

Volume 37: Issue 8
September 2022
A Publication of the
Pine Mountain Lake
Aviation Association

Pine Mountain Lake Aviation

Next Meeting / Catered Dinner

Saturday October 1, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Kay Meermans Hangar
Located Mid-Field on the South Taxiway

Get Ready for PML Community Airport Day: October 1

- Virginia Richmond

PMLAA is again inviting the greater Groveland community to Community Airport Day on **October 1**st **from noon – 3:00pm**. This fun and free event is key to developing appreciation and support from the local community for our airport.

As a result of extensive discussions with the County and the insurance company, several aspects of the program have changed. There will be no car vs. plane races, no skydivers, and no flour bombing. As you may know, there was an unfortunate fatality at this year's Columbia Father's Day event, which has led to these changes. We are still able to put on a special event for our local neighbors and encourage them to support our airport.

Air boss Bonnie Ritchey has developed a nice line-up including flying demonstrations, high speed and low-speed demos and formation flying teams. There will also be a spot landing contest and a RC model airplane performance. In addition, we expect lots of cars and planes on display, as well as helicopters and our excellent refreshment service.

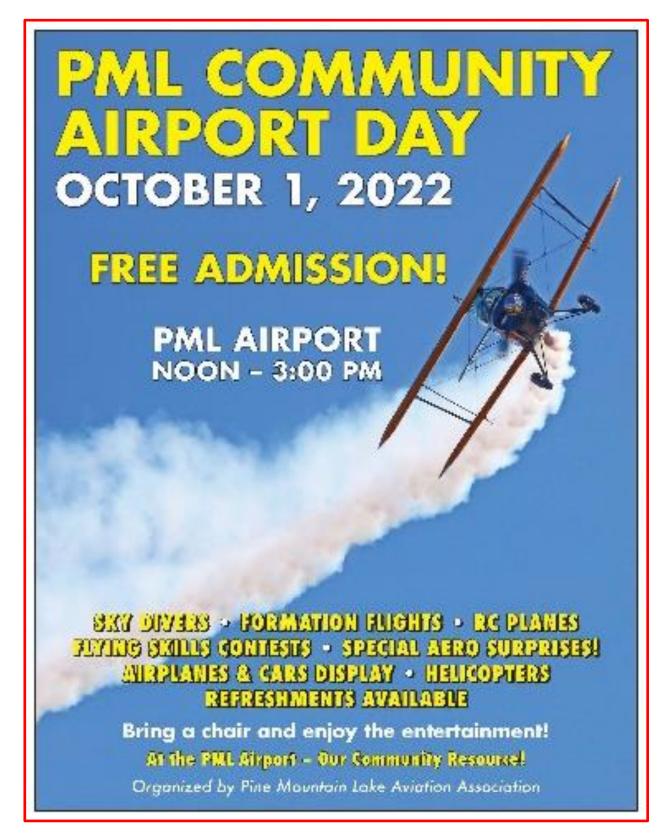
This is an all-hands event for PMLAA members. Get involved. Everyone can do something! You can cook hotdogs, display your aircraft, perform, participate in the flying contest, help with set-up and traffic control, and much more. Specifically, here's where <u>help is needed</u>:

- PML COMMUNITY
 AIRPORT DAY
 OCTOBER 1, 2022
 FREE ADMISSION!
 PML AIRPORT
 NOON 3:00 PM

 822 9978.5 **FORMATIONISTICHTS * RCIPIANS
 2778.0 32813 CONTESTS \$FORMATIONISTICHTS
 WESTERMINES AND SEATOR BELLEOTHES
 WESTERMINES AND SEATOR BELLEOTHES
 WESTERMINES AND SEATOR BELLEOTHES
 WESTERMINES AND SEATOR BELLEOTHES
 AND FEM AND SEATOR 2017 Community Feator 2017 C
- 1. To help with set-up, safety, traffic control, airplane Movements, and car and airplane displays, contact Leon Liebster Leon.Liebster@sbcglobal.net. Set-up begins at 9:00am on October 1.
- 2. Set-up for the dinner is at Kay Meerman's hangar at 3:00pm on Friday, Sept. 30.
- 3. To participate in the spot landing contests, contact Wayne Handley at 962-7868 or wayne.handley@gmail.com.
- 4. To help at the refreshment stand, please contact Krystall Johanson at 209-606-0377 or krystalljoy@yahoo.com.

Please invite your PML friends and neighbors and let them see what a great asset our airport is to the whole community!

Note: This is not a fly-in event.





PLEASE JOIN US FOR

PML AIRPORT DAY DINNER

CATERED
TRI-TIP, CHICKEN,
BEANS, POTATOES, SALAD, ROLLS
\$30

KAY MEERMAN HANGAR 20850 ELDERBERRY WAY OCTOBER 1,2022 6:00 PM

EVITE RSVP REQUIRED by Sept 23rd see link in PMLAA newsletter

Here is the link to RSVP for the catered dinner on Airport Day:

http://evite.me/Dp9QCJxpwF



. Volunteers needed to help on Airport Day for various positions. Please email Krytall Johanson for details and to volunteer: krystalljoy@yahoo.com

President's Message Mike Gustafson

We had an excellent turn-out to hear our September meeting guest speaker. Dr. Dean Winslow provided a very real view of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, from a doctor's perspective. Dr. Winslow also showed lots of in-country photos and photos of the planes he flew in those conflicts. I found his talk extremely interesting and sobering, as did most others. A huge thank you to Krystall and Jason Johanson for hosting the event, and to the set-up and tear-down volunteers.

Our next big event is Airport Day on October 1 from 12:00 to 3:00pm and followed by a special catered dinner at 6:00pm. Unfortunately due to the fatality at Columbia's Father Days Fly-in, the County is re-evaluating all such events and has put our event on hold. Rob Compton, our VP of Airport Affairs is working closely with the County to come up with some way to still have our event. Stay tuned for more information as we work with the County. Regardless of the outcome of the decision on holding Airport Day, we will have a special catered dinner on October 1 at 6:00pm in Kay Meerman's lovely hangar. Mark your calendars and be sure to make your dinner reservations.

On Sunday September 12th we had a Town Hall informational meeting for PML airport stakeholders and other interested parties to provide an update on the airport funding issues. The issue is that four of the current County Supervisors are on record saying they will no longer support providing General Funds for the operation and maintenance of the PML airport as of the 2023 County budget.

Back in June, we formed a committee address this issue and to investigate possible solutions. That committee is made up of Michael Thoben, Rob Compton Jason Johanson, Armin Abusaidi, and myself.

Some of the possible solutions we are researching are:

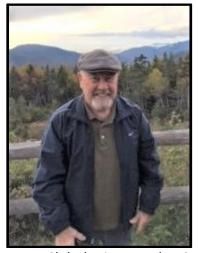
- Educating our Board of Supervisors on the value of Pine Mountain lake Airport
- Taking the airport semi-private where the County continues to own the airport but a nonprofit organization is formed to fund and manage the airport
- Creating a services district within GCSD to fund and operate the airport

Over the next few months we will be asking for help from all of you to send email, letters and phone calls to the Supervisors in support of our airport. We will also be meeting with each of the Supervisors, and we will be creating a list of folks who can attend the Supervisors' semimonthly meeting to speak on our behalf. More on all the above as things develop.

The guest speaker for our November 5th meeting will be Colonel James Wilson (ret.) who was the Commander of the 2852nd Air base Group, McClellan Airforce Base. Colonel Wilson flew 221 tactical reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam, Laos and South Vietnam during 1965 and 1966.

Following his deployment, Colonel Wilson was assigned to the 1st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron at Beal Airforce Base, where he served as an SR-71 pilot and squadrons officer. He flew SR-71 aircraft for four years and was involved with their operation for 12 years. Colonel Wilson with be speaking on SR-71 operations. Watch the November newsletter for more information. Enjoy this cooler weather and keep your fingers crossed for Community Airport Day!

In Memoriam



Our good friend, PMLAA member, Boyz Club denizen, and 172 pilot **Jerry Lynn** has died after a long illness. We remember a kind and generous gentleman.

A celebration of Jerry's exemplary life will be held Friday, October 21 at 11:00am at Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in Big Oak Flat. A reception will follow at the PML Grill.



SEE AND AVOID

By Joe Sobczak



If pressed for an answer, I would have to say maybe the biggest fear in aviation is collision with another airborne object – most likely another aircraft. Quite a few tools have been developed to mitigate that threat, such as Flight Following, Instrument Flight Rules, ADS-B IN, control towers, Mode C transponders, VFR/IFR cruise altitudes, and Common Traffic Advisory frequencies.



But the most important tool ever devised to avoid a mid-air collision with another aircraft has been on board since Orville's first flight: the Mark One, Mod O eyeball.

While I advocate using all the tools available to you to help mitigate the mid-air collision threat, don't assume they will always keep you from swapping aluminum with another aerospace vehicle. Case in point was the recent mid-air collision between a light twin and a Cessna 150 in the pattern at

Watsonville. Both aircraft were broadcasting on the CTAF. The 150 pilot in the pattern was monitoring ADS-B IN and hence was aware of the twin on a straight-in. Sadly, it seems he did not visually acquire the twin, the pilot of the twin did not see him, and his evasive action was too little, too late, to avoid a collision that cost the lives of all on board the two aircraft.

While mid-air collisions enroute do happen, the greatest threat is where a lot of aircraft are using the least airspace: near an airport. The Aeronautical Information Manual offers some excellent guidance on operation in and around the traffic pattern, particularly at uncontrolled fields, and I highly recommend you review it. (Hint: If I conduct your next Flight Review plan to read up on uncontrolled airfield operations ahead of time!)

But wait! If I am IFR or using VFR Flight Following ATC will keep me from hitting another aircraft, right? Wrong. The ONLY obligation that ATC has is the separation of KNOWN IFR TRAFFIC. If you are on an IFR flight plan, there is no guarantee that ATC will keep you clear of VFR traffic. If you are using VFR flight following, traffic avoidance is based on controller workload, and depending on the airspace, the controller may not even be aware of all the aircraft that could be a threat to you. Do use ATC when available as a tool to mitigate the threat, but do not assume they will eliminate the threat. Pro tip: If you are IFR or using flight following, it means nothing to ATC when they call out traffic and you tell them, "Got 'em on the fish finder" (or something like that.) All they want to know is whether you see the traffic with your eyeballs or not.

The FAA is pretty serious about this concept. As a something-teen new CFI, I recommended my first student for his Private Pilot checkride. This student had vision in only one eye, so was required to demonstrate that this impairment did not adversely affect safety. It's called a Statement of Demonstrated Ability (SODA). Though he flew an excellent checkride, the examiner failed him because he did not actively look outside and look around for other aircraft. As my WWII fighter pilot Uncle Henry used to tell his students: "Keep your head on the swive!"

As you gaze out into the sky, looking for possible conflicting traffic, consider this: your focus automatically adjusts to just a few inches in front of your eyes. To keep your focus at (or near) infinity (where your orbs are best equipped to pick up another aircraft) periodically focus on a distant object. This will give you the best chance of seeing any traffic that may be out there.



The AIM also spells out the right of way rules. But never assume the other pilot will follow those rules. When I was teaching my kids to fly, we emphasized visual lookout at all times. "Clear right, turn right." But when turning final in the traffic pattern, it's "Clear LEFT, turn RIGHT," because an aircraft flying a straight-in is probably your biggest threat.

Since I started flying, the avionics available for general aviation aircraft has been revolutionary. But using your avionics comes with an important caution: Don't let the gee-whiz displays keep you so preoccupied you compromise your lookout for other traffic.

Finally, the "See and Avoid" concept also means "See AND BE SEEN." Be sure all your lights are on and make timely, appropriate, concise position reports for other aircraft that may be in the area. If you are aware of other traffic that is trying to see you, "flash" them with an exaggerated wing rock to help them pick you up. This is a technique that I learned as a new fighter pilot in the F-15 a long time ago. And if you have an airshow smoke system as some of us do, one puff is worth a thousand glances.

Fly safe and have fun!

Joe



Sign the Petition

As you know from Mike's recent email, the County's funding for maintenance and operations at our airport is in jeopardy. One our many efforts to educate and persuade the Board of Supervisors is a petition, which was circulated at the recent PMLAA meeting, and will be circulated at Community Airport Day as well. Please be sure you have signed the petition and urge your friends and neighbors to add their names.



Name	Address	Signature

Pine Mountain Lake Airport Funding Issues

Here is an update for all PMLAA members on the potential funding issues PML Airport is currently facing.

At the Airport Stake-Holders Town Hall meeting last Sunday, we covered how we arrived at the current funding problems. In case you missed it, four of the current county supervisors have gone on record opposing any future funding for PML Airport. Our County supervisor, Kathleen Haff, is solidly in our corner as are the county administrator and the director of public works. Nevertheless, our budget is clearly in jeopardy next year.

PMLAA formed a committee earlier this summer to help lead our efforts. The committee includes Michael Thoben, Jason Johanson, Armin Abusaidi and Mike Gustafson. Our first priority is to educate the four County supervisors. Here are our recommendations on next steps. We will need volunteers for each activity.

1. Educating County Board of Supervisors:

We hope to have one or two fully briefed folks meet with each of the Supervisors to present factual information on the "Hows and Whys" of PML Airport. These meeting will need to be calm and rational, with lots of facts, no table pounding allowed! For example, here are some key facts:

- The airport is not private (as some Supervisors may think), it is public.
- The airport is used by the flying public for refueling, landing and visiting the attractions along the Hwy 120 corridor.
- Residents commute from their home in Groveland to work daily or weekly.
- The airport is used for Medical Evacuation helicopters such as PHI.
- It is an invaluable staging airport for CalFire Helicopters, such as during the Rim Fire. It has also been used as a staging area including eating and sleeping for ground fire crews.
- Other examples that you might come up with??

2. Attend Board Meetings:

Attend the bi-monthly Supervisors meeting and present our case in a positive way during each meeting's three-minute Open Forum.

- We need 6 or 8 folks for this job, so they can rotate meeting dates. We do not want the same person going every week!
- Of course, as we proceed, we will need to evaluate how well it is working and we might change our message to adapt to lessons learned.
- This will probably start later this Fall.

3. Petitions in support of properly funding Pine Mountain lake Airport:

At some point in the new budget cycle we will present our petitions in support of properly funding the Pine Mountain Lake Airport.

- First, we need several people to tote a copy of the petition around and get signatures. Just have the petition with you and when you bump into friends, ask for their help.
- It is not as hard as you think; in under a week I have collected almost 100 signatures. We will give a blank copy of the petition to anyone who can help. We're starting now.

These are some of the ideas we're planning to educate and perhaps change the minds of the four Supervisors who plan to vote against properly funding PML airport. If the education process does not work, we may have to develop different strategies such as creating a special aviation district within GCSD or funding and managing the airport privately. We will cross those bridges if and when, the time comes. In the mean time, the committee plans to continue to investigate options that other airports are moving towards that are in similar defunding situations.

In order for this education program to be successful we need you to get involved; this is not the time to hang back. This is your airport we are trying to save! Please contact any one of us on the committee and see how you can help.

Thanks for your support as we work this important process,

Michael, Rob, Jason, Armin and Mike
The committee to solve the funding issues for PML airport

Oshkosh By Gosh

As noted in the last issue of the PMLAA Newsletter, there were many Pine Mountain residents at Oshkosh this year. So in addition to Dianne Cole, Lynne and Ken Orloff, here is a more comprehensive list.

Ed Gregory

Janet Gregory

Ken Talovich

Rob Compton

Nathan Ahrens

Isaac Ahrens

Jason Johanson

Krystall Johanson

Jonas Johanson

Alan Guidenti

Yuni Guidenti

Randy Barber

Marie barber

Clay Lacy

Emma Jones

Luis Corominas

Laura Stengel

Armin Abusaidi

Peggy Abusaidi

Joe Sobszac

Nancy Mora

Leo Mora

Jeff Benzing

Vicky Benzing

Robert Pearson

Martha Pearson

Thanks to Krystall Johanson for the comprehensive list of attendees, a summary of their trip and the following pictures. (Ed.)

A lot of PML folks attended OSH 2022. Here are some photos from the event, groups there and the travels to and from in our Cessna 404. Our route there on July 24 was PML to Evanston, Wyoming, then Yankton, South Dakota and then Osh. On the flight home on July 30th, we stopped at Sparta (fort McCoy), North Platte, then at the highest paved airport in North America (Leadville Colorado) and then landed at the lowest, furnace creak in Death Valley and finally gone to PML. It was so much fun!

















What a fun trip!



Stock photo





EAA Flight Deck

By Ed Gregory

No Report this month

2022 Meeting Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time & Location</u>
Oct 1, 2022	PML Open House/ Catered Dinner	6 pm Kay Meermans Hangar
Nov 5, 2022	Col. James Wilson SR-71 Pilot	6 pm Jason & Krystall Johanson Hangar
Dec 3, 2022	Christmas Party	6 pm Alan & Yuni Gaudenti Hangar

2022 Aviation Calendar

January	1 – New Year's Day
Januar ,	1 – Happy New Year! NO PMLAA Meeting in January
	1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February	1 – Chinese New Year – Year of the Tiger
•	2 – Groundhog Day
	5 – PMLAA Meeting
	5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	13 – Superbowl Sunday
	14 – Valentine's Day
	21 – President's Day
March	5 – PMLAA Meeting
	5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	13 – Daylight Savings Time Begins (Clock springs forward)
	17 – St. Patrick's Day
	20 – Vernal Equinox 15:33 UTC – First Day of Spring
April	2 – PMLAA Meeting
	2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	9 Celebration of Life for Jim "JT" Thomas at Placerville Airport 10-1p
	RSVP to catboats@gmail.com
	17 – Easter Sunday
	22 – Earth Day,
	31 – Partial Eclipse of the Sun- visible from southeast Pacific & southern South America
May(4 – Star Wars Day – May the fourth be with you
	5 – Cinco de Mayo
	7 – PMLAA Meeting
	7-8 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	7 Warbirds Wing sand Wheels, Paso Robles Airport (PRB)7a-4p
	8 – Mother's Day
	14 Travis AFB Wings over Solano Airshow, CA w/ Vicky Benzing
	16 – Eclipse of the Moon- visible from Americas, Europe, Africa
	20-22 Gathering of Luscombs at Columbia Airport (022)
	20-22 Oregon International Airshow w/ Vicky Benzing
	24 Food Truck Fly-in at San Martin (E16), CA

	30 – Memorial Day
June	4 – PMLAA Meeting
	4-5 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	4 Eagle Field Dinner Dance Fly-in, Eagle Field (CL01) Dos Palos, CA
	14 – Super Moon - Full Moon nearly at Perigee
	18-19 – Columbia Airport (O22) Father's Day Fly-In , stay tuned
	19 – Father's Day
	21 – Summer Solstice 09:14 UTC – First Day of Summer
	25 Sentry Eagle Exercise & Open House, Klamath Falls, OR w/ Vicky Benzing
July	2 – NO PMLAA Meeting in July
,	2-3 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	2-3 GIG Harbor Wings & Wheels Airshow, WA w/Vicky Benzing
	4 – Independence Day
	4 Tacoma Freedom Fair AirshowWA w/ Vicky Benzing
	13 – Super Moon - Full Moon nearly at Perigee
	16 Boundry Bay Airshow BC w/Vicky Benzing
	25-31 – EAA AirVenture, OSH, Oshkosh, WI w/ Vicky Benzing
August	6 – PMLAA Taxiway Party, Hot August Nights
August	6-7 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	7 – Friendship Day
	20-21 Wings over Camarillo Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing
September	3-4 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
September	5 – Labor Day
	10- PMLAA Meeting, Dr Dean Winslow, From Bagram to Baghdad and Back Again
	10-18 – National Championaship Air Races at RTS, Reno, NV w/Vicky Benzing
	23 – Autumnal Equinox 01:04 UTC – First Day of Autumn/Fall
	23-25 MCAS Miramar Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing
October	1 – PMLAA Airport Appreciation Day, 11:30-3:00
Octobei	1 – PMLAA Meeting
	1-2 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	11 – Columbus Day
	,
	15-16 Edwards AFB Airshow, CA w/Vicky Benzing
	25 – Partial Eclipse of the Sun- visible from Europe, NE Africa, Middle East, W Asia
Navanahan	31 - Halloween
November	4-6 Nellis AFB Airshow,w/Vicky Benzing
	5 - PMLAA Meeting
	5-6 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	6 – Daylight Savings Time Ends (Clocks fall back)
	8 – Total Eclipse of the Moon- visible from Asia, Australia, Pacific, Americas
	11 – Veterans Day
_	24 – Thanksgiving Day
December	3 – PMLAA Holiday Party
	3-4 – E45 Airport Display Day, 8:00-4:00, sign off at 12:00
	7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
	21 – Winter Solstice 21:48 UTC – First Day of Winter
	25 – Christmas Day
	31 – New Year's Eve

Board	OF OFFICERS &	COMMITTEE CHAIRS – 2022	
OFFICERS President, Mike Gustafson	209-962- 6336	COMMITTEE CHAIRS Property, Ed Peters	962-6267
VP, Airport Affairs, Rob Compton VP, Social Affairs, Krystal Johanson	962-6503 209-606- 0377	Multimedia, Phil Hickerson Membrshp/Rostr, Nancy Mora	962-6714 209-777- 5558
Secretary, Nancy Mora	209-777- 5558	Airports Manager, Benedict Stuth	533-5685
Treasurer, Patricia Gibson	treasurer @pmlaa. org	Display Day Coordinator Rob Compton	962-6503
Email: president@pmlaa.org or board@pmlaa.org	0.9	Safety, Mike Gustafson & Joe Sobczak	
Phone prefix is 209 unless otherwise	indicated	Newsletter, Dianne Cole Webmaster, Jeremy Zawodny	962-6397 408-685- 5936





Pine Mountain Lake Aviation Association

2022 Fundraising Request



PMLAA Fundraising Directive: PMLAA has restarted monthly gatherings, in addition to Airport Day, Hot August Nights, the Christmas Party, an air race, flour bombing and Spot Carrier Landing events. Due to a change in some rules governing our organization we can no longer hold 50/50 raffles. This was our biggest fund-raising event and earned us on average \$3500 per year; it proves a great loss and hardship on the club. With Covid for two years curtailing our events we now find ourselves in a monetary shortfall. To meet our budget this year, we must raise \$3000. So far, we have met 25% of this goal. If every family could contribute \$25, we would quickly make this up. Unfortunately, many families are unable to afford that, so we ask those who can - contribute of \$50-\$100. We will look at other fundraising opportunities later in the year, but this is a necessary ask in order to keep the annual membership cost low. Thank you for your consideration.

PMLAA Scholarship: In 2005 PMLAA established a Scholarship Fund with \$3,500 for the purpose of promoting interest and ability in Aviation or STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.) Over the years awards of up to \$500 each have been given to some 25 applicants. It is a wonderful legacy for our aviation community. Currently, the account balance is below \$3,000 and we would like to raise an additional \$2,250.

Fun	draising Directive	(\$50-\$100 suggested)	\$
Sch	olarship Fund	(\$25-\$50 suggested)	\$
тот	'AL enclosed		\$
Name			
	g Address:		

Thank you for the generous support of our programs.