

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter March 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, March 15, 2026 10 am Meriden Airport

Malcolm Dickinson will be our guest speaker presenting IFR Communications; From Requesting Clearance to Taxiing in



Malcolm Dickson CFII, brings over 30 years experience as a general aviation flight instructor in Connecticut. In addition to hundreds of hours of instrument training given, his background includes years of part 121 operations.

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Malcolm will cover all aspects of communications during IFR flights. Every step of the process will be covered in detail, from preparing to file a flight plan, to copying down a clearance, to the five phases of flight.

Participants will learn useful information on how to streamline your transmissions, what responses to expect from ATC, and how to note down clearances efficiently. They will leave with an increased understanding of the phases of an IFR flight and what to expect during each one.

The aim of this safety seminar is to increase pilots' comfort and competency with IFR communications procedures, and give information that aid them in making accurate and concise communications.

This safety seminar qualifies for Wings Credit to register https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=142271

President's Message

I want to thank everyone for the gracious acknowledgement to me at last month's meeting. I was totally surprised. It is my pleasure to lead a wonderful group of people and accomplish the many fun and beneficial things we do.

Mark Scott 10 years as Chapter 27 President

Chapter Vice President James Calver led a presentation honoring Mark Scott's Chapter leadership of 10 years with a letter from Jack Pelton, EAA Chairman and a crystal award from the chapter. Also below, Constance Castillo Meriden Airport Manager commended Mark's leadership on the Chapter's contributions to the airport; and, Jim Simmons past Chapter 27 President on video also applauded Mark for his dedicated service leading a greatly recognized EAA Chapter the past 10 years.



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Meeting Minutes, February 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am. Officers present: President Mark Scott, Vice President James Calver, Treasurer Bill Jagoda, Secretary Rick Beebe. There were 39 attendees.

Visitors: Ron. A 5 year pilot but who already has 500 hours. Trig, 11. Interested in aviation wants to be a pilot. Bob. Has been flying for 50 years. Based in New Haven.

Rick Beebe brought the current membership roster for attendees to verify their information.

Treasurer's report. Current balance: \$1993.60.

Tech reports. Al Starbard has been working hard on the Carbon Cub. Most of the painting is done. Mike Zemsta reviewed Chris O'Connor's plane. They're working on avionics and wiring now. Mark Scott is redoing the interior of a biplane in the north hangar. He built a plastic tent to give himself a warm place to work.

Young Eagle Rallies: We're adding a third Young Eagles rally for first-time YE's only on August 6. Our regular ones are June 13 and October 3.

Ray Scholar: Ethan is up to 27 hours. He's been flying a lot even though it's been cold. He's studying for the written.

The Sonex build is moving along. Isabelle reports that they're working on the right wing. The fuselage looks like a boat. Several sessions have been cancelled because of the cold but there's still progress.

Cheshire High School Career Fair. Mark and Donna were invited to attend. They set up our wind tunnel and generated a lot of interest. The school was appreciative and we'll follow up with future programs.

There was an annual chapter planning meeting in January. Minutes were posted in the newsletter.

Steve Socolosky from Chapter 166 is planning an all-girl Young Eagles rally on March 21st. The chapter built an RV-12. They finished it last September. It flies great and two of their members flew it to Alton Bay.

James Calver led a presentation to commemorate Mark Scott's 10 years as Chapter president. Mark was presented with a letter from Jack Pelton, EAA Chairman and a crystal award from the chapter.

Anthony Ortiz was given his CAP wings for completing his pilot training by Matt Val-leau. Donna Shea presented him with a card and \$1000 from the Chapter. Anthony is departing next month to attend Embry-Riddle.

Presentation: Major Aaron "REPO" Koveleskie is an F-16 instructor in the Air Force Reserves. He gave a fascinating presentation on his aviation journey in the Air Force.

--Rick Beebe, Secretary

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Ray Aviation Scholar 2025

This past month I've continued my flight training and I'm now in the final stages of preparing to solo. Recently, most of my focus has been on improving my landings and making them more consistent. Once I fully figure them out my instructor and I believe I should be ready to solo.

I'm also still fighting with the weather, which has made it harder to fly as often as I'd like, but I'm continuing to take advantage of every opportunity to get in the air and keep improving.

I'm very grateful to the chapter for all the support and encouragement throughout this process. If anyone has tips or advice for improving landings, I would greatly appreciate hearing them. I'm excited to keep progressing and look forward to sharing another update soon.

I'm also excited to share that I have officially committed to attending Saint Louis University, where I will be studying Aeronautics, Flight Science. I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity and look forward to continuing my aviation training while working toward a career as a professional pilot.

Ethan Simpson Ray Scholar 2025

Ray Aviation Scholar 2022

Congratulations to Lucy Crete, our 2022 Ray Scholar for passing her commercial check ride.

Tech Tip of the Month

It is important to secure nuts with lock washers and/or thread locker liquid. I like to use both since I don't fully trust lock washers. Sometimes you may forget to apply thread locker or it is difficult to apply before assembly. Permatex and other companies make a thin liquid product that seeps into the threads after assembly. Typically, it is green in color as opposed to blue or red. You can find this at automotive and other hardware stores. *Mark Scott*



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Carbon Cub Project

Dave Rich and Al Starbard are moving along quickly on their carbon Cub. The fuselage is painted and almost all the systems are installed. They recently hung the engine and installed the propeller. The plan is to move it to the airport in about a month or so. Notice below the plane is on casters connected to wood blocks on the axel. On its big wheels it is too tall to roll out of the garage! *Mark Scott*



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Youth Aviation Center and Sonex Build

We are moving along, when it is warm enough. The wing is coming together as is the fuselage. Fran has this really cool metal punch for making perfect holes. It's by his right hand in the picture. He can punch a small hole through 3/16 in thick aluminum! I'll see if he can bring it to the next meeting.



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Meriden Airport

We actually experienced a true New England winter this year. Through it all crews at the airport worked endlessly to clear the runway and taxiways along with keeping the runway lights visible. **MANY THANKS** to the airport management, Constance Castillo and team.

From such a harsh winter, when spring breaks there's sure going to be some clean-up to do. So, mark your calendar for Airport Spring Clean-up Day April 25 that our Chapter always participates in. **COME ON SPRING!!!**



The new south box hangars are complete and occupied

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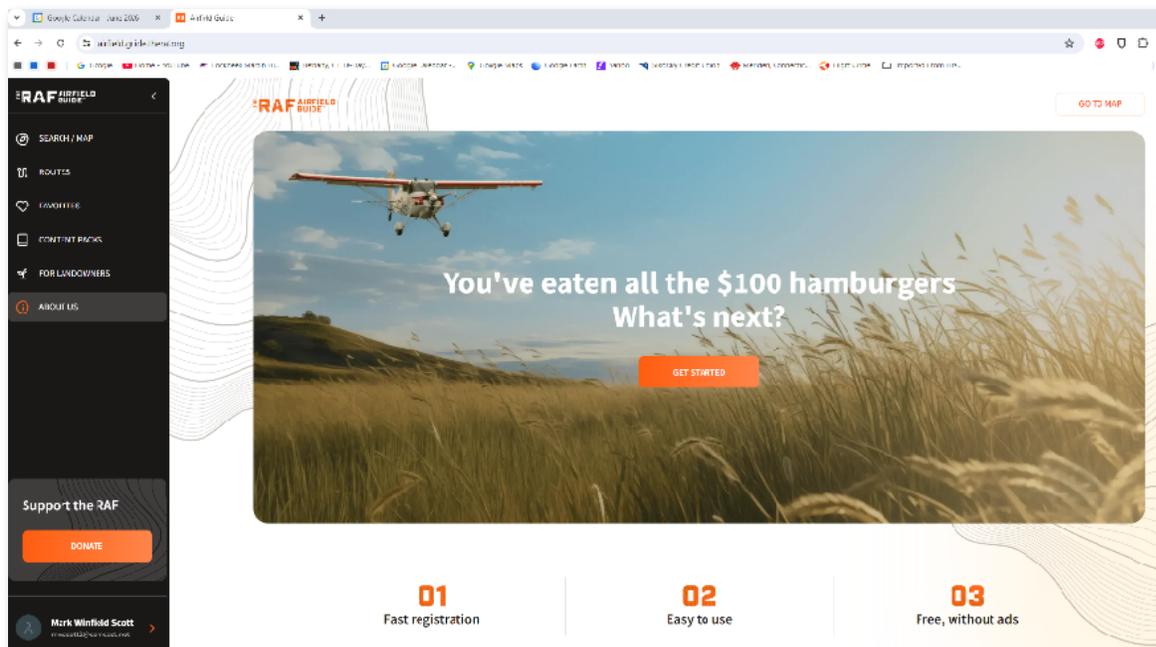
Cheshire High School Meeting

Donna and Mark had a good 45 minute meeting with the Cheshire school system assistant superintendent for curriculum. Also present were the Technical Education director and a technical education teacher. We informed them about our chapter, the AOPA aviation course, and how we could facilitate the course. There was a lot of interest. However, high school curriculum changes take time. It will take at least a year and probably more for approvals and implementation. But it is a start. We did agree to set up an airport tour including the flight school and maintenance shop for school kids and parents the week of June 22nd. We will need some EAA people and a few planes on display for the event. *Mark Scott*

RAF Airfield Guide

I have been using the Recreational Aviation Foundation (RAF) airfield guide to give me ideas for fun flying trips. I believe you need to be an RAF member to use it. You can become a member for a very modest donation. The RAF is a great organization working around the country to open up and improve back country airstrips. They have done great work at Mt Tobe and Goodspeed airport in Connecticut. On my list this year is Basin Harbor airport in Vermont. It is a nice 3000 ft grass strip on the east side of Lake Champlain. It has a restaurant and a maritime museum within easy walking distance. *Mark Scott*

<https://airfield.guide.theraf.org/>



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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. Beginning of July. Date TBD

Girls Inc. Creative engineering week Tentative July 29

Events

5k run date pending.

70th anniversary of Chapter 27 Sunday, September 20

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

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

May 22-24 Central PA Airshow featuring Navy Blue Angels

<https://www.warbirds-eaa.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/>

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July 4th Snowbirds over New York

July 05-06 Bethpage Airshow @ Jones Beach featuring Navy Blue Angels <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/aaa-airventure-tickets?utm_source=aaa_internal_web_link&utm_medium=internal/aaa.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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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"
