



# IAOPA Panama

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Roberto Motta III  
AAC-Panama Advisor

# AOPA Panama



# Introduction

“Aero Club de Panama” was founded in the year 1963 by a group of private aircraft owners and aviation enthusiasts.

On the year 2003 Aero Club de Panama, also known as AOPA Panama, became IAOPA's 59th affiliate under the Presidency of Alfredo Fonseca, now General Director of The Panama Civil Aviation Authority for the next 5 years.

AOPA Panama today has around 40 members.







# AOPA Panama Events

- Search & Rescue (in collaboration with government institutions)
- Whale protection surveillance (Mar Viva Foundation)
- Take children flying (Make a Wish Foundation)
- Medical evacuations from remote sites
- Mission assistance taking doctors to remote areas to attend skin cancer patients (in collaboration with the Oklahoma and Panama Rotary club)

# AOPA Panama Events

- Transport doctors for surgery (sponsored by 20-20 vision and Good Will Foundation)
- Environmental forest protection and surveillance missions (sponsored by government and private environmental associations)
- For Christmas we fly to remote rural areas of the country taking food and presents to poor communities
- Fly-ins for AOPA members



MAKE A WISH<sup>®</sup>  
**Wishes in Flight<sup>®</sup>**



# Fly-ins





# Aopa Panama







# Better Regulatory Environment

- AOPA began to work with the Panama Civil Aviation Authority (AAC) during the new government administration that began on June 2014.
- The ex-president and founder of AOPA Panama chapter is the actual Director of the Panama Civil Aviation Authority (AAC) with a working team composed by members of IAOPA Panama.
- Our objective is to promote general aviation and to protect it from policy makers that don't understand the activity; through education and information of the importance of aviation to our communities and the economic impact aviation in general has on the GDP of our economy.



# Better Regulatory Environment

- One of the objectives of the AAC during this administration is to make Panama an attractive destination for general aviation. Friendly, easy and fee less.
- AOPA is working in conjunction with The Panama Airports Authority, Ministry of Tourism and AAC to make this happen.
- AOPA would like to motivate foreign and local pilots to get into general aviation by creating air communities in small airports near the city.. We already have many pilots from Canada and the US living in Panama who are eager to grow air communities.





# Benefits and Services provided by AOPA - Panama

Our Association provides the opportunity for our members to serve our most needed communities while fulfilling our passion for flying and promoting it to a new generation of pilots.

# AOPA Panama



# Benefits and Services provided by AOPA - Panama

- Through our association we receive benefits in lower fees for parking spaces in areas designated for the use of AOPA Panama members at our local Airport MPMG.
- We have a small club house where we gather to have meetings and organize events, such as: hangar flying, safety seminars, search and rescue seminars, fly-ins organizations and our monthly meetings.
- We are building a terrace at the house club overlooking the runway to expand our facilities.
- We organize aero club international trips to fly-ins and air shows like Ilopango in El Salvador, Sun & Fun in Lakeland and Oshkosh in Wisconsin.





# New members recruiting

We attract new members through:

- our social service activities
- the promotion of aviation in our association events.

# Promoting General Aviation

We invite reporters and environmental activists to our activities in order to get media exposure in newspapers and TV reports.



# Conclusion

- AOPA -Panama's main objective is to promote aviation and to safeguard the freedom of flying in our country.
- Make aviation accessible to everybody.
- Prevent the increase and imposition of new fees.
- Attract more people into general aviation.
- Keep our members well informed and educated about safety issues.
- Contribute to our society donating our time and resources to benefit different social service programs.





Thanks...

