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**Sept. 3 – Janice Brown-Sullivan:  
Solar-powered Aircraft**

**Sept. 24 – Community Airport Day!**

Our next meeting is at 6:00pm, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> at the McGowans' hangar. Special thanks to Suzanne for arranging Janice Brown-Sullivan's visit.

The love of aviation began early for Janice Brown-Sullivan; she was born into an Air Force family. As an Air Force "brat" she spent her childhood living all over the world and developed a lifelong love of travel and adventure. Janice received a BS degree from California State Poly in San Luis Obispo and a teaching credential from California Lutheran College.

In 2006, Janice retired after 25 years as a kindergarten teacher in Bakersfield to return to her first love as a Certified Flight Instructor.

Janice is currently a flight instructor with ratings of Certified Instructor (Instrument), Multi-Engine, Glider and Airline Transport Pilot. Janice prepares students as private, instrument, commercial and certified flight instructor pilots.

She has logged over 8,000 hours of flight time with 4,700 hours as a certified flight instructor

Janice also volunteers with the Civil Air Patrol. She is qualified in: Airplane Instructor, Check Pilot, Garmin G1000 Instructor, Cadet Orientation Pilot, Mission Transport Pilot, Scanner, Observer and is an Urban Direction Finding Team member.

The greatest adventure in her aviation career occurred in 1980-81 when Janice was selected from many applicants to be the test pilot for the world's first solar powered aircraft. The **Gossamer Penguin** was powered by 3920 solar cells, producing 541 watts.

Janice's first test flight in the Gossamer Penguin took place at Shafter's Minter Field. The plane traveled a whopping 15 feet.

After some 60 flights, continuous structural modifications and more training, the Penguin's last flight from the NASA-Dryden facility at Edwards Air Force Base traversed two miles at an altitude of 15 feet. These flights were in preparation for the big event.



Janice won the honor of piloting Dr. MacCready's finest innovation, **The Solar Challenger** in December, 1980. The Challenger more closely resembled traditional aircraft and was designed to reach higher altitudes and endure flights of longer duration. Janice attained the *altitude record of 15,300 feet* early in 1981.

Her courage as a test pilot and her record flights were internationally recognized and culminated with the presentation by President Ronald Reagan of the



coveted Harmon Award for exceptional feats in aviation.

Ms. Brown-Sullivan's presentation will cover the testing and development of the world's first solar powered airplanes – the Gossamer Penguin and the Solar Challenger. **Join us for a potluck at the McGowans' hangar, Saturday, September 3 at 6:00pm. ♦**

*President's Message*  
*- Wayne Handley*

**M**y rolling stone has not been gathering any moss! Oshkosh was good, by gosh. Michael Thoben and I traveled to General Aviation's Mecca, compliments of the Light Speed Foundation. I felt a lot of positive vibes around Oshkosh, attendance was up, sales were strong and the weather was cooperative. I don't know how my time slipped away, but I didn't get to see a large percentage of what was on display. We accomplished a lot in our nightly board meetings, and I saw several old friends during my daily activities, so it turned out to be a very satisfying three and a half days.

Our August PMLAA meeting, AKA "The Block Party," was a lot of fun. I underestimated the attendance and we ran short of burgers and dogs, but not food. I was one of the last to eat, but enough people had brought main dishes that we stragglers still had a great selection of food. Dr. Michael Higgins presented a very informative program on places of interest to fly to, and a good time was had by all. I sensed a little added excitement in the air with this dinner format and expect to see more Block Parties in the future. A progressive dinner format has also been suggested.

On Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, Rex Pemberton presented his documentary on "Medicine on the Move," a program developed by Jonathon Porter using light aircraft to help educate the people of rural Ghana on health issues. The presentation was in Bonnie Ritchey's hangar and attended by Jonathon Porter and Patricia Mawuli Nyekodzi. Jonathon is as passionate about his cause as any man I have ever met and Patricia is literally one in a thousand. I had the pleasure of flying with both in my Extra 300 and the flights were very gratifying for me. Patricia is 23 years old and is the first female pilot to be licensed in Ghana. She had only flown light sport aircraft, but she did her first spins, aileron rolls and loops in the Extra like an old pro. Until this trip Patricia has lived in the poorest conditions imaginable, no running water nor electricity, so I hope she isn't overly affected by culture shock when she returns home. Nina Jobe suggested that we form a sister airport relationship with Jonathon's primary base and I think that is a great idea.

We will back at the McGowans' hangar on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to hear Janice Brown talk about flying the first solar powered airplane, and plans for Airport Day on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> are well under way (see next page).

It's all good!

*Wayne*

**Speakers for 2012**

**W**e've had some great speakers at PMLAA events this year. Can you help continue the tradition? We're looking for suggestions, recommendations, and contact information for potential speakers in 2012. Any ideas, please contact Allen Craig: 962-6757.

**Be Part of Airport Day on Sept. 24**

**G**et ready for Airport Day on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>. We need pilots for Young Eagle rides and contestants for flour bombing and spot landing contests. You can also help with registration, traffic control or food sales. Please call Marle to sign-up at 962-0701. ♦

*In Memoriam*

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Rose Heuer, a loyal PMLAA member and a special part of our community. Rose's memorial service is at 10:00am, Saturday, Sept. 10 at St. Patrick's Church in Sonora.

**PMLAA August News**

At our August 6<sup>th</sup> PMLAA meeting, Wayne Handley welcomed Michael Higgins of *Flying Adventures*



magazine. Michael gave us an overview of 12 interesting and varied places to fly to in the West. Everyone enjoyed the great block party hosted by the

Barbers and the Margraves and their back taxi neighbors. Debby Peters won the 50-50 again!

Congratulations to Bruce Rossio; he has his medical back and is the air again!

August was a busy flying month for PMLAA members. Many people made the trek to Oshkosh, the Sloans went to Nashville, the Aveys flew to Oregon and Montana, Mike Lella and Doug Grant joined the Hellings in Johnson Creek, and Wayne and Karen Handley are leading the Sandlings, Orloffs, Colliers and Purifoy's to Montana. Welcome home! ♦

## *Community Airport Day at PML* *September 24*

Community Airport Day at PML emphasizes the importance and contribution of our airport to the whole community. Our goal is to educate the community and build support for our airport. For example, our airport allows for emergency medical flights; we are also an emergency staging area for PG&E and CalFire; Hetch Hetchy and DEA also use our airport. We hope to have a great local turn-out of non-pilots to learn about and enjoy the PML Airport and all it has to offer. There are two parts to the day.

### **1. Young Eagles at PML**

One of the best ways for us to show the community the value of PML Airport is through EAA's Young Eagles program. The program starts at 8:30am at the new hangars.

We need volunteer helpers and pilots. Pilots must be EAA members and you must show your aircraft

insurance documents.

Pilot briefing begins at 8:00am at the new hangars.

You can also help organize the kids and sign them

in. Please confirm your availability to help by calling Allen Craig, 962-6757.



Since 1992, more than 1.5 million Young Eagles have enjoyed a flight through the program. Young Eagles have been registered in more than 90 different countries. PML Young Eagle events typically draw over 50 enthusiastic youngsters.

### **2. Community Airport Day**

Community Airport Day will be fun and adventure all afternoon. Invite your non-pilot friends and neighbors and prepare to get involved! Thanks to air show pro Jim Meide and our own Paul Purifoy who will announce the events. Here is the schedule.

#### **Friday:**

- 3:00pm Set-up for Saturday dinner at Gaudentis'
- 4:00pm Set-up for Young Eagles and Airport Day events. *Please come and help.*
  
- 6:00pm Display aircraft in position in transient parking. To display your plane (the more the better), contact Marle at 962-0701.

#### **Saturday:**

- 11:00am PMLAA will be selling hotdogs and soft drinks from 11am – 3pm. Contact Judy Hewett or Karen Handley to volunteer for a two-hour shift.
  
- 11:00am Flour bombing and spot landing pilot briefing at airport office. Call Rich McGlashan (962-7928) to sign-up.
  
- 11:30am Flight demonstration and formation flying pilot briefing at airport office
  
- 12:00noon RC Model plane demonstration
  
- 12:30pm Beech Boys (Bonanzas) formation flying
  
- 12:45pm West Coast Ravens (RVs) formation flying
  
- 1:00pm West Coast Swift Association formation
  
- 1:15pm "Winged Suits" Sky Divers
  
- 1:30pm Pilatus Porter demo by Clay Lacy
  
- 2:00pm Flour bombing contest
  
- 2:30pm Spot landing contest – Navy rules
  
- 3:00pm Flying exhibitions
  
- 3:15pm Airplane vs. car race
  
- 4:30pm Tear-down; everyone help
  
- 6:00pm Potluck Dinner at Gaudentis' hangar





**2011 Meeting Calendar**  
(subject to change)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Location</b>
September 3	Janice Brown, Solar-powered Aircraft	McGowans' hangar
September 24	COMMUNITY AIRPORT DAY!	PML Airport; Dinner at Gaudentis'
October 29	Stan Stokes, Aviation Artist	Muckels' hangar
December 3	PMLAA Holiday Party	Buchners' hangar

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<b>Safety</b> , Norm Peebles	962-1990	<b>Newsletter Publisher</b> , Frank Perry	962-0728
		<b>Airport Director</b> , Jim Thomas	533-5685

**PML Aviation Association**  
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*Next meeting: Sept. 3*

*Airport Day: Sept. 24*