



Volume 22, Issue 6 • July/August 2007  
A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

## **“Across North America at 500' and 90 Knots”** *Paul Purifoy and Dick Collier's most excellent adventure*

This past spring, Paul Purifoy and Dick Collier had the opportunity to fly with Paul's daughter Stacey as she ferried a new Bell 206 L4 Longranger helicopter from Louisiana to Alaska. Stacey works as a helicopter pilot for Air Logistics – the largest helicopter service company in the world. Of course, the boys jumped at the chance and there begins the adventure.

Air Logistics business is helicopter transportation services to Alaska's oil and gas industries. For more than 25 years, Air Logistics of Alaska has been the “operator of choice” for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company in support of the day-to-day operation of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). The TAPS mission is a crucial one, concerning the transport of approximately 20 percent of America's domestic oil production more than 800 rugged miles from Prudhoe Bay to the marine terminal in Valdez.

The very low and very slow ten-day trip crossed the US and part of Canada, before arriving at the Air Logistics regional headquarters in Fairbanks, Alaska. Combating severe headwinds, they saw trucks moving faster on the road below. With few airports enroute, they prudently landed at a Wal-Mart to buy gas cans, and again at a truck stop to fill them. As they will tell us, that was a very good decision!



*Paul with the helicopter and gas cans*



*Out of fuel, they land on the AICan Highway to refuel from the Wal-Mart cans*

Join us at the **Peebles' hangar, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm** for a potluck dinner and an entertaining talk by Paul and Dick recounting their “north to Alaska” adventures.

### **PMLAA Fly-out to Idaho August 19-23**

We are heading north for a return engagement with the Idaho back-country. We meet in McCall on Sunday for a briefing and dinner and then head to camping at Johnson Creek on Monday. We'll do fly-outs from there.

There is something for everyone: hot tub, cold natural Jacuzzi, fly-outs, hike-ins, night life in Yellow Pine, great food in the great outdoors and fun by the campfire. The flying is straightforward, and we think everyone will be comfortable with the flying conditions.

We will have two group dinners and one night out in Yellow Pine. Please contact Norm Peebles to sign up or if you would like further info. Don't miss the fun!

## President's Message

-- Allen Craig

A very big thank you to all our members who volunteered to make this year's Community Airport Day such a great success. From those who flew during the day to those who helped with the food, performer hosting, crowd control and logistics, I truly appreciate your efforts and I was very proud of the final result. That said, I know we can always make improvements, so please let me know if you have any suggestions or recommendations.

Special thanks to Kay Meermans and Doug Henley for the use of their hangar for the BBQ. It was a beautiful venue and they were very supportive of what turned out to be a large event. I'm sorry if you missed it, but even after raising the reservation limit to 400 we still sold out.

I'm proud to report to our membership that the PML Aviation Association awarded four scholarships this year. Tioga High School graduating seniors' Chris Demmers and Michael Byrns were recipients of our \$500 academic scholarships. The Board also voted to provide two camperships (\$350 each) to the Tuolumne Trails camp for special needs children. This is your 50/50 money at work!

Speaking of positive things, have you walked the new "Gaudenti trail?" Just prior to the airport day it was brought to Alan Gaudenti's attention that the dirt path from the tarmac to the windsock (our viewing area) was in need of some attention. No problem, he dispatched his crew and we soon had a path that you could actually drive on with a golf cart. It really is a wonderful improvement to our airport. Thank you Alan and crew!

The fall schedule is looking good. We'll be initiating two new hangars as meeting locations this year. Alan and Yuni Gaudenti have volunteered to host us in September and we'll be at Mel and Suzanne McGowan's in November. I'm still looking for an October location.

The next meeting will be fun. Our own members, Paul Purifoy and Dick Collier have some great tales of their flight with Paul's daughter as she ferried a helicopter from Louisiana to Alaska. You won't believe some of their stories, but they do have some great videos and pictures that document this extraordinary adventure. See you at the Peebles in August.

In closing, we extend our condolences to Jerry Mattingly on the untimely passing of his wife and our friend, Suzanne.

-- Al

## PMLAA Scholarships

Congratulations to Tioga graduates Chris Demmers and Michael Byrns. Each received a \$500 scholarship from PMLAA towards their college expenses. Chris will be attending Reedley Junior College in their Caterpillar heavy equipment program. Michael is attending Cal State Fullerton majoring in auto design.

## Member News



*In memory of our friend and PMLAA member, Suzanne Mattingly.*

## Make Our Voices Heard

Fill-out the PML Association long range planning survey. Go to [www.pinemountainlake.com](http://www.pinemountainlake.com) and voice your opinion about current and future PML amenities.



*PMLAA members enjoyed a fly-out to Paso Robles*

## Recent Renewals and New Members Please update your roster

- Jack Slocome and Jeannie Tasker, P.O. Box 768, Groveland, CA 95321 -- 209-962-7163
- Rick Eason, 1577 San Luis Obispo Ct., Merced, CA 95340 -- 209-962-0727
- Chris and Denise Lundquist, 40 Bennington Dr., San Mateo, CA 9440 -- 650-573-7107
- Don and Kathy Hall, 40683 Enlanto Way, Fremont, CA 94539 -- 510-656-4558
- Ted & Marijke Spilman, 20500 Nob Hill Circle, Groveland, CA 95321 -- 209-962-7230
- Marc Fossum, P.O. Box 1066, Groveland, CA 95321 -- 209-962-7196
- Chris Verbil and Deborah Wilson, 1414 Marinovich Way, Los Altos, CA 94024 -- 408-626-0570
- Richard and Dorothy Davis, 12830 Mt. Jefferson, Groveland, CA 95321 -- 209-962-6683

## Community Airport Day was a Big Success

June 2 was a busy day for PMLAA Members. Several families hosted the air show performers, others organized the barbecue, many local event staff were involved with show and audience safety and logistics, and some flew. Thanks to all.

An audience of several hundred members, friends and community members enjoyed the show and the barbeque afterwards. It was a great day and one that really helps our standing in the greater Groveland community.

We also especially thank:

- Vicky Benzing, Jim Thomas and Wayne Handley for coordinating the performers
- All the host families
- Mother Lode Aviation for providing gas at cost
- Linda Craig and Patty Peebles for coordinating food and host families
- Pine Mountain Lake for lending hay bales and tents
- Alan Gaudenti for constructing the path up the hill
- EAA for lending supplies and the people mover
- Rotary for lending a tent
- The Blankenburg Museum, for opening their exhibits to the crowds
- Kay Meermans and Doug Henley who hosted dinner for 400!
- All the members who helped in so many different ways



*Chefs Allen Craig and Jason Diestal fed 400*



*Rich Perkins starts the show in "Firecat"*



*PMLAA ladies serve refreshments*



*Skydivers over PML Airport*



*Vicky Benzing performs for the crowd*



*Robbie Gibbs takes a bow*

**From the Director**  
**-- Jim Thomas, Airports Director**

## Storm Water Pollution and Prevention Plan

The Tuolumne County Airports Department is a member of a consortium of California Airports that has hired a consultant to administer our Storm Water Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP) requirements. These requirements include compiling, reviewing and submitting regular reports to the regulators to ensure that our airports are not polluting the environment when it rains. The main concerns are that when it rains:

1. Hydrocarbons spilled on the ramp and taxiways can be washed into the culverts and eventually into the streams and rivers
2. Soil can erode on the airport and be carried into the streams and rivers
3. Floating debris such as garbage, sticks, grass and so forth can be carried into the rivers and streams

During the winter months both Columbia and Pine Mountain Lake Airports are required to make observations of the runoff at designated outfall locations to look for pollutants. These outfalls are generally located where the water actually leaves the airport property. We are also required to take samples of the runoff for laboratory testing approximately every two years. The results of these tests are submitted to the regulators as evidence that we are meeting water quality standards.

Another task the consultant does for us is to perform an onsite inspection of each airport and review our SWPPP to ensure it is up-to-date and representative of the current physical configuration of the airport and drainage system. This inspection was performed in June and the results of the inspection were very positive. As expected, there were a few items that were noted and need addressing. These items are:

1. Post a sign at the hose faucet on the side of the pilot's lounge that states the faucet is not to be used for washing aircraft or vehicles
2. Install a new label on spill kit at the fuel station to replace the old faded label
3. Place a new spill kit in the used oil building for use in the event of a spill

Our airport tenants and local residents can do their part to keep the airport in compliance with the SWPPP by cleaning up any spilled oil on the ramp and properly disposing of used oil in the use oil storage facility. This facility was constructed by the PMLAA and makes the disposal of used oil easy and convenient. Hydrocarbon pollution is our biggest concern, but it is also the easiest to control.

Please contact me if you have any questions, or want to see the full report.



It's summer.  
*Please do not over-fly the lake!*

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to  
McKinley Siegfried who  
soloed at PML in Dad  
Rand's Pacer, N2858P, on her  
16<sup>th</sup> birthday, July 1, 2007.



Come see the latest at the camp! Visitors are always welcome. The bunkhouses are done, just awaiting final inspection. We *finally* have permits for the Great Hall kitchen and the handicapped accessible swimming pool, so work is underway on both of these. The roof of the Great Hall is a project worth seeing!

There are several groups waiting to come, so we hope be open to serve them soon. The camp is accepting donations to buy pool toys, sports equipment, kitchen and dining room supplies (anyone have an extra set of dishes for 100!), and a flagpole. If you can help, mail your tax-deductible contribution to the Jerry and Paula Baker Foundation, 21930 Boitano Court, Groveland, CA 94025.

### For Sale: Ceiling fan/light \$295

Craftmade Warbird series – Glamorous Glenn III model  
Located at Fountain Circle, PML.



Call Bill Campbell at 650-574-0320

Show and Tell at the Blankenburgs' with PMLAA's own Clay Lacy (far right) and the only flying DC-2.



May 18, 2007



Sandy Blankenburg is stunning in a vintage TWA stewardess ensemble



Thanks to the generosity of Clay Lacy and friends, this 1935 DC-2 has been restored to pristine condition for The Museum of Flight, Boeing Airfield, Seattle, Washington.

The DC-2 first flew in 1934. It was the second modern all metal airliner following the Boeing 247. With a comfortable 14 passenger cabin, it cruised at 3 miles per minute. Of the 190 DC-2's built, this is the only one still flying.

In early 1933, Trans World Airlines gave Douglas a specification for an airliner and the result was the DC-2. This airplane carries the original paint scheme and registration of the first DC-2 delivered to TWA.

Specifications

Speed	185 MPH
Range	1,000 miles
Max Altitude	18,000 feet
Max Take-off Weight	19,000 pounds
Engines	Wright 1820-52
Max Horsepower	1,000 H.P.
Date Manufactured	March 1935
Date Restored	2006-2007



Captain Clay Lacy



**Mark your calendar:**

July	No Meeting	See you in Oshkosh, July 23-29
<b>August 4</b>	<b>Alaska Helicopter Adventure</b>	<b>5:30pm at the Pebbles Hangar</b> Potluck dinner
September 8	David Ellison, "Fly Boys" movie producer	5:30pm at the Gaudenti hangar

**BOARD OF OFFICERS – 2007**

OFFICERS

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[WWW.PMLAA.ORG](http://WWW.PMLAA.ORG)

PML Aviation Association  
PO Box 131  
Groveland, CA 95321

**August 4th at 5:30pm**  
**Peebles' hangar**