



Media Contact: John Crozier (760) 793-2266
E-mail: publicity@hwdairrally.org

Hayward to Bend Air Rally Promotes Core Pilot Skills

45th Annual Event Set to Take Off on June 12

HAYWARD, CA, June 1, 2009 – From all over the West Coast, 27 aircraft and pilot crews are preparing for competition in the 45th Annual Hayward Air Rally, on June 12, 2009. The longest continually-held flying event of this type in North America, this proficiency challenge offers aviators the opportunity to demonstrate their airmanship skills of fuel planning and cross-country flight without the use of advanced navigation equipment.

The actual rally course is announced the day prior to the event. The course consists of two legs, each approximately 250 nautical miles. The first leg is from Hayward (HWD) to Redding, CA (RDD). The second leg extends from Redding to Bend, OR (BDN). Each rally leg contains multiple checkpoints, which must be visually identified. Prior to departure from Hayward, each pilot turns in estimates of their enroute flight times and fuel consumption for each of the two legs. This will be the Air Rally's first visit to Oregon.

Traditionally flown without the use of GPS, LORAN, DME, RNAV or Digital Fuel Flow Meters, flight teams are scored on their ability to precisely predict flight times and fuel consumption enroute to the two required landing points. Flight crews are scored on a combination of identifying check points, matching predicted time (to the second) and matching predicted fuel usage (to the tenth of a gallon). The lowest score wins. Penalty points are accumulated for incorrectly identifying checkpoints, as well as deviating from time enroute and fuel estimates. Newly-adopted rally rules allow the entry of pilots who declare the use of GPS, and scoring of such pilots are ranked against the entire field.

The winners of the 2008 Hayward Air Rally were Thomas Engdahl and his son Patrick, of Novato, CA flying a Beechcraft Sierra. The Engdahls are returning in 2009 to defend their championship.

The rally is open to pilots of single and multi-engine piston aircraft with a minimum range of 400 nautical miles. Student pilots may participate as pilots if an appropriately rated flight instructor accompanies them. Copilots/navigators need not be licensed, nor even a pilot, to participate.

This annual event is organized by the Hayward Air Rally, Inc., a charitable non-profit (IRS 501c3) organization that promotes aviation safety through competition in skills-based events. Corporate sponsors include AirBP, Air Chart Systems, Arctic Air Coolers, the City of Hayward, ICOM America, Networks in Motion, the City of Redding, and Sean D. Tucker's Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety. The event is also supported by the Alameda County and Mount Shasta chapters of the 99s, the International Association of Women Pilots.

For more information, visit the event web site: <http://www.hwdairrally.org>