



MDPA *news*

Jan 2002 Concord, CA 925-685-7073 Volume 29 Issue 1

Happy New Year Fellow Aviators

by Dennis Byron, MDPA President

Meeting Notice

Date:	Jan. 19, 2002
Place:	MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner:	6:00 p.m.
Program:	Installation of Officers
Board Meeting:	Jan. 24, 2002
Next Meeting:	Feb. 15, 2002

Welcome to the new year. I would like to start off by thanking everyone for all the help during the past 2 years in making our dinners and events successful. I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Lynne McWilliams for being such an excellent president and role model last year. She has done a great deal in adding new life into our club.

We start off this new year with a great deal of anticipation and hope for the future. This past year general aviation has faced some of the toughest challenges since the Wright Brother's flight almost 100 years ago. Locally we were challenged by the likes of People over Planes and the Citizens for a Better Diablo Valley. They tried to derail the funding for the master plan but ultimately lost out to overwhelming odds. The terrorist attacks on New York and Washington DC has had far reaching effects which are still lingering. We may never see the complete openness of the skies which we once enjoyed.



The Airport Advisory Committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Airport Manager's office.

We also had some triumphs, thrills and fun. Our annual BBQ was attended by over 200 people from the local area. It was a great opportunity for us to show how beneficial and fun aviation was. My hats off to all who assisted with this great event. We are planning the same for this year. Our 25th anniversary was a huge success. What a great time we had with all the hangar flying and just getting to know everyone. We participated with the EAA and their Young Eagle's program in October and assisted in helping launch 75 kids into the sky. And finally our holiday dinner and gift exchange. We had a ball in Vacaville, flew to a private winery, Mexico, Hyampom, Harris Ranch and sailed into Pine Mountain Lake.

This year will be just as exciting. We have a great new cadre of board members who are very interested in continuing last year's momentum. We are still looking for an energetic and enthusiastic volunteer to take on the fun role of membership. Please contact any of the board members if your are interested or you have a recommendation.

Plans for this year include another BBQ open to the public, working with The Airport Coalition in promoting aviation, a possible airport day with other organizations, more great destinations, dinners, speakers, Young Eagles support and of course our Holiday event and many other fun and exciting ways to use your license.

If you're not currently a member...

Join MDPA!

MDPA membership has many benefits, including discounts on tie-downs, fuel, and services. Dues are \$120 and should be sent to:

MDPA
P.O. Box 273073
Concord, CA 94520

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Visit our Web site at <http://www.mdpa.org>

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- 12 **Clubhouse Appreciation Day:** 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the clubhouse
- 12 **Lunch Bunch Fly-in:** depart 11:00 a.m. weather permitting.
- 15 **Airport Advisory Committee Meeting** at the Airport Manager's office
- 19 **MDPA Crab/Steak Feed and Installation of Officers:** At the clubhouse. Socializing starts at 6 p.m. RSVP by January 15th to Bob Lively at 925-798-1028 or bnclively@msn.com. **Note this is on a Saturday!**
- 24 **MDPA Board Meeting** 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse

FEBRUARY

- 9 **Clubhouse Appreciation Day:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the clubhouse
- 9 **Lunch Bunch Fly-in:** depart 11:00 a.m. weather permitting.
- 15 **MDPA General Meeting:** At the clubhouse. Dinner starting at 6 p.m. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.
- 28 **MDPA Board Meeting** 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse

FUTURE EVENTS

- Mar 23 **Lunch Fly-Out to Harris Ranch** Contact Jon McWilliams, 925-516-1840.
 - Apr 20 **Columbia Jaunt** Details soon!
 - May 25 **Memorial Day Weekend Trip to Baja** Contact Bill Landstra, 510-524-9022
 - Jun 22 **Grass Valley Gold Mine Tour** Contact Patrick Miller, 925-685-3354.
 - Jul 13 **Summer BBQ** Details soon!
 - Aug 31 **Labor Day Weekend to Moab UT** Contact Jon McWilliams, 925-516-1840.
- Plus Groveland/PML, Hyampom, Pitt River Lodge, etc. etc. etc.

MDPA Holiday Dinner Recap

by Mike Krever

My son Jay and I arrived a bit late...about 7:50 pm. Sally Ride drive was very dark that night and we missed the driveway that turns in to the clubhouse. After floundering around Sally Ride Drive for about ten minutes I finally got my bearings (hope that's a good indication that I'm pilot material) and found the clubhouse.

After we found a couple of empty seats several people eagerly directed us to the buffet area. We helped ourselves to what turned out to be a delicious pork loin roast, salad and mashed potatoes. I had a piece of some terrific cheese cake for dessert.

After dinner Jon McWilliams took the mike and hosted what turned out to be a truly delightful gift exchange. Jon's wife Lynne, our outgoing president, was hobbled with a badly sprained ankle. This was the first time I'd participated in a gift exchange where the object was to "steal" gifts from one another.

We were each randomly issued numbers which identified the order in which we were to choose a gift from under the tree. The gift was opened at that time for all to see. Some gifts inevitably were the most popular. These were the one's that were continuously being "stolen". By far the most popular gift was a basket of fine wines and wine glasses. I didn't count how many times it was stolen but it was certainly a bunch.

My number was 33. This was close to the last but it wasn't the last. Because of that I knew had no hope of taking home the wine basket. However, one of the gifts was a large jar of pistachio nuts....my favorite. It had already been stolen once, but with the wine basket in play I thought I had a pretty good chance at it. When my turn came I stole it. Luckily it held out to the end! I went home a happy man. An enjoyable evening indeed!

Treasurer's Report

Because we did not have a regular business meeting in December, there are no minutes. Here, however, is the Treasurer's report as given by Dianne Cole at the December Board meeting:

We have approximately \$4000 in the bank. We have 24 renewals in as of the 27th of December which is about 25% of the membership. Invoices are going out this week to members who have not yet re-

newed. We will issue membership cards this year to assist members in obtaining their member benefits such as discounts on fuel and services. The cards will also have popular frequencies and phone numbers on them for easy reference. February 15th is the PSA fuel discount cut off day for non-renewals. The first janitorial service we hired did not work out and we are looking at bids for other alternatives.

It's dues renewal time!
The best time of the year to bring in a new member!

Mailing Address

MDPA
P. O. Box 273073
Concord, CA 94520

MDPA Officers

President:

Dennis Byron 925-934-1750
president@mdpa.org

VP Activities:

Steve Wise 925-376-9018
activities@mdpa.org

VP Programs (co-chairs):

Chris Rossi 925-634-5211
Lynne McWilliams 925-516-1840
programs@mdpa.org

VP Membership:

--OPEN--
membership@mdpa.org

VP Facilities:

Bob Lively 925-798-1028

VP Communications:

Nancy Miller 925-685-3354
webmaster@mdpa.org

Secretary:

Mary Byron 925-934-1750

Treasurer:

Dianne Cole 510-758-2325
treasurer@mdpa.org

Director at Large:

Brian Enbom 925-687-2947

Past President:

Lynne McWilliams 925-516-1840

Motivator:

Bob Lively 925-798-1028

Airport Advisory:

Dave Evans 925-254-6719

Dinner Coordinator:

Maurice Gunderson 925-254-8347

Safety Chairman:

Stewart Bowers 925-254-0804

European Operations:

Daniel Meredith

Articles and photographs for the newsletter should be e-mailed to webmaster@mdpa.org.

MDPA Annual Crab & Steak Feed

Featuring 2002 Installation of Officers

As is our custom, MDPA is once again ready to ease out of the holiday gluttony by indulging in the Annual Crab and Steak Feed and Installation of Officers Dinner. Or is that Annual Official Steak Feed and Installation of Crabs? Whatever, it's time.

Two years ago, we had too many people and not enough food. Last year, we had extra food and were left selling nickel bags of crab in an attempt to bring the dinner to the break even point. This year, understandably, we're requiring RSVPs, which should go AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to Bob Lively. We need to have a firm head count no later than January 15.

The cost of this year's fete will be \$25, which includes tasty crab legs, sizzling steak, and all the trimmings.

Our dinner program will be the

installation of officers for 2002. Rumor has it that George Ann Garms, our outgoing secretary, will give the Safety Presentation on proper loading of a garbage disposal.

RSVP today to Bob Lively at 925-798-1028 or by e-mail to bnclively@msn.com.

RSVP Today!



Spring on Down to Harris Ranch

Get your calendars out and mark March 23rd for a lunch fly-in to Harris Ranch. That is the first Saturday in spring. Plan to arrive around 11:30. If you have been to Harris Ranch you'll be familiar with their extensive (and delicious) menu. It is an easy flight down the San Joaquin Valley. If you have a spare seat, or need a ride, please let Jon

McWilliams know, so that everyone who would like to go will be able to attend. Contact Jon McWilliams at (925) 516-1840 or e-mail 104726.71@compuserve.com.

Editor's note: This trip, on St. Patrick's day last year, had a tremendous turn out and was greatly enjoyed by all.

President's Message

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We will be setting up committees for the major events, the BBQ, Airport Day, Young Eagles support and community outreach and the Holiday Party. If you are interested in

chairing any of these let us know.

I look forward to 2002 and moving toward the 100 year anniversary of the Wright Brother's flight in 2003. Let's keep em flying.