

# PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## *PALO ALTO AIRPORT*



Volume No. XIX Issue No. 1 March 15, 2005

### QUICK WORK AVERTS FLOODING AT PA AIRPORT

City of Palo Alto Park Rangers worked diligently to place sandbags at a section of the levee around the airport that was below flood tide level. City public works people joined the effort by plugging rodent holes that were leaking. As a result, there was no flooding at the Airport during recent winter high tides. One can speculate that if the effort had not been made, water flowing over and through the levee might have caused a catastrophic failure of the levee, resulting in a major flood. Our sincere thanks go to the rangers and public works employees who took immediate action when it was needed.



Sandbags hold tide at levee across from tower.

### MEETING CALENDAR

April 5 12:00 PM	PAAA Board of Directors, Abundant Air Cafe
April 5 7:00 PM	SC County Airport Commission, 70 W. Hedding, San Jose
April 12 8:00 AM	JCRC Meeting, West Valley Flying Club
April 19 7:30 PM	PAAA <b>Annual Meeting</b> , West Valley Flying Club
May 3 12:00 PM	PAAA Board of Directors, Abundant Air Cafe

### ANNUAL MEETING & PROGRAM APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Election

The bylaws of the PAAA require an annual meeting and election of officers and directors in April. Save the date, as we need **30% of the membership** in person or by proxy at the meeting for a quorum. The by-laws call for the board to offer a slate of officers and board members at the annual meeting. As we go to press, the following existing board members, officers and directors have agreed to "re up" for the next year, and will be on the slate.

President: Ralph Britton  
Treasurer: Don Shrank  
Secretary: John Grigsby

#### Other board Members:

Bob Lenox  
Michael Baum  
Bob Briggs  
Nancy Fouquet

Nominations from the floor also will be accepted at the meeting, as provided by the by-laws. To ensure a

# PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

quorum, we plan to send another letter and proxy form before the election.

## **Program: GPS in the Cockpit**

“Sir, we have an amendment to your routing...” Re-programming your GPS on short notice at a time of high cockpit workload might be a really unwelcome shift in priorities. How about plan B? PAAA will present a program about the advantages and pitfalls of GPS in the cockpit, and strategies for its use. Speaker to be announced.

Cookies and beverages provided.

## **CITY, COUNTY AND WATER DISTRICT ADDRESS LEVEE ISSUES**

The reason for the inadequacy of the levee structures near the airport is subsidence of the land underneath the levee. On-site observations showed that some sections were as much as two feet lower than higher parts. The levees are under the joint authority of the City of Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District. City staff has been working with the County, and according to Chris Mogensen, of the City Managers Office, the County will be the lead agency. PAAA member and JCRC Chair Peter Carpenter, who has been following this issue, states that as matters stand, the Water District is going to survey the levees and the County will do the repair work. At this point, the County is working to get required permits. The PAAA Board will continue to monitor progress and report in future editions.

## **FUEL SAMPLING JARS AVAILABLE**

If you haven't already picked up your *GATS* fuel-sampling jar, be sure to do so. Jars are available from the County at the terminal, if you use a county tiedown space. Roy Aero Enterprises have them for their tenants, and Palo Alto Flying Club tenants can collect a jar at the club office. The *GATS* Jars incorporate a fine-mesh filter that traps contaminants and water, separating it from clean fuel when emptied. With these fuel samplers, you return sumped fuel to your tanks, avoiding wasted fuel. Simply dumping the fuel on the ground releases hydrocarbons into the air and results in lead contamination of the bay. So do

your part by picking up one of these and using it. This program is funded as a public service of PAAA.

When the jars arrived from the manufacturer, about one third of them were broken. The manufacturer asserts that this was due to a bad batch of plastic molding material. If yours breaks, please take it to the terminal and get a replacement from the county. The manufacturer is supplying new ones made from different material as replacements.

## **AIRPORT DAY 2005 IS COMING**

Once again we need to put the team together for the next Airport Day. Building on last year's success, this year should be even better. If you volunteered last year, please join us again and use your experience to make things smoother. If you haven't, join the fun and know you are doing something to promote your airport's future. Stay tuned.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome the following new members:

Alan Baratz, Don Durston, Rick Hayes-Roth, Rich Hill, Bob Lisbonne, Peter Lloyd, Alexander Merk, Ashwath Naraj, John Powell, Ernie Prisbe, William Rust, Robert Schreiner, Lloyd Stevens, Gary Trovinger. A larger membership helps PAAA to be a stronger advocate for PAO. Thanks for joining us and adding your support!

## **ANNUAL DUES DUE**

If you haven't sent in your dues for 2005, please do so right away. Treasurer Don Shrank would like to close out this paper work now, and outstanding dues just add to his workload. We're sure he would much rather be concerned about cockpit workload! If you don't have the envelope, send your check to Don Shrank, 202 Diablo Avenue, Mountain View CA 94043.

## **CONTACT!**

President: Ralph Britton (650) 328-0760  
[ralphbritton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ralphbritton@sbcglobal.net)  
Vice-Pres.: John Stern (650) 327-6861  
[palocon@earthlink.net](mailto:palocon@earthlink.net)  
Treasurer: Don Shrank (650) 968-3811  
[donshrank@juno.com](mailto:donshrank@juno.com)

# PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Secretary: John Grigsby (650) 948-3382  
[grigsby@ihot.com](mailto:grigsby@ihot.com)

Past Pres.: Bob Lenox (650) 326-6699  
[bob.lenox@gte.net](mailto:bob.lenox@gte.net)

# PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF  
OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

TUESDAY APRIL 19, 7:30 PM  
WEST VALLEY FLYING CLUB

**PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION  
APRIL BOARD MEETING**

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 12:00 PM  
ABUNDANT AIR CAFÉ AT PAO

PALO ALTO AIRPORT ASSOCIATION  
PO BOX 60275  
PALO ALTO, CA 94306

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**