

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter April 2026

President *Mark Scott*
Vice President *James Calver*
Secretary *Rick Beebe*
Treasurer *Bill Jagoda*
Newsletter Editor *Joe Bogacki*
Young Eagles *Donna Shea*
Scholarship Coordinator *Matt Valleau*

Tech Counselors *Dave Pepe, Mark Scott & Mike Zemsta*

Flight Advisor *Mark Scott*

Our Web Site: www.eaa27.org



Next Meeting April 19, 2026 10 am Meriden Airport

Joe Palmisano is a CFI-g and glider tow pilot who holds a Comm Pilot SEL, Glider rating with a CFI-g will be presenting the Introduction to Gliding; and, how much fun, challenging it is, not alone an excellent form of flight training.



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Joe has 60 years of flying experience starting as a student pilot at age 14 with earnings from his news route. Along the way Joe towed banners, unsuccessfully tried to build a Cozy (1980's EAA Chapter 166), and now owns a Focke Wulf 149D, a 1959 German Air Force war bird. With retirement in 2018, Joe joined Connecticut Soaring Association and took up soaring earning his CFI-g.



Glider student pilots are eligible to solo at age 14 in gliders. Glider pilots must be in good health but are not required to hold a medical certificate. Connecticut Soaring Association currently has 30 members flying 4 gliders and a Piper Pawnee tow plane out of Windham Airport. Connecticut Soaring Association is recruiting new members.

President's Message

We received the 2025 chapter member survey results. We had a healthy response rate with 53 members submitting surveys. Overall ratings and comments are very favorable which is great to see. I'll present a short summary at the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 10a.m. Officers present: President Mark Scott, Treasurer Bill Jagoda. There were 20 attendees for our business meeting; attendance increased better than 45 for presentation.

Visitors: Jackson 10 years old he loves basketball and airplanes; Enti 14 years old plays soccer, and enjoys using his PA28 simulator, Enti was also given a free AOPA High School membership.

Service Awards presented to those not present at the Holiday Banquet, Joe Bogacki Newsletter Editor Award, Matt Valleau Ray Scholar Leader Award

Treasure's report: Current balance \$2048
Yearly dues 33 were due now it stands at 15-20

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Tech Discussion:

Dave Rich and Al Starbard, are planning to move the Super Cubs fuselage to their airport hangar, attach the wings, schedule DAR for April / May and possibly fly in June. They have acquired a 220V commercial grade air-handling system for a paint booth from the original owner of their Super Cub kit that they would like to get off their hands. Contact Dave if you or someone else you know may be interested in the air-handling system.

Doug Dringoli Hatz project is working the center section of his fuselage, progress is picking up he said.

Isabele who is working on the Youth Sonex project showed a hole punch tool that Fran had and they are now using. It is capable of punching up to 9/32" holes.

Mark is working on restoring the cockpit of his Starduster. He is working the face of the instrument panel and found 1/27" thick inexpensive wood veneer that's easy to work with. He's applying it with contact cement and likes how it looks.

Mark reported the RV12 they continue to trouble shoot the engine's slight hesitation. After going over all the electrical they are now looking at the fuel system. They would like to vacuum check the fuel system.

Other stuff:

The email system has been down so no emails, thus no newsletter link sent out. Reminder newsletter is usually posted the Monday before our meeting on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Young Eagle rallies; Spring Rally, June 13. Rain date June 14; Fall rally: October 3, Rain date October 4; First Timer Rally: August 8. Rain date August 9

Ray Scholar Ethan is getting very close to soloing. He is doing well in ground school and getting close to taking his written. That's all within his busy schedule of school and a civil engineering internship

Our chapter missed the application period for applying for a 2026 Ray Scholar, however we will be applying November 2026 for the 2027 Ray Scholar.

The Sonex build project continues to make steady progress, they are working on the fuselage and instrument panel.

EAA Awarded our Chapter Silver Status, but after Mark questioning them they realized we are still deserving of our Gold Status.

Constance shared when she was at a recent city budget meeting Council City members praised the airport for all the events such as Young Eagles, Girl's Inc. and City Summer camp, etc.

CT Stem Academy in Wallingford would like someone at their open house to share about Aviation, Mark will be attending and would like someone else to join him. Contact Mark.

Airport Clean up date moved to the May 2nd.

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Sometime end of June the Airport and Chapter 27 will have an open house for Cheshire School Administrators

Meriden Parks and Rec day at airport end of July

Girls Inc day July 27th at the airport

Still looking to get the wall patched in the area where the engraved bricks will be set

Chapter 27, 70th Anniversary in September want to make it a special event

Holiday Banquet, reservation for January 9th, 2027 made by Jim Simmons

Pipistrel representative Stuart Berlinger is scheduled for our May meeting on the 18th

Our guest speaker Malcolm Dickinson a FFAST Team representative presenting “IFR Communications; From Requesting Clearance to Taxiing in.” brought in very large interactive audience. The weather was cooperative so some flew in. There was a least 10 planes on the ramp. <<https://tinyurl.com/IFRcomms>>

- Joe Bogacki News Letter Editor

Ray Aviation Scholar 2025

Over the past month, I have focused on completing the final steps leading up to my written exam. I got stuck on some weight and balance calculations but I was able to figure it out, and I am going through the last chapters of exam prep. I'm happy to share that I have successfully completed my pre-solo written test. I have continued to fly whenever weather has allowed, working on emergency procedures, and staying ahead of the aircraft. With all of this progress coming together, I'm hopeful that I will be able to complete my first solo flight sometime this month if weather allows. I am excited to be at this stage of training, and I'm looking forward to cross countries. Thank you again for this opportunity.

Ethan Simpson Ray Scholar 2025



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Tech Tip of the Month

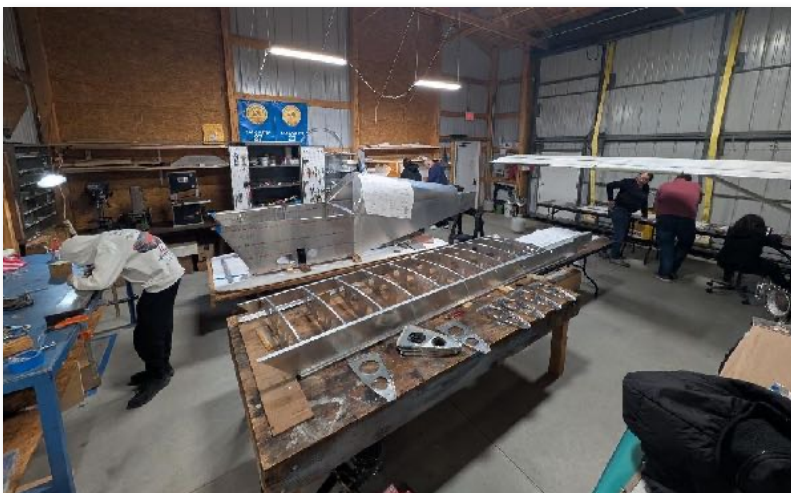
Often it is difficult to attach and hold a nut at the back of an instrument behind the panel. To solve that problem use neat little things called instrument nuts. You squeeze the prongs together and insert them into the instrument hole. Insert until the little barbs catch a groove on the hole interior. This keeps it in position as you insert the 6-32 screw. The screw captures the nut plate held in place by the aft spring clip geometry. They work really well. They come in different lengths to accommodate different instrument face plate thicknesses. Aircraft spruce and other vendors sell them. (Mark)



Chapter 27

Youth Aviation Center and Sonex Build

If you have not heard yet, Sonex Aircraft is now out of business. They closed their doors on or about April 2nd. We should have everything we need to complete the airplane. If not the plans are detailed enough to enable us to fabricate parts. Overall, we are moving along. It's nice to have some warm weather finally. The forward fuselage is a bit complicated so it is moving slow. We positioned the wing upper surface for the first time which was very educational on how the root end ribs are positioned. We have a new participant. He saw the build after his Young Eagle flight and thought it looked really cool. We expect him to be a regular.



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Chapter Projects

Mark's Starduster Too cockpit refurbishment is going well. The front panel is complete. All the cockpit wiring is now redone. It is much neater now. Numerous other upgrades and changes were made including the installation of a full engine monitoring system. It should be back in the air once the warm flying weather arrives.



Carbon Cub Project

Carbon Cub coming together

On St. Patty's day, the fuselage took its first trip. With the tail being 10'6" wide, we needed an oversize permit to transport and hired a professional firm.



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Back in Meriden we got going with the final assembly.



Looking like an airplane!



First flight is likely in June. Come check in out in Hanger E anytime.

Dave & Al

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Young Eagles

Attention Young Eagle Volunteers! 2026 Young Eagle Rally Dates:

Book your calendars and **reserve your planes** for volunteering for the following 2026 Young Eagle Rally dates:

June 13th (rain date June 14th)

August 8th (rain date August 9th) This will be a smaller rally for first time participants.

October 3rd (rain date October 4th)

Clear your calendars now so that our awesome team can make these events a reality!

Donna Young Eagles Coordinator

Meriden Airport

The FAA is advancing the transition to a modernized National Airspace System (NAS) built on Performance-Based Navigation (PBN). This modernization reduces dependence on legacy ground-based systems and supports a more efficient, resilient, and sustainable infrastructure.

As part of this effort, the FAA is reviewing and retiring instrument flight procedures (IFPs) that no longer align with the NAS Navigation Strategy. Maintaining redundant or outdated procedures increases operational complexity and cost without providing additional benefit to users.

The following procedure at Meriden Markham Municipal Airport has been identified for divestment because it does not align with the FAA's strategy and has not been designated for retention:

VOR RWY 36 - Recommended for cancellation. This procedure is not retained under the VOR Minimum Operational Network (MON) and duplicates existing RNAV capabilities that meet the airport's operational needs.

These retirements support FAA's ongoing efforts to streamline the IFP inventory, eliminate outdated or redundant procedures, and focus resources on maintaining a safe, efficient, and modern navigation system. Department of Defense (DOD) coordination is already accomplished, and the FAA is aware of their position for this procedure.

If there are operational or community impacts that require consideration, please notify your FAA Airspace and Procedures District Office (OSG) point of contact and provide justification for consideration. If no response has been received within 30 days, the procedure will move forward for cancellation.

It will take about 7-8 months before it will be shut down. Did have up to April 5 to file any objections.

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Cheshire High School Meeting

We have scheduled at the airport a tour for Cheshire High School kids and adults on June 25th. Plans are in the works. At the moment we expect about a two hour event with introductory presentations, airplanes on display, a tour of the airport, and the maintenance facility. We expect the flight school to participate too. The start time is still TBD. We will need a few volunteers to help out. More to come in the weeks ahead.

Chapter 27 and MMK Calendar Events 2026

Spring clean up April 25th - save the date

Young Eagles

Spring Rally, June 13. Rain date June 14

Fall rally: October 3, Rain date October 4

First Timer Rally: August 8. Rain date August 9

Other activities

Park & Rec camp. end of July. Date TBD

Girls Inc. Creative engineering week July 27

Events

5k run date pending.

70th anniversary of Chapter 27 Sunday, September 20

Holiday Banquet January 9, 2027

Regional Meetings

Check chapter websites for meeting status

Chapter 1310 Meetings - 2nd Wednesday 7 PM April-October

2nd Saturday 10 AM November, January, February, March at Skylark Airport

Chapter 166 Meetings - Last Saturday of month 10:00 AM (Except July, Nov & Dec) at HFD Hangar 1 EAA Classroom, 20 Lindberg Drive, Hartford. <http://eaa166.org>

Chapter 27 Meetings - 3rd Sunday of month, 10 AM at Meriden Airport
<http://eaa27.org/>

Chapter 324 Meetings 1st Wednesday of month, 7 PM Simsbury Airport
<https://www.facebook.com/eaa324/> <https://chapters.eaa.org/EAA324>

Chapter 324 VMC Club Simsbury Airport CT 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm
Laura Doherty | laurado@sas.upenn.edu - EAA.org/VMC

Chapter 1620 Meetings 1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM Barnes Airport Hangar 3, 111 Airport Rd. Westfield, MA. 01085 <https://www.facebook.com/eaa.org/>

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Airshows and Events

April 14-19 Sun and Fun <https://flysnf.org/>

May 22-24 Central PA Airshow featuring Navy Blue Angels

<https://www.warbirds-eea.org/event/central-pa-air-show/>

May 29-31 Atlantic City Airshow “Thunder Over the Boardwalk”

<https://airshowdisplay.fr/en/airshow/atlantic-city-airshow-2026>

June 05-07 Mid Atlantic World War II weekend <https://maam.org/show-info/>

June 05-07 B29 Fifi at Bridgeport - Connecticut Air and Space Museum

June 10-14 B29 Fifi at Westfield Barnes Regional Airport

June 13 and possibly the 14th Westfield museum is planning on holding a pancake breakfast

June 19,20, & 21 Greenwood Lake NJ Airshow Night show pyrotechnics

<https://www.njairshow.com/>

July 4th Snowbirds over New York

July 05-06 Bethpage Airshow @ Jones Beach featuring Navy Blue Angels <https://www.-fourleafairshow.com/>

<https://www.-fourleafairshow.com/>

July 11-12 National Warplane Museum Airshow on Turf Geneseo NY

<https://airshowdisplay.fr/en/airshow/geneseo-airshow-the-greatest-show-on-turf-2026>

July 20-26 EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2026

https://www.eaa.org/airventure/eea-airventure-tickets?utm_source=eea_internal_web_link&utm_medium=internal/eea.org&utm_campaign=av_tickets_2026&utm_term=homepage_slider&utm_content=image

August 01-02 New York Airshow Orange County Airport Montgomery NY featuring the USAF Thunderbirds <https://hudsonvalleycountry.com/ny-airshow-headliners-2026-and-2027/>

September 12-13th Beverly Regional Airshow

EAA Chapter 146 Fly-In Breakfast Dates for 2026

Dates: Saturday, June 6, 2026, and Saturday, September 12, 2026

8am to noon, WX permitting, at Kline Kill Airport (NY1), Ghent, NY

Follow us on Facebook for updates: [EAA Chapter 146 Ghent NY](#)

(Chapter Secretary: 518-250-6674, call or text)



Pancakes, eggs, sausage, OJ, & coffee, all for only \$10. Plenty of parking for both aircraft & cars at one of the most picturesque grass airfields in the Northeast.

Please Note: Fuel IS NOT AVAILABLE at Kline Kill Airport. Fuel is available at Columbia County Airport (1B1), 5 NMSW.

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Classifieds

For Sale: Garmin GDL51

This is a portable SiriusXM weather receiver as well as a GPS and ADHRS. Works with Foreflight and Garmin Pilot. \$850 at Aircraft Spruce. \$550. Rick Beebe. rick@beebe.org or 203-623-3744

MANY structural pull rivets left over from the RV-12 build. They are 1/8 dia, Gesipa LP4-3 with .093-.197 grip. \$5 for a 1/2 lb bag or about 200 rivets. That is about 80% less than similar Q rivets from Aircraft Spruce.

Contact Mark Scott (203-988-3197)

EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Join and pay online with PayPal at EAA27.org/Join

or

Please fill in the following information and mail with your dues to:
EAA Chapter 27, c/o Bill Jagoda, 43 Derby Road, Rockfall, CT 06481
Annual dues are \$20.00 per year. Make checks payable to *EAA Chapter 27*

(Please print)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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EAA Member # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Pilot rating held: _____

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Would you like to receive our newsletter via email? Y / N

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Tell us about your areas of interest and expertise:

If anyone has something they would like to share in our newsletter, places of interest to fly too, your airplane build project, articles, flight experiences, etc. please forward them to Joe "newsletter@eaa27.org"
