Professional Helicopter Pilots Association

P.H.P.A. / Main Rotor

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PHPA Members participate in a host of events for Education and Community Service this Fall season.

2004 HAD Lands Again at the Los Alamitos Wings, Wheels & Rotors Expo.

By James Paules - PHPA Board Member

PHPA member operators were out in full force for the annual Helicopter Awareness Day event at Los Alamitos recently. In contrast to last year's smoke and ashes from wildfires, the weather was picture perfect for this season's HAD held Sunday, October 26th. Part of the annual Wings, Wheels and Rotors admission-free event at Los Alamitios the event brought together PHPA operators, their aircraft and the community for an up-close and personal view of the dynamic role helicopters play in law enforcement, fire safety and media communications.

Over 20 aircraft were on hand to present a diverse look at rotary wing aviation including LASD Aero Bureau, Long Beach PD, Orange CO Fire Authority and many more! Thanks to all our members for a great turn out!!!.

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PHPA members Hear Aviation Security Concerns from Law Enforcement VIPS at General Members Meeting.

Prompted by information from the FBI and the DHS about the possibility of terrorists hi-jacking helicopters as weapon delivery systems, our September GMM at the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant on September 29th brought together speakers to address this vital topic.

FBI Special Agent Peter Hoffmann (top photo) briefed attendees on the international scope of terrorist threats and noted sweeping changes made by the FBI in response to these threats.

PHPA Board member Robert Butler (center photo) addressed concerns of the private operator in Southern California

LAPD Chief John Miller (lower photo) discussed the broad range of terrorist targets involving aviation in and around Los Angeles. He also shared background on strides LAPD has made to enhance communication among other local, state and Federal resources to keep Los Angeles safe.

Everyone agreed – two thumbs up for the event co-hosts: PHPA Board members John Gilkerson and Jim Paules.







Special Message from the desk of the PHPA Vice President

Wow, we sure live in exciting times here in Southern California! As helicopter pilots, these exciting times bring real challenges to our everyday lives. We operate in very high density traffic environments - flying R-22's with brand new student pilots, fighting fires with Bell 412's and Firehawks, performing Swiftwater rescues or gathering the news in AS350's everyday and we think nothing of it. It's the norm for us. That's where we - the PHPA - comes into the picture. We are your organization that strives to keep you, our members, up to date on the latest safety issues (like route changes) and concerns of the public (like noise complaints).

We are here to promote helicopter safety and to help mediate or disseminate information on how "we" as one of the major factors (pilots) in the equation, can promote our industry to the public. PHPA does this by hosting general membership meetings (GMM) with an array of interesting speakers and topics throughout the year. Let me highlight some of the forthcoming meetings for this year.

The January, 26, 2005 General Membership Meeting will be at the Los Angeles Airport and Flight Path Learning Center. Attendees will have the chance to enjoy dinner, a great list of guest speakers, and learn about the new helicopter chart changes (just re-issued December 23, 2004). Come join us to learn what's new and get a chance to provide first hand information on additional chart corrections.

Next, the HAI is in town February 6, 7 and 8th Wow, three days of cruising up and down the aisles of the Anaheim Convention Center looking at the newest and greatest helicopters and support equipment available to our industry right here in our own back yard. It can't get any better than that! PHPA will have a booth, with T-shirts, pins, and hats available, along with PHPA forms for signing up new members.

Our annual safety seminar is in April – always a good place to hone one's knowledge on what's going on in the Los Angeles area and at the same time meet the requirements of the FAA's Wing's Program. Plus, it's another chance to put a face to that voice on the 123.025 basin helicopter frequency.

May and June always bring the annual fire briefing for the media and different fire agencies – a pre-game huddle so to speak - so that we (Media and Fire agencies) are all working off the same sheet of music for the coming summer fire season.

This June will again see the American Heroes Air Show which is scheduled for June 25th @ the Hanson Dam Regional Park. It's great way to meet and talk with the people who work within our industry. The exchange of information and the ability to see first hand some of the equipment and aircraft being used every day ensures that this is a worthwhile event. Bring the family out to enjoy this free event.

July brings one of my favorites - the annual Hollywood Bowl General Membership Meeting. Think warm summer nights, good music, some vino, good company and dinner @ the Hollywood Bowl. The election results are in and the introduction of your new board of directors top off the evening.

Later in the year brings us another GMM – possibly out in the Inland Empire area – hosted by one of our own members. Also the Wings, Wheels & Rotors Event is normally held at Los Alamitos in October.

That's just a quick down and dirty overview of the new year's events. For more information go to our very own website **www.phpa.org** and get the latest updates and changes. You'll also find some interesting links and even a way to renew your membership on line.

We are *your* PHPA! Come help us provide the support you need to do your everyday job safely.

Jim Davidson

PHPA – Vice President

Orange County Fire Authority

P.H.P.A.

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PHPA General Member Meeting ALERT

Wednesday, January 26th 2005 6 p.m.

Flight Path Learning Center at the Imperial Terminal at LAX 6661 Imperial Hwy, El Segundo, CA.

Topic: "L.A. Airspace"

Join airspace users and top FAA

officials to learn about important

changes recently made to the LA

Helicopter Route Chart.

Admission Fee of \$25 includes buffet style dinner and copy of the new LA Helicopter Route Chart.

Attendance is limited RSVP ASAP to RSVP@phpa.org or call-in (213) 891 - 3636

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