

changes in the two-year-long hiring

Vietnam helicopter pilots meet

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association will hold its first meeting June 16 at the Granada Royale Hometel, 44th Street and McDowell Road.

The newly formed organization is open to pilots of all military services who flew helicopters in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam war, Larry Clark, one of the group's founders, said.

Clark said he flew "thousands" of helicopter missions in Bell UH-1 Huey helicopters while with the Army in Vietnam in 1965 and 1966. He now is a helicopter test pilot for Sperry Flight Systems' avionics division, 53rd Avenue and Bell Road in Glendale, he said.

Clark said the organization is "open to anyone who flew choppers — transports, gunships, anything — in the war."

"A lot of people don't realize what the helicopter pilots in Vietnam went through, sometimes at zero miles an hour, right above the grass," he said.

Clark said "probably the best-known member" to join the new organization to date is astronaut Robert L. Stewart, 41, one of two mission specialists to fly the Manned Maneuvering Unit (Buck Rogers-style backpack) during a space shuttle mission in February.

Clark's wife, Terry, asked eligible pilots to contact the organization at 942-7983.

LADIES,