



MDPA news

January , 2006 Concord, CA 925-685-7073 Volume 33 Issue 1

Meeting Notice

Date: February 17th
Place: MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner: 6:30PM
Program 7:00PM
Board Meeting: TBD
Next Meeting: March 17



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Rain, Rain and more Rain, what a way to start the New Year. Most of the North Bay is flooded, mud is everywhere and damage is in the millions. How did MDPA do? The clubhouse didn't leak, there was no water damage to the building so it looks good there. Some of the Northwest hangars got flooded when the drains couldn't handle the heavy rain. There was no major loss or damage and it was probably time to get rid of some of that stuff in the hangar anyway! Just call it an early spring cleaning. I have not heard any of our members say they had flood damage in their homes or businesses. So it looks like MDPA and it's members have survived the major rains in good shape.

The Concord Airport Master Plan steering committee held meetings to discuss the future plans for the airport. MDPA members made their comments and provided input to the committee. About the only constant in all the plans was that CCR would continue to grow and the traffic count would increase, so it looks like we will have an airport for a long time. Since many alternatives were presented we will have a presentation at the February meeting to cover the future of CCR according to the steering committee.

Membership in MDPA looks good for 06. About 2/3s of you have renewed for 06. One of our big membership benefits is the fuel discount that PSA gives to MDPA members, if you don't renew that benefit expires on Feb. 15th so please sign up

soon. If we can increase our membership we can decrease our dues, so I propose everyone bring at least one prospective member to one of our dinners and try to increase our membership.

Another big advantage in membership is participation in Club trips. At the February meeting we will have a list of the trips we are planning this year. If you are interested in hosting (leading) a trip let Pat Miller know when and where you would like to go. January's trip, a lunch run to Los Banos for fried chicken, was weathered out, booo. Rescheduled for February so get ready. This year we are going to go somewhere on the third Saturday of each month - so mark your calendar and be ready to go!

We need a dinner coordinator, someone to schedule who is doing the dinner, what we will be eating and who will bring what. The coordinator doesn't have to do the dinners just plan them. This would be great training for a job as an event planner. If you are interested please contact me at tydow@comcast.net. Also remember if you have a little extra time before or after a dinner, your help is always appreciated in setting up chairs and prepping for the dinner and in cleaning up. The dinner is for everyone one to enjoy and everyone should help out in

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 (\$60 for half-year beginning July 1) and should be sent to:

MDPA
PO BOX 273073
Concord, Ca 94520

MDPA Mailing Address

PO Box 273073
Concord, CA 94520

MDPA Officers

President:

Vince Siebern 415- 897-0861
president@mdpa.org

VP Activities:

Patrick Miller 925-685-3354
activities@mdpa.org

VP Programs:

Paul Hunter 925 938-7720
programs@mdpa.org

VP Communications:

Dave Evans 925-300-6437
communications@mdpa.org

Treasurer/Membership:

John Levy 925-937-3444
treasurer@mdpa.org
membership@mdpa.org

Facilities Manager

Bill Ludwig 925-798-3296
facilities@mdpa.org

Secretary:

Fran Schlatter & Dan Dulava
925-285-2007
secretary@mdpa.org

Director at Large:

Bob Belshe 925-376-7677
atlarge@mdpa.org

Past President:

Richard Roberts 925-939-0173
pastpres@mdpa.org

Aviation Advisory Committee

Russ Roe 925-228-0138

Safety/Maintenance:

Stewart Bowers 925-254-0804

Web / Newsletters :

Patrick Miller 925-685-3354
Dave Evans 925-300-6437

Steve Kennedy 925-370-0828

webmaster@mdpa.org

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

some way.

Winter flying is always a challenge. Just starting the plane is harder. You have to prime the thing more get more fuel in the cylinder and then hope it doesn't backfire. If it does remember to keep cranking it to suck the fire back in the engine. Weather is a constant problem, do we go or not go, can we get back to CCR? Always check weather and check it often as it will change quickly. Now if you own a Garmin 396 you can have the weather at your fingertips and on the screen in minutes. So go see Sterling or PSA and ask for a demonstration of what the latest avionics will do for you.

Feb 3rd Joe Canciamilla is holding a crab feed fund raiser. Tickets are \$35.00. MDPA will match the first five dinners purchased. Contact Richard Roberts for tickets and directions.

Russ Roe fixed the power in the way back room where our beverage fridge is. Thank you Russ.

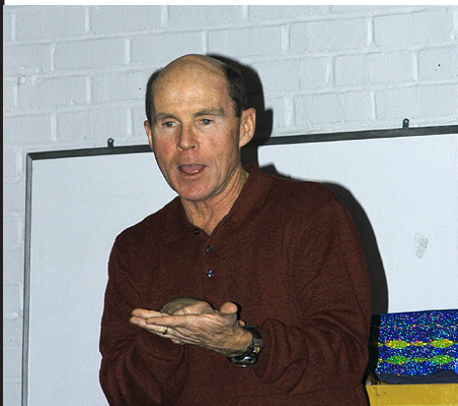
Keep the blue side up!

Vince

Remember to Pay Your Dues!
It's our main Source of INCOME!

Annual Crab Feed

Crab feed hardly describes what we had this month. We did have fresh crab. We also had tri tip that was barbecued by Pat & Richard until it was perfect. Throw in some sour dough bread and salad, wash all that down with some good wine and you have one hella crab feed. About fifty people attended the dinner and all had a good time.



What made the dinner extra special was the camaraderie. Richard introduced the new president, Vince and he kept his speech very short so we

could start to eat. And eat we did, almost 100 pounds of crab, 9 or 10 tri tips and buckets of salad. Just as people started in on the desert, pies & cheese cake, Vince started the "roast" of Richard. First, there was something about GPS loading errors and being lost over Nevada. It only



took Richard twenty minutes to find where they were and locate Soldiers Meadow. Vince had the map and he was lost too. Brian remembered Richards old Commander and how happy Richard was to be in his Bonanza, Brian also fondly remembered his old Bonanza. Bill recalled a trip to Baja where a local had Richard really wound up. And on it went, member after member telling a tale about some time when Richard did something good, funny or silly. Richard of course, had something to say about everyone of the speakers or events so everyone got roasted a little. All these roasts



ended by the speakers saying Richard had done a great job as president, he got the club in good financial condition, increased the membership and made the meetings fun to attend. Richard, we all thank you and Kathy.



I want to thank all the people that helped out last year, so thank you. A special thanks to Pat Miller for his work on the newsletter and all his help at the dinners. We couldn't have gone on those trips if not for Bill Lanstra. Not only did he plan the trips but he let members stay in his house in La Paz so many thanks Bill & Sue.

MDPA hosted an informational meeting to discuss aircraft painting on Jan 30th. It was a good meeting.

Next dinner will be Feb 17th, hope to see you there.

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STEVE FOSSETT PREPARES TO SET NEW WORLD RECORD

Steve Fossett, who stopped by CCR this past year with his Vickers-Vimy on the way to Ireland, is at it again. With any luck, he will set off from the Kennedy Space Flight Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, later this month to attempt to set a new world's record for the longest distance without landing in the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer, the same aircraft in which he successfully circumnavigated the globe (covering a distance of 20,373 miles in March of 2005).

This time, he plans to circumnavigate the globe from west to east, before crossing the Atlantic for a second time, landing in Kent, England, south of London. In so doing he will cover approximately 29,000 miles in around 90 hours, flying at 45,000 ft and traveling at speeds in excess of 250 knots.

If you're interested in following the flight, a dedicated web site, www.virginatlanticglobalflyer.com, will provide updates and details of the record attempt including an unprecedented level of live communication from the aircraft during the flight itself.

Good luck to Steve in this pioneering effort from MDPA.



GOOD TURN OUT FOR PAINT SEMINAR



Over 20 people from MDPA and EAA turned out, Monday, January 30th, to hear from Arden Fischer of Artisan Aircraft, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

In the area to drum up some business his new, state of the art, paint shop Arden adeptly fielded questions on every aspect of the task of painting airplanes from stripping and preparation to the final application of paint and his 20 years of experience in the business really showed.

Thanks to everyone who showed up to make this an interesting and informative talk. If you

missed the talk, you can get further information on Artisan Aircraft from their web site at <http://artisanaircraft.aero>

STERLING FLIGHT



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**February is the month for love - what do we love?
We love the fact that Buchanan is here to stay.
We love the news that our airport is expanding.
We love the dreams and determination of Steve Fossett
and wish him success, once again, for his "Ultimate Flight."**

Watch out London, here he comes!

Pacific States Aviation

Mt. Diablo Pilots Association
PO Box 273073
Concord, CA 94520

Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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Address Correction Requested