



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

August 2019

media@mdpa.org

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MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

August 2019

- 3 Breakfast & Safety Forum
- 7 Board Meeting
- 17 Annual BBQ

September 2019

- 4 Board Meeting
- 7 Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout
- 20 Dinner Meeting

October 2019

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

MDPA SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2019

By John Potter

“HANGAR TALK” HOUR

We had about 40 attendees for Breakfast. We were short 2 volunteers by the Wednesday deadline at 6:00 PM, so, with the encouragement of several members, I went ahead and issued the breakfast/forum notice with “empty” slots, asking for members to step forward and help so that we could put on the breakfast, which they did. 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/calendar>

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 on line and “registering” for any month in the remaining months of the year in a time frame of convenience for them.**

MDPA President’s (Maurice Gunderson) Comments

Maurice introduced the guests and thanked the volunteers for putting on the breakfast and, in advance, cleaning up. He announced that oil that was ordered is available.

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 briefed the MDPA breakfast group on the following items:

- The conflict between the Nut Tree Airport and Byron Airport CTAF (123.05) is expected to be resolved with the next FAA chart publication in August. In 2018 Nut Tree changed their CTAF due to frequency congestion with other nearby airports. They mistakenly believed that picking the same frequency as Byron Airport would be better - it was not!
- The Buchanan Field Runway 14L/32R pavement reconstruction project has been put out to bid and there were 8 bidders on the project. Construction bids are currently being reviewed and a decision is expected by next week. FAA should fund the project by the end of July. Due to the length of the project and the required 2-month contractor mobilization the start of the project is expected to be delayed until May of 2020.
- The FAA Air Traffic Control Manager (Bill Hannan) has requested new RNAV approaches for Runway’s 14L and 32R. The RNAV for 14L should be published within the next 60 days. The RNAV for 32R has some issues due to airspace conflicts with other facilities.
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District is still planning to relocate Station 9 to Buchanan Field property, at the corner of Marsh and Center Ave.
- PSA Owner Bob Thompson reported that they are currently working with a fuel vendor and the County Permitting Department to install a new self-serve fuel system at their property, located at 101 John Glenn Drive (the old Grover facility).
- Audience questions:
 - ❖ Now that the Airport staff has completed the renovation of the East Ramp F-Row hangars will they continue to improve the other hangars?

Yes, over time each of the remaining hangar rows will be renovated. However, the next facility project is the Airport terminal, office and aircraft rescue and firefighting building (2021).

- ❖ Will the Airport staff replace some of the airfield lighting with LED during the Runway 14L/32R project?

No. Currently the FAA will not support changing a portion of airfield lighting to LED (pilot safety concerns associated with different light intensities). However, the Airport is planning to replace the entire airfield lighting to LED and upgrading the electrical infrastructure in a future FAA grant funded project.

- ❖ Is it possible to make changes to the airfield signage?

Yes, however, each sign and its location must be approved by the FAA Airport Safety Inspector. The last sign plan which increased the airfield signs from 85 to 280 required 3-years to get final approval. Recommendations for new signs and or changes must meet FAA sign standards and should be submitted to the Airport in writing for consideration.

- ❖ Is the Airport staff planning to reconfigure the airfield and remove some taxiways?

As outlined in the 2008 Buchanan Field Airport Master Plan there are several taxiways identified for removal and or new ones to be constructed. However, since the FAA has only limited grant funding available the removal of old pavement is a much lower funding priority. The Airport will be removing a portion of Taxiway Charlie during the upcoming Runway 14L/32R project.

MDPA Treasurer's Remarks

Elaine Yeary reported no new members.

Activities

Vishal Goyal briefed on the fly-out to McClellan.

SAFETY FORUM **Moderator – Susan Hutson**

Susan took on aviation flying when she affiliated with the '99's at mid-point in her life and described her first challenge when doing a round robin of several airports. Her last destination before heading for home was a landing at Napa. She seemed to be lined up for the wrong runway and had the presence of mind to ask the tower for clarification which worked out well, she was cleared to land on the runway she was lined up for. She attributed the error to being tired after perhaps an over challenging schedule of airports. Her introduction to this experience led an hour of other pilots relating their own experiences of the same nature and one even described dealing with a bear and the inflicted aircraft damage in a remote area (flying it out was a challenge).

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

FLY-OUT TO SACRAMENTO MCCLELLAN AIRPORT (MCC), SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2019

I went with Vishal Goyal to McClellan AFB and took some pictures. There were 6 of us who flew in 3 planes. We opted to do only one tour this time. Too hot too. Density Altitude at 77 feet was 3,900 ft.!!

We parked at a large hanger and I took some pictures of the planes parked inside. We also went to the Coast Guard Air Station, located within the airport grounds, and given a private tour of their hanger.

The plane is an Italian made C-27 J. There are 6 of these planes stationed here. They are multi-purpose aircraft used for rescue operations, drug activity and illegal immigrant surveillance. They have a back ramp that can be used to load equipment and supplies, as well as, dropping rescue supplies to a ship in distress.

It was a great trip and my first flying in a private plane. Looking forward to joining your club and getting to know everyone.

Mark Gandrau







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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**