

# The Cleco

Aviation Education & Recreation From EAA Chapter 393



## Young Eagles Events

The first 2022 Chapter 393 Young Eagles event was held at the clubhouse on May 21st. Pictured (bleow) are Young Eagles coordinator Tracy Peters, honored lifetime member and Young Eagles pilot Scott Achilles, Chapter 393 member and Young Eagles pilot Tom Hammitt, Chapter 393 member Bennett Ashley. A total of 24 Young Eagles were flown over a two week period. Our chapter currently has a shortage of planes and pilots and is looking for pilots to fly young people.

Flying young people is a very rewarding experience, one that should not be missed!

Young Eagle flights can be given at any time during the year. If you are interested, or have a flight that you are going to perform, contact Tracy Peters at [yec@eaa393.org](mailto:yec@eaa393.org)



Safe travels and see you at Airventure!

Head over to [eaa.org](http://eaa.org)

On Page 2



Oshkosh Notam now available



President's Letter



The Cleco is published every month by EAA Chapter 393

[www.eaa393.org](http://www.eaa393.org)

200 Buchanan Field Road, Concord, California

# President's Newsletter

## GREETINGS AVIATION ENTHUSIASTS!

I hope this message finds you in good health and good spirits! Checking the EAA National website, I see that it is only 48 days to Airventure. As I go about my busy day, I find myself looking forward to once again flying my plane to Wisconsin. Cross country flights always bring about a sense of adventure, and of course the pleasure of meeting new people and seeing new places. On my travels, I have found people across the country to be friendly and hospitable. Strangers always seem to go out of their way to make visiting pilots feel welcome.

In return, I am mindful of the fact that we should all be ambassadors for general aviation. We are tasked with flying responsibly and respectfully. We must always be prepared to answer "why are those little planes always falling out of the sky" with the appropriate answer. This answer is, as we all know, that G.A. is as safe as the person flying the plane (this is in reference to the two recent events where airplanes were purposefully crashed for Youtube "clicks").

Bringing my focus back to Buchanan Field in Concord, Ca, our chapter flew 24 Young Eagles in the month of May. Because we had a shortage of planes and pilots, we had to fly the kids over two consecutive weekends. Tracy Peters was the facilitator for the event with Scott Achilles, Tom Hammitt, Stu Schuster and yours truly doing the flying.

More than half of our Young Eagle pilots are no longer available for a variety of reasons. As a result, I am asking those of you who have a plane, or anyone who knows someone with a plane, to consider taking on the worthwhile and rewarding endeavour of giving kids a flight. Additionally, we need people to work the ramp and help safely guide taxiing airplanes.

In regards to volunteers, last month's celebration of our chapter's 50th anniversary was a huge success! It truly takes a village to successfully host an event as large as our anniversary. I would like to acknowledge the 25 individuals who donated their time and energy. They are:

Marc Ausman- Table cleanup  
 Ryan Baillie- Table cleanup  
 Bill Bower- Master of Ceremonies  
 Rich Cunningham- Planning Committee  
 Scott Davis- Chef  
 Rich Finkle- Planning committee, place cards, invitation design  
 Ruth Gusenkov- Place card printer, check-in  
 Lucy Hart- Decorator, etc.  
 Chet Heyer- Cake cutter, bartender  
 Bill Lawrence- Cake cutter, Ice cream scooper  
 Ron Lem- Administrator, Jack of all trades, chief weed blower  
 Debbie Madison- Decorator  
 Paul Millner- Bartender

Pete Mitchell- Jack of all trades  
 Bill O'Brian- Vintner  
 Eric Scholdt- Table Cleanup  
 Tyann Sorrell- Decorator, Appetizer maker  
 Elaine Yeary- Decorator  
 Tom Hammitt- Landscaping  
 Natasha Doktorova- Landscaping  
 Dimitriy Kosovski- Landscaping  
 Scott Achilles- Weeding  
 Greg Baer- Weeding (oh, and he's the new airport manager!).  
 Rod Mickels- Florist  
 Stu Sims- Florist

There will be a general meeting to be held at the clubhouse on June 22nd. The dinner preceding the meeting will be a potluck. Lucy Hart will reach out to all of you individually to determine which dish you would like to bring. Executive Chef Scott Davis will be cooking the protein part of the meal.

Pete Mitchell will be making his sojourn to Airventure again in the early part of July. He will be driving his recreational vehicle through the northern part of the country, and is planning to arrive in Oshkosh during the first week of July. If you would like to take the scenic route, he has seats available. Pete usually camps in Audry's Park, a section dedicated solely for volunteer campers. Pete states that anyone is welcome to camp with him during Airventure. Lastly, Pete also has space available for the return trip from Airventure - another excellent opportunity to see the country. If you are interested, please feel free to email Pete at [pmitchell@aol.com](mailto:pmitchell@aol.com).

For those of you who have read this entire message, the picture at the beginning is of a Young Eagle that got a ride at Airventure last year. In the upcoming weeks, I will be focusing my efforts in assisting Tracy Peters with the Young Eagles program. I cannot emphasize enough that the chapter is looking for help in rebuilding this program! If you are looking for more information regarding this and other chapter activities, visit the [eaa393.org](http://eaa393.org) website.

Blue Skies,

Ron Lem  
 President EAA393



## June 1st 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

### Once a month our illustrious board members assemble to discuss EAA Chapter 393 matters

#### PRESIDENT : RON L

President Ron called the meeting to order at 1903, in the Clubhouse Fireplace room.

#### TREASURER - SCOTT D

Air Academy, airfare for both young eagles has been paid along with a \$400 deposit to National. Costs for the second academy participant will come from our \$10,000 dedicated academy fund.

#### SECRETARY – PETER M

Membership is 97 with 17 unpaid. New members Polina Efimova and Chuck Blair, welcome.

#### NEWSLETTER

Volunteers please contact any 393 board member.

#### YOUNG EAGLES – TRACY P

We flew 23 Young Eagles in May, all with single passenger aircraft. Three passenger planes and Pilots needed.

#### AMAZON SMILE

When you shop at Smile, [Amazon.com/ch/65-](https://www.amazon.com/ch/65-1197798)

[1197798](https://www.amazon.com/ch/65-1197798), Amazon Smile will donate a portion of your eligible purchases to Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 393 of Concord CA at no cost to you! Last year that was close to \$100 dollars. It could be much higher...

#### JUNE GENERAL MEETING

A potluck dinner with entree by Chef Scott Davis. Our Tower Chief is the proposed speaker,

#### JULY GENERAL MEETING

Airventure

#### AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

August 20 Proposed joint 393 MDPA BBQ at Sterling Flight Center.

#### FACEBOOK – BENNETT A

Here is the link to our EAA 393 Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/ea393](https://www.facebook.com/ea393)

Send material to Bennett at BennettAshley925@gmail.com

#### ADJOURNED - PETE MITCHELL

Meeting concluded 03:45z

### Board Members in attendance

PRESIDENT : RON LEM

VICE-PRESIDENT : RYAN BAILLIE

SECRETARY : PETER MITCHELL

TREASURER : SCOTT DAVIS

SOCIAL DIRECTOR : LUCY HART

YOUNG EAGLES'S COORDINATOR : TRACY PETERS

WEB : RICH FINKLE

VMC COORDINATOR & CHAPTER PHOTOGRAPHER : GREG KAR

### Board Members in absentia

TECH COUNSELOR : PETER FRIEDMAN

TECH COUNSELOR : JIM AGUA

YOUNG EAGLES'S COORDINATOR : JIM MADISON

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR : BENNETT ASHLEY

IMC COORDINATOR : PAUL MILLNER

PAST PRESIDENT : BILL BOWER

TOOLS : LEE TEICHEIRA

EAA ACADEMY : BILL O'BRIAN

## Opposing Bases Podcast



### The Click & Clack of Aviation. The Opposing Bases Podcast from two controllers and pilots.

In case you've missed it, "Alpha Golf" and "Romeo Hotel", are two air traffic controllers and rated pilots who have a weekly discussion about flying in our National Airspace.

Opposing Bases is both an educational and entertaining podcast that you can subscribe to for free! They discuss fun things like:

- Avoiding wake turbulence
- Controllers: They're human, too!
- Why Flight Following is your friend
- ATC antics and bloopers

To learn more and to listen to an episode of Opposing Bases, visit their website [www.opposingbases.com](https://www.opposingbases.com)

YOU CAN ORDER YOUR EAA CHAPTER 393 NAME TAGS BY VISITING [chapters.eaa.org/ea1095/ea-name-tags](https://chapters.eaa.org/ea1095/ea-name-tags)



## Chapter happenings

Let's see what are friends are up to in the last month!



Al Wraa filling up his Zenith 750 in Columbia, Ca (above) and flying (below). Al is a former chapter 393 member who built this beautiful Zenith 750 while he was a member of chapter 393. Al keeps his plane on the northwest side of the field. Note the tail number on his plane!



Lucy Hart on the trail to Columbia.



Buchanan Field airport bum Ed Ott (left) with his 1946 Luscombe 8A at Columbia during the Luscombe fly in. His plane has a 85 hp engine and needs to be hand propped in order to be started. In spite of the 5,500' density altitude, Ed was able to successfully take off from the grass with a passenger.

Ed tows gliders at Byron in a 1962 Pawnee giving glider pilots beautiful views of Los Vaqueros Reservoir. The glider pilots typically find lift along the ridges next to the lake.

Ed Neffinger, Mark Alberry and Rogier Westerhuis with Marks' RV8, tail number 97VV. Mark built 97VV and flew the plane from England to the US. You can follow both Mark and Rogier on facebook as they make their journey back to England in 97VV. Ed Neffinger just became a partner in a RV8 which he will be flying out of Livermore.



The Memorial Squadron which is based out of Livermore performing its annual Memorial Day flight over Buchanan Field. The flight consisted of warbirds, Bonanzas and Vans Aircraft. EAA 393 president Ron Lem is in the #5 position and EAA393 member Ed Neffinger is in the #6 position of the lead element



Ron Lem practicing aerobatics over the practice area in his 2002 RV6. Ron uses smoke to line up the maneuvers and give him feedback on the actual flight path during the maneuvers. This allows for corrections during the maneuvers. Flight following is also used for traffic alerts and keeps Travis in the loop (pun intended) as to this activity on the border of their military operations area (MOA).



THE EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT  
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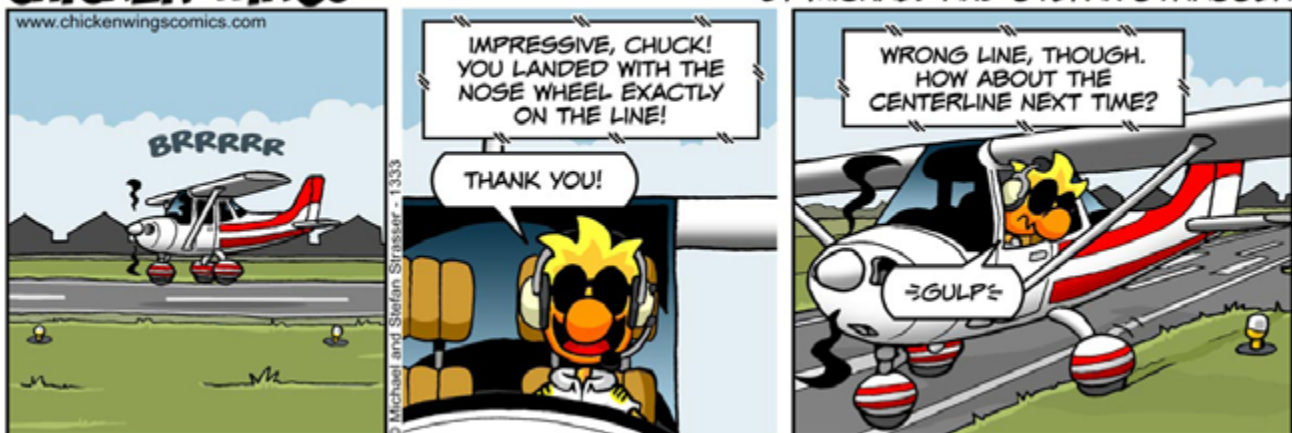
LOOKING FOR LOVE

We would love content for future newsletters! Please send photos of each other, planes, places, articles, or article ideas to newsletter@eaa393.org!

**CHICKEN WINGS**

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BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



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