



Volume 37: Issue 6  
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A Publication of the  
Pine Mountain Lake  
Aviation Association

## *Pine Mountain Lake Aviation*

### *July Meeting With a Twist*

*See details below, after Presidents message*

## **Next Regular Meeting is August**

*Saturday, August 6, 2022*

### ***Hot August Nights / Catered Dinner***

*Time: 5:00 pm – until late evening*

*Place: Randy & Marie Barber Hangar  
Located on the Loop Taxiway*

### **No July Newsletter**

## The Presidents Message

Mike Gustafson- President, PMLAA

Our June 4<sup>th</sup> PMLAA membership meeting at Joe Sobczak's hangar was a hit. Our guest speaker was Beth Stanton who spoke on "Where is my Flying Car," the evolution of advanced air mobility. Beth took us through all the players and their designs on electric vertical take off vehicles. Very interesting. You missed a good one!

Under airport improvements, we note that the County will be building a fence around the car parking lot with a gate on one side of the Pilots Lounge. We hope this fence will slow down all the walkers and kids playing on the airport.

Joe Sobczak also hosted another "Brent Burns" concert in his hangar that was very well attended. Brent Burns is a Jimmy Buffet cover artist with his own music and lyrics. He had the audience in stitches! If Joe brings him back next year, don't miss the event, it's well worth it.

The Columbia Airport Father's Day Fly-in is set for June 18 and 19 and is free this year. There will be lots of fun and interesting activities and events: Hot air balloons, car/airplane races, car/car drag races. Lots of varied aircraft are set to be on display. If you want to help at the event, Ed Gregory is looking for ramp support, contact him if you have some time to spare.

There will not be a PMLAA meeting in July. Everyone is headed to AirVenture. Our next big event is one of our flagship parties: HOT AUGUST NIGHTS!! It's on August 6 from 5:00 pm until the last person stumbles home. Marie Barber is once again working her magic ensuring that everyone will have a grand time! The Margarita Machine will be in attendance. The event this year will be held on the back taxi-way loop. You can't miss it. Oh, and it will be a catered event.

On that same day, the PML local EAA Chapter 1337 will be holding a Poker Run from 8:00am until 12:00 noon. The 5 airports to visit are: O22, CPU, O27, MPI, and our own E45. The cost is \$25.00 per hand. Awards will be handed out to the winners that night at Hot August Nights. Good excuse to burn some very expensive aviation gas.

The Gregorys are hosting an Authors' Forum at their hangar on July 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Drop by and hear our local authors discuss their books. The authors are: Marle Hewett, Susie Williams, and Janet Gregory. You might even have the opportunity to get a signed book!

Finally, we've started work on Community Airport Day, scheduled for October 1. Mark your calendars and prepare to get involved. See you all out about on our lovely airport!

Mike

## **July PMLAA Meeting – *With a Twist!***

**Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> (Second Saturday)**

**Local Aviation Authors**

**1:30 – 3:30 (Mid-day)**

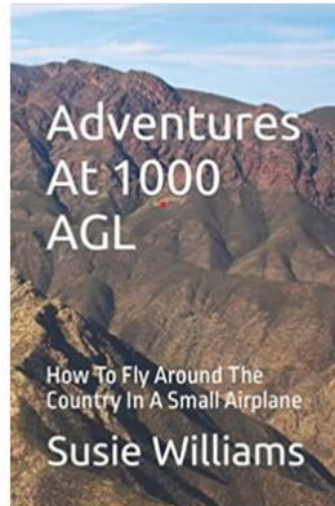
**Gregory Hangar**

We **are** having a PMLAA in July but with a twist. It will be the second Saturday of the month, to not interfere with Independence Day celebrations. It will be mid-day 1:30-3:30, with snacks and drinks, but you don't have to bring anything except yourself and a few friends. Hear about three amazing aviation books from their PMLAA authors.

- Marle Hewett: ***Fast Hewie***, *From Navy Jet Jock to Global Aerospace Tech Wizard*
- Susie Williams: ***Adventures at 1000 AGL***, *How to Fly a Small Airplane Across the Country*
- Janet Gregory: a book in the making about the history of PML Airport

The authors will talk about the content of their books, who would like to read it and why, and tell a few stories.

There will be a brief peek into the writing process and if you are interested, there will be books signed by the author available for sale after the talk.



## ***Save the Date!***

PMLAA organizes a special event for the community each fall. Please mark your calendars and plan to get involved! More details in the coming months.

October 1 – our annual Community Airport Day showcases the benefits of our airport to the Groveland community. For more information and to sign-up to help or perform, contact Rob Compton, [gt3rob@gmail.com](mailto:gt3rob@gmail.com) or (925) 989-5186



**Smithsonian National Postal Museum**

May 23, 2018

Katherine Stinson was the fourth woman in the U.S. to obtain a pilot's license, and the first to be officially sworn in as an airmail pilot. On May 23, 1918, Stinson flew as a specially assigned airmail pilot, bringing mail from Chicago to NYC months before the Post Office Dept. set up a permanent route. She was forced to wait for replacement propellers in Binghamton, NY, and the trip ended up taking nine days to complete.

Photo Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-106324



## SAFETY CORNER

### Joe Sobczak

Safety is no Accident. (WRONG!)

Somewhere in the annals of aviation safety, the slogan “Safety is No Accident” was coined and became somewhat popular. It is a catchy phrase, and being a double entendre, it has two meanings. The first and most important meaning is that safe outcomes require planning and execution, they do not just happen.

The second meaning (the one I disagree with) is that, for any organization or activity, the absence of an accident is evidence of a safe operation. Nothing could be further from the truth. While lack of accidents is the result of good safety practices, it does not mean that good safety practices are being used or followed.

In 1986, the Space Shuttle Challenger was destroyed during launch due to a faulty seal on one of the booster rockets. It turned out that the problem had been seen on previous launches but had not caused any catastrophic results. The accident report cited poor safety practices at NASA, including accepting the notion that since it hadn’t caused a major problem in the past, it would be okie dokie to launch without further investigation into the issue. It was a cold day in Florida, and they even decided to launch with weather that did not meet their normal safety criteria. The result was disaster, and it was totally preventable.

To sum up the results of the accident investigation, the report noted that “Absence of an accident is NOT evidence of a safe operation.”

So, what does this mean to you as a Private Pilot? Last time you flew, you may have forgotten to drain the sumps. Since your engine did not quit, you may conclude that it is unnecessary to drain the sumps, but you would be wrong. Just because your action did not result in an accident last time, it does not mean you are conducting a safe operation. Such false assumptions could apply to not using a checklist, not visually checking your fuel and oil levels during preflight, not filing a flight plan or using flight following, not checking the weather, and on and on. So, take a lesson from the Challenger disaster – just because it didn’t result in an accident last time, an unsafe practice is still unsafe.

The presidential report on the Challenger accident is interesting reading if you would like to do some further research into the subject. Just Google “rogers report” and you will find it. Meanwhile, Fly Safe!







## The Need For Speed

Thanks to **Krystall Johanson** for organizing a massive contingent of PMLAA to attend the sneak preview of “Maverick”, the new Top Gun movie at the IMAX theater in Riverbank. Great movie, great company, even a free poster. What a deal. (Ed and Janet Gregory also attended, but missed being in the photo. *Ed.*)



Brent Burns wonderful performance at Joe Sobczaks home concert.



## Nellis Air Force Base Desert Lightning News



Yesterday at 4:00 PM · 🌐

May 29, 1963: Lockheed Test Pilot Anthony W. "Tony" LeVier and his 18-year-old daughter, Toniann LeVier, flew the company's two-place TF-104G Starfighter demonstrator from Air Force Plant 42, Palmdale, Calif., to Andrews Air Force Base, Md. They made fuel stops at AFB, N.M., Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Toniann earned the title of World's Fastest Teenager after the aircraft hit Mach 2. The aircraft was being flown to Washington, D.C., where it was handed over to a Lockheed team for a series of demonstrations to Air Force officials.

"I'm still tingling. That sudden surge of power made me feel like we were taking off for outer space, but it's just as easy to fly as a light plane," said Toniann.

For more military and aviation milestones, visit <https://bit.ly/3sYKngL>





**Barbara Schultz**

May 5, 2021 · 🌐

On March 17, 1929, Louise Thaden set a new endurance record in the skies over Oakland. She flew for 22 hours, three minutes, and 12 seconds in the reliable Travel Air.



## [Barbara Shultz](#)

Barbara is an Author, Historian, Museum Trustee, a fountain of information and a source of some items appearing in our newsletters.





## AirVenture Here We Come!

Stock photo

## EAA Flight Deck



**By Ed Gregory**

### **Father's Day Fly-In at Columbia Airport (O22) → Saturday & Sunday June 18 & 19.**

It's on! Bring your kids or grandkids for some aviation fun on the grass field. Admission is FREE. There will be cars, airplanes, food and more. Local car clubs and hot rods will be on display and drag racing. Airplanes will be on show in the air and on the ground, including the Concord RV Club. And more ... hot air balloon rides, bouncy house for the kids, food (kettle corn, ice cream, BBQ, beer), and an announcer from the local radio station.

Fly in or drive over. If you are flying there will be a temporary tower (Sat 8-4 and Sun 9-4), local control 134.7, ground 120.6, and AWOS 124.65 (unchanged). Main activities are 11:00-3:00. More information at: [www.fathersdayflyin.org](http://www.fathersdayflyin.org).

### **Flying Poker Run → Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00a – 2:00p**

Anyone can participate ... pilot, passengers, and just walk up to join the fun. Great prizes from local vendors (restaurants, gifts, and food) along with some great gift baskets. Pick up your fifth card or "buy" a hand at PML Airport between noon and 2:00 for just \$25. Anyone can participate and you can "buy" as many hands as you like!

Looking for a reason to go flying? The five stops for this poker run are: Columbia (O22), Calaveras (CPU), Oakdale (O27), Mariposa (MPI), and Pine Mountain Lake (E45). Stops can be flown in any order. Add some fun to your flight and plan to fly out for breakfast or a lunch stop. Just turn in your unopened poker card envelopes at E45 between 12:00 noon and 2:00 to Leon Liebster and Larry Santa Maria. Not flying and still want to play? See Leon and Larry from noon and 2:00.

Make a day of it! EAA Chapter Flying Poker Run, followed by PMLAA Hot August Nights on the back taxiway at 5:00. Awards will be presented at the Hot August Nights dinner, between 7:00 and 8:00p; pick out your winning prize or have someone represent you.

# 54<sup>TH</sup> COLUMBIA AIRPORT

## FATHER'S DAY FLY-IN



[www.fathersdayflyin.org](http://www.fathersdayflyin.org)

JUNE  
18-19, 2022

**FREE**



## Radio Rumors

**WANTED: old E45 photos and stories.**

A history of Pine Mountain Lake Airport is being put together. An amazing collection of stories, photos, and facts have already been collected and more are welcomed. Our airport is young, with its original excavation in 1968, but if we don't capture these stories now that could get lost. Contact Janet Gregory if you have anything you'd like to share: 510-693-7546 and [janetg.96a@gmail.com](mailto:janetg.96a@gmail.com).

### Cosmic Questions...

How do you draw a blank? ❖ If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular? ❖ If a tortoise loses his shell, is he homeless? ❖ Do vegetarians eat animal crackers? ❖ Is half of a large intestine a semi-colon? ❖ What ever happened to the first 6 "Ups"?

### The Bathtub Test

During a visit to the mental asylum, I asked the director how do You determine whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the director, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub..."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No." said the director, "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"



PMLAA Presents  
**Hot August Nights**  
*August 6, 2022*

Location:  
Back taxiway, dinner at Barber's hangar  
20944 Woodside Way, Groveland.

Activities: starts at 5pm  
Auction and poker hangar walk

Dinner: 6:30pm  
Dickey's \$25 per plate  
see email for invite and rsvp

## 2022 Meeting Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time &amp; Location</u>
July 2022	Special Modified Meeting	1:30 pm Ed & Janet Gregory Hangar
August 6, 2022	Hot August Nights	3 pm Randy & Marie Barber Hangar
Sept 10, 2022	From Bagram AFB to Baghdad	TBD

## 2022 Aviation Calendar

<b>January</b>	<p>1 – <i>New Year’s Day</i></p> <p><b>1 – Happy New Year! <u>NO</u> PMLAA Meeting in January</b></p> <p><b>1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b></p> <p>17 – <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i></p>
<b>February</b>	<p>1 – <i>Chinese New Year – Year of the Tiger</i></p> <p>2 – <i>Groundhog Day</i></p> <p><b>5 – PMLAA Meeting</b></p> <p><b>5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b></p> <p>13 – <i>Superbowl Sunday</i></p> <p>14 – <i>Valentine’s Day</i></p> <p>21 – <i>President’s Day</i></p>
<b>March</b>	<p><b>5 – PMLAA Meeting</b></p> <p><b>5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b></p> <p>13 – <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins (Clock springs forward)</i></p> <p>17 – <i>St. Patrick’s Day</i></p> <p>20 – <i>Vernal Equinox 15:33 UTC – First Day of Spring</i></p>
<b>April</b>	<p><b>2 – PMLAA Meeting</b></p> <p><b>2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b></p> <p>9 Celebration of Life for Jim “JT” Thomas at Placerville Airport 10-1p RSVP to <a href="mailto:catboats@gmail.com">catboats@gmail.com</a></p> <p>17 – <i>Easter Sunday</i></p> <p>22 – <i>Earth Day,</i></p> <p>31 – <i>Partial Eclipse of the Sun- visible from southeast Pacific &amp; southern South America</i></p>
<b>May(</b>	<p>4 – <i>Star Wars Day – May the fourth be with you</i></p> <p>5 – <i>Cinco de Mayo</i></p> <p><b>7 – PMLAA Meeting</b></p> <p><b>7-8 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b></p> <p>7 <i>Warbirds Wing sand Wheels, Paso Robles Airport (PRB)7a-4p</i></p> <p>8 – <i>Mother’s Day</i></p> <p>14 <i>Travis AFB Wings over Solano Airshow, CA w/ Vicky Benzing</i></p> <p>16 – <i>Eclipse of the Moon- visible from Americas, Europe, Africa</i></p> <p>20-22 <i>Gathering of Luscombs at Columbia Airport (022)</i></p> <p>20-22 <i>Oregon International Airshow w/ Vicky Benzing</i></p> <p>24 <i>Food Truck Fly-in at San Martin (E16), CA</i></p> <p>30 – <i>Memorial Day</i></p>
<b>June</b>	<p><b>4 – PMLAA Meeting</b></p>

	<p><b>4-5 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  4 Eagle Field Dinner Dance Fly-in, Eagle Field (CL01) Dos Palos, CA  14 – Super Moon - Full Moon nearly at Perigee  <b>18-19 – Columbia Airport (O22) Father’s Day Fly-In , stay tuned...</b>  19 – <i>Father’s Day</i>  21 – <i>Summer Solstice 09:14 UTC – First Day of Summer</i>  25 <i>Sentry Eagle Exercise &amp; Open House, Klamath Falls, OR w/ Vicky Benzing</i></p>
<b>July</b>	<p><b>2 – NO PMLAA Meeting in July</b>  <b>2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  2-3 GIG Harbor Wings &amp; Wheels Airshow, WA w/Vicky Benzing  4 – <i>Independence Day</i>  4 <i>Tacoma Freedom Fair Airshow WA w/ Vicky Benzing</i>  13 – Super Moon - Full Moon nearly at Perigee  16 Boundry Bay Airshow BC w/Vicky Benzing  25-31 – EAA AirVenture, OSH, Oshkosh, WI w/ Vicky Benzing</p>
<b>August</b>	<p><b>6 – PMLAA Taxiway Party, Hot August Nights</b>  <b>6-7 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  7 – <i>Friendship Day</i>  20-21 <i>Wings over Camarillo Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing</i></p>
<b>September</b>	<p><b>3-4 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  5 – <i>Labor Day</i>  <b>10– PMLAA Meeting, Dr Dean Winslow, From Bagram to Baghdad and Back Again</b>  10-18 – National Championship Air Races at RTS, Reno, NV w/Vicky Benzing  23 – <i>Autumnal Equinox 01:04 UTC – First Day of Autumn/Fall</i>  23-25 <i>MCAS Miramar Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing</i></p>
<b>October</b>	<p><b>1 – PMLAA Airport Appreciation Day, 11:30-3:00</b>  <b>1 – PMLAA Meeting</b>  <b>1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  11 – <i>Columbus Day</i>  15-16 <i>Edwards AFB Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing</i>  25 – Partial Eclipse of the Sun- visible from Europe, NE Africa, Middle East, W Asia  31 - <i>Halloween</i></p>
<b>November</b>	<p><b>4-6 Nellis AFB Airshow,w/Vicky Benzing</b>  <b>5 – PMLAA Meeting</b>  <b>5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  6 – <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends (Clocks fall back)</i>  8 – Total Eclipse of the Moon- visible from Asia, Australia, Pacific, Americas  11 – <i>Veterans Day</i>  24 – <i>Thanksgiving Day</i></p>
<b>December</b>	<p><b>3 – PMLAA Holiday Party</b>  <b>3-4 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  7 – <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>  21 – <i>Winter Solstice 21:48 UTC – First Day of Winter</i>  25 – <i>Christmas Day</i>  31 – <i>New Year’s Eve</i></p>





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or [board@pmlaa.org](mailto:board@pmlaa.org)

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**Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association**  
**2022 Fundraising Request**



**PMLAA Fundraising Directive:** PMLAA has restarted monthly gatherings, in addition to Airport Day, Hot August Nights, the Christmas Party, an air race, flour bombing and Spot Carrier Landing events. Due to a change in some rules governing our organization we can no longer hold 50/50 raffles. This was our biggest fund-raising event and earned us on average \$3500 per year; it proves a great loss and hardship on the club. With Covid for two years curtailing our events we now find ourselves in a monetary shortfall. To meet our budget this year, we must raise \$3000. So far, we have met 25% of this goal. If every family could contribute \$25, we would quickly make this up. Unfortunately, many families are unable to afford that, so we ask those who can - contribute of \$50-\$100. We will look at other fundraising opportunities later in the year, but this is a necessary ask in order to keep the annual membership cost low. Thank you for your consideration.

**PMLAA Scholarship:** In 2005 PMLAA established a Scholarship Fund with \$3,500 for the purpose of promoting interest and ability in Aviation or STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.) Over the years awards of up to \$500 each have been given to some 25 applicants. It is a wonderful legacy for our aviation community. Currently, the account balance is below \$3,000 and we would like to raise an additional \$2,250.

Fundraising Directive	(\$50-\$100 suggested)	\$ _____
Scholarship Fund	(\$25-\$50 suggested)	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL enclosed</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Checks payable to **PMLAA** and send to P.O. Box 131, Groveland, CA 95321

Thank you for the generous support of our programs.