

European Federation Historic Aviation

saving the European aviation heritage for all Europeans



EFHA
Chairman Harry Haas
www.efha.eu
secretary@efha.eu

The Grassroots Lobby (newsletter 3 2010)

"this newsletter is meant for friends not regularly engaged in lobbying.."

Hallo friends of historic aviation,

From the many emails we receive we gather that one very important topic about the EFHA is not as clear as we assumed. This topic is at the core of EFHA and everybody needs to understand this. The EFHA is about "empowerment"; about empowering YOU! The way to do that is the topic we would like to inform you about today....that way is Lobby!

Lobby is what EFHA is all about and if you engage in it you are a lobbyist. There are a lot of lobbyists around and most of them are paid for their services. How does it work?.... Say you are the Mayor of a town and you want an airport for your community, you would have to lobby. First you would gather the people in your community and show them your town really needs to have an airport. After you've secured the support of your community you would start on the governmental organizations, do environmental studies and whatever else the legislator would require. Finally you show potential investors that there is money to be made. Then you build it!

Lobby is for everybody and everybody engages in it! Remember you were a kid and wanted something nice for Christmas?....You were on your best behavior for a while weren't you?, maybe even did a couple of chores? If your lobby was successful you would end up with that special gift!

Now, if you do not speak, you will not be heard. If you do not lobby, you will not get your very special gift.....If the European historic aviation community does not speak up...the European Aviation bureaucracy will somehow ground the historic airplanes. It is as simple as that. We need to act!

Now, having said that, restoring, maintaining and operating an historic airplane is very costly and time consuming and who has time for lobby? Wouldn't it be great if somebody would try to set this up for you? Well, that is where the EFHA

comes in. The EFHA is founded specially for this purpose.....we want to lobby for YOU, we want to give YOU control over YOUR historic airplane destiny or Your historic aviation passion, we want YOUR voice to be heard in places where it matters. We want to give YOU lobby power!

If a lot of civilians, and we all are, get together and form an interest group to engage in lobby it is called a “grassroots” lobby initiative. Grassroots lobby initiatives are very enticing for politicians because it is pure and gives the politicians a chance to do some good in a direct manner. A politician is OUR elected friend in government and will help us with pleasure because “WE ARE THE PEOPLE” and his (potential) supporters. Without supporters a politician cannot exist.

The founders of the EFHA want to lobby for you: With “you” we mean everybody with passion for historic aviation, everybody interested in saving our European aviation heritage for future generations. The board, the ambassadors and others (www.efha.eu/whois.html) who make up the EFHA organization freely give their time to help you get a voice in the EU parliament. You do not have to spend the time nor the money. All we need is your support!

At this moment we are making contact with European politicians. We try to make them official “friends” of European historic aviation. They, eventually, will do the talking for us and look after OUR interests; our historic aviation.

Now do you see how grassroots lobbying will get us protection from “over-anxious rule makers”, with little interest for the passion historic aviation evokes in people? Do you see how EFHA wants to give you power and let your voice be heard?

Strength is in numbers and that is why we always end with the same “mantra”; get people with passion for historic aviation to register on our website www.efha.eu. Let’s get together...come on, come on...let’s get together!

Harry Haas, EFHA

