EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter November 2026

President *Mark Scott*
Vice President *James Calver*
Secretary *Rick Beebe*
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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

Meeting November 15th
10 A.M. Meriden Airport

Co-building a partially completed Carbon Cub

Dave Rich and Al Starbard will be sharing their two year adventure co-building a partially completed Carbon Cub. The build went mostly smooth with remarkably few problems, however still navigating the final steps through registration and flight testing. It's an interesting timeline with a completely unplanned entry and examples of "figuring things out as you go."





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President's Message

As I have said before one of the best things about an EAA chapter is the resources it offers. I was able to help who is now a new chapter member get acquainted with his new Bearhawk 5 and ferry it half way across the country to Massachusetts. Over the three days and subsequent training I found a number of things that needed attention or improvement. Without my help as a technical counselor, I doubt he would have found the issues or known what improvements to make. If you have any questions about building or flying reach out to the chapter's technical counselors, flight advisor, or any other chapter member who has experience in the area of your concern.

If you are interested in the logistics of buying a partially built project and completing it don't miss Dave and Al's presentation at this month's meeting.

November is chapter officer election month. Each of the officers has agreed to stay on for another year.

Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 10:04. Officers present: President Mark Scott, Vice President James Calver, Treasurer Bill Jagoda, Secretary Rick Beebe. There were 23 attendees.

Visitors: Anna from Westchester. A new member who Bill flew as a Young Eagle last week. Dominic, Anna's brother.

Treasurer's report. Current working balance: $2203.85.The CD renewed at 3.5%.

Technical: Doug Dringoli has been working on the Vagabond and it's flying now. Al Starbard reports that they finally got a response back from the FAA on the registration of their Cub. They're still working on the finishing touches.

A note to make sure your family knows where your logbooks are. Story about a man who died and the family can't find the logs and that drops the value of the plane by at least 50%. Another good idea is to scan all the logs and store them in a safe place digitally where they will be safe if some disaster destroys the originals. Don't forget to keep them up-to-date.

At our Fall Young Eagles rally, we flew 50 kids. Thanks to everyone who helped out!

Ray Scholar Ethan is at the University of St. Louis and continues his training there.

The Sonex build continues. One flap is done. They are now working on an aileron. There have been some corrections needed on the previous work.

65 people showed up for our anniversary picnic. Jack Pelton sent a congratulatory letter.

The MMK holiday open house is December 20th. Remember, no meeting in December.

Our holiday banquet is January 9, 2027.

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Jim Simmons gave a fun presentation on some of the more interesting people in the chapter and even the more interesting planes they have flown. Thanks Jim!

--Rick Beebe, secretary

Ray Aviation Scholar 2025

Things have been going well. This month I have been making good progress with my flight training here at SLU. I am on track to solo by the end of this month, so we have been focusing on getting ready for solo cross-country flights. I have also been working through my stage checks and reviewing maneuvers to make sure I am staying on track and meeting the requirements for each part of the 61 program. The next big step will be completing my solo cross-country flights. After that, I will be getting ready for my final check-ride. It is exciting to finally be getting this close after all the work I have put into my training, and I am looking forward to reaching these next milestones.

Ethan Simpson Ray Scholar 2025

FAA Light Sport Inspection Certification Course

On Oct 31 and Nov 1 Chapter 27 hosted a light sport repairman inspection course at the MMK FBO. The room was full with tables set up for 28 people. Chris Guarente and Skip Anthony from Intrepid Aviation in Colorado were well prepared and gave very good presentations. There were several exercises including wire crimping and safety wiring. Everyone passed the course. Each attendee is now able to submit an application to the FAA for their light sport repairman inspection certificate. It never expires and allows one to perform their annual conditional inspection on an E-AB aircraft they own.



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MMK Airport 5K Run

Though quite cold with a heavy morning frost, the weather turned out beautiful for the annual “Run the Runway” 5k run on Oct 25th. Nearly 300 runners participated. A couple dozen or more kids ran the fun run beforehand. There was even a military brass band there. The chapter had several planes on display. Fran got a work out shuffling kids in and out of the RV-12 cockpit. Meriden and Wallingford mayors were there again. Congratulations, to Constance Castillo and Kathy Batista for organizing another successful event!

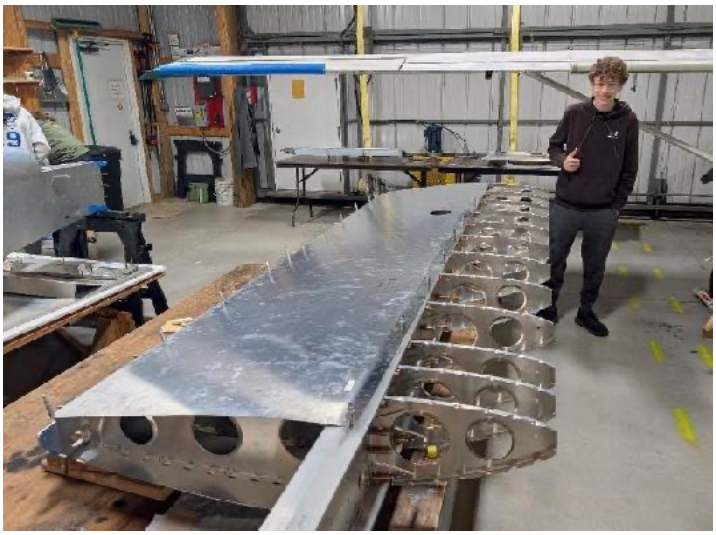


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Youth Aviation Center and Sonex Build

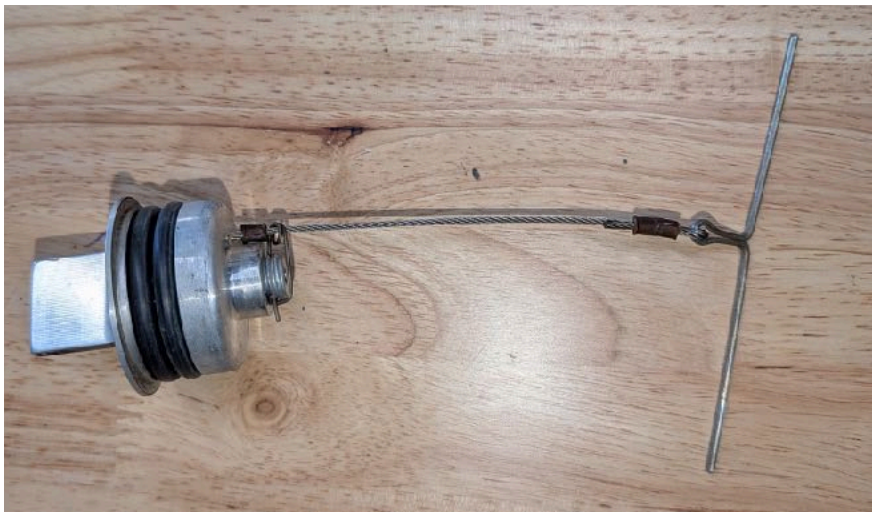
The wing is starting to take on more shape with the temporary installation of the leading edge ribs. We will begin final installation after the aileron is completed and installed.



Tech Tip of the Month

Many a person has forgotten to secure their gas cap after refueling. A keeper that prevents it from departing the aircraft is a really good thing. There are a number of ways to do that. I like my method below because the assembly is removable and you do not have to make any holes in the neck or tank. Usually there is a small hole in a gas cap for a 1/16 cable. Thread it through and swage on a stopper cable sleeve. At the other end use the longest 1/8 cotter pin you can find and bend each leg 90 degrees. Run the other end of the 1/16 cable through the eye and swage on a cable sleeve. You can insert the cotter pin end into the tank. The weight and geometry will

make it hang flat thus keeping the assembly connected to the tank. To remove reach into the tank with long nose needle nose pliers to manipulate vertically rotate the cotter pin vertically and pull out. *Mark*



Bearhawk 5 Ferry Flight

by Mark Scott

I had the opportunity to ferry a new Bearhawk 5 with the owner from Oklahoma to Turner Falls, MA. The five stands for the fifth Bearhawk model design. It is actually a six place machine. At 315 horsepower it has lots of get up and go. I was there for one day getting some time on the plane. We took the next two days to make the trip to Massachusetts. All in all, things went well. We did find some minor cooling issues with the engine which appears to be related to some silicone engine baffles not sitting flat against the cowl. It was interesting to see the new Bearhawk build assistance center and the Bearhawk 5 up close. It is a new airframe and not simply a beefed up and extended fuselage. It has large 35 inch tundra tires which take some getting used too. I enjoy flying around the country looking at the varied terrain we have. From the middle of Oklahoma to about the Pennsylvania border it's really flat. Trees don't show up in any numbers until you reach Ohio. Fortunately, the weather was very good. In my experience flying across the country from mid September through mid November tends to offer the most consistent good weather.



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FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award

Congratulations to Andy Roberts a remote Chapter 27 member from Maine for receiving the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award! The award is one of the most prestigious awards issued by the FAA to a pilot who has 50 years or more of safe flying experiences.



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EAA Chapter 27 Holiday Banquet



EAA CHAPTER 27
HOLIDAY BANQUET



SATURDAY - JANUARY 9, 2027

MANOR INN RESTAURANT
1636 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike
Plantsville, CT. 06479
860-628-9877

5PM-6PM Cash Bar and Hors D'oeuvres
6PM Dinner

ALL MEAL SELECTIONS INCLUDE FRUIT CUP, ZITI AND DESSERT

Filet Mignon…….$55
Chicken Parmigiana……..$45
Salmon with Apricot Glaze…..$45
Eggplant Parmigiana…….$42

Please be sure to bring a grab bag gift for each guest

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2027 HOLIDAY BANQUET

Name:_____ Number attending:_____

Entree Selection(s): Please indicate quantity

____ Filet Mignon……..…..$55 ____ Chicken Parmigiana……..$45

____ Broiled Salmon……..$45 ____ Eggplant Parmigiana…….$42

Please enclose check for your total amount, make check payable to: "EAA Chapter 27" and forward along with this form to:

Bill Jagoda
43 Derby Road
Rockfall, CT. 06481

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Chapter 27 and MMK Calendar Events 2026

Events

MMK holiday open house is December 20th (No monthly Chapter meeting)
Holiday Banquet January 9, 2027

EAA Chapter 1310

Saturday, December 12th, 2026 - Annual Skylark potluck Christmas Dinner. Come enjoy the holiday season with your airport friends. To sign up to bring a dish, go to: eaa1310.org/dinner
Remember, this dinner is open to everyone in the Skylark Airpark community as well as their friends and guests.

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 6-11, 2026 Sun and Fun https://flysnf.org/

May 21- 23 The Great New England Air Show https://greatnewenglandairshow.com

- The Great New England Air Show returns to Westover Air Reserve Base MAY 21-23, 2027, for an incredibly rare co-headlining appearance by the US Air Force Thunderbirds and US Navy Blue Angels. General Admission to the Great New England Air Show is FREE. But for those looking for the best seats in the house, your exclusive early access to Premium Seating begins: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10 AT 8AM. Sign up for Air Show Insights to get this access ahead of the General Public through Tuesday, October 13 at 8am.
- Premium Seating gives you access to the best seating available at the show, and prices will launch at their lowest point. As more tickets sell, prices will increase - meaning the earliest buyers will have the best opportunity to secure their preferred seating at the best price.

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- An extraordinarily rare opportunity for aviation fans, families, photographers, and patriots to witness the nation's two premier military flight demonstration teams in one unforgettable weekend.
- Two legendary jet teams. One historic weekend. And one early opportunity to secure your spot.

July 26 to August 1, 2027 EAA Airventure 2027 - Wittman Regional Airport (KOSH), Oshkosh, Wisconsin

August 21-22, 2027 - Cape Cod Air Show Cape Cod, MA

Aviation Organizations of Interest:

SkyHope Medical Transportation Flights

- SkyHope is an amazing charitable aviation organization (501c3) dedicated to making a difference. They offer free flights to connect volunteer pilots with those needing medical care far from home, including military personnel and their families traveling for recovery and rehabilitation.
- SkyHope's passionate volunteer pilots fly not just with skill but also with a heart for helping others. They're always eager to recruit more pilots so we can reach even more patients. They ask to share their mission.
- You can learn more about SkyHope at https://skyhope.org
- Follow them on social media at PALS SkyHope Facebook https://www.facebook.com/PatientAirLiftServices/
- SkyHope for Patriots https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2I405wJJI3c

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. $400. 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

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.



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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"

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