



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

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media@mdpa.org

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MDPA BREAKFAST AND SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015

By John Potter

MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

December

- 2** Board Meeting
- 5** Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout to Santa Rosa, Lunch at Sky Lounge Restaurant
- 18** Holiday Dinner

January

- 6** Board Meeting
- 9** Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout (TBD)
- 15** Dinner Meeting

February

- 3** Board Meeting
- 6** Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout (TBD)
- 19** Dinner Meeting

BREAKFAST

All went well with breakfast, especially since we had our scrambled eggs specialist, Bob Weiss, on scene on special request. We hit the numbers on food just right, nothing was left. We had about 43 attending, a little more than normal. Must have been the “breakfast effect.”

**Note: The club policy is to deliver leftover food from the dinners and breakfasts to a needy family.*



ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS MDPA Officer Remarks

Treasurer Elaine Yeary reported the current amount in the checking account and alerted everyone that dues are due for 2016. John Barrella, Activities, briefed the day’s trip, destination TBD.

Again we discussed the County Tax rules for the monthly classic aircraft display based on a recent inquiry by Bill Ludwig. There was uncertainty on new rules from the state on the recording process for the classic* aircraft exhibiting for the county tax exemption. It was thought that by the end of the year it will be sorted out with county issuance of the 2015 filing mail outs to those owners with aircraft 35 years old or older that are on file.

*aircraft of historical significance

SAFETY FORUM

The Moderator was Bryan Krey. The bottom line, there is no substitute for being prepared for flight. This was a reflection of 4 illustrations of Bryan not being prepared for a flight which led to significant uncertainty on the flight outcomes.



Early in his flying career he encountered the complexities of the runways at CCR by getting out-foxed. He overthought the exercise of getting to the correct run-up area for 1R, an easy mistake because of the almost unrecognizable run-up box markings. The open run-up area for 1L looked more inviting so started for that spot. He has now learned the merit of asking for “progressives” whenever there is the slightest doubt.

His second big one was with a new IFR rating in hand and making the Arcata approach under icing conditions and having a spooky autopilot taking charge on final. Had something to do with the pilot setup of the FMS before the approach. He never completed the approach and opted to just go home.

The third one of poignant memory was on a flight to Sedona and early-on experiencing near loss of control (he used “plummeting”), the proverbial trying to make settings, recording controller instructions, consequently not flying the airplane (he was not using the autopilot).



The fourth was in a new twin where not enough education about the aircraft electrical system led to early-on loss of power sequences with an ultimate total loss of electrical power. If he had known the aircraft, he



could have had the backup device on line and prevented all of the chaos.

Ed Remarks:

The presentation was well done. The pilots told me so. The moderator had their attention the entire time. As well as it was done, it only marginally accomplished what I have long held out for---pilot dialogue. Each of the 4 experiences were worthy, by themselves, of an hour dialogue between the pilots and the moderator. This thinking comes from my submarine service experience where mistakes are not well tolerated---where "root cause analysis" is essential. Bryan did indeed do the "root cause" thing in each case, but it needed to be thrashed out a bit more with the pilots to ascertain if there were indications things "weren't quite right" long before getting into the various situations.

Again, the Take Away for MDPA ----- the big deal is to do your preparation for flight thoroughly. Don't get distracted. Practice flying without the auto pilot often, never know when it will not work, especially when you most need it!



---We must look out for each other---an MDPA "safety culture."

FLYOUT TO COLUMBIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015

by John Barrella

I live by the mantra “you cannot be flexible until you have a plan”, and such was the case with the November Fly Out. The plan was to go to Red Bluff but because I discovered that the restaurant there is undergoing renovations, we needed to be flexible. The obvious choice was Columbia as we did not go last month due to lack of pilots. Felix Boston and Scott Davis in the Ercoupe set out well in advance just to make things fair.



Once off we all enjoyed a fine flight eastward to one of our favorite destinations. After the 20 minute “trek” into town we opted to skip the typical destination of Mexican food and rather go to the old Jack Douglass Saloon on main street



Columbia. It has the historic designation of being the oldest operating saloon in the west, established in 1857.

We all enjoyed mugs of ice cold homemade Sarsaparilla and very fine lunch fare. We were also lucky enough to be entertained with some old time piano music by one of the local characters on the keys. As always a great day with great folks in the air and on the ground.

COUNTY SPONSORED DINNER FOR AIRPORT BASED ORGANIZATIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell

November 20, 2015 was a truly amazing day in the life of Buchanan Field. Courtesy, in large part, by our airport management, the six aviation flying clubs on the field got together in the Clubhouse and enjoyed a great meal.

On behalf of all in attendance I wish to thank airport management and let them know we are looking forward to repeating this wonderful experience.

These are the clubs, shown on our great dessert – MDPA, EAA, NRI, Concord Flying Club, 184 Flying Club & Valley Pilots



It was great to hear representatives from each club telling us about their membership and how long they had been operating at Buchanan:



Maurice Gunderson (MDPA)



Bill Bower (EAA)



Allen Scott (NRI)



Don Cooper (CFC)



Neil Friedman (184)



Steve Kennedy (Valley Pilots)



Keith Freitas, our airport manager, happy to stop by and say Hello.



Our chef, Scott Davis of Magoo's Grill getting the great food ready.



People starting to gather



Congratulations on your 16th Wedding Anniversary – Natasha and Vadim



John & Jude Potter



Thanks to Elaine for the table decorations.



Below you will find photos of the club members who enjoyed this perfect evening.





LETTER FROM JOHN MCLOUD

The following shows what a great club MDPA is – after 35 years we still have a former member interested enough to forward us photos and his club jacket!



September 24, 2015

2245 S Gene Autry Trail, Unit B
Palm Springs, CA 92264

Members of MDPA,

Some 35 years ago I was an active member of the MDPA, and I am happy to see that the organization has thrived and now has its own club house. I am in the process of downsizing and found the attached MDPA jacket. I don't see a similar item listed in your store so I guess they are no longer available. I thought the current members might like to see what we wore 35 years ago. Looking at the names and pictures of your current members I do not see any familiar ones, but the activities sound familiar.

I still have fond memories of flyins and trips we took together, and the one in particular that stands out was a long weekend trip in early 1981 to Tucson to visit the Pima Air Museum and Davis Monthan AFB where old aircraft are stored. In those days we were allowed to roam freely among the aircraft, but I think that now you can only view them from inside a tour bus. I am enclosing a few pictures which show MDPA members in their blue jackets wandering among the old planes.

I wish you happy flying and many trips together.

John McCloud

Long Live MDPA!!!!

AIRPORT MATTERS

by Maurice Gunderson

AIRPORT MATTERS THAT MATTER

Two county government entities are important to airports and aviation in Contra Costa County. The meetings are open to the public and everyone is always welcome:

1. Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC). Usually second Thursday, Airports Office, 200 Sally Ride Dr, Concord. Next meeting: Thursday, December 10, 10 AM.
2. Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC). Usually fourth Wednesday, County Offices, 30 Muir Road, Martinez. Next meeting: THIRD Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 PM.



DIABLO VALLEY SHOPPING PLAZA

As you may have heard, the DVSP (the old K-Mart location) is soon to be redeveloped into a modern multi-tenant retail facility. Because of its proximity to KCCR, ALUC staff reviewed the preliminary plans which included a new sign the top of which would be 67 feet AGL (92 MSL) (SW corner of Contra Costa Blvd and Chilpancingo, red pin on the photo). ALUC staff determined the sign met County guidelines and referred the developer to the FAA for review. The FAA determined that the sign posed no hazard to aviation. Subsequently, a group of homeowners filed an appeal with the City of Pleasant Hill on the grounds that such a tall sign would be unsightly. The City held a public hearing, and based on comments received, is considering further reducing the allowable height. The bottom line is that the redevelopment, including the sign will be well below the height that would pose a problem to KCCR traffic. This item will likely be on the agendas for the ACC meeting on December 10 and the ALUC meeting on December 16. Please attend if you are interested in hearing the discussion.

BYRON AIRPORT ARMSTRONG-VASCO ROAD

The October AAC meeting was held at the Byron Airport. The main topic of discussion was the comprehensive highway project that will eventually improve highways throughout the eastern part of Contra Costa County, with work continuing well into the 2020s. While the scope and plans for the project are truly impressive, it became evident that road access to the Byron Airport is a minor priority in the whole project. A vigorous and impassioned discussion ensued, emphasizing the need to prioritize Byron Airport access. This discussion is far from over, and surely will be on future AAC meeting agendas. Please attend if you are interested.

Maurice Gunderson

Member of AAC and Proxy (for Commissioner Weber) of ALUC.

MARY LEE MCCUNE'S EMAIL REGARDING GEORGE ANN GARMS PASSING

Dear Friends,

It is with great sorrow that I am letting you know George Ann Garms passed away on October 30, just one day before her ninety second birthday. Below is a brief message from her children which was originally sent to the Berkeley book club that both George Ann and I belonged to:

"I just wanted to let you know that George Ann died this evening at Richard's in New York. They were at home, watching a movie, and she passed. They were preparing to head back out here and Richard was quite worried about her making it. She had 3 more mini-strokes over the summer (TIA's) and wasn't eating and had become quite depressed. So not at all herself in the end."

As most of you know, she was a long-time faithful member of our chapter of the Ninety Nines. She was a great pilot and flew her Cessna 182 until she was past 80. She and her husband Mickey had many flying adventures together, including a long trip to and around South America, where they landed in every South American country's capital, a flight across the Atlantic ocean to Scandinavia, and countless trips around the US and Mexico. After her husband died, George Ann and I flew to Russia by way of Alaska, and flew a big loop in Eastern Russia, as far as Lake Baikal and Mongolia. She flew every other leg of that trip. She was 68 at the time.

A memorial service has been planned for her on December 6th in Berkeley at the St Clement's Episcopal Church. The service will be at 1:00 pm, with a reception at her house, a short block away. Please let me know if any of you plan to come.

With sorrow for our mutual loss,

Mary Lee McCune

maryleemccune@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE



THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO SEE AIRCRAFT ON DISPLAY AT THE JOINT CLUBHOUSE FACILITY LOCATED AT 200 SALLY RIDE DR CONCORD FROM THE HOURS OF 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM.

THIS OCCURS MONTHLY ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH AND IS FREE OF CHARGE.

PLEASE COME AND ENJOY THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED VINTAGE AIRCRAFT.

The Mount Diablo Pilots Association (MDPA) is a non-profit corporation formed in the State of California in 1976 whose purposes include, but are not limited to:

- Promotion of good public relations between the general aviation community and the local community.
- Encouragement of flight proficiency through fly-ins, *safety* programs, and educational and social activities.
- Providing information on aviation matters to its Members.
- Functioning as a proxy for its Members on aviation matters of local and national concern.

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

P.O. Box 6632

Concord, CA 94524

www.mdpa.org