

# MDPA News

July 2012

Concord, CA

[webmaster@mdpa.org](mailto:webmaster@mdpa.org)

Volume 41 Issue 6

## Calendar – July 2012

<u>July 7</u>	8:00 AM	Breakfast
<u>July 7</u>	9:30 AM	Safety Seminar
<u>July 7</u>	10:30 AM	Flyout/Columbia
<u>July 11</u>	6:00 PM	Board Meeting
<u>July 20</u>	6:30 PM	Dinner/Meeting

## President's Message

Well, what a surprise – another newsletter so soon.

As you can tell, we are making some changes to the newsletter and website and as we go along we would welcome your comments. In the future, we will try to have the newsletter ready by the end of each month (or as close to that as possible).

Once again, someone's email list was attacked and unfortunately used to forward spam to our members. This can happen to anyone, so please accept Jay's sincere apologies and know that he immediately contacted his provider to fix the problem.

Yesterday turned out to be a very productive day. I signed the final document for the license with the County in order to start renovations on the old clubhouse. The majority of the major repairs have been made and those who have offered to help will be contacted by Scott Achelis in the near future. If you would still like to help out with any special skills you may have, please contact him at [achelis1@hotmail.com](mailto:achelis1@hotmail.com)

Last evening, those of us who attended the dinner not only had great food, we were thoroughly entertained by an excellent speaker, Bob Gonzales. What an interesting life he and his family had. To have the famous Wright Bros., so impressed with their work that they offered Bob's uncles money to continue designing and building aircraft!

The weather has been so hot here lately that I decided to take off for a while to visit chilly England, so in the meantime I wish you all a great Fourth of July and safe flying for all.

*Maureen Bell*

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The guest speaker on June 15<sup>th</sup>:

## Bob Gonzales

Our own member Bob Gonzales was the guest speaker for June. Bob first gave us a brief personal background of his services while in the Army Air Corp in Europe during World War Two, through an interesting photo show. One picture showed a B-17 lying on its belly at an English Airfield, with its propellers bent back. One of our members asked: "What happened to the plane?" Bob stated: "It crashed!"

After much laughter of Bob's descriptions of his WWII exploits and race car experience, he shifted gears and told us of his uncles, "The Gonzales Brothers", who were pioneer aviators in San Francisco in the early 1900's. The teenage brothers designed and flew their own airplanes and started one of the first flight schools in San Francisco. Wilbur Wright visited them to insure they weren't infringing on any of his patents. They weren't, and they even received some money from the Wrights to help them continue the development of their airplanes.

*by Chet Robbins*

## MDPA Dinner June 15, 2012



MDPA Dinner June 15, 2012



Kevin Kennedy

Dick and Pat  
Rihn





# MDPA Dinner June 15, 2012



Scott Achellis and  
Stewart Bowers

Maureen Bell with "Snoopy"

(Snoopy always flew in the Gonzales airplane  
to airshows)

# MDPA Dinner June 15, 2012



Queenie and  
guest speaker  
Bob Gonzales

Sue and Bill  
Lanstra talking to  
Dave Thacker





saturday

COLUMBIA

July 7, 2012

O22

Join us for our annual picnic fly-in !!

Hi Everyone,

Hard to believe 2012 is about half over already, but the best flying days are still ahead. This year, Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, is our annual picnic fly-in to Columbia (O22). For those of you who flew to Georgetown last year, you know that this is one of our best, well attended, events. Columbia has a dedicated campground/picnic area, but after lunch, those who want to stay can walk to the historic old mining town and pan for gold to pay for your avgas and vitals.

Plan on having a normal briefing following the breakfast and the safety meeting. Bring a cooler with your favorite picnic foods, and bring some folks to share the experience. The long range forecast is for sunny skies and mid-80 degree temperatures. It doesn't get much better than that...See you all on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and have a happy and safe Fourth of July.

*Bob Weiss*

#### 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.

June 2, 2012    Flyout    Schellville/Sonoma Valley    0Q3



It took us awhile to decide where to fly to following the safety meeting on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, but John Potter's suggestion won out. We ended up taking a quick trip to Schellville, Sonoma Valley (0Q3). We had a good group, including David Thacker, John Potter, Steve Mink, Knute Fisher, Bob Belshe and myself. I've driven by this airport for years, which is notable because of the Bi-plane rides and vintage WWII war birds on display right on the highway.

We hiked across the highway to the fruit stand and bought the makings for lunch; which we ate picnic style back at the airport. It was lots of fun and recommended for going somewhere close and different.

*by Bob Weiss*





## Saturday, June 2: The Safety Seminar was led by Rick Celeste

Rick Celeste gave a well-detailed safety seminar about first aid kits and helpful navigation aids to have on board for every flight. He reviewed the “must-have” first aid items and gave ideas for flying over specific types of terrain and flying in different climates. A few of the obvious: the ubiquitous Swiss Army knife and triangular bandaids. We were reminded to check the adhesive on our old bandaids, they do dry out over time. Suggestions from the audience included the addition of a sleeping bag to offset hypothermia. One person took along a length of aluminum foil for signaling. Several people suggested the first aid course given either through the Red Cross or by the local adult continuing education schools. The first actions to take after an emergency were agreed on by all: 1) Stop the bleeding. 2). Keep the injured breathing 3). Treat for shock (the last often overlooked).

There was a heartfelt reminder to file a flight plan, regardless of the distance of the flight or the familiarity of the destination.

There was also an in depth discussion about the best type of battery:  
<http://www.mpoweruk.com/nicad.htm> will help in the ongoing debate about how to charge your batteries. See the links at [www.ehow.com](http://www.ehow.com) for suggestions on buying the best type of battery for each situation.

Navigation aids and telecommunications devices are varied in quality and price and being updated on a regular basis to connect with our standard everyday devices. These are often personal choices.



Rick Celeste

Safety  
Seminar

# Breakfast- June 2





# Breakfast- June 2



## Email update received June 27, 2012

I am happy to report that the Buchanan Field runway project remains on schedule. Runway 14L/32R reopened early and is now back in service as of 16:20 hours local time. Runways 14L/32R and 01R/19L will remain open while the ATCT is operational through the remainder of the project. Runway 14L/32R will be open when ATCT is closed.

Keith Freitas, Director of Airports  
Contra Costa County  
Buchanan Field and Byron Airports

MDPA Mailing Address PO Box 6632 Concord, CA 94524

President	Maureen Bell	<a href="mailto:President@mdpa.org">President@mdpa.org</a>
VP Activities	Bob Weiss	<a href="mailto:VPActivities@mdpa.org">VPActivities@mdpa.org</a>
VP Programs	Chet Robbins	<a href="mailto:Programs@mdpa.org">Programs@mdpa.org</a>
Treasurer	Dave Thacker	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@mdpa.org">Treasurer@mdpa.org</a>
Facilities Mgr.	Stewart Boyers	<a href="mailto:Facilities@mdpa.org">Facilities@mdpa.org</a>
Secretary	Elaine Yeary	<a href="mailto:Secretary@mdpa.org">Secretary@mdpa.org</a>
Director at Large	Scott Achelis	<a href="mailto:Atlarge@mdpa.org">Atlarge@mdpa.org</a>
Past President	Steve Kennedy	<a href="mailto:Pastpres@mdpa.org">Pastpres@mdpa.org</a>
Communications	Madeleine Ferguson	<a href="mailto:Communications@mdpa.org">Communications@mdpa.org</a>
Aviation Advisory Committee		Russ Roe
Safety/Maintenance		Stewart Boyers
Articles and Photos for the Newsletter		<a href="mailto:Newsletter@mdap.org">Newsletter@mdap.org</a>

The MDPA Clubhouse is on the runway side of John Glenn Drive, the last Building before Calstar:

161 John Glenn Drive Concord, CA 94520





WHETHER YOU DRIVE OR WHETHER YOU FLY  
WE HOPE YOU HAVE A SAFE FOURTH OF JULY

## PACIFIC STATES AVIATION

MDPA members who buy fuel from PSA in the month of July will receive a \$5.00 gift card from In- N- Out for every 50 gallons you purchase. Cards will be issued after the end of the month.