

PHPA Main Rotor



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PHPA Teams up with Van Nuys to Salute Air Rescue

During the destructive October 2003 fire season, PHPA members were fully engaged in fire suppression and management efforts and they recently came together to share their experiences and candidly talk about lessons learned.

PHPA Receives special briefing from those involved in fire storms last October

The entire PHPA General Membership enjoyed and a great General Members Meeting and dinner on March 3, 2004 at the Hawthorne Airport to share an evening with those who flew the firestorms

Oct 03 Firestorm facts:

\$ 9 million in firefighting costs per day;
22 deaths;

1,170 sq. miles consumed;

3,600 homes destroyed;

insurance industry losses at over \$ 2 billion

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PHPA Teams Up with Van Nuys Airport for the 1st Annual "Salute to Air Rescue" Community Open House

By James Paules - PHPA Board Member

This year PHPA is proud to be working with Van Nuys Airport to bring together a diverse collection of public service and private helicopters for presentation to the community. PHPA members and others are encouraged to support this admission-free event with a static display of their helicopters

The event theme will be "A Salute to Air Support and Rescue," honoring the firefighters who bravely protected lives and property during the recent California wildfires, as well as law enforcement and other public service aircraft/pilots. The Professional Helicopter Pilots Association will participate with a special exhibit and aircraft display area to support our community mission of education and safety in rotary wing operations.

Event Date: Saturday June 26

The Salute to Air Rescue event is designed to replace the larger Aviation Expo, which Van Nuys has hosted for several years.

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Prior PHPA President Di Giovanna receives accolades at HAI Convention

GUEST SPEAKERS many of whom are PHPA members included:

- ❑ Chief Kenny Duval, Angeles Forest Aviation Officer - primary Air Tactical Group Supervisor for the forest; aka Air Attack 01
- ❑ Art Bradbury, Manager & Chief Pilot & Division Manager, Southern California Edison's Air Operation - ex- PHPA board member; Art has logged over 14,000 accident and violation-free flight hours in 34 years; manages 4 helis& 1 leased turbo-prop plane
- ❑ Captain Dave Lopez - Sr. Crew Chief and Helicopter Coordinator for Orange County Fire Authority
- ❑ Sgt. Tim Hagel - Search & Rescue Crew Chief, Ventura County Sheriffs
- ❑ Lee Benson - Sr. Pilot, LA County Fire
- ❑ Jim Woodaman - President of PHPA, Chief Pilot - Summit Helicopter, Pilot for Hawthorne PD, & Helicopter Pilot for Ch 2 & Ch 9 News - Media Representative
- ❑ Stanton Floria - Fire Information Ofcr, Angeles National Forest

 Glen Grossman, Photographer,
LAPD Reserve Ofcr, Air Support Unit
 Morris Cohen & Mike Meadows Photographs
Ca. Fire Photographers Assoc.

Pat Carey, Airport Advisory Committee for the City of Hawthorne, spoke on the new FAA Los Angeles heli route chart.

Thanks to Deborah Shane for the event facts and managing the sometimes rowdy crowd.

PHPA Main Rotor Editor

Capt. James Di Giovanna, Commander of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Aero Bureau, has been awarded the Helicopter Association International's (HAI) 2003 MD Helicopters Law Enforcement Award. This award was presented March 16, 2004, at HELI-EXPO in Las Vegas, Nevada, during HAI's 43rd annual "Salute to Excellence" awards ceremony.

Di Giovanna has over 30 years of leadership and experience as a professional law enforcement officer in California. Through the Airborne Law Enforcement Association's (ALEA) Unit Manager's Course, he's instructed more than 400 students. In 2002, as the ALEA Training Director, Di Giovanna reorganized and added several classes with a renewed focus on safety and professionalism.

As Director of Flight Operations for the LASD Aero Bureau, Di Giovanna completed three aircraft upgrade evolutions that involved all the bureau's helicopters. He introduced three new model aircraft that required extensive procedures development and new technology training. Di Giovanna also created and implemented the Airborne Microwave Video Downlink program used by the Los Angeles Sheriff and Fire Departments. As Commander of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Aero Bureau, Di Giovanna is responsible for 68 sworn and civilian personnel, 16 rotary, and three fixed-wing aircraft in a program that flies 10,000 hours per year, and has a \$10 million annual budget.

PHPA Annual Safety Seminar

Friday, April 23, 2004

**Airtel Plaza Hotel / Concorde Room II & III
Located @ Van Nuys Airport
7277 Valjean Av., Van Nuys, CA 91406**

Topic: Communications & Anti-Terrorism

Registration & Continental Breakfast 08:00

Speakers include

Dan Johnson – LAPD ASD
Patrick Bailey – Bailey & Partners
Bill Reservato – FAA Regional
Open Discussion Forum

Current PHPA members are **FREE** of charge; all others are \$35.00 per person at the door (includes a PHPA membership through June-2005). Feel free to join the seminar at any point during the morning, but please reserve your seat no later than April 20, 2004 on line at svp@phpa.org, or by calling the PHPA Message Center at (213) 891-3636.

VNY + PHPA = A Salute to Air Rescue *Continued from page 1*

In addition to helicopters the event will feature:

- *Tenant aircraft displays*
- *Vintage aircraft displays*
- *Public service aircraft displays*
- Los Angeles City and County firefighting aircraft will be on static display, including the S-70A Firehawk and S-64 Air crane Helitanker.
- Members of the Professional Helicopter Pilots Association, the leading organization of helicopter pilots on the West Coast, will participate with displays of fire, law enforcement, public safety and electronic news gathering / media aircraft.
- Exhibits & airport tours
- Hands-on aircraft display/photo opportunity
- Entertainment and concessions

Check out the PHPA website for details on how your helicopter can participate with a static display.

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ROBINSON HELICOPTER NAMES SCHOLARSHIP RECEIPTANT

By PHPA Board Member Jen McSkimming
Robinson Helicopter

Robinson Safety Course Scholarship has been conferred on Melanie Real, WG # 998, of San Pedro, California. Donated Robinson Helicopter Comnay, this scholarship allows a Whirly-Girl in good standing to attend the Robinson Rss/R44 Safety Course. Conducted at the Robinson factory in Torrance, California, the course consists of 2 ½ day of classroom instruction and one day devoted to maintenance, pre-flight inspection and flying with an experienced Robinson pilot.

Reals's goal for her scholarship is to keep her CFI certificate current. Real is a teacher and site coordinator for the Harbor Community Adult School in San Pedro. She holds a commercial rotorcraft rating with ground instrument endorsement and a rotorcraft CFI, Melanie holds a BA in Sapcnien from USC, an associate degree in interior design and aduedcuation teaching certificate. Melanie is a member of the Professional Helicopter Pilots association (PHPA), the nation Association of Flight instructors and women in Aviation International.

The PHPA Board of Directors congratulates Melanie on her achievement and would like to commend Robinson Helicopters for their support of our members' active interest in aviation.

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P.H.P.A.

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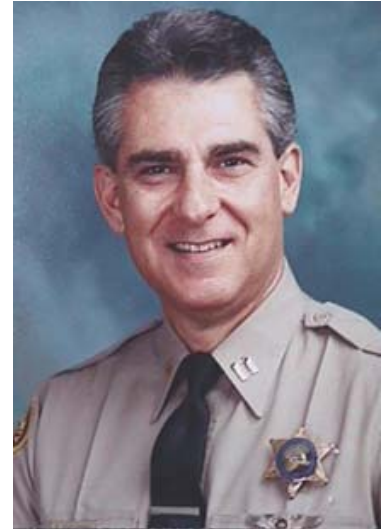
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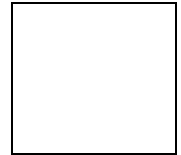
In addition, Jim has assisted hundreds of law enforcement agencies in the development of training programs, established operational standards, and launched safety and management programs.



The Board of Directors of the PHPA is proud to join with HAI and its entire membership in recognizing Di Giovanna's many significant contributions to aviation and law enforcement with his receipt of the 2003 MD Helicopters Law Enforcement Award.

*** www.phpa.org ***

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