



# EAGLES WINGS

MARCH 2026

## Meet the 2026 Board Members



**Joe Apice**  
Treasurer

**Dan Kellogg**  
Vice President

**Brett Schklar**  
New President

**Pete Link**  
New Secretary

**Joe Vedovati**  
Safety Officer

**Bob Hehemann**  
Director-Airfield  
Maintenance

**Mike Eason**  
Immediate  
Past President

## President's Welcome Message



### Hello Eagles,

It's truly an honor and joy to serve as the club's next president, continuing the excellent community and experience we have at the Denver R/C Eagles!

A little about me: I started this addiction at the age of 10

with my dad at a flying field in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where I grew up. The field was dirt and grass and was surrounded by tall tree lines on all 4 sides. The trees were decorated all-year long with so many planes that attempted a low approach too soon. They were basically year-round Christmas trees with expensive ornaments. On a windy day, we'd all head to the field to see which planes would shake loose.

I would spend many hours after school kit-building Telemasters, Sig Cadets and a few others that are a distant memory. I got good at C/A use, sanding, and Monokote application. I got hooked on the smell of running nitros!

After moving to Denver and having a son of my own, we headed to our nearest field in the Cherry Creek Reservoir to see if we would be met with friends or foes when he was 8. Everyone was so friendly and helpful. Doc Hamilton helped me dust off my flying skills as well as taught Ari on Now, one of my greatest joys is hanging out at the field, flying with my fellow Eagles (including my son!), and seeing

how we're all here to have fun, be safe, and help others out. Flying at other fields on occasion, I'm reminded of how friendly we all are to members and visitors alike. It's something both unique and special about our club.

As your next president, I've got a few ways that I want to continue our camaraderie while also leaving the place even better when my time as president comes to a close. In particular, I want to help strengthen the club in the following three areas: Modernize club processes so we spend more time as a board with members instead of logistics/paperwork, strengthen the relationship with the park, and the big one (long-term goal): a runway that's as smooth as butter.

We have an incredible group of committed leaders on the board, and I'm honored to join the team. I'm also excited that Pete Link has stepped up as Secretary to round out a full and complete board.

I'm always up for hearing new ideas about ways to make the membership experience better, the club a better place, and the field an oasis of fun for us all. Send me ideas as you've got them.

Now - Let's go fly!

Brett Schklar,  
Club President

[brett@schklar.com](mailto:brett@schklar.com)

Cell (text first): 303-883-2449



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## Secretary's Welcome Message



### Hello Denver Eagles,

It is my pleasure to serve as your secretary. Since the club has not had a one for some time, I look

forward to establishing consistent processes and helping ensure the smooth running of club business.

A little about me. I started building and flying model airplanes at the age of 10. Growing up in former Czechoslovakia, a close friend handed me his partially completed glider wing and said he was done with the hobby and that I should finish it. I completed the model and began competing in FAI F1A free-flight glider events. To my surprise, I won most of the competitions I entered.

I took a break until the age of 16, after our move to Houston, once life and school stabilized, and my English improved. That was when I built my first RC motor-powered plane. Without guidance from an instructor or a club, the maiden flight did not go as imagined. I repaired it; however, I never had the courage to fly it again.

My love for airplanes and flying continued to grow. I made many trips to Oshkosh with my dad, and years later, brought my own son on his first visit. That is where he developed a strong love for flying and is now pursuing his dream of flying the 777 for United. OK, he is only 16, so we are currently exploring flight schools for his Private Pilot rating and researching whether 529 funds can be used towards that goal. (If you know, let me know.)

Most of my adult life, I was distracted by running Marathons (35), racing Ironman triathlons (2), and riding

my bike ultra long distances (600K in 24 hours), but I did manage to re-enter the hobby around 2022 with my first 3D printed glider. 3D printing has become my hobby as well, and combining building and flying is still a craft that I am trying to perfect. Especially the landing part. It turns out that ultra-light plastic does not like hard landings.

I try to fly as much as possible, splitting my time between Denver and the mountains, where I attempt to keep up with Klaebo in biathlon. Biathlon racing and winning have been hobbies that started at the age of 10 through the same friend who handed me the glider wing. My friend hates that, in anything he handed me, I beat all the competition, including him, in Biathlon and glider competitions.

As for work, that is a bit of a longer story. Most recently, I served as 'Director of IT and Security' and also 'Vendor Evaluations Director' at Pax8, a major software distributor. Pax8 happens to be the #1 distributor of Microsoft licenses in the United States and #2 globally.

These days, I spend a lot of time on a few personal projects. One of them is rceye.com, an RC maintenance app that is currently in beta. More info coming soon.

Another project is an autonomous trading platform I call Trader Cowboy. It is not a small project. Right now, it uses 114 of my own Python libraries and more than 46,000 lines of code. It is still in beta and currently being tested with my own machine learning (ML) model trained on over 745 million data points covering the last ten years of stock data. It is paper trading, so I am happy to report, no real money has been lost!

I will continue 3D printing, building, tinkering, and flying, and will make an effort to make it to the field more often.

Until then, safe skies and see you at Suhaka!

Pete Link  
Club Secretary

[thepetelink@yahoo.com](mailto:thepetelink@yahoo.com)

Cell (text first): 720-437-0616



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## Meeting Recap

February 18, 2026

Location: Colpar Hobbies

### 1. Leadership Updates

- **Brett Schklar elected President (unanimous).**
- **Focus areas:**
  - Modernize club processes.
  - Strengthen park relationship.
  - Long-term goal: pursue a new runway.
- **Pete Link elected Secretary (unanimous).**

### 2. Park & Lease (High Priority)

- The lease with the park is to be finalized. Meeting with park leadership is a priority.
- Plan to request an on-field walkthrough with multiple board members present.
- Key discussion topics with the park:
  - Prairie dog holes (safety hazard).
  - The sidewalk lip is causing trips and landing gear damage.
  - Gravel/mud issues near pits and connex.
  - Possible fencing and shade improvements.
  - Incredible progress on the new parking in the middle of the roundabout.
- Agreement to document and track safety incidents to support park requests.

### 3. FRIA & Operations

- FRIA paperwork must be updated/renewed.
- No officially sanctioned night flying due to FRIA restrictions and site hours.

### 4. Safety Emphasis

- Always verify control directions on new aircraft.
- Rebind aircraft after transmitter repair or receiver firmware updates.

### 5. Membership & Outreach

- Membership remains healthy; renewals are ongoing.
- Members encouraged to:
  - Wear club IDs at the field.
  - Approach observers and distribute brochures.

### • Proposal:

- Install a large fence sign with QR code to the training page.
- Create a welcome/training video.
- Create a form on the Training page of the site to collect info and offer an opt-in to the newsletter.

### 6. Field & Infrastructure

- The weather station is functioning but the anemometer accuracy needs to be checked.
- Plan for a spring-loaded double-swing pit gate with signage to the entrance of the field from the parking area. Goal: Keep visitors from automatically wandering into the pit area.
- Maintenance days will start in April. First one is April 18 from 8-10 AM, then on the 3rd Saturday from 8-10 AM every month through November
- Hole identified near the north end of the runway; needs attention.

### 7. Warbirds Event (Major 2026 Event)

- Tentative dates: September 12–13 (Sat/Sun).
  - Early marketing push and cross-club outreach underway.
  - Volunteer committee needed.
  - Amenities (bleachers, shade, shuttle, etc.) to be decided as we get closer to the event.

### 8. Communications & Modernization

- Club adopting a meeting transcription/summarization tool to streamline minutes.
- Proposal to implement QR-based safety reporting system feeding a centralized log.
- Increase communication via newsletter and MembershipWorks (not just Facebook).

The meeting concluded with reminders to support the hobby shop hosting the meetings, including buying supplies locally. Members were also informed about an upcoming swap meet at the shop and encouraged to attend or sell items.



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## Show & Tell

**Bob Smith** presented a Seagull Models A6M3 Zero (a scale model of the Japanese aircraft used at Pearl Harbor). The kit comes mostly pre-built and covered, but Bob made several modifications:



- Replaced the original mechanical retract landing gear with P-51 electric retracts from Horizon Hobby.
- Modified the tail wheel to be retractable instead of fixed.
- Fabricated custom wheel covers to fit the new landing gear.
- Chose an electric power system (around a 960 KV motor).
- The plane has not yet flown; he is still fine-tuning the retractable tail wheel.

**Jeff Rosen** shared progress on a Top Flite Spitfire kit, his first traditional kit build in about 30 years. He demonstrated how he is using 3D printing to assist the build:

- Printed assembly jigs to hold ribs and formers while building.
- Designed and printed a custom servo mount for the wing.
- Modeled and printed scale Spitfire wheel covers to replace the generic ones included with the kit.
- The aircraft has a 63-inch wingspan and will use an electric power system (around a 500 KV motor).
- The wing and tail structures are mostly built; he is still deciding whether to finish it with paint or lightweight covering to avoid excess weight.



Our next meeting is  
**Wednesday, March, 18<sup>th</sup> @ 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.denverrceagles.org](http://www.denverrceagles.org)