



MDPA news

July 2011 Concord, CA webmaster@mdpa.org Volume 40 Issue 7

Meeting Notice

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maureen Bell

I hope everyone had a great Fourth of July – the weather was perfect for picnics or flying.

I'm not sure if everyone is aware that this year marks the 35th anniversary of MDPA at Buchanan Field. Buchanan itself celebrates it's 65th anniversary next month and sometimes we forget just how lucky we are to live in such a great area. Our members who have joined in the monthly fly outs know how easy it is to visit a different airport, meet other pilots and enjoy a leisurely lunch, yet still return to Buchanan in time for your daily chores or a night on the town. We appreciate the foresight of the people 35 years ago who started our club and I thank you all for your continuing membership.

At our last board meeting we discussed the future and I'd like to share with you some of the problems we see in the distance. For the past four years our membership has steadily decreased and currently we are running at a loss of \$200.00 per month. Obviously our largest expense is the clubhouse and even though it was previously debated whether to have one or not, the majority decided "yes". We derive a great benefit from the use of the club, our dinners and safety meetings would not be as enjoyable if they were held at Denny's. Our main income is from membership dues and dinners, so this is where I ask you, the members, to help out. Would you attend more dinners if they were held on a different evening – several people take off early on Friday for the weekend. Also, don't forget, the clubhouse is available for rent to the public, at a very reasonable rate, so mention that to your friends.

The next request is a big one – we really need your help in growing the membership. Do you know someone who has not renewed their dues from a previous year – if so, please talk to them and find out why – then either encourage them to rejoin or contact any of the board with questions or comments they may have. Remember, the rate for the remainder of this year is only \$55.00. Next, talk to your friends and neighbors, even if they are not pilots maybe they would enjoy coming to a meeting or dinner and then, who knows, it might turn out to be something they've wanted to do all their lives. We need our members to increase our membership, which brings me to my final point:

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Saturday, August 6th will be our Open House at the Clubhouse – we have decided we cannot afford to spend our limited reserves on a large advertising program to the public, so we will depend on you to ask everyone you know to come out at 0930 for a \$5.00 brunch. There will be drawings for free introductory flights from both FBO's for all prospective members – flight instructors will be on hand to answer any questions, static aircraft on display, probably a sport aircraft demo and much more. Maybe some of you pilots would offer to give a short flight to any newcomer to aviation. We will invite the Board of Supervisors and other groups, after all, Buchanan's 65th anniversary is worth celebrating and so is MDPA's 35th, so please do your best to help make this day a success.

Looking forward to seeing you all on August 6th and don't forget the dinner on July 15th featuring the famous aviation artist, Rhu Bigay.

Events and Programs

July 15, 2011	Just Desserts Dinner - Speaker Aviation Artist Rhu Bigay
August 6, 2011	MDPA Open House at the Clubhouse Membership Event Brunch 9:30am
August 19, 2011	Aloha Dinner - Mountain Flying Program

MDPA Activities

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

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.

Fly-in to Georgetown (E-36) July 2, 2011

Bob Weiss

These monthly fly-ins just keep getting better and better. It was a perfect day, to escape some of the heat in the Sierra foothills. We had five aircraft and three new participants fly to Georgetown (E-36) for a Fourth of July picnic lunch. Stew Bowers and I flew together in Stew's C-140, Felix Boston and two guests (both of whom plan to join MDPA) flew in his C-172, John and Bev Levy joined us in their Piper Aztec, Mike McCosker and his wife and son flew up in their Beech Sundowner, and finally, John Summers and his guest flew up in his club C-182. Georgetown had been recommended to me by a friend as a great destination for picnicking, and it didn't disappoint. Easy to get to, dramatic to fly into, and comfortable for a couple hours of relaxation and conversation, everyone had a wonderful time.

On the way back to CCR, Stew and I were struck by the fact that aviators are not the only ones spending money on fuel for a good time. When we flew over Lake Folsom there had to be 200 boats crisscrossing the lake, burning donuts, and parked on the beaches....What a great day!

Don't forget that next month, on August 6th, the "fly-in" event will be an "at home" open house. Please, please, please bring your sons, daughters, grandkids, friends, neighbors, ANYONE you think might want to be around aviation enthusiasts and become potential MDPA members. WE NEED TO GROW THE MEMBERSHIP and here's the perfect venue for an introduction to the association.



Georgetown, CA elev. 2,623, runways 16-34, 2,980'



Picnic under the trees, next to the runway

June Meeting - Casnio Nite at MDPA

The big winners of valuable prizes were:

1. Nancy Miller
2. Kristy Logan
3. Cheryl Summers
4. Bob Gonzales
5. John Summers



A full house and a great Chinese Dinner.



Bev & John Levy.



Blackjack was popular. Two of the winners, John & Cheryl Summers, David Thacker, John Potter.



Blackjack table #2. Bob Everett, Patty Gilchrist, the Messrs. Bowers, Stew & his son.

Winner Nancy Miller & Pit Boss Pat Peters at the Craps Table.





The Little Man and the Valuable Prizes.



A spectacular sunset at CCR. The view from our clubhouse.

MDPA Safety Saturday, June 4, 2011

Brian Enbom

John Potter asked me to lead the safety discussion for the June Pancake Breakfast. His excuse was that he was to be out of the country on the date of the breakfast. The breakfast was moved back a week and I had the wonderful opportunity to lead the discussion with John's oversight! It was a GAS!

My opening topic dealt with maintenance of our aircraft. I suggested that if you have a high performance aircraft and you do owner assisted annuals, it is wise to have a shop do a regular annual on your aircraft every 3 or 4 years. The cost is higher, but the opportunity to have other experienced eyes looking at various important components is worthwhile.

Other topics of discussion covered checking for screws of new interior's rubbing on fuel lines inside the cockpit. (Jerry Alves and his Baron). Also if you have fuel flow gages in the cockpit that are original equipment, consider upgrading to electronic fuel flow meters to keep fuel lines out of the cockpit. (Reduce the potential of fire in the cockpit.)

Do you know the difference in smoke color if you have an engine fire? Jerry Alves also shared that white smoke is a gas fire and black smoke is an oil fire. Oil fires require immediate engine shutdown and securing. Fuel fires require immediate fuel shutoff, but not immediate prop feathering as the windmilling prop will help exhaust the remaining fuel to shorten the time of the fuel fire. More was discussed but space is of the essence.

MDPA Safety Clinic-July 2, 2011

Coordinator of Moderators - John Potter

A fine breakfast by Dave Thacker on the pancakes, Johannes Verhoeck on the sausage and bacon, and of course multiple-skillet-egg-flippin'-no-broken-yolks John Summers providing the coup de gras! Thanks guys. Patty Gilchrist seemed to be everywhere helping out. The gent who made the coffee seemed to know what he was doing (wasn't me!).

We did introductions----everyone---"who" we were and our flying machine and whether, if we were owners, we were happy, or not? Hard to keep that response short.

The purpose of having the clinics and the history was presented. It is about accidents that did not have to happen in recent years only if we just had been responsible enough for each other when we saw something wrong.

The subject for the main-line topic was



"Jihad John and the FAA"

--an event that I experienced landing without authorization or communication at a military base. The NASA ASRC submittal was read and then the conclusion discussed with the "take away" being to **listen**, very carefully, to your inner voice. When something looks wrong, take the time, if you have it, to go on "pause" and get a handle on what was going on (i.e. "situational awareness") ----which I had not done. I commented that the **administrative action**, i.e. "traffic school" of 4 hours ground school and 2 hours night operations, was a very rewarding experience. Current FAA policy on "expunction" of the record of the violation was discussed under the recent changes where the FAA no longer expunges violations that have an **enforcement action**.

FAA violation potential with TFRs was broadly covered, and the methods some use to make sure that they leave a "footprint" when they go on-line for a preflight weather briefing and NOTAM advisory. Many of us use AOPA Online, but one person always files an actual VFR flight plan which may or may not be opened. (If opened, the hazard is that you might forget to close it.) If not opened, that becomes an interesting new twist to get that "footprint." Another uses something called "Weathermiester" at \$69 per year.

We had a sidebar discussion led by John Summers of the pros and cons of getting better fuel economy by running engines with maximum manifold pressure and minimum RPM, staying in the green on both. Generally it was a new thought for most but there were strong cautions about it applying only to the flat type engines most of us have which are 4 and 6 cylinder engines, as opposed to radials. Best to comply with the manufacturer's limits.

BTW #1---Dave Thacker just soloed!

BTW #2 --- Sonoma Sky Park (0Q9) offers a \$4 hamburger for your \$100 flight on each Saturday (?) (707-996-2100).

MDPA Safety Clinic Schedule and Commentary

John Potter

The objective of the Saturday Safety Clinic, after enjoying a fantastic breakfast, is to get the pilots to talk/share/keep their mouth shut if inclined to talk too much/etc. i.e. "Moderate." Moderators are not instructors., You will probably note that instructors are not allowed to be "Moderators." (They know too much, right? They only chime in when the rest of us are screwed up.)

More Moderators are wanted. All that needs be done is make a short list of safety topics to throw out to the pilots to chew on and try to do some analysis of how something went wrong. Start off with making mitroductions and afterwards get a short article to Elaine Yeary to publish in the newsletter (this is how MDPA documents the safety program).

2011 Schedule and Moderators

August 6	Open House MDPA 35th Year, CCR 65th year
September 3	Felix Boston
October 1	John Levy
November 5	John Summers
December 3	Mark Young

Fuel Prices 100LL as of July 2, 2011

PSA:	MDPA price \$5.40/gal	Retail \$5.55/gal
Sterling:	MDPA price \$5.35/gal	Retail \$5.55/gal
Safety Clinic Breakfast price (MDPA members only) \$5.10/gal		



If you think fuel is expensive here at CCR, look at the price at Garberville, CA. \$6.50 for self-serve.

August 6, 2011

MDPA Open House

9:30 am - 12:30pm Brunch at the Clubhouse

**Membership Event - Join MDPA and celebrate
Buchanan Field 65th Anniversary**

**Food
Airplane Display
Information
Prizes**

Mt. Diablo Pilots Association
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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1 President's Message
- 2 MDPA Activities
- 3 June Meeting
- 7 Safety Meetings

First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested

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