



EAGLES WINGS

APRIL 2026

President's Letter



Dear Eagles,

The amount of work many of you are doing is incredible to make our membership experience even better: Adding chairs to the pit area for us to enjoy; replacing the first aid kit inside the box to make sure that our needs in an emergency are met; building and installing a

new gate for us to help maintain safety; adding a new runway camera to our Ring camera setup that was already awesome and is even more awesome now (the camera was donated); plus all the work that's done on a daily and weekly basis to keep our field clean, in order and beautiful. All of the work each and every one of you does is amazing, and I want you to know how much of a positive impact it has on our experience as club members. Let's keep that momentum going.

We have a lot of great news on the mission for a new runway,

While we have a long way to go, the amount of donations (almost \$11k in donations in March) and excitement towards this long-term project is getting us all energized. We will be talking about it at our next club meeting, so be sure to attend if you want to provide input and help this concept become more than just an idea. We're going to need a **Runway Replacement Committee** - if that's something you're able to help out with, please let me know. We need all hands on deck on this one. We're already starting to get estimates for the work.

Our collaboration with the park has also been incredibly positive

Several of the items we've asked for, we got. Even some of the items we didn't ask for we got as well. There was a small hole in the northwest corner of the runway. Thanks to Bob Brelsford's positivity and his time at the field (right place, right time), the stars aligned and the park staff actually filled that hole! I can't wait to see how much more support they give us after we give them one of Roger Camp's magical creations as a donation at one of their staff meetings and announce our "Park Staff Appreciation Day"



Roger Camp and his work of art we'll donate to the park for them to hang at the park office.

Our first maintenance day is April 18 at 8am.

While we never had an off-season this year, we're heading towards the peak season of flying. This also means our maintenance days are coming up. Since this is the first one in a while, we've got no shortage of projects that could use a lot of muscle.

Now - Let's go fly!
Go Eagles!

Brett Schklar,



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DRCE Club Meeting Recap

March 18, 2026

Location: Colpar's Hobby Town

Meeting Start: 6:30 PM

Attendance: 24 attendees

Leadership Updates

President: Brett Schklar

- New parking spots are finished - 22 new spots for the field. Start using them. No plans for added gravel. The more we use them, the more they will get packed down.
- Great meeting with the Park - they will help with gravel, prairie dogs and more. They will let us use some of their supplies (paint, concrete, etc.) and we have permission to bring in some of our own materials as we need.
- We will have a Park Staff Appreciation Day (June 17)
- Making many updates to the Flight training program, including new Chief Flight Instructor (Rodney Getty) and an updated process for new pilots using a QR code and a new form on our website.
- Huge thanks to Jeremy Crum for bringing tasty treats to the meeting. Next month's Food host is Joe Vedovati!

VP: Dan Kellogg: Not in attendance

Treasurer: Joe Apice

- 149 total members / 49 unpaid. If anyone needs flexible payment plans, please reach out to Joe A or Brett S to work through any issues.
- Need to continually recruit new pilots to help with club attrition.
- Looking into items such as Lifetime membership and corporate sponsorships to raise funds for a new runway. Will discuss it at the next meeting. No decision was reached.

Secretary: Pete Link

- Please update your profile in MembershipWorks
- Will work on signage and billboard at the field - now that we've got the keys to it.

Safety Officer: Joe Vedovati

- Vests for instructors: Will get orange or bright colored vests for the instructors to wear while instructing at the flight line - making sure it is visible that there is instruction taking place.
- Incident - there was an incident with a teenager who had a plane start up (likely plugged in battery without transmitter on or not in throttle cut mode). USE THROTTLE CUT and when arming a plane, it's best to stand behind it. Always make sure the transmitter is on, throttle is all the way down and throttle cut is on before plugging in the battery.

Field Maintenance Officer: Bob Heheman

- Weather station intermittent issues: Resoldering of leads was done to hopefully fix the issue.
- The new gate at the entrance is complete - with a sign. Looks great! Should keep people out of the pits that shouldn't be walking around there. Big thanks to Rob Williams for his excellent woodworking skills, and to Bob H, Bob B, Joe V, Joe A and others for the excellent installation!
- North Taxiway edge dirt fill - the park moved lots of dirt and several club members helped shovel dirt to fill the drop off of the narrow walkway. Looks great. Will add more dirt soon.
- First official Maintenance Day is April 18. Lots of work needed - could use lots of helping hands!

Chief Flight Instructor: Rodney Getty



Rodney Getty was nominated and voted in as the club's new Chief Flight Instructor.



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Key Decisions & Outcomes

- Rodney Elected as Chief Flight Instructor
- Park Staff Appreciation event (June 17)
- Warbirds & Classics over Cherry Creek Committee formed

Events:

- **Warbirds & Classics over Cherry Creek:** September 12 & 13, 2026
- Sanctioned Event (Tom Neff provided guidance on what it is and its importance)
- Committee formed, led by Joe A.

Park Staff Appreciation Day - scheduled for June 17 - from 11am to 1pm. Voted on and approved.

Club Dinner - we're looking to put on another club dinner to highlight our members who have served and have an enjoyable evening with members and families. Venue and date will be decided soon, targeting the end of April or in May.

Non-club events:

- April 25: Jefco Auction at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds: <https://jefcoeromodelers.com/auction/>
- May 16 - friend of Bob Heheman, Rob Zetel (author of 'American MiG Pilot: Inside the Top Secret USAF "Red Eagles" MiG Squadron') will be speaking at Wings Over the Rockies Museum
- May 28-30: Jets Over the Rockies (Arvada Associated Modelers) <https://www.arvadamodelers.com/events/jets-over-the-rockies-2026/>

Next Maintenance Day:

Saturday, April 18

Next Meeting:

- April 15, 6pm, Colpar's Hobbytown USA
- Food Host: Joe Vedovati
- Hot Topic: Runway Replacement Committee



New Gate at the field entrance: Reminds non-pilots to stay clear of the Pit area. Thanks to Rob Williams' incredible woodworking skills for such a sturdy and solid gate.



Our crew of volunteers who installed the beautiful gate! Terry VanSchwartz, Joe Vedovati, Bob Brelsford, Joe Apice, Bob Hehemann



Beautiful new Runway Cam view - could also be called our "crash-cam" if we time things right.



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Show & Tell

**Eric Sunderwirth– Spitfire -
25 year-old aircraft refurbished
(found in Connex)**

Electric setup:

Brushless motor (~400 size, ~1200kV)

3S 1800 mAh battery, 40A ESC

Independent aileron servos

Reinforced structure (magnets, wheels,
repaint)

Will either donate it to a youth pilot, or
giveaway at a club dinner.



Loren Anderson - XB-70 Project (Paul Schlein Update) Large-scale
build in progress - more details than a normal human should consider.



Our next meeting is
Wednesday, April, 15th @ 6 pm
Colpar's HobbyTown
1915 S Havana St
Aurora, CO 80014



JOIN THE FUN

For more information on DRCE membership
benefits, training, and club activities, visit the
club website: www.denverceagles.org