



# MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association  
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

April 2019

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## MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

### April 2019

- 3 Board Meeting
- 6 Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout
- 19 Dinner Meeting

### May 2019

- 1 Board Meeting
- 4 Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout
- 17 Dinner Meeting

### June 2019

- 1 Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout
- 5 Board Meeting
- 14 Dinner Meeting

## MDPA SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019

*By John Potter*

### **“HANGAR TALK” HOUR**

We had about 45 attendees for donuts. Since we did not have volunteers for cooking breakfast, it was changed to donuts and coffee. Russ Atkinson made a 65 cup pot of coffee --- good and strong. I got the donuts.

It is essential that volunteers  
**!!!!!!Register!!!!!!**

so that we can have the “right” number of people,  
but 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.

<http://www.mdpa.org/calendar>

The “Cooking Team” is divided to do these tasks:

- **Head Cook** - Makes sure that the food is ready on time and properly prepared.
- **Cooks (at least 4)** - 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**

The airport has published the airport newsletter and it was briefed that it includes a detailed caution on ramp access procedures. Tenants are responsible for anyone they allow to enter, especially on their access card. If there is a person who threatens a card holder for not allowing “piggybacking”, that person should be reported to the airport management for action.

### **MDPA President’s Comments**

Guests and new members were introduced.

We were delighted to have the owner of PSA (and CFO), Bob Thompson join us. Bob mentioned these items:

- PSA will be hosting the EAA’s Tri Motor visit in two weeks 3/14-3/17.
- PSA will be shifting from Epic to AvFuel as a fuel provider early in March.
- PSA is working on the possibility of installing a self-serve facility at KCCR.
- Have received FAA approval to perform for Pitot-static checks.
- Overhauls are now being performed at PSA.
- Working with Appareo to become a dealer to provide easy-to-install ADS-B compliance instruments.

Maurice announced that negotiations were ongoing in regards to the PSA fuel discount. He also had cases of oil available for those that had ordered it. Maurice thanked everyone for preparing for the meeting and, in advance, cleaning up the clubhouse afterwards. Scott Achelis was complimented on the restoration of the MDPA BBQ.

The March 15<sup>th</sup> dinner will be a St. Patrick’s Day special.

**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**

Keith Freitas provided an update on airport events.

- Caltrans Highway 4 improvement project that is currently going on adjacent to Buchanan Field.
- Several weeks ago a 120 foot crane was erected just off the approach of Runway19R. This operation would have raised the 19R approach minimums from 272 feet to 440 feet and shut down the PAPI’s through June of 2020. However, Airport staff was able to work with all parties to lower the maximum crane operating heights so they would NOT impact the runway operations.
- The annual Airport Tenant Appreciation BBQ is scheduled for 1100 am to 2:00 pm, Thursday, May 2, 2019. Please be sure to RSVP so that Airport staff can make sure we have enough food.
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District is in negotiations with Airport staff to lease approximately 3 acres of land at Center Avenue and Marsh Drive to construct a replacement fire station (for Station 9 which is located on Center Ave) and a new aircraft hangar on airport property.

- Airport staff has run into some issues with the FAA regarding the design of the Runway 14L/32R pavement reconstruction project. Airport staff continues to have discussions with the FAA to resolve the matter. However, it is possible that this project may be delayed until 2020 or later.

### **MDPA Treasurer's Remarks**

Elaine Yeary was present and collected the donations for 'fat wafers' and coffee. She noted that there was one member, Scott Hotes, currently an IFR student.

### **Activities**

Due to inclement weather the fly-out planned for Reid Hillview was cancelled. Ron Lim reported on a future fly-out to Grand Canyon over the Memorial Day Weekend in May and asked for early signups so that rooms can be reserved.

## **SAFETY FORUM**

### **Moderator – Jim Blodgett**

Jim and his pilot wife operate a '58 P Baron and he has many hours of flight time in the lower 48 and the Yukon.

He gave a few illustrations of recent accidents where hubris\* was a major part of what caused the aircrafts to crash and, in each case, with considerable loss of life. The major point made was that each of these pilots were cavalier about the safety of those that were passengers, leaving many orphans and destroyed families without breadwinners.

*Ed Note:*

Guy Black described the check-out for a Mooney Mighty Mite of long ago, "if the candidate can operate the lever for the landing gear, then he is a pilot and good to go." He highlighted the "Stupid Pill" and how it leads to a careless pilot getting beyond his abilities, especially in icing conditions.

**Pilots are reminded that you are the "Boss" when you need to tell controller "unable" or "emergency." You might have to explain it later.**

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

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### **MDPA DINNER MEETING, FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019 @ 6:30PM**

*by Maureen Bell*

Even if you are not Irish the place to be on St. Patrick's Day was the clubhouse.

Corned beef, cabbage and carrots, soda bread, Irish stew, ice cream, cookies, Irish Bingo with prizes and free raffle tickets!

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\*Hubris - excessive pride or confidence, arrogance.



Our Lil Man dressed up for the occasion



Our Irish Bartenders Jennifer and Kimmie



Table centerpieces, cabbage and candy!



Playing Irish Bingo



Everyone looking happy



Stewart and Robert



Marcie & Felipe with Diane Enbom in the rear



A very serious Brian Enbom & Pete Monillas



Elaine, Mark and Rich



More bingo players



More cabbage and candy



Marcie, Felipe, Becky and Maureen



Steven Kennedy, Brian and Stewart  
are having a serious discussion



Kimmie and Tanya wishing  
you all a very happy St. Patrick's Day

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### **IN MEMORIAM TO KEN EDWARDS**

As was mentioned by Maurice's email last week, three of us old souls in MDPA attended Ken Edwards services on Saturday, March 16th. Stu Bowers, John Potter and I were in attendance representing MDPA. We enjoyed seeing Carolyn, Ken's first wife and flying companion, and Connie their surviving daughter. For those of you who knew Ken Cole, the two Ken's were best of friends, as were most of the folks that crossed paths with Ken Edwards.

Ken was the 2nd president of MDPA and might have been the last surviving founding members of the club. The club has been around since 1976.

Ken sold two of the planes we have owned, and arranged for the purchase of our second plane, a P35 Bonanza. (The Bonanza was the second plane he sold for us.)



Here is a photo taken in 1983 in Omaha Nebraska of myself, the sales person and Ken taking delivery of that P35 plane we called "Sadie".

We flew back from Omaha to CCR the next day. Joe Chagas checked me out in the complex airplane on the way back.

Since 1983, we have experienced many fun fly-outs with MDPA. We led a trip to Vancouver BC for the World's Fair.

We flew to Cederville, CA to Ken's cabin for the summer Rodeo. The cabin was small so we pitched tents and signed the celebratory wall in the cabin with our names. Other trips included Jackson Hole Wyoming and the cowboy barbecue, Hearst Castle, Death Valley, Grass Valley for the Empire Mine Tour, Mendocino for a day trip, Shelter Cove, CA for a day trip and lunch, and others.

Probably the most fun trips were those that had one or two nights out with a group and an activity. These trips enhance the bonding of club members and increase the fun level.

We also had spot landing contests, flour bombing contests and fly outs for adult Easter egg hunts.

(With a glass or two of Scotch, we can get into more embarrassing details!)

You are a member of a special type of flying organization that has endured for 43 years at CCR. That in itself is special! Congratulations to all the members who have and will continue this fun tradition!

Blue Skies and Tailwinds

Brian Enbom

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**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](http://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  
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  
P.O. Box 6632  
Concord CA 94524  
[www.mdpa.org](http://www.mdpa.org)**