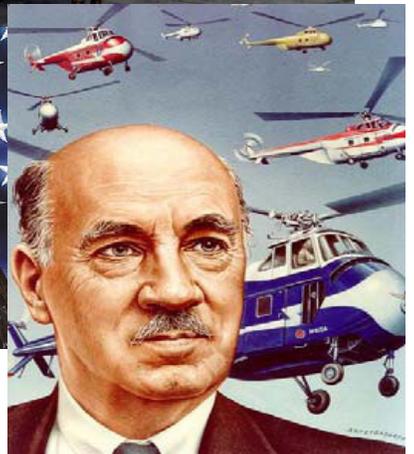
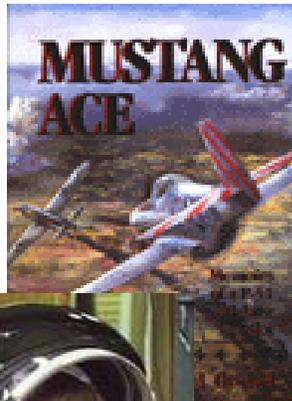




Volume 19, Issue 11, December 2004, A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

# Happy Holidays

## It's been a great year for PMLAA



# President's Corner

- Jerry Baker

It is time to write my last article as President of PMLAA. It's been a great year. We have had a lot of fun, entertainment, education, and managed to do a bit of good along the way.

It never ceases to amaze how a small community can support an organization as active as ours. Each and every month, with apparent ease, we throw a party for 150 or so of our best friends. Our speakers make the Commonwealth Club envious. The summer event makes waves across the aviation community statewide.

What really makes this a special organization is its membership. As a newcomer to the aviation fraternity (sorority?), I have been amazed at the camaraderie among "airplane people." There is no limit to the generosity and helpful attitude of the PML aviation community.

All of our volunteers who have worked selflessly this year deserve special credit and appreciation. At the risk of leaving anyone out I would like to thank just a few of the people who have made this another great year for PMLAA.

- First, my thanks to Pat Helling for her consistent and reliable service as our secretary, to Barbara Coldren for the thankless job of keeping our finances in line and managing the mail, to Buck Buchanan and his team for getting facilities ready every month, and to Nance Deardorff for keeping the roster up to date.
- I can't even imagine our meetings without our very own Hollywood producers, Ken Codeglia and Phil Hickerson. Thanks to Kent and Sandy Blankenburg for all they do and the use of their incredible facility. Thanks also to Jane Hansen, Harriet Wallace and Jeanne Clemson for adding fun and libation to our gatherings.
- My gratitude to Guy Russell for coordinating the educational seminars, and to Renie Leakakos for her sage pro bono legal advice.
- We should all be proud to be on the same team as Rand Siegfried who has tirelessly brought aviation to the next generation. Thank you, Rand.
- Thank you Silvano Gai for taking on the Webmaster job. I would like to make special note to thank Mike, Virginia and my son Scott for pulling the newsletter together each month, especially Virginia for her gallant but futile attempts to make me look literate.
- A standing ovation would be appropriate for our very own Party Planner, Conni Buchner, and the long-suffering Alan. Conni makes this all look so easy. Thank God we are not paying her by the hour. Conni and Alan have gone above and beyond by being our base camp this year. We are indebted for their hospitality.

- A very special thanks to the Barry Bonds of programs — Keith Zenobia. What an incredible performance. How does he keep doing it? Steroids maybe??

Lastly my sincere gratitude, to my sidekick and your next president, Mike Gustafson. All year long Mike has stepped up whenever something needed doing and got it done. Mike's contributions this year have made all the difference and we are very fortunate that he has agreed to lead the association next year.

Please remember our less fortunate neighbors and bring lots of new, unwrapped children's gifts to the Wrap Party on December 11. If you can't make the evening, you can drop off gifts at Conni's anytime before the 11<sup>th</sup>.

It's been a pleasure to serve as your president this year.

Jerry

# Conni's Comments

-Conni Buchner

Ho Ho Ho! Santa is almost here and so is the annual "**IT'S A WRAP**" party.

It's a Wrap is part of the Community Christmas Basket program which serves over 100 needy families in the greater Groveland area. Several organizations in addition to PMLAA also contribute food, clothes and gifts. Some groups specialize in clothes and food for the families. PMLAA focuses on gifts for the children. Last year we provided Christmas joy to 150 local children.

Dar Brown and Patti Bealieu are co-chairs of the Community Christmas Basket program; they advise that they usually have an over-abundance of gifts for infants and toddlers. There is a greater need for *gifts for elementary and high school kids, especially teenage boys.* Popular gift requests include arts and crafts projects (beading, paint sets) and action figures such as GI Joe and Power Rangers.

Now is a good time to get your toys during the Thanksgiving and pre-Christmas sales. Remember to bring them *unwrapped* to the party. We will be matching gifts to the children's wish lists and then wrapping and labeling them.

Our own FAMOUS PHIL will be our DJ for the evening along with our mischievous and fabulous Bar Elves, Jane Hansen and Harriet Wallace. Celebration Catering of Sonora will provide a delicious holiday dinner, so be sure to send your reservations at \$20.00 each to PMLAA, PO BOX 131, Groveland. And let the toy shopping begin!

Festivities will start at 6:00pm followed by dinner at 7:00pm, with dancing and gift-wrapping following. If you are very good, Santa may make an appearance sometime during the evening. Christmas outfits are encouraged!

I am available to answer any questions at my new phone number: 962-4325



## Meet our PMLAA Members

- Virginia Gustafson

**Springfield Flying Service**  
**Chris Miller and Mike Cano**  
532-4103  
gofly@mlode.com

Springfield Flying Service was established at Columbia Airport in 1991. Mike bought the business in 1995 and Chris joined him as a partner in 1997. Before becoming full-time flight instructors, both Chris and Mike were building contractors, and Chris installed solar electric power systems for homes and businesses.

Springfield offers personalized private, commercial, instrument, instructor, multi-engine, and right-seat training.



Several PML pilots learned with Springfield, including Stacey Purifoy, Larry Shaw, Michael Thoben and Jerry Baker.



The Springfield "fleet" consists of three Cessna 172s, three 150s, a Cessna 140 and the signature Stearman.

For more information, give them a call or visit [letsgofly.com](http://letsgofly.com)

Many people also know Chris through his music. He performs regularly with Lori Brandon at local restaurants and events. Most recently Chris and Lori performed at PMLAA members Eric and Nealy Henderson's wedding in Yosemite.

Chris and Mike are happy to be part of PMLAA and to support the local aviation community.

**Patti and Correy Couch**  
962-7698  
[couch2th@aol.com](mailto:couch2th@aol.com)

You'll think that's a strange email address, until you learn that Correy Couch is a dentist – 2th, get it! In fact he commutes to Turlock four days a week to continue his practice.

Patti and Correy raised their family on a horse and almond ranch in Hilmar, near Turlock, and moved here two years ago. Correy found PML while touring airport restaurants. As an active Navion pilot, he also came to a fly-in at the Smiths, and was totally smitten with PML and the airport. Kay Smith helped them find their airport lot and an unfinished house.

The Couches currently live in a condo at the country club and are putting the finishing touches on their lovely new house next to Sloans and Carol Simpson on Jimmersall. Next step is to build the hangar. Stay tuned for the Open House party.

The Couches have two daughters: Emily is a senior at San Diego State and is currently studying in Italy. The whole family is going to visit her in Italy at Christmas time.

During the summer Emily is a swim instructor at the PML pool. Second daughter Liz is a student at Cal Poly and a river guide on the Tuolumne. Both girls also waitress at the Iron Door and are fast becoming members of the PML community.

Patti retired from over 30 years teaching 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Her specialty is American history and English literature. She loves retirement at PML; she plays tennis, loves hiking, and is even looking forward to learning to play golf.

Correy learned to fly courtesy of the US Army. He piloted helicopters in Viet Nam, and later was a helicopter test pilot for Douglas. He also served in the National Guard for 25 years, retiring in 1990.

They've had their Navion Rangemaster for over ten years and had a Yak and a Piper Pacer before that.

Correy and Patti are great additions to the airport community and we're glad to have them here.

### Stay Tuned

Catherine Santa Maria will be the PMLAA profile editor next year. I'm sure you'll enjoy her articles.

It's been fun getting to know so many new people through interviews for this page. Thanks to all who participated and allowed me to write about them.



# CHRISTMAS IN TOYLAND



## IT'S A WRAP COSTUME PARTY

### 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TOY DRIVE FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

*Bring an unwrapped toy, game or two.  
You'll feel good through & through.*

6:00 p.m. Saturday  
December 11, 2004

At the

**Buchner Hangar**

20885 Hemlock St., Groveland  
Pine Mountain Lake Airport  
Hemlock and Woodside



**CATERED By:**  
**CELEBRATION CATERING**

### **Menu**

*Smoked Salmon Crostini*

*Provolone/Artichoke/Tomato Crostini*

*Chicken Kabobs*

*Cheese & Fruit Plate*

*Spinach Salad with Caramelized Walnuts & Craisins*

*Minestrone Soup*

*Assorted Breads*

*Apple Crisp with Ice Cream*

*Coffee*

**NO HOST BEER, WINE, CHAMPAGNE AND SOFT DRINK BAR**

***Favorite Holiday Costume Is Encouraged***

***Drawings / Prizes***

***Visit From Santa***

***Music / Dancing***

*Reservations Required and Accepted*

*on a First-Come-First Served Basis*

*\$20.00 Per Person*

**Make your checks payable to and remit to PMLAA,**

**P.O. Box 131, Groveland, CA 95321.**

**Please write on check the December 11 Event.**

**To arrive by December 1, 2004**



## *Direct from the Director*

### **Airport Master Plan Workshop**

— Jim Thomas, Director

I wrote an article several months ago which provided an overview of the process that the Airports Department is going through to prepare a Master Plan for Pine Mountain Lake Airport. In that article I identified several individuals who are members of the Planning Advisory Committee whose responsibility is to provide comments and feedback at various stages of the Master Plan development. Rand Siegfried is the PMLAA representative. Other members of the committee include Dick Collier, Red Rossio, Malcolm Milliron, Jim Goodrich, and Alan Wallace. So far we have had two Planning Advisory Committee Meetings and we are now coming up on the first of two Public Workshops.

The first workshop will be on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm — 8:30pm at the Groveland Community Hall. At this workshop the public will be able to view the work that has been prepared to-date which includes the inventory of the existing facilities, the forecasts of aviation activities and the landside and airside development alternatives.

This workshop will be an informal meeting that presents exhibits and information explaining the work that has been completed to-date. The public will be able to obtain information, ask questions, and provide input to the County Airports Department, the Airport Engineering Consultant, and the Planning Advisory Committee. Keep in mind that the Master Plan, at this stage of development, will not provide any recommendations for airport development, nor will there be any financial plan for future development activities. A second public workshop will be held in March which will present development recommendations and proposed project costs.

The Phase One Master Plan Report was published three months ago. There are copies at the Groveland Library that can be checked out for your review. Additionally there is one reference copy at the library, one copy in the PML Airport pilots lounge, and a copy at my office at Columbia Airport. Every member of the Planning Advisory Committee also has a copy of the report. Anyone interested in learning about the work that has been completed so far should review this Phase One Report.

Pine Mountain Lake Airport has certain developmental needs, but the nature of our airport and the amount of available land make the options very limited.

Federal funds will most likely pay for future airport development, so all airport improvements must meet FAA requirements. We want to ensure that they also meet the needs of our local airport community. Accomplishing this can only be done with open and honest input from the airport users, the airport residents, and the local citizens.

Please plan to attend the December 9<sup>th</sup> public workshop and help us make the airport Master Plan the quality document that it should be.

## *Safety Corner*

### **Surviving a Ramp Check**

— by Mike Gustafson, CFII

I bet if you asked around you would discover that no one you know has ever been ramp checked. The typical FAA Part 91 ramp check is no big deal but seems to bring out the worst in us. One pilot friend has been ramp checked 3 times and has never had an outstanding issue discovered as a result of the few minutes spent with the friendly FAA Inspector.

The ramp does not generally result in any kind of an enforcement action if a discrepancy is found. There are some basic parts of a ramp check that seem to have confused a few folks so here are the fundamentals:

First, the details of a typical ramp check can be found under, [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov), then search for Flight Standards 8700.1, then "How to conduct a Part 91 ramp check".

I am sure you are aware of the basic AROW requirements: airworthiness certificate, registration, aircraft handbook, and weight and balance. Add a current 30-day VOR check if you fly IFR, a current Instrument Proficiency check and the all-important BFR. All of these items can be requested during a ramp check. While you are not required to carry your pilot's log book or the aircraft log books, you can be asked to present them at a later time to your local FSDO.

All GPS and display data basis must be up-to-date as well as all charts and navigational paperwork. There is some confusion about whether the GPS database needs to be current if you have current charts on board. The simple answer is if you use the GPS as a primary navigational aid, like an IFR approved GPS, then yes, the database must be current and your charts should also be current.

In order for the inspector to do his job he needs access to your aircraft; he is not allowed to go inside unless you are present. However, the inspector can enter your aircraft to confirm certain items are properly displayed such as the airworthiness certificate and while he is there he can look around for possible violations. Some of the big ones are not having all baggage properly tied down, out-of-date charts, magnetic compass with no fluid, wires hanging down in plain view, etc. If the inspector notices something that is a possible airworthiness item he can request that you seek the help of an A&P to fix the problem. You will get a follow-up letter from the inspector asking what the resolution was with the A&P.

It is not possible to fail a ramp check. As a result of the ramp check you could have a list of outstanding items that should be rectified before attempting flight. If you are silly enough to blast off without seeing to those items, that is when the enforcement action ball starts rolling.

In all of my interactions with the FAA I have always found that gritting my teeth and smiling and saying yes sir or ma'm has always resulted in a positive resolution. It also works in the case of a ramp check.

Fly Safe!

# Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

## 2005 Membership Application, Renewal & Update



Annual membership dues are **\$20.00** per household, payable Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005. PMLAA Name badges are **\$8.00** each.  
Please make check payable to and remit to PMLAA, P.O. Box 131, Groveland, CA 95321

- **PMLAA Mission:** to promote aviation interests and ensure the welfare and safety of its members, Pine Mountain Lake Airport, and the general community, through aviation-oriented recreational and educational activities.
- **Monthly Meetings:** held the first Saturday of each month (except July), usually at Buchners' hangar, at 6:00pm. Please refer to the latest edition of *The PMLAA News* for more details.
- The *PMLAA News* is mailed monthly and is available online at [www.pmlaa.org](http://www.pmlaa.org)
- The membership roster (with information from this form) is distributed with the *PMLAA News* each April.
- **Renewing members: Please include your name and any information changes on this form.**  
**If no changes, check here \_\_\_\_\_**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Circle one: New member / Renewal Member since \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name(s) as you want them on your badges)

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

PML Unit/lot: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_ N# \_\_\_\_\_

Certificated pilot since (year) \_\_\_\_\_ FAA Cert/Ratings \_\_\_\_\_

Circle any aviation jobs you have had:

Airline Pilot / Crew FAA	Flight Attendant A&P Mechanic	CFI IA	Corporate Pilot / Crew Lineman	Military pilot/crew Engineer
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Details: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Aviation Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Military History: \_\_\_\_\_

**2005 Annual Dues**

**\$20.00** x \_\_\_\_\_ years in advance = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ badges @ **\$8.00** each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

# Announcements

## PMLAA Elects New Officers for 2005

At the November meeting, the following new officers were elected to serve as the Aviation Association board for 2005.

President:	Mike Gustafson
Vice President, Airport Affairs:	Rand Siegfried
Vice President, Social Affairs:	Conni Buchner
Secretary:	Kristin Cox
Treasurer:	Barbara Coldren

Many thanks to the nominating committee of Paul Price, Jane Hansen and Harriet Wallace for their work in creating the new board and to all the new officers.

Please take a look at the complete list of 2005 committee chairs and volunteers in the list on this page.

Congratulations and good luck to all.

## Display of Classic and Historical Aircraft at PML

Ian Morcott, Kate Newcomb and Shirley Moreno are organizing displays of historical and classic (35 years old+) aircraft on several upcoming weekends and on a regular monthly schedule throughout 2005.

If you are interested in displaying your aircraft (and earning a Historical Aircraft certificate for tax purposes) or in helping to organize and publicize the event, or to be a greeter at the events, please contact Kate at 962-4611.

# Classifieds

### 1975 IAR-823 , ex-Romanian Military Trainer.

492 Hrs.Total Time Since New! Lycoming IO-540 Engine, Hartzell Prop, Retractable Cleveland Wheels and Brakes, Dual Control *Sticks (not yokes)*, Dual Flight Instruments, Dual Throttles, Prop Controls, Brakes, etc. Fully Aerobatic, Seat Four, Cruise at 150kts. Aircraft has been stored *inside* at the IAR Factory in Romania. Price will be \$45,000. when it comes out of the overseas shipping container at Turlock Muni Airport (O15), Call Steve Stavrakakis at 209-571-9949 or e-mail at wildthngss@aol.com for more details.

### 1959 C-150 Project \$6,500.

Call Rich McGlashan at 209-962-7928.

### CFII Provides Flight Instruction

Private, Instrument, Commercial, Flight Review, IPC & Mountain Checkout. Please call Linda Monahan at 209-962-5181

## BOARD OF OFFICERS

### President

Mike Gustafson 209-962-6336

### Vice President, Airport Affairs

Rand Siegfried 209-962-0710

### Vice President, Social Affairs

Conni Buchner 209-962-4325

### Secretary

Kristin Cox 209-579-9881

### Treasurer

Barbara Coldren 209-962-5168

## COMMITTEES

### Property

Paul Sperry 209-962-4178

### Community Affairs

Rand Siegfried 209-962-0710

### Seminar Coordinator

Guy Russell 209-962-6257

### Membership

Jane Hansen 209-962-6515

### Roster

Diane Harrison 209-962-1955

### Multimedia Gurus

Ken Codeglia 209-962-6270  
Phil Hickerson 209-962-6714

### Guest Speaker Programs

Keith Zenobia 209-962-4014

### Legal Counsel

Renie Leakakos 209-962-0499

### Webmaster

Silvano Gai 209-962-6378

## NEWSLETTER

### Aviation Safety Editor

Linda Monahan 209-962-5181

### New Member Profile Editor

Catherine Santa Maria 209-962-7904

### Publisher

Silvano Gai 209-962-6378

**General Meetings are usually held on the first Saturday of the month beginning at 6:00 p.m. at The Buchner Hangar (20885 Hemlock Street at the Southeast Corner of Woodside Way, Unit 12 / Lot 4).**



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## December meeting

December 11      It's a Wrap Party      6:00pm  
Catered Dinner, reservations required

## Upcoming Events

January 8      Ken Orloff      6:00pm  
Aviation Accident Investigations  
Potluck, Buchner Hanger

Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association  
PO Box 131  
Groveland, CA 95321