

# *Valley Flyers*

March, 2013



Last month about a dozen members met at the National Guard base at the airport for a very interesting tour of the facility. If you ever weren't sure why it costs so much to operate helicopters, seeing 6 in various phases of disassembly and maintenance surely brought home the complexity of the beasts! We all had a chance to sit in the pilot's seat, poke through the cabins, and even lift a rotor blade from a Blackhawk (somewhat over 100 pounds per blade). Thanks to Brad Stoller for a great tour!

It is time for our **annual club business meeting**. We will meet on **Thursday March 28** at the Sizzler Restaurant (1151 Lancaster NE), at 6:30. Agenda will include a report on club activities, the state of the club aircraft, a finance report, and election of Board officers. The current board members are Randy Ireson (President) Mike Fisher (Vice President) Joan Johnson (Treasurer) John Barringer (Secretary) and Al Gray (Safety and Maintenance). This year we need to elect new Secretary for a three year term. If you are interested in the position, please let one of the board members know, or volunteer yourself at the meeting. Or nominate someone else. Nominations are open until the vote is taken at the meeting!

Finally, regarding **Pets On Board**: A few members like to fly with their pets, and that is OK within guidelines. There are three main issues to be addressed: distraction of the pilot and/or interference with controls by an uncontrolled animal, the mess created by sick or stressed animals, and severe allergies to pet hair and dander which some other members have. For these reasons, if you want to take your pet on board, IT MUST BE IN A CRATE. A harness does not suffice. And if your pet creates any mess, it must be thoroughly cleaned up immediately upon landing. Also, please wipe up with a damp cloth any pet hair that might remain on the upholstery when you're back on the ground. Thank you for your cooperation.

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