



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

November 2019

media@mdpa.org

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MDPA BREAKFAST & SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019

By John Potter

MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

November 2019

- 2** *Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout to Monterey*
- 13** *Board Meeting*

December 2019

- 4** *Board Meeting*
- 7** *Breakfast, Safety Forum (Airport Santa Event) & Flyout to Healdsburg, Francis Ford Coppola Winery*

January 2020

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

“HANGAR TALK” HOUR

John Potter announced that his mission of setting up breakfast and carrying out the Safety Forums after 24 years is completed and he will end leading the program at the end of the year.

He asked for volunteers to step in and takeover.

Tom Hammitt volunteered to take over management of the breakfast part of the project since it is separate from the Safety Forum itself.

A person is needed to be the “Quartermaster” of the MDPA Storage Room since many different events are conducted and the storage room urgently needs to be organized and managed.

A volunteer is needed to continue the Safety Forum by getting Moderators. This requires getting volunteers monthly serve as the Moderator for each session.

BREAKFAST/SAFETY FORUM PROJECT

We had about 30 attendees for breakfast. Clean-up was prompt.

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/event-3090997/Registration>

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

- **Head Cook (1)** - Makes sure that the food is ready on time and properly prepared.
- **Cooks (at least 4)** – Prepare the food and cleanup the kitchen.
- **Shopping (1)** - Get the food (usually at Costco and/or Safeway, etc).
- **Set-up (1)** - Prepare the kitchen and serving area for serving and store the equipment afterwards.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The method of using the website calendar to signup was briefed. **If you are logged into** the club website, it is easy to find out how many (& who) signed up so that you can gauge whether you should step up and “register” or not.

Members can sign up in advance by simply going online and “registering” for any month in the remaining months of the year in a time frame of convenience for them.

MDPA President’s Comments

Director Pierre Bidou stood in for Maurice Gunderson

- Pierre thanked the volunteers for putting on the breakfast and, in advance, for cleaning up.
- He announced that oil that was ordered is available.
- Club elections are planned for the October dinner meeting.

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 briefed the MDPA breakfast group on the following items:

- Just a reminder that any pilot that will not meet the FAA’s requirement for ADS-B in January of 2020 has the option to relocate their aircraft to Byron Airport. We have space for you!
- Buchanan Field received a \$5,300,000 FAA grant to complete the Runway 14L/32R pavement reconstruction, runway lighting and concrete pad rejuvenation project. Due to the length of the project and the expected winter weather the project start will be April/May of 2020.
- The new Buchanan Field terminal building design is underway and initial designs are being vetted with the airport stakeholders. The current design is approximately 20,000 sq/ft, which includes space for general aviation/airline, airport administrative space, and aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF). The project has a \$9,000,000 budget and is expected to break ground in 2021.

- Airport will be once again conducting ARFF live fire training drills at the clubhouse the week of October 7-11th.
- New development interest continues for several locations at both Buchanan Field and Byron Airports. There is a mixture of aviation and non-aviation development interest. However, all revenues generated by these development projects are required by the FAA to be retained by the Airport Enterprise Fund for future aviation development improvements.
- Discussed the importance of EACH tenant using their own security access card when entering the airfield. Tenants should NOT ask fellow pilots to allow them to piggy-back onto the airfield. Any pilot that experiences an unauthorized piggy-back situation should immediately notify Airport Operations at 925-383-0005 (CCR) or 925-383-1390.

MDPA Treasurer's Remarks

Elaine Yearly was not present.

Activities

Mike Harris briefed on the planned flyout.

SAFETY FORUM

Moderator – John Potter

John Potter of MDPA related that the Forum has evolved over the years to serve as a place for pilots to share their experience in regards to safety. It is dedicated to the idea of “Root Cause Analysis” after an event has occurred and to understand the cause(s) of the episode that led to the event.

He provided clear evidence of doing such analysis by citing an example after the USS Thresher (SSN-593) was lost in 1963. The Navy had to substantially enhance the ability of crews to safely get back to the surface after a failed dive.

Almost 5 years later he personally was the beneficiary of that program when on the USS Vallejo (SSBN-658) on its first dive after construction with over 300 people on board and the boat was successfully emergency surfaced due to being severely over ballasted.

The topic to illustrate such analysis was his case of a recently rebuilt magneto that started to disassemble after 50 hours of operation and not being noticed until he removed the lower cowl of the airplane in preparation for the annual inspection. He found one bolt of two from the magneto cover wedged in the nose gear door. Two of the four cover bolts had fallen out. It might have been noticed earlier if regular inspection of the newly rebuilt magneto had been done whenever the upper cowl had been removed, which had been done at least 4 times without his looking at the magneto. The question remains why did those bolts come out? The magneto was returned to the magneto shop to get that answer.

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

FLYOUT TO HALF MOON BAY AIRPORT (KHAF), SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019

by Mike Harris

Saturday October 5 was a beautiful crystal clear day for flying over the bay and to KHAF Half Moon Bay airport for a little kayaking and lunch. 2 airplanes flew with a total of 3 adults and 2 kids. See the attached photos.

It has been an Honor to organize the flyouts for this club over the past 2 years. Thanks to Scott and Vishal for taking the lead when I couldn't go. I recently retired and Cathy has accepted a transfer with her employer to Bentonville AK.

We are excited about this next phase of our life but of course will miss you all. We will remain members of MDPA for now as we will be coming here every 3 to 6 weeks and hope to have breakfast with "y'all".

We have checked into the flying community in the North West Arkansas area and it is very active.

Please consider becoming an MDPA flyout lead for next year. Perhaps planning a few long distance flyouts as opposed to monthly.

Cathy and I plan to lead our last flyout with you in December to Healdsburg weather permitting. We hope this will be an overnight trip.

Cheers,
Mike





MDPA DINNER MEETING, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019, 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell

Great turnout for the October dinner meeting – but then, who wouldn't turn out for a delicious dinner with salmon and chicken, vegetables and a tasty salad followed by ice cream!

In addition to all that we had the opportunity to meet a crew from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's helicopter department. Seems as if we were only half way through the dinner when they received a radio call, "a missing child". The pilot and one of the three tactical flight officers left immediately and returned a short time later saying they had spotted the ten year old and guided ground crews to him. This news drew much applause from the audience. Their presentation was very informative and their video gave us insight into the work they

perform every day. Our members were able to get up close to their helicopter in order to see all the equipment available for use. All in all a very interesting evening and we would welcome them back at any time.

The seven members nominated for directors during our September meeting were all approved and elected for the year 2020. Tom Hammitt agreed to take over the breakfast duties and Stu Schuster agreed to handle the forums. Many, many thanks to all these volunteers, we could not exist without you.



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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
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**