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Local Bay Area team wins the Hayward to Bend Air Rally

BEND, OR, June 11, 2011 – Late spring unsettled weather cleared into beautiful VFR flying conditions in California and Oregon, creating almost perfect conditions for the 21 airplanes competing in the 47th annual Hayward Air Rally.

The actual rally course was announced the day prior to the event. This year's course was two legs, each approximately 260 nautical miles. The first leg was from Hayward (HWD) to Redding, CA (RDD). The second leg extended from Redding to Bend, OR (BDN). Each rally leg contained multiple checkpoints, which were required to be visually identified by the flight crews. Prior to departure from Hayward, each pilot turned in estimates of their enroute flight times and fuel consumption for each of the two legs.

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 include pilots and aircraft in the Sport Pilot category.

The winners of the rally this year are Paul Buenrostro (San Leandro, CA; **EAA 818177, AOPA 982987**) and Kregg Cammack flying in a Cessna 172. After five years of flying the event together and steadily improving their flying skills, this team finally achieved success, accumulating only one second of time penalty and four-tenths of a gallon fuel error.

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. In partnership with many Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) chapters in Northern California and Central Oregon, rally proceeds this year funded three youth scholarships to the EAA's Air Academy in Oshkosh, WI, to include tuition and roundtrip airfare. Recipients of the scholarships are Dylan Murphy of Castro Valley, CA; Kyle Wimmer of Palo Cedro, CA; and Paige Westoby of Bend, OR. For more information about the EAA Air Academy call (888) 322-3229 or visit the web site <http://www.eaa.org/airacademy>

Major corporate sponsors of the annual Air Rally included Air Chart Systems, APP Jet Center/Eastern Aviation Fuels/Shell Aviation, Arctic Air Cooler, the City of Hayward, the City of Redding, ICOM America, iFly SF Bay, Park Avion, and Sean D. Tucker's Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety. The event was also supported by the Alameda County and Mount Shasta chapters of the 99s, the International Association of Women Pilots.

The 48th annual Hayward Air Rally is tentatively scheduled to return to Redding and Bend for the fourth time in June 2012. For more information about the Air Rally, visit the event web site <http://www.hwdairrally.org>. A complete scoring and awards recap can be found on the web site.