



A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • BY NORM PEEBLES

This year's air show was an exceptional event. The Parachutists, Warbirds, Helicopter, Remote Control demonstration, and the Aerobatic aircraft were outstanding. A special thanks to Jim Meide who was the air show announcer. He was truly very entertaining and professional.

Because of all the volunteers, we were able to put on the event this year. Thanks to all who came out and supported this year's efforts. I would like to recognize some of the organizations who help sponsor the event: Diestel Turkey Ranch for donating the turkey for the dinner, please support Diestel at your local markets. Mother Lode Aviation LLC for selling the performers air show fuel at cost. Rotary Club of Groveland; PML Association; the EAA chapter at Columbia for lending us some of their equipment during the event, and PML Stables for the use of their hay.

This year we had four Warbirds that flew in for the event. Clay Lacy flew the Tiger Cat, Chuck Wentworth flew the Corsair, Kevin Eldridge flew the Allouette, and Dan Vance flew the P-51. **See some photos on page 4.** Having these history making aircraft added a new dimension to our show and was a huge crowd pleaser.

Overall the event was an outstanding success, but we did have some set backs. Two aircraft had prop strikes while flying in the show, and unfortunately they had limited insurance coverage. Our PMLAA board has proposed that we hold a **PROP FUND RAISER** later this year to help offset the expenses that our two aviators face. Details will be forthcoming, but I know we can count on you for your support.

AUGUST 2nd MEETING. Our speaker for August will be Carmelo "Nino" Amarena of Thunderbolt Aerosystems. Nino is currently working on a redesign of the rocket pack that was originally envisioned 48 years ago by Wendell F. Moore of Bell Aerosystems.

All subsequent versions of the rockbelt have had the same disadvantages; low flight duration. In 1996, Nino took on the challenge of building a new generation of rocketpacks that would break the barrier plaguing all previous pack designs and embarked on an investigation of what needed to be done to make longer flight a reality. (See mini-bio, basic information and product photos on page 3).

The meeting will be at Carol Simpson's hangar at 6:00pm, see you there.

HONORARY MAYOR LOCAL FUNDRAISING. The chamber of commerce is sponsoring a local fundraiser which helps them and PMLAA as well. The board has selected, appointed, and railroaded our candidate for this event, our own **BRUCE "RED" ROSSIO!!!**

We will be selling \$1.00 tickets and the candidate who sells the most gets the job for one year and the organization gets a percentage of the take. The Mayor's office is bought and paid for...fair & square! This is the way to run government. The event runs from July 1 thru September 18th. There will also be raffle prizes given away so please buy your vote through a PMLAA member and lets get RED into office the old fashion way. Remember a vote for **RED** means more money in our pockets and the Prop Fund.

Our August meal will be a sumptuous feast of cool summer salads, meats and cheeses. Please bring either a super salad, bread basket, cheese and/or cold cut platter, or a cool dessert.

Thank you to all my food and beverage helpers at the Air Show. We had a great time shopping, preparing, serving and cleaning up . . . didn't we? **Kym Purifoy**

COCKTAILS: 6:00PM • EATING: 6:30PM. • PROGRAM: 7:30PM

FROM THE AIRPORTS DIRECTOR – JIM THOMAS HANGARS

Our long effort to get hangars built at the Pine Mountain Lake Airport is finally going to show some results. The Airports Department issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to construct aircraft storage hangars at both airports. We received a total of three proposals out of the 45 RFP packages sent out. The developer selected will be constructing new hangars at both Columbia and Pine Mountain Lake Airports, however at Pine Mountain Lake he will only be constructing the row of T-hangars.

The new T-hangars will be built on the asphalt ramp and will replace tiedowns #33 through #45. This will eliminate 13 tiedowns while creating 10 hangars. For those not familiar with the tiedown numbering, the new hangars will be constructed perpendicular to the hill with the airport beacon, wind sock and wind tee, with the centerline of the hangars located just north of the used oil building.

The developer has an Option to Lease period in which he needs to complete his design and obtain his building permit. Once these are completed he can start construction.

The schedule provided in his proposal indicates that construction could start as early as October with his certificate of occupancy being received in April. Of course the Airports Department will do everything we can to help facilitate the permitting and construction process.

Since the new hangars will be owned and operated by the developer, the Airports Department will not be responsible for renting or maintaining the hangars. We will provide the developer with our current hangar waiting list and encourage him to follow the list when selecting his tenants. Those tiedown tenants who currently rent tiedowns #33 through #45 but don't obtain a hangar will be relocated elsewhere on the ramp.

Although we did not receive any proposals to develop the other hangar projects at Pine Mountain Lake Airport, I am still looking for people interested in these projects. In particular, I would like to find a developer or FBO that would like to construct a commercial hangar where the pilots lounge is located. The new commercial hangar would include restrooms, pilots lounge, and flight planning equipment. I believe this would be a great asset to the airport.



THUNDER PACK ROCKET BELT RE-DESIGN BY NINO AMARENA

In 1996, California engineer Carmelo “Nino” Amarena took on the challenge of building a new generation of rocketpacks that would break the barrier plaguing all previous pack designs and embarked on an investigation of what needed to be done, modified or invented to make longer flight a reality. It was a challenge that required much more than merely copycatting.

Amarena was trained and educated at the Buenos Aires University of Engineering, in Argentina, where he obtained his masters degree in electro-mechanical engineering and upon immigrating to America in 1979, made his home in California’s Silicon Valley.



There he was able to interact with talents in cybernetics, aerospace and electronics industry, allowing him to acquire a set of skills, which forged his “technical generalist” background.

His broad technical knowledge eventually landed him the development of a peroxidebased reciprocating engine for GeorgiaTech Research Institute’s “Entomopter” a biomimetic robot that flies like a “dragon fly” insect, a joint project between NASA and GeorgiaTech planned to be sent with a landing Mars probe mission by the end of the first decade of the 21st century.



In order to develop this new generation rocketbelt, Amarena formed ThunderboltAerosystems, Inc. in 1997 with the financial help of two partners. The company’s mission is to design and manufacture personal flight machines for entertainment, pleasure and rescue purposes and have them available to the masses at affordable prices. Its first model was dubbed ThunderPack®-R1G2 (Revision-1; Generation-2) a design that was sold in 2003 to a large multinational corporation abroad, with intentions to use the R1G2 for rescue purposes.

For a copy of a technical paper on Thunder Pack Rocket Belt go to our web site at www.pmlaa.org/nino.pdf and download a PDF file (~780K).



CAMP TUOLUMNE TRAILS IS OPEN!

Many thanks to PMLAA members who support the camp with time and resources. The camp is open and hosting many special needs groups this summer.

Now there’s a new way you can contribute to the camp: Tuolumne Trails has joined the Car Donation program. If you have an old car, truck or boat that you wish to donate, contact Virginia at 962-6336 for the donation form. You simply send the form to the Car Donation program and they arrange to pick-up your vehicle. When it is sold, Tuolumne Trails receives 70% of the proceeds and you receive a tax donation receipt.

JUNE 21 AIR SHOW



AIRCRAFT OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Members who own aircraft manufactured in 1973 or earlier (35+ years old) may know about the exemption from personal property tax with Tuolumne County. In order to qualify, the aircraft must be displayed 12 times during the year. While a strong argument can be made for simply paying the tax, with the increasing cost of fuel we thought some may want to rethink applying for the exemption.

To make it more convenient for members to qualify now and in future years, Pat and Ken Helling and Bob Hornauer have taken the following steps to simplify and make more accessible the forms and the schedule for PMLAA Display Days:

1. Information and forms are now posted on our association web site.
2. We have scheduled the remaining display days for 2008, usually the 3rd Saturday of the month, also posted on the web. July's display day at PML is the 19th.
3. It may be possible in future years to meet the requirements with few, if any flights to other airports for the sole purpose of meeting the 12 display day requirement.

If you are interested, review the program requirements on www.pmlaa.org and if you have any questions, call Pat or Ken at 962-7597 or Bob Hornauer at 962-4541 or 402-0005.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY TAX EXEMPTION FACT SHEET FOR PML OWNERS

- Applies to Aircraft 35 years and older – (1973 and earlier). Aircraft cannot be for sale or used for “general transportation”.
- Must file an application for exemption each year (\$35.00) – First deadline is by 2/15. If filing between 2/16 and 8/1, you will receive an 80% reduction in the tax. No filing allowed after 8/1/08. Stipulations apply when applying for the first time.
- Aircraft must be displayed at least 12 times during the year. It is not necessary to display all 12 times before filing if you are filing for the first time.
- Aircraft must be displayed for 4 hours each day displayed.
- A log of display days must be kept and submitted to the county.
- Display days must be publicly announced. This requirement is being arranged for PMLAA based aircraft. The announcement for PMLAA Airport day in the local papers met this requirement for the June display day. Pat Helling set up announcements in GA News for the remainder of the year.
- Pine Mountain Lake will have its monthly display days on the 3rd Saturday of the month. The dates for the remainder of 2008 are June 21, **July 19, August 16, September 27** (it is the 4th Saturday), **October 18, November 15, and December 20**. The display times are from 9:00am to 1:00pm for each scheduled day.
- Mariposa County airport schedules its display day on the first Saturday of the month. Many events at Columbia airport also qualify – for example 3 days credit can be obtained during Father's Day Fly-in if you are displaying all 3 days.
- All the necessary forms to file are now posted on www.pmlaa.org. Thank-you Silvano.
- Contact Pat or Ken Helling at 962-7597 or Bob Hornauer at 962-4541 or 402-0005 for more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS • 2008 OFFICERS

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|---|----------|---|--|----------|
| President - Norm Peebles | 962-1990 | - | VP Airport Affairs - Mike Lella | 962-1822 |
| VP Social Affairs - Kym Purifoy | 962-5100 | - | Secretary - Bob Cowley | 962-6245 |
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| Seminar Coordinator - Larry Jobe | 962-5501 | - | Membership - Kay Smith | 962-6986 |
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| Airport Director - Jim Thomas | 962-0910 | - | Webmaster - Silvano Gai | 962-6378 |

FINAL FLIGHT. Sad note that Tuskegee Airmen Capt. Woodie Spears passed away on May 12, 2008. Woodie was a speaker at PMLAA in 2004. Our condolences to his family.

UPCOMING EVENTS.

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|---------------------------------|--|
| August 2 nd | Carmelo (Nino) Amarena, Jetpack Presentation |
| September 5 th | Bill Cox, Plane & Pilot Magazine |
| October 4 th | Tom Sweeney, Satellites |
| November 1 st | Prop Fundraiser |



PML Aviation Association
P. O. Box 131
Groveland, CA 95321

**OUR AUGUST 2, 2008 MEETING WILL BE AT
CAROL SIMPSON'S HANGAR AT 6:00PM**