



# *FLIGHTLINE*



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Photo Credits: The Mascot of the Loaded Mother Sky Riders, by Carm

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## Spring Flying Rumors and Stuff

16Jun Club Meeting: featuring Chief's Yosemite video & talk  
July2-4 Lakeview FlyIn  
July 5-10 Chelan Classic  
Aug 8-9 St John FlyIn  
TBD Yosemite

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**May 2009 Meeting Minutes****Entertainment**

*The new Airwreck Froelich meeting format starts the meeting with the fun stuff, the entertainment*

Carm played a CoyoteHowl video & Ben gave a slide show of his year on the competitive flying curcuit.

**New Members/Guests**

None

**Great Flights**

Ryan Goebel flew St. Helena.  
 Carmela Moreno flew Mission on Rex's birthday.

Chris Cogdon had a 4 hour flight at Funston.

Eric Froelich flew tandem off Mission on Mother's Day.

**President:** Eric Froelich

Scott Wildy has volunteered to be the new WOR webmaster.

Eric is organizing a trip to the Owens Valley for Memorial Day weekend.

**Vice President:** Karl Allmandinger

Nothing to report

**Treasurer:** Don Herrick

Expenses exceeded income for the past month. Fees for the Mission site have been paid. The club's Paypal account has been frozen.

**Flight Director:** None**Membership:** Phyl Hamby

We now have 309 members with 6 more pending.

**Ed Levin :** Steve Pittman

Phyl has been working on the road. An instructor has been suspended from the site for failing to have a current USHPA instructor credential. All pilots are required to have a current USHPA

membership card when flying the site.

A site committee meeting was held recently. Waivers are to be scanned into a computerized database.

Instructor authorizations are to be revocable in the future. The site permit has been renewed. A \$100 fee was waived due to the work that Phyl Hamby has done on the site.

**Mission Ridge:** None**Mount Diablo:** None

**Coyote Lake:** Jim Woodward  
 Progress is being made toward opening the site. In the meantime, flying will proceed under the same procedures as were used for test flying over the last few seasons.

**Goat Mountain/Wild Ass:** Wayne Michelson

This past weekend could have been good. Sailplane pilots flying in that area got high.

**Old Business**

There will be an X-C contest. Ben Dunn is pondering different formats. Wayne Michelson may put together a web page with info on club apparel and the embroidery services available.

**New Business**

Don Herrick is updating the member database. It will show the Ed Levin combinations to paid members at login.

Jim Woodward needs a windsock for Coyote Lake.

Carmela reported on the Marina Beach steeplechase. Scott Wildy placed in the steeplechase.

Prizes were raffled.

**End of Meeting Minutes**

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**Chief's Yosemite**

Next club meeting's entertainment will feature the Chief, with video and talk of his 40,000 or so flights off Glacier Point in Yosemite. This presentation of one of our more colourful club members is a rare treat that should not be missed!!!

**Ed Levin pilot suspended**

by Steve Pittman Chairman, Ed Levin Site Committee

A pilot was recently suspended for three months for instructing at Ed Levin without a current USHPA Instructor appointment. A current USHPA Instructor appointment and authorization as a WOR Instructor are both required to instruct at Ed Levin. Please make sure your USHPA appointment and WOR membership are current before acting as a WOR Observer or WOR Instructor at Ed Levin. The Ed Levin Site Committee hates to suspend people. Thanks, Steve

## Coyote Howl '09, What a cool weekend

By Carmela Moreno

What a COOL weekend. Cool as in fun cool because it was stinky HOT. Saturday was just under 100 degs and Sunday was just over. The Skyriders did a fine job keeping everybody hydrated. They had plenty of water, Gatorade including up at launch and who can forget about the alcohol. Glen did an awesome job with the food.

The speedgliding had minimal competitors what were there were fast. I do not think the record was beaten but the comp pilots made a gallant effort at it. The Big Guy Chris came in first, with Brian and Chris following close behind. The falcon class had a few competitors John from Sac winning the race and a mug.

After they finished with the speed gliding contest the pilots were loading to head up the hill. I was waiting for the later in the day the 4ish launch cycle. I hung in the LZ filming the landings and drinking lots of water. Later in the day I slowly got my gear together to get ready to go up. I was still wtg on a friend. Roy finally arrives and I am just about ready. An hour later we head up the hill with Victoria and a friend as drivers. Thank you!!

It is a mix bag between pilots landing and catching the convergence. I finally get launched it is looking like it might be tough going. Not the glass off, I was hoping for. I waited to launch for the birds to start flying again. It has to be better when they are circling rather than sitting on a rock to launch. I was being patience waiting to launch. I get launched it feels pretty buoyant more so than it felt like on launch. I do get over launch for a little bit then slowly start to sink. It was a slow ride to the LZ. Especially since I was wtg for someone else flying around at trim speed making an approach from 1k up. It was okay I got into his approach pattern as I was looking for lift on the way down. I slowed my decent while he continued his way down to the LZ.

I had plenty of time for him to scrape his body off the dirt and move. Okay my turn to land it is blowing a little northwest at 5-8 and did I mention it was HOT? Can you say high density altitude landings? I set up my approach to land on Brian's dirt circle I am looking and feeling good. DOH! That last three seconds can really bite you. I should have flared but I was trying to keep it level so I can flare. It was just brut forced that I kept my nose off the ground. I had to take some quick steps. I got crowd noise and was very happy to only have my feet touch the ground.

It was a fun flight I survived and got me a little sum.

Sunday they ran the speed gliding and had the reward ceremony. Then it was time to fly for some. Not me I survived Sunday and I would like to get home early. It is best to be flexible. Ben needs a ride to Pleasant directly on my way home. He wants to fly first. Oh baby look into my eyes. How can I refuse I guy like Ben? I agree it looks like a day you can land on Hwy 132 directly on the way home. I might as well make myself a driver. After I was replaced in Chris's truck Glen is the lucky guy. Not saying you are my 2nd choice Glen. I wanted to be up top where it was cooler.

My guys all get launched and BOMBED out including Brian H. I can hear Glen yelling expletive language as he is sinking out. Ben rode up in a different truck. A newbie gets his first soaring flight. Josh what a feeling it was for him. It was so exciting I was glad to be part of it. Oh the memories of Glen getting his first thermal flight. How cool it had to be better had stayed up longer than Brian, Glen and a few others. I head down after I realized my guys are all gone. Ben is still flying so I radio I am ready to go anytime. He agrees and starts heading west. I am in radio contact repeating his location. "Continue on course hwy 132" got it. I finally get a visual and pick him up on hwy 132 on my way home the sweetest retrieve EVER. I am telling you, if all retrieves were that easy we would have groupies in this sport.

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## Ryan likes it

I (Ryan) just wanted mention to those who did not attend this month's meeting that they missed out. Eric brought in a media projector which enabled Ben to give a great presentation on Competition/XC flying formats and strategies. The slide show really added a lot to the meeting. Carmela brought in a new edition of her famous Steeplechase video and we got to see it on the big screen, and McClure Howl photos were shared as well. I really think Eric is onto something with his new meeting format and I hope that it leads to more regular attendance by members. The business of WOR has been condensed toward the end of the meeting.

I think it is time that WOR seriously considers the value of having such a media projector at all of our meetings (I'm assuming that means a purchase). I think that incorporated properly, it could have a great impact on member attendance, and participation. I think it would be a great way for newbies and experienced pilots to share their experiences at different sites, and significant flights in a way that makes the stories come to life. I would really like to see an introduction to xc skies and other forecasting tools explained in more detail by those who use them with regularity (Wayne?).

How to get a Golden Eagle (Karl?)

Perhaps a Google Earth introduction to Anderson and the emerging site near Morgan Hill? And the same for Diablo (I think Robert said that is a fair place to fly).

I'd like to see some more new pilots sharing their photos / videos of first flights and experiences. Maybe other local site discussions (Funston, Tam, Sonoma sites) I'm sure their will be many ready to share first impressions/images from the Owens and IV this weekend!

Thanks Eric, Ben and Carmela for your efforts!

Ryan

Love the lift you're with!