



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

December 2018 media@mdpa.org Volume 47 Issue 12

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MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

December 2018

- 1** Breakfast, Safety Forum
- Cancelled. Replaced by
Airport "**Arrival of Santa
Claus**" event
- 5** Board Meeting
- 21** Dinner Meeting

January 2019

- 2** Board Meeting
- 5** Breakfast, Safety Forum
& Flyout
- 18** Dinner Meeting

February 2019

- 2** Breakfast, Safety Forum
& Flyout
- 6** Board Meeting
- 15** Dinner Meeting

Santa Claus is Coming to Buchanan Field Airport!!!



*Santa Claus is flying into Buchanan Field Airport on **December 1st, 2018***

at 10:00am. The event is *FREE* and anyone wishing to take a picture with Santa is encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item and/or donation for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. Santa will arrive, outside, on the east side of the Airport behind the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Display Day has MDPA member aircraft moving into place at the hotel starting at 0800 according to airport instructions.

MDPA BREAKFAST AND SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018

By John Potter

“HANGAR TALK” HOUR

Russ Atkinson, the Head Cook, had enough cooks prior to the Wednesday deadline so I put out the notice for the breakfast earlier than normal. We had planned for 45 and 40 guests were present. John Ewins did the shopping and we had Marc Ausman and Marc’s 15 yr old daughter Courtney for cooking along with Bill Darnell, and Roberto Fuenzalida for set-up. I was amazed how quickly the kitchen got cleaned up, must have been the influence of Courtney.

It is essential that volunteers **!!!!Register!!!!!!!** so that we can have the “right” number of people, and not too many!

We are now depending 100% on MDPA members to respond to the request for helpers that comes out a week before the

Saturday Safety Forum by going to the MDPA website calendar and registering. Failure to register means that we do not know how many will show up.

The “Head Cook” Team is divided into three tasks:

- **Head Cook** - Makes sure that the food is ready on time and properly prepared.
- **Cooks** - Prepare the food and cleanup the kitchen.
- **Shopping** - Get the food (usually at Costco and/or Safeway).
- **Set-up** - Prepare the kitchen and serving area for serving and store the equipment afterwards.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

MDPA President’s Comments

Thanks to all the Cooks!
Everyone who helped set up!
Everyone who will help clean up!

Welcomes to new MDPA Members & Guests.

The next Historical Aircraft display day make-up event will be at the clubhouse on Saturday, November 10.

Oil Delivery – on the benches.

We need new volunteers for the future of MDPA.
Please think about how you can volunteer!
Most critical need is a Dinner Coordinator!

Thanksgiving Dinner – Joint event MDPA and EAA393
Friday, November 16, 2018 @ 6:00 PM, Clubhouse
Speaker: Bill Larkin historical CCR photographs

Note: The Historic Aircraft Display, when weathered out, is noticed by MDPA. For this provision to permit an exemption for showing an aircraft, the aircraft must be registered on the MDPA website for that date in advance.

Director of Airports Comments

A summary from Beth Lee, Assistant Director of Airports:

Thank you too, and a reminder for MDPA members displaying their aircraft on the transient ramp during the Santa event on December 1. The John Muir Gala is being held at the former Apex hangars this evening. On October 16 the Board of Supervisors approved the revised rates and fees which will go into effect on January 1. A big “thank you” to all of the tenants involved in the process! The F-Row reskinning and new hangar door project is expected to be complete by Christmas. The door-piece shipments were unexpectedly delayed and staff is assessing the feasibility of replacing the roof from a cost and timing (winter approaching) perspective. A FAA grant funding application was submitted for the reconstruction and overlay of Runway 14L/32R and the project could begin in summer 2019. The 3-acre business park project is moving forward through the building permit process. The 4.6-acre parcel at the northwest corner of Marsh and Solano is also moving

forward through the planning process. The Buchanan Field Airport Layout Plan is being updated; the current forecasts support requesting that the FAA release the 16-acres across from the Airport office for non-aviation use. We got a letter of interest to develop this site and did not receive any competitive interest. The item will be on the Board of Supervisor's November 13th agenda to authorize lease negotiations; non-aviation site development is dependent on the FAA releasing the land for, and amending the County's land use policies to support non-aviation use.

MDPA Treasurer's Remarks

Elaine Yeary was present and collected the breakfast donations. One new member signed up and paid dues, Lance Sasser. Also Juana Rudati joined earlier in the month.

Activities

Mike Harris briefed on the planned fly-out to Monterey.

SAFETY FORUM

Moderator – Ed Neffinger

“We start with a bag full of luck and an empty bag of experience. The trick is to fill the bag of experience before you empty the bag of luck.”

Is it Luck or “other factors” (good training/attitude/maintenance) that leads to good outcomes?

Can technology improve safety? GA has not done much better, but we can use non-technological approaches to improve some of the most common safety issues.

That was the thrust of Ed's session on safety. Ed has been flying since age 20 and ultimately became a Continental pilot.

The topics covered operations at uncontrolled fields and fuel exhaustion. He mentioned the use of ASRS for CYA circumstances when a mistake has been made in controlled airspace.

Fuel Exhaustion:

Do the math first, $GPH \times time = fuel\ used$.

Stick the tank before departure.

Check caps on secure.

Use flow meter to estimate quantity of the fuel remaining en route.

Uncontrolled Airspace Mistakes:

How about having the wrong frequency when entering the pattern and then finding out that no one was aware of your presence, until they saw you---maybe too late. The question was asked of the pilots what the possible fixes might be for this event, and it had happened to many. Ideas suggested were:

-Announce early inbound

-No noise on the circuit when announcing

-Over-fly the airport first

Finally a quote from a wise man----“A mile of highway will take you a mile, a mile of runway will take you anywhere...”

We must look out for each other --- MDPA's “safety culture”.

FLY-OUT TO MONTEREY AIRPORT, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018

On Saturday, November 3 we had a fly out to Monterey airport to visit Cannery Row and/or the Monterey Bay aquarium. It was a Crystal clear day - 5 airplanes and 13 souls departed Concord for a beautiful flight to the Monterey airport.

The pilots and passengers decided to split into two groups after landing. Five of us went to the Monterey Bay aquarium and eight visited the historical Cannery Row for lunch. We all had a great time.

All aircraft left successfully except my rented 182 Club plane. The tack went out and we left the airplane in Monterey for a mechanic to make repairs. In the meantime the airport had no more rental cars so we had to chip in on an Uber all the way back to Concord. Thank God there was one available.

Hope to see all of you next month for the fly out to Healdsburg. This will be an optional overnight trip. We plan on visiting the Francis Ford Coppola museum and have an optional wine tasting. Dinner in town later. So book a room early if you plan on spending the night.

Take care and we will see you in December.

Mike Harris



JOINT MT. DIABLO PILOTS ASSOCIATION & EAA CHAPTER 393
THANKSGIVING DINNER & PROGRAM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018 @ 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell

Our Thanksgiving dinner was something to be remembered, over 60 attendees, and very good food, BUT, we were all so engrossed with our speaker Bill Larkins and his many old photos, that we completely forgot to take any photos ourselves. What to do but go back and search through some old photos of mine – not as good or old as Bill’s but you may recognize some of your friends.



Bill and his late wife Tillie celebrating with us at our 60th anniversary party of general aviation at Buchanan Field.



WES, FRANK, LOU, BUTCH, SHIRLEY
 MAUREEN AND DAVE

This one goes back a ways, Wes Stetson with his employees at the Mooney dealership.



Breaking ground on the west side for Concord Jet.



Anyone remember these? From the right, Chris O'Neill, Howard, parts manager, Mike Safier, Mrs. St. John talking to John Scalzo.



X-mas party @ PSA, Tom Foley & Pradeep top left.



Various gatherings at PSA. Several current & former MDPA members here.



How about Papa George with MJ McGrath.



The crazy night when the local firefighters and police held their annual party after a competition. Notice Elvis in the center.

I received the following email in 2004 and wonder if anyone knows if it is true:
“I remember Dad telling me that under the Buchanan runways is another set of runways... According to Dad, the military built the airport, it flooded and they hauled in more dirt and paved new runways”.



I did ask the airport personnel but, as you can see, they wouldn't answer me.

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
HISTORIC AIRCRAFT DISPLAY
EVERYONE WELCOME!



Buchanan Field Clubhouse –
200 Buchanan Field Rd Concord
For details visit the Mount Diablo Pilots
Association @ www.MDPA.org

**The Mount Diablo Pilots Association is a non-profit organization based at
Buchanan Field (KCCR) in Concord, California.**

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 Directors & Officers:

President - Maurice Gunderson
Vice President - - Pierre Bidou
Treasurer - Elaine Yeary
Secretary - Maureen Bell
Programs/Guest Speakers - Pierre Bidou
Facilities - DeWitt Hodge

MDPA Managers:

Safety Forums – John Potter
Newsletter & Social Media - Natasha Doktorova
Executive Chef – Scott Davis
DART Program – DeWitt Hodge
Members’ Aviation Oil Program – Vishal Goyal

**The MDPA clubhouse is located at 200 Buchanan Field Road in Concord, California,
do not send mail to the clubhouse address, use the USPS address instead:
Mount Diablo Pilots Association**