



MDPA news

March 2010 Concord, CA webmaster@mdpa.org Volume 38 Issue 3

Meeting Notice

Date:	Mar. 19, 2010
Place:	MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner:	6:30 PM
Program:	7:00 PM
Board Meeting:	Mar. 3, 2010

March 2010 Presidents Message Steve Kennedy

As I write this, the tragic events in Palo Alto and Austin, Texas are still fresh in my mind. It's obviously way too early to have any definitive information about the Palo Alto crash, but we can speculate a little in the hopes of learning something. One of the most believable scenarios that I've heard is that the left engine went out on the Cessna 310 causing the aircraft to turn left into the power line/tower instead of the normal departure procedure of turning right out over the bay. I don't know about you, but whenever I fly with a CFI they always want to know "What would you do if you lost an engine right now?" I usually think that question had to do with "where would you set down". But then again, I only fly singles. You multi-engine jockeys know that in a twin that question has a lot more meaning. Asymmetrical thrust can cause all sorts of bad things. The next time I hear that question from a CFI, I'll think of it differently.

The event in Austin Texas is a whole different matter. The assumption from most investigators is that it was an intentional controlled flight into the IRS building in Austin. This event is sure to affect General Aviation security in some way. We can only hope that the TSA, and the FAA don't over react to this and let the cooler heads prevail. I'm not sure that any amount of security could have prevented this tragedy. We'll have to keep an eye on the fallout from this.

Now, to a more pleasant discussion. At February's dinner it was nice to have Geoff Logan give us the current state of the aviation insurance industry. Many people think insurance is not a very hot topic, but when all of us are looking for the best value for our money, and to protect ourselves in case of a regrettable event, insurance is anything but boring.

Many of you may wonder how we get such speakers at all of our dinners. We have Maureen Bell to thank for that. She works tirelessly to obtain speakers for our dinners. We're always looking for new and different topics that may interest you. In the coming months Maureen has booked Jim Thomas to talk about flying in Alaska, Jim Casper from the FAA FAST team, and may other unique and interesting people to speak with us. You won't want to miss a single dinner. (Speaking of dinners, we're still looking for hosts... email me!!!)

I'm working on the survey I talked about at the last dinner. I hope to have it emailed out to everyone in a week or two. When you get it take a few seconds and answer it. Remember, we'll give you a meal discount for one of the dinners if you return the survey. We want your feedback.

I haven't heard much from people wanting to go on any of the trips. Have all of you stopped flying? Come on. Let's get some trips going. The weather should break soon and we should be able to start some day trips and longer trips soon. Let's do some flying.

Respectfully, Steve.

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

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2010 Dinner Schedule

January - Crab Feed - MDPA Board

February - Country Style Short Ribs -

Diane & Steve Kennedy

March - Catered Chinese Dinner -

Maureen Bell

April - Spaghetti Dinner - Jay McCartney

May - *Open* - Your Name Here

June - TBD - Kim & Herb Cole

July - Old Fashioned BBQ -

Diane & Vince Siebern

August - *Open*

September - *Open*

October - Oktoberfest - Kim & Herb Cole

November - *Open*

December - Christmas Party - Potluck

Side, MDPA Main Course

2010 Proposed Trips

March 18-21: Whale Watching Baja Mexico

April or May: Trip to Harris Ranch for Lunch

July: San Diego for Golf and Giants-Padres

baseball game

September: Trip to Sedona AZ. Thursday

through Sunday

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.



Speaker Geoff Logan

The Little Man



Dick and Pat Rhinn and John Summers



Teeb Thomas, Rudy Thomas, Maureen Bell, Georgeann Garms



Georgeann Garms & John Levy



Hard working dinner hosts Steve & Diane Kennedy listening to the program.



Treasurer Bev Levy with the evening's \$\$\$

John Potter, Moderator

A wonderful breakfast and this time we REALLY did have the Richard Roberts home-grown “flying pig,” but I didn’t get any! We also had some visitors as well as new members. Two visitors came from as far away as Houston, Texas, to pick up an aircraft that one of them had just bought. They wrote after getting home how much they had enjoyed the MDPA camaraderie.

As usual, we started off the session with my saying---”we do this because our MDPA Mission Statement (which I wrote eons ago) says we will talk “safety,” which we have not done seriously in the past. Yes, we were a very serious social club, and with not much more as a purpose.

The first topic was sheer entertainment, a filmed live gear-up landing. The recorded noise was heart wrenching. Although a gear up event with all of the attendant trauma is horrifying, it was more a study in lack of “Situational Awareness.” The two in front, I assume both pilots, were engaged in heavy conversation during final. I wonder, did they have noise-canceling (BOSE?) headsets on? We’ve had one pilot in the club have such a thing happen with the same alarms going off but he did not hear them due to the headset noise-canceling feature. Gotta be able to hear what’s happening!

There’s a new FAA rule. We all know about

“8 hours bottle to throttle.”

Wellllllll, some of us older codgers now have one more,

“6 hours from pill (Viagra) to liftoff,”

or something like that.

We listened to one of AOPA’s “best” talking about night flight and how it demands particular preparation and planning. The idea was that it takes longer to prepare and to do a preflight, and then of course, there are the different techniques involved with take-off and landing at night. Remember the long-held caution of looking at the far end of the runway when landing and not where the landing light is pointed?

We talked about non-controlled field operations, pattern entry, announcing on the radio and working in the same pattern with turbine aircraft. This got us to talking a little about those aircraft without radios, or some pilots simply not using them, and the threat of a very possible collision that such a situation can cause. How about 2 aircraft taking off in the opposite direction, same runway, same time, before dawn, (no tower)! Yup, right here at Concord, ask me about it.

Mt. Diablo Pilots Association, Inc.

Send dues to: Treasurer, Mt. Diablo Pilots Assn.
P. O. Box 6632
Concord, CA 94524

Membership Application and Renewal Form

Last Name First Name Spouse's Name

Street Address or P.O. Box

City, State and ZIP Code

Work Phone # Home Phone # Fax # Cellular/Mobile # Other

E-mail address (if used) Personal Web Page (if applicable)

Type of Aircraft #1 (e.g. C-182RG, PA-28, Glasair, etc.) N#

Type of Aircraft #1 (e.g. C-182RG, PA-28, Glasair, etc.) N#

Vocation Hobbies & Interests

Please indicate on which Committee(s) you would be willing to help:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Activities (hangar party, BBQ) | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trips (brunches, weekend outings) | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership (database updates) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs (speakers for meetings) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality (coffee, dinners for meetings) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety (flying tips, maintenance) | <input type="checkbox"/> Clubhouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Advisory | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications (newsletter, Web site) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

Name Tags: If you would like name tags, please print the name(s) as you would like them to appear on the tags:

Name #1 Name #2

New Member Dues with clubhouse privileges Initiation fee (waived), Annual dues \$99.00 (\$49 After July 1st)

Membership renewal with clubhouse privileges Annual dues \$ 99.00

Annual dues are payable on January 1st of each calendar year. No bills are sent. All delinquent members will be taken off the membership and fuel list by February 15th.

In order to take advantage of the MDPA fuel discount at Pacific States Aviation, you must identify yourself to the fuel attendant as an MDPA member and pay with either an AvFuel credit card, cash, check, or Pacific States approved account.

Mt. Diablo Pilots Association



Pacific States Aviator
51 John Glenn Dr
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 685-4400
Unicom 122.95

Mt. Diablo Pilots Association
PO Box 6632
Concord, CA 94524

Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested