

# PHPA Main Rotor



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March 2003

## PHPA welcomes new Commanding Officer to Glendale PD - Air Support

Information and photos provided by PHPA Board member John Gilkerson

The Air Support Unit of the Glendale Police Department has a new OIC. Sergeant Carl Povilaitis joined the unit last October, replacing retired Sergeant Ron Allison, who had been the unit supervisor since 1988.

Sergeant Povilaitis supervises 5 officers and a full time mechanic, and works alongside Burbank Sergeant Bob Quesada and the other Burbank crewmembers in the joint Air Support Unit. Povilaitis is a 12 year veteran of the agency, having worked patrol, detectives, and the community policing unit before promoting. Carl (*center in the photo below*) supervised officers in patrol, then in the detective bureau before moving on to air support.



## IN THIS ISSUE

New OIC at Glendale PD - Aviation Support

Visiting HAI at Dallas by Board Member Ricarda Bennett

President' Message + Doug Daigle Memoriam

## DALLAS - HAI CONVENTION *... and what you missed*

By Ricarda Bennett  
PHPA Board of Directors

The Dallas HAI had a full schedule of meetings with something for everyone and more. Since I was trapped in many different meetings (all too numerous to report here), I did not see all of the displays on the convention floor. But I did do a tour d' force one day for a couple of hours - The best espresso and variety of helicopters was Eurocopters; the best business card luggage tags and quiet atmosphere was Bell. All and all there were many booths and HAI pronounced that it was a successful year.

The Whirly Girls banquet is always a lot of fun and not to be missed. The speaker was a woman helicopter pilot who recently wrote a book on her last race around the world in a Robinson R-44. Her challenger was a man flying in an ultra-light. What an adventure. Our own Al Broussard bought a beautiful Bell 412 helicopter model to contribute to the scholarship fund. Here are a few of the committee highlights.

- The "Heliport Committee" is keeping tabs on the FAA Heliport Design - document. Due to budget constraints, the FAA has not yet published it.
- The Fort Lauderdale, Florida Heliport is open and doing well. They had a booth on the floor of the show. The only heliport in Washington D.C. was initially closed after 9-11. Now it has been leased by Steve Walker, of Capitol Rising. He is working with the TSA to increase the use of the heliport by the corporations and air medical.

*Continued on Page 2*

Carl holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration (USC), and for the past nine years, has instructed at Glendale Community College in the Administration of Justice discipline, as well as aviation courses (ground school, navigation, airport management). He has also held a seat on the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Commission for the last four years.

As for ratings, Carl is a commercial pilot (single- and multi-engine, land), and is also instrument rated. As for the rotorcraft rating...well, as administrative duties allow, he's working on that one too!

Glendale PD Aviation unit operates 2 MD 520N models and work extensively with their neighbors in Burbank PD Air Support, and provide air coverage for both cities when they're not flying, and vice-versa (we alternate our schedules, shag calls in both cities), and are available for other cities as well (we make our way to San Fernando once in a while, when they need).

Glendale pilots includes Rich Phillips (CFI), Bill Donley, Burnie McCollum, one in-training, Tom Broadway (TFO) as well as myself.



## PHPA Calendar of Events

### **17 April Annual Safety Seminar**

AirTel Plaza Hotel - Van Nuys Airport  
Program: "After Effect - A Lesson Learned "

8:30 Registration & Continental breakfast

Please RSVP via (213) 891-3636 or  
Email : [RSVP@phpa.org](mailto:RSVP@phpa.org)

Check the PHPA website for more event details

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

- Boston - may be getting a new heliport near the Nashua St. heliport.

- Federal Funds for Hospital Heliports: HAI along with AAMS are going to lobby Congress to modify the FAA - AIP (Airport Improvement Program) regulations to allow public funds to be used for hospital heliport development. It will be necessary to change the regulations to support public fund expenditures for a quasi-public purpose.

- The Committee is entertaining the hope of presenting the attributes of a public use heliport to the League of Cities or American Planning Association sometime in 2003 and a booth at HAI in Las Vegas - 2004

- AHS - is presenting several seminars in Scottsdale, Arizona at the beginning of May - on acoustics and on the various operational challenges.

- The Air Tour Group listed to the FAA present the latest plans for measuring noise. The U.S. DOI just completed a study on the "Aircraft Noise Model Validation Study" to determine which of four computer models best calculates tour aircraft audibility in the Grand Canyon.

- The Acoustics Committee discussed changes to the Fly High Chart (which we have passed out at our general membership meetings). There was also an explanation by John Leverton on how to evaluate the usefulness of a simplified method of prediction for helicopter noise. This was explored further in the Environmental Seminar presented the next day.

- Affiliates Meeting: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the many pilot organizations throughout the world an opportunity to share their latest concerns. Matt Zucarro is the moderator - from the Eastern Helicopter Association. The operators and corporations back there are jointly and actively involved in saving their heliports and responding to noise complaints.

# President's Message

By Armen Dermenjian

Last October we held a meeting for public service and ENG pilots at Helinec. Although the meeting was held several months ago, I would like to express my disappointment with the attendance by the ENG pilots. One of the reasons for organizing the meeting was to bring the pilots together to discuss the increasing noise complaints. In fact, the noise issue is so important that Captain Mike Hillman (then the commander of the LAPD Air Support Unit), representatives of city government, and pilots from various public service organizations were present at the meeting. But for some reason, most EGN pilots were absent. I will not speculate why they were not present, but I would like to make two comments: First, we do not have to be sick to think about being healthy. We seem to have a good working relationship among the pilots but we need active participation to maintain that relationship. Second, to be sure, the noise problem should be a concern to all pilots. However, should the government impose restrictions on helicopter operations to reduce the effects of helicopter noise on our communities, not too many of you will disagree with me that public service will not be as effected by those restrictions as will the private operators.

We are planning to have another Public Service/ENG Pilots meeting this fall. We are also planning on organizing a meeting with the ATC controllers from local airports. I hope to see you at those meetings. Until then, be safe and fly neighborly!

## **Armen Dermenjian**

*President,  
Professional Helicopters Pilots Association  
www.phpa.org*

Dallas - HAI Convention

from page 2

Matt acts as the point person for all helicopter related concerns. He investigates, monitors complaints, makes recommendations, presentations and follows through with solutions. They are highly organized and focused on educating both the pilots and the public about flying neighborly.

And to make sure that I would come back next year, I was elected vice-chair of both the Acoustics Committee and the Heliport Committee. Jen McSkimmings was elected secretary of the Heliport Committee, a position I held for three years.

*Ricarda Bennett  
PHPA - Board of Directors*

## Welcome Aboard New & Renewing PHPA Members !

### **October / November / December / 2002:**

Jeff Cook, Ventura, CA  
Jerry Sackett, Cowan Heights, CA  
Ron Monahan, Mission Viejo, CA  
Michael Hegewald, Los Angeles, CA  
Ben Baker, Studio City, CA  
Adam Bennett, No. Hollywood, CA  
Joseph Areeda, Los Angeles, CA  
Los Angeles Helicopters, Long Beach, CA  
Briles Helicopter & Wing, Van Nuys, CA  
Brian Jordan, Los Angeles, CA  
Ed Story, Marina Del Ray, CA  
Joe Hudson III, Upland, CA  
Rod Bernson, Los Angeles, CA

### **January 2003:**

Phil Aune, West Hills, CA  
Michele Prestholt, Long Beach, CA  
Barry Groveman, Calabasas, Ca  
Randy Waldman, Studio City, CA  
Doug Bowers, Camarillo, CA  
Joe Gabriele, Tarzana, CA  
Eric Fraser, Redlands, CA  
Chris Beasley, Oakland, CA  
Karl Koller, Valencia, CA

### **February 2003:**

Kristine Yaroschuk, Los Feliz, CA

**P . H . P . A .**  
**Executive Officers & Board of Directors**

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***Final Approach - In Memoriam***  
**Douglas David Daigle**

**December 23, 1952 – December 16, 2002**

Born in Los Angeles and a resident of Orange County since High School, Doug Daigle was an important and influential member of the Aviation Community. One of the youngest helicopter flight instructors in the Nation at age 19, he was the founder and President of Tridair Helicopters, Inc.,

headquartered at John Wayne Orange County Airport.

In his career he helped build the Alaskan Pipeline, the Palm Springs Tram, shot IMAX movies, and provided helicopter transport to many U. S. Presidents and dignitaries. He developed the twin engine version of the popular Bell 206 JetRanger helicopter, known as the TwinRanger, for which he holds several technology patents.

Doug also restored and maintained the world's oldest flying production helicopter, a Bell 47B, which is hangared at Tridair. He frequently used the helicopter to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for local charities. In 1989, along with three other pilots, he set the World Hovering Record at Anaheim Stadium in an event that raised \$250,000 for the Lestonnac Free Clinic. The achievement remains unchallenged in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The helicopter has been accepted for permanent display at the new Smithsonian Air & Space Museum facility opening at Dulles International Airport in 2004.

A resident of Laguna Beach, Doug is survived by his partner Jeff Clark, mother Jill Hatfield, sisters Jessie Bynder of Corona del Mar, and Joyce Meyer of Sparks Nevada; brothers Joe Daigle of Lake Havasu City and Leroy Daigle of Portland, Oregon; and his yellow lab, Sandie.

Services were held Thursday, December 19 at St. Mary's Episcopal Church , 428 Park Avenue, Laguna Beach at 4:30 P.M.

On February 22, a Memorial for Doug was held at Tridair at Orange County Airport. At the ceremony, the Heliport at the facility was renamed "Douglas Daigle Heliport". It is the world's largest elevate heliport, and was conceived by Doug. The afternoon also featured a helicopter fly-by incorporating the traditional "missing man" formation flown by his friends and colleagues

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