



Volume 30: Issue 10 •  
November 2015  
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Pine Mountain Lake  
Aviation Association

## *Holiday Party At Tuolumne Trails! Saturday, December 5th*



6:00PM Cocktails  
7:00PM Dinner

**PMLAA Members: \$25 Person**  
**Guests: \$30 Per Person**  
**(Includes Tax and Tip)**

### **Menu**

Grilled Steak with a Bourbon Mushroom Sauce  
Chicken Marsala  
Steamed Red Potatoes with Parsley and Butter  
Dinner Rolls  
Salad  
Baklava  
Coffee, Iced Tea and Water  
No Host Wine, Beer and Soda

PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED GIFT FOR CHILDREN (2-18 yrs) FOR THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS BASKETS

**SEATING LIMITED TO THE FIRST 120 MEMBERS**

**Send your name, number of guests, and check made payable to PMLAA and mail to PO Box 131, Groveland, Ca. 95321**

## *President's Message*

*By Catherine Santa Maria*

I understand that the November meeting was a success and that our speaker George Marrett was a big hit. George's talk last Saturday on flight testing at Edwards AFB in the sixties was very well received. George is an engaging speaker with a wry sense of humor. As Marle explained in his introduction, George was not only an accomplished experimental test pilot in that era, but also a combat pilot in Vietnam and an accomplished author of four books on his flight testing and air combat experience. A highlight was his wife's (Jan) answer to a question on what it's like to be married to a man working in such a risky profession. She took the stage and enthralled us with a very heart-felt response. Many thanks to Marle Hewitt for setting up the arrangements and housing George for our meeting. Dale Mueller was the presiding officer at the meeting and I received a couple of emails stating that he did a great job and is ready to be our 2016 President! Way to go Dale. My year has flown by and I want to let you all know how much I enjoyed being your President. The Aviation Club has members that are amazing and the talent in our own group is truly outstanding.

Wayne Handley presented the slate of officers for 2016; they are once again: Dale Mueller, President, Steve DeRodeff ,VP Airport Affairs, Danielle Coelho, VP Social, Janet Gregory, Treasurer and Norma Lella, Secretary. Many thanks to our nominating committee (Dale, Mike and Wayne) for getting us a full slate of officers. We will vote on the slate at our December meeting.

Now is the time to thank our 2015 Board of Directors (Dale, Kym, Danielle, Kay) and our Committee Chairs (Ed, Phil, Karen, Ken, Marle, Susie, Silvano, Mike and Herman) for doing an outstanding job, so when you see them please give them a pat on the back for all of their efforts. Before Kay Smith passed away we gave her a Lifetime Achievement Certificate for her service to Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Club. Kay has served our organization well over the years and has held every position on the Board including President (Kay's husband Hugh also served as President).

A special thank you to Suzanne and Mel McGowan for allowing us to use their hangar most of the year for our meetings. Wow is all I have to say about that.

As we go into 2016 please be advised that financially we are in good shape and during the year we were able to present a \$400 scholarship to the Youth Center and High School for a field trip to the Science Center in San Francisco. In addition, Community Airport Day came in at \$411 under the budgeted expense of \$2800 mainly due to the decrease in the one-day insurance premium. Snack Bar Sales generated \$1311 while Calendars sales generated through October (after expenses) \$268 in income which contributed in reducing the expenses for our Community Airport Day which totaled \$2389.

Just a reminder that our December Holiday party will once again be at Tuolumne Trails on December 5, 2015 starting at 6:00PM. Dinner will be served at 7:00PM. The cost will be \$25 for PMLAA members and \$30 for guests. The meal will be Beef cut with a Bourbon Mushroom sauce, Chicken Marsala with sides and dessert. Please bring an unwrapped gift for children for the Community Christmas Baskets.

Happy Holidays everyone and many thanks for all of your help and support doing this past year and for all you do for our Aviation organization.

## *Social Column*

*By Kym Purifoy*

Coming up in December is our Christmas party that will be held at Tuolumne Trails. If you haven't sent in your reservation form and your check please do so ASAP. We only have seating for 120 folks and you do not want to miss this event. Please bring an unwrapped toy for the community Christmas baskets; there will be a wagon outside of the entrance to place your gifts in. We will need some help to decorate the tables so if you have sometime available please give me a call at 986-2622. I am not sure how soon we can get in to decorate before the event but will let you know the date as we get closer to the 5th of December.

Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater to the event. If you need one, ugly Christmas sweaters are available at Helping Hands for reasonable prices. We will have a Holiday frame decorated, so please bring your own smart phones or cameras for your Holiday Photos.

We need 6 SUVs for delivery of the toys on Sunday morning. Please call or email me if you can help.

## *Foggy Daze* *By Mike Gustafson*

The winter months bring the usual opportunity for rain, snow and high winds which depending on the severity, can present a challenge to completing a scheduled flight. Usually if you wait a few hours or maybe a day, the weather clears enough to complete the flight in a safe manner. Fog on the other hand can settle into the valleys and close down all flying for weeks on end. While there is little you can do about fog, being aware of how it forms provides the opportunity to plan your flight with an eye to a plan B if fog should form.

In my research for this article I discovered one common theme -- fog is the most fickle weather phenomenon to predict. The best fog model was created by UPS as a result of flying their delivery airplanes into so many small airports all across the country.

First, what is Fog beside a real pain to deal with? In its simplest form fog is a low flying cloud and is made up of tiny water droplets floating in the air. These droplets begin forming where the air becomes saturated, and the water vapor in it begins condensing into liquid water droplets.

As pilots we know about the temperature dew point spread. This is the difference between the ambient temperature and the amount of water the air can hold in vapor at that temperature. This is called saturation. Air can hold more water vapor as the temperature increases, but as the temperature drops the air gives up water in the form of visible moisture. The general rule is that if the temperature dew point spread is within 5 degrees then you can expect fog. Another condition that helps create fog is clear days and calm winds which allow the earth to radiate heat out into the atmosphere which heats up. This type is called radiation fog. At PML we get what is called upslope fog, which is caused by rising air that cools and is blown up onto our plain. Just about anything that cools the air to its dew point can cause fog.

Remember, fog can form faster than you can fly. So if you look out across the valley and see the foothills and they are clear, but the sun goes down as you are flying, fog can form within seconds. The line of sunset travels at 700 Knots across the earth so while you may think you have it made, beware of falling temperatures if the dew point is high. There are accident reports where the pilot reported that as he turned onto final the airport slowly disappeared in fog before he could land. Visibility in fog can vary depending on your point of view. You can fly over an

airport and have pretty good visibility looking straight down but as you roll out on final the runway will fade to white due to how much more fog you are trying to look through.

As a final note, AOPA reports 16% of small airplane weather related accidents were caused by fog. Carry lots of fuel and have an alternate airport in mind during these foggy days.

Fly safe.

(With credit to AOPA)

## *Tuolumne County Airports Commission* *Meeting Highlights* *By Janet Gregory*

Committee met in Groveland 9-Nov. Quorum present. Representing E45 were Steve Martin and Ed Gregory. Meeting highlights for E45:

### **E45 Capital Improvement**

- Crack sealing is complete. Some are separating and will be repaired.
- Parking lot is on the plan to repair. Aggregate is available

### **Father's Day Fly-In at Columbia O22**

- 2016 is 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Big plans in process.

### **E45 RTTF – Residential-through-the-Fence**

- Stay tuned. Critical issue for PML Airport.
- Draft agreement being developed. Will go to Airports Commission first then to PML for review. Draft for TCAA Committee review expected Q1-2016.

- Issues: accessibility, access fees, voting district.
- Go to [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov) and search "RTTF"

### **Airport Waiting List**

- O22 maintains 3-4 separate waiting lists. Discussion of how to simplify this.
- E45 has only one waiting list.

### **Hangar Policy**

- Final changes were recommended. Hangar Policy will now be submitted to County for review.

## *Record Breaker and Racers*

*By Janet Gregory*

**A**ir racing is the world's fastest motor sport. Accelerating to speeds of 200, 300, 400 miles per hour and more. Staying tightly on course with six other airplanes, jockeying for position in three dimensions. It's electrifying!

Vicky Benzing set a record a Reno this year! The prior record held by Mary Dilda, racing at 434 mph was shut down by Vicky's blistering 469.8 mph! On race day the weather had warmed up, slowing the speed to 446.9 mph, still breaking the record. PML is home to THE FASTEST WOMAN IN RENO AIR RACING. Congratulations Vicky!

Four PML air racers were on the course at September's Reno Air Races. In Sport Class for kit built airplanes, Vicky flew her Lanceair Legacy "Lucky Girl", Colleen Keller flew Jim Thomas' Lancair Legacy "Poncho" and Shane Margraves flew his RV-6 "Rocket-Six". John Parker took first place gold in his Thunder Mustang "Blue Thunder"! Vicky Benzing, the fastest woman in Reno Air Racing, raced "Darkstar" an L-139 in Jet Class races.

## *Last Few 2016 Calendars for Sale*

*By Susie Williams*



**T**hank you to everyone for purchasing your 2016 Aviation Association calendar! We have an extremely limited supply of calendars left for sale. If you would like to purchase one, buy it at the Christmas Party or contact Susie Williams (email [swissmissusie@gmail.com](mailto:swissmissusie@gmail.com)). Five autographed calendars will be auctioned off at the Christmas Party.

## *PML Young Eagles*

*By Janet Gregory*

**W**e flew 28 children from the local area at the PML Young Eagles Rally in October. Not sure who had more fun, the kids or the pilots that volunteered their time, airplanes and excitement about aviation: Diane Cole, Allen Craig, Jeff Kerns (O22), Robert Pearson, Bonnie Ritchey, Larry Roessler, Red Rossio, Erik Segerstrom (O22) and Greg Triplett. Jim "JT" Thomas prepared pilots with a safety briefing.

Lots of aviation fun on the ground: Dale Mueller (static display), Steve deRodeff helped Young Eagles with Joel Avey's simulator and Tim Wennberg (MPI) brought his simulator. The movie "Planes" ran all morning.

Young Eagles began with greetings from Diane Harrison and Sandy deRodeff. Rob Compton and Janet Gregory assigned each child to a pilot and aircraft. Ramp safety was handled by Mike Gustafson, George Harrison, Ed Gregory and Leon Leibster (photographer). Photos at [www.eaa1337.org](http://www.eaa1337.org). Log book and flight certificates prepared by Dennis Smith, Ed and Diana Sunday (O22). Lots of other volunteers pitched in: Linda Craig, Karen Handley, Lynn Orloff and Michael Thoeben. The great morning ended with a volunteer lunch hosted by Ed & Janet Gregory. Thank you to the many PML volunteers who shared their time and love for aviation.



**Light show from a Navy missile test, seen on November 7<sup>th</sup> before the PMLAA meeting** (Photo submitted by Janet Gregory)

*Final Flights*  
By Janet Gregory



**K**ay Smith took her final flight on Thursday November 19. She will be missed by PMLAA. Born in Salt Lake City, UT and lived, all but the first three months of life, in California. She enjoyed 53 years of marriage to Hugh, who passed away in 2004. Kay and Hugh had four children: Holly, Margie, Michael and Tim. In her career years, she was a nurse in family practice. In her 30 years at PML she was very active in PMLAA, Mother Lode Aviation, Ladies Club, Eastern Star and more. She was a pilot, drove ski-boats and rode over 75,000 miles in motorcycle trips. Blue skies, Kay. We will miss you.



**T**om Carman took his final flight in October. He will be missed by PML's aviation and golf communities. Tom was born in Richmond, Indiana. Tom and Shirley enjoyed 51 years of marriage, proving that blind dates really can work out. They had two children, David and Gary. Tom worked for the FAA for 30 years in every role from ATC ground and tower, departure, center, and approach control. He trained, wrote procedures and improved FAA operations. Tom and Shirley have lived in PML for 20 years. Tom was a golfer, pilot, and master woodworker. He served in the USAF. The air up there is clear. Farewell, Tom.





## 2015 Meeting Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time &amp; Location</u>
December 5th	Holiday Party	6:00PM location Tuolumne Trails
January	No Meeting	(none)
February 6th	TBD	6:00PM location TBD

### BOARD OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS – 2015

<b>OFFICERS</b>		<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>	
<b>President</b> , Catherine Santa Maria	962-7904	<b>Property</b> , Ed Peters	962-6267
<b>VP, Airport Affairs</b> , Dale Mueller	962-6308	<b>Multimedia</b> , Phil Hickerson	962-6714
<b>VP, Social Affairs</b> , Kym Purifoy	986-2622	<b>Membership/Roster</b> , Karen Appleby	962-4549
<b>Secretary</b> , Danielle Coelho	962-7207	<b>Airports Manager</b> , Benedict Stuth	533-5685
<b>Treasurer</b> , Kay Smith	303-5385	<b>Display Day Coordinator</b> , Ken Helling	962-7597
		<b>Safety</b> , Marle Hewett	962-0701
		<b>Newsletter</b> , Susie Williams	962-6922
		<b>Webmaster</b> , Silvano Gai	962-6378
		<b>Flying Tip of the Month</b> , Mike Gustafson	962-6336
		<b>Newsletter Printing</b> , Herman Schaap	962-5797

## PML Aviation Association

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Groveland, CA 95321

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