

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter September 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 Matt Valleau</i>	
<i>Tech Counselors 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, September 19th

EAA Chapter 27 70th Anniversary Picnic



All are welcome!



Sept 19 • 11 am-2 pm
North Hanger Meriden Airport
Learn the Chapter's History
Presentation at noon

Potluck, Grilled food, Fresh Corn Dip



Side-by-side, the do-it-yourself airplanes make a pretty picture.

Airplane Building Gets Them High

Question? Contact Mark Scott mwscott83@gmail.com

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President's Message

It is our 70th anniversary. Please come to the Chapter Picnic on Sept 19th. We plan to have at least four members planes on static display for everyone to look at. I will be giving a history of Chapter 27 presentation guaranteed to have a couple surprises and many interesting tidbits I found by going through our newsletters. It is a pot luck as usual so bring you best dish. We will have our corn butter dip again as well as some special sausage and kielbasa with fried onions and peppers this year.

A couple recent builders' experiences with mistakes reminds me of my Bearhawk build. I messed up some parts early. Fortunately, they were small. It taught me to be really careful when working on larger more expensive parts. Everyone, and I mean everyone, makes mistakes and ruins parts in the process. The trick is to not do it on the expensive ones. This can be avoided by taking your time, reading the plans carefully, making mock ups, and asking other people to look things over. You learn to do these four things as standard practice.

As for getting help I want to remind people that the phone and e-mail work very well for getting help remotely. I'm working with an RV-8 builder at a distance who is introduced in the projects section. Ten minutes on the phone looking over pictures can save you hours of time and countless hand wringing. If you are building take advantage of our technical counselors. Their contact information is in the membership roster.

Meeting Minutes, August 16, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 10:03. Officers present: President Mark Scott, Vice President James Calver, Treasurer Bill Jagoda, Secretary Rick Beebe. There were 28 attendees.

Visitors: Sam a CFI at Robertson and Airport Ops Supervisor at Tweed-New Haven. Rashawd lives in New Haven and is about to attend A&P school. Jan and his son Ari. They are from South Africa and living in New Haven. Ari wants to learn to fly.

Treasurer's report: \$2,278. Brought in \$500 at the Young Eagles rally.

Technical Reports: Dave Rich showed some samples of forming polycarbonate sheets for landing light covers. He noted that polycarbonate--and other plastics--can actually absorb moisture and should be dried before forming. The "wet" sample came out basically opaque. The dried one was perfectly clear. Mark Scott talked about finding the solution to the intermittent ignition problems in the RV-12. It turned to be chafed wires hiding underneath the ignition coils. We have 26 people signed up for the MOSA-IC Inspection Course on October 31/November 1. There are 4 places left.

Young Eagles: Donna Shea reported on the first-timer's YE rally we had on August 3. We flew 24 kids. Five pilots and a bunch of ground staff. James reports that at AirVenture EAA celebrated the 2.5 millionth YE. He also spread the word about our first-timers only rally there and it was well received. The next rally is October 3.

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Ray Scholar. Ethan wasn't able to take his checkride before he left for college. He will finish at college and he has until the end of November. We are now looking for next year's candidate.

Sonex build is progressing. They're working on the wing right now.

Old business. The commemorative bricks are finally going to go in. James Calver made a nice wooden sign to cover up the hole in the stucco.

Community events: The Meriden Parks & Recs event went very well. Girls, Inc. had a good day building mini aluminum planes, among other things. Children's Community Programs of CT had a tour and the kids really enjoyed it.

The Run The Runway 5K will be held on October 25th.

Mt. Tobe is having pancake breakfasts on the first and third Saturdays of the month during the summer.

Kline Kill NY (NY1) is having a pancake breakfast on September 12th.

Our holiday banquet is scheduled for January 9th.

Our 70th Anniversary Party is on September 19th in the North Hangar. Pot luck plus chapter-provided burgers, etc.

Presentation: Andy Roberts flew from Maine to Alaska and back and wrote an informational book about things to know. And he flew from Maine to Connecticut to tell us all about them with a fantastic slideshow with wonderful photographs.

--Rick Beebe, Secretary

Ray Aviation Scholar 2025

This month has been a big adjustment as I have started my first semester at Saint Louis University. College has been going well so far, and I am getting used to balancing classes, flight training, and everything else that comes with college. It has definitely been different from what I was used to in high school, but I am enjoying the experience and settling into my new routine. I have also started continuing my flight training at SLU and am excited to keep building on everything I learned during my training in Connecticut, its definitely been an adjustment switching over from a Cessna to a Diamond DA-20. I am looking forward to getting more experience in the airplane and continuing to work toward my next ratings, I currently have over 70 hours. I am excited to see what this next part of my aviation journey brings and to keep making progress toward my dream of becoming a professional pilot.

Ethan Simpson Ray Scholar 2025

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Young Eagles

Young Eagles Pilots Needed!

Have you ever thought about becoming a Young Eagles Pilot for our Chapter? We would love to have you!

Our current pilots are willing to mentor you until you are comfortable with the task. It is great fun and an amazing way to give back to our aviation community and continue to grow it for the future. Over the past several years a good number of our Young Eagle pilots have moved on due to other obligations or life circumstances. As a Chapter, we try to fly at least 100 Young Eagles each year. This goal is becoming harder to meet because of the limited number of pilots we can recruit for each of our events. If you are able, please consider flying for our Chapter events. If you have any questions, just ask one of our current Young Eagle pilots and they will be happy to help you along.

Our Fall Young Eagles Rally is Saturday, October 3rd, with a rain date of Sunday, October 4th. Please join us if you can. We are always in need of ground volunteers as well. It will be the most fun you will have in aviation. Everyone leaves HAPPY!

Donna Shea
EAA 27 Young Eagles Coordinator

Meriden Airport and Chapter 27

Commemorative Bricks

The bricks are in! We finally got them installed in late August. We were delayed by the concrete pedestal removal by the city and then waited for James Calver's fantastic sign to be completed. Constance suggested the gray paver border which looks great. I let Fran do all the heavy lifting. (Mark)



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Youth Aviation Center and Sonex Build

We took some sessions off for vacation time. We are back at work on a regular schedule now. The next wing fabrication step is to fit the flaps and ailerons. To do that you have to build the flaps and ailerons. The flap is nearly complete. Below is a picture of Jose and Jayce doing the final riveting. Isabelle is working on the aileron. The rest of the gang is working on the forward fuselage.



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Projects

RV-12 N102NM

This project began in 2013 with the purchase of the tail kit. As with everything in life, when there's time, there's no money—and when there's money, there's no time!

This is a legacy RV-12 powered by a ULS engine. It has been built to Van's specifications, with no unauthorized modifications.

A special thanks to **Mark Scott**, my technical counselor, for his guidance and support throughout the project. I also want to thank the members of the **North Madison Volunteer Fire Company**, who have helped me move the airplane to and from the garage and basement—several times!

After all these years, I'm finally getting close. I'm hoping to have the **first engine start within the next month or two**. It has been a long journey, but I'm looking forward to seeing—and hearing—it come to life.

David Macmillan



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RV8

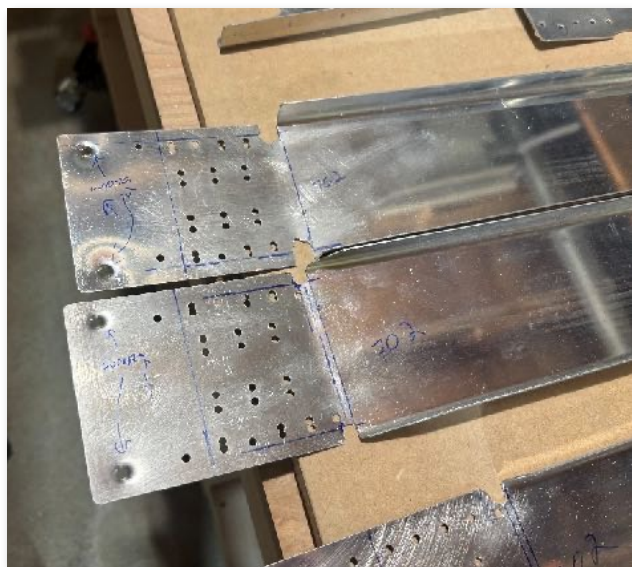
We have a remote chapter member and builder Jasson Casey in Verbank, NY, near Sky Acres airport. He is starting on an RV-8. I have been communicating with him on various topics. A status update on his project is below. Hopefully we see regular submission on his project. (Mark)

I'm Jasson Casey, based at Sky Acres (44N) in Verbank. I'm a commercial pilot with about 370 hours, and N844JC is an RV-8 and my first build. I'm working on the empennage, but building out-of-order since several parts from Van's seem to be on extreme back order (HS-609PP). I'm nearing the phase where I'll be ready to prime, with everything prepped: drilled, deburred, dimpled or countersunk, bent, and so on.

I'm definitely still learning the idioms of building. My progress has gone through a phase shift, from staring at the plans and doing nothing to finally being okay with making mistakes and starting over. My first big mistakes were drilling the front spar of the horizontal stabilizer with the doublers upside down, and butchering the bend relief holes in the same part.

On my second attempt I redid the front spars and thought I'd cut perfect bend relief holes, only to find I was violating an edge distance tolerance. But I talked to Van's and now know that the 2D requirement can be relaxed in this location, and that I can reduce the size of the bend relief hole to give myself more buffer. So yeah, third time's the charm, right?

Jasson Casey



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Tech Tips

Not all funnels are created equal. When fluid goes in the air has to escape somehow. If there is no exit path you get glugging back and forth between the fluid in and air out. Look for a funnel with ridges in the steep tapered section. This separates the funnel surface from the container top and allows air to escape. It makes for a much smoother fluid transfer task with less chance of splashing.



Chapter 27 and MMK Calendar Events 2026

Young Eagles

Fall rally: October 3, Rain date October 4
Donna Shea
EAA 27 Young Eagles Coordinator

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

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

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

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“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.

N41 Mount Tobe



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Meriden Markham Municipal Airport

RUN THE RUNWAY

5k & Kids Fun Run



Sunday, October 25, 2026

9:00am

Proceeds benefit:



Disabled American Veterans

AMERICA

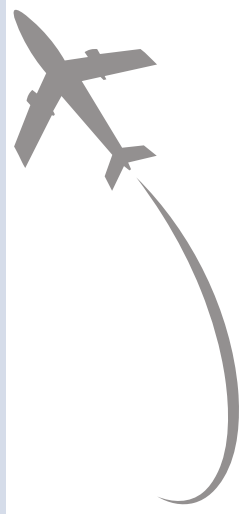
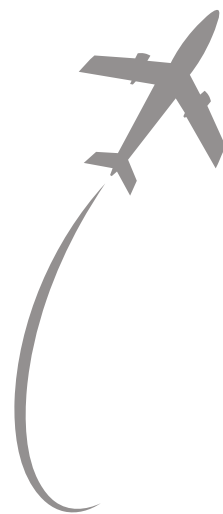


Book Your Race Today!



SPONSORSHIP & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Contact: Meridenrunning@gmail.com



Meriden Running Club



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MERIDEN MARKHAM AIRPORT

RUN THE RUNWAY!
5k & Kids Fun Run
Sunday, Oct. 25

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



CONTACT: MMK5KRUNVOL@GMAIL.COM

**SUPPORT LOCAL DISABLED
AMERICAN VETERANS**

DAV
KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO
AMERICA'S VETERANS



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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/>

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"
