



# MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association  
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

July 2015

[activities@mdpa.org](mailto:activities@mdpa.org)

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## MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

### 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** *No dinner*

### August

**1** *Breakfast & Flyout  
to Salinas, lunch at The  
Landing Zone*

**21** *Meeting and Dinner  
BBQ at the Clubhouse*

### September

**5** *Breakfast & Flyout  
to Lodi,  
Lunch at Lodi Airport  
Cafe*

**18** *Meeting and Dinner*

**PLEASE NOTE: July's breakfast will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month – July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015.  
No dinner meeting in July so plan on a great BBQ for August!!!**

## MDPA BREAKFAST AND SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2015

*By John Potter*

### **BREAKFAST**

With the duo Knute Fisher & John Potter as Head Cooks we again had standard "Costco/Safeway" chow with some newbie cooks----Alexander Golovets and Marc Ausman (with son Evan), helped by old pros Tony Tirtelli and Ron Lem. Past President Stu Bowers got recruited on the spot to instruct in DIY Eggs-Over-Easy. We had about 32 present for breakfast.

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

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

#### **MDPA Officer Remarks**

President Bob Weiss welcomed everyone to the meeting and flyout. He offered that the last meeting with taking student pilots on the flyout was without question a success.

#### **Cleanup**

We are getting better at an organized clean up. When all was in good order I was able again to get out in time to go on the flyout WITH "everybody" else. I took a passenger, an old timer but newly minted pitot, Dennis Stillway. Turns out that he had a long history in aviation since over the years he would hang-out at the



airport with other mechanics. (He got a MDPA complementary membership since he had just gotten his license.)



## SAFETY FORUM

The Moderator, David Thacker, first described his participation in the Salinas AOPA regional gathering. He explained that he had volunteered to work at the event but the weather on the fly-in date was below his minimums. So, he decided to fly Young Eagles at Nut Tree Airport in sunny weather. MDPA Members whom attended the AOPA fly-in decided to drive to the event and they reported most other attendees did likewise due to the marginal weather.

He then got into the topic of pilot behavior when another pilot is in the airplane---mainly complacency and letting events progress without monitoring the potential for making mistakes, like entering an incorrect pattern or landing the wrong way on a runway.

He asked if pilots checked NOTAMS for their destination before departing and in general there was a "not always" response. He noted that recently there were many flyers intending to land at Nut Tree to buy low priced fuel and they were 'surprised' to find the airport runways closed due to construction when they tried to land. NOTAM information is not included in ASOS broadcasts. ALWAYS CHECK NOTAMS!

The Take Away for MDPA

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

## FLYOUT TO OROVILLE, SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2015

*By John Barrella*

Our original plan to go to Watsonville was scrapped due to a persistent marine layer and reports of 1000 foot ceilings down south (sounds like a typical summer day).



So the alternative was to head east. Oroville was an obvious choice as I had not been there before and there was a restaurant at the golf course next to the airport.

After much study of the map and debate on how best to get to the weird little taxiway to the golf course tie

down we set off to check it out.

We had 4 pilots and 4 passengers that made a nice even number. After landing left traffic for runway 20 we all lined up and paraded nose to tail back down the runway to get over to the taxiway to the little tie down area.

A short walk over to the golf course restaurant where they served us some solid no frills burgers and sandwiches. After some good swapping of tall tales it was back to the birds and home to KCCR.

So it turned out to be a nice little last minute trip with the opportunity to observe the Sutter Buttes up close and once again share quality time with fellow pilots. Come on out and join us next time.



Left to right: Jeff Klaus, Stu Schuster, John Barrella, Rich Weber, Dennis Stillway, Jon Potter, Russ Atkinson

## MDPA MEETING AND DINNER, FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 6:30PM

*by Maureen Bell*



Our speaker in June was Sue Clarke, a member of Pilots N Paws, who gave a very interesting story about some of their rescue missions. One of our own MDPA members Maurice Gunderson also belongs to that group, but I am sad to say he is what is known as a “failed rescuer”. See his story below, together with a photo of Fargo.

“As you know we have been flying for PnP for about two years. This May I signed up to fly a mission from Hanford to Petaluma. It was an Australian cattle dog mix that had



been found stray on the streets in Hanford. A lady named Yvonne discovered him, carefully lured him to her, took him to the vet, and took him home.

Yvonne then contacted Marina Harrison at “Herd It Through The Grapevine”, a cattle dog rescue group in Petaluma. Marina agreed to take him and posted the mission on PnP. She also called me and asked if I would fly the mission, as I had flown several dogs for her



previously. So off I went to Hanford where I met Yvonne and Fargo. (His name comes from the street in Hanford where he was found).

I flew him to Petaluma and handed him over to

Marina and his foster mom Lori Anderson. I really liked Fargo and it was very difficult to fly away and leave him.

On the short flight home from Petaluma to KCCR I realized that Fargo was destined to be our dog. When I got in the car I called Rebecca and she agreed, so I



called Marina right back and told her we wanted to adopt Fargo. Good thing I acted fast, because two other families had already expressed interest in him.

Fargo stayed with his foster Lori for about two weeks for the required waiting period and while he got his vet work completed. Rebecca drove to see Fargo at Lori's house every day (140 mile round trip) so he would know her by the time we brought him home. Finally on June 5 we brought him home.

I know that PnP refers to this as a "failed mission," where the animal gets adopted by the pilot. But for us it has been a great success!"

**Magoo's Grill Presents**

# Senior Summer

**50% off all food items!**

**Monday - Friday 11am - 3pm  
June 1st - August 31st**

*Available to all those born 1950 and earlier.*

**Magoo's Grill  
of Pleasant Hill**

1250 Contra Costa Blvd.  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
925-682-4868  
[magoosgrill.com](http://magoosgrill.com)

**1951 and younger?** Mention this ad and Magoo's will donate 50% of your food purchase to the Pleasant Hill Senior Center's Care Management Program.

\*Offer good for Dine in only



## 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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[www.mdpa.org](http://www.mdpa.org)