



MDPA News

Mount Diablo Pilots Association
Buchanan Field, Concord, California

March 2018

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Inside This Issue

February Breakfast and Safety Forum	1-3
Flyout to Salinas	3-4
February Meeting & Monthly Dinner	5-6

MDPA Calendar Upcoming Events

March 2018

- 3** Breakfast, Safety Forum & Flyout
- 7** Board Meeting
- 16** Dinner Meeting

April 2018

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

May 2018

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

MDPA BREAKFAST AND SAFETY FORUM, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018

By John Potter

“HANGAR TALK” HOUR

Planned for 50 and about 44 showed up. Cooking Team went well under Russ Atkinson. Each cook had a specific cooking task but they helped each other as a team. The cooks were Bob Weiss (Special Guest Cook), Paul Millner, and Johannes Verhoek. Ron Lem was ill so George Crech stepped in to fill the hole. Dennis Stillway did the shopping and George Crech did the set-up.

The “Head Cook” Team is divided into three tasks:

- **Head Cook** - Makes sure that the food is ready on time and properly prepared.
- **Shopping** - Get the food (usually at Costco and Safeway).
- **Set-up** - Prepare the kitchen and serving area for serving and store the equipment afterwards.



We were very honored to have our #1 Honorary Member, Dr. Dick Rihn, present. (Thanks to Tony Tiritilli making arrangements.)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

MDPA President's Comments

Maurice Gunderson briefed us on an offer from the 99's for a scholarship for a woman pilot candidate. He also announced a planned trip organized by Brian Enbom to the Seattle area aviation museums in late July.

Note: The Historic Aircraft Display, when weathered out, is notice by MDPA. For this to allow an exemption, the aircraft owner must have pre-registered the aircraft on the MDPA website.



Director of Airports Comments

Keith Freitas reported the following:

1. Airport staff is continuing with the Airport Rates and Charges update. As previously discussed we are proposing a rate reduction for the County owned tie-downs and hangars. The new rates will ultimately be determined by the County Board of Supervisors.

Airport staff is looking for volunteers to assist by providing input into the rates and charges and the development of new tie-down and hangar rental agreements. Please contact Airport staff if you are interested 925-681-4200.

2. The new ATCT Manager Bill Hannan has requested that Runway 14L/32R be studied for GPS RNAV. The project is starting with the Airport staff updating the Airport Layout Plan and during that process the Part 77 approach surfaces and obstructions will be analyzed. The process for a new GPS approach typically requires 18-24 months to complete.

MDPA Treasurer's Remarks

Elaine Yeary was present and collected the donations for the breakfast.

Activities

Mike Harris briefed on the planned fly-out to Salinas.

SAFETY FORUM

Moderator – Jim Coupe

From: James Coupe, just a “common soldier”

Topic: The Big picture

Jim began by passing to club members an iPad containing two pictures. The first was sent to him from Anthony Dymond who moved to Southern California and is a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Long Beach. What we see is a Piper with a life raft inflated inside the cabin. The cabin was completely filled and would have made a “bad day” for an airborne crew. Supposedly somebody trying to stow the raft had pulled the inflation line by mistake. Loading a raft requires reading The How TO Stow instructions. Not an everyday thing on your pre-flight check list. Glad this happened on the ground!



This situation was followed by a personal event. Stew Bowers and Jim had returned from a flight. Weather was great with a variable breeze across his tie-down on the East Ramp. Stew went over to his car leaving Jim to secure the plane. He closed the door and covered the plane. But, as he reached to buckle the cover, his flight notes took off downwind. They cart wheeled along, but slowly enough for him to stop them. Placing his foot on the paper and bending over to recover it. He said that as he stood up, he met the aileron of the C-140. As a tail-dragger the wing was perfectly aligned with his forehead and bridge of his nose. Next thing he was flat on his back. Stew had been watching and asked; “What happened to you”. Jim explained and Stew offered to take him to see his Optometrist. He looked like a scene from a bad night in LA. Bruised and scrapped.

Jim recommended keeping safety first. It was encouraging to hear from other members who had similar experiences working on their plane on the ground, not flying.

Guy Black gave a few remarks about safety issues.

There was a discussion on dealing with thermals when crossing mountain ridges, namely in the Sierras, and being prepared for loss of lift and the high potential of “rotors” unexpectedly turning an aircraft upside down.

On preflights, the discussion centered on being significantly interrupted/injured and proceeding on to flight when in all likelihood the interruption might have made a pilot incompetent to fly. Sometimes it is just better to go home and fly another day.

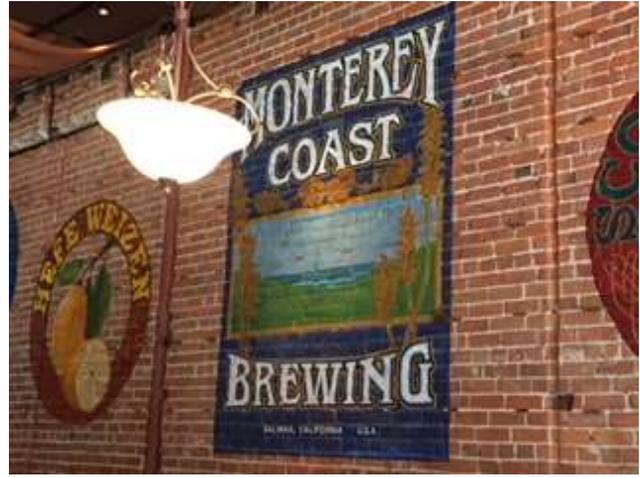


We must look out for each other --- MDPA’s “safety culture”.

FLY-OUT TO MONTEREY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018

by Mike Harris

7 airplanes & 13 people went to Salinas. Took 3 Ubers to downtown Salinas and the John Steinbeck museum then to Monterey brewing company for lunch. Left at 11:45am back at about 5pm. Very nice trip and fellowship. Clear skies and beautiful green California from the air.



MDPA DINNER MEETING, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018 @ 6:30PM

by Maureen Bell

We are going to have a great year if the dinner speakers continue being so good! You had better make your reservations early for our next event – we could sell out early!

This month ex-Marine Bob Fish kept us all spellbound with his story of the 1942 Doolittle Tokyo Raid.

Bob's background is primarily in the IT field and he also researched the Navy's role in the recovery of NASA's manned space flights. He is currently on the Board of Trustees of the USS Hornet Museum.





**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
Executive Chef – Scott Davis
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

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