



The Cleco

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

June 2026

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

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EAA Chapter 393 Upcoming Events

June 2026

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

July 2026

- 1** Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- 20-26** AirVenture Oshkosh

August 2026

- 5** Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- 15** Young Eagles Rally
- 26** Dinner & General Meeting

Scholarship Program Update

The Scholarship Committee recently completed its review process for the 2027 Aviation Scholarship Program, and this year's selection proved to be one of the most competitive to date.

Led by DeWitt Hodges, who coordinated the scholarship review process, the committee received seven outstanding applications for two available scholarships. The committee met on May 14 to carefully evaluate each candidate. As part of the selection process, committee members independently ranked their top three applicants. The three highest-ranked candidates were then invited to participate in interviews.

Following the interviews, the committee selected **Max Liebermann** and **Jean Gueorguiev** as the recipients of the 2027 scholarships. Both candidates demonstrated exceptional potential, dedication, and enthusiasm for aviation. Their flight training is scheduled to begin in June.

According to DeWitt Hodges, selecting the final recipients was no easy task.

"We had an exceptionally strong group of applicants this year, and it was a very difficult decision," he said.

The committee extends its appreciation to all applicants who participated in this year's process. We encourage every candidate to remain involved

with our aviation workshops and educational programs. Continued participation provides valuable learning opportunities and helps strengthen our aviation community.

Scholarship Recipient Updates

We also wanted to share progress updates on previous scholarship recipients.

Our 2025 scholarship recipient, **KB**, continues to work toward completing her pilot certification. Due to a variety of circumstances, she has not yet completed her check ride, and her FAA knowledge test has now expired. As a result, she will need to retake the knowledge test before moving forward with the certification process. We wish her continued success as she works toward this important milestone.

Meanwhile, our 2026 scholarship recipient, **Rayan Bhatti**, is making excellent progress and is scheduled to take his check ride in early June. We look forward to celebrating this significant achievement and wish him the very best as he completes this final step toward earning his pilot certificate.

Congratulations again to our newest scholarship recipients, and thank you to DeWitt Hodges and the Scholarship Committee for their dedication and hard work throughout the selection process.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Chapter Members

EAA Chapter 393 continues to grow, and we're excited to welcome our newest members, **Kyle Meer** and **Paul Turin**, to the chapter family.

Whether you're a pilot, builder, aviation enthusiast, or simply someone who enjoys being around airplanes and fellow aviation-minded people, we're delighted you've chosen to join us.

One of the strengths of our chapter is the willingness of members to share their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm. There are many opportunities to participate and make a difference, including:

- *Young Eagles* – Help introduce youth to aviation as a pilot, coordinator, or ground volunteer
- *Monthly Dinners* – Assist with setup, cooking, or cleanup
- *Scholarships* – Support interviews and selection for our aviation scholarships

In addition to our activities and volunteer opportunities, our monthly gatherings feature informative presentations, aviation stories, and a chance to connect with fellow members.

We encourage Kyle and Paul to introduce themselves at an upcoming meeting and become part of the many friendships that make Chapter 393 such a special organization.

Welcome to the chapter—we're glad you're here!

Stay Connected with EAA Chapter 393 on WhatsApp

EAA Chapter 393 is excited to introduce a new way for members to connect, share information, and stay engaged between meetings and events.

Thanks to **Gary Rudolph**, who took the initiative to set up our new WhatsApp community, members now have an easy way to communicate with fellow chapter members directly from their phones or computers.

To join, simply click the link below or scan the QR code:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/ERY1h7197TZFUnk6riRcJ8>

Once you've joined, visit the **Communities** tab in WhatsApp to explore the various group chats available. Dedicated groups have already been created for topics such as:

- **Starduster Project** – Interested in aircraft building or helping with the Starduster? Join the conversation.
- **Young Eagles** – Ask questions, get updates, and stay informed about upcoming rallies and volunteer opportunities.
- **General Member Chat** – A place for everyday questions, announcements, and chapter discussions.

Whether you're wondering if there's a dinner meeting tonight, looking for help with a project, or simply want to connect with other aviation enthusiasts, the WhatsApp community provides a convenient way to stay in touch.

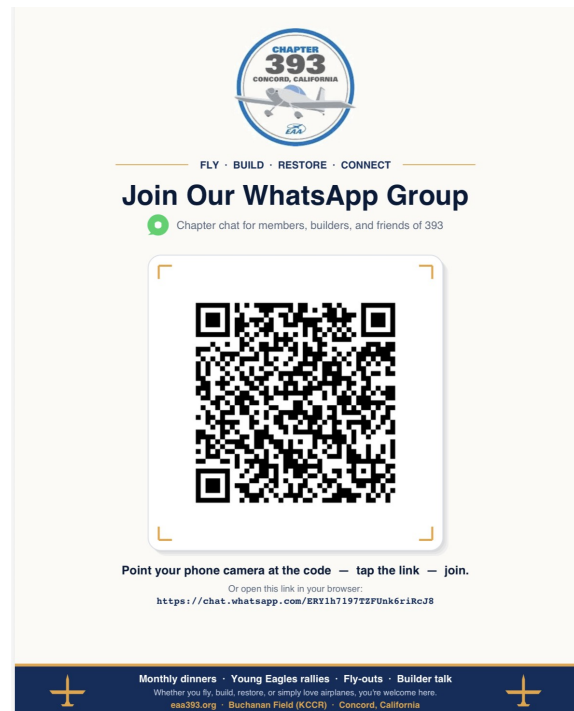
Many of the flying clubs at the airport already use WhatsApp successfully, making it a natural addition to our chapter's communication tools.

If you need assistance getting started or have questions about using WhatsApp, don't hesitate to reach out. We'd be happy to help you get connected.

A special thank-you again to Gary Rudolph for bringing this resource to Chapter 393.

Blue skies,

Gates Roberg-Clark
Young Eagles Coordinator
EAA Chapter 393



Young Eagles Rally – May 16, 2026



We had a great day of flying on Saturday!

We flew 34 Young Eagles, not including CAP. This time we were spoiled and got to see the CAP 182 in action. All the cadets who wanted to go for a ride flew in their own plane.

The shifting winds caused operations to start out on 32L and 32R. Good taxi practice for those runways! It was looking dicey in the forecast, but the weather held for us. Connor made the go no decision and he was correct! It was beautiful and sunny. The last eagle flew just as the afternoon winds began to pick up and the air started getting bumpy. Looking at the weather yesterday and today, I think we rallied just in the nick of time!

We flew the west pattern over the Carquinez Bridge, spaced out our flights to help the tower. No more TFR thankfully on the north side of the field.

Harvard's flight sims continue to be in constant use during the rally. Kids played on the grass area again, it's really booming, thank you to Bill for bringing the full sized cornhole!

ARFF gave us a wonderful water show and supported us through the whole event. It's super appreciated.

Thank you so much to our pilots, ground crew, and marshals. Thank you to CAP for keeping us safe. Thank you to ATC, and thank you to KCCR Field Ops for keeping us safe and bringing Shrek!

Thanks for volunteering, this is possible because of you, can't wait to see you all at the June 20th event next month!

Ground Volunteers

Peter Baker
Dwight Gemar
Scott Davis
Ingrid Roberg
John Clark
Gates Roberg-Clark
Maria Tanzillo
Vanessa Cohen
Bill O'Brien
Toby Liebermann
Kevin Streeter

Marshalls

Harvard Holmes
Bennett Ashley
Jean Gueorguiev
Max Streeter
Max Liebermann
Bruno Motta

Pilots

Jim Agua
Rick Arias
Mo Awwad
Oren Cheyette
John Wallace
Misha Tyukin
Martin Frentzel
Scott Hotes
Dennis Sheehan
Connor Rudolph

Blue skies,

Gates Roberg-Clark
Young Eagles Coordinator
EAA Chapter 393







General Meeting and Monthly Dinner – May 27, 2026

Our May 27th Dinner and General Meeting was a wonderful evening of great food, engaging presentations, and celebration of our scholarship recipients.

Executive Chef Scott Davis treated members and guests to a delicious dinner featuring coq au vin, garlic mashed potatoes and sautéed vegetables. We enjoyed a delicious selection of cookies and cupcakes for dessert.

The evening carried a Memorial Day theme, with beautifully decorated tables that added a special touch to the event. A heartfelt thank-you goes to Elaine for her stunning floral arrangements, which continue to make our dinners feel warm and welcoming month after month. We enjoyed a delicious selection of cookies and cupcakes for dessert.





Our 2026 Ray Aviation Scholarship recipient, **Rayan Bhatti**, provided an update on his flight training progress. Rayan currently has approximately 80 flight hours with instructor Mark Pollard and is preparing for his Private Pilot checkride, which is scheduled for June 30. The chapter wishes him the very best as he approaches this exciting milestone.

Rayan also served as the evening's featured speaker, presenting an engaging program on **"The Future of Aviation."**

His presentation covered several emerging technologies and trends shaping the aviation industry, including:

- The Airbus Beluga and its unique role in aviation logistics
- The rise of eVTOL (electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing) aircraft
- Modern military drone technology and the



concept of autonomous "wing buddies"

- The BRS Aerospace whole-aircraft parachute recovery system
- The potential of hydrogen as a future aviation fuel

The presentation sparked lively discussion and gave members plenty to think about as aviation continues to evolve.



The evening also gave members an opportunity to meet our newly selected 2027 Ray Aviation Scholarship recipients, **Jean Gueorguiev** and **Max Lieberman**.

Both scholarship recipients shared a few words about their selection, their passion for aviation, and their future career goals. We look forward to following their progress as they begin their flight training journeys.

As our dinner meetings continue to grow in popularity, we ask members to please **register and pay for dinners in advance through the chapter website whenever possible**.

Advance registration helps our volunteers more accurately plan food purchases and meal preparation, reducing waste while ensuring we have enough food for everyone attending. Your cooperation helps us manage costs and continue providing enjoyable meals for our chapter members and guests.



Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the evening a success. We look forward to seeing you at our next dinner meeting!

"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 newsletter@eaa393.org. 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



Visit get.skyready.org/course

Stay Connected with EAA Chapter 393

Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on chapter events, member activities, and aviation news:

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

Join our new Chapter WhatsApp Community to connect with fellow members, share aviation experiences, ask questions, and stay informed:

WhatsApp: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/ERY1h7197TZFunk6riRcJ8>

Share Your Stories!

We are always looking for content for future editions of *The Cleco*. If you have photos of fellow members, aircraft, fly-outs, aviation destinations, projects, articles, or ideas for future stories, we'd love to hear from you.

Please send submissions to: newsletter@ea393.org

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Blue skies and happy flying!
