



Volume 20, Issue 2, February 2005  
A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

## PMLAA Plans for 2005

As I write this note to you in early January it is raining cats and dogs, nobody is flying except the ducks and I am already counting the days until summer. As an Arizona boy I could count on rain coming in definable time slots on any given day, and then more sunshine. Going a week without seeing the sun is nuts! Enough ranting and raving, at least about the weather anyway.

Our club generates income from three sources: dues, the 50/50 raffles and June fund raiser, and generous donations from club members. As such, **your 2005 dues are due**. Please drop your check for \$20.00 into the mail so we can continue to publish the newsletter, provide fun and entertaining meetings, and support aviation activities. Thank you in advance for your kind and generous support.

One of the fun and totally unexpected things I got to do as your new president was to take possession of the club archive storage box. It is like a little time capsule. Virginia and I sat down and started digging through the files, and I learned an awful lot about the history of the club. I discovered that we have a very nice banner, that we used to have a fly-in day where we sponsored spot landing contest, flour bombing, and invited the community at large to drop by for hot dogs and cokes (more on this idea later) and that our members have always looked out for the community and each other. Our club is rich in history with a lot of interesting characters. I will try from time to time to trot out a bit of our history for your edification and amusement.

One of our goals for this year is to reach out and support our local community, both young people as well as adults. Your PMLAA Board is kicking around some ideas and we would like your input as well. We would like to put more aviation back into our aviation association.

Some of the ideas are to collect interested young folk and fly out to a local air show for the day. We will need

a few pilots to volunteer their time and aircraft to pull this off, but it could be a lot of fun for everyone.

We would also like to sponsor a community aviation day on a weekend, cook some hot dogs, invite classic airplane owners to display their planes and maybe have a spot landing contest. We will be looking for more ideas and people to get involved and help develop these plans.

Our seminar program is off to a good start -- Larry Jobe had a great idea for a "Lessons Learned" seminar that will qualify for a Wings program. Guy Russell, your Seminar Chairman, will be working with Larry to help bring this program to you in the near future.

An event occurred recently which got me thinking about how much we take our privilege to fly and airplane ownership for granted. Virginia had to zip back to New York for a family emergency and then return on New Year's Eve for a big party. One late or missed flight would derail the whole plan. It was one of those really bad days across the country, snow, rain, fog, and that was just at PML! Her connection was through Chicago and then into San Jose. For this to work I had to pick her up at San Jose in the Cherokee and provide the last leg of the trip. Long story shortened, everything worked like clockwork and we strolled into the party a few minutes early. We could not have accomplished all of this without a well-oiled transportation system, air carriers, ATC and general aviation. We may complain about different parts of the system, but truth be told, it is the best damn system in the world.



I look forward to seeing you at our Valentine's dance party and at all our many interesting and fun events this year.

*Mike*

**THANK YOU**  
**Conni and Alan, PMLAA and “Wrap” Guests!**

-- Dar Brown, Community Christmas Basket Co-chair

The Community Christmas Basket Project and especially Patti and I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Buchners and PMLA Aviation Association for graciously hosting the Wrap Party this year, to the members of PMLAA who helped make it happen, and most of all, to everyone who attended the party and gave so generously. It took two pick-up trucks, two SUVs and two cars to transport all the gifts from the hangar to the Community Hall.

There were almost 200 local children on Santa's gift list this year and between the generosity of a large unnamed benefactor whose donation allowed our Soroptimist shoppers to buy all the shoes and clothing as well as the larger gift items, and the donations we have received, every single child had something special under the tree. There were no empty stockings!



In addition to the gift items donated, we are so very grateful for the very generous donation of the raffle money from the party. Many of the children asked for very basic items like socks, gloves, scarves and hats, so the money was used to purchase them so no child who asked for help will have cold hands this winter.

We all know what a wonderful community we are blessed to live in, and I think the special characteristics that make Groveland/PML so unique were well in evidence at “It’s a Wrap” 2004. Thank you again.

**SOCIAL NOTES**

Our January meeting with friend and neighbor, Dr. Ken Orloff, was very successful. Thanks to all who braved a rough night and brought lots of yummy soups and salads. A special thanks to Ken for his interesting and entertaining presentation. It's great to have Ken and his company in the community.

Instead of our usual February meeting, we're reviving a long-standing Aviation Association tradition – our **Valentine's Dance Party**. Come on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm for a fun evening of visiting, eating and dancing. Music will be provided by Home Grown, a great musical group; they will have you on the dance floor all night, enjoying “the music of our lives.”

Please bring an appetizer or dessert for the party and a music charge of \$10 for the band. Bring friends too!

We are debuting a *new wine* for your enjoyment. Zellerbach Estates Chardonnay and Cabernet will be available at a very reasonable price of \$12 per bottle. Try it and enjoy!

I especially want to thank our new Social Committee: Pat Price, Laurie McGlashan, and Linda Stark. I appreciate their help in organizing our monthly events for you all.

*Conni*



**MOONSHINE**

When the full moon, a silver-white orb,  
Rode high in the western sky,  
Waking my sleeping self,  
I had to climb out of bed,  
Watch as the great night light  
Of the heavens  
Slowly lowered itself  
To hide  
Behind broad stratus clouds  
That straddled the deep blue firmament.  
-- Mary Kelly



***Meet our PMLAA Members***  
- Catherine Santa Maria

**Mal & Dar Brown**  
962-5930  
[malbrown@mlode.com](mailto:malbrown@mlode.com)

**M**al & Dar borrowed their friend's cabin in 1992 and immediately fell in love with PML. In 1995 they became weekenders, and then in 1999 were able to make PML their permanent home. They bought their home and then added on an office so that they could work at home. They own Sierra Homefinders and work together. Dar says that she is a realtor for Sierra Homefinders and has a legal contract with Mal who is the broker. In addition, Dar is a Director of Research for Sourcing Interests Group out of Los Angeles.



Mal & Dar Brown at the ball

Mal and Dar were born in Canada. Mal was born in Montreal and Dar is originally from Vancouver. They moved to Groveland from Toronto and became American citizens. Mal became an American citizen in 1997 and Dar in 1998 and they don't know why there is a year apart as they both applied at the same time. Dar was hired by an American company that called her one December when they lived in Toronto, and offered her a job. She asked Mal what he thought about the offer. Mal looked outside (you can imagine what the weather was like) and he turned to Dar and said "How many seconds do we have to make a decision."

The Browns have two cats that own them: one is Nikki and the other Liberty (Liberty got the name because the cat adopted the Browns on September 11, 2002).

Besides the PMLAA, Mal is President of the Highway 120 Chamber of Commerce, V.P. of Hetch Hetchy Board of Realtors, member of the PML 9-holders, member of the PML Residents Club, member of the Groveland Rotary Club, Docent at the Groveland Museum and a member of the Bunco Mavens.

Dar is also very involved. She is the current President of the PML Ladies Club, member of the Residents Club, docent at the Museum, member of the Bunco Mavens, volunteer at Helping Hands, and was the Co-chair of the Community Baskets program.

They joined PMLAA because they have always been fascinated with flying and hope to get their pilot's licenses someday when they have the time to devote to it. In addition, they enjoy the speakers and have tons of fun with the group.

We are very lucky to have such energetic folks in our organization and community.

**Leigh Carr Whitten**  
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(650)558-4300  
[lwhitten@cbtnorcal.com](mailto:lwhitten@cbtnorcal.com)

**I**t was a very special and emotional December 19, 2004 for Leigh; that was the day she flew her first solo. In doing so, she fulfilled a solemn promise that she made to her husband, Ted, before his passing last year of cancer.



Several Kiwanis Club members introduced Leigh and Ted to PML. Their Navion Flying Club also came to PML on Fly Ins. One special visit was by bidding on John Farbstein's PML home at the Kiwanis Harvest Ball Silent Auction several years ago. They used the prize as a family Christmas present and all came up in June. She met Mary Kelly and bought her car so they would have one up here when they flew their Navion up to visit. The family loved the area and they started spending their summer vacations here. Then in 1998 they connected with Chris Lake and bought their home.

Leigh is still selling real estate and works for Coldwell Banker in Burlingame. She was Top Agent for Coldwell Banker for many years beginning in 1987. She went into management in 2002. Leigh says she has an office here in PML and has made many a deal on her deck sipping a martini or two

including with the DeRodeffs who Leigh brought up as houseguests.



Leigh has a grown daughter who is an attorney in Dallas, Texas and has a grand dog named Nayla. In addition, she has 4 grandchildren, Stephen, Becka, Martine and Andy.

Leigh was a professional Figure Skater and won the US Gold Medal from the US Figure Skating Association. In addition, she was a Figure Skating Coach for 20 years for the Finnish World Skating Team.

A detailed account of Leigh's solo flight can be found on the [www.pmlaa.org](http://www.pmlaa.org) website. Congratulations, Leigh, on a job well done!

### **WINGS SEMINAR**

**February 19<sup>th</sup>** from 2:00 to 5:00 Larry Jobe is sponsoring a [Wings seminar](#) at his hangar .

The Subject is Lessons Learned and it is an audience interactive seminar. The intent is to have pilots verbally share events that have caused them to learn a valuable lesson. The goal is to share these experiences with the group so all may learn and hopefully avoid the same situation.

Jim Henry of the FAA has sanctioned this Wings seminar, but will not attend so the group will feel free to openly communicate.

### **A VERY NARROW RUNWAY**

If you've ever landed on a narrow runway, say 50 feet across, you might be able to empathize with these pilots. The plane was being delivered to a museum at the Rand Airport in South Africa.

Airport elevation 5568 feet with 4898 long x 50 feet wide runway!) The 747-200 outer-to-outer main gear tire width is 41.33 ft.

Captain Dennis Spence who flew her on this last flight wrote: "I managed to keep it on the center line and touch down at the point we wanted - Bug speed at the weight of 178 000kg was 118 kts, but on short final with the wind at 070/08 I elected to fly it at 115 kts. When our Flight Engineer called 20 ft on the radio altimeter, I closed the thrust levers and planted it firmly onto the runway, aircraft carrier style. Well most of our energy dissipated rapidly, and by using medium auto-brakes, until I lowered the nose wheel, we managed to stop just before the intersection of 11/35. "

For the full narration go to: <http://www.saamuseum.co.za/flashsite.htm>



## *DIRECT FROM THE DIRECTOR*

### **Pilot Alert! Airport Frequencies Are Changing**

- Jim Thomas

**W**e are very close to finally getting our frequencies changed. For those of you who aren't familiar with the issue, many pilots have complained that our Unicom frequency of 123.05 MHz can be very congested at times, especially on weekends.

The Airports Committee and the Board of Supervisors recommended changing to a less used frequency for safety. Columbia will be changing to 122.975 MHz and Pine Mountain Lake will be changing to Multicom 122.900 MHz. Our new FCC licenses have been issued, and we just received the new crystals for the Pilot Controlled Lighting (PCL) systems at both airports.

The plan is to change Columbia's frequency on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and Pine Mountain Lake's on Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. A NOTAM will be filed and the FAA Charting Office will be distributing the updated information to various aeronautical publication organizations, including Jeppesen and other electronic database producers. A recorded message notifying pilots of the new frequency will also be put on the AWOS system at Columbia.

For the next several months we can expect that there may be many people arriving at both Columbia and PML Airports who will be using the old 123.05 MHz frequency. To help make Columbia Airport as safe as possible, Bald Eagle Aviation will be monitoring both frequencies for several months and will be advising arriving pilots broadcasting on 123.05 MHz that they need to switch to 122.975 MHz. At PML, Mother Lode Aviation will be doing the same thing, and advising arriving pilots to switch to 122.900 MHz.

Keep in mind that every once in a while, we have planes in the pattern that are not talking to anyone. So, always keep your eyes open when around our airports, and please be extra careful during this transition period.

**Please mail your  
2005 membership  
dues today!**

## *SAFETY CORNER*

### **Creatures of Habit**

-Linda Monahan, MEI, Aviation Safety Counselor

**O**ne crisp October morning, Larry and I had an O'Dark Thirty take off with Rand Siegfried and his Beech 18. Our destination was Tullahoma, TN and the Beech/Bonanza fly-in at the Staggerwing Museum. Rand's son Cormac was asleep in the back and Larry soon joined him.

Rand is a master with his Twin Beech and I was in the right seat, enjoying him working his airplane. The 985 Pratt & Whitneys purred through the run up and take off. We were looking forward to cresting the Sierras just as the sun came up. Ah, we should be in Tullahoma at a reasonable time...

The perfectly synchronized engines started, "WooW, WOOOWWW." Huh... "What's going on?" All at once the single engine drills became the real thing as the plane wanted to roll left. "WOOOW, WOOOWW, POP, POP, BANG!!!" Rand was checking props, mixtures, fuel, and magneto checks. Now Larry is wide-awake and looking over our shoulders... Oh-Oh, right mag, left engine, turned off, popping and banging stops. Double hmmm. The left engine WILL NOT run on both mags so Rand left the right mag switch in the off position at the same time turning us back toward PML. We flew home and did an uneventful landing. Gee, that's why we have two magnetos on aircraft engines... and that's why they make airplanes with two engines. As Rand pulled up to our hangar, Cormac woke up and said, "Haven't we left yet?" Talk about a sound sleeper!

The guys took the cowl off and went to work. When the right magneto was removed and opened up, we discovered that a few teeth on the gear had sheared off and its position slipped and the timing changed. In essence, the mag was firing the spark plug on the intake stroke. The fuel/air mixture that was entering the cylinder for the compression stroke was igniting into the intake manifold and burning the whole lot. In this situation, if you don't have the presence of mind to do an in-flight mag check, you're going to land. Period!

The nice thing about living at PML is whatever you need, someone has it or knows who can do it. In this case, Rich Nurge had just the correct mag. So at 1330, we blasted off once again and with one fuel stop, we did an approach into Tullahoma at 0230 local time... Whew, what a day!

So the moral of this story is: We do what we have been trained to do in an emergency! As student pilots when we were learning emergency drills and procedures, we were taught to do a "mag check." Did we *really* do a mag check or did we just simulate it?

When I train my students, I have them actually do a mag check during emergency procedures. "Gee, will the engine run if we turn the master off?" When I hear silence from the left seat, "Let's see." Yup, by gosh it does and it will run just fine, thank you, on one magneto.

# Dues are Due Now !!!



- Annual membership dues are \$20.00 per household, payable Jan 2nd each year.
- PMLAA Name badges are \$8.00 each.
- Dues and badge prices are subject to change
- 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 only record information changes on this form. If no changes, check here
- If you do not want your information included on our roster, please check this box

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  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: \_\_\_\_\_ PML Phone: 209-962- \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail(s): \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

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

FAA Cert/Ratings \_\_\_\_\_

Certificated pilot since (year) \_\_\_\_\_ Type ratings \_\_\_\_\_

Check all aviation jobs for which you have ever been paid.

- Airline Pilot / Crew     Flight Attendant     CFI     Corporate Pilot / Crew     Military pilot/crew  
 FAA     A&P Mechanic     IA     Lineman     Engineer     Person who refuses to be labeled

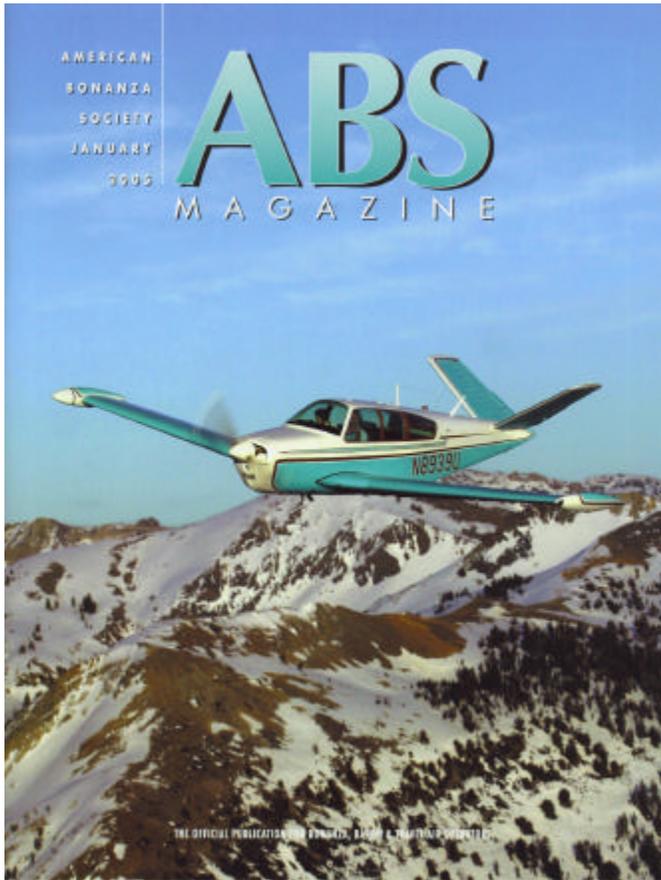
Details: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Annual Dues: \$20.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ years in advance = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ badges @ \$8.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ABS MAGAZINE**



The January issue of The American Bonanza Society's ABS Magazine's cover feature is PMLAA member Bob Siegfried's pristine 1965 S35 Bonanza, photographed from his brother Rand's Beech E18S by Keith Zenobia.



PMLAA Members Bob and Jessie Siegfried with N8939U



PMLAA Member Rand Siegfried's Beech E18S

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**NEWSLETTER**

<b>Publisher</b>	Silvano Gai	962-6378
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<b>Safety Editor</b>	Linda Monahan	962-5181
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<b>Member Profiles Editor</b>	Catherine Santa Maria	962-7904
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Aviation Association meetings are normally held at 6:00pm on the first Saturday of every month at the Buchners' Hangar, 20885 Hemlock on the corner of Woodside Way.



Mark your Calendar

<b>February 5</b>	<b>Buchner Hangar, 6:00pm</b> Bring Appetizers or Desserts Open to non-members as well.	<b>Valentine's Dance Party</b> \$10 pp music charge
March 5	Buchner Hangar, 6:00pm	
April 2	Buchner Hangar, 6:00pm	

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

**Please pay Dues**