



MDPA news

December, 2011 Concord, CA webmaster@mdpa.org Volume 40 Issue 12

Meeting Notice

Date:	December 16, 2011
Place:	MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner:	6:30 PM
Christmas Party:	7:00 PM
Board Meeting:	January 4, 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again the year is coming to an end. It has been a tough year for many, but our club has continued on with many memorable dinners and speakers, interesting safety meetings and fly outs, all because of you, our members and the many hours you spend keeping the spirit of aviation alive.

A heartfelt thank you to our board members and chairmen for all your help during the year and welcome to our new board members who are volunteering their time and effort to keep MDPA going strong.

As you know we have reduced the membership fees for next year so we encourage you to renew your membership and bring a friend or neighbor to any of our meetings – we need your help in keeping our club solvent. We also need your help in preparing one of the dinners for next year – you don't have to do it alone, talk to some of the friends you sit with during those dinners and plan a menu that would be fun and easy for you all. Also, if you know of an interesting speaker that would appeal to our members, pass on their contact information to Chet Robbins.

December 16th is our Christmas party so sign up early with dinners@mdpa.org. As always, we will supply the ham and turkey and ask you to bring a side dish and if you wish to take part in the sometimes crazy gift exchange, bring a gift valued at \$20.00.

Next time you are in the clubroom, you will notice the difference at the end of the room by the bookcase – many thanks to Stewart, Tracy and John for all their hard work doing much needed spring cleaning.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and looking forward to a New Year that brings everyone health and happiness.

Until next time,

Maureen Bell

MDPA Holiday Party December 16, 2011

The fabulous annual MDPA Christmas party and gift exchange is once again upon us! The Club will provide the holiday ham and turkey and the members and guests will provide the delicious side dishes and decadent desserts. Tables will be decorated and you will eat dinner with a real, unbreakable, fork on a real plate.

The feature program/entertainment will be the famous MDPA Gift Exchange.

Gift Exchange Rules

1. Participation is voluntary!
2. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift and place it under the tree.
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, hangar, 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*, then you have one minute to either select another wrapped gift or steal from another victim.
 - 5A. You can't steal your previous gift back.
 - 5B. 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.

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

Newsletter@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.

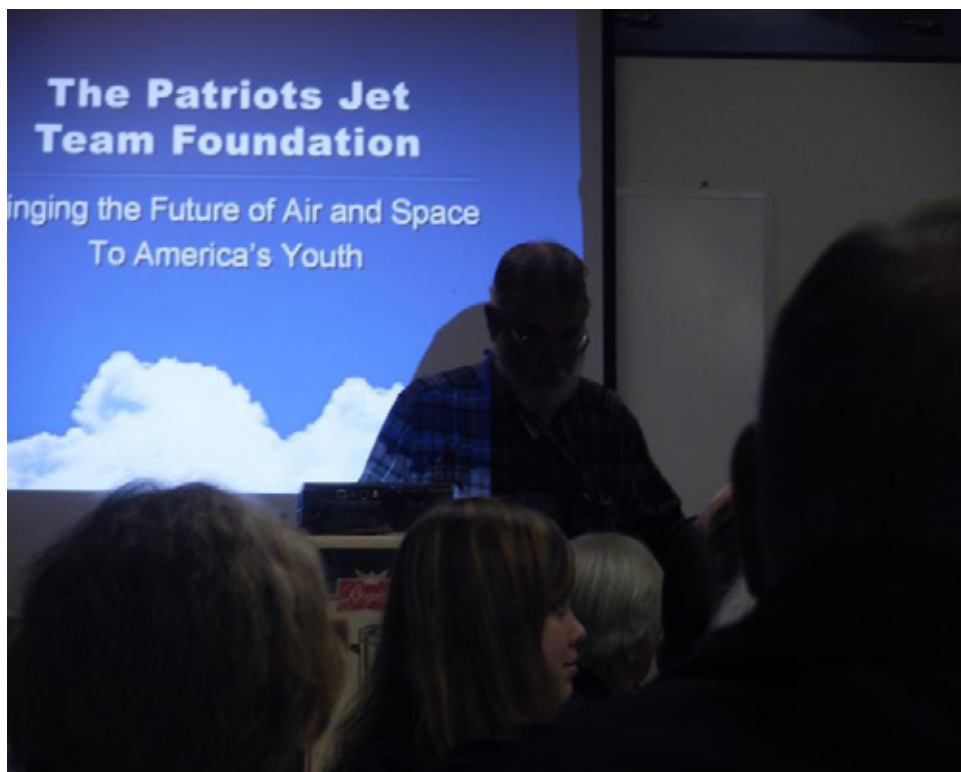
MDPA November Meeting



Maureen Bell introducing the speakers, Dave Ringler and Ed Daly from the Patriots Jet Team in Byron



Dave Ringler, Executive Director of the Patriots Jet Team Foundation



John Potter



Jennifer & Pradeep, hosts and cooks of the wonderful Indian dinner, with Pat Peters



Joun Summers, Greg Galiardi, Kristi Logan, Jacque Galiardi



Waiting for dinner



Pat Peters, Jay McCartney,
Andrea & Scott Achelis

MDPA Activities and Harris Ranch Fly-In

We were scratching our heads (literally for those of us with lirtle hair left) about the wind conditions at CCR at launch time, but eight of us took up the challenge in four aircraft and had a wonderful flight and lunch at Harris Ranch. You just never know until you get off the ground and take a look, but the system worked in terms of the accuracy of current meter and winds aloft information from the Weathermeister website for the route of flight. With all that wind, there was nary a bump -- go figure. George Vjunovich flew me down in his V-tail Bonanza, Jerry Alves took Geoff Logan in his Baron, James Clarke flew down with John Potter in his Commander, and John Summers brought the rear so to speak, in the club 182 with David Thacker. (John Summers needs special mention because the remote camera setting was too quick for him to press the shutter and still make it into the picture. But let me assure you he was there...)

This trip concludes our 2011 activities, but I will put together a schedule for 2012 and get it distributed before our first 2012 fly-in on Saturday, January 7th.

I wish to sincerely thank all of the 2011 participants in our year's worth of fly-ins. We've had a lot of fun getting to know our fellow MDPA members better, some interesting flight challenges, but most important to me, a very good reason to maintain our flying skills and engage in the activity we love. I hope you all continue to participate and invite a new batch of fellow pilots into the fold.

Happy Holidays to everyone, and Happy New Year.

Bob Weiss

**MDPA Harris Ranch
December 3, 2011**

George Vjunovich, David Thacker, Bob Weiss, Jim Clarke, Jerry Alves, John Potter, Geoff Logan



Safety Meeting Saturday, December 3, 2011

Mark Young moderated a thoughtful and interesting discussion, with photographs of the runways, on the challenges and planning requirements for landing at difficult airports. eg. Weaverville (O54) and Shelter Cove, CA (0Q5).



Fuel Prices 100LL as of December 3, 2011

PSA:	MDPA Price \$5.08/gal	Retail \$5.23/gal
Sterling:	MDPA Price \$5.13/gal	Retail \$5.33
	Breakfast price (members only) \$4.88	



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

JEPPESEN
Dealer

Mt. Diablo Pilots Association
PO Box 6632
Concord, CA 94524

Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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***"Mt . Diablo Pilots Association, an association of aviation enthusiasts"-
aircraft owners, renters, students and affiliates are welcome.***