



# MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association  
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

September 2014

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

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### MDPA BREAKFAST & SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, AUGUST 2 2014

#### BREAKFAST

By John Potter

We had about 30 for a standard bill of fare, **except** the food was procured by the bistro owner, Scott Davis---who took the quality to a new level----all the cooks got instruction in how to do an **egg-over-easy**, without breaking the yolk, even flipping in the air. Quite a show and I stayed clear of the kitchen.

Almost everyone had a nametag of some sort **on**. That's a first.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

##### "Uncontrolled Area" (County Jurisdiction vs FAA)

Recently the FAA controllers have been telling those moving aircraft in the non-federal controlled areas that it is not necessary (and specifically discouraged) to call the tower beforehand. An example would be moving to the wash rack from parking on the East Ramp. But of course, be careful!!!! As you will note, there are autos & trucks always moving around in that ramp area.

##### "SPOT"

Didn't get much of a chance to talk about it, but I did show everyone what it looks like. It is a messenger gadget, working off of a satellite. Each flying trip I activate it when leaving and arriving so that my wife can find out where I am, I got it because of our frequent visits in the past to Mexico, often to fairly remote and isolated areas. It also has

a 911 feature.

### County Exemption for Historic Aircraft

In response to my email about not having received the "new" form, I was told to keep using the old one with a MDPA officer signature until the end of the year. See below the email response:

*Date: Jul 9 at 8:03 AM*

*From: Sandra Lujan*

*To: John Potter*

*Yes, we are not supposed to send out blank forms, only with the owner information printed on the forms until Dec. 2014, but a lot of Aircraft owners make copies of the form for next years participation entries.*

*Have a great day,*

*Sandra Lujan-Garber*

*Contra Costa County Assessor's Office*

*Phone: (925) 313-7607*

*E-mail: Sandra.Lujan-Garber@assr.cccounty.us*

*www.cccounty.us/assessor GIS*

### NASA Form

When asked, very few pilots responded that they had ever submitted one of these "Get out of Jail" reports. This is the background that I copied from the Pilot's Workshop (edited):

"NASA maintains the Aviation Safety and Reporting System, commonly called the NASA form. The program's goal is to identify any safety issues in the aviation system. (The form should not be used to report aviation accidents.)

The Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) receives, processes and analyzes voluntarily submitted incident reports from pilots, air traffic controllers, dispatchers, flight attendants, maintenance technicians, and others. Reports submitted to ASRS may describe both unsafe occurrences and hazardous situations.

Basically, anytime that you see or experience any issue that you think may have an adverse effect on system safety, it should be reported.

The FAA considers the filing of a report with NASA to be indicative of a constructive attitude. They believe making a report will tend to prevent future violations. Although if eventually they find that you have committed a violation, the FAA will not impose a penalty or certificate suspension if a violation was inadvertent (not deliberate), there was

no criminal offense, you had no prior FAA enforcement actions for the 5 years prior to the date of occurrence and you submit the report within 10 days."

Visit ASRS for more information: <http://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/>

Several "pearls of wisdom" were extracted from a recent NASA ASRS 35 year summary, Issue 414 July 2014:

[http://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/publications/callback/cb\\_414.html](http://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/publications/callback/cb_414.html)

## **SAFETY FORUM**

**By John Potter**

The Moderator for this month, Jack Davi, called me from Oshkosh and said: "I won't be there because I am here!" OOPS. I told him to have a good time and that I was ready to stand in for him. I had some Pilot's Workshop material that focused on non-towered airports, mostly landing patterns. If I could only master the electronics in the clubhouse and pull down the program from the Internet! That turned out pretty well.

Pilot's Workshop / Bob Martens / "Approaching Non-Towered Airports"  
<http://pilotworkshop.com/airmanship/video>

Highlights featured:

- Frequencies
- Use of landing lights on approach
- Overflying to a 45
- Straight-In approach dangers

Pilot's Workshop / John King / "Straight In Approach"  
[www.pilotworkshop.com/tips/straight-approach](http://www.pilotworkshop.com/tips/straight-approach)

The point made was that Straight-In approaches are dangerous unless executed properly. The FARs indicate that they are not in accordance with the FAR 91.126 guidance.

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**MDPA FLYOUT TO SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT, SATURDAY, AUGUST 2 2014**



Although we changed our original flyout destination from Watsonville to Merced due to "Props Restaurant & Lounge" closure, this too never happened. The flyout went to Santa Rosa, Charles M. Schulz–Sonoma County Airport. Here are some photos:



## MDPA MEETING AND DINNER, FRIDAY, AUGUST 15 2014, 6:30PM

The dinner was hosted by Felix Boston and Scott Davis of Magoo's Grill in Pleasant Hill. The dinner menu included mixed green salad, tri-tip and chicken, garlic potatoes, and chocolate cake for dessert.

Our speaker was Stewart Bowers, who showed a movie from the aviation museum in Hood River about the replication of a historic flight made 82 years ago from the roof of a hotel in Portland to Vancouver.

Photos courtesy of Knute, comments by Maureen

Our hosts, Felix and Scott –  
thank you both for a fantastic job!



Joyce & Stu Bowers, Tom Hammitt

Chet Robbins, Cindy & Felix on the  
left with Bob and Queenie Gonzales  
on the right.





On the right, Rob Whitely & guest,  
& George Achelis with Scott sitting  
across from her.



Scott Achelis and Steve Mink  
facing camera, Andrei  
Tkachuk at the bottom right



Jude Potter, Tom Hammitt and  
family, Joyce and Stu Bowers and  
Duane Allen.



Jim Coupe, Elaine, Bob Torrey,  
Dave and Betty Thacker.

Felix Boston with a memento his son made for him. Felix is pointing to bullet holes his son received in his aircraft while protecting us all.



Tri-tip, chicken, garlic mashed potatoes and heavenly chocolate cake, thanks in part to Felix for dressing the part, but also to Scott Davis of Magoo's Grill. I was there today for lunch and had tri-tip sandwich, delicious.



Rich Webber and Bob Torrey  
taking the next photo.



“Women of MDPA”

This shows you who actually runs this organization!!!!!!! 😊

Top left to right: George, Elaine, Joyce, Maureen, Nikki

Bottom left to right: Kristy, Queenie, Jude, Betty

Natasha promised she will be present and in the picture next time 😊





## MESSAGE FROM SCOTT ACHELIS/EAA

EAA 393 is fortunate to have received a onetime contribution of \$2,000 from The Steven B. Achelis Foundation. The funds were granted to complete the construction of the spectator viewing area being built behind the Clubhouse.

The Steven B. Achelis Foundation is the result of a company Steve started in 1983, Equis International. Initially the company was operated from the basement of his home. From the beginning, Steve had a vision of how computers would change people's lives. He focused on the development of programs that would allow the average investor access to the same information and tools for stock market analysis previously available only to large Wall Street firms.

Equis's market tracking programs proved wildly successful as clients and customers throughout the world benefitted from Steve's work. Over the years the company grew and ultimately Steve sold the enterprise to Reuters, the international financial news and media conglomerate.

Giving back to the community has always been a priority for Steve. In 1990 when he created The Achelis Foundation it was to help charitable organizations "make the world a better place." Grants are made on a selective basis using the following general guidelines:

- Organizations that improve opportunities for disadvantaged people; under the premise that few are entitled to a handout, yet all are entitled to a hand up.
- Organizations that seek to improve people's lives for the long term; based on the premise that if you give someone a fish, they'll be fed today but if you teach someone to fish, they'll be fed for life.
- Organizations that focus on children; in the belief that the earlier assistance is provided, the more leverage that assistance will have.
- Cost effective programs where a small contribution can make a significant difference.
- Organizations where a large percentage of funding goes directly to achieve these goals, rather than to fundraising or administrative expenses.
- Charitable, non-profit, tax exempt, 501(c)(3) organizations.

While the completion of the observation area has never been seriously in doubt; the funding from the airport and the Clubs has been limited. EAA 393, its sister MDPA, and indeed the entire airport community are very fortunate to have received the additional funding from the Achelis Foundation which makes it possible for the project to be concluded in a timely fashion.

Scott Achelis

The Mount Diablo Pilots Association is a non-profit organization based at Buchanan Field in Concord, California (KCCR).

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

The MDPA clubhouse is located at 200 Sally Ride Drive in Concord, California,

***do not send mail to the clubhouse address, use the USPS address instead:***

Mount Diablo Pilots Association

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