



# MDPA news

June 2008 Concord, CA 925-685-7073 Volume 35 Issue 6

## Meeting Notice

Date:	June 20th, 2008
Place:	NEW CLUBHOUSE
Dinner:	6:30 PM
Program:	7:00 PM
Board Meeting:	N/A

## MDPA SAFETY CLINIC-Held May '08

John Potter- - Moderator

This month's session was sobered by the recent loss of one of our own, Dave Cunningham, in a float plane accident in the Sierras.

For this session we addressed the importance of setting the altimeter to our new location. In the story we addressed, the issue was the correction of the altimeter of .05 inches that would have made the difference of life or death. Death was the outcome of two experienced

pilots flying into a tower in Southern California in VFR, day conditions. Glare was a major factor, but the two items either of which could have saved them was:

1. To have been at pattern altitude for the destination airport, which they were not at due to not having reset the altimeter, and
2. Apparently not having the charted tower information in their minds.

It is almost inconceivable in the day of GPS that we would not have such hazards readily portrayed, but useful only if we are looking at it, given that we could not see out the window. Of course the old Mark 1 Mod 0 sectional works.

BTW, I had a thought when I read this last Time Magazine's "100 most Influential People of the World" and noted that a surgeon had developed a unique device that had resulted in the reduction of hospital acquired infection that occurs in ICUs with 1 out of 10 patients. After applying this "new device," infections dropped from 2.7/1000 to 0 in the evaluation case. Yes -----the "new device" was a -----**checklist**.

My wife, Jude, took the opportunity to join us for breakfast this time and offered her own "passenger" experiences of harrowing moments and how they had come about. She was pretty expressive and I didn't have much to say. She did comment later that it was good that only pilots attended these sessions after she heard our bantering about accidents.

One of the pilots mentioned "Funny Farm", a strip in the Delta with power lines that get snapped by unsuspecting aircraft trying to land. I could not find it on the chart. Any clues?

**"Pilots teaching pilots, before, not after"**



**MDPA Mailing Address**

PO Box 273073  
Concord, CA 94520

**MDPA Officers**

**President:**

Patrick Miller 925-685-3354  
President@mdpa.org

**VP Activities:**

Richard Roberts 925-939-0173  
Activities@mdpa.org

**VP Programs:**

Maureen Bell 925-381-7679  
Programs@mdpa.org

**VP Communications:**

Steve Kennedy 925-370-0828  
Communications@mdpa.org

**Treasurer/Membership:**

Bob Belshe 925-376-7677  
Treasurer@mdpa.org  
Membership@mdpa.org

**Facilities Manager**

Lorraine Bartneck 925-383-8820  
Facilities@mdpa.org

**Secretary:**

Bev Levy 925-937-3444  
Secretary@mdpa.org

**Director at Large:**

John Levy 925-937-3444  
Atdlarge@mdpa.org

**Past President:**

Vince Siebern 415- 897-0861  
Pastpres@mdpa.org

**Aviation Advisory Committee**

Russ Roe 925-228-0138

**Safety/Maintenance:**

Stewart Bowers 925-254-0804

**Web / Newsletters :**

Patrick Miller 925-685-3354  
Dave Evans 925-300-6437  
Steve Kennedy 925-370-0828

**Webmaster@mdpa.org**

**Articles and photographs for the  
newsletter should be e-mailed to**

**Newsletter@mdpa.org**

**Greek Dinner Feast – May Dinner**

The Greek Dinner feast put on the by Peters family for our May dinner was stupendous! We started with Spanakopita, which is cheese and spinach stuffed filo pastry and Tiropita, which is cheese stuffed filo pastry. There was a Greek salad that had olives and feta cheese as well. Then the main course consisted of lamb or chicken kabobs that were ‘to-die for’ along with Greek rice. Tracy, Bridget and Pat Peters really out-did themselves. Of course, what would a visit by the Peters family be without bringing the super star of the family, Stella?

After dinner, Richard Roberts and Gerry Alves gave us an update on the current situation with the development on the Airport. ADG, the construction company that was chosen to develop the west side of the airport (where our former clubhouse was), choose not to pursue their options. The airport management will now attempt to negotiate a new deal with the second approved bidders for the project. We await the outcome.

The club house is still rough, but plans are underway to finish taping, plastering, and painting the walls. Before you know it this new clubhouse will be as comfortable as our old one.

Lorraine has arranged a “tape & plaster” party at the new club house on June 8th, after the breakfast to put the finishing touches on the new club house. THEN on June 15th we’ll have a “paint” party to finish off this beautiful new facility. Please respond to [Facilities@mdpa.org](mailto:Facilities@mdpa.org)

**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.

## Re-opening of the Buchanan Field Public Viewing Plaza

Location: Buchanan Field Public Viewing Plaza  
290 John Glenn Drive (Base of the Control Tower),  
Concord, CA 94520 US

When: Friday, June 6, 11:00 AM  
Contact: Julie Conti 925-646-5722

Please join us in the Re-opening of the Buchanan Field Public Viewing Plaza. This popular Airport location was closed in March of 2008 to expand and improve the amenities for the public. While the Public Viewing Plaza is in its initial stage, it will continue to grow over time until all the planned components are provided. In the meantime, limited seating is available, so bring your picnic supplies if you would like to relax and enjoy the Airport view for a while.

(Note: Individual contributions to add to this exciting endeavor are welcome. We've posted a package from the Airport Advisory Committee on our web site [www.mdpa.org](http://www.mdpa.org))

Please note that the WWII Freedom Fighters, B-17, B-24, B-25, and the P-51 Mustang will arrive Approximately 1:30-2:00 p.m. on Friday June 6, 2008 for the weekend event. For more information, please visit their web site <http://www.collingsfoundation.org>

**Saturday, June 7th - 9 am Monthly Breakfast & Safety Clinic  
Friday - June 20th, Dinner Catered by Mary's Pizza Shack.  
Menu will be Pene Pasta with Meat Sauce or Pesto Sauce, with Salad  
Bread and of course what would pasta be without -- Chianti !!**

### Presidents Message May 2008

(Patter from Pat)

By Pat Miller

First, this month, I'd like to shout out some big "thank you's" to several people. Lorraine Bartneck has been working extremely hard to make our clubhouse presentable. There's a lot of work involved in getting this club house prepared to be as comfortable as our old club house was, and she's doing a fantastic job on this. There's still a lot to do as evidenced by the paint and plaster party that's scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>. Please stop by and help if you can.

I must give huge kudos to the Peters family, Tracy, Bridget, and Pat for the hugely successful Greek feast last month. Putting on a dinner is an awful lot of work, and the Peters family have always put on amazing dinners for us. We surely do appreciate it. Thanks guys.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll see an announcement about the opening of the NEW and IMPROVED observation area on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. It would be really nice if MDPA could make a good showing at this event.

We'll be making key's to the clubhouse in the next couple of weeks. If you need a key to the club house, please submit a key request to [facilities@mdpa.org](mailto:facilities@mdpa.org). The keys will be numbered and tracked. You must be a member in good standing (i.e. dues need to be paid up).

Don't forget our monthly breakfast and safety meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

Pat



Mmmmmm Mmmmm  
Good Stuff!!



Andrea Achelis along with Stella Peters and  
Daddy Tracy Peters.





Chuck Patterson and John Summers



Chuck Patterson's Guest from France.



Bob Everett

Pat Peters  
manning the BBQ's





Vince Siebern and a guest brought by Bob Torrey.



Stewart and Joyce Bowers



Rudi Thomas, Diane Kennedy and Steve Kennedy



Bridget Peters making the Salad for dinner.

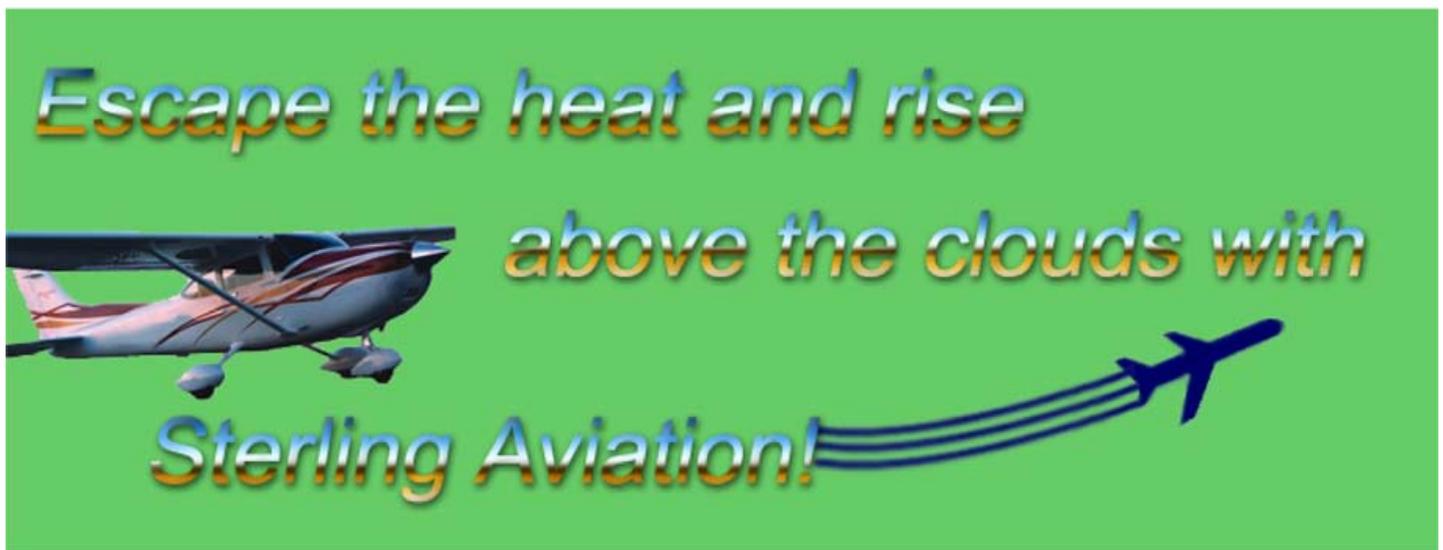
## Tentative Trip Schedule for 2008

Kenai, Alaska - July 27- August 10  
(Contact Richard Roberts)

Ashland, Oregon - September  
(Contact John or Bev Levy)

There still may be time to get in on one of these amazing trips. Contact the trip coordinator.

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*Happy Fathers Day*



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Mt. Diablo Pilots Association  
PO Box 273073  
Concord, CA 94520

Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

## In This Issue:

- 1 Safety Clinic
- 2 Greek Feast
- 3 Observation Deck Re-opening
- 3 Presidents Message

First Class Mail  
Address Correction Requested