

**EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55**

**JANUARY 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: Pat Salow 517-565-3178 →Vice-President: Dave Courey 517-331-7097**

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

**www.EAA55.org**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

by Pat Salow ([president@eaa55.org](mailto:president@eaa55.org))

Happy New Year!

2017 will mark the year of the third class medical reform and the implementation of the new process. Pilots who in the past obtained a III Class Medical will need to complete an on line aeromedical course every two years in addition to seeing their personal physician every four years. A copy of the course completion with a passing score must be kept in the pilot's logbook. The final rule is expected to be published in January and will have the date by which pilots can begin the online process.

2017 will also mark the 58<sup>th</sup> year since Chapter 55's organization. Our Chapter can boast a strong membership of aviation enthusiasts, the sponsor of an annual Dawn Patrol and Mason Aviation Days. The Chapter 55 Young Eagles Program has received recognition for the number of missions flown, organization of ground and flight operations, and the attention given to protecting the safety of all participants.

2017 will no doubt be a year for which we can all be proud to be members. But with membership comes responsibility. That responsibility is to support the Chapter. Support of the Chapter can come in a multitude of ways; volunteering at Dawn Patrol, MAD, Young Eagles, building and hanger maintenance, organizing an education event or session, or telling family and friends about Chapter

events. Each December at our membership recognition event I am always impressed by the number of volunteers we salute. It is my hope that everyone continues to support and volunteer at Chapter events and for those who have not volunteered - make 2017 the year you begin. Volunteering is a lot of work but the reward in comradery is priceless.

**BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Wed; Jan. 11th**  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Sat; January 14th with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am**

**BREAKFAST TEAMS:**

<b><u>January</u></b>	<b><u>February</u></b>
Errick Baker	Julie Bauer
Lloyd Brown	Kyle Chmielewski
John Caron	Dave Groh
Michael Rosencrans	Gary Nesbitt
Judith Pierzynowski	Gary Nicola
Chris Salow	George Spencer
Karen Salow	Joe Pirch
Jim & Carol Sawyer	Tom Schroeder



**December Breakfast Team :** The December team did an outstanding job, unfortunately I did not fulfill my duty of taking a picture of the crew at work. Here is a file photo of Dan Schiffer, along with a file photo of Terry Lutz who stepped up to round off the crew. Stan Chubb is not pictured. Thanks to a great team.

Margie Clark did some research on purchasing a new grill; found one at Sam's for \$400. Doug Koons motioned to buy the grill that Margie found and presented; Jack Voss second; motioned carried. Bob will go to Sam's and buy the grill. →2016 Christmas Party: ready for December 11<sup>th</sup>. →Newberry Aviation Scholarship: Pat Salow reported that he sent application forms to EMU and LCC; one response so far. →Chapter 55 National Membership Renewal: Pat Salow advised we do not have a Tech Advisor; our Flight Advisor is Terry Lutz; our facility size is 6499 sq. feet. Our National dues for 2017 will be \$1000. →With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1935. →Respectfully submitted, Dave Courey, Acting Secretary

**MONTHLY PROGRAMS:**  
**JANUARY, MARCH, MAY 2017:**  
**IDEAS WANTED**  
**FEBRUARY:**  
 Aircraft Carriers on the Great Lakes; Rick Sutton  
**APRIL 2017:**  
 Mark Lynn; Metal Fabrication  
**JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2017:**  
 Young Eagle Rallies  
**SEPT, OCT, NOV, DEC 2017:**  
**IDEAS WANTED**

**EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting December 10, 2016**

→Meeting was called to order at 9:22am by President Salow with approximately 43 members and 1 guest present. →Following the National Anthem, the breakfast team was thanked and January team announced. →Introduction of new members and/or visitors followed. →Secretarys Report 11/12/16; motion to approve; supported; all approved. →Treasurers Report 11/30/16; motion to approve; supported; all approved. →President Salow announced all is ready for the Christmas Party on Sunday. →Still need a program coordinator; and suggestions for programs. →EAA55 Calendars available for sale; \$8.00 each. →Remember bathroom & storage room doors to be closed and latched during winter. →Board is seeking Member of the Year nominations. →2017 renewal dues being accepted. →Chapter is looking for a volunteer to insulate the furnace plenum. →Vickie Vandenberg announced that she sold the winning ticket for this year's Mason Area Chamber of Commerce raffle and the winner was chapter member George Spencer. →Member requested a note be made to remind users to turn the Power Off on the big Storage Hangar door. →Meeting adjourned at 9:44am. →Program was a presentation by Terry Lutz about the Sopwith Camel. →Respectfully submitted, Vickie Vandenberg, Secretary

**EAA 55 Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting December 7, 2016**

→The meeting was brought to order by President Pat Salow at 1910. →Present: Pat Salow, Dave Courey, Al Spalding, Bob Clark, Margie Clark, Doug Koons, Bill Purosky, Warren Miller, Jack Voss, Jim Spry. Absent: Vickie Vandenberg; Dave James. →Secretarys Report: Pat Salow asked if everyone reviewed the minutes from the last Board meeting. Jack Voss motioned to accept the minutes as written, Bill Purosky second; motioned carried. →Treasurer's report: Doug Koons motioned to accept the report, Jack Voss second; motioned carried. →Program for the Saturday general meeting was discussed and set for the next meeting. →Young Eagles: Margie is working on using the credits from national for our Young Eagles program. →2017 Chapter 55 Calendars: it was reported that there are 8 left. →Member of the Year Nominations: Discussed but the final decision will be made at the January Board meeting. →Status of New Flags: No Report. →Furnace Insulation: No Report. →New Big Grill:

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

In order to remain a member in good standing, Chapter 55 dues for 2017 must be paid by February 15th. Those who have not paid will be removed from the chapter newsletter and email list. Paying dues on time saves our Newsletter Editor and Webmaster a lot of grief. Thank you.



Several EAA 55 folks joined Jack Voss at Bestseller's in Mason to enjoy the Christmas Eve music and share Jack's birthday cake celebrating his 60++ birthday



**NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS**  
by Vickie Vandenbelt ([vickie@eaa55.org](mailto:vickie@eaa55.org))

**THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:** for Lloyd Brown as he mends from surgery for a broken hip. Lloyd fell a few days ago. He is currently in the 6th floor orthopedic unit at Sparrow Hospital. You can call 517-364-1000 and they will put you through to him. He advised Carol Spry that he hopes to be home in a day or two (Thursday?). His son, Chris, is helping him out.

**THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:** for Dave Cook as he mends from his shoulder surgery.

**THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:** for Pat Salow as he rehabs his knee replacement.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to member George Spencer, the winner of this year's Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Raffle Drawing. The winning ticket was sold by Vickie Vandenbelt two years in a row.

**FROM VICKIE VIA LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND:**

<http://insider.foxnews.com/2016/09/12/blind-pilot-jim-platzer-flying-skies-again>



**ADULT EAGLES**  
by Greg Rheeder ([greg@eaa55.org](mailto:greg@eaa55.org))

No article this month.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR INFO TO SHARE??**



**YOUNG EAGLES**  
by Margie Clark  
([margie@eaa55.org](mailto:margie@eaa55.org))

Brrr...it's cold outside, but you should join us at the next Saturday meeting on January 14th. Come out and meet our new Young Eagle of the Year! She and her family will be joining us.



**NOTES FROM CAPE JUBY**  
by Terry L. Lutz  
([terry.lutz@attglobal.net](mailto:terry.lutz@attglobal.net))

Terry's article is late this month. A revised copy of the newsletter including his article should be out to you on Friday.

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



## TIDBITS

by Vickie Vandenberg ([vickie@eaa55.org](mailto:vickie@eaa55.org))

**MONTHLY PROGRAMS:** Do you have any ideas on who I might contact or what you might like to have for our future programs?? I will contact and book the dates if you would just provide me with some leads!!

**EAA CHAPTER 55 CALENDARS:** We still have a small amount available for purchase at the low price of \$8.00 each while supplies last.

**CRAA GATE ACCESS CODE CHANGE AND USER REGISTRATIONS:** The code for the gates to the Airport Operating Area was changed on January 6, 2017. All owners and tenants are required to file updated User Registration Forms with CRAA. Upon receipt, CRAA will mail the new code to you. If you have submitted your form but have not yet received the new code, please call CRAA Operations at 517-321-8525.

**FRIDAY PILOTS BREAKFAST and/or COFFEE:** The coffee group gathers at Mason A&W every Friday about 9:00. Average attendance is about eight - but lately we have grown to about 18. Everyone welcome - Great conversation while enjoying the most important meal of the day.



## STORY OF T-6 VOYAGE

By Ken Vandenberg

At 4:00 am on Friday morning, December 2nd, Dave Groh, Rick Anderson and I headed for Oshkosh, WI to retrieve a T-6 that had ground looped in Jackson and been totaled by the insurance company this past summer. Dave had placed a bid for the salvage and got it, so we we're on our way to pick it up. Two pickup trucks, a 22' trailer and a 24' trailer with a lot of tie down straps and old tires to seat the plane on. At about 11:00 am we arrived at Oshkosh WI airport, north end where some T-hangars are. Setting on a trailer, it was ready for us to pick up. They had two small lift trucks on each side. Dave put the lifting I's in and chains on. In just a short time, we had it off their trailer and on to Dave's. We discovered that we



had to tie the tail down first in order to keep the cowlings off the trailer and keep the center section on the old tires. Then the rest of the tie downs went on and we tied it down tight. Rick's trailer carried the two wings with some tires in between each wing and lots of tie down straps. We were ready to roll.



Stopped at a restaurant just down the road from the airport to fill our bellies with food. Now we were ready to get underway. It had taken about three hours in all to get everything loaded and tied down for the journey, so it was about 2:00 pm. Dave's over-sized load permits were only good for daylight hours, so we planned to get to the WI/IL border before dark and stay at Kenosha WI, which is about five miles from Illinois. IL. We left the restaurant and headed south and soon found out that we were not alone. People like airplanes on trailers APPARENTLY. People were slowing down and taking pictures, they

waved and we also got a lot of "thumbs-up" signs. We were !!POPULAR !! So Dave was very glad he had spent time on making certain the trucks and trailers were legal with all the permits in each state.



The sun was going down as we got in to Kenosha and we soon found a hotel for the night. The plane on the trailer was still drawing a lot of attention so we parked way in the back of the parking lot. It had been a very long day on the road. Time to eat, sleep and worry about the Chicago gauntlet in the morning - looks like fun!!

Dave didn't sleep that good, I slept fine (I wasn't diving one of the trucks). Rick is used to diving in Chicago traffic for work, so we depended on him a lot. You know it was like the FAA was watching us all the way!! Weird!! Saturday morning we went to breakfast at our hotel and found out the swimming team from Albion collage was there!! Small world!!

With the sun coming up and gas tank full, we were on our way again. The route took us down I-94, then split us off onto 41 for about twenty miles, which is not a limited access highway, so it was stop and go traffic. But it wasn't to bade since it was the weekend. Just before we got to downtown Chicago proper, we joined back up with I-94 and headed in to the rat race, SIX lanes of hell. Did you know that the cars coming down the on-ramps don't have to merge? It's their road - so look out. If we had to change lanes, Rick ran interference and let us in. This worked good and kept us moving right along. We actually made good time going through Chicago. I was surprised and relieved that we were soon on our way out, leaving the rat race behind!!! Thank you

very much!!! So far we were doing good. People were still coming along side, taking pictures and gawking.

We are supposed to stop at weight stations, but hadn't seen one yet. Dave thought there was one just into Indiana, but it must of been on the toll road and not on I-94. About fifteen miles from the Michigan border, we hit the ROUGHEST road on the whole trip. It was bouncing us all over. Dave wasn't feeling the best as it was and I was getting a headache. Rick's head was bouncing off the headrest in his truck!! The road just plain sucked !!! As soon as we crossed in to Michigan, we headed for the first rest area and took a long BREAK to recover!! What a relief !!! As we walked back to the trucks, there were some guys looking at the plane (still popular). We checked all the tie down straps, tightened the loose ones, and made sure the loads had not shifted. On the road again and finally had to go through a weight station, the "open" sign was on so we drove in. Dave didn't know what to do nor did I, so we followed the truck ahead of us. It slowed down and kept going so we slowed down and I said to Dave, "keep going" and we did . They didn't send a car after us, so we must of done good and we drove on.

One more stop to get lunch in Pawpaw and more people stopped by to look at the plane . When we were leaving one guy asked if it was a P-47. We wished it was.

Not far now and we just hope our luck holds out and it did. We could see the end of our trip and it felt good knowing we had done everything right.



When we got to the airport here, Dave used his WWII engine crane to pick the plan off the trailer and set it on the hangar floor. The latest journey for this old T-6 trainer was done. Hopefully some day it may fly again; if not, it's lasted a lot longer than it was designed to. JUST KEEP 'UM FLYING.



**EDITORS PROLIX**  
By Deanna McAlister  
([zirconmoon@hotmail.com](mailto:zirconmoon@hotmail.com))

No article this month.

**LCC - MASON JEWETT CAMPUS**  
By Mark Bathurst ([bathursm@star.lcc.edu](mailto:bathursm@star.lcc.edu))

January marks the beginning of LCC's 16 week Spring semester. The Aviation Technology program's first year students are starting their second semester, and our second year students are in their fifth of six semesters. To refresh your memory, we start a new class every August and it takes two years to complete the program.

Our first year students will be studying aircraft electrical systems in great detail, with heavy emphasis on AC current. Additionally, they will begin work on various aircraft structures, including wood, fabric, fiberglass and sheet metal to include riveting and forming. They also have classes on fuel systems, hydraulics, landing gear and brakes. One of the highlights of the program, and a real student favorite, is aircraft welding, which is taught at our state-of-the-art welding laboratory at the West Campus facility. In 16 weeks students become

proficient in performing various welds on all the metals typically encountered in aviation maintenance. The second year students will continue reciprocating engine teardown and rebuild which includes cooling and exhaust systems, ignition and magneto systems and fuel systems. Additionally, they will spend extensive time on propeller maintenance, balancing and installation of both fixed and variable pitch props. The culmination of the reciprocating engine courses occurs when the students take the engines they have rebuilt and run them out on the ramp. If you see a group of white hulls minus wings and tails out on the ramp in front of our hangar, you'll know its engine run time.

One of the hallmarks of any highly accredited education program is continual update of teaching materials and instructor education. To that end, we continue to add a number of training aids to enhance student mastery of various aircraft systems. One of the major vendors of system trainers is AVOTEK, headquartered in Virginia. If you search their web site you will see varied training devices designed to not only teach system operation, but allow trouble shooting as well. This school year we have added new devices covering air cycle machines, avionics (FMC and glass panel), a turbine engine cutaway, crew and passenger oxygen, an additional magneto trainer/tester and a digital engine instrument trainer. We have more on order for delivery later this year. As always, you're welcome to stop by and we'll show you around.

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

### **CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS**

**HANGAR FOR RENT:** EAA55 Builders Hangar; \$115 month plus gas. EAA55 Storage Hanger; \$70 month; Pat Salow; 517-565-3178

**WANTED:** gently used boat cushions for "booster seats" for Young Eagles; Margie Clark; 517-853-1418

Your help is needed... Take a look around your house for any old radios you don't use and bring them in to the meeting on Saturday. St. Vincent's Children's Home is in need of your old radios for their autistic children. They have found that the music from the

radios helps calm and focus the children. If you have any old radios you'd like to donate, please bring them to the meeting on Saturday or leave them in the meeting room for Margie Clark.

**FOR SALE:**

1/8" 3-ply Mahogany w/Popular cross-plyies, MIL P6070, \$15 ea; 1/4" 5-ply Birch faces w/Popular inner plyies, MIL P6070, \$30 ea; .040, 2024-T3, 2'x4', \$15 ea; Grey Airtex upholstery fabric; abt 2 yds; Voltage Regulator, Cessna PN C6110010201, \$100; Hand Mic, Telex 100TRA, \$50; David Clark H10-20 headset, \$150. Prices negotiable. Gary Nicola; [glnicola@att.net](mailto:glnicola@att.net) or 517-898-6387.

Small Index brand vertical mill; \$400; **Jeff Shaud**  
**517-712-6482**

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

EAA Chapter 55 Calendars; \$8.00 each; see Al Spalding or Pat Salow at meeting.

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

**Dear EAA Chapters =**

**FOR SALE: FISHER CLASSIC Fisher Classic BiPlane; \$14,900; accepting offers.** This plane was built by a meticulous woodworker and craftsman who never got to see it through completion. The plane is covered and only needs to be painted and the finishing touches applied. The ROTAX 582 engine is new. See pictures.



My father passed away before he could see this plane to completion. It would mean a lot to the family if it

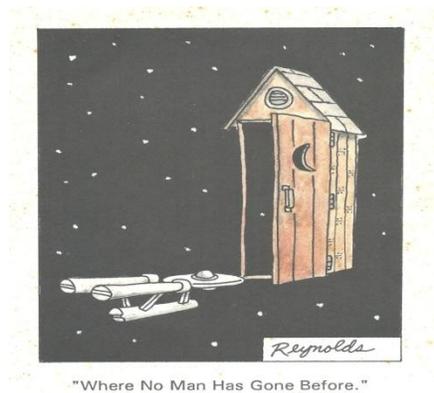
could go to someone who'd realize the value of his craftsmanship and passion.

Plane is located near Big Rapids MI. If you have any questions or want any additional pictures, please call Bob; 616-901-5460.

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

Contact Deanna or Vickie to place your ad here!

Contributions to "WingTips" are welcome and can be made by contacting Deanna McAlister ([zirconmoon@hotmail.com](mailto:zirconmoon@hotmail.com)) Deadline: 1st of each month.



**POCKET CALENDAR:**

- Feb 4 = Frostbite Chili; Canton 11-2pm
- Jun 10 = EAA55 YE; 10am-2pm
- Jun 11 = EAA55 Dawn Patrol; 7-11am
- Jul 8 = EAA55 YE; 10am-2pm
- Aug 12 = EAA55 YE; 10am-2pm
- Aug 19 = EAA55 MAD; 7:30-2:00pm

**WEB EVENT CALENDARS:**

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

**WINGTIPS** is published monthly by *EAA Chapter 55 of Mason, Michigan*, for the use, education and enjoyment of Chapter members and supporters. Accurate information transfer is our goal; however readers should verify dates and times prior to attending an event.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS** is the last Saturday of the month. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted material. Photos, sketches or artwork sent by email must be in JPEG or BMP format. Text must be in a Word format or copyable from the email. Submissions may be sent by regular mail and must be accompanied by prepaid postage if you want them returned. Submissions should be sent to: Deanna McAlister, Newsletter Editor.

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