



# MDPA news

April 2010 Concord, CA webmaster@mdpa.org Volume 38 Issue 4

## Meeting Notice

Date:	April 16, 2010
Place:	MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner:	6:30 PM
Program:	7:00 PM
Board Meeting:	April 7, 2010

## April 2010 Presidents Message Steve Kennedy

Last month I sent out the Annual Survey to see what you wanted from our club. Let me give you some feedback on what this revealed. First let me say that we received 11 completed surveys. Since we currently have 67 paying memberships, that comes out to a return rate of 16.42%. Statisticians will tell you that a return rate of 10% is about average. I must admit that I was hoping for a little better turn out, but I guess the fact that it was above average is a good thing.

There was only 1 item that got a universal high score from almost everyone, and that was: "Having an organization that is an advocate for me at this airport". That item scored an average of 4.909. That is about as close to a universal 5 as you can get. This tells me that you want us to be your voice. The voice of pilots here at KCCR.

Several items came in as being of medium high importance to you. "The once a month breakfast that the club holds. The Safety discussions held after the breakfasts. The monthly dinner meetings without a speaker. The day-trips that the club makes together. The monthly dinner meetings where a speaker is present. The fuel discount at PSA and Sterling. The once a month "fuel at cost" feature of attending the monthly breakfast. I think the club should do MORE of the following: Dinners and or Breakfasts, Safety discussions, Dinner speakers. To promote MDPA and member participation in MDPA I would recommend the following: more community interaction, interaction with EAA/Young Eagles." All of these items came in with an average score between 3.51 and 4.49. That means you think these are all important items that the club should continue to do.

Many items were scored as 3's or medium importance. These indicate to me that you are rather ambivalent about them. That reminds me of the old joke that asks, what's worse, ignorance or apathy? The answer is, I don't know and I don't care (drum roll!!)... The items that you were apathetic about were: "Receiving the many emails generated by the club leadership and club members. I think the club should do MORE of the following: Day trips, Week day Lunch outings, Overnight trips. If I could change one thing about MDPA, it would be: the types and frequency of outings. To promote MDPA and member participation in MDPA I would recommend the following: Provide opportunity for airplane rides for adults. I guess we'll have to evaluate these items to see if we should continue or work on these.

Many items surprised me as being very low rated. These items were either rated as medium low or low. I was surprised to see that the overnight trips that the club makes together were rated as moderately low. All of the items that we asked you if we should change were rated as low except for the types and frequency of meetings which was rated only as medium.

Some of the most interesting items were the comments about what you like best and least about MDPA. Some of the things you like the most are: advocacy for the airport, the friendship, camaraderie, and the dinners. Some of the things you like least are: members always worried about cost, and boring speakers. I'll be doing more analysis on the results, but I thought you'd like to see this initial analysis.

Until next time -

Respectfully, Steve

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newsletter should be e-mailed to

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## 2010 Dinner Schedule

April - Italian Dinner - Jay McCartney

May - Greek Dinner - The Peters Family

June - TBD - Kim & Herb Cole

July - Old Fashioned BBQ -

Diane & Vince Siebern

August - *You Decide - Your Name Here*

September - Chili - Pat Miller

October - Oktoberfest - Kim & Herb Cole

November - Taco Bar - Group Effort -  
*(Volunteers Needed)*

December - Christmas Party - Potluck  
Side, MDPA Main Course

## 2010 Proposed Trips

April: Trip to Harris Ranch for Lunch and/or  
possible overnight visit

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.



Baby, Bridget and Stella Peters

The Little Man



Flowers and Food



Teeb Thomas  
introducing the speaker, Jim  
Thomas



Jim Thomas  
demonstrating some Alaska  
flying survival gear





Steve Kennedy and Dick Rihn



Felix Boston, Patty Gilchrist x 2 ( or her twin sister)



John Potter and Richard Roberts

## MDPA SAFETY MEETINGS

March 6, 2010

At the March meeting following the traditional MDPA breakfast, John Summers presented an excellent review program on ATC procedures and communications. It covered good information for newer pilots and really good information for medium-old and old pilots and even experienced pilots. Everyone attending learned something useful they didn't know or was reminded of things they had once known and forgotten. We all need to be refreshed regularly.

April 3, 2010

At the April meeting following a non-traditional MDPA breakfast featuring blueberry pancakes, Vince Siebern described a recent whale watching trip to Baja California. Besides seeing the whales, the group learned the latest flying-in-Mexico information and one member of the group overcame some serious aviation repair challenges and was able to fly home. A member of another group was lucky to walk away from a hard and out of control landing and left his new, expensive, high performance airplane in pieces just off the runway.

Then Vince presented some incredible AOPA videos with ATC recordings and pilot interviews covering two instances of catastrophic engine failures. In both events, the pilots and passengers survived without injuries because the pilots remembered the number one rule: Fly the Airplane.





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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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First Class Mail  
Address Correction Requested