



*A Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • BY NORM PEEBLES

**A**IRPORT DAY: What a great day! The weather, volunteers, attendees, and the kids made it a wonderful day. To start the day, we had the EAA chapter 1337 conduct a Young Eagles program with the help of our volunteer pilots. We gave 38 Young Eagle rides and additional 15 or more to other individuals during the event.

There were many aircraft on display and the remote control planes were a joy to look at and watch as they put on an aerial demonstration.

Let the competition begin! At midday the competition begin with the Flour Bombing and those brave warriors from PML. Things were going well until some of the bombs started bouncing off the wings and struts of the airplanes, but the pilots made in-flight changes to their techniques and continued without any incidents. Some of the bombs actually hit near the target, and the winner of the contest hit the target barrel dead on. The pilot was Wayne Handley and bombardier was Marle Hewitt, both ex-navy aviators!

The next competition was the spot landing. The winner again was the Handley/Hewitt duel who managed to get within 20 feet. But the strange thing was during the competition a visitor who was just flying in to PML in a Piper aircraft and not in the contest nailed the line on his/her landing. It was very impressive.

The estimate of the attendance was around 250+ people and that was based on the Hot Dog sales. We sold out and had to go shopping for more during the event. A big thanks to the hot dog stand volunteers!

We want to thank everyone who helped make this a fun and safe event this year. For those who volunteered, we can't do it without you, and for those who showed up

to watch, thanks for coming out. A special thanks to Jim Mead for announcing the event and Wayne Handley for organizing the event this year.

**MEETING / POTLUCK:** Ken Orloff did another outstanding job in presenting a difficult subject to aviators and their significant others. Let's face it, we tell them that it is safer than driving the car. The preparation time that Ken puts into his presentations is amazing. His computer simulation are state-of-the-art and you can almost feel what the aircrew must have felt during the incident. Thank you for your professionalism and the knowledge that you provide to us. Thanks to Kay Meermans for the use of her hangar and all those chefs who prepared our wonderful dinner and desserts. Let's do it again on Nov 7th.

**NEXT MEETING / POTLUCK:** Our next meeting is Nov. 7th, and will be held at the McGowans' hangar, with guest speaker Dennis Wisely (bio on page 3). Dennis was a naval aviator and served our country for 33 years. He flew over 350 combat missions in Viet Nam, commanded the Blue Angels, and was captain of the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy. "America the Beautiful" is the theme of the potluck dinner. See you there!

**DECEMBER 12TH, ANNUAL IT'S A WRAP:** The event is scheduled for 6:00 pm on Dec 12th at the McGowans' hangar. There will be no charge or reservation required this year. Please bring unwrapped gifts for a child. This year it will be an appetizer, dessert and chili affair. Bring your best appetizer, dessert, chili or fixens. You can eat at any time while wrapping gifts. This is our contribution to Groveland's Christmas basket program for needy families that is supported by Soroptomists, Helping Hands, PMLAA and other organizations. It's a great cause and lots of fun too.

**FROM THE DIRECTOR**  
by Jim Thomas  
**AIRPORT DEPARTMENT WORK ACTIVITIES**

It has been brought to my attention that many residents of the Pine Mountain Lake Airport do not have a clear understanding of the amount of time and effort the Airports Department puts toward the operation and maintenance of the Pine Mountain Lake Airport. Most know that Columbia Airport is much larger than Pine Mountain Lake Airport which intuitively suggests that most of the Airports Department's time is spent working Columbia Airport issues. While this is true, the Pine Mountain Lake Airport still requires a significant amount of operations and maintenance support.

What most PML residents don't see is the amount of administrative time it takes to keep the airport running. Residents do see the results of maintenance activities, like fixing the gate, replacing lights, disposing of the garbage, fixing the deer fence, etc. Besides these visible items, the Airports Department also spends considerable time on such things as, billing and collecting tenant fees, preparing and presenting Board of Supervisor packages, addressing Caltrans Division of Aeronautics safety items, writing articles for newsletters, working on encroachment

applications, addressing budget issues, and working special airport projects, to name a few.

A more extensive and detailed list of Airports Department activities performed at or on behalf of the Pine Mountain Lake Airport from the time period of March, 2009 to July 2009 can be found on the Airports Department webpage at [http://portal.co.tuolumne.ca.us/ps/ps/TUP\\_AIRPORTS/ENTP/h/?tab=DEFAULT](http://portal.co.tuolumne.ca.us/ps/ps/TUP_AIRPORTS/ENTP/h/?tab=DEFAULT), then clicking on Pine Mountain Lake Airport on the left side, and finally click the link labeled "Airport Department Work Activities at Pine Mountain Lake Airport" on the right side of the webpage, and download a PDF format file.

You can also find the file at our website via <http://www.pmlaa.org/pmlairport>

As always, please feel free to contact me at the office or on email ([jthomas@co.tuolumne.ca.us](mailto:jthomas@co.tuolumne.ca.us)), if you have questions about any of the operations and maintenance issues at Pine Mountain Lake airport.

**IMAGES FROM OUR AIRPORT DAY EVENT**

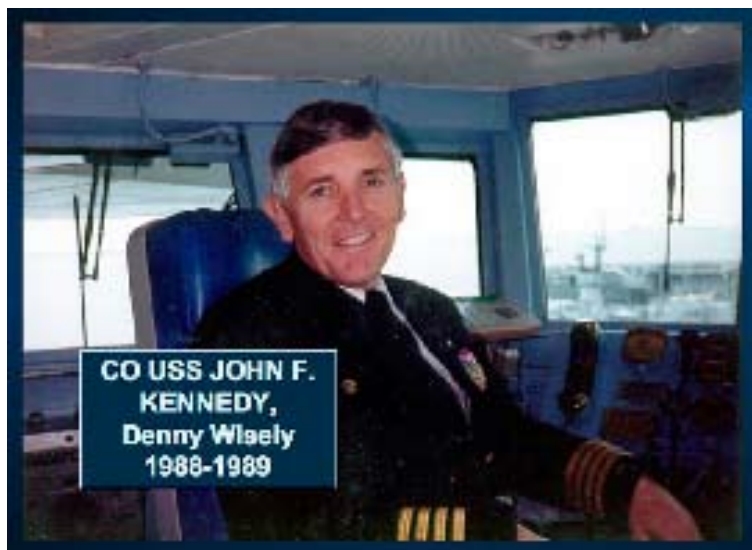


Kay Meerman and Young Eagles friends



## HUGH DENNIS WISELY OUR OCTOBER PRESENTER

Hugh Dennis Wisely was raised in Wayne, New Jersey and attended Fairleigh Dickinson University prior to entering the Naval Aviation Cadet program in 1962. He honorably served his country for 33 years in the United States Navy. Some of the positions he has held include: Fighter Pilot flying 350 combat missions over Vietnam, during which time he was first to shoot down two enemy aircraft, shot down by ground fire on Hanoi strike; Commander and Flight Leader of the world famous Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron; Captain of the auxiliary ship, U.S.S. SYLVANIA and of the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. JOHN F. KENNEDY, Director of Navy Liaison for the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs, Director Warfare Systems Engineering and Architecture at Navy Space and Electronic Warfare Systems Command and Director of Operations at the Defense Nuclear Agency, now known as the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Wisely retired from the U.S Navy in Oct. 1994 as a Rear Admiral.



Inchon International Airport in Korea and performed systems integration to create an operational database, network and interface for major systems at Beijing Capital International Airport in Beijing, China.

When Motorola's Integrated Information Systems Group was bought by General Dynamics, he became the account director for Navy, Marine Corps and Homeland Security customers. His last major effort was winning the \$300M + Marine Unit Operations Center Program. This program has become a major revenue input for the company and a valued capability for the Marine Corps.

**AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:** Military: Silver Star, Legion of Merit (6), Distinguished Flying Cross (2), Air Medal (29), Purple Heart.

Civilian: Society of Experimental Test Pilots '76, Pinnacle Award Charter Inductee Fairleigh Dickinson University '90, New Jersey Aviation Hall of Fame Inductee '95.

**EDUCATION/TRAINING:** Wisely attended the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School '69 -'70 and received a degree in Government/International Relations. In 1993 he attended JFK School of Government Senior Executive Course at Harvard.

Wisely is retired with his wife Nadine in Scottsdale, Arizona.



After retiring from the Navy, Wisely developed and ran an international business at Motorola in Scottsdale, AZ. He took advantage of networked communications and systems integration developed by Motorola for the U.S Department of Defense and applied this technology in commercial endeavors. Some examples of his success were: linked all police precincts in the country of Malaysia by way of a secure communications network; designed and built an Integrated Communications Center at

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### NEW YEARS CELEBRATION AT CAMP TUOLUMNE TRAILS

Mark your calendar; Tuolumne Trails is hosting a New Year's Eve party – dinner and dancing and lots of fun, all for a very low price of \$59 (chicken), \$64 (fish), or \$ 69 (filet mignon). We hope to see lots of aviation friends. For more information, call 962-6336 or email [info@tuolumnetrails.org](mailto:info@tuolumnetrails.org).



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**NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AT MCGOWANS' HANGAR.**