

MDPA News

December 2012

Concord, CA

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Volume 41 Issue 11

Calendar – December 2012

- December 1** 9:00 AM Breakfast and Safety Meeting
- December 1** 11:00 AM Fly-In Hollister (CVH)
- December 14** 6:30 PM **Christmas Party !!**

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President's Message

One more year has flown by and here we are in a new home to start a New Year.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with your board over the past two years and now I welcome our new president, Stewart Bowers, who I know will keep our club not only thriving but interesting and a place where people want to belong.

We have had so many good dinner meetings, speakers, breakfasts, safety meetings and fly outs – so look back at the old newsletters online and remind yourself either how much fun you had or what a great time you missed.

Once more I want to thank everyone who worked on the new clubhouse – Scott and all his helpers, without whose help we would not be getting the greatly discounted rent, which enables us to reduce our annual dues.

Our final dinner meeting this year is Friday, December 14th – 6:30 pm at the new clubhouse. MDPA will supply the turkey and ham and as usual we request you bring a side dish – reservation lists will be going out shortly. We are also looking for volunteers to decorate a table and bring china, cutlery and glasses to make the meal taste even better. This will also be the gift exchange, so if you wish to take part, bring a wrapped gift, \$20.00 value and have two chances to steal.

Great photos from Kevin Kennedy from the last dinner – thank you and also thank you to Elaine Yeary, who made the salads for such a great crowd.

Hoping to see you all on December 14th, if not, have a wonderful Christmas and a safe and very happy New Year at MDPA.

Maureen Bell

Saturday
12/1/12

0900
1000

Start serving
Safety Forum

MDPA "Continental" Breakfast and "Safety Forum"

We are using the new Airport Clubhouse, West Side of Field. Cooking facilities are not yet set up so we will only have coffee and fat wafers.

There will be a collection can for a "\$2 donation."

Regarding the proposed Flyout, formerly scheduled for 1100

Hi everyone,

Well, it had to happen that the weather gods would conspire against us at least one month out of the year... The forecast for Saturday is moderate to heavy rain, so it is likely that our final mission of the year will have to be scrubbed. However, come to breakfast and the safety meeting with positive thoughts that the weather geniuses are wrong and we can make our lunch at CVH as planned... I hope you all had a very Happy Thanksgiving. See you Saturday morning...

Bob Weiss

925-382-0586 Cell

Details of the November Fly-in to Salinas

With the clubhouse transition in play, and holding the November breakfast and safety meeting in the terminal building, I was somewhat skeptical about the degree of membership interest in the November fly-in. Boy was I pleasantly surprised. We had a great response and a fantastic day to fly to Salinas. Pilots, passengers and aircraft included Brian Enbom, Bob Belshe, Jerry Alves who took David Thacker and a female student pilot whose name I don't remember (sorry); Steve Mink took Natasha our incoming 2013 director of activities – please give Natasha your full support next year; John Potter flew in with Jim Clarke, as usual; Ken Whitham was joined by Graham Giggins; Knute Fisher took Nevgenie (sp?), who is a private pilot working on his instrument rating, and I flew in with George Vujnovich.

Fly-in Salinas

11/3/12



Contact
Bob Weiss
if you want
more information
on who a
particular person
is in these
photos.

So, all totaled, we had 8 aircraft and 16 members and guests make the flight. All of that is great, but what was particularly satisfying to me is the number of student pilots who have become new MDPA members as a result of the student pilot day fly-in we held a few months ago, and are now actively participating in ongoing programs. Congratulations again to everyone who flew with student pilots back then, and are continuing to make themselves and their aircraft available to perpetuate our programs. WELL DONE!!

Bob Weiss
925-382-0586 Cell

Fly-in to Salinas

11/3/12



IT FLIES! Bleriot
By John Potter

The picture below is a photo of an airplane, of sorts, that flew across the English Channel in 1909 (the Wright Bros first flew in 1903). Can you imagine being out of sight of land over the channel sitting on this thing?! I saw it fly (a little above the ground for the length of a football field) at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome in New York this past summer.



Now that was a shaky flight ! The pilot sits up on top as you can see and power is controlled by turning the ignition on and off as the motor rotates---engine roars, dead quiet, roars, sputter, pop, etc. Note the wing warping instead of ailerons. I was joined by MDPA members Jim and Dale Blodgett who happened to be visiting the Aerodrome also.

For more information on the Bleriot aircraft seen on these two pages, contact John Potter



Bleriot

MDPA "Continental Breakfast & Safety Forum--Airport Terminal Building
Saturday, 11/3/12

John Potter

The complementary Continental Breakfast was abundantly full of calories as is normal for our monthly servings, but not in the normal form of eggs, grits, biscuits with gravy and sausage. We had "Costco's Best" in muffins and "Danish." The leftover went to the Tower--- we could probably have gotten any runway we wanted, even to take off backwards if we wanted!

I had to pinch-hit as the "Moderator of the Month," but I was ready! I had plenty of tidbits to throw out as discussion items since I had squirreled them away for just an occasion. Natasha Lantsov, our 2013 trip and fly-out coordinator, solicited input from the pilots on trips for the year.

We started off with a reading of a message from a young 5th grader who thought that it would be a fun job to be a pilot but that there were challenges, like getting airsick. We commented on another young 3rd grade boy's thoughts of flight as reflected in his report titled "Information Book about Flying Airplanes." This document was published in our November newsletter and was a direct result of a flight that Richard Roberts gave the boy's family when we visited Half Moon Bay on a fly-out this last Summer.

The recent NTSB issuance of a letter to the FAA in regards to the high accident rate of experimental aircraft over a 6 year period was seen as causing spiraling insurance rates for these aircraft thus forcing many to simply self-insure.

A report from the UK was brought up that addressed the potential destructive effects of "flutter" of aircraft appendages such as elevators and wings. The take-away from this discussion was that pilots must be very aware of limitations of their aircraft when pulling excessive "g" forces during severe maneuvering.

We wrapped up the session with a presentation on the merit of keeping the "Chicken Strip" open (Saline Valley WNW of Death Valley). It is a rock airstrip in the middle of a bowl which is near a oasis with thermal springs. the only access is by a 4 hour 4 wheel drive or by air. It was observed that people there wear all the same skin colored uniform.

Subject: Runway - what runway??

“Good stuff, those tundra tires are something else! So, you want to go fishing in Alaska”

http://www.vid4fun.com/video_player/index.php?vid=103

[The above video is fun to watch (it is a safe link)

Submitted by Kenneth Whitham]

HAVE A SAFE AND MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM EVERYONE AT
PACIFIC STATES AVIATION.



Words of Wisdom

If you are out flying on Christmas Eve watch out for Reindeer it could be hazardous!)

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.

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The MDPA Clubhouse is on the west side of the airport, south of the airport manager's office.

200 Sally Ride Drive Concord, CA 94520

November 16th dinner at the “new” clubhouse















