

EAA Chapter 27 Newsletter October 2026

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<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

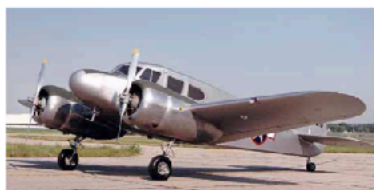


Meeting October 18th 10 A.M. Meriden Airport

EXTRAORDINARY FLYING EXPERIENCES

EAA Chapter 27 has had many members who have had extraordinary aviation backgrounds and experiences. For our October presentation, Jim Simmons, a member of our chapter since 1980 will highlight some of these members and share some stories of their experiences in the world of aviation. Featured in Jim's presentation will be the aircraft which they have flown throughout their lives.

NAME THAT PLANE



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President's Message

Our 70th anniversary celebration picnic was well attended. We had great weather and lots of food. Thanks to everyone who helped set up and take down. We will do it again on our 75th anniversary!

Our fall Young Eagles rally went well with 50 kids flown. The weather was great and things went smoothly as usual. That should put us over our goal of 100 kids for the year. Remember if you want to give a ride to an individual kid the forms are in the file cabinet in the conference room. We are getting a little low on outdated AOPA and Sport Aviation magazines for the kids. Please drop off your old ones in the conference room.

We are looking forward to the LSA inspection certification course at Meriden Airport on Oct 31 and Nov 1. A summary of the course will be given at the November meeting. If you own or expect to own an E-AB aircraft this is a valuable certification.

Chapter Picnic

Our chapter picnic and 70th anniversary celebration was well attended. There was lots of food and conversation. I hope everyone enjoyed the chapter history presentation. I'm sure many were surprised to learn the chapter started in Williamsburg VA, moved to Bethany airport in CT, then finally established itself at Meriden airport around 1965. If you have any historical information or documents, please let me know. (Mark)



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We received a nice 70th anniversary recognition letter from EAA CEO and President Jack Pelton.



September 11, 2026

To the Members of EAA Chapter 27,

On behalf of the Experimental Aircraft Association, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate you as you celebrate the 70th Anniversary of EAA Chapter 27 in Minden, Connecticut.

Seven decades of continuous service to aviation is a truly remarkable achievement. Chapter 27 was founded in 1956, just a few years after EAA itself was established, and its members have witnessed and contributed to an extraordinary period of aviation history. Throughout those 70 years, your chapter has remained a constant source of fellowship, education, mentorship, and enthusiasm for flying in the great state of Connecticut.

Generations of Chapter 27 members have welcomed new pilots, encouraged aircraft builders, supported aviation education, and shared the joy of flight with countless individuals and families. The chapter's commitment to programs such as Young Eagles, which continues to introduce young people to the possibilities of aviation, reflects the very best of EAA's mission and values.

This anniversary is not only a celebration of longevity but also of people. Over seventy years, dedicated volunteers, chapter officers, pilots, builders, and aviation enthusiasts have invested their time and talents to ensure that Chapter 27 remains a vibrant and welcoming organization.

As we reflect on Chapter 27's accomplishments over the past 70 years, we also recognize the enduring spirit that continues to define it today: a passion for aviation, a commitment to service, and a belief that aviation is more fun when shared.

Congratulations on this remarkable milestone, and thank you for seven decades of dedication to EAA, to aviation, and to your community. We are proud to celebrate this achievement with you and look forward to seeing Chapter 27 continue its tradition of excellence for many years to come.

Blue skies,



Jack J. Pelton
CEO and Chairman of the Board

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Ray Aviation Scholar 2025

This month, I was accepted into the Part 61 accelerated flight training program here at Saint Louis University. I have been focusing on reviewing maneuvers and getting more comfortable with the aircraft as I continue progressing through my training. I have been working on making my maneuvers more consistent, improving my landings, and building confidence in the airplane. Over the next month or so, my main goal is to continue refining my skills and prepare for my first solo flight at SLU. I am excited to keep building on the experience I gained during my previous training and take this next step in my aviation journey. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead and continuing to make progress toward earning my Private Pilot Certificate.



Ethan Simpson Ray Scholar 2025

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Young Eagles

We had a great safe fall Young Eagles rally and flew a grand total of 50 Young Eagles. The weather was beautiful, we had great conversations with the parents and fun flights with the kids. Many thanks to all the pilots and ground personnel, from those checking in Young Eagles, serving refreshments, parking airplanes and escorting families and Young Eagles. Next great opportunity to do it again is in the spring.



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Youth Aviation Center and Sonex Build

We have one flap complete and the aileron is about half done. Once completed we can finish up the back half of the wing and start working on the leading edge. We are working on the center upper fuselage where we found the width a bit too large. We found a way to narrow it up by making some new splice parts.



Projects

Vagabond Flyers

Doug Dringoli, after lots of tinkering and modifications, got the Vagabond Club's airplane up and flying with its new C-85 engine. Now he can get back to work on his Hatz biplane project!

Tech Tips

I am still trying to do the immaculate oil change where there are no drips on the floor, on my plane, or on my clothes. It never works, but I'm getting closer. One tool is a simple tin pan from the local supermarket. I put it under any container in which I am transferring oil. It catches the inevitable drips and runs. I cleaned it up for this picture. It is almost always oil covered. (Mark)



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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

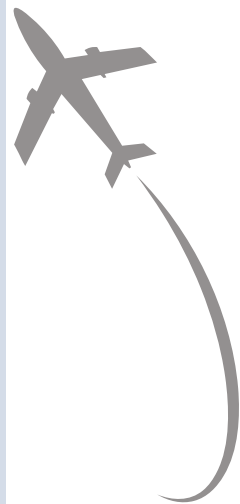
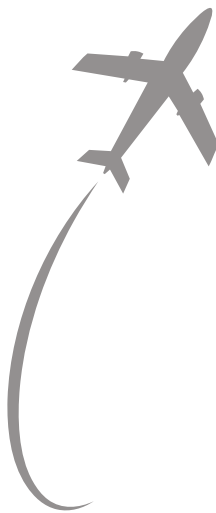


Book Your Race Today!



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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Chapter 27 and MMK Calendar Events 2026

Events

LSA inspection course on October 31 and November 1.

Holiday Banquet January 9, 2027

EAA Chapter 1310

October 14th, 2026 7 P.M. - VMC meeting Skylark Airport @ 7:45 Chapter Video Magazine, Charlie Becker EAA Happenings"AirVenture 2027 Plans, Chapters Update, Academy Changes 2027, Volunteer of the Year Rewards, EAA Aviation Museum Update

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

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.

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- 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.
- 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

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"
