



Volume 38: Issue 7  
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Pine Mountain Lake  
Aviation Association, Inc

## *Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Next Meeting /Hot August Nights*

### *Catered Dinner / Live Entertainment*

*Saturday August 5, 2023*

*Time: 5:00 pm (Note Earlier Start Time)*

*Place: Joe and Anne Sobczak Hangar-Home Located on the  
Northeast Loop Taxiway*

### **Presidents Message**

**By Mike Gustafson**

Hope you all had a fun-filled July 4<sup>th</sup>, (with or without power) lots of professional fireworks, BBQ food, etc. It is truly summer time!

I am happy to report that the County Board of Supervisors approved the 2023-24 budget including funding for PML Airport. The next big hurdle will be the much anticipated final economic impact report which is due in late 2023.

Just to remind everyone, our next big event is Hot August Nights, on August 5<sup>th</sup>! This is one of the big events of the year for PMLAA so mark your calendars. The event starts at 5:00 pm at Joe Sobczak's and neighboring hangars on the back taxi-way. It will be a catered event at \$25.00 per person and reservations are required. Because of food costs and preparation issues we will not be accepting walk up attendance. Get your reservations in early. Our very own Joe Sobczak and Rich Crow will be our chefs for the evening. Lastly, if you have a hotrod or exotic car please plan on putting it on display. Contact Gabe Coelho for a parking spot!

We will be collecting school supplies for the local elementary school at our August event. Please bring a packet of pencils, pens, crayons, tablets, binder paper, folders, or other school supplies to donate. Checks and cash are great too, because then the school can "fill-in" supplies as needed. This is an easy way for PMLAA members to make a significant contribution to our community. Please participate!

Over the last few months the Tuolumne County Grand Jury has been investigating the operations and management of Columbia and PML Airports. Their final report was issued in early July. The short version is that they noted that both airports suffered poor management, poor customer service and sub-par maintenance of the grounds and facilities.

The report also recommends that the two airport Enterprise funds be combined and that all property tax generated by and at each airport be removed from the general fund and added to each airport's operating budget. In this way both airports will be revenue neutral. The report also recommended restarting the Airports Advisory Committee that the BOS disbanded earlier this year.

The report correctly points out that the PML Airport is the main airport for the South County, is part of the gateway to Yosemite National Park and the value of the airport location should be taken into account when discussing the value of the airport to the County at large.

The PML airport also plays a major role for emergency service, both Fire and Air ambulance services. Had the property tax charged for all the planes based at PML been assigned to the PML budget, the airport would be self-sustaining.

Unfortunately the Grand Jury report is not binding, and the County Board of Supervisors are not required to act on the report.

The combination of this report and a positive economic impact report will be part of our arsenal when it comes to future funding discussions with the County. The full report can be found on the County web site.

## Message From Vice President-Social

By Gabe Coelho

Hello PMLAA members,

I hope everyone enjoyed their 4th of July despite the heat but then again it's summertime.

Our "Hot August Nights" event is August 5th, if you haven't already purchased your dinner tickets please do so by June 29th.

We have a fun evening planned with food, ice cold drinks and entertainment by Brent Burns. Special parking will be set aside for display cars/trucks/motorcycles.

See the flyer below or if you would like more information you can call or text me, Gabe Coelho at 209-617-4384.

I hope to see everyone there

## A Bit of History

By: Dianne Cole



*Wiley Post before making the first solo flight around the world, in 7 days, 18 hours and 49 minutes.*

*Getty Images / Hulton Archive*

Wiley Post's achievements in the cockpit were second to none, yet the Oklahoma native never achieved the legendary status of Charles Lindbergh or [Amelia Earhart](#). One biography of him was even titled "Forgotten Eagle." An oil field roughneck and former criminal—he once served a year in jail for robbery—Post began his aviation career by working as a part-time parachutist and stunt pilot. His dreams of flight nearly ended after a 1926 oil rig accident left him blind in his left eye, but he soldiered on and used the insurance money to buy his first airplane. He won a major Los Angeles to Chicago air race in 1930, and in 1931 he and navigator Harold Gatty used a Lockheed Vega called the "Winnie Mae" to shatter the record for the fastest around-the-world flight.



## PMLAA'S Annual "Hot August Nights" Event

Saturday August 5<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm

Location: 21110 Jimmersall Lane

Dinner catered by our own on field Master Chef's  
- Joe Sobczak and Rich Crow –

Display cars, *live entertainment*, refreshments, food

Tickets \$25 for PMLAA members and their guest.

Menu: BBQ chicken, sausage, potato salad, green salad, bread

One draft beer or soft drink included.

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Mail to: PMLAA, P O Box 131, Groveland, CA 95321  
PMLAA "Hot August Nights" Dinner Tickets

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to pay by credit card, we will invoice you.

Send your request to: [treasurer@pmlaa.org](mailto:treasurer@pmlaa.org)

## Safety Corner

By Joe Sobczak

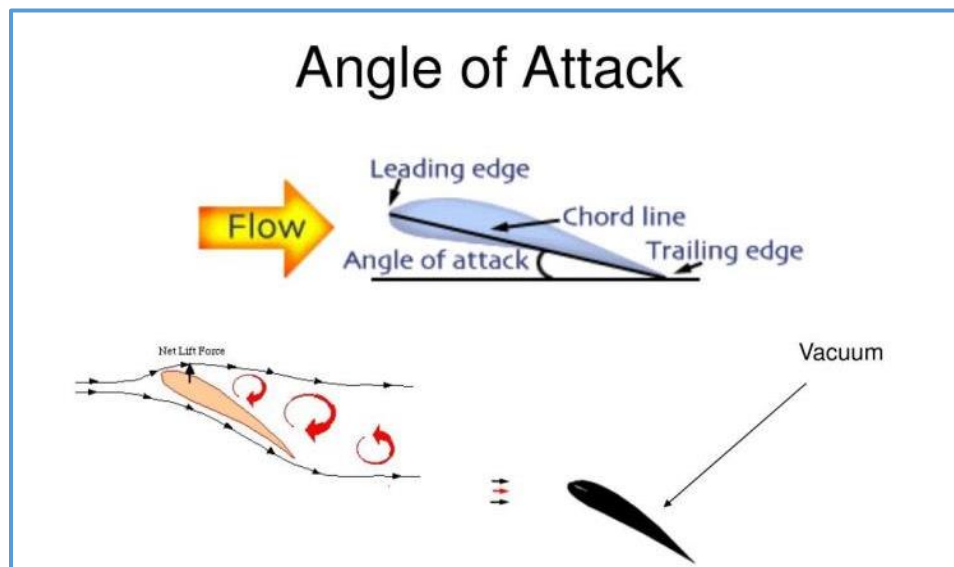


## Unload for Control

What is the stall speed of your airplane? The correct and complete answer is at the end of this article.

ANY speed from 1 knot up to maneuvering speed would not be a wrong answer. But how could that be? On your way to your private pilot license your CFI hammered it into you to maintain airspeed so you don't stall in the traffic pattern.

But in reality, the ONLY parameter you control that can uniquely define the stall is Angle of Attack, or AOA. AOA is a pretty simple concept – it is the angle between the chord line of the wing and the relative wind.



In a fighter, we routinely fly at near zero airspeed, but without stalling. How? Controlling AOA. The F-4 Phantom II would easily depart controlled flight (stall and go out of control or spin) if the pilot allowed the critical angle of attack to be exceeded, yet we taught “rudder rolls” at the Test Pilot School in a nose high attitude with airspeed as low as 60 knots – a LOT slower than the 1-G stall speed of about 130 knots. Every F-4 pilot remembers the training video (well, film, in those days) “Unload for Control!” And,

indeed, the same concept applies to your Cessna 150. If you want to be a true AOA geek, check out <https://youtu.be/iZiduQboyow>, and you can learn all about the F-4 AOA system and “high alpha” flight characteristics.

A better question to ask about stall, is “what is the stall Angle of Attack?” Turns out in most GA airplanes it is somewhere around 15 degrees and is determined by the design of the airfoil and wing shape. It is also adversely influenced (reduced) by contamination such as frost or ice on the wing. But don’t confuse “stall” with “lift.” Angle of attack is one of the two major components of lift, the other is airspeed. In simple language, you can always prevent a stall by controlling AOA, but you also need airspeed to produce enough lift to keep flying.

OK, your next question, then, might be “how do I know my AOA.” Unfortunately, in most airplanes, you don’t. Back in 2016, the FAA implemented a program called NORSEE, or Non Required Safety Enhancing Equipment. NORSEE greatly streamlined the process of adding certain equipment to GA airplanes, and among that equipment is the AOA indicator. Learn more about AOA and consider installing an AOA indicator system to your airplane.

If you don’t have an AOA indicator, maintaining airspeed and proficiency in practicing stalls is crucial. Be sure your CFI has you perform stalls on your next Flight Review. Get to know the sounds, sights, and feel of your airplane at high AOA. In most airplanes, you can sense the AOA as you approach a stall, including accelerated stalls. Meanwhile, FLY SAFE and UNLOAD FOR CONTROL!

So, what is the stall speed of your airplane? **Answer:** not enough information given! The critical angle of attack defines the stall, and in level flight that is a function of weight, flap configuration, load factor AND airspeed. But if you really want to know,  $V_{STALL} = \sqrt{2W / \rho S C_{Lmax}}$ . [The stall speed equation is used to calculate the minimum speed at which an aircraft can maintain level flight without stalling where VSTALL is the stall speed, W is the weight of the aircraft, ρ is the air density, S is the wing area, and CLmax is the maximum lift coefficient. There is also a load factor formula for calculating stall speed when the aircraft is banked.](#)





## EAA Flight Deck

**By Armin Abusaidi**

Greetings from the EAA Chapter 1337,

Hope everyone had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and survived the recent heat wave! Not much happened on the EAA front last month except for the KOLB project which Phil Boortz has been leading and updating the involved members.

The KOLB Firestar project, led by Phil Boortz, is coming along. As a reminder, the KOLB project build days have been scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and fourth Saturday of the month. If you are interested in participating in the build, please contact Phil for details. This will be a very interesting build.

As you may know, Tuolumne County is planning on an airport day at the Columbia airport on Saturday, September 9, 2023. Tracy Williams, airport administrator has contacted us looking for EAA/YE participation and are looking for volunteers to help organize this event. The Columbia Airport Day event is a community event and will be a scaled-down version of the PML Airport Day. Basically, it will consist of fly-ins, no air maneuvers, and standard operation. This event will include:

- Drone demonstration
- 50/50 raffles with the proceed donated to our local EAA chapter
- Youth glider competition
- Aircraft and classic car display
- Food/beverage and local arts and craft vendor participation
- Possible silent auction

This event is a prelude to planning for the 55<sup>th</sup> Father's Day flying event for June 2024 at the Columbia Airport. Please mark your calendar and join us as volunteers for this event. We will have more detail in the August EAA meeting.

The next chapter meeting is scheduled for August 5th, 4:00 PM at the Abusaidi's deck (20945 Woodside Way). Looking forward to seeing all members and feel free to either join us in the upcoming meeting or contact me at [mrava8r@gmail.com](mailto:mrava8r@gmail.com) if interested in getting more information about our chapter



## **“Stuff the Bus” with school supplies for Tenaya Elementary students**

PMLAA is again helping provide school supplies for Groveland’s elementary school students. We’ll have a “Stuff the Bus” donation table at Hot August Nights on August 5<sup>th</sup>. Look for us next to the margarita machine!

Please bring a box of pens or pencils, a stack of notebooks, binder paper, glue sticks, crayons, scotch tape, pocket folders, or a check/cash. Staples and Walmart both currently have great deals on school supplies.

Many local parents can't afford to buy the basic supplies that their kids need, so the school collects donations to outfit each student appropriately. Cash donations help the school “fill-in” needed supplies beyond the donations.

We can make a difference. Let’s pitch in and help our kids be ready to learn!

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

October 7 – 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.

PMLAA organizes this special event for the community each fall. Please mark your calendars and plan to get involved! We’ll need performers, ground crew, airplane and car displays, and food tent staff.



# Airport Day

## Columbia Airport

**Saturday, September 9, 2023**

**10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

**Food Vendors**

**Craft Vendors**

**Cornhole Tournament**

**50/50 Raffle**

**Glider Contest** (Ages 4-18)

**Tricycle Races** (Ages 4-99)

**Historic Aircraft &**

**Classic Cars**

**CalFire Aircraft**

**Smokey Bear**

**And MUCH More**

**Airplane & Classic Car  
Show & Shine**



**FREE Admission & Parking**

Columbia Airport 10723 Airport Rd., Columbia, CA

For more information call Traci (209)533-5685 or [twilliams@co.tuolumne.ca.us](mailto:twilliams@co.tuolumne.ca.us)



## 2023 Meeting Calendar

<i>Date</i>	<i>Program</i>	<i>Time &amp; Location</i>
July 2023	No Meeting this month-Oshkosh	No Meeting
August 5, 2023	Hot August Nights – Catered Dinner	5 pm Joe Sobczak Hangar (new time)
Sept 2, 2023	TBD	6 pm Johanson Hangar
October 7, 2023	Airport Day – Catered Dinner	6 pm Meermans Hangar
November 4, 2023	Joe Sobczak – Test Pilot	6 pm Johanson Hangar
December 2, 2023	Christmas Party – Catered Dinner	6 pm Camp Tuolumne Trails



## 2023 Aviation Calendar

<b>July</b>	<p><b>1 – <u>NO</u> PMLAA Meeting in July</b>  <i>1 – Independence Day Fireworks at PML</i>  <b>1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>            3 – Patriots Jet Team @ Mandeville/Venice Island, Stockton, CA  <i>4 – Independence Day</i>            22 – Vicky Benzing @ Boundary Bay Airshow, Delta, BC Canada            24-30 – EAA AirVenture, OSH, Oshkosh, WI            24-30 – Vicky Benzing @ Whittman Regional Airport (OSH) performing!</p>
<b>August</b>	<p>1 – Full Moon (Supermoon) closest to the earth  <b>5 – PMLAA Taxiway Party, Hot August Nights</b>  <b>5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  <i>6 – National Wiggle Your Toes Day</i>            12-13 – Perseid Meteor Shower            19-23 – Vicky Benzing @ Wings Over Camarillo, CA            30 – Super Blue Moon – closest to earth and second full moon in August</p>
<b>September</b>	<p><b>2 – PMLAA Meeting</b>  <b>2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>  <i>4 – Labor Day</i>            9 – Columbia Airport (O22) Airport Day, 10:00-6:00            9-17 – Vicky Benzing Racing and Qualifying at the Reno Air Races            14-17 – The Last National Championship Air Races at RTS, Reno, NV  <i>19 – International Talk Like a Pirate Day – AARRGG!</i>  <i>22 – Autumnal Equinox 11:49pm PT – First Day of Autumn/Fall</i>            22-24 – Vicky Benzing @ MCAS Miramar Airshow, San Diego, CA</p>
<b>October</b>	<p><b>7 – PMLAA Airport Appreciation Day, 11:30-3:00</b>  <b>7 – PMLAA Meeting</b>  <b>7-8 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</b>            7-8 – Vicky Benzing @ Salinas Airshow, CA            7-8 – Patriots Jet Team @ Fleet Week, San Francisco, CA  <i>11 – Columbus Day</i>  <i>13 – International Sceptics Day – Really? I don't think so.</i>            14 – Annular Solar Eclipse            14-15 – Vicky Benzing @ Central Coast Airfest, Santa Maria, CA            21-22 – Orionid Meteor Shower  <i>31 - Halloween</i></p>

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**VP, Airport Affairs**, Rob Compton            962-6503  
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**Secretary**, Bob Mackey                        707-622-5392

**Treasurer**, Patricia Gibson                  707-332-6469

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