of the newly approved medications Lexapro, Celexa, Zoloft and Prozac to diagnosis other than simple depression. The diagnosis must not be disqualifying (such as bipolar disorder). This change opens the door a bit to airman with other needs for these medications. Questions? Feel free to call and fly safe!

CLASSIFIED

RIDE SHARE TO/FROM BEACON AVIATION: contact Mike Marhanka 517-485-9190 or Jim McFarland 517-944-7796; sirjames@sbc.global.com

HANGARS FOR RENT: Deanna McAlister 517-851-7047 or Lloyd Brown 517-589-8619

FOR SALE:

Share of Whitetail Hunting Camp Inc. (a Chapter S corporation; my stock is 1/8th interest). Well run & managed to improve deer hunting. Comprised of 157 acres bordering on 155,000 acres of the Houghton Lake State Forest & the Roscommon Line. Contact Dick Bacon 517-230-7808

Wasabi Air Racing T-shirts can be ordered at the online store <http://wasabiarracing.bigcartel.com/> (or google Wasabi air racing). Support your home town racer - Elliot Seguin!!

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

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

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

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

Contact Warren or Vickie to place your ad here!

July 8, 2010

Hello Kenneth,

My name is Don Abbott. I am a fellow pilot and a 39 year member of EAA. I am writing to tell you about an exciting organization I recently founded for pilots and their families. It's called the American Air Campers Association. It is my hope that this organization will give pilots everywhere an added way to enjoy aviation and this great country of ours.

After over a year of extensive research, AACA now offers its members an On-Line Airport Camp Guide and Flight Planner that I believe is second to none. The guide features constantly updated information for over 550 airports that invite on-field camping and more are being added every week!

Starting next year, AACA members will be invited to participate in fly-in/camp-in Jamborees in eastern and western America! They will also be able to join other pilots for regional fly/camp trips.

Our web site serves as a "base camp" for networking through a forum, "*Campfire Blog*", Facebook and Twitter. It also features regularly updated news, videos and an extensive calendar of events! You can check it all out at website listed below.

AACA is also working closely with EAA, AOPA and others to provide an active voice for the preservation of on-airport camping facilities and pilot rights.

I am asking for your assistance to help everyone become aware of AACA. To make it worthwhile, we will donate \$5 for every member of your chapter that joins AACA within the next 90 days. Just click on [Become a Founding Member](#). Annual Membership is just \$49 and includes a unique, air-campers welcome pack!

To make sure your chapter receives the donation, when filling out their application, have your members enter your EAA chapter number in the 'suffix box'.

I hope this incentive will help your chapter. Thanks so much for your assistance.

Don Abbott
President

[American Air Campers Association, Inc.](#)
12856 Banyan Creek Drive, Fort Myers, Florida 33908
Toll-Free: 1-877-352-CAMP (2267) • Local: 239-415-4693 • Fax: 239-415-4694
www.americanaircampers.com

Oil Filter Cutting Tool

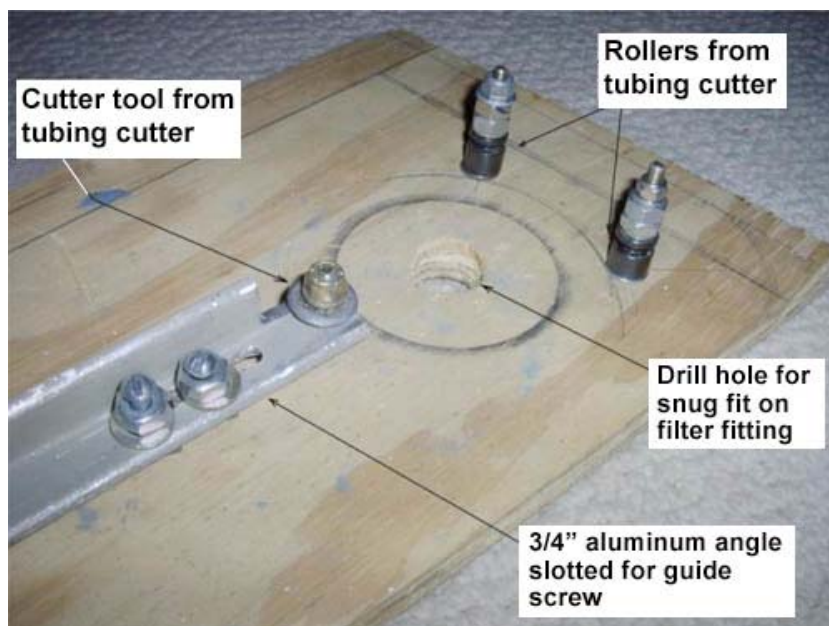
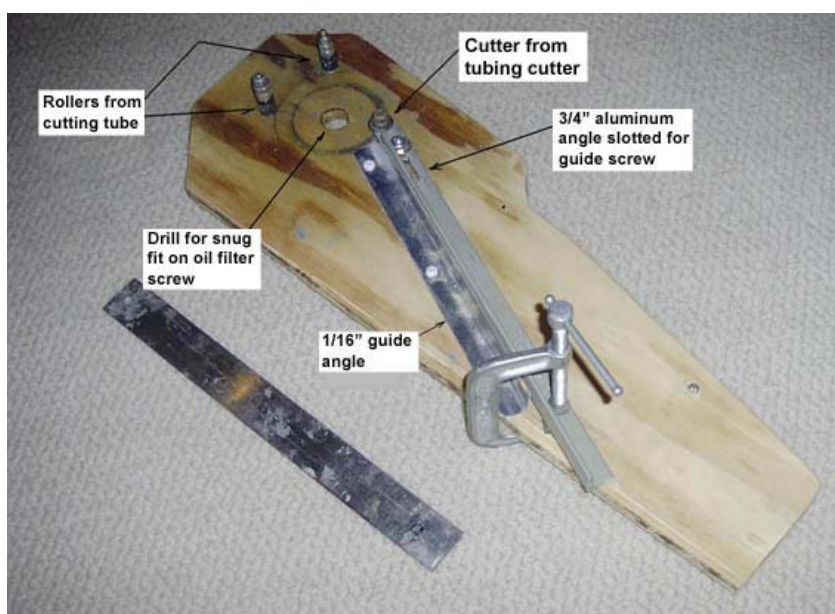
By George Killishek

It's a good idea to cut open the used oil filter every time we change oil to inspect for metal particles. Once an engine starts to make metal, it's a fairly short while before big problems are likely to occur in the most inconvenient circumstances.

Aircraft Spruce sells tools for cutting open the filter canister starting at about \$50 and going up well into the three-digit range. The Pilot Shop at Addison Airport sells a good tool for about \$120.

I built a workable tool in about two hours for a total cost of \$0.00. The two pictures below show it: very ugly but serviceable.

Materials include a piece of scrap 3/4" plywood, a length of 3/4" aluminum angle, a 2 1/2" "C" clamp, assorted nuts, bolts, washers and screws and the cutting blade and guide rollers from an old tubing cutter. All were found lying derelict in my garage. The pictures are self-explanatory, except to note that the aluminum angle supporting the cutting tool is supported off the surface of the plywood to make the cut at the appropriate height on the filter canister.

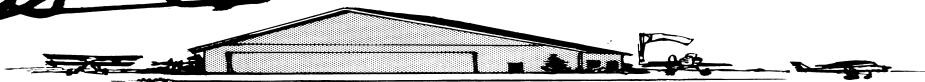


POCKET CALENDAR:

Aug 14 EAA55 Young Eagles 10-2
Aug 14 Newman's Field DP
Aug 14 Frankenmuth 2pm
Aug 14-15 Gladwin Festival
Aug 15 Howell DP
Aug 15 South Haven DP
Aug 21 Mason Aviation Day 7:30-4:30
Aug 22 Alma Open House
Aug 22 Woodruff Lake DP
Sept Antique Airc Assn-Blakesburg
Sept 4 Mancelona 8-4

Sept 11 Midland DP
Sept 11 Niles DP
Sept 11 Marshall DP
Sept 12 Fowlerville DP
Sept 18 Williams Field 12-6
Sept 18 Parchment Triple H Potluck
Sept 18 Dowagiac DP
Sept 19 Owosso DP
Sept 24-26 Lee Bottom Fly In
Sept 26 Port Huron 7-3
Oct 1-3 Michigan Air Tour
Oct 17 Watervliet Chili Fly In
Nov 6 Hillsdale Chili Fly In
Dec 11 EAA55 Xmas Party

Wingtips →



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