



# Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, May 15, 10 a.m., Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden, CT

May 2011

## May 21 International Learn To Fly Day



International Learn to Fly Day was announced at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2009 as an effort to increase interest in flying and to encourage the aviation community to get others involved in Aviation.

EAA Chapter 27 and Meriden Aviators will be working together

to host an open house at MMK. We all know someone who's expressed an interest in flying. Whether it's a family member, friend, or work associate, International Learn to Fly Day is the perfect excuse to take someone flying.

For more information: <http://www.learntofly.org>

### Tax Crisis Averted

The Connecticut budget was passed *without* the two devastating aviation taxes that would have crippled Connecticut's aviation industry. A proposed personal property tax on aircraft based in Connecticut and a bill to remove the sales tax exemption on parts and labor would have greatly increased the cost to keep and service airplanes in Connecticut. Many owners would have relocated their planes and/or gone elsewhere for service.

After weeks of hard work that included constant discussions with Connecticut legislators and administration officials, both

proposals were removed from the budget.

More details are on the AOPA website at [http://www.aopa.org/advocacy/articles/2011/110504conn\\_budget\\_prevents\\_devastating\\_blow\\_to\\_ga.html](http://www.aopa.org/advocacy/articles/2011/110504conn_budget_prevents_devastating_blow_to_ga.html). Please contact your state representatives and state senators and thank them for their help in preserving aviation in Connecticut. And *thank you* to everyone who contacted their legislators. We can make a difference.

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|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| <b>President</b><br>Bob Spaulding<br>203-378-5688 | <b>Vice President</b><br>Mark Scott<br>203-393-3187 | <b>Treasurer</b><br>Bill Jagoda<br>860-349-9901 | <b>Secretary</b><br>Rick Bernardi<br>203-265-4113 | <b>Membership</b><br>Mike Okrent<br>203-393-2662 | <b>Newsletter Editor</b><br>Rick Beebe<br>203-230-8459 | <b>Young Eagles</b><br>Fran Uliano<br>860-347-0412 | <b>Tech Counselors</b><br>Chuck Drake 860-659-2880<br>Dave Pepe 203-634-4457<br>Mark Scott 203-393-3187<br>Mike Zemsta 860-832-8661 |
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## Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2011

**Call to order:** The meeting for EAA Chapter 27 was called to order by President Bob Spaulding at 10:05am. Officers present; Bob Spaulding, Bill Jagoda, Mark Scott and Rick Bernardi. The meeting was held at KMMK. There were 28 members present and 2 visitors.

**Recognition of Visitors:** Paul Merola of the Silver City Flying Club.

**Membership—Mike Okrent:** Mike was not available.

**Treasurer—Bill Jagoda:** Bill reported a balance of \$1507.05

Dues are due, please pay your 2011 dues. Dues are \$20. You can mail it to; EAA Chapter 27, c/o Bill Jagoda 43 Derby Road Rockfall, CT 06481 (see form on back page)

**Commissioner's Report—Dave Pepe:** The perimeter lighting project has been completed along with new lights on the hangars (except the North Hangar) and the FBO building and garage.

**Technical Counselors Report—"The BOYZ:"**

Dave recommended before you decide to build to talk to a "Flight Advisor." He also discussed Chris O'Connor's project. Mark displayed his scale adaptor for weighing an aircraft with a bathroom scale to get an approximate weight prior to formal weighing at completion.

**Website, Newsletter and HQ Director—Rick Beebe:** Rick reported on a conference call meeting about planned events and said there is a very interesting lineup for Oshkosh this summer.

Rick is always looking for articles and/or pictures for the newsletter, so if you have

something please pass them to Rick, perhaps an update on your project.

Lauren Dubois has setup a great Facebook page, check it out. "EAA Chapter 27" on Facebook.com

**Young Eagles—Fran Uliano, Richard Merrill:** Fran reported we have a goal of 100 to fly this year. We have a total of 1853 over the past 15 years.

The Young Eagle Rally is scheduled for June 11th. Fran continues to fly Young Eagles on an individual basis.

If you know a potential YE, give them a ride and send the paperwork to Fran, He will forward it HQ and track it.

Kira Reed will be going to the EAA Air Academy in Oshkosh as an intern for 6 weeks. She won 1 of 2 internships that were offered. Rich Merrill is working with a Church Group for more YE's to experience the thrill of flight.

**Chapter Bulletin Board—Chris Kohler:** The bulletin board remains the same. If you have some pictures to offer bring them to the next meeting.

**Airport Improvement Projects:** We will paint the tetrahedron again when the weather permits, hopefully in mid May. Airport perimeter lighting completed. Jim Simmons worked with Wes from Meriden Aviators to replace light bulbs on the windsock and tetrahedron. Dave Pepe is working on providing room darkening shades for presentations.

### 2011 Events

- YE Rallies—June 11th and sometime in October.
- International Learn to Fly Day—Joint program with the FBO, Saturday May 21st.

- Adult Orientation Flights – In conjunction with above?
  - Boy Scout Merit Badge Training—Latter half of October.
  - Support for Meriden Beat the Street CC—Sometime in May and a mini YE day for them.
  - Annual Picnic and Open House—September 10th or 11th.
  - AOPA Summit—will be in HFD again this year, September 22-24th.
  - Simsbury Fly-In—Sunday September 18th
  - Holiday Dinner—Saturday, December 10th 4:30 to 9:30pm. At the VILLA CAPRI in Wallingford
  - Tours—Some possibilities are: NYTRACON, Brainard Tower.
  - Blue Angles—Quonset Point, RI, June 25-26
  - New Haven Fly-In may also be in play this year
- Other Suggestions? – Bring them to the next meeting.

**New Business:** Discussion of Aircraft property tax proposal—More pilots need to write or call their legislators.

CT EAA Chapter leaders meeting April 9th discussed a state wide fly In.

Paul Merola presented the plan to have an MMK Airport Appreciation Day August 20th with the 21st a rain date. It is supported by the Meriden Aviation Commission. The Chapter voted to support the project.

50/50 was won by Chris O'Connor.

**Seminar:** Presentation by Russ Beers—Engine failure in flight.

*Respectfully submitted—Rick Bernardi*

## Letter from the President

The flying season is starting to get in full gear now as both warmer weather and lengthening daylight afford us more opportunities to get into the air. And with it also comes the gamut of great events, some local, others perhaps more distant necessitating a "RON" (remain overnight), that beckon for our interest and attendance.

For Chapter 27, we kick things off with the International Learn to Fly Day on Saturday May 21st. This will be a joint event with our FBO, Meriden Aviators, where we can combine our talents and share our perspectives regarding the world of flying with some, hopefully, future aviators. And on Saturday June 11th, it's the International Young Eagles Rally. We expect a full house of kids and parents to whom we can showcase our airplanes and take the young ones up for a little "stick time." We'll also be having some of the kids from Meriden's Beat The Street Community Center join us for a flight on the same day. This will be a continuation of their Career Explorers program whereby the city kids are exposed to various careers, including those that are allied with aviation.

Throughout our neighboring states, there are many such events filling up the calendar. A quick check on [www.oshkosh365.org](http://www.oshkosh365.org) will give the location and details of what's happening. Closer to home, there's a great two-day exhibition called "Wings & Wheels" at the Sikorsky Memorial Airport in Stratford, CT on May 21st and 22nd. Titled the British Invasion, the program will feature historical aircraft, some aerobatic flying, and a car show. See [www.wingswheelsct.org](http://www.wingswheelsct.org) for more information.

Most of you, I'm sure, are aware of the fact that the latest Connecticut state budget was passed without the provision for property tax to be levied on our aircraft or a sales tax on aircraft maintenance services. This is good news indeed as the collective Connecticut aviation community has been holding its breath on this one. Fortunately, the combined advocacy by the AOPA, NBAA, EAA, and the many Connecticut aircraft related businesses and aircraft owners had a positive effect resulting in the removal of the proposed tax provisions in the new budget. Thanks to all who contacted their state legislators or the Finance Committee directly to express opposition to the tax. We won...at least for now.

See you at our next meeting.

Stay safe.

—Bob

## AirVenture Oshkosh Highlights

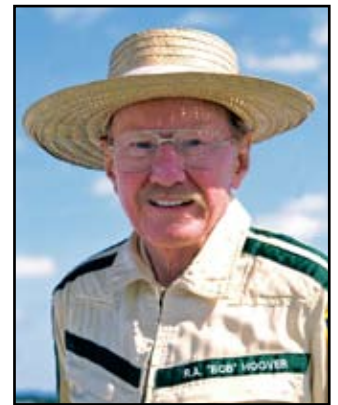
There are less than 75 days until EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2011, the World's Greatest Aviation Celebration. And greatest it is. In addition to the features shown below, there will be a salute to Naval aviation to celebrate its hundredth anniversary; Gary Sinese and the "Lt. Dan Band" will be performing on Friday night; and Saturday will feature an electric airplane symposium, *two* airshows—one at night—and country star Aaron Tippin & the "Red, White & Loud Tour."

AirVenture is July 25–31



The opening night concert on Monday is REO Speedwagon. Formed in 1967, the band has sold more than forty million records and has had thirteen Top 40 hits

Tuesday is Bob Hoover day. Legendary airshow pilot Bob Hoover was a WWII fighter pilot who spent 16 months in a POW camp. He escaped and flew to safety in a stolen Focke-Wulf 190. After the war he became a test pilot and worked with Chuck Yeager on the supersonic Bell X-1 program. Of course, he's most remembered for his amazing airshow routines some of which will be recreated at AirVenture.



Thursday is Burt Rutan day. Burt retired from Scaled Composites this year but his legacy of innovative airplane designs will live on. Spaceship 2 recently successfully tested its feathering tail and glided to a landing at Mohave Spaceport. Several Burt designs, including the Boomerang and the Catbird are being refurbished to make an appearance at AirVenture and owners of Rutan designs are invited to bring their planes to participate in the festivities



# Spring Young Eagles Rally

*The thing I miss about Air Force One is they don't lose my luggage.*

— President George Bush Sr.



June 11, 2011 • 9 am - 3 pm  
Meriden-Markham Airport

*The deadline for submission of materials for the next newsletter is June 8, 2010.*

## 2011 EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

(Dues are \$20.00 per year, due in January, make checks payable to: *EAA Chapter 27*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Receive Newsletter via: Email  Paper

EAA Membership No: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pilot rating held: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own an aircraft?: \_\_\_\_\_ Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you building an aircraft?: \_\_\_\_\_ Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_ % completed? \_\_\_\_\_

*Don't let the fear of falling keep you from knowing the joy of flight.*

— Lane Wallace, 'Flying' magazine, January 2001



EAA Chapter 27  
c/o Richard Beebe II  
360 Mountain Rd  
Hamden, CT 06514-1415  
newsletter@eaa27.org

Meetings held on the third Sunday of the month at 10 am at Meriden Aviation, Meriden-Markham Airport, 213 Evansville Avenue, Meriden, CT unless otherwise noted.

[www.eaa27.org](http://www.eaa27.org)