



The Cleco

Aviation Education & Recreation from EAA Chapter 393
P.O. Box 6524 Concord California 94524-1524

March 2026

<http://www.eaa.393.org>

Inside This Issue

Young Eagles Rally 2026 Info	1-2
General Meeting and Monthly Dinner	2-4
Monthly Build	4-5

EAA Chapter 393 Upcoming Events

March 2026

- 4** Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- 7** Young Eagles Workshop
- 25** Dinner & General Meeting

April 2026

- 1** Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- 18** Young Eagles Rally
- 22** Dinner & General Meeting

May 2026

- 6** Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- 16** Young Eagles Rally
- 27** Dinner & General Meeting

Young Eagles 2026 Is Just Around the Corner

As shared in a previous newsletter, EAA Chapter 393 is continuing our Young Eagles program in 2026. We'd like to offer a friendly reminder about these special upcoming opportunities for local youth to experience their very first flight - completely free of charge.

The Young Eagles program remains one of the most rewarding ways we introduce the next generation to aviation, and we look forward to another exciting year of inspiring future pilots.

Mark your calendars and help us spread the word:

- April 18, 2026
- May 16, 2026
- June 20, 2026
- August 15, 2026
- September 19, 2026

Safety remains at the heart of everything we do. To ensure a secure and positive experience for every participant, all volunteers involved in Young Eagles activities - including pilots, coordinators, field representatives, and youth program volunteers - must complete EAA's Youth Protection requirements.

Youth Protection Requirements:

- Online training (approximately 10-15 minutes)
- Background check (typically completed within 10 business days)
- Certification valid for three years

If you plan to volunteer, please visit the EAA Youth

Protection Policy and Program page to complete both the training and background check.

To learn more about the Young Eagles program, visit the EAA National Young Eagles website. You can also reach our Chapter 393 Young Eagles Coordinator directly at Kids-Fly-Free@EAA393.org.

Thank you for renewing your membership, supporting our scholarship initiatives, and giving your time to make these events possible. Because of you, EAA Chapter 393 continues to open doors to aviation and ignite dreams—one young flyer at a time.

February 25, 2026 Chapter Dinner – A Valentine’s Evening to Remember



Our February 25th Chapter Dinner brought warmth to a winter evening with a festive Valentine’s theme and wonderful fellowship. The clubhouse looked beautiful -tables adorned with hearts, Valentine’s décor on the walls, and stunning floral arrangements graciously provided by Elaine. The setting created the perfect atmosphere for a truly special gathering.

Dinner did not disappoint. Members and guests enjoyed a delicious menu featuring chicken piccata, creamy mashed potatoes, fresh green salads, steamed vegetables, warm bread and butter, and ice cream for dessert. Compliments to everyone who helped prepare and serve such a memorable meal.



As our dinners continue to grow in popularity, we kindly remind everyone to **register and submit payment in advance - and to please attend if you’ve registered**. Having an accurate headcount helps our volunteers prepare the right

amount of food and avoid unnecessary waste. Your cooperation makes these events run smoothly and ensures we can continue offering outstanding meals.

We were proud to share some exciting news: **Rick Arias' son, Jason, has been hired by American Airlines!** Congratulations to Jason and to Rick—we are incredibly proud of this accomplishment.



We also welcomed Lucas, age 8, who will be flying at our first Young Eagles event of the year on April 18th. Lucas brought his friend Callan, and the two clearly enjoyed being part of the evening. We look forward to seeing them at the airport soon!



The **Pinch Hitter®** course was discussed, with several spouses expressing interest in participating. This AOPA program teaches non-pilot companions how to safely assist or land an aircraft in an emergency. For more information, visit AOPA's Pinch Hitter Safety Spotlight online.

Max Streeter was selected to attend the Air Academy in Oshkosh this year after interviewing—congratulations, Max! We know this will be an incredible experience.

We also reviewed plans for our two **Ray Aviation Scholarships**. Candidate selection begins in April, and by June we expect to award two scholarships to aspiring aviators between the ages of 16 and 19.

Another exciting update: the banner for our **Kids Fly Free Young Eagles Rally** has been placed by the golf course—helping spread the word throughout the community.

Slavik shared details about the first **Young Eagles Workshop** of the year, scheduled for March 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the clubhouse. Ten high school students will participate in hands-on aviation learning, including:

- Learning how flight controls work
- Building a model airplane
- Exploring a Cessna 182 and a helicopter
- Taking photos in both aircraft
- Building riveted photo frames to display their printed pictures

If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Slavik Krassovsky (viatk@meta.com) or Gates Roberg-Clark (grobergclark@gmail.com).

Connor Rudolph, son of Gary and Lisa Rudolph, delivered an engaging and thoughtful presentation. Connor earned his Private Pilot License two years ago



and flies both an RV-12 and a Cessna 206. He shared a recent Angel Flight West mission in a Cessna 206 from Carson City to San Luis Obispo.

During the flight, his passenger experienced sharp eye pain. Connor later learned the passenger had a cold and sinus congestion. A rapid descent from mountainous terrain into the valley likely contributed to pressure-related discomfort, and medical personnel met the passenger upon landing. Connor's takeaway was clear and important: always prioritize safety, ask the right questions, and remain vigilant. His advice to all of us—**be safe and fly safe**—was a meaningful reminder.



It was truly a wonderful evening filled with celebration, learning, and inspiration. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success. We look forward to seeing you at our next gathering—please remember to register early!

"Monthly Build": Celebrating Aviation Projects in Progress

Are you currently in the midst of an aviation project? Whether you're building your own aircraft from scratch, restoring a vintage plane, or embarking on a modification journey, we want to hear from you! Share your updates, challenges, and lessons learned with fellow aviators, and let us highlight your project in our monthly newsletter.

To participate, simply send us a photo or a few of your project in progress, along with your responses to the following questions:

1. **What stage are you in with your project?** Whether you're just getting started, tackling the intricate details, or nearing completion, give us an overview of where you currently stand with your aircraft build.
2. **What has been most challenging?** Building an aircraft is no small feat. Share with us the challenges you've encountered along the way, whether they involve technical hurdles, sourcing materials, or time management.

3. **What is the next stage in your build?** What milestones are you working toward next? Whether it's installing avionics, fitting the interior, or conducting flight tests, let us know what's on the horizon for your project.
4. **Any suggestions for other builders about what you have learned?** Reflect on your journey so far and share any insights or tips that may help fellow builders navigate their own projects more smoothly.

Please send your photos and story comments to natashadoktorova@gmail.com. We can't wait to showcase the incredible projects taking shape within our aviation community and to learn from the experiences of our fellow builders.

Thank you for being a part of our aviation family, and we look forward to seeing your projects come to life in "Monthly Build"!

Learn what it takes to be a **Pilot**

SkyReady offers aspiring young pilots, ages 13 to 18, hands-on, engaging training to explore aviation as both a hobby and a potential career.

To learn more, scan our QR code or visit :
get.skyready.org/course



Link to our EAA 393 Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ea393>

Send material to Bennett at BennettAshley925@gmail.com

We would love content for future newsletters! Please send photos of each other, planes, places, articles, or article ideas to newsletter@ea393.org!

The Cleco is published every month by EAA Chapter 393

www.ea393.org

200 Buchanan Field Rd Concord CA 94520