



# MDPA news

April 2011 Concord, CA webmaster@mdpa.org Volume 40 Issue 4

## Meeting Notice

Date: April 15, 2011  
Place: MDPA Clubhouse  
Dinner: 6:30 PM  
Program: 7:00 PM  
Board Meeting: April 6, 2011

## **President's Message**

Welcome to April – has anyone noticed any showers or allergies lately? Fortunately, there is a good side to April.

Greek delicacies from the Peters family, an old time MDPA tradition, if you've never attended one of these dinners, you really don't know what you've missed so make your reservations now at [dinners@mdpa.org](mailto:dinners@mdpa.org) for next Friday, April 15, and you'll still have a couple of days to pay your taxes!

Our dinner speaker promises to be just as exciting, a B-52 bomber and F-4 fighter pilot, many overseas missions, covert operations and a district attorney – this promises to be an interesting evening.

May 7<sup>th</sup> will be here before you know it, so get ready for the trip to Boonville where you will be treated, yes treated! to a lunch by the friendly folks at the Madrones Inn.

Thank you to the members who have brought in their friends, fellow pilots, or just acquaintances and encouraged them to join the club. We need more of this and hope you all spread the word as without everyone's help we could not continue.

Last month, on your behalf and with great help from John Potter, I sent a letter to Oral Staman, acting manager of the FAA Western Flight Procedures Group, requesting his assistance in getting the WAAS system installed at Buchanan. As you know, this is now in the works and hopefully by the end of August we should be able to enjoy the benefits.

Several members requested logowear and we now have samples which will be on display at the breakfast/safety meeting on May 7, in your choice of color and size. There will be a sign up sheet for ordering, so, one more reason to attend the meeting and fly out to lunch at the Madrones Inn.

We need help with the dinner preparations but you don't have to do it all yourself. If you are willing to share the experience of planning a dinner with another member, please contact either Bob Torrey at [dinners@mdpa.org](mailto:dinners@mdpa.org) or myself and we promise Chef Ramsay will not be invited.

Maureen Bell

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newsletter should be e-mailed to

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## April 2011 Dinner

*Greek* - sponsored by the Peters Family

Starter: *Spanakopita* (Greek filo dough filled with spinach and cheese)

Main Course: Spit roasted leg of lamb; *Pastitso* (Greek beef lasagna with custard top); *Horiatiki Salata* (Greek village salad with feta and olives); and Fresh Bread

Dessert: *Rizogalo* (rice pudding with orange)

And, of course, *ouzo*, olives and feta cheese! *Opa!*

## April 2011 Program

Speaker: Dana Drenkowski USAF, B-52 and F-4 pilot Vietnam, JAG, retired Stockton, San Joaquin County, Assistant District Attorney, and author of six Soldier of Fortune magazine articles.

## MDPA Activities

May 7th - Boonville (D83) to the Madrones Inn for lunch and accommodation for 5 couples overnight, wine tasting and dinner

June 4th - Watts-Woodland (O41) for lunch at the Club

July 2nd - Georgetown (E-36) for a picnic lunch

August 6 - MDPA Open House along with 65th Anniversary of Buchanan Field - Pilots and aircraft for static display wanted

September 3rd - Santa Ynez (IZA) for overnight stay in Solvang  
Stop at Oceano (L52) on Sunday on the way back to CCR

October 1st - Little River (LLR) for lunch in Mendocino

November 5th - Auburn (AUN) for lunch at Wings Grill

December 3rd - Harris (308) for Holiday lunch at Harris Ranch

## March Fly-In to Willows (WLW)

On March 5, it was a nice, smooth flight to Nancy's Cafe, attended by Bob Weiss, George Vujnovich, Maurice Gunderson, Russell Roe, John Summers (with guest) and Knute Fisher. There were a total of six aircraft that made the trip, and two that had mechanical issues and could not leave CCR. Unfortunately, Greg Galiardi and John Potter had to stay home. Greatr fun and camaraderie was had by all...

### 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.



Aircraft and pilots enjoying lunch at Nancy's Cafe at Willows



### **April Fly-In Hollister (CVH)**

We had three aircraft for our fly-in to Hollister on April 2 flown by Bob Weiss, John Summers and Harvard Holmes. We debated making the trip to Hollister because of IFR conditions there in the morning. But, we were motivated to brave the improving conditions around noon time because John Summers had made arrangements to meet his daughter and her kids at the Ding a Ling Cafe. We all made it without issue and without braking any FAR's, and had an interesting tour of the museum led by its curator Rick Borg, and a very good lunch at the Cafe. The three pilots took passengers, so we had a total of six for the outing. It ended up a very enjoyable day to fly and was lots of fun.





Hollister







Felix Boston introducing our speaker

Speaker Bill Komanetsky and wife



Patty Gilchrist, Bob Torrey,  
Kristi Logan, Patricia and Dick  
Rihn



John and Cheryl Summers, Pat Peters





Cooks of the fine Irish Dinner:  
Steve, Diane and Kevin Kennedy



Sunset over Buchanan

**Fuel Prices 100 LL as of April 1, 2011**

PSA:	MDPA price \$4.94/gal	Retail \$5.09/gal
Sterling:	MDPA price \$5.24/gal	Retail \$5.44/gal
	Safety Clinic Breakfast price (MDPA members only) \$4.99/gal	

## EAA's B-17 Aluminum Overcast



EAA Chapter 393 is hosting the visit of the B-17 Aluminum Overcast to Concord's Buchanan Field on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 3-4, 2011.



### Fly the Fortress!

EAA is offering historic flight experiences in its beautifully restored B-17G Flying Fortress "Aluminum Overcast." One of only 14 Fortress's still flying this aircraft is an icon of the Allied strategic bombing effort that helped turn the tide of battle in World War II. Unlike reading a history book, you can actually fly a mission back in time and feel the might of this magnificent machine, just as those brave young men did more than 60 years ago.

Self Guided Ground Tours daily from 2-5pm. Cost \$5 per adult, \$15 per family. Children under 8 free when accompanied by paying adult. Active Military or Veterans free.

To book a flight please call 1-800-359-6217.

Pricing: Pre-book for EAA members \$399, for non-members \$439.

Walk-up for EAA members \$425, for non-members \$465.

Looking for that perfect gift, how about a gift certificate to fly in the B-17? Call 1-800-359-6217.



# Coming August 6, 2011

## MDPA Open House in connection with Buchanan Field 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Food

Airplanes

Information

Prizes

*More information to follow*

Mt.. Diablo Pilots Association  
PO Box 6632  
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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

***IN THIS ISSUE:***

- 1 President's Message
- 2 MDPA Activities
- 3 Fly-Ins
- 5 March Meeting
- 7 B-17 Aluminum Overcast

***"Mt . Diablo Pilots Association,  
an association of aviation enthusiasts"-  
aircraft owners, renters, students and  
affiliates are welcome.***

First Class Mail  
Address Correction Requested