



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

May 2015

activities@mdpa.org

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MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

May

15 Meeting and Dinner

23-25 Trip to Grand
Canyon

June

6 Breakfast & Flyout
to Watsonville

19 Meeting and Dinner

July

6 No Breakfast or
Flyout due to
Independence Day
Holiday

11 Breakfast & Flyout
to Schellville – Vintage
Aircraft Display

17 Meeting and Dinner

MDPA BREAKFAST AND AIRPORT SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2015

BREAKFAST

By John Potter

We had standard "Costco" chow with some newbie cooks---- Richard Johnson and Bill Darnell, helped by an old pro Jim Coupe (pancake expert). Knute Fisher was the Head Cook and ended up cooking since one cook failed to show. Under severe duress, his crew served over 60 participants from as many as 5 airport clubs/organizations.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

MDPA Officer's Remarks

President Bob Weiss encouraged everyone to volunteer and to attend airport enhancement planning meetings. Treasurer Elaine Yeary called for dues, even late ones, and noted that the club had over 80 members with new applications at this meeting, some recruited on-the-spot by Maureen Bell (those near her within striking distance). Harvard Holms of EAA announced the Young Eagles program starting on April 18th.

Cleanup

The clubhouse got swept and damp mopped. I was able to get out and turn in the airport check-off sheet and keys to the airport office in time to go on the fly out **with** "everybody" (i.e. normally I don't get there until "everybody" else has paid their bill and are leaving).



Scott Davis cracking some eggs, making perfect over easies ☺



Maureen Bell – our “busy bee” and helping hand mopping the floor ☺

New "Pilot"

Tom Cronin was recognized and applauded as just having gotten his license! His wife, Laura, was observed applauding as well.

AIRPORT SAFETY FORUM

Keith Freitas, the Airport Manager, and a pilot, was introduced by "Jerry" Alves. He first showed a recently produced video that featured the Concord and Byron county airports. The video promoted the capabilities of each airport in the support of area businesses and area aviation in general. He reviewed the priority list of work to be planned in both the short and



long term at the Concord Airport (See attached Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) Sheet). There was an exchange of questions and answers and he concluded by asking that pilots participate in airport centered meetings, namely those of the ALUC, Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) and Airport Economic Development Committee (EDIP).

The Take-Away for MDPA from the Safety Forums

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It isn't often that our Association has an opportunity to be advocates for the greater good of the airport and our airport community. We are usually announcing and promoting our internal activities, such as our monthly breakfast, safety briefings, fly-ins and dinners. The opportunity to call on our members to positively impact CCR and Byron is at hand due to the ongoing efforts of the Airport Economic Development Committee (EDIP) and the next steps the airport staff is taking to implement positive change. In a nutshell, EDIP has put forth a laundry list (attached) for ideas to improve the airport grounds and facilities, improve the overall business climate, improve relations between airport staff and the airport stakeholders, and reach beyond the airport boundary to engage the community at large with all of the positive things that are happening at the airport. For those of you who attended Keith Freitas' talk on Saturday, you were introduced to the list (attached), and heard him call out a sincere desire for constructive feedback from the airport stakeholders to prioritize the list into actionable projects. And, he offered a couple of avenues for feedback. The first is to attend the upcoming Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) this Thursday at 10:00 at the airport offices on Sally Ride Drive. (For those of you who don't know, the AAC is the airport watchdog that makes recommendations to the Airport Board of Supervisors Sub Committee that, in turn, makes recommendations to the general Board of Supervisors. This is the direct pathway to obtaining approval to proceed and fund airport related projects.) The second avenue is to send Keith and Beth Lee, Assistant Airport Director, an e-mail with the items on the list that would be your first, second and third priority, if you had the time and money to implement them.



Keith's e-mail is: krrei@airport.cccounty.us/Beth's e-mail address is: blee@airport.cccounty.us

For example, my top priority item is to install an electronic LED sign the intersection of Diamond Blvd and Concord Avenue, where there are already sign posts to hang banners. This location is proven to be an effective advertising location, having drawn the vast majority (over 100 per month) of Young Eagle participants. I can imagine advertising our breakfasts, safety briefings, fly-ins and dinners to the general public, as well as EAA's YE activities, primary and advanced flight training, scenic and charter flights, airport sponsored events, etc., etc. This item seems manageable from a cost and timing standpoint, and in conjunction with better signage at John Glenn Drive, landscape beatification, improving the overall image of John Glenn Drive, we'd have a nice airport facility improvement. After reading through the list, you may agree, or you may not. The important thing is to weigh in and let your voice be heard on what is important to you. I would also call your attention to the items at the very bottom of the page with the heading, "Indirect Investment (No Funding Impact). These are items that the EDIP generated very early on in its committee process. The first item, "Improve Communication (Airport/Tenants), was something that I tried to address by inviting Keith to speak on Saturday and to reach out the all of the hangar tenants/owners, and tie down and shade hangar tenants managed by LCA, BAHOA, and the airport. Keith was, obviously, in favor because he accepted the invitation and much of his talk to a direct appeal for constructive feedback. The third item on this list is, "Airport Staff adopts a 'Can Do' Attitude and Eliminates Bureaucratic Obstacles." This one opens to door for an open dialog on your personal experiences with airport staff, and I would encourage you to let your voices be heard on this item; whether positive or negative.

The take away from this conversation is that, as advocates for a healthy, progressive and welcoming airport experience, we all have a unique opportunity, a moment in time, to make a difference and to let our voices be heard. And I would reiterate that we should be constructive, not destructive in our responses. We are, after all, a family that includes, not only ourselves, but EAA, the various flying clubs, the FBO's, airport staff, etc. with a common goal for positive change at both CCR and Bryon. Thanks for your time reading and hopefully responding to the foregoing.

Bob Weiss, MDPA President
925-382-0586 Cell

MDPA FLYOUT TO BOONVILLE, SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2015

By Natasha Doktorova

After breakfast and safety forum a lot of us gathered outside to take pictures and to enjoy the view of the airport and parked planes with our beautiful Mount Diablo in the background.



Bill Austin, Keith Freitas & Bill Ludwig



Felix Boston's Ercoupe 415-D



↑ Bethi Gibb, J.R. Gibb, Scott Davis, Stew Schuster



Bill Austin & fans by his Stearman ↑



Bethi Gibb, J.R.Gibb & Stew Bowers by the clubhouse
←

Franz Krispel & Natasha by Franz's Beech 18 ↓



← Bethi Gibb & Natasha by Franz's Beech 18



Our flight to Boonville was nice and pleasant. We had lunch at The Buckhorn restaurant, which is a short, 15 minutes, less than a mile, walk from the airport. The outside seating was great, food was excellent, weather - perfect. <http://www.thebuckhornboonville.com/>.



A little bit of Boonville's history: Boonville was founded by John Burgots in 1862. The place was originally called The Corners. Burgots built a hotel, and in 1864 Alonzo Kendall built another hotel. The town became known as Kendall's City. W.W. Boone bought a store in town and gave the place its current name. Boonville is best known as the source of the Boontling folk language. Bottles from the local Anderson Valley Brewing Company are labeled with the

motto "Bahl Hornin" which means "It's good drinkin'" in Boontling. ☺

John Potter had some trouble with the flaps when he was leaving for Concord – they would not retract - so I took his passenger – Jim Clarke – to fly back with us. There was some



strong crosswind and gusts to 21 when we were landing but we survived anyway. ☺ John got back safe as well.



Our "horses" ☺



Alex, Jim & Natasha

MDPA MEETING AND DINNER, FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell



Chet, Felix, Bob Weiss & new member Chris Hansen with Pete Monillas and Pattie Krebs on the left.



The CHP group – thanks to Chris (bottom right) for fixing the club’s atomic clock.



Kristy, Bob T. and Bob Belshe with John and Bev Levy and a snake charmer on the left.



Scott Achelis, Rich Johnson, Maurice Gunderson and Duane Allen.



The Thacker’s with grandchild, John Potter and Lorraine Bartneck.



Some arrive in style (such as The Thacker’s)!



CHP helicopter upon arrival.



Close up view of N341HP.



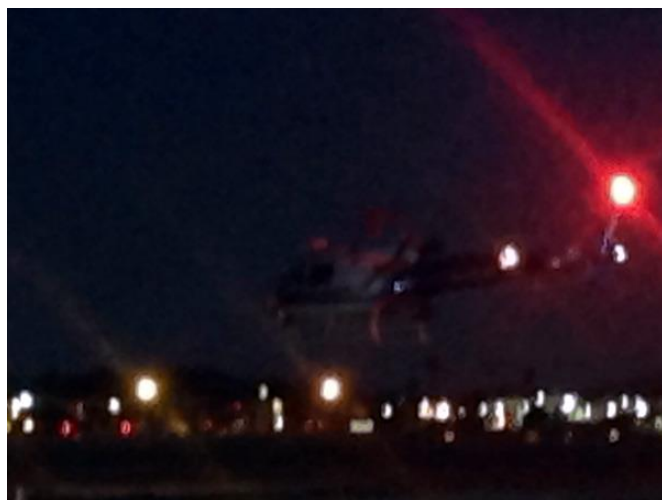
Our group being told how to avoid being caught on radar.



Steve Kennedy getting a bird's eye view.



Introduction of our speakers.



Departing at dusk.

TRIP TO THE GRAND CANYON

Depart May 23, 2015 @ 0600 hours
KCCR - KGCN (Grand Canyon National Park Airport)
Return May 25, 2015
FBO information (928) 638-7117
<https://www.airnav.com/airport/KGCN>
Contact Rick Mann 510.377.2197 or ric@ricman.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 is a non-profit organization based at Buchanan Field in Concord, California (KCCR).

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 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