



Volume 32: Issue 09
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Mountain Lake Aviation
Association

Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Meeting

War Stories -

Veterans Talk

*Saturday, November 4 – 6:00 pm
McGowan Hangar*

In honor of Veteran's Day, at our November meeting we are bringing back a popular panel of speakers: some of our very own Veterans. Marle Hewett, Wayne Handley and Ed Peters will be sharing a few of their remarkable memories. We've prepared a couple short stories, pointed questions and a bottle of Crown to get them going, but we will also take questions from the audience. You won't want to miss this meeting.



President's Message – by Bonnie Ritchey

Airport Day was AMAZING! The planes were cool, the cars were cool, everyone was safe. As always, PMLAA volunteers came together with the community to make it a success.

And oh the volunteers! There may be an undercurrent of chaos due to last-minute changes, cancellations and problems but you all just get things done. No one even notices when things don't go according to plan. I can't even pick which part I liked best... Alan's sneaker pass wowed the crowd, I couldn't look away from Jeff, Jeremy and Dan showing off the opposite side of the speed curve, the RV's were so polished in every sense, Clyde scared the bejesus out of us all with his antics and of course the highlight the entire day was when Susie and I won the bombing and spot landing contests! Sorry, Steve.

The year is almost over and we do still need to find replacements for a couple key board positions. Please talk to any board member to find out more!

E45 Airport Day Recap – by Bonnie Ritchey

Pine Mountain Lake Airport Day was October 7 and I really think it was one of the best ever.

Turnout was great and we finished off nearly all of the 500 hot dogs and hamburgers. Although apparently, at least one of those burgers was a casualty of Alan Gaudenti's sneaker pass.

The Boy Scouts Color Guard kicked us off and from that point on it was a whirlwind of activity. Our Airboss, Wayne Handley, kept things moving at a grueling pace while, with ease, managing the random planes that showed up to use our airport during the event. Catherine Santa Maria just would NOT stop TALKING during the entire thing which was great since she was our announcer this year!

The Beech Boys arrived in unprecedented numbers – 11 planes (led by a Gruman though... what the heck?) including a T-34 and a Baron. They made three formation passes but Wayne must have A.D.D. or something because between Beech flyovers he rolled out the first race between Judy Collier in her Corvette and Bonnie Ritchey in the Pitts. After that we got a PPG demo from Jason Johanson. Rex Pemberton was also there but couldn't get his up. Next we got an RC (radio controlled aircraft) demonstration, starting with a WWII dogfight and including some great helicopter stunts! You definitely cannot do those moves in a real helicopter. Next up we got some great high speed passes and general showing-off. Jay Behel, Rimas Viselga, Doug Thiel and Alan Gaudenti showed off a pretty incredible variety of aircraft. The Nor-Cal Crosswind RV formation team was amazing. Even their moves on the ground were amazing. It was all amazing! Ken Talovich raced against Steve Martin in his Porsche next.

Then the flour bombing and spot landing contest started. There were two heats and in between we got a remarkable demonstration by Jeremy Zawodny, Dan Grimes and Jeff Benzing on how slow planes can go. I don't know about you, but I always thought that what made airplanes fly (besides money) was air moving over the wings. Those planes practically stand still in the air. After that we had the second group of losers, I mean, "contestants" in the flour bombing and spot landing competition. By the way, Bonnie "Precision" Ritchey and Susie "Bomber" Williams won BOTH. Next, we got the Mike Gustafson vs Michael Thoben race. I'm pretty sure Mike won that one but he had clearly been sandbagging at time trials the night before. And after that, of course, for the finale our buddy Clyde showed up again to show us all what NOT to do.

I said it before but I'll say it again, the volunteers for this event are just amazing. So much work goes into this event, from getting porta potties (thanks, Al Craig!) to ramp crew to help with planes and keeping the crowds safe (thanks Mike Gustafson, Leon Liebster, Ed Gregory and all the rest of you "red shirts") to our amazing Sound Guy (Phil Hickerson!) to everyone who served food (thanks Larry Santa Maria and crew!) sold calendars and barely even got to see the runway, you are all what make this such a successful event that our community really enjoys. And of course huge thanks to Steve DeRodeff who organized the day and the band and Danielle Coelho for arranging a really great dinner. Thank you all!



Bonnie flying her Pitts



Mike (1933 Ford Roadster) vs. Michael (Waco)



Alan's Citation Mustang jet



Nor-Cal Crosswinds

Social Corner – by Danielle Coelho

Hello PMLAA Friends. What a fabulous Airport Day and evening it was! I hope everyone enjoyed the dinner and dancing.

I can't believe our next meeting is our Thanksgiving theme November meeting. Please bring your favorite **Thanksgiving appetizer, main dish, side dish or dessert**. The meeting will be at the McGowan hangar on Saturday Nov. 4 at 6 pm.

Please note pot luck instructions. If your last name begins with

- **A-K bring appetizer or dessert**
- **L-Z bring main dish, side dish, or salad**



December is our Holiday Party, also being held at the McGowan Hangar, on Saturday December 2. Invitations will be sent out. Reservations will be required as seating is limited. You will get more information on all of that soon.

I hope everyone has a wonderful month and I look forward to seeing you at **the McGowan Hangar, 6 pm on Saturday, November 4, 2017**. Directions to the hangar on the last page of newsletter.

PML Reno Air Racer – by Janet Gregory



The 2017 Reno Air Races were exciting. We always have a great turn out from PML — racers, crew, and spectators enjoying every minute. If you haven't attended the National Champion Air Races in Reno consider adding it to your "bucket" list for September 12-16, 2018.

In Sport Class, kit built airplanes, Vicky flew her Lanceair Super Legacy "Lucky Too", clocking in the FASTEST qualifying speed that Lanceair has ever posted, a blistering 377.84 mph! She blew past the air speed limit below 10,000 feet of 250kts (288 mph) according to F.A.R. 91.117. Vicky finished fast and proud taking home 2nd place in the Sport Gold race.

Fast isn't fast enough for Vicky! She also flew the L-39 "Darkstar" in the Jet Class races, qualifying at 461 mph. In 2015 Vicky set the record as "The Fastest Woman in Reno Air Racing" in Darkstar, qualifying at 469.8 mph. Go Vicky!

Young Eagles at Pine Mountain Lake – by Ed Gregory

We had a great day flying Young Eagles at Pine Mountain Lake on Saturday, September 30th. We flew 30 kids and 2 adults. Many people played multiple roles, denoted with a gold * by their name! Thanks to all the volunteers that made the day a success



- Pilots: Gabe Coelho, Allen Craig*, Wayne Handley*, Janet Gregory*, Robert Pearson, Bonnie Ritchey, Larry Roessler, Jeremy Zwodney & Bill Summer (from Grass Valley)
- Welcome: Sandy DeRodeff & Martha Pearson
- Flight Directors: Rob Compton, Mary Brown, Chloe Fitzmeyer & Trent Coelho
- Ramp: Ed Gregory*, Mike Gustafson*, Leon Liebster
- Flight Operations: Ed, Diana, and Sean Sunday (O22)
- Sale of Calendars & T-Shirts: Linda Craig
- Marketing: Virginia Gustafson
- Static Display: Joe Riley & his Aronca Champ
- Safety Briefing: Jim Thomas
- Other Volunteer Helpers: Roxie Compton, Steve DeRodeff, Mike & Norma Lella, Scott & Lane Poms, Greg Triplett & Lynda

It was a fun day for everyone, ending with a relaxing lunch for our hard working volunteers. We hope we didn't miss mention of anyone. Thank you Pine Mountain Lake!

2018 PMLAA Calendars For Sale – \$10 each

Contact any Board Officer to order yours! List of officers and contact information on page 7.



Transportation Options for E45

Options as of 10/1/2017

Rental cars:

- Fly into Columbia (O22) and coordinate with the rental company for pick up or take a taxi.
 - Enterprise Rent-a-Car at 209-533-0500, 14860 Mono Way, Sonora.
 - Hertz Car Rental at 209-588-1575, 13413 Mono Way, Sonora.
- Sonora is ~30 miles, 45 minute drive to Groveland.

Loaner Car When Staying Near Groveland area overnight:

- **Rush Creek Lodge** (www.rushcreeklodge.com or 209-379-2373)
- **Evergreen Lodge** (www.evergreenlodge.com or 209-379-2606)
- Contact the property manager directly to prearrange by email: joej@rushcreeklodge.com with "room plus loaner car" in the subject line. They will pick you up at the airport.

Transportation to Your Hotel When Staying in Groveland area overnight:

- Most Groveland Hotels will pick you up at the PML airport as long as you are renting a room.
- **Cub Inn** (www.thecubinn.com or 209-962-0403)
- **Groveland Inn** (www.groveland.com or 800-273-3314)
- **Hotel Charlotte** (www.hotelcharlotte.com or 209-962-6455)

Interested in Property and Want a Tour?

- Contact one of the realtors in the area.
- Most area realtors will be happy to make arrangements to meet you, show you around, and explain the many amenities and benefits of the area.

Turo: (We are just trying to get this started ... not sure that it is working.)

- Go to www.turo.com
- One step beyond loaned cars. Private parties will offer their personal vehicle for rental.

Driver Services / Uber / Lyft:

- Wendel's Private Passenger Transportation (209) 962-0333.
- Uber has one driver registered in Groveland! You must use the Uber app to book him. His name is Dave; you may be able to prearrange availability dave@mycarguy-sf.com (209)962-1144
- Sorry, Lyft doesn't operate here.

YARTS (Yosemite Area Regional Transit Service):

- The Sonora line serves Sonora, Jamestown, **Groveland**, Buck Meadows, and Yosemite.
- There are other YARTS lines serving Yosemite from Merced, Fresno, and Mammoth Lakes.
- Go to www.yarts.com for current fare prices, schedules, and service locations.



Radio Rumors: "Say Again"

- **PMLAA 2018 Calendars:** The beautiful 2018 PMLAA Calendars are available and on sale for \$10.00 (not the usual \$15!). Thanks to Susie Williams for putting the calendar together. Special thanks to all the great photographers: Jay Behel, Frank Leung, Patty Peebles, Rex Pemberton, Susie Williams, and Jeremy Zwodny. We don't need to thank all the pilots because they were out having all the fun!
- **Pino Lella:** For those of you that attended the March PMLAA meeting where Mike Lella spoke about the book "Beneath a Scarlet Sky" authored by Mark Sullivan we have some intriguing news for you. The book is based on the true story of Pino Lella, Mike's father. Rumor is confirmed that Pino is here in PML, staying with Mike & Norma for the next few months.
- **Holiday Party Invitations & More:** PMLAA holiday party invitations will be mailed to your home in early November. Rumor has it that the magic holiday envelope will also include the 2017 Membership List (hmmm, wondered where that was) and the 2018 dues (still just \$20).
- **TCAA Meeting:** The October TCAA (Tuolumne County Airport Advisory) committee meeting was cancelled with no policy issues to review. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 13th at 11:00am. Ed Gregory and Steve Martin are E45 TCAA representatives.

Area Aviation Events

October	21-22 – Patriots Jet Team @ San Bernardino Air Show 31 – <i>Halloween</i>
November	4 – PMLAA Meeting 6:00 4 – Vicky Benzing @ Lake Havasu Air Fest, AZ 5 – <i>Daylight Savings Time begins</i> 10-12 – Vicky Benzing @ Nellis Air Show, Las Vegas, NV 11 – <i>Veterans Day</i> 18 – E45 Airport Display Day 23 – <i>Thanksgiving</i>
December	2 – PMLAA Holiday Party 6:00 12 – <i>Hanukkah</i> 16 – E45 Airport Display Day (weather permitting) 25 – <i>Christmas</i>

2017 Meeting Calendar

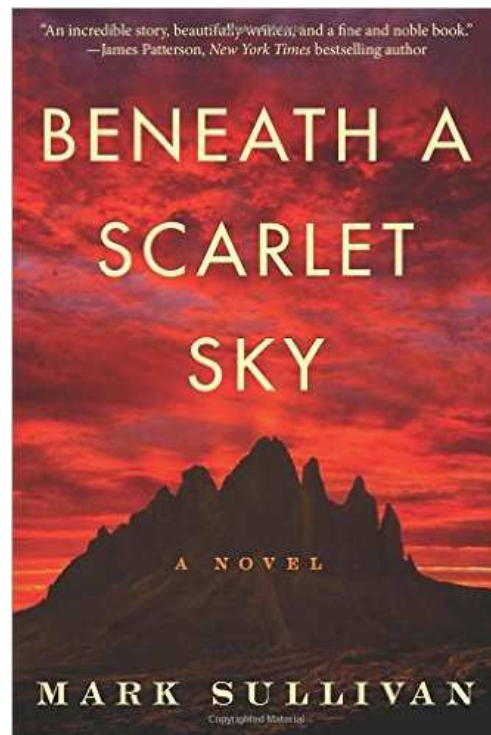
<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time & Location</u>
November 4	Veterans Talk	6:00PM- McGowan Hangar
December 2	Holiday Party	6:00PM- McGowan Hanger

BOARD OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS – 2017			
OFFICERS		COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
President, Bonnie Ritchey	650 996-6274	Property, Ed Peters	962-6267
VP, Airport Affairs, Steve deRodeff	962-5997	Multimedia, Phil Hickerson	962-6714
VP, Social Affairs, Danielle Coelho	831 601-7328	Membrshp/Rostr, Karen Appleby	962-4549
Secretary, Susie Williams	962-6922	Airports Manager, Benedict Stuth	533-5685
Treasurer, Janet Gregory	962-5061	Display Day Coord., Ken Helling	962-7597
		Safety, various contributors	
		Newsletter, Nikki Grimes	666-0141
		Webmaster, Jeremy Zawodny	408-685-5936

McGowan's hangar is on the north taxiway about half way between the intersection crossing the runway and runway 9



McGowan's Hangar



Novel based on Pino Lella's experiences in Italy during WWII

Books available from Mike Lella. Signed by Pino Lella. Call Mike – phone number in PMLAA roster.