



**LOS MEDICOS VOLADORES
High Sierra Chapter
May 2007 Newsletter**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 2, 2007
Truckee Airport Terminal Building
Truckee, CA
6:30 pm potluck, 7:00 pm meeting**

From the President's Hangar

The view outside the hangar door is changing, and speaking of change, there's plenty in the air!

June is the month in which we traditionally elect new officers to serve the chapter for the coming year. Please consider acting as President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. We will ask for nominations and volunteers at the May and June meetings, and will elect at the June meeting. We are also looking for a volunteer to take over the newsletter.

April was a good month for our chapter – we sent three planes with teams to various spots in Mexico to clinic. Read all about it in the trip reports in the following pages. Watch the Sierra Sun for an article on the trip on which a reporter participated.

Our April meeting was handily chaired by Bob Horvath, thank you Bob and thanks to all who attended. Our hoped-for guest speaker for April was flying in Baja, but has

promised to make up for it with a special presentation at the May meeting in Truckee – don't miss our very own Vice President, Chief Pilot, Translator of the Year (2004?), and chief bottle washer, **Rob Lober**, giving an insight into the role of an LMV pilot on missions to Mexico. Of course, this is an exceptionally good meeting for prospective pilots.

May is the first month of our proposed "concurrent meetings" in Reno and Truckee. Art Schmauder, who volunteered to chair the meeting has unexpectedly been called out of Reno, so Joe McElhinney will chair the meeting. Not to be confusing, but our regularly scheduled meeting for May will be held in Truckee, with guest speaker Rob Lober. If you wish to keep in touch with LMV but can't make the Truckee meeting, we will have a concurrent meeting in Reno.

Finally, on a personal note, the winds of change are blowing me towards the Midwest where I've accepted a full time flying position based in Milwaukee. Stay in touch

and I'll see you back here from time to time or possibly in Mexico. Keep up the good work, our organization couldn't do it without you.

Blue skies and tailwinds. --E.C.

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"FUN"draising!!!!<<<<  
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REMINDER – *Cookbook deadline is approaching!* Please submit your favorite recipes to Lynn Meadows by May 15, and remember, it's not too early to pre-order a cookbook or two (dozen?). At \$10 a copy, what a great gift! So far 75+ have been pre-ordered!

Come to the meeting for an update and detailed report.

***** **MARK YOUR CALENDAR*******
May 2, 2007: Monthly meeting, Truckee, CA *Guest Speaker: Pilot Rob Lober*
May 15, 2007: Fundraiser deadline:
Recipes for Cookbook due
July 28, 2007: Corporate meeting – TRK
October 13, 2007: Corporate Seminar – Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico

REMINDER!!! Our new dues structure is now set up for dues to be paid January 1 each year. Please send your dues to Lynn Meadows.

Our Members Are Doing Great Things!

Congratulations!!!!

To Sommer and Dan Lyons, who are expecting their first child in October.

All of our members are so talented and diverse in their interests and contributions to the community. If someone you know is doing something noteworthy, share it with our members – contact Elizabeth so we can include it in this newsletter.

Trip reports, items of interest, photos, news and announcements are always welcome for inclusion in the newsletter!! Know of a member who has received an award, started a practice, done something wonderful in the community? Let us know so we can brag to our chapter!

WE NEED YOU!!

High Sierra Chapter Officer Positions Available!

Each June we elect officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), to serve for the coming year. We can't do our important work without the help of our volunteers. Start thinking now about whether you would be willing to serve as an officer and/or on the Executive Board of our chapter.

A draft of the Minutes for the March general membership meeting and the March Executive Board meeting are attached to the email distribution of this Newsletter. Copies will be provided at the next meeting for correction, comment and approval.

TRIP REPORTS

April 26, 2007
ADVENTURES WITH LMV

I love flying in small planes, and fortunately I have flown a number of times with Rob. Our flight to Granados Sonora Mexico went very smooth until I looked at the airstrip in Granados. After flying over Granados, we landed on a short dirt runway with an incline and cross winds that made me nervous. However, Rob made it look easy.

Before we taxied back, we were warmly greeted by the President/mayor of the town, a sheriff, a teacher and a few others. After proceeding down the hill to the town, we set up our equipment and did eye exams for our greeters that afternoon.

During our stay at Granados, we did over 200 exams and we thoroughly enjoyed all of the patients. Everyone in the town made us feel welcome. It was a great feeling walking around town on Friday and seeing all the patients smiling with their new glasses.

One high light of the trip was attending a dinner party at the home of the local tequila maker and his wife on Friday. The President and his family, and his staff joined us for a lovely local dinner. The dinner included tequila tasting which was made by our host. From what we learned, the tequila is only sold in Russia because it is so smooth and it warms your insides. Rob and I both were impressed by how smooth the tequila was, and it did warm us. Unfortunately, Somer was unable to join us. However, we were sent home with two bottles which we will split...remember Rob, and Somer will have her opportunity this fall.

My only regret during the trip is that I wished I could speak Spanish. However, with Ester's assistance we made a great tag team as we questioned our patients during their eye chart exams.

I can't express the deep warm feelings I felt we helped others during this trip. These feelings are a great endorphin to be more involved with LMV. I'm already looking forward to my next trip.

Thank you Rob, Somer, and Ester for the great trip!
----Warner Griswold

Throwing Down the Gauntlet

New Optometrist Record!

While our trips to Mexico are not to be considered a contest of who can see the most patients, a little competition never hurt anyone, and our most recent optometry trip deserves mention. A typical optometry trip will see about 100 patients in the 1.5 days of clinic - a large number considering these same optometrists see 12 to 15 patients per day in their private practice. Last week in Granados, Somer Lyons saw a total of 212 patients in 1.5 (long) days of clinic. I am not 100% sure, but I think this has to be a record. Great job Somer! Dan and Troy: care to challenge the record?

Rob Lober

**LMV Meeting, High Sierra
Chapter
April 4th, 2007 7pm**

The board meeting was attended by Bob Horvath, Shelly and Esther Bousquet.

Reports: Treasurer: Lynn Meadows was not present – no report

Secretary: Debbie Spinelli was not present – no report

President: Elizabeth Collins was not present – no report

Unfinished Business:

Fundraising: Ski day – no information
Cookbook – Shirley reported that the input has been received and processed. A consolidation meeting took place. Recipe input will be taken through May 15; decision made regarding cover and content. Expect the finished book in September. Sell price: \$10

A discussion ensued about the lack of written information available for various fund raisers. It was suggested that each committee and/or person in charge of a fundraising event write up a guideline for the next similar event.

Guest Speaker: It was thought that Rob was supposed to speak on the LMV Pilot subject. Rob was not present.

New Business: Shirley brought up the subject of actually using the Angel Fund process. She thought that we (the board) should exercise confidentiality so people would be less timid applying for assistance. Bob agreed to promote the program during the general meeting emphasizing

confidentiality and that the program was available to anyone, so please use it.

Elizabeth Spencer (who joined by the way) suggested we supply an assortment of forms, applications, waivers, brochures, Angel Fund applications, etc and have a kit of same available during each meeting.

Shirley suggested we have “Hello, my name is” name tags for each meeting.

A young lady responded to Bob’s question of “how can we attract more young people like herself,” with the suggestion that there be a flyer aimed at college students stimulating their involvement.

A new dentist named John suggested we speak at one of his association meetings. He said he would set it up and Bob said he would speak.

Art gave a corporate board report including the new emphasis on education.

Minutes submitted by Bob Horvath.