



Volume 22, Issue 8 • October 2007  
A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

## Behind the Scenes with BJ Worth, World Champion Skydiver and Hollywood Aerial Stuntman

Our October speaker, BJ Worth is one happy guy. He managed to turn his skydiving hobby into a successful career. Along the way he has performed over 6,000 jumps, won three FAI World Championships in 8-way Formation Skydiving, set 11 FAI World Skydiving Records, and performed in more than 100 movies, TV shows, and commercials.



*A very happy BJ Worth, preparing to jump from a C-130.*

BJ is going to talk about how his skydiving hobby turned into a career. He'll tell us about his work in the film and television industry as an Aerial Unit Director, stunt coordinator and stunt performer. We'll see some of his best-known work including seven James Bond films – with lots of behind the scenes stories and a sneak preview of an upcoming Bond film.

You've also seen him do aerial stunts in *Space Cowboys*, *The Right Stuff*, *Flyboys*, *Charlie's Angels*, and in commercials for Verizon, Honda, Miller Beer, and Yamaha.

BJ will discuss his passion for organizing and performing in major "Air Sports" events, such as the Olympic Rings jump for the opening ceremonies of the Seoul Olympics, and the recent World Team freefall record jump of 400 skydivers from 36 countries.

If you remember when former President Bush went skydiving on his 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday, that was with BJ too. He'll tell us about Bush's jump and about films he has made for Discovery Wings.



*BJ organized the recent world record 400-way formation in Thailand.*

BJ and his wife Bobbie currently live in Whitefish, Montana where they own Big Sky Productions – an independent film production company. They have won four First Place awards at International Film Festivals.



*Another day at work, from the James Bond movie, Octopussy*

Come to Carol Simpson's hangar, **October 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm** for Oktoberfest and an entertaining talk by BJ Worth, on skydiving and stunts. The hangar is on the north taxiway, midway between Benzings and Peebles. We'll bring the beer and brats, you bring a potluck salad, veg or dessert.

## President's Message -- Allen Craig

Do we have any "Angel Flight" members? This question was recently posed in a nice Thank You note the association received for our donation to Camp Tuolumne Trails. Angel Flight members fill a valuable role providing free transportation for charitable and medical related needs. Check out their website: [www.angelflight.org](http://www.angelflight.org). Let me know if you're a member.

Also please visit our own website: [www.pmlaa.org](http://www.pmlaa.org). Our webmaster, Silvano Gai, provides us with one of the best airport association websites in the country.

Have you been following the exploits in Linda's "Safety Corner" column? I don't believe anybody in our association flies more than our own FAA Pilot examiner and flight instructor, Linda Monahan. One of the largest pilot training schools for foreign airline pilots is located at the old Castle AFB. Linda performs "check rides" as the students progress thru their Private, Multi, & Commercial licenses. Can you imagine learning to fly in a foreign language? Linda is an exceptional pilot/instructor and the anecdotes and observations she shares with us each month are not only a fun read, but highly informative as well.

Thanks to Mike Millard and Paul Sperry for constructing a safety barrier in our inventory trailer.

Last month's meeting was another great success. The Buchners are always great hosts; thanks to Wayne Handley for arranging for our speaker, David Ellison.

Next month, we have a unique program. B.J. Worth has made his living doing outrageous aerial stunts for more movies than I have space to list. I can't wait to hear what a guy this crazy (personal observation) has to say. We'll have an Oktoberfest party with beer and brats too.

I heard the recent EAA sponsored "Poker Run" was a lot of fun. Participants flew to several local airports, picked up a card at each, and over lunch determined who had the best "hand." (Support your local EAA.)

The latest AOPA magazine has an important article on the FAA funding debate. AOPA is strongly in favor of a House Resolution that proposes a modest fuel tax increase and no user fees. There is a nice chart of the various FAA funding proposals on page 87. The FAA request is a fuel tax increase from 19.3 to 70 cents/gallon on piston aircraft. The House Bill is for an increase to 24.1 cent/gallon. Other fascinating articles were the California airports in danger, (sound familiar), color vision, liability release forms, tie-down knots (really), and don't miss the last page on pilots.

We are looking for members to get more active in our association. We need new officers and committee chairs for 2008. Contact Norm Peebles, and get involved in your club; it's very rewarding and much appreciated.

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 Member News

### Small PML World

While cruising in Alaska, we met Lynne and Ken Orloff strolling the streets of Sitka. What are the odds?



PMLAA members Jim Thayer, Patti Rossio, Jane Hansen, Virginia Gustafson, Donna Thayer, and Bruce Rossio enjoy a cruise to Alaska. Missing from the photo: Art Deardorff.



Speaker David Ellison and his mentor, Wayne Handley

**5th Annual American Aviators' VIP Tour of China**  
March 12th - 29th, 2008 See the old and new China as well as sites of the Flying Tigers from World War II, escorted by PMLAA members Larry and Nina Jobe - only **\$2848** (all-inclusive) per person for 18 days. Details at [www.TravelAireTours.com](http://www.TravelAireTours.com) or (209) 962-5588.

### For Sale

**Bendix/King KX-155 14V with KI-203 Indicator**  
Asking \$2800 obo//Retail \$3995

**Bendix/King KX-155 w/ Glide Scope 14V with KI-204 Indicator** Asking \$3650 obo// Retail \$4595

For more info, contact Paul Purifoy at 962-5100

### HEAD IN THE CLOUDS?

Flight Instruction at PML  
Call Capt. Larry "Sez" Jobe  
962-1147



From the Director  
-- Jim Thomas, Airports Director

### Hangar Construction Update

Many pilots have been waiting for a long time for the construction of new hangars at the Pine Mountain Lake Airport. Even though it seems like a simple task, there are many steps to clear the path for construction. The major task has been to complete and adopt an Airport Master Plan. This was completed last November. The next hurdle was to obtain the FAA's approval for our Airport Layout Plan. This plan was submitted to the FAA last October and it took until last month for them to respond. Their response will be the subject of a future article. I am now in the process of preparing the final draft of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for new hangars. The Airports Committee has approved the draft, and so has County Counsel so we are moving forward with this task.

A significant issue relating to constructing new hangars is fire protection requirements. There is a change in these requirements because the California has adopted the International Building Code (IBC) effective January 1, 2008. I do not yet know if the State has added additional fire protection requirements (beyond what the IBC requires) for aircraft storage hangars, but I feel certain that the County will not add any more restrictive requirements.

The current plan for hangars includes: a row of ten T-hangars, a row of three box hangars, a new box hangar on the end of the existing row of five box hangars, a new commercial hangar where the current pilot's lounge is located and a large commercial hangar east of the water tank. They are depicted in the Airport Master Plan available in the pilot's lounge and at the Groveland Library.

### Idaho Fly-Out



*Rand Siegfried and family, his dad and brother all avoided the fires and smoke and had a great fly-out camping trip to Cavanaugh Bay on Priest Lake in northern Idaho.*

November 3 meeting:  
"One Six Right" - The Story of the Van Nuys Airport

Safety Corner  
-- Linda Monahan, Pilot Examiner

### What if the UNTHINKABLE Happens?

As I write this, a massive search is on for Steve Fossett, missing somewhere in Nevada, in some of the most inhospitable terrain in the country.

What if the unthinkable happens and we experience an engine failure or get into turbulence as Sparky Imeson did this summer in Montana and end up in an airplane crash? In Sparky's case, he and his student were mountain flying and hit a down draft that put them into the terrain. The aircraft burned on impact; they were injured but got out safely with only the things in their pockets. When they failed to return to the airport, a search was launched. There was no ELT signal, as with Steve Fossett, but in Sparky's case, people knew where he was going.

Many years ago as a new pilot, I joined the Civil Air Patrol, thinking that if I went with them looking for people in trouble, I'd learn how not to have them come looking for me. I was invited to the Montana Mountain Search Pilot Clinic in Kalispell, where Sparky was the guest speaker. I had a three-day adventure of flying search patterns in the mountains just south of Glacier National Park and learned how to make dirt burn. I learned survival skills and what to put in my pockets, just in case I couldn't get to my "camping gear" in the back of the airplane

I have gotten away from the things I learned! Someone checked Sparky's airplane back at the airport and found his survival vest hanging on the back of his seat. OPPS! I thank John Melenson from Merced and Seeley Lake, MT for stopping by and showing me his survival belt. I've spent considerable time Googling "Aviation Survival Kits" and came up with a new kit. I just ordered the following: ResQfix, a 406 PLB (ELT) from [www.mikesmarine.com/c-2693-epirbs.aspx](http://www.mikesmarine.com/c-2693-epirbs.aspx) for \$500 shipped. The new Personal Locator Beacons broadcast the GPS coordinates to satellites and your location is pin pointed in as little as three minutes. From [www.basegear.com](http://www.basegear.com): Ultimate Survival Deluxe Tool Kit, 2 AMK Pocket Survival Paks and 2 Aquamira Frontier Emergency Water Filters. The tool kit has a one-handed fire starter, signal mirror and other great to have things. All of this cost only \$675, shipped.

We all can survive weeks with no food but only one to three days without water! Go to [www.equipped.com](http://www.equipped.com) for Doug Ritter's excellent site for survival information, including a story of a young man who survived a crash just South of Kit Carson Pass. He had a cell phone but no PLB, which would have shortened his rescue by many hours.

I plan to get a new belt and pouches to put this equipment in and fasten it on me when I get in the plane, then take it off after I land. And leave a note with someone where you're going if you don't file a flight plan!!! It is certainly better to have this stuff and never need it than to wish you had it! Fly Safe,



**Mark your calendar:**

October 6	BJ Worth, skydiver, Hollywood stuntman	5:30pm at Carol Simpson's hangar Oktoberfest with beer and brats. Bring a salad, dessert or vegetable potluck.
November 3	Brian Terwilliger "One Six Right," The Story of the Van Nuys Airport	5:30pm at the McGowans' hangar
December 8	"It's a Wrap"	Blankenburg hangar, catered dinner

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

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**Oktoberfest**  
**Oct. 6 at 5:30pm**  
**Simpson hangar**