



EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 55

MARCH 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)

The program for February was an outstanding and informative presentation by Rick Sutton about Carriers on the Great Lakes during WWII. I'm sure everyone walked away with interesting tidbits; for me it was the side wheel paddle boats used for the base of the carrier and secondly to hear that over 100 military aircraft rest at the bottom of the Great Lakes. A thank you goes out to Jack for making the arrangements for Rick to speak.

As mentioned at the February meeting, Vickie has worked hard to put together an excellent 2017 lineup of programs:

- March-Runway Incursions
- April-Metal Fabricating
- May-The new BasicMed (tentative)
- June, July, and August-Young Eagles
- September-FAAst Program
- October-Runway Patterns (tentative)
- November-NOAA Winter Flying (tentative)
- December-NOAA Weather (tent) & Awards
- January 2018-Alan Hollaway; 3D Printing

A great deal of time and planning has gone into creating an outstanding education series. I encourage everyone to use and share this information with others interested in becoming involved with Chapter 55. It just may be one of these programs that spark

the interest for an individual to become a new member. Take advantage of these programs and if you have a contact or would like to organize a program, please do so.

Benjamin Franklin once wrote: "An investment in knowledge always pays the best dividend."

<p>BOARD MEETING: 7:00pm: Wed; March 8th (at the LCC facility)</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 9:30am; Saturday; March 11th - with Breakfast served from 8:00am to 9:00am</p>
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BREAKFAST TEAMS:

March

<p>Elena Fornara Ward Harris Sean Mullaly Scott Sharkey Eli Sharkey Jeff Shaud Carl Zayatz</p>	<p><u>April</u> Dick & Barb Bacon Don Frank John Kuchar Don & Deanna McAllister George Moore</p>
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April



One powerful breakfast team of two in February-
Joe Madziar & Joe Pirch.



Mr. Rick Sutton presented a wonderful program on
Aircraft Carriers of the Great Lakes at our February
meeting.



MARCH 2017:
Phil Tartalone; Runway Incursions; (tent) followed
with "Rusty Pilot" open forum
APRIL 2017:
Mark Lynn; Metal Fabrication
MAY 2017:
Dr. Beecroft; BasicMed
JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2017:
Young Eagle Rallies
SEPTEMBER 2017:
Gary Knaggs; FAAst Program (topic TBD)
OCTOBER 2017:
(tent) Randy Coller; Runway Patterns & Tale of a
Dead Airport
NOVEMBER 2017:
Todd Cotter; Winter Flying Prep & Maintenance
DECEMBER 2017:
(tent) John Kowaleski; NOAA; Winter Weather &
Flying
JANUARY 2018:
Allan Hollaway; Maker Space & 3D Printing
2018
MORE IDEAS WANTED

**EAA 55 Chapter 55 Board of Directors Meeting
February 8, 2017** → Meeting was called to order by
President Pat Salow at 7:03pm in the conference
room at LCC. → Present: Pat Salow, Dave Courey,
Vickie Vandenberg, Mark Bathurst, John Bobcik, Bob
Clark, Margie Clark, Doug Koons, Bill Purosky, Ken
Vandenberg, & Jack Voss. Absent: Al Spalding &
Warren Miller. Guest: Connie Bobcik. → Secretary's
Report for 1/11/17; Jack Voss motioned to accept the
minutes as published; Bob Clark supported; motioned
carried. → Treasurer's report of 1/31/17; Vickie
Vandenberg motioned to accept; Jack Voss supported;
motioned carried. → Programs; Jack Voss has Rick
Sutton coming for February and Allan Holloway for
January 2018. Pat Salow is working for someone to
do BasicMed in May. → YE: Chris Schrader from
the Soaring Club in Gregory has contacted EAA55
about doing YE rides in gliders; further discussion at
a future date. → Membership; notice sent to members
not paid by 2/15/17 are delinquent. → Flags; Julie
Bauer brought a new flag for inside; Jack Voss
advised he will donate a new flag for outside and a
POW/MIA flag for inside. → Newberry Aviation
Scholarship monies have been sent to EMU for Elena
Fornara (\$1,000) and Theodore Johnson (\$600).

Monies have been sent to LCC for Benjamin Crandall (\$800); Reychele Rozell (\$700) and Muna Gabayre (\$550). → Silent Auction; Vickie Vandenbelt suggested some items we might auction; more info and pics for next meeting. → Jack Voss suggested dinner celebration possibly at Coral Gables; will survey interest at Saturday meeting. → Pat Salow provided Board members with a copy of the 2017 EAA Chapter Agreement. → Model "T" Jamboree cruise to MAD; Ted O'dell will be at our March BOD meeting. → Vickie Vandenbelt advised some eaa55.org email links are not working and Craig Tucker is working to resolve. → Policy for Use of Chapter Facilities; Vickie Vandenbelt will email old policy developed by Bill Hanna for discussion and possible update. → Pat Salow discussed Chapter Mission and Education; looking at the use of our monies; how should we direct funds? → Vickie Vandenbelt mentioned discussion with LCC about funding a scholarship with the foundation. She will also forward the Newberry history she has to BOD. → Pat Salow mentioned a call from Eaton Rapids regarding Career Day & Aviation; he will follow up. → Pat Salow also received a call from Alma about projects. → Jack Voss suggested the chapter might purchase scales for weighing/weight & balance. → Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm. → Respectfully submitted, Vickie Vandenbelt, Secretary

EAA Chapter 55 Membership Meeting February 11, 2017 → Meeting was called to order at about 9:30am by President Salow with approximately 42 members and 11 guests present. → Following the National Anthem, the breakfast team was thanked and March team announced. → Introduction of new members and/or visitors followed. → Secretary's Report 1/14/17; motion to approve; supported; all approved. → Treasurer's Report 1/31/17; motion to approve; supported; all approved. → Pat Salow advised Vickie Vandenbelt & Jack Voss have set the programs for most of the year; but still need a Program Coordinator to take over. → Jack Voss announced his suggestion and asked interest in an Anniversary Practice Dinner at Coral Gables; Jack will try to set for April 7th at 6:00pm. → Pat Salow announced that the Model "T" Jamboree is planning to cruise to MAD. → Pat Salow seeks volunteers for the 2017 Event Planning Committee. → Newberry Aviation Scholarship recipients were introduced; members met Benjamin Crandall (LCC), Reychele Rozell (LCC), and Theodore Johnson (EMU). Elena Fornara (EMU) and Muna Gabayre (LCC) were not

able to attend. → Meeting was adjourned about 9:48am and followed with a program presented by Rick Sutton; Aircraft Carriers in the Great Lakes. → Respectfully submitted, Vickie Vandenbelt, Secretary



NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS
by Vickie Vandenbelt (vickie@eaa55.org)

No new news for February - **DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR INFO TO SHARE?** Drop me an email.



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

It's getting better and better for flying...have you taken any youth up yet this year? Be sure to fill out an application if you do. We have two young eagle flights already to start out the new year.

If you haven't flown young eagles yet and you are interested in doing so, please remember that you must be a member of EAA55, a national EAA member and have a certificate that you passed the background check. Without all three requirements your flight will not count at headquarters and EAA55 will not receive credit.

Happy flying!



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

See you in the Spring!



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

It's really exciting to see some new airplanes under construction in our chapter. There is a good possibility that Drew Seguin's Carbon Cub and the Glastar being built by Bill Puroskey and Doug Koons

will fly this year. And when you see Tim Martinson's car outside his hangar, it's a sure sign that he's inside his workshop, creating a new RV-12 with the skill of an aluminum master

I hope that all of you have read the article about Kurt Gubert's Fly Baby Biplane in the January issue of Sport Aviation. The article is titled "Way Better Late Than Never". For a guy who seems to get things done at three times the speed of normal people, it took Kurt 35 years to complete his Fly Baby Biplane. EAA did a remarkable job of creating the article about Kurt and his airplane. It started when he flew it to Oshkosh, arrived early, and found a parking spot just outside the Brown Arch.

Someone from the Sport Aviation editorial staff spotted the airplane and contacted Kurt about the possibility of doing a photo shoot, which turned into an article about him and the airplane. The photo shoot itself was a real challenge, because the airplane has no radio. Kurt could not communicate with the photo airplane about positioning for best camera angle and the desired background. However, EAA provided a very good briefing, and at 7am on a bright and beautiful morning, both Kurt and the camera airplane took off from Runway 27.

The interview, the flight briefing, the inflight photo shoot, and the article represent one of EAA and Sport Aviation's best efforts to focus on grass roots homebuilding and the pure enjoyment of an airplane inspired completely by imagination. As someone who does a bit of writing now and then, the article captured the airplane, the story of Peter Bower's design, and the thoughts through the years of the man who built it. After reading the article, you could meet Kurt as a perfect stranger, and immediately know he was the man in the article. Hal Bryan and the staff of Sport Aviation have captured so many details of Kurt's life in such a marvelous way that they deserve an award for outstanding journalism.

After the photo shoot that morning, Kurt just kept on flying, and hopscotched his way back to Michigan. Along the way, he was thinking about his next project. Fifteen years earlier, Kurt had purchased a set of amphibious floats, with the thought that someday, he would have an airplane to mount them on. They wouldn't go on the Fly Baby Biplane. Instead, he would mount them on the Wag-A-Bond he completed in 2014.

Putting an airplane on floats, particularly when the mounting structure is essentially a box full of stock material, is no easy task. The floats themselves were already complete, but the struts, fittings, landing gear, and water rudders had to be built from scratch. Here are the steps Kurt had to take to put his Wag-A-Bond on floats:

1. Jack the airplane up and put it high enough that the entire float assembly can be built underneath.
2. Remove the landing gear (which made it look like it was flying in the hangar with the landing gear retracted!)
3. Determine the exact fore and aft position of the floats, according to the plans and within the CG range of the basic airplane.
4. Level the airplane to insure the correct geometry as the struts were built and fitted to both the airplane and the floats.
5. Install and test both the landing gear retraction mechanism, and the brakes
6. Install and rig the water rudders so they will retract properly, and connect to the rudder pedals in the cockpit.
7. Ensure that the landing gear will support the airplane, then lower the whole assembly to the floor.



If you ever doubted what homebuilders can accomplish, consider this. Kurt's Wag-A-Bond was sitting in an open hangar north of St. Johns. On a warm day in late December, Kurt flew it into Shady Lawn airfield, north of Elsie, where Tim Swanson had space in a large, heated hangar. So all the progress I mentioned above has been accomplished

literally in 2 months. In that amount of time, I managed to check the oil screen in my Luscombe.



For some of the decisions Kurt had to make, there was no set of plans. For example, there was no guidance for how large the additional vertical tail surface would need to be, or where to mount it. He had to design the controls to retract and extend the landing gear. He had to integrate the cockpit brakes with the brakes of the wheels on the floats. He had to integrate control of the water rudders with control of the airplane rudder. He had to do a weight and balance on the airplane, while on the floats, and be certain the CG was within allowable limits. He did a complete annual inspection of the engine, because working on the engine is kind of hard when you're out on the water.

Perhaps we can all agree that this was a pretty difficult project. But I guess I should add that Kurt has never flown an airplane on floats. He plans to head to Florida in April to get his float plane rating, and he has asked some experienced float plane pilots to have a look at the float installation and point out any problems. He is still a long way from being ready to fly, but what he has accomplished is a remarkable example of the true spirit of both homebuilding, and of aviation itself.

I was flying the Luscombe a few days ago, and flew over John and Connie Bobczik's farm to see if any smoke was coming from their sugar shack. I am happy to report that smoke was sighted, so the sweet taste of Maple Syrup is sure to follow. Then when I was on downwind back at Mason, I caught sight of a soaring bird just ahead. I noticed that the head of the

bird was white, and as it turned to the right, I had the most magnificent view of a Bald Eagle.

It's too early to tell if we'll have an early Spring, but one thing is certain – the winds and weather of Spring can be strong and unpredictable. A local flight to remove rust from our flying skills can quickly become challenging. So plan carefully, and always remember to help your fellow aviator when you know they really need it.

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)

NEW MEMBERS: Chapter 55 welcomes new member Kurt Crandell and new student member, McAllister "Cal" Hayslette.

WINTER MODE: We are still on "winter mode" at our EAA hangar. In the last month, I have found the bathroom door unlatched, the storage room door unlatched (twice), and the bathroom light/fan setting turned up (twice) and the storage hangar lights left on. If you are on TEW, could you help the chapter by stopping in to double check that EAA55 meeting room and hangar are secure?? I appreciate the assistance.

NEWBERRY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP

RECIPIENTS: Chapter 55 has named five students as recipients of our Newberry Aviation Scholarship for 2017. Reychele Rozell is a student in the LCC program for about 1-1/2 years. Reychele wants to finish her mechanical and continue with engineering and get a pilots license. Theodore Johnson is a senior in the EMU Aviation Management program and wants to pursue his MBA along with working in dispatch for a corporate carrier. Benjamin Crandall is a student at LCC pursuing the mechanical program and he is currently working for an A&P in Marshall. Elena Fornara, a student in Aviation Management

Technology of EMU, and Muna Gabayre, a student in the LCC program, were not able to attend our February meeting but we hope to meet them in the future.



Shown (L-R) Reychell Rozelle (LCC); Theodore Johnson (EMU) and Benjamin Crandall (LCC)

EVENT ADVERTISING: The event planning committee will soon be meeting to work on strategies for this year's events. We need member input - In recent years, where did you notice advertising for our Dawn Patrol or MAD?? Was it in the LSJ? in a community newspaper? on a TV stations? on a radio station? on the MDOT calendar? on the EAA.org calendar? other fly-in calendar? on Facebook? flyer posted at church? flyer posted at local business? or, just word of mouth? Our time and money is limited - PLEASE drop me an email about what you saw or heard so we put forth effort with the best bang for the buck !!

ANNIVERSARY PRACTICE PARTY: Jack Voss is hosting an anniversary practice party - noting that time spent at "Practice Parties" does not count off your lifespan. The dinner will be 6:00pm on Friday, April 7th at Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos. Henry's Place is across the road from Meridian Mall, in the same small mall with Kroger and Target. Our party will be in the private dining room behind the front dining room. Order ala carte from their open menu. To reserve your place here, please contact Jack Voss 517-505-1693 or realkayakjack@me.com.

AIRPORT OPERATIONS: CRAA personnel are available 24/7. If you encounter anything amiss at the airport - please call 517-321-8525

EXCHANGE STUDENT HOST FAMILY:

I received the following email. Would you or anyone you know be interested??

From: Tiffany Henfling - **Sent:** Wednesday, 2/22/17
Subject: Exchange Student with Pilot Ambitions

My name is Tiffany Henfling. I'm a teacher at Mason Middle School and a local coordinator for CCI Greenheart, a non-profit company that works to place foreign exchange students with American host families in our local community.

I'm reaching out to you today because I have a student looking for an American host family next school year that may interest one of your members. If you're willing, I'm hoping you'd be willing to share this message with them.

Gabriele is a 16 year old boy from Italy. (97858) He is planning to attend high school in the US next year (arriving in late August and staying until the end of the school year). Gabriele plans to become a pilot when he grows up and has started taking lessons weekly at his local airport where he lives in the mountains of Northern Italy. He loves to travel and learn about other cultures. Outside of flying he loves to play the drums (both jazz & rock) and enjoy sports such as basketball and skiing. He seems like a wonderful young man and I'm excited to find a family in the local area so that I can work with him next year. Unfortunately we do have a limitation when looking for a home for him - due to allergies he requires a home with no cats and his bedroom can't have carpet or rugs in it.

American host families are responsible for providing students with three meals a day, a bed to sleep in and basic transportation. They have their own spending money and health insurance while they're here attending local high school. Host families come in all shapes and sizes - from families with young children through retired empty nesters. There is a perfect exchange student for every family!

If you'd like to learn more about hosting Gabriele, or any of our other exchange students please feel free to contact me at the information below.

Thank you, Tiffany Henfling
517-410-4793 or tiffanyhenfling@gmail.com

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



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

Watch out for migratory birds! Good news migratory season is approaching fast which means warm weather and fun flying!

I did a little research online on a few birds seen here in mid-Michigan. Mallard ducks usually travel at 1,000 to 4,000 feet. Canada geese fly in a distinctive V flight formation at 3,000 feet. Sandhill Cranes usually fly at 3,000-5,000 feet. Surprisingly, humming birds migrate at only 500 feet.

LCC - MASON JEWETT CAMPUS

By Mark Bathurst

Most high school seniors are currently well into their decision-making process about what to do following graduation. If the decision is to continue their education, students have an array of options from which to choose. Some choose to enroll in a four year college (MSU, WMU, etc.) because that's what they consider to be the normal path. Others choose specialized programs requiring less than four years to complete, with the program typically being tightly focused and results in some type of certification with strong job prospects. Nursing, dental hygiene, robotics, welding and other technical career programs of study are in this category, with aviation maintenance technology being included.

There are about 170 FAA-certificated 14 CFR 147 schools in the United States that prepare students for careers as licensed maintenance technicians. Six of those are in Michigan. MIAT (near Detroit), SMAT (School of Missionary Aviation Technology) in Ionia and Andrews University in Berrien Springs are private schools that offer the program in various lengths. Western Michigan's program is four years, Northern Michigan's program is two years and

LCC's is two years. Obviously tuition and fees vary by institution, and student housing may or may not be available at additional cost.

LCC's program offers significant value for the investment. If a student lives in one of the 15 school districts immediately surrounding LCC, the total cost for the six semester, two year program is about \$23,000. This includes tuition, course (lab) fees, books and other associated college costs. If a student lives out of the local district, but within the state of Michigan, the cost jumps to about \$35,000 for the six semester, two year course. Room and board is not included in the cost.

Students who additionally wish to receive two Associates' degrees (one in Airframe Maintenance Technology and one in Powerplant Maintenance Technology) need to complete five additional courses on top of the aviation maintenance program. LCC's current tuition rate is \$99 per credit hour. Compared to WMU or MSU, this is a significant savings. And, as I have previously highlighted, the Associates' degrees transfer to both WMU and Sienna Heights University where our graduates start as juniors with full credit for all coursework at LCC.

Last month I talked about the looming maintenance technician shortage. Two years, a \$23,000 investment and strong employment prospects yields real opportunities for our students.

CHAPTER 55 CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED: boat cushions for "booster seats" for YE; Margie Clark; 517-853-1418

FOR SALE:

1/8" 3-ply Mahogany w/Popular cross-ply, MIL P6070, \$15 ea; 1/4" 5-ply Birch faces w/Popular inner plys, MIL P6070, \$30 ea; .040, 2024-T3, 2'x4', \$15 ea; upholstery fabric; abt 2 yds; Voltage Regulator, Cessna PN C6110010201, \$100; Hand Mic, \$50; David Clark headset, \$150. Prices negotiable. Gary Nicola; 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

Contact Deanna or Vickie to place your ad here!

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

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



POCKET CALENDAR:

Apr 4-9 = Sun n Fun
Apr 7 = Dinner Party; 6pm
Jun 10 = EAA55 YE; 10am-2pm
Jun 11 = EAA55 Dawn Patrol; 7-11am
Jul 8 = EAA55 YE; 10am-2pm
Jul 9 = EAA55 Anniv Potluck
Jul 24-30 = AirVenture
Aug 12 = EAA55 YE; 10am-2pm
Aug 19 = EAA55 MAD; 7:30-2:00pm
Sept 2-4 = Thunder Over Michigan
Dec 10 = Christmas Party

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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