



A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • BY NORM PEEBLES

Our April meeting was both informative and entertaining. Everybody had a good time. We thank Jim Thomas and Paul Price for giving us new insights on airport funding and experimental devices that glow in the dark.

Also thank you to the Benzing's for their wonderful hospitality. As part of the program, Virginia and Mike Gustafson were presented the Prop of Appreciation Award for all of their help and support over the years.

See photographs on page 2.

### MAY MEETING

Next month's meeting will be held at the Peebles hangar on May 3rd at 6:00 pm. The topic will be flying ARMY HELICOPTERS in one of the most inhospitable environments in the world. Heat, humidity, dirt, rain, mud, jungle, water just to mention a few. There were some pyrotechnic devices also that spiced up the mix at times. The place was Vietnam in the late 60's.

The speakers, all members of PMLAA, will be Norm Peebles, Joe Riley, and Ed Peters. Our stories will be focused toward educating the audience on what it was like to be a crew member on these aircraft. They will also be on the lighter side of war and I feel you will find them informative and entertaining.

### JUNE AIR SHOW

It's that time of year again to start planning for the Air show. It will be held this year on June 21st, noon to 5:00 pm, with the air show flying starting at 2:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to build support in the non-flying community, so invite your friends out to the airport. It's free and open to the public.

PMLAA members' Vicky Benzing, Wayne Handley, Mike Lella and I will be working to make this year's event even better than last year, but we can not do it alone. We need volunteers. If you can help please let us know (see the attached form).

After the air show we will again have an association dinner and meeting for Members only, and guest of members only! Last year we sold out. We are limited to only 400 people. Therefore pre-paid reservations are required and we will need the names of all guests on the reservation form (see attached form).

### MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Our 2008 roster is enclosed. Many thanks to Diane Harrison for all her hard work. Remember the roster is for our members' personal use only! It is not intended for commercial purposes.

### *Food for our May Event*

Thank you for the delicious comfort food at our April meeting. May will be a Cinco de Mayo celebration. Appetizers will be provided, so please bring a Mexican main course, salads, or dessert to share.

FYI: Cinco de Mayo ("5th of May" in English) is observed in celebration of the Mexican army victory against the French, in Puebla's battle, May 5, 1862. A common misconception in the United States is that Cinco de Mayo is Mexico's Independence Day; Mexico's Independence Day is actually September 16th. (Dieciséis de Septiembre in Spanish), which is the most important national patriotic holiday in Mexico.

**Cocktails:** 6pm • **Eating:** 6:45pm **Program:** 7:30pm — Dress is casual. See you there . . . Kym

## Jim Thomas

Jim Thomas gave us his perspective on airport funding



## Paul Price

Paul presented an overview of the US Nuclear Weapons Program as he saw it during the Sixties, Seventies, and Eighties.



## Appreciation Award

Virginia and Mike Gustafson received the Prop of Appreciation Award from our President, Norm Peebles, at our April event.

**FROM THE AIRPORTS DIRECTOR – JIM THOMAS**  
**Seasonal Changes in Airport Use**

**S**pring brings a change in the use of our airports. Many pilots are fair weather fliers and their aircraft have been kept tied down or inside a hangar through the winter months. The longer days and warmer temperatures bring the beginning of the fly-in season and an increase in airport operations. Soon there will be aviation events at many airports around our area. Some of these will be impromptu fly-outs by small groups of pilots for lunch, while other events will be full fledged organized fly-ins like Watsonville, Golden West and the Father's Day Fly-In.

The increased airport activity also brings the need for added vigilance by all pilots when flying at Pine Mountain Lake Airport. There will be visiting pilots that are unfamiliar with our traffic pattern, noise sensitive areas and prevailing winds. All pilots should use good judgment and practice uncontrolled airport operations techniques to increase safety. Some of the techniques that should be used include:

- Use your radio to get a "sight picture" of other aircraft using the airport
- Use your radio to announce your position and intentions
- Use standard pattern entry if there are other aircraft in the pattern
- Look out your windscreen and follow the "see and avoid" requirement
- Be courteous and helpful with unfamiliar pilots

Another seasonal change that we see at Pine Mountain Lake Airport is the use of the airport by pedestrians, bicycles, golf carts, etc. We can expect to see more of this type of use in the next few months. While aircraft have the right-of-way, pilots should be alert to potential conflicts and safety issues with these people. Those that are walking, riding, or driving should pull off the taxiway and give right-of-way to the aircraft and always stop and look before crossing the western runway threshold. Safety at our airports is everyone's responsibility.

**Upcoming Events**

May 3rd at the Peebles	Vietnam Helicopter Stories
June 21st the Air show	Airplane Fun and Dinner
<b>July</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
August	Possibly Air Ambulance Information
September 5	Bill Cox
October 4	Tom Sweeney

**Help Us Prepare**  
**Contribute ideas and work for our Air Show, June 21, 2008**



PML Aviation Association  
P. O. Box 131  
Groveland, CA 95321

We are sad to report the untimely death of our friend and PMLAA member, Marilyn Bangs. Marilyn was an accomplished and hard-working member of our community. Our sincere condolences to her husband, Bob.

### HAWAIIAN LUAU AT TUOLUMNE TRAIL

**Big News!** Soroptimists International of Groveland and the Hotel Charlotte are combining forces to put on a traditional Hawaiian luau at Camp Tuolumne Trail's Great Hall starting at 5:00pm on Sunday, June 22. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at the Hotel Charlotte 962.6445 or from Amanda Klaashen at 962.5961. The event benefits Groveland Soroptimists.

The fabulous evening includes an open bar, dinner featuring roast suckling pig and live music. There will also be dancing on the deck after dinner. Seats are limited, so please buy your tickets early and come join the party!

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**OUR MAY 3, 2008 MEETING WILL BE  
AT PEEBLES'S HANGAR AT 6:00PM**