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## San Diego Regional Aviation Association Hosts Annual Event to Raise Scholarship Funds for Area Students

*Third annual golf tournament recognizes 2009 scholarship winners*

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**Carlsbad, CA; April 28, 2009** – The San Diego Regional Aviation Association (SDRAA) awarded \$2,500 scholarships to two local area students at its third annual golf tournament and benefit. In its third year, the event hosted more than 100 golfers and countless supporters helping to raise funds for future scholarships.



**SDRAA President Grant Wright with scholarship winner Rudy Gomez**

“The annual SDRAA golf tournament and benefit continues to be tremendously successful and this year marks our best yet,” commented Grant Wright President of San Diego Regional Aviation Association. “I am grateful to our generous sponsors who helped make this event possible and I’m pleased to congratulate our 2009 scholarship winners, Rudy Gomez and Michael Vivaldi.”

Scholarship winner, Rudy Gomez’s aviation career started in high school when he worked for a premier fixed based operator at John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, Calif. Since then, he’s completed a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and plans to continue his education there and pursue an MBA in Aviation.

Michael Vivaldi has hopes of becoming an international corporate pilot and will use the SDRAA scholarship toward his flight training expenses. While completing his private pilot certification and instrument certification, Vivaldi worked toward a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management and will graduate this month. He plans to continue his education with an MBA program.

The SDRAA hosted its third annual golf tournament and benefit on Monday, April 27, 2008 at Arrowood Golf Course in Oceanside, CA. The event benefited both the SDRAA scholarship fund, which helps students in the San Diego area interested in pursuing a career in



**SDRAA Board member and golf tournament chair, Fred Gammon with scholarship winner Michael Vivaldi.**



aviation, and ongoing efforts of the Association to increase awareness of the issues important for a vibrant regional aviation industry.

Sponsors of this year's tournament included: QUALCOMM, Magellan Aviation, Jet Source, Jet Options International, Dassault Falcon, Crownair Companies, Bombardier, Premier Jet, Gulfstream, Isaac's Aviation Catering, (W)right On Communications, Landmark Aviation, AirBP, Cessna, FlightSafety International, Hawker Beechcraft, CitationShares, Chevron, Key Equipment Finance, Avjet Corporation, Cavalon Capital Group, Colt International, NBAA, Regency Air, Air Routing International, Rolls-Royce and ServiceElements.

For more information about SDRAA, membership opportunities or upcoming events, visit [www.flysandiego.org](http://www.flysandiego.org).

***About San Diego Regional Aviation Association***

Comprised of members from the general and business aviation sectors, the rapidly growing SDRAA's mission is to represent and foster aviation interests in the region; research, develop and advance balanced positions relating to aviation issues and their impact on regional economic development and community needs; and provide a centralized venue for sharing information with those in the regional aviation community and the public in general.

The San Diego Regional Aviation Association brings together members of the aviation community from across San Diego County to address the many issues evolving in San Diego aviation. As a non-profit organization, the SDRAA's mission is to support, promote and provide information on aviation as a vital and growing asset to the Greater San Diego area, balancing economic development with quality of life. SDRAA's scholarship fundraising efforts raise thousands of dollars each year for deserving students training in the aviation industry. More SDRAA information can be found at [www.flysandiego.org](http://www.flysandiego.org).