

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

<i>President</i>	<i>Mark Scott</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>James Calver</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Rick Beebe</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Bill Jagoda</i>
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	<i>Joe Bogacki</i>
<i>Young Eagles</i>	<i>Donna Shea</i>
<i>Scholarship Coordinator</i>	<i>Matt Valleau</i>
<i>Tech Counselors</i>	<i>Dave Pepe, Mark Scott & Mike Zemsta</i>
<i>Flight Advisor</i>	<i>Mark Scott</i>
<i>Our Web Site:</i>	www.eaa27.org



***Next Meeting, August 16th,
10 am Meriden Airport***



EAA AirVenture 2025

Photo by James Calver

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

President's Message

No meeting in July per our regular schedule. I hope you have some good vacation plans. I was able to capture this nice rainbow at the airport after a heavy rain shower earlier this month. If you go to Oshkosh or take a flying trip, please take pictures and send to Joe for the newsletter.

A reminder that our next Young Eagles rally is August 8th. We are registering only about 40 kids who are all first timers. We will see how it goes. Please contact Donna if you will be flying or on ground crew.



Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 10:05. Officers present: President Mark Scott, Vice President James Calver, Treasurer Bill Jagoda, Secretary Rick Beebe. There were 20 attendees.

Treasurer's report: Current balance \$1989. Payments for Ethan are all up to date.

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

Tech reports. Dave and Al are getting close on their Carbon Cub. They are in the registration phase right now. The chapter will be conducting an LSA inspection course on October 31 and November 1. Thanks to MOSAIC, taking the \$750 course will allow the attendee to perform the annual condition inspection on their own EAB aircraft.

Young Eagles rally on June 13 was a success. We flew 52 kids. 7 planes and 8 pilots. Also lots of ground crew. Thanks to everyone who helped! Our next rally is a first-timers only rally on August 8. James commissioned some Young Eagles shirts. We sold 9 of them at the rally.

We have updated mugs for sale for \$15. They have our logo on one side and our gold badges on the other.

Ray Scholar: Ethan passed his written exam. Got an 88. Working on cross country work now. He leaves for college on August 14 so is aiming to get his check-ride done at the end of July.

The Sonex build continues. It's going well.

New business:

Two weeks ago there was a Meriden City Supervisors Union meeting at MMK. We gave 12 of them airplane rides. Constance is working on an article for a related state-wide newsletter.

On June 25 about 100 Cheshire school kids and parents came to an airport open house and tour. We had 6 planes on display. The Flight School let kids use their flight simulator and that was a big hit.

Meriden Parks & Rec event will be here on July 14 and 15. Girls Inc.—recipient of last year's MMK 5K race—will be here for an open house on July 29. The next MMK 5K will be October 25th.

Mt. Tobe is having a pancake breakfast on the first and third Saturday in the morning. Mark went last week and said it was very good.

Chris Meyer is a CFI who does tailwheel and aerobatic instruction at Brainaird and now has as a Pitts S-1 at MMK.

Upcoming events:

James is working on a sign to cover a hole in the wall where the commemorative bricks are going.

We're going to have a 70th anniversary party in early September 2026.

We're going to try a first-timers-only Young Eagles rally on August 8. Registration starts July 8.

Presentation: Dave Maass gave a very informative presentation on Angle of Attack. What it is, how it affects flight and how AoA instruments can help pilots be safer.

—Rick Beebe, Secretary

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

Ray Aviation Scholar 2025

This month, I have been focusing on cross-country training and learning how to properly plan and execute longer flights. I have been working on filling out navigation logs, improving my pilotage and dead reckoning skills, and becoming more comfortable with cross-country navigation and my E6B.

I have also officially scheduled my Private Pilot check-ride for August 1. As I prepare, I have been spending time studying the Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge, reviewing the Airman Certification Standards, and working to fill in any gaps in my knowledge. I have been going over regulations, weather, aircraft systems, and other topics to make sure I am as prepared as possible for both the oral exam and the flight portion of the check-ride. I am excited to continue preparing over the next few weeks and look forward to reaching this final milestone in my private pilot training.

Ethan Simpson Ray Scholar 2025

Dave Maass June's presentation

by James Calver

Chapter 27 member Dave Maass gave an engaging presentation on the importance of angle of attack (AOA) awareness and its role in preventing loss of control accidents, especially in the traffic pattern and during approach and landing. Drawing on data showing that loss of control remains the leading cause of fatal GA accidents, Dave walked through why stall is driven by AOA rather than airspeed or pitch attitude, and how "by the book" speeds can be misleading when weight, G-loading from maneuvering, and turbulence are constantly changing. He emphasized that while indicated stall speed moves around with these variables, the critical AOA for a given wing does not, making AOA a much more direct and precise way to understand stall margin in real time.

Dave also highlighted how the military and carrier aviation have been flying "on speed" with AOA indicators for decades, dramatically reducing approach and landing mishaps, and noted that the FAA now actively encourages AOA use through recent guidance and approval pathways. He reviewed a range of certified and experimental AOA solutions now available to GA pilots, many of which provide both visual cues and audio "tones" that allow a pilot to simply "fly the tone" to stay at the optimum AOA for approach, best glide, and challenging scenarios like the "impossible turn." Dave closed by encouraging members to consider whether adding an AOA system to their own aircraft would be a practical and cost-effective way to enhance safety in their day-to-day flying.

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

Summary

- LOC is most common cause of fatal GA accidents
- AOA used to avoid Stall and LOC
- AOA very useful for other key flight operations (Best glide, Impossible turn)
- FAA recommends installing and using AOA systems and has established equipment approval methods
- Many suppliers of affordable AOA systems today
- Is AOA worthwhile for your aircraft?

36

AOA Indicators



[AOA Systems](#)

35

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

AOA Importance Recognized 70 years Ago

- Jet carrier landings very challenging
- **Very high accident rates** with 1950's era jets
- Approach speeds up to 145 knots
- Flight decks only 700 feet long
- Arresting wires first 160 feet
- Determined ***very precise airspeed control*** needed (± 2 kt)



9

Youth Aviation Center and Sonex Build

We continue to work on the fuselage, right wing, flaps, and aileron. I tell people, without exception, you will ruin some parts over the course of the build. We mis-drilled some parts and now we are removing them for replacement. It's part of the learning process. What is interesting is that replacing parts goes much faster than making them in the first place because you already know how it goes together. We started installing the aileron control support bracketry. Soon we will be fitting the top skin.



EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026



Tech Tips

Some spinners have very little clearance between the prop hole openings and the prop. Place several layers of blue painters tape on the prop blades to protect them from scratches as you install the spinner. The tape is easily removed after the spinner is in place. Be sure to have index marks on your spinner so it goes back on in the same orientation to the prop. If not, it might upset prop balance and the holes might not quite line up.



EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

Meriden Airport

Airport Open House Event

We had a great turn out for our Cheshire High School open house event. We lost track of attendees but it was well over 100. The conference room was packed 15 minutes before we officially started. Thanks to everyone who helped out. We had six planes on display including Silver City Flight Club, the flight school and a CAP plane. Fran showed people our Sonex project. Flight instructors were available for questions and the maintenance hangar was open for people to see planes in work. They fired up the Red Bird flight simulator which was a big hit. Donna and Janet had a table with Young Eagle, scholarship and women in aviation information in the hangar. The Cheshire superintendent who organized the event at the school was very pleased. Hopefully this leads to more interactions with the school in the future.



EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

Young Eagle Scheduled dates

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:

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

October 3rd (rain date 4th)

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

Donna Shea
EAA 27 Young Eagles Coordinator



Chapter 27 and MMK Calendar Events 2026

Young Eagles

Fall rally: October 3, Rain date October 4

First Timer Rally: August 8. Rain date August 9

Other activities

Girls Inc. Creative engineering week July 29

Events

70th anniversary of Chapter 27 Sunday, September 20

MMK 5k run October 25, 2026

LSA inspection course on October 31 and November 1.

Holiday Banquet January 9, 2027

EAA Chapter 1310

August 15th, 2026 - EAA Chapter 1310 will be having our annual "Corn Roast" at Skylark Airport in E. Windsor, CT (7B6)

October 17th, 2026 - EAA Chapter 1310 will start the fall season with a "Pancake Breakfast" at Skylark Airport in E. Windsor, CT (7B6)

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

Something exciting is taking shape at Mount Tobe Airport, Waterbury, CT (N41) this summer.

- Starting the first Saturday in June we're proud to introduce bi-weekly Pancake Breakfasts throughout the summer flying season as part of a renewed effort to bring life, community, and camaraderie back to one of the states most idyllic grassroots airports.
- Since 1923 Mt. Tobe has been a gathering place for pilots, families, storytellers, and friends of aviation. Unlike many small airports that have been lost to "progress", changing economic conditions, and development we have remained steadfast to our aviation roots thanks to dedicated ownership who resisted the urge to be anything other than a haven for aviation.
- We're still here, still grass and still flying and we would love to welcome you back.
- Under new ownership, the airport is undergoing a revival with a vision centered around family-friendly recreational aviation, and preserving the spirit of those that first escaped the sullen bonds of earth in their winged flying machines along this hallowed ribbon of green. Continuous improvements to the grounds and camping facilities, supported by
- The Recreational Aviation Foundation who are helping transform the airport into a destination once again for fly-ins, camping weekends, and simple mornings around the pattern.
- Whether you fly in, drive in, camp overnight, or just stop by for pancakes and conversation, we invite you to come experience what makes this little airport so special.
- Let's bring back the energy, and the love of grassroots aviation together.
- See you at the airport.

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 (181), 5 NM SW.

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter July 2026

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/>

Airshows and Events

July 20-26 EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2026

https://www.eaa.org/airventure/eaa-airventure-tickets?utm_source=eaa_internal_web_link&utm_medium=internal/eaa.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://air.show/newyork/>>

September 12-13th Beverly Regional Airshow

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. \$500. 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 Newsletter July 2026

RV12 Share

For sale one share in the Spirit of Meriden Flight Club (SOMFC) Van's RV-12. Excellent aircraft for a new student or a seasoned pilot and only requires a Sport Pilot license. Running costs after share purchase are \$94.00 monthly and \$24.00 per hour (dry, no fuel). The RV-12 is permanently hangared at Meriden (KMMK). See the SOMFC web site for club and RV-12 details <https://www.somfc.org> Contact Bob Maher on 203-859-1271.



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: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

EAA Member # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Pilot rating held: _____

E-mail address: _____

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

Aircraft owned, make & model: _____

Flying _____ Building _____ Restoring _____ % complete _____

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"