

FAASTeam presents:

# The Collective- Helicopter Cross-Country Flight Recap

Most helicopter flight missions are local due to range and carrying capacity. So it's a rare learning experience to take a helicopter on a 1200-mile ferry flight across three states.

CFII Merrick Vander Lugt and helicopter student, Tim Elwell, share their lessons learned from their four-day journey from San Carlos, CA to Seattle, WA and back in a Robinson R-44 helicopter. Enjoy the view through photographs and follow along in the decision making process used on the ground in flight. Some topics of discussion will include pre-flight planning, route selection, in-flight weather considerations, fuel diversions, and precautionary landings.

San Carlos Flight Center's helicopter pilot group, known as The Collective, brings helicopter pilots together to improve safety and operational knowledge. Pilots participating in The Collective meet and talk about helicopter lessons, helicopter flying, and helicopter adventures. We know that helicopter pilots are a special breed, somewhat apart from the world of fixed-wing aviation, and a special breed sometimes needs a special meeting place. That's us, The Collective, rising together into the world of helicopter flight.

## Event Details

**Mon, Oct 24, 2016 - 19:00 PST**

**San Carlos Flight Center**

655 Skyway Road, 215

215

San Carlos, CA 94070



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Representative DAN KELLY DYER

This group is of helicopter pilots, for helicopter pilots, by helicopter pilots. Join us to learn about cool topics in more detail, listen to exciting guest speakers, analyze specific accidents or events in the industry, and have engaging conversations about everybody's aviation story.

Tim Elwell has been training at the flight center since January of 2016. As a fireman, he was injured on the job, and unable to do many of the things he enjoyed prior to being hurt. A little bit too big for the R-22, he has transitioned to the R-44, and flies with both Kelton Porter and Merrick Vander Lugt. The trip to Seattle to exchange the R-44 took three days, and it proved to be a sort of immersive “bootcamp” for many facets to piloting across country.

Merrick Vander Lugt is a helicopter CFI/I at the flight center since June of 2016. He has been instructing for a total of two years now and has over 1200 flight hours. In the past Merrick spent 4 years in United States Marine Corps where he was a field radio operator where he acted as the company radio chief.

**Directions:** Pilots who fly in should park in transient parking on the opposite side of the field and expect to walk about 10 minutes (.5 mile) to the Flight Center. Suite 215 is upstairs in the northwest corner. On occasion, rides may be prearranged through San Carlos Aviation and Supply.

**A message from the National FAASafety Manager**

Invite a fellow pilot to the next WINGS Safety Seminar in your area.

Sign up for the FAA's safety services at [www.FAASafety.gov](http://www.FAASafety.gov)!

The FAA Safety Team (FAASafety) is committed to providing equal access to this meeting/event for all participants. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, please communicate your request as soon as possible with the person in the "Contact Information" area of the meeting/event notice. Note that two weeks is usually required to arrange services.