



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

June 2015

activities@mdpa.org

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MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

June

- 6** *Breakfast & Flyout to Watsonville, lunch at Ella's At the Airport*
- 19** *Meeting and Dinner*
-

July

- 4** *No Breakfast or Flyout due to Independence Day Holiday*
- 11** *Breakfast & Flyout to Schellville - Vintage Aircraft Display, lunch at local fruit stand*
- 17** *Meeting and Dinner*
-

August

- 1** *Breakfast & Flyout to Salinas, lunch at The Landing Zone*
- 21** *Meeting and Dinner*

MDPA BREAKFAST AND SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

By John Potter

BREAKFAST

With Johannes Verhoek as Head Cook we again had standard "Costco/Safeway" chow with some newbie cooks - Alexander Golovets and Bryan Krey (with 2 sons helping, Cory & Ben), helped by old pros Bob Belki and Ron Lem. Scott Davis got recruited on the spot to instruct in DIY Eggs-Over-Easy. We had about 40 for the special gathering of student pilot guests and there were no leftover homemade grits that Elaine Yeary provided. That is a first!

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

SAFETY FORUM

The Moderator, John Barrella, got into the topic of communications and working with ATC. His recent flights into the LA airspace was somewhat challenging but he reported that he managed it fairly well. He noted (or it might have been one of the pilots) that saying "with you" when reporting in with the next controller is undesirable. It is best to simply say "4887W at 4,500".

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

MDPA Officer Remarks

President Bob Weiss welcomed everyone to the "Take a Student Pilot for Lunch" themed meeting and flyout. Treasurer Elaine Yeary called for dues, even late ones, and noted that the club had a new membership at this meeting.

Cleanup

The clubhouse got cleaned up and all was in good order so I was able to get out in time to go on the flyout WITH "everybody" else. I took 2 passengers, one an old timer who had never been on a club flyout, Jim Coupe, and the other who owned a Glastar but only had 50 hours and had not soloed yet.

Clubhouse Weed Control

Ron Lem was recognized and applauded for having taken the initiative to whack down and haul away the forest of weeds on the south side of the clubhouse (Whacker provided by Scott Davis). Now that is the way to get things done around the clubhouse!

The Take-Away for MDPA from the Safety Forums

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

SAFETY FORUM & FLYOUT TO AUBURN, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

By John Barrella

The "Mentor a Student Pilot" day for our May event was by all accounts a big success. We had a total of 8 student pilots from Sterling aviation join us for the day. During our morning club discussion I tried to focus on topics that typically do not get a lot of attention and can be daunting for beginning pilots (and the rest of us as well). We had a round table type discussion about, when to file a flight plan, how and when to best use flight following, how to get a good flight briefing, and other resources that can be used for flight planning like Flight Watch and online tools that are available. We had great participation with excellent comments and experiences being shared by many of the MDPA members. It really demonstrated the wealth of knowledge within the club and how powerful and important it can be to share and exchange this collective experience.



After fueling up with the standard MDPA breakfast, we placed the students with our volunteer pilots. A big thanks to: Scott Davis, Bob Weiss, Bob Tucknott, Pete Mollinas & John Potter. Auburn was the destination and it was long enough to get good exposure and practice with flight following. The approach into Auburn was a bit interesting as well with the terrain features coming up to meet you and providing an unusual visual picture on base and final. After touch down we walked over to the Ridge Golf course where we had an excellent meal along with great service and good fellowship and discussion all around the table. During the trip back we later discovered that Scott Davis had a complete electrical failure in his aircraft. Scott has graciously volunteered to describe his ordeal during an upcoming Saturday. You won't want to miss it. I can assure you his student pilot on board got extra credit for this trip.

I want to thank everyone for their participation that made this happen. We can all be proud for doing our small part to making the air space above more fun and hopefully a safer place.

I'd like to add to John's post above and share one of the most amazing and unforgettable experiences I had that day when flying to Auburn. Bill Austin kindly offered me a front seat in his beautiful classic yellow open cockpit biplane - 1942 Boeing Stearman. Here is a little bit of history: Stearman Model 75 was used as a military trainer aircraft, of which at least 10,626 were built in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s. Stearman Aircraft became a subsidiary of Boeing in 1934. Widely known as the Stearman, Boeing



Stearman or Kaydet, it served as a primary trainer for the USAAF, the USN, and with the RCAF as the Kaydet throughout World War II. After the conflict was over, thousands of surplus aircraft were sold on the civilian market. In the immediate postwar years they became popular as crop dusters, sports planes, and for aerobatic and wing walking use in airshows.



I can only compare that flying experience to the day when I first soloed. And although I am no longer a student pilot, I felt like one, after my first landing - very happy, excited and thrilled! I got to wear a jumpsuit, a helmet and a parachute, also added a scarf to my uniform - just to look like pilots in those old pictures ☺

Flying in an open cockpit makes you experience new sensations no other type of flying can provide. It makes you look at flying from a totally different perspective. You can stretch out your hand and feel the wind blowing through your fingers. You can smell the fresh air and wave to the birds flying by. You can imagine yourself as one with the machine, pretend that your hands are the wings, stretch them out and FLY!



Thank you Bill for giving me the opportunity to fly in your beautiful bird! Now my next step is the aerobatic training. Looking forward to those rolls, loops, hammerheads, spins, and inverted flights. ☺

Natasha

MDPA MEETING AND DINNER, FRIDAY, MAY 15, 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell

As you can see in the first photo, our speaker was a KC-10 pilot from Travis AFB. He gave a very interesting speech which lasted about the time it takes an SR71 to obtain 100ft in altitude.

Unfortunately the actual pilot was called out for a mission the evening before our meeting, so we improvised. We held a raffle at no cost to members and gave out five prizes to the lucky winners.

We also watched a video on density altitude which was put out by the FAA and was actually quite funny (didn't know the FAA had a sense of humor!)

Add to that the delicious dinner of baby back ribs and chicken with all the trimmings, catered by Scott Davis and the outcome was a great evening.



Our speaker the KC-10 pilot



Rich, Pierre, Bonnie Nordahl arriving and Elaine counting the money, with Joyce Bowers catching up with Patti Gilchrist.



Elaine and Kristy checking their raffle tickets, Mark checking his phone, Chet already setting up his raffle prize, Pierre, Rich & Scott Achelis.



Ron Lem, Scott, another lucky prize winner, Pierre, Mark, Elaine, Bob Torrey, George Achelis and Stu Schuster.



Stu and Joyce, Bill Landstra – obviously not wanting his photo taken – & his guest Larry.



John and Jude Potter, Bonnie Nordahl, on the right is Patti Gilchrist, and in the background you can see our chef, Scott Davis checking the table with his helper Lorraine Bartneck.



Dessert anyone?

TRIP TO THE GRAND CANYON, MAY 23 -25, 2015

We had a great time, and hope you all did too! Thank you again, Rick, for organizing this adventure, and for including other non MDPA participants. Here are a couple of photos taken of the group at the Bright Angel Lodge overlooking the Grand Canyon. From left to right in the back row first, we are:



Harvard & Sara Holmes, John Barella, Marsha & Fred Lohden, Scott Davis, Ron Lem & daughter Mary, Stu Schuster

Front Row: Mike & Cathy Harris, Karen & Rick Mann



We hope to see you all on another fun filled adventure in the future.

Harvard and Sara

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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

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