

# PMLAA NEWS



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A Monthly Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

## Get Festive at our Oktoberfest

An illustration of two cartoon figures dressed in traditional Oktoberfest attire, including green hats with braids and brown lederhosen. They are holding large, frothy beer mugs and clinking them together in a toast. The figures are black with white outlines and are positioned in the center of the page, between the words 'Get' and 'Festive'.

I was excited to host our October speaker. Unfortunately his time is much like many of us and he was forced to cancel. I went into frantic mode of contacting everyone I knew. The good news is that we now have several people lined up for next year who will be great.

The bad news is that I still didn't have the awesome speaker we have expected. Then I looked back at some of the feedback we had gotten from the BBQ at Larry Jobe's in August. People liked the flying, they liked the outdoor venue, etc., but what struck me is that they felt the relaxed nature of the event gave them a chance to get to know fellow PMLAA members better. And what wonderful talent we have right in our community.

MMMM, perhaps we are on to something here. Turn the unfortunate cancellation into a win. We got together and decided on a relaxed party format in hangar as it is October.

For the same reason an Oktoberfest theme seemed appropriate and loads 'o fun. Look to our social report for the details as to what this means, but I know our team will make it great.

We do plan on having a program and it will be a surprise that evening with our very own local talent. Even some of them may be surprised. Don't miss seeing our own in action.

I look forward to this meeting for the people first, but draft beer will be nice as well!

## Vicky Benzing in National Competition



Our own Vicky Benzing will be competing in the US National Aerobatic Championships in Dennison Texas September 24<sup>th</sup> thru the 29<sup>th</sup>.

They select the Unlimited Aerobatic Team this year to represent the United States at the World Championships next summer. Both Vicki Cruse and Melissa Andrzejewski (both at our June meeting and show) will be competing for spots on the team. It should be a fun Nationals. If anyone is interested, the results will probably be available through a link on the IAC web site [www.IAC.org](http://www.IAC.org)

# 2006 The Summer of Flight



Our Pine Mountain Aviation Association's Idaho Fly Out  
Left- Final into Johnson Creek  
Right- Walking to Breakfast at Big Creek



Photos by Paul Sperry



EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2006

*photo by Jeff Basing Oshkosh 2006*



*photo by Jeff Basing Oshkosh 2006*

Photo: Lynne Orloff



Our August meeting and flying fun day

Photo by Colleen Keller

Save The Date! It's A Wrap  
December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at Kent and  
Sandy's Hangar  
Be sure to look for more details in next

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It has been quite the summer and we have had quite the aviation experiences.

Vicky and her wild and crazy aerobatic pals started the summer off in style. What a successful event on all counts: good community relations building, super support for a good cause and most of all a great deal of fun (and good food). I never expected that we would have our own personal airshow of that quality here at Pine Mountain Lake, thank you Vicky and the huge crew that made it possible.

Thirteen aircraft ventured north in our Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association Idaho Fly Out and a fine time was had by all. We all flew well within the capabilities of our aircraft and ourselves which resulted in safe trip for all. There were rumored to be a few white knuckled passengers made worse by the briefing Saturday by yours truly, but in the end everyone had a great time and felt the mountain flying was great. We celebrated a birthday in a style I have never experienced, but then again I've never done one in Yellow Pine. The best part of the trip was getting to know some great people sharing the fire, the hikes, the singing (Carol has a beautiful voice) and the flying.

I am not certain of the final count but I believe we had over 2 dozen members at Oshkosh for the annual infusion of everything aviation. It was a great year there and again the best part is seeing all of the great old friends and meeting some more. A highlight was watching Alan, Connie and River in their Waco flying with the American Barnstorming Tour. They followed a real barnstorming route to get there while dressed in period cloths for the crowds. Paul Price flew in with 3 generations; Paul, Sterling and Pacco.

After Oshkosh we had a great time at a BBQ in and around Larry and Nina's Hangar. We had lots of airplanes out flying and gave many rides to our members and guests. Thank you, Alan Guadenti and my Twin Beech for taking up so many. The team did great with a BBQ. I'd like to do more flying and social activities in the future.

That same weekend was the Beaver State Regional Aerobatic contest in Pendleton Oregon. Vicky Benzing won first place in Intermediate. Notably, she beat Kurt Haukohl in his Black Eagle 540 who has moved back down to Intermediate from Unlimited. The spread was only 4 points out of about 4500 points (<0.1%!).

Many ventured to Reno for the Air Races. We had several members as crew. My brother raced again this year in the T-6 class. Alan Buchner won the Best Antique in the Heritage Flight Line.

*Keep flying, keep safe and have fun, Rand Siegfried*

## Happenings: Social times

### Achtung



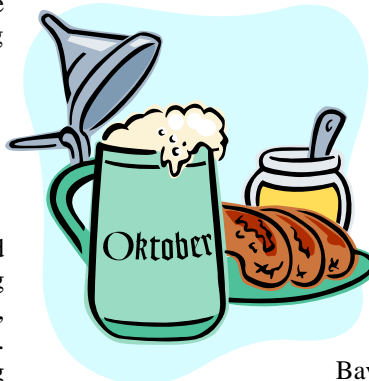
## Oktoberfest is here

Summer is fading into fall and we are looking forward to the cooler weather. It will be a nice relief.

First, I want to thank Norm & Patty Peebles for letting us use their hangar for our PMLAA monthly meeting again this October. We look forward to some good times, plenty of time to mingle and to meet new people or get to know those old friends even better.

Our **October 7th** meeting will be an Oktoberfest theme. This means we will have draft beer ready for thirsty pilots (or any one else). We will start our dinner slightly later than typical so there will be plenty of mingling time. Towards the end of dinner we will have a short presentation with some of our own.

We will have a pot-luck this month and ask you to bring a dish in theme.



Suggestions include:  
Brats and Kraut  
Sauerbraten  
German Potato Salad  
Bavarian Cake

Location: The Peebles Hangar  
Parking: Off the taxi-way  
Times: 6PM arrive  
Food: Pot-Luck; Oktoberfest themed

We look forward to having a great time and seeing everyone there- how else will we get to meet everyone!

*Bring your appetite! Conni Buchner*

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SET-UP CREW**

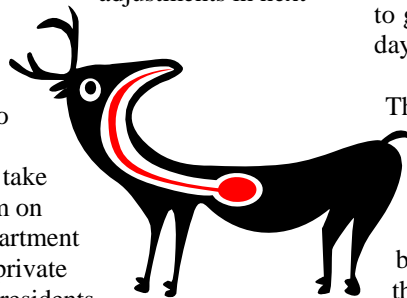


## Weed and Deer Control

*By Jim Thomas*

The Airports Department began a program to control the growth and spread of noxious weeds at the airport. This program is partially funded through donations from the local airport residents. The weed control program is a multi year program which is expected to last at least three years. This year's work has been completed with the spraying of the weeds and monitoring of the effectiveness of the herbicide. As the seasons progress we will evaluate the type and density of weed growth, then make adjustments in next year's program.

A letter was mailed out to each resident living directly adjacent to the airport notifying them of the program and asking that they too take steps to address the weed problem on their property. The Airports Department cannot perform weed control on private property; however, we can assist residents in determining the type of weeds present on their lot and the eradication methods available. Weeds can spread quickly, so it is important to the effectiveness of the program that the local residents work to address the weed problem too.



The deer fence has been in place for several months now and I'm still very interested in obtaining personal observations and feelings on the effectiveness of the fence. Wildlife experts recommended the electric fence as the most promising method for preventing deer crossing the runway. They indicated that the purpose of the fence is to modify the migration behavior of the deer by making them establish new trails around the fence instead of across the runway.

There is a concern that deer are getting in between the fences and then having a difficult time getting out. This is certainly a concern and in an effort to help prevent the deer from getting between the fences we have closed off the runway exit located approximately 1,000' from the west end of the runway. Closing off this exit allows the fence to be continuous along the south side of the runway. It may create a little inconvenience for pilots, but it may also significantly reduce the number of deer getting stuck between the fences. Again, I'm always looking for feedback on the effectiveness of the deer fence, so please give me a call at 533-5685 or send an email to [jthomas@co.tuolumne.ca.us](mailto:jthomas@co.tuolumne.ca.us) with your observations.

*Keep it safe, JT*

## Ramp Check 201

*By Linda Monahan, DPE*

Where has the summer gone??? It seems like just yesterday, we were all in Yellow Pine, toasting (and roasting) Carol Simpson for her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday! You really haven't yet experienced a birthday party unless it's been in Yellow Pine, ID.

This month's article is a chronicle of my third "observed" checkride of me giving a checkride for an applicant for his Commercial Pilot rating. It was also my checkride to be able to give Commercial pilot ratings. To put it simply, it was the day from Hell...

The applicant and I flew down to the Fresno FSDO at the Fresno Air Terminal. Fortunately, I didn't fly down with him; instead I flew my Twin Comanche. I knew things weren't going to go well when I gave the logbooks on his plane to the airworthiness inspector and he came back in and asked about the inspection for the transponder that he couldn't find. HUMMMM, here we are sitting smack dab in the middle of the Class C airspace, at the Feds without a current transponder check. Like the TV commercial that says, "This can't be good..." as the other guy's car goes flying off the cliff, I knew this applicant was in big-time trouble.

It was really quite amazing to watch the roof come off the top of the FSDO building with the condition of the airplane that this applicant brought to the checkride. (Now I'm SOOO thankful I didn't fly down with him!!!) They ended up grounding the plane and I had to give the applicant a Notice of Disapproval before we really got started on the checkride. The Feds were going to give everyone involved, except me, a violation of one type or another. Finally "cooler heads prevailed" and they decided to turn it into a learning experience.

So the learning experience is what types of inspections do we have to have on an airplane? I use the acronym A.V.I.A.T.E. Annual, VOR check every 30 days for IFR, 100 hour inspection for hire, Altimeter, Transponder and ELT battery. The issue with the transponder is FAR 91.215(c) says that if you have a transponder, it must be on in "controlled" airspace. If the inspection has expired, 91.213 says if it isn't required for VFR flight we can placard it "inop" and note it in the logbook. So anything that doesn't work in our planes, we have to figure out if it is required by the type certification or by regulation. If it is, we're not legal to fly.

So my checkride vaporized. My inspector said, "Well, give me a checkride and we can go fly your Twin Comanche..." I was fine with the first part but the second part concerned me

after what I had just gone through. Long story short, I gave him the oral and we went out flying in the Twin Co. "Ok, show me slow flight." Hum, stall warning horn isn't working... It's required by regulation... Not legal to fly it home! This really is the Day from Hell. I had to get a Ferry Permit to get it home!

Good Grief, I hope you all have really good IA's to stay on top of all that is required to fly our planes... So much for the simple pleasures of flying!  
*Happy Flying, Linda*

### The Blankenburgs' Stunning 1952 Cessna 195

As Seen in the August and September 2006 Issues of



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### Camp Tuolumne Trails: Labor of Love by PMLAA Members



By Virginia Gustafson

Did you know there is a summer camp for children with special medical needs being built on Ferretti Road, just past the PML Airport?

Two staff cabins are complete. Six camper bunkhouses, two bath houses and the Great Hall which will include the kitchen, dining room, offices, arts and crafts center, and the infirmary are under construction now. A recent article in the Union Democrat highlighted this "labor of love" project. The camp is a project of the Jerry and Paula Baker Foundation, a nonprofit public charity. Jerry is a past president of PMLAA and flies a Cessna 206.

Next summer the camp will host groups of children who will be able to enjoy the simple pleasures of childhood in a camp specifically designed and built to meet their special medical needs.

If you missed the Open House in September, come out anytime and see the camp project. Volunteers are welcome. We need people to help build the bunkhouses, carry boards, sand or paint, assist with plumbing or electrical work, or generally help around the site. A few hours or a few days are equally welcome. Come out to the site, or call Jerry Baker at 962-7916 for more details.



Some of our most stalwart volunteers are also PMLAA members, including Mick Hopson, Jan and Roger Sloan, Dewaine Carver, Al and Linda Craig, Guy and Nancy Russell, George and Diane Harrison, Harriet Wallace and Jerry Lynn, Paul Sperry, and Mike Gustafson. Come join the fun!

Camp Tuolumne Trails is located on Ferretti Road, three miles past the PML Airport and ¼ mile past Yosemite Rose.

### Classifieds

Charter members Larry and Nina Jobe will be escorting their one-of-a-kind 4th annual **American Aviators VIP Tour to China** next March 13th thru 30th, 2007 (all-inclusive and all 4- and 5-star -- a high-end tour at a low-end price). For those who haven't already gone with us, check for details at [www.TravelAireTours.com](http://www.TravelAireTours.com) or call us toll-free at (866) 669-2288 (local 962-5588). There's also a nice aerial shot of PML's E45 on the "About Us" page.



### 2006 PMLAA BOARD OF OFFICERS

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Aviation Association meetings are normally held at 6:00pm on the first Saturday of every month. The location will be announced



### Mark your Calendar

September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Benefit for Frog at the Stables
October 7 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly PMLAA meeting- Oktoberfest
October 12 <sup>th</sup> thru 15 <sup>th</sup>	Staggerwing Museum's Beech Party, Tullahoma TN
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly meeting- Veteran's Day theme
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	It's A Wrap

***Fly In to our October Meeting!***

Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association  
PO Box 131  
Groveland, CA 95321

**Oktoberfest**  
**October 7th!**