



MDPA news

December 2010 Concord, CA webmaster@mdpa.org Volume 39 Issue 12

Meeting Notice

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| Date: | December 17, 2010 |
| Place: | MDPA Clubhouse |
| Dinner: | 6:30 PM |
| Program: | 7:00 PM |
| Board Meeting: | December 1, 2010 |

December 2010 Presidents Message **Steve Kennedy**

Happy Holidays. Wow, we survived all the Thanksgiving turkey, and football. Black Friday is over and I still have a credit rating. The tree and the decorations are up. The shopping is almost done. Now, it's time to enjoy the holidays. This is

traditionally the newsletter where the president would rattle off some of the accomplishments for the year, or give a preview of the upcoming activities for the New Year. I'm not going to do either of those things. (You can thank me later). Instead, let's talk about MDPA.

During the summer, I asked for volunteers for a scholarship committee. We are going to give a \$1000 scholarship to a deserving young man or woman to work towards their pilot's license. This will be known as the Andy Marshall Memorial Scholarship. Pat Peters, Herbert Cole, and Patty Gilchrist became that committee. We developed an application form, some rules and a cover letter that was sent to many of the organizations in and around Buchanan field. This package is also available on our web site (www.mdpa.org). If you know of a deserving individual please send them to the web site to get a copy of the package. The deadline for submissions is January 15th. We'll award the scholarship in the February timeframe.

Our holiday party this year will be on December 17th. Again this year the club will supply the ham and turkeys, while you supply the side dishes, pot-luck fashion. We are also keeping the adopt-a-table program that has proven to be so popular in the past. If you don't know what that is, let me explain. During the year, all of our dinners are on paper or Styrofoam plates with plastic silverware and paper napkins. For the holidays we thought it would be nice to have nice cloth tablecloths with real napkins, real dishes, and silverware. In the past this has meant themed tables with beautiful decorations, and made our dinners much more elegant and enjoyable. We only have 6 or 7 tables to decorate and the reservations are on a first come first serve basis. If you're interested, reserve your table at dinners@mdpa.org.

This year we will also have our "infamous" gift exchange. The history of this exchange is long and storied. Details have been chronicled in previous newsletters. Basically what happens is everyone brings a gift valued at approximately \$20. We then draw random numbers to determine the order of going up to pick out a present. You can choose from under the tree OR you can steal from someone who has chosen their gift already. As you can see, this can get quite cut throat. The full set of rules is printed later in this newsletter.

As this is my last president's message to all of you, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge what a great time I've had as your president these last two years. I really appreciate your support and help, and I hope in some small way, I've helped to make MDPA meet your needs better. It's been a honor to serve you and to work for better and safer flying. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Steve.

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Articles and photographs for the

newsletter should be e-mailed to

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2010 Dinner Schedule

December - Christmas Party - MDPA
Main Course, Potluck Side and the
infamous MDPA Gift Exchange

Gift Exchange Rules

1. Participation is voluntary!
2. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift.
3. Participants will draw a number which determines the order in which they select from the collection of wrapped gifts.
4. When you get a gift, you must unwrap it and you can't hide it under the table or in your airplane, car etc. This is because selected gifts are vulnerable to ORGANIZED CRIME -- that is, theft by participants who drew numbers after yours. The first person selects a wrapped gift and unwraps it. The second and following participants have ONE MINUTE to either select a wrapped gift from the pile OR steal an unwrapped gift from someone else.
5. If you are a victim of GIFT THEFT, you then have one minute to either select another wrapped gift or steal from another victim.
 - 5A. You can't steal your previous gift back, though!
 - 5B. Also, there can be no more than two gifts stolen in a single round. If you are the victim of a steal, you must take a wrapped gift from those remaining.
6. After all the participants have selected or stolen a gift, there is one final round (maybe). If you were the #1 person to draw and IF the wrapped gift you drew was NEVER stolen, you can steal a gift from someone else. Usually this means exchanging your dog for their diamond, but if there are still wrapped gifts in the pile you just put your unwrapped gift on the pile and either choose from the remaining wrapped gifts or steal a gift.
7. That's all, folks!

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.



The Little Man
El hombre pequeno





Pre-dinner speaker Mitchell Dobin from the Civil Air Patrol, David Dobin and John Potter



Everyone waits for dinner



Elaine rings the dinner bell



Kristi and Bob Torrey with Maureen Bell



After-dinner speaker Jesse Williams



Can you guess what this is? .

It's dessert. Yummm.



Las tres amigas.

Diane Kennedy, Maureen
Bell, Elaine Yeary

MDPA Breakfast and Safety Clinic-----Saturday, 11/6/10
John Summers, Moderator

First, Breakfast: eggs a la Steve Kennedy; bacon and sausage from John Verhoek; and pancakes from Bob Weiss. Blueberries from John Potter.

John Summers started the Safety Meeting with a thoughtful question, asking the attendees “What do you study and review when preparing for a BFR?” The answer from many was “Airspace.”

John then showed an excellent AOPA video covering ABCDE Airspace. (There is no F Airspace in the United States.) The explanations included definitions of each type of airspace with altitudes and specific requirements for flying in that space. There were also explanations of how airspace has changed over time and evolved into the alphabet soup we fly in today.

The consensus from the roundtable discussion following the video was:

- Airspace is confusing
- Newer pilots are confused because they have no history or prior experience to help explain the system of today
- Experienced pilots are confused because they remember some things from earlier training and can't always separate the new and old information
- All pilots need to review and carefully study the current airspace to fly safely.

Preview of Coming Attractions 2011 MDPA Activities

Boonville
Solvang
Columbia
Blue Canyon



Pacific States Aviator
51 John Glenn Dr
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 685-4400
Unicom 122.95

Mt.. Diablo Pilots Association
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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested