



# MDPA news

March 2007 Concord, CA 925-685-7073 Volume 34 Issue 3

## Meeting Notice

Date:	March 16 , 2007
Place:	MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner:	6:30PM
Program:	7:00PM
Board Meeting:	None

## President's Message

March 07

By Vince Siebern

Enclosed you will find our financial statements for last year. We didn't do to bad; we even have a little money left over! Our budget for 07 says we will have about \$300.00 profit for 07 if we stay on budget, but there is always some thing that requires money to be spent. So I am asking those of you that are computer literate to drop us a line and cancel your *mailed* news letter, you can still get the news letter from the web site, in fact, we will send an e-mail letting everyone know when it is done. If you do go to the electronic newsletter we will save the printing and postage, which will help the budget.

Our dinner was a real success. Diane did a great job preparing the honey mustard chicken and the cranberry chicken. It must have been good because we ran out of chicken! Why did we run out? Well, on Thursday we noted that only about thirty of you had RSVP'd. So plans were made for thirty-five diners. Well, a lot more showed up and we ran out. To help us plan please let us know if you are going to attend a little sooner. After the dinner our guest speaker, Dan Sorokin, a radio personality at KSFO during the 60's and 70's delighted us with stories of his around the world trip. He was great!! What an inspirational speaker and man. Dan, who is 80, recently became a certified instrument instructor!! I just hope to still be alive at 80, not a CFII.

No one is signing up for trips. We have a bunch of trips planned. To see them go to MDPA.org and on the first page on the left hand side it says "trips for 07" click on that and let me know which trip you are going to take. The Copper Canyon trip won't happen this year and is being held over to next year. So mark your calendars for March or April of next year to see the Mexican Grand Canyon. Enough of next year. Sign up for trips this year. One other item about trips and I will quit. I have murdered one of our member's names. Her name is spelled **Jeanna** and I apologize for all the misspelling of her name. Jeanna has volunteered to lead two trips so sign up please.

Speaking of trips. A couple of weeks ago Diane and I flew to Half Moon Bay for lunch. It's a very short trip even if you fly around the TCA. The weather was great, the view was fantastic but the lunch was even better. After lunch we walked down to the pier and purchased some live crab from one of the local fishing boats. That crab tasted great. I recommend that trip to everyone. Park at the far South end of the field and it is just a short walk into town.

See ya at the March 16<sup>th</sup> dinner, don't forget to wear your green.

Keep the blue side up.  
Vince Siebern

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Articles and photographs for the  
 newsletter should be e-mailed to

Newsletter@mdpa.org

**MDPA Mission Statement**

The Mount Diablo Pilots' Association is a non-profit organization based at Buchanan field in Concord, California (KCCR). There are many benefits to joining the club. The purposes of the Mount Diablo Pilots' Association are:

- To promote good public relations between general aviation enthusiasts and the local community.
- To encourage participation in fly-ins and other aviation activities.
- To promote safety and educational activities for pilots.
- To provide mutual resources of information on flying for members.
- To furnish information and support to the Contra Costa Airport Advisory Committee and other governmental agencies concerned with aviation.
- To be a proxy on aviation matters of community concern for its membership.

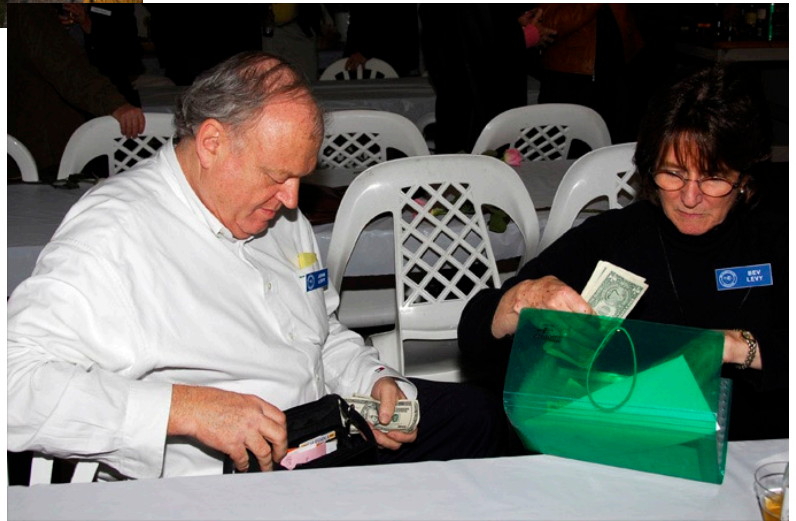
Meetings are held the third Friday of each month at the MDPA clubhouse, 200 Sally Ride Drive, Concord, CA 94583. We have a dinner followed by a safety presentation and speaker. There is a small charge if you are eating dinner. The clubhouse is located on the west ramp of Buchanan Field . If you're flying in, just ask ground control for progressive taxi to MDPA. If coming by car, check out our driving directions on our web site at [www.mdpa.org](http://www.mdpa.org)

Our Feb. Dinner  
 By Vince Siebern

Honey mustard chicken and cranberry chicken over rice with salad and some good wine!! That is what Diane Siebern cooked up for MDPA last month and it must have been good because we ate it all. About forty-five of us attended the monthly dinner and the diners were treated to something unusual for us the past several years. We had a guest speaker! Dan Sorkin, a radio personality from the 60's and 70's talked about radio, flying and his love of flying. Dan took us around the world on one of his radio promotions that saw him circumnavigate the globe in 40 days. His description of the trip from Hawaii to the US was particularly exciting, you could feel the apprehension about the over gross weight takeoff , the fear of not knowing your position over the ocean (It is a 2500 mile trip with only one fix) and the joy on seeing the coast of America. Talk about a club trip!! Where do I sign up. I want to thank Diane for the excellent dinner and Maureen for convincing her friend Dan into talking to us about his love of flying.



Maureen Bell and Guest Speaker Dan Sorkin



John and Bev Levy  
Your Treasurer at Work



Captain Brian Enbom



Listening to Dan Sorkin

**MT. DIABLO PILOTS ASSOCIATION**

Financial Presentation for the year to date  
December 2006

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**ASSETS**

101 U. S. Bank-Checking 11,491.26  
TOTAL ASSETS 11,491.26

**LIABILITIES**

241 PREPAID DUES 3,565.00  
TOTAL LIABILITIES 3,565.00

**EQUITIES**

398 FUND BALANCE AT 1/1/06 4,916.16  
**YEAR TO DATE ACTIVITY 3,010.10**  
CURRENT EQUITY 7,926.26  
0.00

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES**

**REGULAR INCOME**

411 DUES - INDIVIDUALS 10,484.88  
415 DUES - CORPORATE 500.00  
431 CLUBHOUSE USE 650.00  
491 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION 124.12  
495 INTEREST INCOME 14.21  
499 MISCELLANEOUS 526.00  
TOTAL REGULAR INCOME 12,299.21

**EVENTS**

501 DINNERS 7,988.50  
505 DINNER FOOD & SUPPLIES 3,714.87  
NET DINNERS 4,273.63  
510 BEVERAGE SALES 1,383.45  
515 BEVERAGE PURCHASES 364.18  
NET BREAKFAST 1,019.27  
520 BREAKFAST INCOME 458.00  
525 BREAKFAST PURCHASES 77.85 380.15  
NET EVENT INCOME 5,673.05

**EXPENDITURES**

**CLUBHOUSE OPERATIONS**

611 CLUBHOUSE RENT 7,992.00  
622 UTILITIES - PG&E 1,561.34  
624 UTILITIES - SEWER 23.40  
626 UTILITIES - TELEPHONE 212.51  
628 UTILITIES - WATER 846.50  
641 TAXES 752.46  
645 INSURANCE 1,042.00  
TOTAL CLUBHOUSE OPERATIONS 12,430.21

**MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

711 NEWSLETTER PRINTING 1,210.40  
715 NEWSLETTER POSTAGE 544.00  
718 NEWSLETTER - LABELS 24.78  
741 COMMUNICATIONS-WEBSITE 249.50  
746 COMMUNICATIONS-SOFTWAR 89.10  
TOTAL MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS 2,117.78

Others May Have The Three Tenors  
But MDPA Has The Three Dianes



Diane Siebern



Diane Kennedy



Diane Enbom



Pat's Mystery Photo Of The Month  
Can you guess who this is?



This lovely Moped could be yours! MDPA will be auctioning off this beautiful motor bike sometime this year. You'll have to make sure you attend all the meetings so you don't miss out!  
(Thank you George Ann Garms for this generous donation to the club)

**If your reading this in a black and white hardcopy, wouldn't you rather see this in all it's beautiful color? You can! Go to [www.mpda.org](http://www.mpda.org). You can also save the club money by dropping us an e-mail and telling us you'd ONLY like to view the newsletter online. That way we can save the cost of printing and postage.**

AOPA LOCAL UPDATE  
CONCORD JET PERMIT APPROVED

By Dave Evans

After much work by all parties involved, the impasse between the Fire Marshal and Concord Jet with regard to their building permit for an expansion of their facilities has been resolved without the need for foam fire suppression systems and a set of guidelines has been developed for fire suppression requirements for all future hangar developments on the field.

Under these guidelines, only hangars intended for major aircraft maintenance operations will need to employ foam systems and a detailed list of activities that are not to be considered as major aircraft maintenance has been generated. The majority of the currently planned developments on the field will be exempt from the foam system requirement and so yet another impediment to development on the field has been removed.

Special thanks should go to Keith Freitas and his staff for developing the crucial list of non-major maintenance activities which is not only consistent with local build codes but with FAA definitions as well.

A formal ground breaking ceremony for the new Concord Jet facilities will be held on Tuesday, March 20, at 10:30am.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

In order to preserve our airport and General Aviation in general, we as pilots need to become individually involved in the process of helping our neighbors, our community and our elected officials understand the importance of these valuable resources. Here are a few suggested New Year's resolutions that you can adopt to accomplish this goal.

### **MENTOR A NEW STUDENT PILOT**

It's well known that the number of licensed pilots is decreasing in the United States while the average pilot's age is increasing. Resolve to share your passion for flight and love of our local airport with a new student pilot. Sign up to be a Mentor at [www.AOPAProjectPilot.org](http://www.AOPAProjectPilot.org). Promoting local interest in our airport begins with promoting its use to more members of our community. Contact me directly for information on how you can get involved with this important program. As the Project Mentor Team Leader for CCR, I have a list of local students who are looking for mentors.

### **FLY MORE AND FLY SAFELY**

During the winter months, we all can become rusty with our flying skills. Resolve to fly more for proficiency and to complete more AOPA Air Safety Foundation online courses for which you can earn Wings credit toward your next flight review. With 14 courses available online, we can all become better pilots even on those cold, windy winter days. See [http://www.aopa.org/asf/online\\_courses/](http://www.aopa.org/asf/online_courses/) for details.

### **HELP WITH AOPA'S CAMPAIGN TO STOP FAA USER FEES**

By now, you should know that we're in the fight of our lives against the FAA-airlines' user fee proposal. Over the last several weeks, there have been a number of articles in AOPA ePilot, AOPA Online, and AOPA Pilot magazine about this serious issue facing general aviation. GA pilots will face incredible increases in the cost of flying if we do not prevail.

- \* Increase in the tax on avgas fourfold to 70 cents a gallon
- \* 13 new or increased fees that would affect pilots, aircraft owners, and mechanics at various times, including fees for use of Class B airspace
- \* Reduce the general fund share of the FAA's budget
- \* Cut Airport Improvement Program funding by 21 percent

Here's what you can do about it now:

### **EDUCATE YOURSELF ON THE ISSUES**

The process has already begun and will be resolved before October 2007 when Congress approves the budget for the new Federal fiscal year. Go to "The FAA Funding Debate and User Fees." ([Http://www.aopa.org/faafundingdebate/](http://www.aopa.org/faafundingdebate/) on the AOPA web site.) There you'll find all the information you need to follow the debate and understand the issues. Be sure and follow the links at the bottom of each page to go to the next point in the discussion.

### **CONTACT CONGRESS**

As Phil Boyer covered in his open letter to members (<http://www.aopa.org/whatsnew/newsitems/2007/070220funding.html>), AOPA will be asking members to contact Congress at key times as the FAA funding issue progresses through the legislative process. Go to "Contacting Congress" (<http://www.aopa.org/faafundingdebate/congress/>) to see when to contact Congress and how to do it. A faxed letter written on your personal or business letterhead followed up by a mailed copy is most effective. Please be sure to fax (301/695-2372) or mail AOPA a copy of any letter you send or response you receive from your representative.

### **KEEP UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

Go to "FAA Funding Debate Latest News" (<http://www.aopa.org/faafundingdebate/news/>) to keep abreast of the latest developments in Congress and what AOPA is doing to defeat user fees.

### **THE FUTURE OF GENERAL AVIATION IS ON THE LINE**

As AOPA President Phil Boyer has said:

*"There is no bigger issue facing general aviation today. Our future is hostage to the FAA funding decision. If we choose user fees or radical new taxes, America's unique personal aircraft transportation system will die."*



If you wear green on  
March 17th, you're  
entitled to a 17 cent  
discount on a gallon  
of gas at  
**Pacific States Aviation**  
[www.pacificstatesaviation.com](http://www.pacificstatesaviation.com)  
925.685.4400  
Unicom 122.95

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

Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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First Class Mail  
Address Correction Requested