



Volume 35: Issue 12  
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## *Pine Mountain Lake Aviation*

### *Next Meeting:*

Saturday February 2021??

*Time: ??*

*Place: ??*

### President's Letter – by Danielle Coelho

I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe Holiday Season. I think most would agree 2020 was a year filled with great challenges. As it comes to an end, I would like to say Good Bye and Good Riddance 2020!!!



*GoodBye2020/Hello2021!*

I was looking forward to 2020 being a year filled with interesting speakers and fun events. As we all know, that never came to fruition. Let's all keep positive thoughts welcoming in the New Year 2021. I hope it brings us all together again to enjoy our PMLAA meetings.

Happy Landings,  
Danielle Coelho  
PMLAA, President

## A Tribute to Paul Price - by Janet Gregory

In December 2019, Paul Price made his final flight. A community celebration-of-life was planned for the spring but Coronavirus craziness brought the planning to a halt. Now a year has passed and we wanted to honor Paul with a tribute to his aviation accomplishments.

A logbook says a lot about the person making the entries. Attention to detail, careful records, and hasty entries are all there. Highlights and low-lights are recorded.



*Paul Price*

Paul celebrated 48-years and 9-months as a pilot from first solo in 1966 to expiration of his medical in 2015. He started flying lessons at Livermore Airport (LVK) in a Cessna-150 in April 1966. It was a secret mission, as he would take flying lessons on his lunch hour or after work at Lawrence Livermore Labs. His wife Pat knew nothing about it. Paul was a quick learner and soloed in less than 2-months, with 12-hours of flight time. He went on to receive his private pilot's license 3-months later and proudly took Pat for a flight as his first passenger on the same day.

The secret mission to learn how to fly was blown by ATC. Pat received a phone call from flight service inquiring about Paul's whereabouts. "What? Paul is not a pilot." Paul failed to close his flight-plan on one of his cross-country training flights. OOPS! Cover was blown! He had to fess up when he returned home that day.

Paul went on to fly just about every piston-engine Cessna known to man: 152, 140, 172, 182, 205, 210, and more. He flew Piper and Beechcraft too; choosing to own a Mooney and Navion. Paul loved the opportunity to fly different types of aircraft and has several right-seat logbook entries flying a Lear Jet at Boeing Field with Clay Lacy, the Boeing B-17 Superfortress at Livermore Airport, and a Lockheed 12-A Electra with Kent Blankenburg.

One logbook entry in 1979 records a flight to Lake Tahoe Airport (KTVL), "Took P.J. – to Jeff Hodges' cabin for weekend skiing etc." It's a bit peculiar as there is no return flight. Paul called home to Pat, "Can you come pick me up in South Lake Tahoe? There's been an accident." Accident! Yikes! The Tahoe Daily Tribune tells the whole story of how to have an aircraft accident without flying: "A light, single engine

airplane was blown over by a strong gust of wind this morning while performing pre-flight checks on a runway at Lake Tahoe Airport. FAA tower officials said winds were gusting between 30-45 mph today.” Paul framed the front-page photo and kept it on the wall of his office as a reminder of the precocious nature of weather.

Although Paul didn’t brag, his logbook boasts of flying at Wilson Field in Nairobi, Kenya in 1987 in a Cessna. He got around. Pat and Paul loved vacationing in Mexico and his logbook records over 75 trips to Mexico, landing at more than 17 different airports. He would also fly to work assignments with Lawrence Livermore Labs. In time, his logbook features landing in 30 states, 60% of the US. It’s likely that he flew over all of them, except Hawaii, but logbooks don’t brag about mere fly-overs.

Paul, it was a pleasure knowing you. It’s been a pleasure flying through your logbooks. This little article is a celebration of a pilot’s life well lived. Thank you for sharing your love of aviation with us.

## PMLAA Newsletter ... Wants Contributors

The PMLAA Newsletter is looking for more writers, contributors, and editors. Let’s give 2021 a fresh new face and voice for PML Aviation.

We want more writers with articles about pilots, airplanes, airspace, safety, and anything aviation related. We are looking for a new contributor to the prepare the Aviation Calendar and Radio Rumors; the current contributor is retiring.

Our PMLAA Newsletter editor, Nikki Grimes, would like some help compiling the newsletter each month; maybe finding a co-editor to alternate months. Time to renew and revitalize our member communications, please join us. Tap Nikki Grimes on the shoulder and let her know you’d like to participate. Nikki’s contact info: 209 666-0141 or no.1cyclingdiva@gmail.com

Note from Nikki: The editor job is mostly compilation of information. The various contributors do all the heavy lifting. Takes me a few hours once a month but I would like a break, please! Also, Janet has been an awesome resource providing 80% of the newsletter information but she needs a break too.

## EAA Flight Deck: Closing out the year that wasn’t – by Ed Gregor

Thank you PML EAA members. 2020 was a quiet year for our EAA chapter as we were asked to “stand down” in response to Covid-19 considerations. We did manage to participate in the E45 runway reflector installation and purchase thanks to the leadership of Rob Compton. Young Eagle Rallies at Columbia and Pine Mountain Lake did not take place respecting social distancing guidelines. The KOLB Ultralight build project was put on hold.

We will “wait and see” what opportunities 2021 will hold for EAA National and our local chapter. We hope to reengage in the aviation activities we all enjoy. Until then, stay safe and healthy. Enjoy the holidays with those close to you. We will welcome the new year, looking to the skies for renewed aviation enthusiasm.

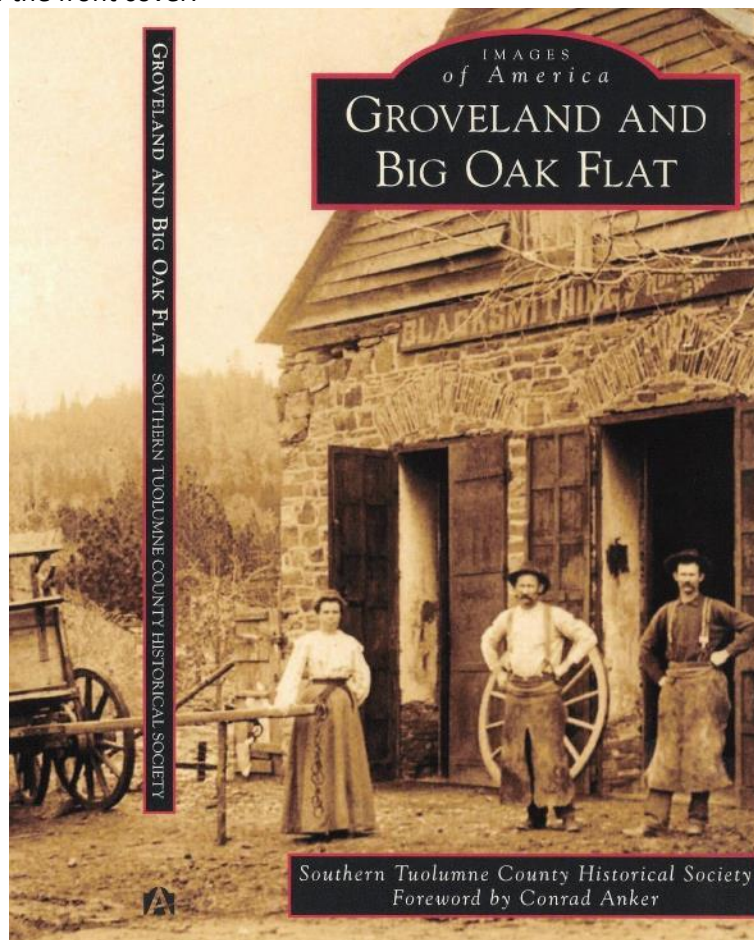
## Airport (and more) History!

It's not too late! Although the museum is currently COVID-closed, our book "Groveland and Big Oak Flat" is still available to purchase.

The book covers Native American culture, mining in the Gold Rush and "hard rock" periods, ranching and farming and commerce to support the miners, the growth of tourism to Yosemite, the Hetch Hetchy construction project, and the development of Pine Mountain Lake. There are numerous historical photos of miners, townspeople and families, buildings in Big Oak Flat (such as the Wells Fargo Building) and Groveland (Iron Door Saloon), the Hetch Hetchy railroad and workers, and PML's early days. Each photo is selected to "tell a story" or illustrate an aspect of area history. This book includes a rare photo of PML Airport as a grass strip, includes stories from PMLAA member Jim Philips, and was compiled by PMLAA members Harriet Codeglia and Kathy Brown.

The book sells for \$21.99 plus tax, and can be ordered on the Museum website at [www.grovelandmuseum.org](http://www.grovelandmuseum.org) or you can request an order form from [gygmstchs@gmail.com](mailto:gygmstchs@gmail.com). We charge \$3.00 shipping and handling and all proceeds from the book sale go to benefit the Museum and other STCHS projects. Call Harriet at 209 962 6270 with questions.

Here is the image of the front cover:



## PMLAA Dates to Remember:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time &amp; Location</u>
January 2021	No Meeting in January	
February 2021	TBD	
March 2021	TBD	

## Welcome 2021 PMLAA Board of Directors!

President	Danielle Coelho
Vice President-Social Affairs	Laura Stengel
Vice President-Airport Day	Kurt Howerton
Secretary	Nancy Mora
Treasurer	Dawn Howerton

## Boring Aviation Calendar

<b>DECEMBER</b>	<p>17 – First powered, manned, heavier than airflight, Wright Brothers (1903)</p> <p>21 – First Day of Winter, Winter Solstice, Shortest day of the year</p> <p>23 – Rutan Model 76 Voyager, non-stop flight around the world (1986)</p> <p>25 – Christmas</p>
<b>JANUARY</b>	<p>1 – Happy New Year! 2020 is over (Hooray)! Aviation revival in 2021!</p> <p><b>NO PMLAA Meeting</b></p> <p>2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</p> <p>18 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p> <p>29 – First jet passenger service is started in the US by American Airlines (1959)</p>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<p>6 - PMLAA Meeting – Stay tuned ...</p> <p>6-7 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00</p> <p>7 – Superbowl Sunday</p> <p>12 – Chinese New Year</p> <p>14 – Valentine’s Day</p> <p>19 – Howard Hughes sets trans-US speed record 7hrs-28 min CA to NJ (1937)</p> <p>22 – National Margarita Day (Count me in!)</p>

## Radio Rumors “Say Again”

- **End of Year Close Out Sale:**

- PML Airport face mask. Only 17 left in our inventory. At \$20, proudly display your favorite airport with friends, family, or shopping. Give your face a fresh new look.



- PML Airport coffee mugs. Only 14 left in our inventory. At \$10, wake up to a hot cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate that will turn your world from IFR to VFR. (photo next page)
- All profit supports the PMLAA Scholarship Fund. Contact Janet to get yours 962-5061 and [treasurer@pmlaa.org](mailto:treasurer@pmlaa.org).

- **Farewell to Chuck Yeager**

- General Charles Elwood “Chuck” Yeager made his final flight on December 7, 2020 at age 97. He was a US Air Force officer, flying ace, and record setting test pilot. In 1947 he became the first pilot in history to fly faster than the speed of sound in level flight. “Yeager: An Autobiography” is a must read or a must re-read for many of us.

- **Secret Aviation Acronym Decoder Ring:** Aircraft certification categories: TURN PALE.

Transport	Provisional
Utility	Acrobatic
Restricted	Limited
Normal	Experimental

- **Why does aviation use so many acronyms?**

- Makes communication easier and faster ... but only if “you are in the know”.
- Uses less time on the radio ... air-to-air and pilot to ATC (air-traffic-control).
- Aids detailed memory ... but only if you can remember all of them.
- Shorthand ... efficiency when communicating with others in the same field.
- Big egos ... no, none of those in aviation. 😊

**\*\* E45 Airport Display Day: Until the Shelter-in-Place order is lifted, display your aircraft on your own ramp. The “powers that be” will go around the airport and take note. Once the SIP is lifted, the individual airplane owner’s paperwork will be done.**

BOARD OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS – 2020

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**Treasurer**, Janet Gregory 962-5061

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