



A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE • BY NORM PEEBLES**

When running any organization, flexibility is a must. We can plan for future events, get everything lined up and then an unforeseen event occurs. That’s when flexibility is needed. You will notice that our March date is the second Saturday of the month because of a conflict we had when setting our dates for 2008 and we were flexible enough to change.

We schedule our meeting place and speaker for March 8th and then found out that there is another conflict with a group here in PML. We discussed cancelling our meeting for March but the feeling was that we should proceed since everything is set and we will have a very interesting speaker. This might impact a few of our members but I hope you will understand.

I want to thank Conni and Alan Buchner for hosting the February dance at their hangar. A fun time was had by all and even Mother Nature added a little white stuff to help top off the event.

2007 has come and gone and the FAA funding legislation has not been approved. It appears that the Senate is in a stalemate on how to proceed. AOPA feels however that the original proposal by the FAA to add a 50- cents-per-gallon tax and its associated user fees is essentially dead. It looks like it will come down to a reasonable increase in the fuel tax of maybe 5-10 cents in the end with no user fees. We can only hope. Stay tuned!

Our next event will be held at Silvano Gia’s hangar. The beautiful hangar is just over a year old and it is **HEATED**.

So please come and enjoy the good food, drink, conversations and our guest speaker, Tim Just, talking about Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV’s).



*Tim Just*

**Wikipedia definitions:** An unmanned aerial vehicle, is an unpowered aircraft. UAVs can be remote controlled or fly autonomously based on pre-programmed flight plans or dynamic automation systems. UAVs are currently used in a number of military roles, including reconnaissance and attack. They are used in a small but growing number of civil applications such as firefighting, police observation of civil disturbances and scenes of crimes, and reconnaissance support in natural disasters.

There are a variety of UAV shapes, sizes, configurations, and characteristics. To distinguish UAVs from missiles, a UAV is defined as being capable of controlled, sustained level flight and powered by a jet or reciprocating engine. Cruise missiles are not classed as UAVs, because, like many other guided missiles, the vehicle itself is a weapon that is not reused even though it is also unmanned and might in some cases be remotely guided.



*Microdrone UAV*

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# Valentine's Dance Highlights

Thank you to Conni & Alan for the fabulous Cinderella's Ball. The court jester Jim, was a big hit as usual. Bev and Sonja tried to look wicked as the step-sisters, but they really are too sweet. Jill dressed as the cinder in Cinderella. She along with the wicked step sisters and Conni were responsible for the sensational decorations. Thank you also to Bob and Tom who worked the bar and spread good cheer.

**Our March meeting on the 8th will be an Italian theme.** Please bring along an appetizer, entrée or dessert with an Italian flavor. We are planning on a large attendance, so please bring plenty of good food.

On a sad note, last week I buried a cat that was hit by a car on the taxiway. The beautiful cat had belonged to one of my very dear friends. Please slow down on the taxiways. Our home at the airport is a very special place. Let us keep it that way.

*Get high, the Wright way . . . Kym Purifoy*



**FROM THE AIRPORTS DIRECTOR – JIM THOMAS**  
**Hangar Request for Proposals**

**I**t has been a long and difficult run to jump all the hurdles required to get the Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the construction of new hangars at Pine Mountain Lake Airport. The plan includes the construction of a row of 10 T-hangars, four box hangars and two commercial hangars. At this point there are just a couple of hurdles left in the race. I'd like to let our local pilots know what has been done so far and what is left. So far the following has been accomplished.

- The PML Airport Master Plan which includes the conceptual layout of new hangars was prepared and adopted by the Board of Supervisors
- The PML Airport Layout Plan which depicts planned landside development has been transmitted to the FAA's Airports District Office in San Francisco
- The draft RFP has been reviewed by County Counsel
- The draft RFP has been reviewed by the Airports Advisory Committee

The draft RFP is being finalized to incorporate County Counsel and the Airports Advisory Committee comments. Specific information on site conditions, utilities, current hangar inventories and lease rates, etc. is also being put in the RFP package.

From here the RFP will be advertised in the area's newspapers and sent to over 18 people and companies who have expressed interest in the hangar projects at Pine Mountain Lake Airport. Proponents will have 45 days to submit their proposals, which will be reviewed by a Selection Committee composed of representatives of the: Airports Department, Community Development, Public Works, County Administration, County Counsel, and the Airports Advisory Committee. The Selection Committee's recommendations will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for approval of Options to Lease for each hangar project. If all goes well, there is every reason to believe that we will have new hangars under construction by the end of this year.

I should also let everyone know that there is a parallel effort to issue RFPs for new hangar construction at Columbia Airport.

Those interested in receiving a copy of the RFP should contact the Airports Department at 209-533-5685. There will be a fee charged to cover the printing costs of the RFP documents.

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**NEXT MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2008  
SILVANO GAI'S HANGAR**