



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

April 2016

media@mdpa.org

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Inside This Issue

President's Letter	1-2
March "Coffee" and Safety Forum	2-3
March Meeting & Monthly Dinner.....	3-5
Public Notice	6

MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

April

2 Breakfast, Safety
Forum & Flyout to Ukiah
6 Board Meeting
22 Dinner Meeting

May

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

June

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

Please welcome our new members!!!

Warde Comeux
Danny McAninch
Andrew Roberts
DeWitt Hodge
Leslie Adams
Lorraine Bartneck

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

FLYING FRIENDLY – THE IMPORTANCE OF NOISE ABATEMENT

Good news! Aviation business is picking up at KCCR. Fuel is becoming cheaper, we are flying more, and of course training activity is booming at both PSA and Sterling. The EDIP (Economic Development Incentive Plan) program is being implemented, which should also lead to more activity.

Of course, with the good news comes some bad news. In 2015 noise complaints increased 91 percent over 2014. By location, the largest increases came from Martinez (up 217%) and Concord (up 188%). By type, both the largest number and the largest increase were for propeller aircraft (up 140%), followed by jet (up 67%) and helicopter (up 21%). Clearly we all have some work to do.

AOPA, CalPilots, and other aviation advocacy groups agree that noise management is the single most important factor in maintaining positive relationships with the surrounding community. Pointing out that the "airport was here first" does more harm than good. Progress comes from having a noise management plan, making sure all we pilots know about it, and then all of us following it, consistent with safe operation.

Fortunately, KCCR has a well-designed noise abatement procedure that is easy to follow and that presents minimal inconvenience for pilots. It can be downloaded here: <http://www.cccounty.us/3804/Buchanan-Field-Noise-Program> Printed copies are also available at the airport office, the FBOs and at MDPA meetings.

Studying the statistics and patterns, it's pretty clear that much of the increase has come from primary students doing pattern work. Airport management and MDPA are reaching out to instructors and students to make sure they all know about the

proper procedures.

But by no means is this all the fault of students. When I studied the KCCR Noise Abatement Procedures, I was chagrined to realize that I have been one of the culprits! For many years it's been my practice to begin my crosswind turn at 600 ft AGL. For a 19R departure this puts me right in the zone of maximum noise complaints, and at the altitude and power setting to cause the most noise. Of course, I did not do this intentionally. I always intended to be considerate of neighbors, but I soldiered on for years without studying the procedures. Now that I am familiar with the procedures I have slightly modified my technique with exactly zero inconvenience or expense.

In closing, here's another bit of good news. In both 2014 and 2015 there were exactly ZERO noise complaints associated with Byron! Of course it's impossible to do any better than zero! The residential areas around Byron are developing rapidly. Soon we will have a noise problem there too. It will be up to all of us to maintain the positive situation as the surrounding communities grow.

Maurice Gunderson

MDPA "COFFEE" AND SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016

By John Potter

BREAKFAST

All went well, coffee & doughnuts (sure makes life simple for me!). Doughnuts from the bakery lady from Laos and "Biscotti" from the lady from "Angelina's Family Kitchen" who sells it at the Benicia Street Market.

For 2016 I will continue to coordinate the Safety Forums.

For 2016, I will be the Head Cook once a quarter.

We will need a Head Cook volunteer for May:

April	- Jim Coupe
May	- ?
June	- Jim Coupe
July	- John Potter

I have a checklist and it will take a newbie about 4 hours to shop and set up. (I now have it down to less than 3 hours.)

**Note: The club policy is to deliver leftover food from the dinners and breakfasts to a needy family.*

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

MDPA President's Comments

President Maurice Gunderson reminded the pilots of the regularly scheduled Airport Advisory Committee meeting and encouraged pilots to attend. He introduced new member DeWitt Hodge who will head an initiative to more formalize the Historical Aircraft display each month. Also introduced was the Airport Manager, Keith Freitas, who mentioned a new air service, "JetSuite," being considered, namely a "scheduled charter service" to outside areas such as San Diego using the Brazilian Embraer passenger aircraft. He also introduced Dominic Aliano, the Representative from the office of Karen Mitchoff, Supervisor for District IV, Contra Costa County. Buchanan Field is located in District IV. We very much appreciate Dominic's frequent attendance and support.

MDPA Treasurer's Remarks

Treasurer Elaine Yeary alerted everyone that dues are due for 2016. She reported the club's account funds on hand and described that we are a Non-Profit but not a "501.c.3 Charity".

Activities

John Barrella reported that the year's schedule had been posted on the club's website. The fly-out was cancelled due to the weather.

SAFETY FORUM

Moderator - Bob Tucknott

Bob's opening comment was about how much he appreciated the coming advent the national ADS-B system. He followed up by describing a close encounter, unintended, with a C5 out of Travis, while he was en route with 4 onboard to Lake Tahoe out the Bay Area. He described how his rear seat non-pilot passenger alerted him to the threatening approach of a jumbo military aircraft climbing towards his aircraft. His immediate reaction upon sighting the C5 was to climb and then to bank away sharply to open distance. He was caught in the vortex effect and flipped over. After recovery his discussion with Travis Approach confirmed that the controller team had missed the potential collision paths of the straight and level Cessna and the rapidly climbing C5. Post event discussions from all parties, primarily the FAA and USAF, revealed an Air Force flight crew absorbed in an IFR departure (probably looking at charts). It was clearly a case of that crew ignoring the "see and be seen" pilot criteria."

Comment by the Head Moderator:

I was mesmerized by the story and failed to get Bob to go back and address what preparation activities he might have included for the pre-flight that would have given him a head's up on potential "heavies" operating out of Travis, which was not far from his intended track. (Even simply looking at the runways at Travis for aircraft taking off can often provide an alert.)

Bob provided a 2001 letter that he submitted to AOPA for "Never Again" that provides the details of this encounter. Riveting! (Please click (Ctrl + Click) on the following link to access the article in PDF - [Never Again - Tucknott](#))

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

MDPA DINNER MEETING, FRIDAY, MARCH 18 2016, 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell

If you like corned beef and cabbage you should have come to the March dinner. Great feast as usual from Scott Davis and his accident free helper, Rich Johnson.

Many thanks also to Bob and Kristy, who purchased the dessert, set up the tables and had the room ready for the guests. Our treasurer, Elaine Yeary, is always happy to meet you and take your money!

DeWitt Hodge gave us a presentation based on the new club he will be starting at Buchanan. Rick Arias, some of you may know from the NRI Flying Club, also gave information on the flight training and other activities they would provide.

Maurice Gunderson then passed on information obtained from the airport, regarding noise abatement. Complaints have increased and he showed us examples of how we could help reduce both complaints and noise. This problem can only be resolved if all pilots think about our neighbors below and around us.

As most of you know, this is the 40th year for MDPA at Concord and we will be planning some kind of celebration. If you have any ideas for something special please contact Pierre Bidou at bidou@sbcglobal.net



Steve Kennedy, Knute Fisher and new member, Leslie Adams.

Our "Little Man" welcoming everyone.



Maurice, Stew and Joyce Bowers.



Diane and Kristy



Rick Arias with Scott Davis looking on.



Members and guests enjoying their evening.



DeWitt Hodge and Rick Arias



Maurice



DeWitt and John Barella



Steve laughing as the table is about to fall on Felix.



Leslie Adams, Maureen, Dave, Bob and Kristy



Maurice, blessing the food?



Stew and Joyce, Scott Davis checking his stock holdings with his employee, Rich Johnson.



The end of another perfect evening at Buchanan.

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
HISTORIC AIRCRAFT DISPLAY
EVERYONE WELCOME!



Buchanan Field Clubhouse –
200 Sally Ride Drive 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 Board Members:

President - Maurice Gunderson
Treasurer - Elaine Yeary
Secretary - Maureen Bell
Programs/Guest Speakers - Pierre Bidou
Website/Dinner - Robert Torrey
Facilities - Scott Achelis
Activities/Flyout – John Barrella

Non-Directors:

Safety Meetings – John Potter
Past President – David Thacker
Newsletter/Social Media - Natasha Doktorova

**The MDPA clubhouse is located at 200 Sally Ride Drive in Concord, California,
*do not send mail to the clubhouse address, use the USPS address instead:***

**Mount Diablo Pilots Association
P.O. Box 6632
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www.mdpa.org**