



MDPA news

September 2007 Concord, CA 925-685-7073 Volume 34 Issue 9

Meeting Notice

Date: September 21, 2007
Place: Club House
Dinner: 6:30 PM
Program: 7:00 PM
Board Meeting: N/A

President's Message September 2007

by Vince Siebern

Long warm summer days filled with swimming, mountain hiking, flying to the mountains and beyond. So what did you do in August? Mountain flying perhaps? Did you think to check the density altitude at your destination? What difference will 8000 density altitude make for your arrival? I flew up to Truckee recently and was surprised to see operations on both runways 28 and 19. Mostly glider operations on 19 and 28 was used by us others. On take off (I did use a lot of runway) I noticed a King Air on right downwind for 19!

Directly in front of me on my departure!! Why did he choose to use the much shorter 19 when I and others were using the much longer 28? I circled the airport to see and it appears he did it to save taxi time! He was able to taxi direct to his hangar from the end of 19 and on 28 he would have had to taxi back down to his hangar. He saved maybe two minutes of taxi time, caused me concern to see him on my departure in front of me and he used a much shorter runway, that he used most of to stop. Was that dangerous? I don't think so. Was it smart? NO!

To hear more flying safety items join MDPA members at our monthly breakfast and safety meeting where we discuss items like the above paragraph and other safety related items. Last month was a good meeting with a smaller attendance than usual. I wonder if it was my cooking or perhaps it was August and our members were on vacation. Many thanks to John Potter for leading the safety portion of the meeting and to Maureen for cooking the pancakes. I look forward to seen many of you at our Sept. 1, meeting.

I was out flying last weekend doing some instrument work while in the holding pattern I noticed my AI go wobbly. No problem, I get some partial panel work in also! I say no problem because I was over the airport when I lost the pump so I didn't need the vacuum system. That is the second vacuum pump I have lost in the last year. I encourage everyone to replace their vacuum pump if it is older than five years. Had I been in weather and holding for an approach it would have been a whole different story.

Special thanks to Maureen and Greg of PSA for the great dinner. About 65 of us were treated to a very good Chinese dinner. However, the main event was the casino activities after the dinner. I didn't know so many of you liked to "roll dem bones" or double down! It was a great evening! Our next dinner is Sept. 21st when Pat and Nancy Miller are hosting a Chili dinner. Last year they did a three bean (or was it four) chili with all the fixin's that was excellent. See y'all there.

The Board has been inviting members to join the Board for the 08 year and so far we have been very successful. We will announce the proposed board at our September dinner meeting. If you are interested in serving on the board please let me or any board member know. We are always looking for new members to help run the club.

Our next trip is to St. George, Utah. We plan to leave on Friday, Sept. 28th and return on Sunday. Zion National Park is just outside of St. George as is Snow Canyon State Park. For a complete story on the trip go to MDPA.ORG. Please sign up early for this trip so we know who is going. Also, if you are going on the trip please let us know if you have space in your plane because George Ann Garms would like a ride.

Keep the blue side up.

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**Articles and photographs for the
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AIRPORT STAFFER MAKES GOOD

by Dave Evans

MDPA was informed this month, that Doreen Stockdale, Environment & Community Relations Officer for Buchanan Field and Byron Airports has been selected as the new Assistant Manager of the Napa County Airport.

Doreen is a familiar face around Buchanan Field having served in her current position for the past 5 years. Coming from an aviation family (her father served 40 years as a controller in the Oakland TRACON), she received her undergraduate degree from Embry-Riddle University in Prescott, AZ. She then served as a member of the 717 project team at Boeing Aircraft before taking a few years off for children and a Masters degree before taking up the job here in Concord.

So what does an Environment & Community Relations Officer do? You name it! Environment covers everything from hazardous material management to noise abatement and reporting to endangered species. Did you know that 800 of Byron Airport's 1300 acres are a protected environmental area? They've even got endangered shrimp swimming in vernal pools out there!!

When it comes to airport noise, Doreen's the gal. She handles everything from fielding noise complaints from the public to developing noise abatement procedures and educating both the public and local pilots on the issues involved. Noise complaints are down and relations with our local airport neighbors have improved significantly during Doreen's tenure.

But the accomplishment that Doreen is proudest of is the Airport Tour Program. To date, 3301 individuals from school kids to senior citizens have participated in one of Doreen's airport tours where they learn how the airport works and they are introduced to the many services and benefits that a General Aviation airport like Buchanan Field provides not just to the pilots that fly there but to the surrounding community at large.

And what does she do in her spare time? She's enrolled in the American Association of Airport Executive's program to become a Certified Airport Executive!

So is Doreen leaving us entirely? Not at all. While her new job will be at Napa, her heart will still be in the Concord area where she will continue to live with her husband of 2 years, airport operations staffer Bill Stockdale and their 3 kids, 6, 7 and 10 years old.



MDPA Mission Statement

The Mount Diablo Pilots' Association is a non-profit organization based at Buchanan field in Concord, California (KCCR). There are many benefits to joining the club. 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.

As you can see, Doreen has done a lot to make Buchanan Field what it is today and we'll miss her smiling face and professional manner. Her last day on the job is August 31st and she starts on the new job on September 4th after a brief Labor Day holiday. So if you have a chance you might drop by the airport office and tell her you appreciate what she's done. Or if you're in Napa, stop by her new office in the terminal building. It's just across from Jonesy's.

Congratulations, Doreen, and thanks for all you've done for us over the past 5 years.



Missing Man formation tribute to Milan Haven, performed by the pilots below. Starting with the second from the left: Jim McKnight, Mark Merrill, Larry Gaines, Reinhard Jarschke (the pilot of the Bonanza departing the formation as the missing man), Wolfgang Polak, and Stan Stewart.



MDPA MEMBER EARNS HIS WINGS

Congratulations are in order for MDPA member Mike O'Brien who successfully passed his Private Pilot check ride on August 20th. Mike lives with his wife Susan in Walnut Creek. When not flying, Mike is a veterinarian specializing in horses.

Well done, Mike!! We're looking forward to seeing you on an MDPA fly-in soon.

Don't forget, Pat Millers "famous" Chili dinner at the September 21st dinner. He promises that there will be surprises. And don't forget our Safety Breakfast on September 4th at 9am.

St. George, Utah Fly-in Update

Our sources tell us that half of the rooms are spoken for the September 28-30th fly-in to St. George. Don't miss out on this fun trip. Call Quality Inn today at (435)628-4481 to guarantee your room. Mention Mount Diablo Pilot's Association account number 102215 to receive the discount rate of \$75.00 per night plus tax for Sept 28 and 29th. The cancellation policy is 48 hours. The group discount is good until September 10th, but please; don't wait until the last minute! We look forward to seeing you. Any questions please call us at (435)628-3345 or email us at n70pw@yahoo.com. Jon and Lynne McWilliams

Club MDPA – Casino Night

By Steve Kennedy

On Friday August 17, the Pacific States Aviation hanger was turned into Club MDPA, the hottest Casino on Runway 1. There was poker, blackjack, roulette, and craps. Not to mention, lots and lots of food. Thanks to Maureen Bell and Greg Holbrook from PSA for providing this wonderful spread. The Chinese food that Maureen had catered was great, and everyone ate their fill (at least for an hour).

At times it was like the blind leading the blind as some of the dealers and gamblers were struggling with the rules, the bets, and the cards or dice. But it didn't matter, everyone was having fun. Many of us were novice gamblers, while some were very serious. It didn't matter, we all enjoyed it.

As the night wore on, it became time to see who the big winners were. At stake, were several prizes, and a \$50 cash grand prize. The Bowers Family turned out to be real HIGH ROLLERS. Byron Bowers won the \$50 first place prize, and Stuart Bowers won 4th place. To go along with Bowers Family dynasty, Bethi Carver won second place, and Shirley Moore won third place. Congratulations to all. We would also like to compliment and thank all the volunteer dealers, who made this so enjoyable for everyone.



High Roller
Byron Bowers



High Roller
Stuart Bowers



Stan Gaunt Blackjack Dealer



Blackjack



Craps



Roulette



Texas Hold-em
Poker



Bill & Suzi Landstra



Glenda Gaunt



Patty Gilchrist

Diane Siebern, Bev Levy, John Levy, Koni and Bill Collins, and Suzi Landstra

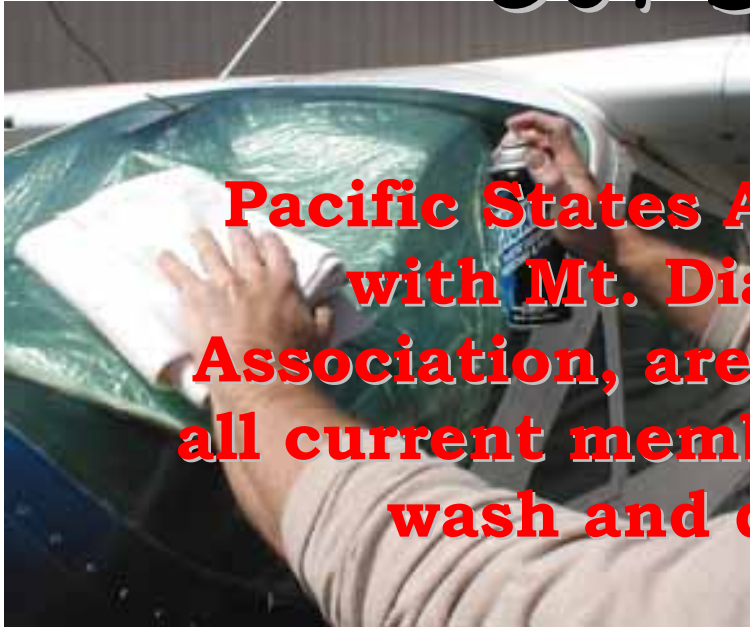
Conni Batcheldor, guests and Greg Holbrook



Dennis & Trish Drew



Got Dirt?



Pacific States Aviation along with Mt. Diablo Pilots Association, are proud to offer all current members an aircraft wash and detailing.

This special offer will be available the entire month of September.

Single engine aircraft washes will be available at \$79.



For further questions or to schedule an appointment, please contact PSA at 925-685-4400.





MDPA Labor Day Special

*For the month of September Sterling will sell
AV Gas for \$3.99 a Gallon*

Check out our Blowout Deals on handheld GPS Units!

***Surprise Someone Special with A Gift Certificate from
Sterling!***

Discover the Difference in Concord

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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested