



Volume 37: Issue 5
May 2022
A Publication of the
Pine Mountain Lake
Aviation Association

Pine Mountain Lake Aviation

Next Meeting/Potluck Dinner

Saturday, June 4, 2022

*Speaker: Beth Stanton
"Where is my flying car"?*

Time: 6:00 pm

*Place: Joe & Anne Sobczak Hangar
Located on Jimmersal and the Loop Taxiway*

The Presidents Message

Mike Gustafson- President, PMLAA

We had a very nice membership meeting last Saturday night, May 7! Lots of mingling and storytelling. Food was plentiful and oh my gosh, so many deserts! Our guest speaker, Dan Gudgel, regaled us with the exploits of the Perlan Project, a glider which reached a height of 76,000 feet and is attempting to get to 96,000 feet. The tow plane drags the glider up to 42,000 feet before cutting it loose. The last little tid-bit is the Perlan glider has a wing span of 84 feet!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the up and coming June 4 dinner meeting where Beth Stanton will be our guest speaker. Beth will be discussing "Where's my flying car", exploring the evolution of advanced air mobility projects such as electric vertical takeoff and landing industry. That meeting will take place in Joe Sobczak's hangar on the back taxiway. It will be a pot luck.

While we are the topic of Joe Sobczak, he is hosting another concert featuring “Brent Burns” on May 28 at 4:00pm in his hangar. Joe is planning some sort of food service with the concert starting at 5:00pm. I went to the last Brent Burns concert and he is a hoot, I highly recommend it.

On a disappointing note we have had 3 aircraft that were parked on the ramp drained of all of their very expensive fuel! By my calculation, about 170 ga of fuel was stolen. The thefts always happen late at night and so far, only on low wing aircraft. I recommend that you not refuel your aircraft until you are ready to depart. All of us need to be vigilant and keep an eye out around the ramp and taxi-way areas.

Krystall Johanson is organizing a group field day to go see the newest release of “Top Gun”! The movie is being released towards the end of the month and she wants to get a group together and go down to the I Max movie theater in Riverbank. She will be sending out a note or two in the coming weeks with more details and how to join in on the fun.

Rob Compton our VP of Airport Affairs has started planning for the PML Airport Appreciation Day, also called “Airport Day”. The event will be held on October 1 and Rob will be looking for lots of help: Food servers, ramp help, set-up and tear down help, etc. So please let Rob know what you can do to make this another great event for the general public to show off our airport.

In the mode of asking for help: Your aviation association is all volunteer supported and, as the saying goes, many hands make for little work, well we need some hands to help us with running the bar during meeting nights. It is not a hard job, you just have to hand out the soft drinks, beer and wine. How easy is that? So please we need your help. Contact me or Krystall if you can help us. Thanks.

For a whole lot of good reasons we will be changing the September meeting to September 10th so please update your calendars. Thanks.

My last topic is the \$31,000 grant that the County received for improvements at the PML airport. They are still working out how best to spend that grant money and right now it looks like there may be some cracking sealing on the ramp and a fence that will block off the car parking area from the air craft ramp. At today's costs, \$31,000 does not go far.

Fly safe out there

Mike

Our Speaker for June Meeting

Where's My Flying Car Exploring the evolution of advanced air mobility

EAA Sport Aviation Innovation columnist Beth Stanton will share developments in the fast growing electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft industry.

In 2021, the global market for eVTOL aircraft was estimated to be \$8.5 billion and is projected to reach \$30.8 billion by 2030.

And it's not just Patagonia-vest-wearing tech startup dorks – riders on this bandwagon include the FAA, EASA,NASA, and the US Air Force.

Sh*t is getting real.

Advisement:

This presentation includes "forward looking" statements. Lively participation is encouraged, especially if it is prefaced by red- faced old men shaking their fists and hollering "Get off my lawn!"

Audience members may get their knickers in a twist.

(Fasten your seatbelts. Ed.)



Beth Stanton is Editor for National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI) publications, a freelance aviation scribbler, and host of the Badass Pilot Babes podcast. She is a gregarious introvert who loves being both the center of attention, and left the hell alone. Her favorite things are East coast pizza, her tuxedo floor Mama Cat, her man Dan, and ferny forest groves (not necessarily in that order.)

PMLAA PRESENTS



WHERE'S MY FLYING CAR?

By pilot/speaker/author/blogger BETH STANTON

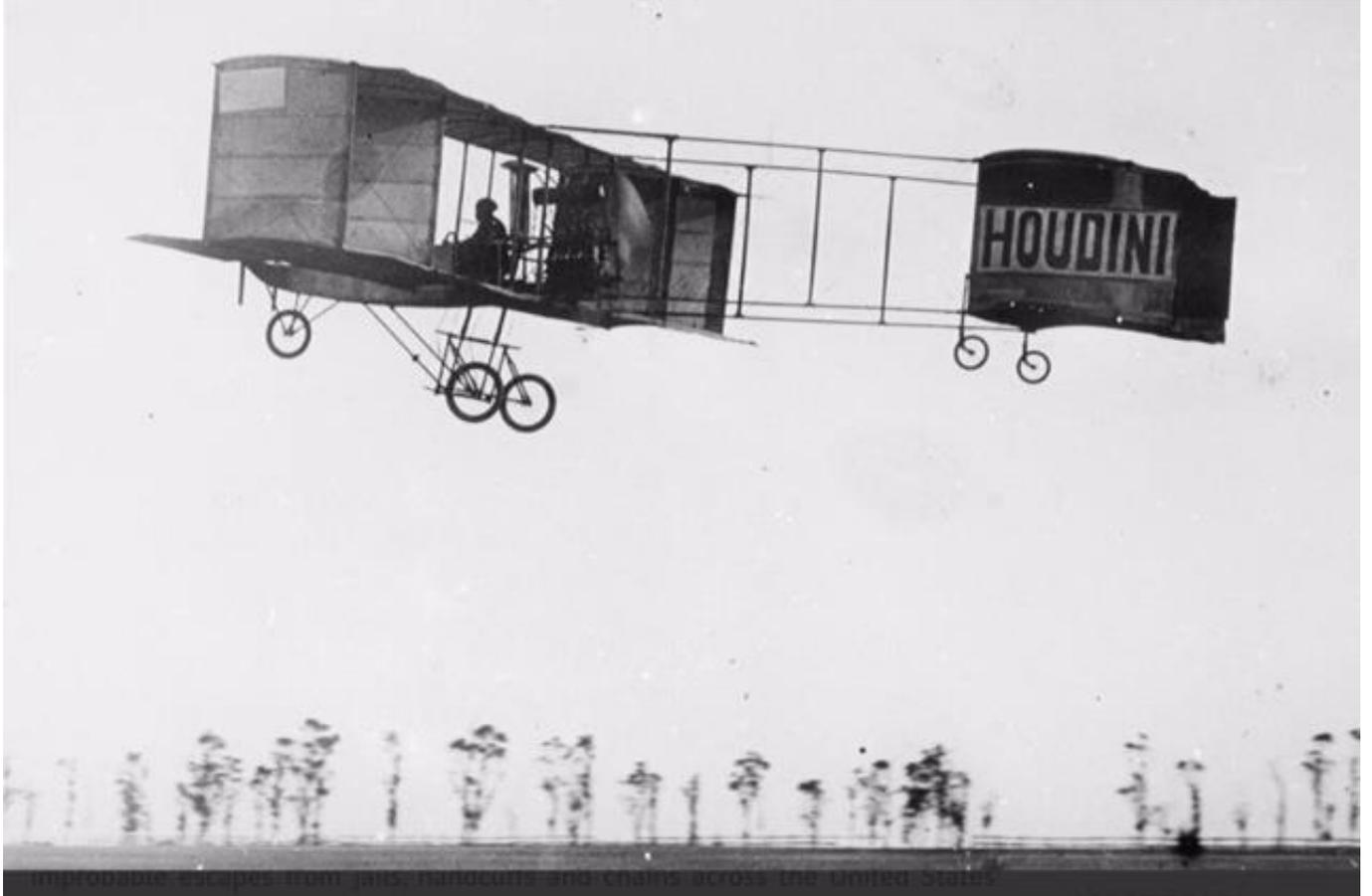
JUNE 4, 2022 6PM
SOBCZAK HANGAR
21110 JIMMERSALL LANE

Potluck Dinner:

Last name starting with A-K Bring dinner dish

Last name starting with L-Z Bring an appetizer and/or dessert

Did you Know?



Harry Houdini's little-known role in Australian aviation history



VICTORIA BRYAN



Harry Houdini is known as a famous escapologist but did you know he was also fascinated with aviation and made the first powered flight over Australia?

Born in 1874, Houdini rose to fame at the turn of the century performing improbable escapes from jails, handcuffs and chains across the United States and Europe.

But in 1909, six years after the Wright Brothers' first flight, Houdini was bitten by the aviation bug.

Ehrich Weiss (Houdini's real name) bought a 60 horsepower Voisin biplane for \$5000 and first flew it in Germany. He decided to transport it to Australia in the hope of entering the record books.

In 1909, the Australian government had offered a prize for the first Australian-made flying machine suitable for military purposes.

While there weren't many Australian-designed flyers around at the time, there were several aviators who had imported flying machines, hoping to make the first controlled, powered flight in the country. Houdini was among these aviators with his French-made biplane.

On March 18, 1910, watched by onlookers and reporters, Houdini carried out three flights in his Voisin biplane at Diggers Rest, about 33 kilometers north-west of Melbourne in the state of Victoria. The last of these lasted about 3.5 minutes and covered 3 kilometers.

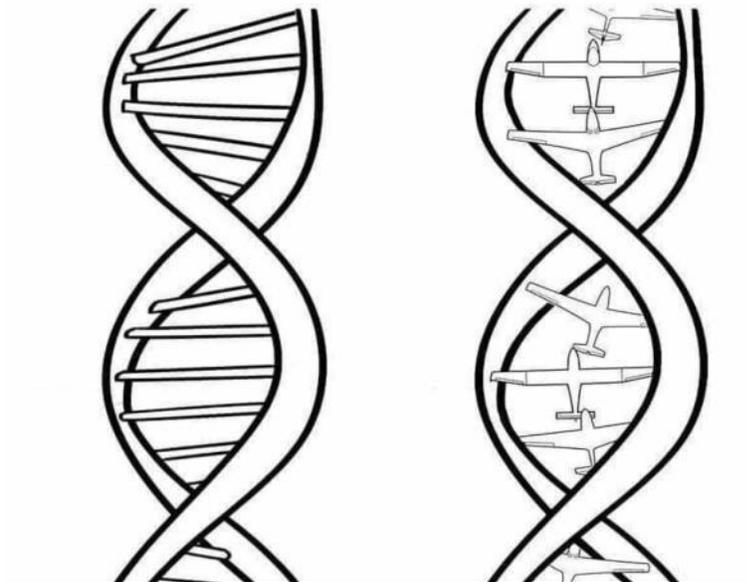
The flight was certified and acknowledged as the first powered flight over Australian soil, beating a rival claim by Fred Custance, who said he had carried out a flight the previous day, but had no witnesses, unlike Houdini.

According to the website thegreatharryhoudini.com, the escapologist said after he took off, he first thought he was in a tree, before realizing he was flying.

“The funny thing was that as soon as I was aloft, all the tension and strain left me. As soon as I was up all my muscles relaxed, and I sat back, feeling a sense of ease. Freedom and exhilaration, that’s what it is,” the website quotes him as saying.

Houdini reportedly made 18 flights in Australia, and then had the Voisin shipped back to Britain. However, despite planning to fly the plane as part of his tour as a publicity stunt, he never flew it again.

NORMAL DNA MY DNA



Risky Business

Joe Sobczak

Flying, as with any human endeavor, involves risk. It's not possible to eliminate risk, but we can minimize it through a process called risk management. The goal of risk management is to identify safety-related hazards and mitigate the associated risk.

In my line of work as a test pilot, we use a process called Operational Risk Management, or ORM. The captain assesses the various components of risk associated with every flight (weather, proficiency, fatigue, aircraft systems, daylight, etc.) and assigns a risk level to each. The Air Force employed a similar process for flight test risk mitigation since well before my time at Edwards in the 80's. Thirty years ago, the FAA figured out that this process, which was used to safely conduct some very risky missions, could be adapted not only to airline operations but for general aviation as well.

Thus, was born the concept of Aeronautical Decision Making or ADM which is now taught to pilots from the earliest stages of training. Two defining elements of ADM are

Risk Assessment Matrix					
Likelihood		Severity			
		Catastrophic	Critical	Marginal	Negligible
Probable	High	High	Serious		
Occasional	High	Serious			
Remote	Serious	Medium		Low	
Improbable					

hazard and risk. To illustrate, let's run through a typical risk assessment scenario. You are getting ready to fly and doing your preflight inspection. Your fuel sample cup is missing, and your passengers are waiting, so you consider skipping that check. First,

you need to identify the hazard. In this case, it could be an engine failure due to contaminated fuel. Next, you determine the severity and likelihood of encountering that hazard.

Finally, you assess the risk level associated with blowing off checking the fuel. To do that, use the chart below. You determine the probability of encountering the hazard (engine failure due to contaminated fuel) is “Occasional” since you have drained fuel hundreds of times, and only once found water in it. But you assess the severity of that hazard as “Critical” (a potential off-airport landing due to engine failure). Using the chart, you can see that the overall risk level of an occasional but critical hazard is “Serious.” You, a cautious pilot, probably do not want to accept a risk lever higher than “Medium”, so you go hunting for that fuel drain cup to mitigate the risk.

In practice, you use this process for hundreds of decisions you make on every flight, but you don’t go through the formality described above. However, when any situation that arises that suggests an elevated risk, it is recommended that you do perform some sort of hazard analysis like we just did. You don’t necessarily have to write it down or carry a chart, but the process does help provide structure to your decision-making process.

This is a very brief overview of the ADM and hazard analysis process and I encourage you to dig deeper. There is lots of great information available (on line and in print) in [Advisory Circular 60-22](#) and in Chapter 2 of the [Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge](#).

EAA Flight Deck



By Ed Gregory

We had a very successful **Young Eagles Rally at Columbia Airport** (O22) Saturday 4/23. We flew 60 kids! We could not have pulled it off without the great teamwork between EAA Chapter 1337 members and TCAA based at Columbia Airport.

- Chapter 1337 / PMLAA Pilots: Allen Craig, Armin Abusaidi (flew 13 YE), Bob Hornauer, Greg Triplett, and Wayne Handley.
- Chapter 1337 / PMLAA Ground Crew: Dennis Smith, Ed Sunday, Janet Gregory, Leon Liebster, Mike Gustafson, Peggy Abusaidi, and Robert Pearlstein.
- TCAA Pilots: Andy, Diana, Jake (flew 15 YE), and Jim. Ground Crew: Carson, Ed, Hal, Hans, Robyn, Tonya, and one other. Also Craig from CPU.

We made the front page of the Union Democrat on Saturday 4/30 with the article "Young Eagles Soar" by Shelly Thorene. Featured in photos were Armin, Wayne, and Bob. Click on this link to read the whole article:

https://www.uniondemocrat.com/image_05942840-cb21-11ec-93a2-5fa13e62427c.html

Father's Day Fly-In at Columbia Airport (O22) on Saturday & Sunday June 18 & 19 is supposedly a go. Mark your calendars for some aviation fun on the grass field. They have booked a movie night, hot air balloon, bouncy house for the kids, and a few other things. They still have a lot more work to do and are looking for more sponsors, food vendors, display aircraft, air show performers, and someone to do the pancake breakfast. If you want to pitch in contact Benny or Traci at the Airport Office (209) 533-5865.

We are planning a flying **Poker Run for Saturday August 6th** the morning of PMLAA Hot August Nights. We already have some great prizes which will be awarded at the Hot August Nights dinner. Stay tuned for more details.

Our local EAA Chapter 1337 is a 501-c-3 charitable organization and donations are tax deductible and eligible for company matching if your employer provides it.

Radio Rumors

The Tuolumne County Airports Office has a new Administrative Assistant. Her name is Traci Williams-O'Neill. She is a real go-getter. Stop in and say hello when you are at Columbia Airport. Traci can be reached at (209) 533-5865 and twilliams-o'neill@co.tuolumne.ca.us

Local aviation author talk on Saturday, July 9th 1:30-3:00 at the Gregory Hangar. Marle Hewett will talk about his book ***Fast Hewie: From Navy Jet Jock to Global Aerospace Tech Wizard***. Susie Williams will talk about her book: ***Adventures at 1000 AGL: How to Fly Around the Country in a Small Airplane***. Janet Gregory will talk about her work on a book about the history of PML

Airport, planned for publication later this year. Marle and Susie will have copies of their books for signatures and for sale.

Why did the chicken cross the road? Answers from various authorities.

- *Darth Vader*: Because it couldn't resist the power of the dark side.
- *Albert Einstein*: The chicken didn't necessarily cross the road; the road could be said to have moved laterally under the chicken.
- *Neil Armstrong*: One small step for a hen; one giant leap for chickenkind.
- *Mark Twain*: The news of its crossing has been greatly exaggerated.

What's Your Sign?

You may have seen the new signs put up around the airport by the airport manager. The signs seem vague as to the message, so it has been suggested they replace them with this sign.



Please Note:

Radio Rumors is always looking for interesting items. Feel free to send in your tips to airportlady@sbcglobal.net. (Ed.)

Pilots in Evening Gowns: When Amelia Earhart and Eleanor Roosevelt Took to the Skies

Posted on April 20, 2022 by [Katherine](#)



Eleanor Roosevelt was one of America's most beloved First Ladies; Amelia Earhart was called the "First Lady of the Air." These two groundbreaking and unconventional women met and became close friends in 1932, the same year that Earhart made history with her record-breaking nonstop trans-Atlantic flight. Their individualism and sense of cheeky fun famously culminated in an escapade during a White House dinner on April 20, 1933; the pair led the party, all dressed in formal dinner attire to a nearby airfield, and Earhart and Roosevelt shared the cockpit for a spontaneous flight to Baltimore and back. The story is a testament to their spirit of adventure, and to the bond of friendship between two of the 20th century's most extraordinary women.

When Earhart met Roosevelt, the two were quick to become friends; Roosevelt, who frequently traveled by plane in her role as First Lady, was even inspired to get a student pilot's license. The two stereotype-smashing women shared a passion for women's rights and world peace, so when Roosevelt planned the White House dinner, it wasn't a surprise that she invited Earhart and her husband, George Putnam, to join her. Roosevelt's husband, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was away, so her brother Hall Roosevelt joined her instead; other guests included Thomas Wardwell Doe, the president of Eastern Air Transport, and Eugene Luther Vidal, the head of the U.S. Commerce Department's Bureau of Air Commerce.



During the dinner, Earhart grew impatient with the formalities and suggested to Roosevelt that they take a short flight to Baltimore and back. To Roosevelt, it sounded like the perfect adventure to pass the time before dessert! The group traveled to Hoover Field airport and boarded one of Eastern Air Transport's twin-engine Curtiss Condor planes. By protocol, two company pilots were supposed to operate the airplane; however, for much of the flight, Earhart took the captain's chair and Roosevelt sat next to her as co-pilot, all the while wearing a white silk gown and white kid gloves.

The journey was short, and when the plane returned, the Secret Service quickly shuttled everyone aboard back to the White House for dessert. Earhart would go on to break more flying records, then tragically disappear during her attempt at a round-the-world flight, while Roosevelt would become known as "First Lady of the World" due to her dedication to humanitarian causes, including her key role as the first chair of the UN Commission on Human Rights. But that April night remains a tribute to these two women and their free spirits. "I'd love to do it myself. I make no bones about it," Roosevelt told *The Baltimore Sun*. "It does mark an epoch, doesn't it, when a girl in an evening dress and slippers can pilot a plane at night."

2022 Meeting Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time & Location</u>
June 4, 2022	Beth Stanton	6 pm Joe & Anne Sobczak Hangar
July 2022	No Meeting	No Meeting
August 6, 2022	Hot August Nights	TBD

2022 Aviation Calendar

January	<p>1 – <i>New Year’s Day</i></p> <p>1 – Happy New Year! <u>NO</u> PMLAA Meeting in January</p> <p>1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</p> <p>17 – <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i></p>
February	<p>1 – <i>Chinese New Year – Year of the Tiger</i></p> <p>2 – <i>Groundhog Day</i></p> <p>5 – PMLAA Meeting</p> <p>5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</p> <p>13 – <i>Superbowl Sunday</i></p> <p>14 – <i>Valentine’s Day</i></p> <p>21 – <i>President’s Day</i></p>
March	<p>5 – PMLAA Meeting</p> <p>5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</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>
April	<p>2 – PMLAA Meeting</p> <p>2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</p> <p>9 Celebration of Life for Jim “JT” Thomas at Placerville Airport 10-1p RSVP to catboats@gmail.com</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 & southern South America</i></p>
May(<p>4 – <i>Star Wars Day – May the fourth be with you</i></p> <p>5 – <i>Cinco de Mayo</i></p> <p>7 – PMLAA Meeting</p> <p>7-8 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</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>
June	4 – PMLAA Meeting

	<p>4-5 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 4 Eagle Field Dinner Dance Fly-in, Eagle Field (CL01) Dos Palos, CA 14 – Super Moon - Full Moon nearly at Perigee 18-19 – Columbia Airport (O22) Father’s Day Fly-In , stay tuned... 19 – <i>Father’s Day</i> 21 – <i>Summer Solstice 09:14 UTC – First Day of Summer</i> 25 <i>Sentry Eagle Exercise & Open House, Klamath Falls, OR w/ Vicky Benzing</i></p>
July	<p>2 – NO PMLAA Meeting in July 2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 2-3 GIG Harbor Wings & 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>
August	<p>6 – PMLAA Taxiway Party, Hot August Nights 6-7 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 7 – <i>Friendship Day</i> 20-21 <i>Wings over Camarillo Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing</i></p>
September	<p>3-4 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 5 – <i>Labor Day</i> 10– PMLAA Meeting *** 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>
October	<p>1 – PMLAA Airport Appreciation Day, 11:30-3:00 1 – PMLAA Meeting 1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 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>
November	<p>4-6 Nellis AFB Airshow,w/Vicky Benzing 5 – PMLAA Meeting 5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 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>
December	<p>3 – PMLAA Holiday Party 3-4 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00 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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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)	\$ _____
TOTAL enclosed		\$ _____

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.