



UTH ROTOR NEWS

Special points of interest:

- Make sure you come trick or treating at a Utah Helicopter office between the hours of 8:00 and 5:00 on HALLOWEEN!
- Come celebrate Utah Helicopter's 5 Year Anniversary! T-shirts on sale for \$5 through the month of October at any location!

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Volume 5, Issue 10

October 2011

FIVE YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

By: Miranda Graves, Office Manager

"Setting the standard for quality and performance... one pilot at a time" has been the goal of Utah Helicopter Flight Academy from the beginning. The 2011 year marks Utah Helicopter Flight Academy's celebration of 5 years of aviation excellence! From coast-to-coast and as far as the Middle East, pilots wearing the black and orange Utah Helicopter uniform continue to be dressed for success. With each year, more Utah Helicopter pilots are being recognized in the industry by prominent helicopter companies for their skills, safety and professionalism. Since conception, Utah Helicopter Flight Academy has grown from 'one pilot at a time.' It began with 1 instructor, 1 helicopter and 1 location and has since employed 37 instructors (with more than half already flying in the industry), having 4 locations, and using 10 training helicopters. Focusing on each individual pilot and their needs along with quality training, values, and performance has been a recipe for success. Utah Helicopter continues to thrive and grow and all during challenging economic conditions and heavy competition. In the helicopter industry you will find Utah Helicopter pilots working in professions such as Tourism, EMS (Emergency Medical Services), Media, Search and Rescue, Wildlife, and more. Brian 'Petee' Peterson-Chief Flight Instructor of Utah Helicopter-has been a big part of this success. He had always dreamed of flying helicopters, but that dream was

crushed when he was told the only way to fly helicopters was by going the military route. As soon as this



Picture by: Lindsey Shaun Photography

rumor was dispelled and with new found hope, Petee took to the sky. He experienced his first helicopter flight when he was 29 years old and was hooked. With dedication and determination, he worked hard and received his own ratings / certifications to become an instructor (CFII). Finding that he had a passion for helicopter instruction, he decided to make instructing his career. Exploring options of how he could make his dream a reality led him to pilot and the future co-owner of Utah Helicopter, Gary Hansen. Gary Hansen's passion for aviation stemmed from his youth. Inspired by shows like Airwolf, Magnum P.I., MASH, and other television series, Gary knew that aviation was in his future. After receiving his degree in Electronic Engineering Technology and having several successful

small businesses, Gary decided to give helicopters a whirl. In 2004, during a hands-on helicopter Discovery Flight, he realized that now was the time to pursue his fixation of aviation. As he pursued helicopters, Gary soon learned that his favorite aspect of flying is being able to assist with Search and Rescue for the local community. "The act of flight is amazing in and of itself, but hovering makes it possible to effectively seek and find those who are lost." Gary continues to get great satisfaction out of using helicopters to help families find their missing loved ones. Both Petee and Gary saw the growing need for a positive, ethical helicopter school with professional facilities, programs and focus on quality instruction. Each pilot brought their own experiences with flight schools and business to the table and together they were able to take the best and create one. This conglomeration of the "best" would include a program for students to track their spending and also a pay-as-you-go option. This is where Utah Helicopter Flight Academy began. In 2006, Utah Helicopter Flight Academy was *officially* in the business of training helicopter pilots. The Grand Opening of the first location in Spanish Fork (U77), Utah was shortly followed by a second Utah Helicopter location at South Valley Regional Airport (U42) near Salt Lake City, Utah. With a consistent flow of students and an increasing need up north, Utah Helicopter

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CRAZY COMPETITIONS AT IDAHO FALLS OPEN HOUSE

Who was able to pop the balloons the fastest with a device tied to the skid?



By: Jen Gomes

IDA Office Manager

Utah Helicopter's Idaho Falls location held its fall open house this month. Utah Helicopter loves to celebrate their instructors and students while inviting prospective students to check out what Utah Helicopter has to offer.

For this season's event we held a *Hovering Skills Competition*. A large crowd showed up for the exciting event, food, and great company. Students, fami-

lies, and interested newcomers gathered as six of our top pilots competed for the glory! Base Manager, Mike Robinson designed a course of balloons and a set of rules to pop the balloons fastest with a device tied onto the helicopters skid while staying in pattern and not knocking them over. The competition included CFII's; Mike Robinson, Gabe Henrie, Blaine Jemmett, Patrick Danielson. As well as CFI's: Robert Dennis and Ben Michaels. After the course was prepared and the rules explained, they were off! Base Manager, (Mike) started it off and the others quickly learned by his excellent example. To no surprise, it was a

close race. After the pilots all completed the course, the times were added up, delinquencies included, and the winner announced. This year's top contenders were instructor CFII Gabe Henrie and student CFI Ben Michaels. Gabe came in at an impressive 1.41 while Ben trailed close behind at 1.47. Overall, everybody won by completing the course in a skilled and safe manner. We at Utah Helicopter wouldn't expect any less!

Thank you to all who attended! The staff at UTH is so excited for this upcoming semester with our new pilots and new students. It is clear that Utah Helicopter pilots are going to finish this year strong and continue to reign the skies!

FIVE YEARS OF EXCELLENCE cont.



"We all celebrate the success and dedication of our students, pilots and instructors."

expanded in 2007 to Idaho and opened their first out-of-state location at the Idaho Falls Airport (IDA). Success in Idaho Falls sent the company further west in Idaho to Pocatello Airport (PIH) for their fourth location in December of 2009.

Company growth was naturally the next step for Utah Helicopter and with their personal experience as pilots, Petee and Gary knew that these new locations were not only creating opportunity for helicopter pilots to get excellent training, they were also providing the much needed opportunity for students to work hard and eventually earn a position as a helicopter instructor. "We train the best pilots and naturally want to continue that professional and quality training within the company for our future students."

Utah Helicopter Flight Academy has offered 98% of students who have completed the Career Pilot Program an instructing position within the company. This is a phenomenal number of opportunities for pilots and reinforces the commitment Utah Helicopter has to their success--not only through

their ratings and certifications, but all the way into the industry. "Their success is our success." said co-owner / pilot Gary Hansen. "We continue to move forward with great plans for the future. There are a lot of exciting things happening for the Utah Helicopter company and our pilots. We've got a reputable, professional and accredited helicopter flight school with a great family environment. Utah Helicopter has and will continue to grow."

With the school's growth, Utah Helicopter is constantly evolving to create more opportunity to further the education and success of students and instructors. This evolving and training has produced one of the best safety records for flight schools in the region. Along with safety training, yearly scholarships are available for students, a Job Placement Assistance program (JPA) as well as the growing staff dedicated to creating an optimal learning environment and to assisting students 100% of the way.

One staff member commented,

"Each time a student solos or passes their checkride, no matter the location, it is exciting! We all celebrate the success and dedication of our students, pilots and instructors. Every time another pilot gets a job in the industry we throw a party for them! Aviation is a closely knit community and it is great to be with a company like Utah Helicopter who provides the best helicopter educational experience possible. This company has ethics, values and is like a family." Former Utah Helicopter pilots always stop by either with or without their families if they are in the area, knowing the Utah Helicopter door is always open.

Utah Helicopter Flight Academy is still committed to the success of students and pilots after five years. Chief Flight Instructor and co-owner, Brian Peterson reflected, "It has been an amazing five years! We are just getting started and intend to continue the impeccable safety record and focus on professional, quality training for helicopter pilots... *'one pilot at a time.'* Here's to many more years of successful helicopter training!"

How Do You Train?

By: Scott Banning,
Base Manager

There are a couple questions I ask all potential students; "Are you training to be a professional pilot who receives compensation for your piloting skill?" Or "Are you training to be a "weekend warrior" in the sky?" I follow this up with the question of, "Should the training you receive be any different depending on your answer?"

What are just some of the differences a person could possibly see between these two pilots?

The Preflight Attitude – Professional pilots have a "don't talk to me" attitude during preflight.

This may be seen as "standoffish" though avoiding distractions during this phase of flight helps keep the focus on the primary task. Another trait of a professional pilot during preflight carries over into dressing appropriately to conduct a proper preflight during cold weather.

Keeping a "sterile" cockpit –

There is a Federal Regulation which applies to Air Carrier operations which in simple terms, makes it illegal for flight crewmembers to engage in non-essential conversation during critical phases of flight (which include taxi, takeoff, landing)." Though not mandatory for general aviation, why not adopt to those practices early in our career? As an instructor, we can help by pointing out the correct occasions to implement this, and by simulating distractions a person may experience in a safe manner.

Even a private pilot is able to carry the most valuable of all items, another person. As a personal example, I was able to take my oldest daughter, along with her two friends on a short ferry flight. Added to this, her friends are the children of not only our Regional Manager, but her husband who was my instructor and is now a pilot performing EMS work for Air Meth-

ods. To me the responsibility of that flight was tremendous. With the training I received here at Utah Helicopter, I was prepared and felt confident

in my abilities to conduct a safe and enjoyable flight. At Utah Helicopter, we feel the training provided to a student should be the same no matter what the end goal of that student. Whether a person elects to get only their private pilot certificate, or go all the way through our professional pilot program, the quality of instruction given to the student along with our training standards remain very high.



"Even a private pilot is able to carry the most valuable of all items, another person."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JEFF CARROLL

When you think of things that fly...think of helicopter pilot-in-training, Jeff Carroll! Jeff is a student at the Spanish Fork Utah Helicopter and is married with two kids and two Boston Terriers that keep him quite busy (so really he has 4 kids)! He has always wanted to fly and decided to put his reservations on hold and finally GO FOR IT! His dream job would be to fly heli-skiing or tours someday, but for now he's enjoying learning how to hover. His favorite experience to date was flying over his own house and also his parent's house. To

him, "Flying is amazing!" (We couldn't agree more with you, Jeff!)

If Jeff's not flying, you will probably find him watching drag racing or super bikes. This explains his favorite smell: burned race gas (high octane) mixed with burned rubber. He loves the television sitcom *Seinfeld* and his favorite movie *Shawshank Redemption*. Jeff loves sushi and Thai foods. He dislikes most cooked vegetables. He enjoys reading car and motorcycle/ATV forums and taking long ATV's rides on the sand dunes. All music is

welcome in the ears of Jeff, EXCEPT country and rap. Jeff's hero is George Washington because basically our founding fathers are awesome. His personal quote is, "It's never fast enough; something could always use more power!" Jeff's family is #1! He says, "Work is a chance to spoil family and buy the toys you love. I love my toys, but they *always* come second to family." Jeff fits in perfectly at Utah Helicopter Flight School and we're excited to have him flying with us!



CFI TO CFI

By: Gabe Henrie, CFI
Hello All!

Training is the most important part of our jobs. Students depend on us during their flight training to provide safe and efficient instruction. In order to do that, we need to learn from those students when they are having a tough time. We can watch for and recognize when they struggle with a subject in ground training or with a maneuver. By modifying our technique we can help students with these speed-bumps in the learn-

ing process and maximize our efficiency. When we do this, we will be doing both the student and ourselves a favor.

There is much to be gained from trying a different approach on a hard-to-grasp subject. This ability to adapt can help students and instructors alike to gain a better understanding of the subject in question. Always be open-minded and listen as much as you teach. When applied, these suggestions will push us to keep learning new ways to

present information in an easily understandable format which our students will enjoy.

Continue to keep students engaged and train for different situations and emergencies with every flight so when/if the time comes to apply them to a situation, they will be properly prepared for whatever they are up against. If we all continue to learn something new every day, we will be the safe, knowledgeable pilots that are required in our line of work.



IDAHO HIGH SCHOOLS ... BRING IT!

Friday Night Lights come from above every Friday night in South Eastern Idaho with Utah Helicopter of Idaho and KPVI Channel 6 News!

You will see the best news crew in the state and the greatest pilots. We are landing at high schools with the most school spirit. Utah

Helicopter takes off with Matt Gittins, Sports Director for KPVI, and flies over the high school that was picked for that week! The R44 makes a huge entrance onto the field to deliver their personalized game ball. The crowd goes wild with signs for Matt, KPVI and Utah Helicopter. So far this season we

have landed at the following high schools: Madison, Rigby, Grace, Blackfoot and more to come. We fly over two other high schools. The students and community don't disappoint! The view is spectacular, the school colors are flying, crowds are cheering all in hopes of making it on the evening news.

High Schools of Idaho keep busting out your signs, colors and school gear and we'll see you from the sky in the battle of the High School Football Games. Watch KPVI Channel 6 every Tuesday night to see which high school will be picked for the week! We look forward to visiting your school!



UTH RECOGNITION

WELCOME NEW STUDENTS:

Danielle Chesler
Byron Brainard
Josh Keiser
Elizabeth McCormack

WELCOME BACK!!!

Iain Cornfoot

CONGRATULATIONS:

Dave Hyde
on passing your Commercial
Check Ride

Andy Koch:
on passing your Commercial
Check Ride

Eli Hobbs
on your promotion to Base
Manager at our Headquarters

BJ Belnap
on starting with us as a CFII in
West Jordan, UT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Shaun Brinkerhoff
John Mann
Erin Hudman
Shawn Nielson
Dave Hyde
Ray Ring
Glenn Kerr



EMPLOYEE OF THE
QUARTER!

BASE MANAGER
ELI HOBBS

Thank you for your hard work, determination, innovative ideas and constant enthusiasm for the aviation industry! We love having you as part of the UTH team!

**Thank you to all who attended the Spanish Fork/
Springville Airport Appreciation Day! We had a great
turn out and are looking forward to it next year!!!**



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**"Believe you can
and you're
halfway there."
-Theodore
Roosevelt**



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'Setting the standard for quality and performance... one pilot at a time.'