



MDPA news

January 2009 Concord, CA www.mdpa.org Volume 36 Issue 1

Meeting Notice

Date: January 23 2009
Place: MDPA Clubhouse
Dinner: 6:30 PM
Program: 7:00 PM
Board Meeting: January 14, 2009

Presidents Message January 2009

By Steve Kennedy

New Year, new president, new times. The good news about the economy is that avgas prices have dropped. That's about all we can say good about the economy. Hopefully it means that more of us are flying. Whether it's just to punch holes in the sky, or for business, or to take that vacation trip we've been thinking about all winter. This year MDPA is hoping you'll make us a part of your flying world. We're planing trips, we offer discounts on avgas, we have monthly safety seminars, and we offer a monthly dinner, many with guest speakers to talk about subjects that are near and dear to pilot's hearts. So now is a good time to renew your membership if you haven't. AND I'd like to issue a challenge to every member. This year, invite at least one non-member to our dinners and convince them join. Just think how much more fun the hanger flying at these dinners will be if you convince a friend to join.

This month's dinner will be hosted by past president Vince Siebern, and will be the very popular Crab and Tri-Tip dinner. It will be on January 23rd at 6:30 pm. This is one week later than our normal dinner schedule because Vince is arriving back in the US from Central America the day before. This is a very popular event and we have to ask for RSVP's early so that we insure we order enough food. Be sure to RSVP when you see the email. This would be a perfect dinner to bring one of your non-members friends to since they'll think we eat that well at all our monthly dinners.

Last month we had the annual Christmas/Holiday party, and a good time was ever present. Tables were adopted by some of the members and decked out with their finest china, linens, and decorations. Lorraine Bartneck along with Pat and Nancy Miller decorated the clubhouse. It really felt festive. When it came time for the infamous gift exchange, Pat made one slight change to the rules. He said that a present could only be stolen three times before it was dead and couldn't be stolen again. That added a new dimension to the game (yes, some of us think of it as a game). It also allowed us to wrap up the gift exchange before the wee hours of the morning. As this ritual has evolved over the years many people try to bring that one gift that will be the most sought after or stolen. This year a couple of gifts emerged as "winners". The ever-popular Texaco Airplane was popular. So was an Airplane Shaped M&M dispenser. A bottle of Crown Royal proved to be very popular. Richard Roberts granddaughters found a big hit with a singing Christmas tree.

THEN... since the Potters had brought some extra gifts, just in case someone wanted to play who may have forgotten their gift, we had ONE gift left over. Richard auctioned this "mystery gift" off to the highest bidder. The bidding got fast a furious. People were running up the bids very fast. In the end, Russ Roe was victorious in obtaining a pair of custom-made wheel chocks brought by John Summers. John immediately offered to engrave Russ's N number into the chocks if he wanted as well. One person commented to me as the evening wrapped up: "That was the most fun I've had at a dinner in a long time".

If you haven't been to one of the dinners in a while, maybe now's the time to come back. We'd love to see you. Respectfully, Steve

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Articles and photographs for the
newsletter should be e-mailed to
Newsletter@mdpa.org

Tentative Dinner Schedule For 2009

January - Crab & Tri- Tip- osted by The Sieberns

February - Hungarian Goulash- Hosted by George Ann Garms

March - We need a volunteer!

April - We need a volunteer!

May - Hawaiiian Luau-Hosted by The Peters

June - Casino Night-Hosted by Maureen Bell @ PSA

July - Old Fashioned Summer BBQ-Hosted by The Sieberns

August - Korean Short Ribs-Hosted by The Bartnecks

September - Chili Dinner - Hosted by The Millers

October - Holloween Party/Dinner-Hosted by The Kennedys

November - We need a volunteer!

December - Holiday Party

NOTICES:

Your 2009 Dues are now OVERDUE
THINK GREEN AND LET US EMAIL
YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS
Reminder: ANY RESERVATIONS FOR THE CLUB-
HOUSE ARE REQUIRED TO BE IN EMAIL OR
LETTER FORM.

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.

December Safety Meeting
by John Summers

I thought the Saturday breakfast/safety meeting went quite well. I introduced myself to the group (not many members know me yet) and briefly told them about my aircraft and flying experience. I am currently taking a pilots ground school (refresher) course at the Napa Airport so

I started the discussion by relating a question I brought up in class. We were discussing “lost communications” and what to do when you lose the use of your radio. I asked the question “Where on the airport do we circle to let the tower know we have no radio”? We had a lot of interesting opinions as to the correct procedures but we finally all agreed we should find a break in the air traffic, enter traffic pattern above pattern altitude and wait for the light gun signal. We also agreed it would be nice if we remembered to squawk 7600 on the transponder as well.

I then asked how many members did part if not all the maintenance during the annual inspection? Many hands went up. I then told them about my experience while working as an aircraft mechanic, how important it is to look into all the little access holes with a flashlight and a flexible mirror looking for any loose items (FOD) laying around. I used to take a pound coffee can with me and end up with several inches of FOD in the can. We had a good discussion on how to make sure all FOD was removed from access holes.

I also said I noticed how dry the control cables were on these small aircraft and asked if anyone ever treated them with an anti-corrosive agent. After much discussion it was said that might be a good idea.

I then asked what you as a pilot does after major work has been done on your aircraft leading up to and including a test flight. This again started a good discussion with lots of good answers including a good engine run-up and/or high-speed taxi test on the runway.

Over all the attending members said it was a really good interesting meeting.



Pat Miller & Guest



Our new MDPA Christmas Tree



Diane Siebern & Diane Kennedy

Vince Siebern & Pat Miller



A group picture, I see.
Elaine Yeary,
Kathy Roberts

John & Jude Potter



John Levy, Pat Miller &
Rich Roberts



Stu Bowers & Ken
Witham



Mirella & Kaya
(Rich & Kathy's Granddaughter)

Lorraine, Leo & Kona



YOU CAN RENT THE MDPA CLUB HOUSE
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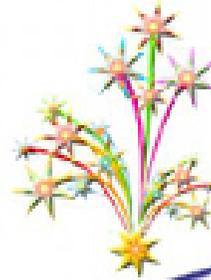
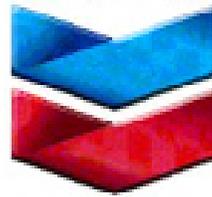
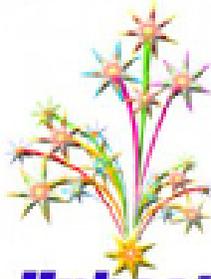
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Blue Skies and Tailwinds to:

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First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested