

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter February 2025

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



**Next Meeting Sunday February 16th,
Meriden Airport, 10 am**

Meeting presentation:

Donna Shea, Seaplane Training in Florida



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President's Message

We had an excellent Chapter planning meeting on January 26th. A number of ideas for increasing membership and retention were discussed. In particular we have noticed a number of visitors do not attend following meetings. We will be starting a guest book sign in. After a meeting they will receive a phone call to discuss how the chapter can help them pursue their aviation interests. If a visitor is not an EAA member there is a free six month membership program through EAA. We will sign them up at the meeting. New members will receive a chapter mug, contact list, and a calendar of events with their paid dues. We will also be looking into setting up a Venmo account to more easily take dues and donations at events.

Possible new events and activities for 2025 include a tour of the Brainard Airport control tower, a presentation at the East Hartford high school and Fairfield Prep aerospace programs, and maybe, if the stars align, hosting the EAA Ford Trimotor at Oxford Airport.

Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2025

President Mark Scott called the meeting to order at 10:05. Other officers present James Calver, Vice President; Bill Jagoda, Treasurer; Rick Beebe, Secretary. There were 20 attendees.

Visitors: Jack is a student pilot. He's been taking lessons at Tweed but will be switching to Meriden.

Mark handed out EAA service award to Rick Beebe because he wasn't at the banquet. Rick also received the 2024 President's Award.

Treasurer's Report. Dues are due for 2025. Still \$20. Please pay Bill. Current treasury balance: \$3853.

Dave Matuska is up to about 20 hours of flight time on his Kitfox. He showed off a tool he built to test some internal oil jets on his engine. It uses air to make sure the oil jets are flowing adequately. His are.

Mark reported on high amount of wear on the left tire on the 170. Traced down to gross misalignment of the left wheel. He's ordered some shims to correct that.

EAA's home builders week is coming up. Lots of great video webinars.

Ray Scholar update. Tom reports that we've applied for a 2025 scholarship. EAA will decide if we're approved in February. Forward any recommendations for our next student to Tom. Anthony reports that he's been flying a lot over the past month. Almost daily during Christmas break. He's still having some problem landing so he hasn't soloed yet. His aviation club should be receiving their flight simulator next month.

35 people attended the holiday banquet at the Manor Inn.

The annual Chapter Planning meeting will be next Sunday, January 26, 2025.

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Presentation: Vic Syracuse, well-known homebuilding guru, DAR, builder and author. He's built many planes and a helicopter, done 50 first flights and done pre-buy inspections on hundreds of homebuilts. He writes regular columns for *Kitplanes* and *Sports Aviation*. He called in via Zoom and did a great presentation on buying a used home-built. Thanks Vic!

--Rick Beebe, Secretary

2025 Annual Planning Meeting

Convened on January 26, 2025 to talk about goals for the year. Attendees: Mark Scott, President; James Calver, Vice President; Bill Jagoda, Treasurer, Rick Beebe, Secretary; Donna Shea; Constance Castillo; Tom Spittler; Henry Casas; Fran Uliano, Shana Barnett.

Discussed ways of welcoming and retaining new members. Suggestions:

- Setting out a "guest book" to collect email addresses
- Giving a welcome present, such as a chapter mug
- Someone sending out a follow-up email or phone call after the meeting

James will acquire a guest book and either he or Mark will make follow-up calls

Our community presence is still important and we have been doing a good job of it. Must keep it up!

Treasury is good. No reason to raise the dues.

We decided to combine the two computers in the meeting room. Rick Beebe will take care of that.

Rick and Bill will work to add electronic money capability—Venmo, Zelle and PayPal. Generate QR code for Venmo for donation buckets.

Constance brought up the idea of selling commemorative bricks to replace the sidewalk in front of the FBO. They would be used as a fund raiser. We agreed to explore that.

Young Eagles Rallies. National YE day is June 14. We will do June 7/8. October 18/19. Registration will open about a month in advance.

Airport improvement projects. Pavers. Mark will replace the wheels on the north hangar doors.

October 4 the city will hold the second annual 5k race down the runway.

--Rick Beebe, Secretary

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Ray Scholarship for 2025

We are nearly there! With my stage check complete, my instructor's ready to sign me off, and my confidence exactly where it needs to be, I think we're finally ready to make it happen. If you had told me a year ago that I would be ready to solo before I turned 18, I wouldn't have believed you. Some people solo in as little as 15 hours, while for others it takes them much longer. But what I've learned over the past few months is that the most important thing isn't how quickly you get there—it's ensuring you're safe and feel fully prepared before moving on in any aspect of your flight training. Everyone's training journey is different, but we're all working toward the same goal, and I think that's a huge part of what makes the aviation community so special.

Part of pursuing the Ray Scholarship is about learning and embodying the three key values: self-discipline, self-confidence, and self-reliance. And while I think I had the first one covered when I finished my written, I definitely feel like my journey to becoming PIC wouldn't have been possible without building confidence. This month I really want to highlight the invaluable training that I've received from my instructor Josh, not only teaching me how to fly, but teaching me how to fly with confidence. Just two weeks ago, I was having a really hard time with my landings, and I felt super unsure and full of doubt. It was through his guidance and patience that we worked through the rough landings, the cold weather, and the gusty days—all so that I can now say confidently that I'm ready to go up there on my own.

We all face roadblocks in our training, and that's okay. But I believe it's how we overcome those roadblocks and keep moving forward that defines our success. I again want to thank you all immensely for your endless support, advice, and encouragement over the past few months as we've worked towards this milestone. I couldn't be luckier to be a part of such an amazing group of skilled aviators and aviation enthusiasts, and I can't wait to see what the future holds. Now, let's finally get this thing over with once and for all! See you guys on the 16th, happy flying!

Anthony Ortiz Osorio
Ray Aviation Scholarship Recipient 2024

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EAA Chapter 27 Holiday Banquet

The beginning of January we had our annual Holiday Banquet at Manor Inn. It was a great time had by all. Our years events were projected on a screen reminding us of all the good times we had during 2024. Mark Scott presented Chapter Service awards: Rick Beebe received the President's award, Anthony Ortiz Osorio Chapter's Youth Ambassador award, Chapter's Exceptional Family award Jose, Elida, Isabella, and Jose Jr, and, Chapter Officer and Position holder awards. Mark himself was warmly recognized from Donna and James for his dedication to our Chapter, its members, along with his unhesitating willingness to reach out to help others around the airport.



Mark and Rick

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Donna, Mark and James



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Anthony



Isabella



Officers and Position Holders

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Plane Projects

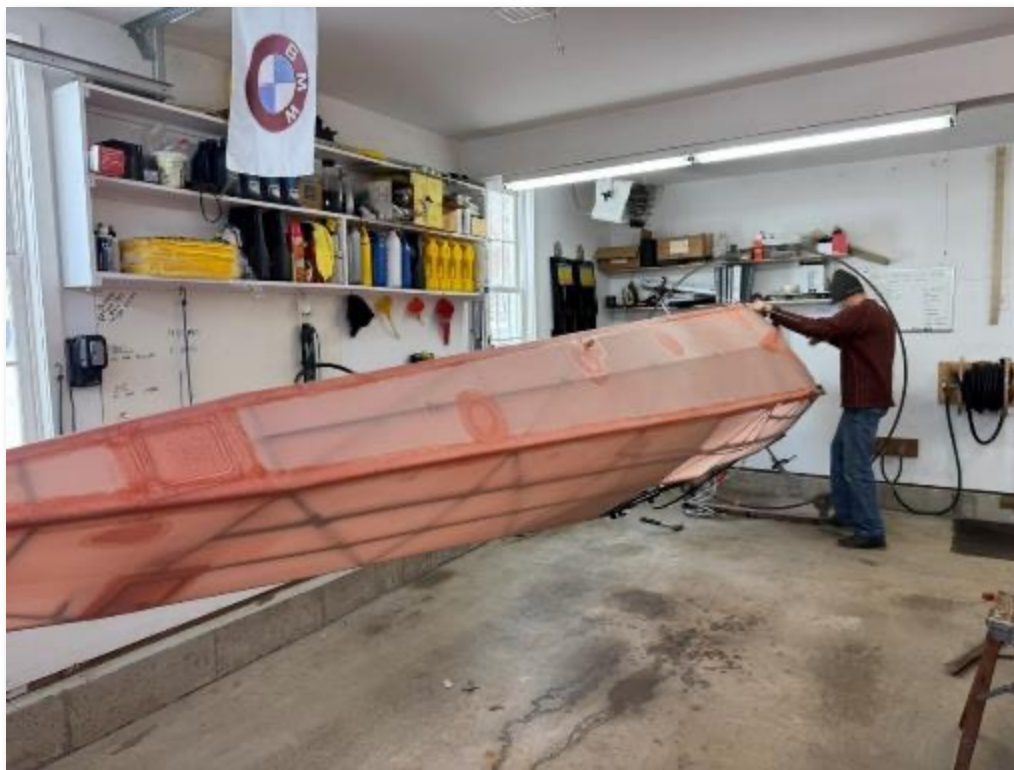
Kitfox Speedster

by Dave Matuska

Flight test of my Kitfox Speedster continues to progress, now with roughly 3/4 of the required tasks completed in about 25 hours of flight time. It has been another windy month, but I've managed to sneak in several flights very early on mornings before the winds pick up. Flight test tasks completed or underway since last month's report include accelerated stalls, range & endurance determination, takeoff and landing performance, crosswind capability and autopilot tuning. Right now the airplane is down for an engine gearbox inspection, but I should be back in the air in about a week.

Dave and Al's Carbon Cub

They are getting ready for painting now that the covering is complete. They have set up a nice rotisserie for the fuselage.



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Tech Tip of the Month

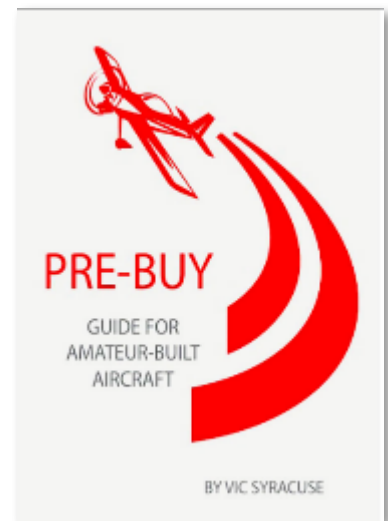
When installing or removing your engine off the mount it is important to have it lined up correctly. This can be difficult to do using chains or ropes. Pittsburgh Automotive has a slick load leveler that makes the job easy. The picture is pretty self-explanatory. You simply use the crank to level the load to where you want it. You can find these at Harbor Freight or on line. (Mark)



Chapter 27

Chapter Copy of Vic Syracuse's Book Now Available

We had an excellent presentation by Vic Syracuse last month about amateur built airplane pre-buy inspections. He wrote a book on the subject with many color pictures and invaluable information. The book is pricey at about \$120 so the chapter purchased a copy. Contact Mark if you would like to borrow it.



Chapter 27 Young Eagles 2025

June 7th make up date 8th

October 18th make up date 19th

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Winter Flying

Alton Bay Trip

by Dave Rich

After a number of too warm winters, Alton Bay Ice Runway is now open and a few of us made the trip. It was a cold morning in CT (10F at KMMK), but even colder at B18 (-5F). Long-johns and a very good cabin heater saved the day, until I stepped out on the ice!

Despite the natural trepidation of landing on ice, it turned out to be a non-issue. Just keep in straight and off the brakes. They intentionally leave a bit of snow when plowing that helps a lot. The most challenging aspect of the trip was navigating the arriving traffic. The prior week, over 160 planes showed up. There appeared to be fewer this day due to the cold and forecast for deteriorating weather.

Our bravado was rewarded with a certificate and "coin" from the NH DOT. Other memorabilia was available for purchase.

All sorts of planes arrived while we were there, including a twin Apache and a Super Cub on amphib floats. The runway being 3000' long and 125' wide, it certainly is doable for anyone. However, we did luck out with calm winds. I would think twice about having to deal with much of a crosswind. And, beware, only runway 01 is used, so sometimes landing is with a tailwind.

Status of the runway is available here [\(603\)271-7398](tel:6032717398). And NOTAMS are kept current. Hopefully, conditions will remain good allowing another visit this year.



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Meriden Airport

New Hangars

New South hangar construction is still scheduled to start in the spring.

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AOPA's concern how the FAA interprets and enforces FAR 91.119

<<https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2025/february/06/river-landing-leads-to-proposed-suspension>>

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/>

2025 Aviation Events

April 1 – 6 Sun n' Fun Aerospace Expo, Lakeland, FL
US Navy Blue Angels

June 27 - 29 Flight Sim Expo, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI
www.flightsimexpo.com

July 21 – 27 EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, WI

September 6 – 7 Thunder over New Hampshire, Portsmouth, NH
US Navy Blue Angels
<https://thunderovernewhampshire.com/>

Classifieds

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)

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ZENITH 750 CRUZER



FOR SALE EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT

For sale by owner/builder. Ready for final assembly. It's a partially completed kit that includes a Viking 130 HP engine and two Zenith embossed seats. Some Garmin avionics are available as well as builders tools. My father was the original builder. Contact for more photos, questions, or a tour of the hangar, located in Zephyrhills FL.

Joanne LeBlanc

✉ joanneleblanc@yahoo.com

☎ 813-334-9626

HEATED HANGER FOR SALE

AT
SIMSBURY, CT (4B9)



- Heated - New heating system installed 9/2024
- Insulated
- T-Hanger dimensions 41' X 32'
- Available immediately
- Price: \$75,000

CONTACT

ROYAL GRIFFIN
(860) 604 - 7004

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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
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"
