



MDPA news

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President's Message Jan. 2008

by Vince Siebern

Meeting Notice

Date:	January 18, 2008
Place:	The Old Terminal Bldg.
Dinner:	6:30 PM
Program:	7:00 PM
Board Meeting:	N/A

2007 was a jam packed year. We had trips to Montana, Utah, and Mexico. We had great dinners every month thanks to those who participated. Our breakfast, safety clinic and static display meetings have grown in popularity and we now regularly host thirty or more at our Saturday breakfasts. We have also faced eviction from our clubhouse.

Yes, we have received an eviction notice. Last month Airport Management, Keith, send us, Concord Flying Club, all renters of the executive hangars and all tie downs in the area eviction notices. Most of the planes tied down near us have moved to the East ramp, as has Concord Flying Club and most of the executive hangar tenants. We have, with the help of Keith, talked to Mike from Sterling about renting space in the old Budget building just East of Sterling Aviation. Sterling is going to lease that building to get additional space. The room we could rent is large enough to hold us at our usual dinners. There is a kitchen available we can use. There is also space we can convert to a small kitchen just next to our meeting room. There is a grassy area we can use for picnics. For the larger dinners (Christmas and the Crab feed) we can use the terminal building. The cost of the space is just about what we pay now, so the financial impact of a move should be minimal.

So what happened to renting back from ADG? During last minute discussions with Keith it became apparent that ADG does not want to rent back to anyone!! They just want to move right ahead with the development and did not want to bother with tenants. My question is why haven't they signed the lease the Board of Sups approved?

The Board of MDPA wants your opinion as to whether we should move to the Budget building or exist as the club did years ago with no clubhouse? You know what MDPA is like with a clubhouse so I won't go into that. What will we be without a clubhouse? Well, we could hold meetings at the water district offices. We could even hold some potluck dinners there. We could do the same thing at the old terminal building. We could have dinners at Crown Plaza. Financially there are major differences. With a clubhouse our dues will stay the same. If we go without a clubhouse then our dues should decrease. If we move to the Budget building I suspect we will get some additional members due to the proximity of all those planes tied down next to Budget. We will still get the fuel discount from PSA or Sterling and we will still go on trips. So now it's up to you. Send your desires to mdpa-board@lists.mdpa.org or to **P. O. Box 273073 Concord, CA 94520**. Please keep your responses short or we will be reading forever and respond soon so we can plan for the year ahead..



The Christmas dinner was great. See the article about the dinner later in the newsletter.

Our next dinner is the Crab feed on Jan. 18th at the old terminal building. This is the installation dinner for our new board members. I look forward to seeing you there.

Don't forget to send in your membership dues. You can renew your membership at our web site, or you can pay at the Crab feed or send your check to our PO Box. So send in those checks-please. Keep the blue side up.

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

Newsletter@mdpa.org

Christmas Dinner and Then Some!

Even though this years Christmas dinner was held under a cloud of impending eviction from our club house, the mood was bright and festive. We had decorations that warmed our hearts while the food filled our bellies. Several volunteers decorated the tables with table cloths, napkins, silverware, and china to make everyone feel at home and comfortable. Some tables had themes, and others were festive. We even had a roaring fire in the fireplace to give us all warmth.

The club supplied the turkey and ham for dinner, while the side's dishes, vegetables, and desserts were "pot-luck". And boy did we luck out. We had everything from mashed potatoes and gravy, to shrimp cocktail on ice. There was a chocolate fountain for dipping, pie's for the coffee, and even peppermint cream puffs (that don't have ANY calories during the holidays. Right?). The theme of the entire dinner was "good friends, good food, good times".

After dinner it was time for the annual gift exchange, or as it's sometimes called MDPA grand larceny. Without restating the rather long and complicated rules here, suffice it to say you either pick a gift or steal a gift. Much of both ensued. One item that seemed especially popular was a Texaco Model plane. Other popular gifts were an airplane music box, and booze. Our MC for the exchange, John Levy, did such a fantastic job, that there is even talk of drafting him into the position next year as well. We'll have to wait until next year to see.



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.



Jay McCartney with Jesse Williams warming by the fire



John Potter and Stewart Bowers discuss flying



Marielle Moyer and guest



Elaine Yeary and Betty Dunn



Greg Holbrook and Marci Shoemaker from PSA



John and Cheryl Summers



Andrea Achelis, Sally Ann & Bob Belshe, and Scott Achelis discuss Sally Ann's hat.

Marilyn Barulich, John Phelps and Diane Kennedy enjoy all the wonderful food.

Remember, we need your votes on this question;
“Should MDPA rent the old Budget Rent-a-car building for a club house, or not?” Send your votes to mdpa-board@lists.mdpa.org or to P. O. Box 273073 Concord, CA 94520.
DEADLINE for Submissions is Jan. 10th. !



Bernadette Peters along with Marielle Moyer, Elaine Yeary, Betty Dunn, Pat and Tracy Peters.

Jude Potter, John Potter, John Phelps, and Lois Phelps.



The youngest MDPA member, Stella Peters with dad Tracy.

Dave Evans admires the Texaco Flyer that he held on to for several minutes before it was stolen away.



Russ Roe admires one of the bottles of wine that were in the gifts.



Sally Ann Belshe is delighted to steal a gift she had her eye on.



Vince Siebern get an action figure of his hero, George W.



Finally getting the present he wanted all night,



It's that time of year again! Along with hang overs, taxes, and taking down the Christmas decorations it's time to renew you MDPA membership. We take all forms of payment. Cash, check, Pay-Pal accounts, whatever. So take a few minutes in your busy schedules and remember to renew your membership.

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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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