



A Publication of the Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE • BY NORM PEEBLES

The March 7th meeting was a great success. Colleen Keller gave one of the most professional presentations we have had in a long time. Her preparation, knowledge and presentation skills were outstanding. Even the technical problems with the computer did not distract from her talk. One of the lessons I learned from the information, if you don't have an emergency locator in your plane or on your person, don't expect to be found any time soon! We talk about the BIG SKY theory, but there is also the BIG DIRT theory, it's hard to find you out there.



We want to thank Toni and Silvano Gai for the use of their beautiful warm hangar, which will also be the site of the April meeting!

Joe deNunzio made a short presentation about the upcoming Safety Talk to be held at PML airport on March 21 at 9:00 am. For additional information call Joe at 209.962.4425.

There was also a short presentation about the Flying Club that is forming at PML airport by Bob Hornauer and Dennis Smith 209.962.4950.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – Start time 6:00 pm

April 4th – Flying in Europe – Luca Bertagnolio at Gai's hangar. *See page 3 for Luca's bio details.*

This will be a special night, we will combine our regular meeting with a party for Luca and his bride to be. There will be a dance band for dancing into the night. It will be a pot luck dinner, bring a salad, appetizer or your best dish. (Dessert will be provided.)

May 2nd – A Pilots Story (Film) – Rico Sharqawi
At Peebles's hangar

June 6th – The GPS System – Keith Thomassen
Tuolumne Trails

(Note the airport day will be held on October 3rd this year due to scheduling conflicts)

July No Program

August 1st – TBD

September 5th Flight around the world – TBD

October 3rd – Airport Day

November 7th – TBD

Membership Dues. If you have not, please send in your dues. Thank you.

FIFTH ANNUAL Shared Adventures & EAA-119 'Day in the Sky, Watsonville' Young Eagle's special flying event for young people with disabilities.

- * Saturday April 18, 2009
- * Watsonville Municipal Airpot WVI, Watsonville, California
- * Pilot brief: 8am in the EAA-119 hangar at Watsonville Municipal Airport (WVI)
- * Pilots can join any time, if you can't make the 8am briefing, we'll brief you when you arrive.
- * First wheels up 9am
- * Last flights 4pm or until we've flown all the kids.
- * 3+ dozen pilots needed!

FROM THE AIRPORTS DIRECTOR

– by Jim Thomas

AIRPORT SAFETY

I think it is a good idea to review some of the safety issues that go along with using the airport for recreation, exercise and access. As everyone knows the Airports Department allows people to walk, jog, exercise their pets or use the airport for access to get to a neighbors house as long as a few basic rules are followed. It is extremely important that everyone realize that a single incident can impact the non-aviation use of the airport.

First, I want to emphasize that no one should be on the runway unless you are picking up debris, attending to an aircraft requiring assistance, or crossing the runway as described later in this article. Unlike most roads and parking lots, pedestrians DO NOT have the right of way at an airport; aircraft have the right of way. People should always give way to an airplane by moving off to the side of the taxiway or taxi lane and then stopping and standing still. That way the pilot doesn't have to guess what your next move is going to be. This goes if you are walking, jogging, driving a golf cart, riding a bicycle or motorcycle, or driving your car.

The speed limit at the airport is 25 mph on the taxiway, 15 mph on the ramp, and 10 mph in close proximity to parked aircraft. All cars and trucks should only cross the runway at the far west end and should never cross at the mid field crossing.

Pedestrians and open air vehicles (golf carts, bicycles and motorcycles) are allowed to cross mid field but only after stopping and looking for aircraft both directions twice. Remember you are looking for "airplanes" either in the "sky" or "on the runway". Always wait for the airplane to either land or take off before crossing the runway.

When driving along the taxiway, please avoid driving off the edge of the pavement and into the gravel because the tires will kick the gravel onto the pavement creating a hazard to aircraft. Many residents are aware of this hazard and kick the gravel off the pavement as they walk along the taxiway. Help keep our paved surfaces gravel free.

Last, I want to remind pet owners that their animals need to be on a leash when on airport property. No one wants their dog running in front of an airplane and no pilot wants to second guess the movement of a dog. Also, pet owners need to clean up any mess your dog may make.

Airports exist because of airplanes. For this reason airplanes have the right of way at all times. Those people using the airport for other purposes should always put safety first so that we never have an incident between an aircraft and a vehicle or pedestrian. If that were to occur we all would pay a price for it.

PML AERO CLUB

The long awaited Pine Mountain Lake Airport based flying club, using a Cessna 172, is very close to reality. We are informing everyone in PMLAA and the community in case there are additional interested pilots wanting to be a part of this group. Here are the basics:

1. A group of about 10 locals have met several times and have reached consensus on several items including working through draft By-Laws and Operating Rules.
2. An agreed upon set of parameters to use in the purchase of the aircraft.
3. Classifications of membership which will allow those who cannot contribute to the purchase of the aircraft pay a higher hourly rate to fly – still reasonable rates.
4. An agreement that student pilots are welcomed.
5. Establishment of the group within an LLC to limit individuals' liabilities.
6. A bank account has been opened in the name of "PML Aero Club" and several members have already deposited their checks.
7. An agreement to meet twice a month, the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 9:30 am at the Jobe's hangar house - until we are fully functional, thereafter meeting every month. Interested persons please come by the March 21 meeting or contact

SAFETY SEMINAR & HISTORICAL AIRCRAFT DISPLAY DAY

“GET READY FOR THE FLYING SEASON”

Pine Mountain Lake Airport • Saturday, March 21, 2009 • 9 am to 1 pm

With the cooperation of Jim Thomas, Tuolumne County Airport Director, Harlow Voorhees, Fresno FAA Safety Team Member, Dr. Katherine Newcomb, AME, Wayne Handley, and Ken Helling, there will be a combined Safety Seminar and Historical Aircraft Display Day. This program is being designed to help pilots get ready for the flying season and the aircraft owners that need to display his or her aircraft for the Personal Property Tax Exemption.

Program Features

9:00 am	Welcoming Remarks – Joe De Nunzio
9:30 am	Pilot Preparation – Harlow Voorhees – FAA Safety Team
10:00 am	FAA Medical Up-Date – Dr. Katherine Newcomb
10:30 am	Aircraft Readiness – Open Forum Discussion
11:00 am	Safe Mountain Flying Techniques – Wayne Handley
12:00 pm	Lunch – Hot Dogs - (Donation) – RSVP for lunch
1:00 pm	Closing Remarks – Joe De Nunzio

Help wanted: Aircraft Parking, Mid Field Intersection Monitor, General Set-Up, Airport Shuttle, Monitoring aircraft operations and directing the crossing of people at the mid field taxiway.

Historical Aircraft Display – Open to the public PML Transient Parking Area – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sign Off available at site

For More Information Contact Joe De Nunzio

E-mail: joe@e45flyers.us

Home: 209.962.4425

Work: 209.962.5551

Website: <http://www.e45flyers.us>

OUR APRIL SPEAKER

Luca Bertagnolio was born in 1968 in a family where flying was a normal thing. The first encounter with “real” aviation was at age 16, when he decided to try skydiving, and continued jumping from airplanes for a few years. Since mum was feeling less happy about Luca’s jumping from perfectly healthy aircraft, they made him an offer. If he quit skydiving, they would pay for half the private pilot license. So, farewell parachutes, and welcome airplanes! Luca got his PPL in 1991, and decided to try to pursue a career as a pilot by moving to the USA to take commercial training. The choice fell on FlightSafety Academy in Vero Beach, where he took his CPL with multi engine and instruments in 1993.

Back in Italy, prospects to get a job were not great, so Luca kept working in his other area of interest, computers and communications. That choice proved to be very successful, as in 1996 Luca was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, and was forced to quit flying.

The love for flying resurfaced again also thanks to Silvano Gai, his partner in crime at Oshkosh 2004 and 2006, Sun ‘n Fun 2008, and in the Alaska trip in 2004.

In 2006 Luca decided to apply to the FAA for his 3rd class Special Issuance medical, which was granted on the first try. He could solo again in the USA! He successfully added the single-engine rating to his CPL with the check ride done in Pine Mountain Lake, and in 2008 also added the seaplane rating, at Jack Brown’s Seaplane Base in Florida.

ICAO, unlike the FAA, unfortunately does not allow people with Type 1 diabetes to fly. Luckily, the Light Sport Aircraft rules in Europe are similar to the USA, and LSA-class planes can be flown without a full medical. In 2006 he bought a Pipistrel Virus motor glider, and he’s been enjoying flying around Italy once again. But he always likes to come to the USA and practice instrument flying, something which is very difficult to do in Europe.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS • 2009 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Airport Director - Jim Thomas	962.0910	-	Webmaster - Silvano Gai	962.6378

You are cordially invited to attend a Grand Opening celebration at **The Cub Inn Bed & Breakfast**
19301 Elder Lane - Groveland, CA • Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 3:00 to 11:00 p.m.

*Please RSVP to Joe Riley/Charleen Beam
thecubinn@mlode.com
or call 209.962.0403*



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

Our next meeting will take place on April 4, 2009 at Toni and Silvano Gai hangar.