



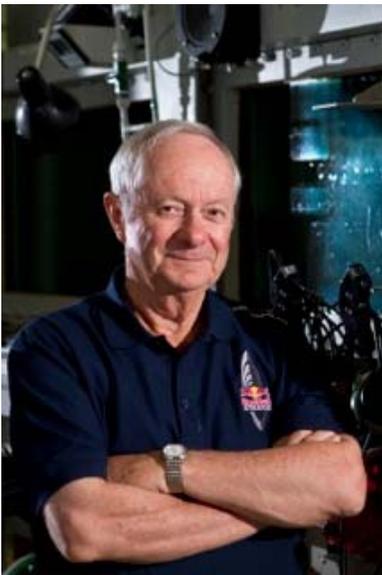
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Marle Hewett to Speak on May 4th!

Where: The Peebles' Hanger at **6:00 PM** May 4th 2013

Our very own resident Marle Hewett will present an evening of stories and behind-the-scenes tales from the Redbull Stratos mission, Felix Baumgartner's record-breaking skydive last October that captured the imagination of the world.

Marle has had a long and storied aviation career. He was an aircraft carrier pilot (fighter and attack), flying A-4s and A-7s off the USS Oriskany and the USS America in the Western Pacific before and during the Vietnam War. He flew F-104s and F-106s at the USAF Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB, the former to 89,000 feet.



Retired from the Navy as a Commander after 20 years, Marle joined the civilian work force, working at Northrop, NASA Dryden, and various positions as a consulting engineer for flight testing worldwide, including the Douglas C-17 test program, Lockheed F-22 test program, Saab Scania (Sweden) JAS-39 (Gripen) test program, Korean Aerospace Industries (KAI) T-50 (Golden Eagle) test program, and the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL-India) Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) test program.

Stratos Project

It all started seven years ago. Felix Baumgartner, a Red Bull (RB) B.A.S.E. jumper and former Austrian Army paratrooper, convinced RB management that they should go after a record set by Captain Joe Kittinger, USAF, in 1960. He had skydived from an altitude of 103,000 feet and survived, proving that a pilot in a space suit could successfully eject from a crippled high-flying plane at extreme altitudes and survive. No one had ever broken that record despite several attempts. RB assembled an amazing international team of engineers, scientists, skydivers, pilots, aerospace medical specialists and media people led by Kittinger (at 85) that culminated in Felix jumping from a capsule designed and built by the team and hauled aloft by a huge helium filled balloon to 128,000 feet on October 14th last year at Roswell, NM. Five records were set including the fastest skydive ever (837 mph) and the first time a human had gone supersonic without the help of an airplane (Mach 1.27).

Marle was a member of that team first as a part time technical consultant on high altitude Physics and high speed Aerodynamics, then full time. The final mission was a seminal event for the team and they will all remember the long journey leading up to it. They made history. Eight million people saw it live on TV and one hundred million have seen "Space Dive" on the Discovery and National Geographic channels since.

Marle's talk will be about all the backstories: the team, the technical challenges and solutions, the risks, Felix's meltdown, the Frenchman's Lawsuit, a curious "movie" cult atmosphere superimposed on a challenging engineering effort, and an army of cynics that said we were all crazy (true).



President's Message

By Eric Henderson

Spring is definitely here! For me that means the start of the fly-out and fly-in season, annual inspection and washing all that yellow pollen off of the plane. We are also halfway through our Spring speaker line up. We have been treated to some truly amazing stories by individuals that have helped to define aviation as we know it today.

Earlier this month we heard from one of our members- neighbor, elite mountain climber, skydiver, B.A.S.E. jumper, and of course pilot. Rex gave an adrenaline-filled teaser of his and Melissa's global airshow business. He then provided us with a more in-depth background of himself, the youngest Australian to climb the summits of the world's tallest mountains on all seven continents. It seemed obvious to me that his experiences planning and raising the money for, and then summiting Mt. Everest, have given him a level of confidence and skill few people will ever know. If you missed Rex's presentation, you missed a wonderful talk, unlike very few we have heard at PMLAA before.



The response for better coordination and planning of the potluck side of the meetings has been great! Let's keep it going! Variety is good, and we recognize that food items change with the seasons. Catherine Santa Maria and several of the regular ladies are always willing to help answer questions if you are wondering what would be a good dish to bring next time. We started our cleanup 30 minutes earlier than usual, and it seemed to work well, helping to accommodate those that flew out to Eagle's Nest. Please let me know if you think that time works well for you, or if the 10 AM slot is preferred. I'm always looking for feedback.

Next month we will have the privilege of hearing the first-hand account about the Red Bull Stratus program, lead by our own Marle Hewett. In June we will cap off our Spring speaker program with NASA Astronaut Col. Robert Kimbrough. Kimbrough flew on the STS-126 Endeavour mission, which spent 16 days in orbit. During that time he logged nearly 13 hours of space walk time! July will be a "no-meeting" month, and then we will all have fun at the popular "Block Party" in August.

Airport Improvement Update

By Allen Craig



Because of lack of County and FAA funding for our airport a fundraiser was held in 2010 by PMLAA to raise money to fix some critical runway and taxiway crack and drainage issues. The success of the event has allowed us to spend almost \$34,000 to improve our airport's infrastructure, including \$4,000 spent recently to reseal many new and previously filled cracks.

We are getting ready to repaint the taxi and runway markings as soon as weather permits. Special airport striping paint has already been purchased. Anyone interested in helping with the striping and taxiway marking efforts please contact me at 962-6757.

Thank you again for all who donated so generously in 2010.

Medical Transport Reduced to \$30

By Carol Simpson

Our PMLAA Group rate for Phi Helicopter Ambulance Membership Plan Coverage has just been reduced from \$40 per year to \$30 per year thanks to efforts by Dottie Davis to get more than 100 folks enrolled through our PMLAA Group. For further details, see Dottie's article in the April PML News, or visit the www.pinemountainlake.com website in the "Resource Center" area under "Phi Helicopter Service." Thanks Dottie!

*From the Airports Manager
by Jim Thomas*

Residential Through-The-Fence Update

The airport's gate has broken...again. We recently experienced a problem with the airport access gate. This time it appears that the relay that turns the motor off after the gate opens failed. The failure of the relay caused the motor to continually run until the battery was dead and also caused a limit switch to break. We didn't realize that the relay had failed until we had replaced the battery (which was due for replacement) and replaced the broken switch.

The PML Safety Department does a pretty good job of letting us know when there is a problem with the airport gate. However, we would appreciate anyone experiencing a problem with the gate calling our office because the sooner we find out about a problem the earlier we will be able to fix it.

The main purpose of the gate is to provide convenient access to the airport for our airport tenants. The airport is not intended to be a secure facility because people can park in the parking lot and walk onto the airport. Without a doubt, gates are one of the highest maintenance items at both airports. At PML Airport there is only one gate but at Columbia Airport we have six gates. These seven gates are only one of the things that keep our maintenance guys very busy. It is unlikely that the current airport management will ever recommend additional gates be installed at the airport.

*From the VP Social Affairs
by Catherine Santa Maria*

Cuatro de Mayo!

May 4th is our next meeting which is going to be another exciting one. This month our meeting is the day before Cinco de Mayo so let's plan on bringing dishes that celebrate the occasion. How about enchiladas or tacos or chili Verde or chili Colorado or chili relleno or chili beans, etc. etc. etc.. Be sure to bring enough for 8-10 people. Can you think of a dish that you have always loved and wanted to share? Don't be afraid to include your recipe as we all like to learn something new. The "Margarita Man" AKA Mike Gustafson will be there with his famous margarita machine and of course Jane and Dwaine will be behind the bar as usual helping out.

Set up will be at 10:00AM at the hangar on the day of the event and clean up will be at 10:00AM on the following morning. Come one, come all and help set up and take down for this wonderful event.

*PML Aero Club
by Catherine Santa Maria*

Are you interested in learning how to fly??? Do you have a Pilot's license but no plane to fly?? Are you looking for an instructor to teach you how to fly?? These are questions that can be answered for you by your local PML Aero Club. We are always looking for new members to join the group.

Right now the PML Aero Club is offering a great deal for new prospective members. You can get a three month waiver of your monthly dues just to come try us out and see if you like our wonderful Cessna 172. The annual is completed and the plane is ready to go!

We have been in operation several years now and the Club's plane has been used by prospective new student pilots and well as pilots. Since I have been a member, two members have obtained their pilot's license and seasoned pilots have taken the plane to many exciting places. In addition, some of our pilots have taken young eagles for their first flights at airport day.

We meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month at Larry Jobe's hangar at 10:00AM. If you are interested in joining the group, please give Dennis Smith a call at 209-962-4950 or Jim Goodrich at 209-962-4660.

In Memoriam

Louis (Lou) Elsworth Fricke (Sr.), passed away Saturday, April 13, 2013, after suffering a severe stroke in January 2006. He turned 80 years old this past March. His passions were flying his private airplanes, spending time at his property in Pine Mountain Lake, riding his bicycle every day, his business, everything chocolate! and most of all enjoying time with his grandchildren. He was involved in many organizations including: CONCERN, Boy Scouts of America, Eucharistic Ministry, CCD, Cursillo & Marriage Encounter @ OLPH, as well as working with Orphanages in Mexico. Lou will always be remembered for his hard work, generosity, and love for his family. A Rosary (11:00am) and Mass (11:30am) will be held on **Friday, May 17, 2013** at Saint Kateri Catholic Church on Copperhill in Saugus.



2013 Meeting Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time & Location</u>
May 4	Marle Hewett, RedBull STRATOS	6:00PM Location Peebles Hanger
June 1	NASA Astronaut Robert Kimbrough	6:00PM Location McGowan's Hanger
July	(No Meeting)	
August 10	Block Party	6:00PM Location Outer loop taxiway

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