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 5th 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

Mal & 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).

Mal & Dar Brown at the ball

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-holers, 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
962-4245
(650)558-4300
lwhitten@cbnorcal.com

It 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 website. Congratulations, Leigh, on a job well done!

**WINGS SEMINAR**

**February 19th**  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.
Pilot Alert!
Airport Frequencies Are Changing
-Jim Thomas

We 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 9th and Pine Mountain Lake’s on Thursday, February 10th. 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.

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.

Creatures of Habit
-Linda Monahan, MEI, Aviation Safety Counselor

On a 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. “WOOW, 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.

Please mail your 2005 membership dues today!
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
- 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 = $ _____________
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

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>Buchner Hangar, 6:00pm</td>
<td>Valentine’s Dance Party</td>
<td>$10 pp music charge</td>
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<td><strong>Bring Appetizers or Desserts</strong></td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>Buchner Hangar, 6:00pm</td>
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<td>Open to non-members as well.</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Buchner Hangar, 6:00pm</td>
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Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association
PO Box 131
Groveland, CA 95321

Please pay Dues