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

April 2026

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

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EAA Chapter 393 Upcoming Events

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

June 2026

- 3** Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- 20** Young Eagles Rally
- 24** Dinner & General Meeting

Second Ray Aviation Scholarship Established in Memory of Carol Healey



EAA Chapter 393 would like to extend a sincere thank you to several generous members and supporters who recently made donations to help expand our scholarship efforts.

Thanks to the generosity of Scott Davis, George Grech, Stu Schuster, Neil Monroe, Liz Leddy, Harvard Holmes, Scott Achelis, Greg Jacobs, and Chris Charrette, we will now be able to sponsor and fund a second Ray Aviation Scholarship recipient.

This additional scholarship will be awarded in memory of Carol Healey, whose passion for aviation and dedication to the aviation community inspired many.

With the addition of this second scholarship, EAA Chapter 393 will be able to give another deserving young aviator the opportunity to begin their journey in aviation.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed. Your generosity directly supports the next generation of pilots and keeps the spirit of aviation alive in our community.

Young Eagles 2026 Is Around the Corner

EAA Chapter 393 is excited to continue the Young Eagles program in 2026, offering local youth a free first flight experience and a chance to discover aviation.

This 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.

Upcoming dates:

Apr 18 • May 16 • Jun 20 • Aug 15 • Sep 19

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.

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.

Sunday Flyout to Auburn (KAUN) – March 1, 2026

In Memory of Carol Healey

On Sunday, March 1st, a group of pilots and friends from EAA Chapter 393, EAA Chapter 663, and the Oakland Flyers Group flew out together to Auburn Municipal Airport (KAUN) for a Sunday morning flyout in memory of Carol Healey. It was a relaxed and enjoyable outing that brought together a few airplanes and a good group of people who simply enjoy flying.



In the group photo from the day, pictured from left to right, are Evgeny, Clint, Isabelle, Margit, Norm, Ben, Taylor, Paul, and Natasha.

Arrivals into Auburn were a little more interesting than usual because aircraft were using RWY 07. Pilots who have flown into Auburn know that this runway can be a bit challenging. It has about a 1.23% uphill gradient along with noticeable dips and rises along the runway surface. The terrain and the uphill slope can create some visual illusions on approach, and there is also a displaced threshold, so it requires a bit of attention on final. Fortunately, everyone made smooth and safe landings.

Several airplanes made the trip that morning. Paul and Taylor flew in a Cardinal, and Clint and Isabelle arrived in another Cardinal. Norm and Margit came in a Cessna 172. Ben flew over from Livermore in his Cessna 182RG. Evgeny and Natasha flew together in a Cherokee.

Evgeny also used the flight as a chance to get some practice in and flew an



instrument approach into Auburn. On the way back to Concord he continued with instrument practice while Natasha served as his safety pilot.

After everyone arrived, the group headed over to Wings Grill for breakfast. It's a favorite stop for many pilots who fly into Auburn. The food was great (their eggs benedict never disappoints), the conversation even better, and as usual the restaurant was full of pilots swapping stories about flights and airplanes.

It was a really nice way to spend a Sunday morning—flying with friends, enjoying a good meal, and remembering Carol Healey. Hopefully we'll see even more airplanes join the next flyout!

The Starduster Too project

The Starduster Too project is officially underway and gaining momentum.

A big milestone was reached when Gates coordinated and completed the pickup of the wings from Palo Alto and San Carlos, delivering them safely to Lee's hangar using a box truck. With that, all the major components are now in one place and ready for the next phase.



We're now officially set up and sharing space in Lee's hangar. A huge thank you goes out to Lee and Sherry for their generosity in making room for the project and helping us get established.

Since then, Jim Evans and Colton have been hard at work getting everything organized and moving forward. They'll soon be announcing build parties, giving members a chance to get involved and be part of bringing this aircraft back to life.

The Starduster Too itself is in great starting condition, especially the wings, which were found to be in excellent shape. The plan is to begin restoration work, reassemble the aircraft, mount the wings, and get it back on its wheels step by step.

It's exciting to see this project come together, and even more exciting knowing that many hands will help along the way. Stay tuned for upcoming build days and opportunities to participate.

Young Eagles Workshop – March 7, 2026

On March 7, 2026, EAA Chapter 393 hosted a hands-on Young Eagles Workshop that brought together young aviation enthusiasts for a full day of learning and building.

The event was designed to introduce kids ages 10 to 17 to the world of homebuilt aircraft, and it delivered a great mix of theory, real-world exposure, and hands-on experience.

The workshop began with a presentation covering the fundamentals of aircraft construction. Participants were introduced to basic building techniques, common tools, and an overview of how homebuilt airplanes come together. It set the stage nicely for what was to follow.

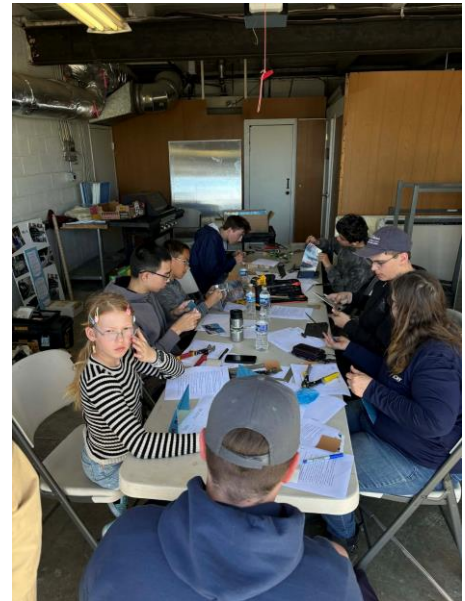
The second portion of the workshop focused on aircraft controls—both for small airplanes and helicopters. This segment combined theory with something much more memorable: real interaction. There were two display vehicles, Gates brought the 184 flying club 172, and Slav brought his helicopter. Kids had the opportunity to sit in the pilot seat of an actual airplane and a helicopter, move the controls, and observe how their inputs translated into movement of control surfaces. Seeing that direct cause-and-effect made a big impression and helped bring the concepts to life.

During this portion, we also offered to take photos of each participant in the cockpit.



These were later printed on-site using a portable printer—something the kids really enjoyed and appreciated.

The final part of the workshop shifted into a true hands-on build activity. Using aircraft-grade sheet metal, each participant constructed their own picture frame. Along the way, they were introduced to real aircraft fabrication techniques including cutting, bending, drilling, match drilling, filing, and working with clecoes and rivets. It was a great introduction to the craftsmanship



behind aircraft construction.

Everyone did a fantastic job, and by the end of the day, each participant went home with a printed photo of themselves in the cockpit—framed in something they had built with their own hands.

We are so grateful to MDPA for sharing the space with them on their Saturday breakfast day. A special shoutout to our teachers and volunteers Viatcheslav (Slav) Krassovsky, Peter Baker, and Bill O'Brian, and special guest Lucy Hart.

It was a rewarding event for both the kids and the volunteers, and a great example of what makes the Young Eagles program so impactful.



Sunday Flyout to Shelter Cove (OQ5) – March 18, 2026

The Wednesday Flyout on March 18, 2026, was a scenic and adventurous trip along the Northern California coast. The original destination was Shelter Cove, with forecasts calling for clear skies. However, upon arrival, low coastal fog prevented any landings, prompting the group to divert to Little River Airport. From there, participants rented a car and drove to the charming town of Mendocino.

Lunch at the Good Life Cafe & Bakery was a highlight, with everyone enjoying delicious meals in a relaxed setting. The day's flying group included Gordon's neighbors Cindy and Ben in a Turbo 210, Scott in his Van's RV, George and Huang in an Archer. Aside from the fog along the coast, the skies were clear and winds light, making for smooth flying conditions.

The event was a reminder that flyouts can bring unexpected adventures and opportunities to explore, whether by air or on the ground. Anyone interested in joining future Wednesday Flyouts can contact George Grech at wedflyout@eaa393.org.



General Meeting and Monthly Dinner – March 25, 2026

On March 25, EAA Chapter 393 held a festive St. Patrick's Day-themed dinner, complete with beautifully decorated tables, green garlands, and fun posters

celebrating the holiday. The menu featured classic corned beef and cabbage, with the honeycomb ice cream proving to be the crowd favorite dessert.



During the evening, Gates gave an update on the Starduster Too project. The chapter has been sharing hangar space with Lee Techeira to work on the two-seat tandem biplane. Gates outlined plans for sourcing parts and scheduling build and repair sessions. Jim, the AMP mechanic, and Colton are currently hard at work on the plane.

The program included introductions of new members, including Jean, who was selected to attend the EAA Air Academy at Oshkosh, Wisconsin this year.

Gary Rudolph was the featured speaker for the night. He shared the history and flying experience of a local aircraft largely built by Bill Black: the Harmon Rocket II Vans RV-4



kit airplane. Bill started with a kit, powered by a Lycoming I/O 540, and first flew the plane in 2003. The aircraft climbs at 3,000 fpm and is a solid VFR performer. Last summer, Bill passed the plane to Gary, who upgraded it with a Garmin G3X system, ADAHRS, GMU PFD, and GEA 24 instrumentation. Gary also modularized the panel, installing connectors at the back and using ninja stickers for labeling, completing the work over two months of intensive effort—seven days a week, ten hours a day—at Bill’s hangar LCA.



It was an evening that combined great food, aviation projects, and inspiration from hands-on building and flying experiences, highlighting why EAA Chapter 393 events are so engaging for members.

"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.

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get.skyready.org/course



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Send material to Bennett at BennettAshley925@gmail.com

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The Cleco is published every month by EAA Chapter 393

www.ea393.org

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