

# FLIGHT LINE

THE PUBLICATION OF THE WINGS OF ROGALLO  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HANG GLIDER ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME 102, NUMBER 2 FEBRUARY 2002



Another Microsoft Moment!

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## The Editor's Turn

Well, the good news for this month is that Gene and the folks on the **WOR** Site Acquisition Committee have plenty of progress to report regarding *Coyote Lake*. This would be an awesome site - eminently soarable, fun to fly, decent XC potential, and best of all, flible (and soaarble!) in the winter! The bad news is that I lost the excellent article and map Gene sent me for this month's issue of the Flight Line. Another *Microsoft Moment*. Alas. But we'll post the latest news on the **WOR** Web Site, so keep your eyes open for progress reports and in case we need participants to attend a County or Parks Department hearing.

Speaking of *Microsoft Moments*, it appears that there was an accidental parachute deployment at Big Sur recently. ("*Your parachute may have been deployed improperly. Ti run PackChute, press any key. Press <ESC> to continue.*") Details are sketchy, but one witness reports, "A pilot tripped on launch, and his canopy streamed out behind him as he bounced off and flew away. When it became fully deployed, the glider came to a stop and settled to the side of the hill. No injuries!!!" Sounds like a good story: especially the 'no injuries' part. And there is rumor that a video of the event may appear at the next club meeting.

We have a number of activities coming up. There will be a *Spot Landing Contest at Ed Levin Park* on Saturday, March 2, in honor of the Feast of Saint Whaphelsturm, patron saint of landing approaches. For more details, see this issue of the *Flight Line*. There will be a *Fly-In at Tollhouse* on March 23. This could be awesome: fine spring flying and a great way to start the season.

Finally, about to update our subscription list, so this is the last issue of *Flight Line* you receive until you

renew your membership. Usually we do the update in January, but we've been running a month behind schedule this year, so you get an extra month's grace period to renew your **WOR** membership with the *Secret Membership Form* concealed in this issue!

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## Big Sur

by Frank Peel

What's the best way to get our club's new and old members together in an environment where they can share information and have fun at the same time? No, the answer isn't "hold a monthly meeting." It's "HAVE A FLY-IN!" That's exactly what Carmela Moreno set out to accomplish and it was a resounding success. A gathering was planned for the Plaskett Creek Campground in Big Sur beginning Friday night. Eventually approximate 25 of **WOR**'s members arrived to fly, share information and, most importantly, allow some of our newer pilots to get to know a few of the "Old Dogs."

The weather was California crisp and clear, exactly what one would expect at Big Sur in early February. Saturday dawned with a light down-slope flow and by midday there was a light onshore flow. Not a lot, but enough to warrant braving the 45 minute drive to the Wild Cattle launch. Weathering the still over-the-back flow most everyone set up in anticipation of it eventually becoming flyable. They were not disappointed.

Mid-afternoon arrived with an intermittent flow up the front and pilots started bailing off. Virtually everyone got to partake of one of the most picturesque sled rides in North America. The lone exceptions were Carmela, who was too busy playing mother hen to set up and Tom. Let's just say he encountered a learning situation with just the right amount of humility and

openness for it to stick. That and he now knows how to convert a backup 'chute into a drogue 'chute...

Once everyone arrived in the LZ Steve Rodrigues delivered on the promise of "refreshments". This did very little to dampen an already exuberant crowd, many of whom had logged their highest launch or longest flight ever. Joining us were a group of paraglider pilots from the Pacific Northwest who were openly grateful for the unexpected chance to whet their whistles and meet some new people. The surprise of the afternoon was the opportunity to whale watch from the LZ when several spouts and even a fluke were spotted.

The evening's festivities lasted until after midnight. Carmela and Frank Peel hosted a campfire at their site and judging from the large crowd everyone was in attendance. Stories of the day were told and retold. As someone later commented, "the group dynamics were quite interesting to watch."

Sunday started as a duplicate of the day before, but the wind never really came up the front. One pilot launched in an almost up the front cycle, obviously got his first taste ever of rotor and came close to inciting the lemmings into joining him by flying through a HUGE thermal without turning. Conditions really weren't good, so common sense prevailed and eventually everyone packed up on top. In the interim a mini-clinic on harness tuning was held and lots of discussion on some of the finer points of flying occurred. Though a bit on the cold side and lacking in flying, the day was still a success. How could it not given the scenery and good company?

Once back down in the LZ equipment was loaded onto the right vehicles and all but a couple of

pilots headed home. Without exception everyone had a smile on their face and was loving life.

Special thanks were earned by a few folks. Steve Inwards, Steve Rodrigues, Frank Peel, Mike Connell, Roy Spencer, Driver Bob, Greg Pierson and Eric Frollich deserve a pat on the back for so willingly answering the endless stream of questions the newer pilots produced. Marie an up and coming pilot herself also deserves credit for sticking with the video camera, support for her husband and driver. Shankar gets a nod for being the ONLY WOR paraglider in attendance. Last, and most importantly, Carmela Moreno gets the good citizen award for not only single handedly organizing the event, but for spending all her time helping with equipment and questions.

Given the success of this event it is only natural that there be another, and soon. The big question is whether more of our 500+ members will attend. My guess is there will undoubtedly be more of the "less mature" set. The bigger question is what will it take to get more of the "old dogs" out of the doghouse. Maybe more than just beer, Steve...?

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## Ed Levin Walkover Cow-Proofed

by Steve Pittman

Thanks to the many people who joined the work party on Sunday, January 27th, a stile has been constructed on top of the Minnis Road walkover. Cattle can now be grazed in the LZ again. We will have to put up with cow pat-ties, but won't have to mow the grass as much.

The cable that has been used to close the walkover uphill of Minnis Road is not necessary and has been removed. Both walkovers

should now be effective in stopping cattle without supplemental devices.

The club owes a special thanks to Mike Hedblom, who designed the stile and picked up the lumber, and Dick Cochran, who constructed the stile along with Mike. The WOR spent \$91 for the lumber. The Ed Levin maintenance department (Ellen Foley and Mercedes Perez) also helped by lending us a generator and a length of garden hose.

When you see them, please thank the following WOR members for doing the excavation work necessary to reposition railroad ties to construct a foundation for the stile: Mark Bernier, Alec Chattaway, Dick Cochran, Tim Ellis, Don Herrick, Marie Larsen, Carmela Moreno, Shankar Narayanaswamy, Karl Plischke, Brook Rice, Dean Rowland, David Soltz, Randy Tribe, and John Wilde. Many of these people also spent some time filling in ground squirrel holes in the LZ.

[Stay tuned for the exciting sequel: 'Ed Levin Cows Walkover-Proofed' -- Ed]

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## January 2002 Meeting Minutes

by Paul Clayton

### NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Bo Riddle - Working on hang 1.  
Craig Pines - Flies a Litespeed.  
Ashley Groves - has been a member for a while.

### GREAT FLIGHTS

Mark Mullholland - recently got a Prowler.  
Eric Froelich - flew a Doodlebug (a powered ultralight) at New Jerusalem.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Steve Rodrigues**

Steve has reviewed last year's budget. There was a net loss for the year.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - John Wilde**

John is now a Region 2 director. Anyone with issues for the USHGA may contact John.

**TREASURER'S REPORT - Don Jones**

Don has given the financial report for 2001 to Steve Rodrigues.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - Carmela Moreno**

152 members have renewed for 2002. 51 of those people take Flight Line via the club website.

**ED LEVIN SITE COMMITTEE REPORT - Steve Pittman**

New gate combinations will be implemented in February. Mike Hedblom has been helping with plans for the walkover renovations, which will be installed at a work party on January 27th. The 600 ft. launch is now open.

**MISSION PEAK SITE COMMITTEE REPORT - Steve Rodrigues**

Keyholder applications are currently being accepted for 2002.

**MT. DIABLO SITE COMMITTEE REPORT - Eric Froelich**

A work party will be needed to clear brush from the launches.

**NEWSLETTER - Paul Gazis**

A new folding scheme is saving the club \$100 per month.

**COMPETITION COMMITTEE REPORT - None**

**SITE ACQUISITION - Gene Pfifer**

Gene has been attending County Parks Dept. meetings and Open Space Authority meetings. A public meeting will be held in the next few months at which potential new sites will be discussed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mark Mullholland gave \$165 from sales of club T-shirts to Don Jones, to be deposited in the WOR treasury.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Carmela Moreno announced a club fly-in to be held on the weekend of February 2nd at Big Sur (Pacific Valley). She noted that an "adventure pass" from the US Forest Service is required to fly at Pacific Valley, and other sites in So Cal that are on Forest Service lands.

Greg Knepp announced that Mercury Freedom has agreed to be the new Observer Coordinator, and publicly thanked Dave Jacobs for his many years of service in that position.

Pat Denevan announced that Dave Wills is planning an observer clinic in the near future.

Mike Vorhis reported that the Red Bull website has still and video images of gliders looping, and base jumping.

Steve Pittman moved that \$400 be allocated for the walkover renovation. This motion was approved.

Club officers were elected for 2002. The new officers are:

President - Steve Rodrigues  
Vice President - George Morford  
Treasurer - Don Jones  
Membership Services Director - Carmela Moreno

Secretary - Paul Clayton  
Flight Director - Mike Vorhis

Entertainment was slides of flying in Alaska, and old time hang gliding, provided by Paul Splan and Brian Porter. Prizes were also raffled.

39 people attended the meeting.

**END OF MEETING MINUTES**

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*[This just came in off the Hang Gliding Mailing list. Let's be sure to send Betty our good wishes for the move-- Ed]*

**High Energy Sports moving to Anaheim**  
*by <brad@hanggliding.com>*

Betty Pfeiffer of High Energy Sports has asked me to help announce the move of her company from Santa Ana to Anaheim, California late in February 2002. The new factory location will allow High Energy Sports to continue to produce custom hang gliding harnesses (the Tracer side-entry pod harness, HES cocoon, knee hangar, Double-decker tandem harness, and 'Tracer Torso' hill-training harness) as well as the famous Quantum series of reserve parachutes. Production times have been very good throughout the years, usually 3 to 4 weeks for custom orders, and the new location and assembly process may allow production times to be even faster in 2002. Many pilots who have been flying with High Energy Sports harnesses and parachutes throughout the years would be surprised to learn that High Energy also produces powered parachutes and a diverse line of hang gliding and paragliding accessories. Please bookmark the website and update your address book with the new mailing address and phone numbers:

High Energy Sports, Inc  
1081 Shepard Street Unit A  
Anaheim, CA 92806 USA  
Phone: (714) 632-3323  
Fax: (714) 632-6622  
www.Highenergysports.com  
E-mail: BettP@aol.com or,  
Betty@Highenergysports.com

then, send Betty a quick 'hello'  
message to wish her a smooth  
move to the new location.

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Elaborate Details  
Regard the Excit-  
ing Spot Landing

Competition to be  
Held at Ed Levin  
Park on Saturday  
March 2, 2002  
*by Paul Gazis*

Oops. Out of room. Bye

# MARCH 23, 2002

## FLY AT THE RANCH IN TOLLHOUSE

**8TH ANNUAL SPRING FLY-IN WILL BE  
HOSTED BY WESTERN HANG GLIDERS  
(831) 384-2622**

**BESIDES GREAT FLYING,  
THERE WILL BE GREAT FOOD  
AND A POKER RUN.**

**THE MORE FLIGHTS YOU MAKE, THE BETTER YOUR  
HAND WILL BE TO PLAY FOR THE \$500 PURSE!**

From the south:

99 north to 180 East / Kings Canyon  
168 east towards Clovis/Huntington Lake  
21/2 miles after Auberry Turnoff is a STOP sign, go straight on Lodge Road. Travel on  
past Sierra High School. Turn left on Tollhouse Road, at Sierra Elementary School. The  
Tollhouse Post Office is 1 mile, turn right at Gibbs Ranch Road. Right turn on Oak Tree  
Lane. First gate on your right. Follow the road to the camp site.

From the north:

99 south. In Madera, follow the signs to Millerton Lake Highway 145 East. Continue to  
Road 206, right onto 206. Cross over the bridge, turn left towards Shaver Lake. Pass  
Table Mountain Casino. At stop sign, turn left on Auberry Road. 21/2 miles past Auberry  
Turnoff is a STOP sign, go straight on Lodge Road. Travel on past Sierra High School.  
Turn left on Tollhouse Road, at Sierra Elementary School. The Tollhouse Post Office is 1  
mile, turn right at Gibbs Ranch Road. Right turn on Oak Tree Lane. First gate on your right.  
Follow the road to the camp site.

**SPLAN AIR (559) 449-0214**

Place USHGA Hang Gliding Card or temporary rating here and photocopy.

Keep Original for your records

Place USHGA Paragliding Card or temporary rating here and photocopy.

Keep Original for your records

New Members - Please complete the Application in full.

All Others – Enter only information that has changed or is different than USHGA card.

Mail to:  
Wings of Rogallo  
PO Box 361885  
Milpitas, CA 95036-1885

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel # : ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Tel # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

USHGA Appointments: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional:

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ HAM call sign: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues and Fees** (based upon a calendar year)

WOR Renewal (If a member during the last 2 years) \$18.00 \_\_\_\_\_

If Not a member during the last 2 years - \_\_\_\_\_ months at 1.50/month \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership (Family members WOR#) \_\_\_\_\_ \$6.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Mission/Diablo Renewal (If Mission/Diablo rated in the last 2 years) \$12.00 \_\_\_\_\_

If Not a member during the last 2 years - \_\_\_\_\_ months at 1.50/month \_\_\_\_\_

Donation for cards and stickers: \$2.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive WOR newsletter by mail? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No, I'll download a copy \_\_\_\_\_ **Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check ONLY if sticker(s) required** (year stickers are issued automatically)

**Hang Gliding**

**Paragliding**

**Other**

\_\_\_\_ Hang 1 (green)

\_\_\_\_ Para 1 (green)

\_\_\_\_ WOR ID

\_\_\_\_ Hang 2 (red)

\_\_\_\_ Para 2 (red)

\_\_\_\_ Hang 3/4 (blue)

\_\_\_\_ Para 3/4 (blue)

Note: Your WOR ID# will change  
If a new ID Sticker is issued.

\_\_\_\_ Mission / Diablo (Silver)

\_\_\_\_ Mission / Diablo (Silver)

**Reason for sticker(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

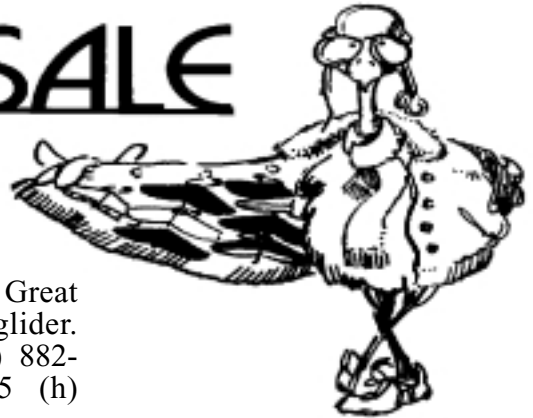
(ie. new member, new helmet, sticker wore off, .etc.)

**Important** – The following should accompany this Application:

1. **Photocopies** – USHGA card (s) and/or temporary ratings.
2. **Waivers If not already on file** – Ed Levin Park and/or Diablo (legible, signed and properly witnessed)
3. **Self Addressed stamped envelope** (helps to speed up the process)

**Note:** Application not filled out properly will be returned. All pilots are required to have a proficiency sticker **BEFORE** flying.

# WINGS FOR SALE



## Wings for Sale

(Ad policy: ads run for 6 months, then are cancelled automatically unless they are renewed. Ads are free to WOR members)

### Flexwings

**Aeros Stealth 2 151** (Fresno area) Excellent shape. 1 yr old. Pictures at: <http://www.geocities.com/sky-godmatt/stealth.html>. \$3000 obo. Call Matt Potter (559) 243-1831

**Aeros Stealth 2 151** (late 1998), Matrix cloth, white LE, red and blue undersurface. Additional sail and 2 extra dtubes. \$2900 obo. Call Reto at (916) 804-4063, [reto\\_s@yahoo.com](mailto:reto_s@yahoo.com)

**Aeros Stealth 3 Combat 151.** Late 2000, matrix cloth, special comp mods. Flown in Speed Worlds on gold medal team. 1/2 hr total time! \$3500 or best offer. Call Reto at (916) 798-7156 or Mike at (510) 744-1953.

**HP-AT 145.** Approx 150 hours Good cond. Orange-light green-white. 6 hrs airtime since last pre-flight. Spare dtubes. \$800 obo. Call Weegie (510) 649-8181, [weegie@lightroom.com](mailto:weegie@lightroom.com)

**Sensor Production Slot available!** Paid for over a year ago; this glider is ready to start building! Topless or kingposted. Offered for dealer's cost. Call Mike at (510) 744-1953.

**Sensor.** 1993 Custom flap system (better than stock). Fantastic shape; less than 200 hrs. I'd either sell this or the production slot (listed above), and use the other for myself. Call Mike at (510) 744-1953.

**Wills Wing Spectrum 165.** Excellent condition Includes UV bag,

ladder rack, straps, etc. Great beginner/intermediate glider. \$1950, Call Roger at (408) 882-0382 (w) (408) 224-1815 (h) [rohang3@aol-com](mailto:rohang3@aol-com)

**Wills Wing Sport AT 167.** FloreWills Wing Supersport 163. Original owner, mint condition, many extras. Asking \$1200. Call Tom (408)747-0414 lv msg.

### Paragliders

**FreeX Spear (L),** violet/white. Approx. 150 hours. Still covered by FreeX 300 hours guarantee. One of the most responsive DHV 2 gliders around. \$900 obo. Call Steve Thorpe (408) 435 2600 ext. 506 (w), (408) 260 7029 (h), [thorpes@arklogic.com](mailto:thorpes@arklogic.com)

**Ozone Electron (L).** DHV 1/2. Only 14 hrs. Perfect cond. Wt range 95-115Kg. Have dropped below the min. wt range. Great performance and handling. \$2000 obo. Call Larry at 650-248-5873, [larry@tmpartners.net](mailto:larry@tmpartners.net)

### Equipment

**Apco Top Secura Harness** with kevlar backplate and CO2 air-bag protection. \$200 obo. Call Steve Thorpe (408) 435 2600 ext. 506 (w), (408) 260 7029 (h), [thorpes@arklogic.com](mailto:thorpes@arklogic.com)

**Tangent flight computer,** \$500, Call Reto at (916) 804-4063, [reto\\_s@yahoo.com](mailto:reto_s@yahoo.com)

### Vehicles

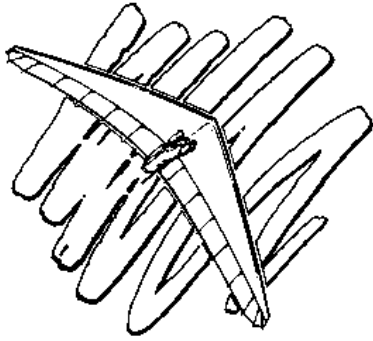
**1987 Chevy Suburban 4WD,** 350 V8 1/2 ton, excellent cond. Comes with glider rack and 2m radio, \$8000 obo. Call (408)-288-6607.

## Customs of the Plaekosa

The *Plaekosa* of New Guinea hunt exotic sports cars by driving them over a cliff. Large herds of Ferraris, Porsches, and Aston Martins are induced to stampede, and then herded in the direction of a suitable precipice, over which they plunge to their doom. The tires are removed for use as footwear, the seat covers are used for clothing and shelter, while the wheel rims, stereos, and dashboard instruments are used for ceremonial purposes. The gearshift levers are saved for use as weapons, and the remaining fuel is used for cooking and as medicine for the treatment of minor skin irritations.

Modern ethnographers believe that the name of this people, 'Plaek-o-sa', literally translates to "Those who scratch their noses during important inter-tribal ceremonies". Such behavior can be considered irreverent, and can often lead to warfare. That is why the *Plaekosa* take care to stockpile plenty of gearshift levers in strategic locations. Gearshift levers from Alpha Romeos are preferred because they are longer. This is why it is rare to find an old Alpha Romeo Spider Veloce in the highlands of New Guinea. Near the coast, coastal breezes and reduced humidity mean that skin irritations are less of a problem, and small herds of Italian roadsters can still be found in the vicinity of Port Moresby.

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P.O. Box 361885  
Milpitas, CA 95036-1885



*Wings of  
Rogallo*

# FLIGHT LINE

*VOL. 101 NO. 2 FEBRUARY 2002*

The next Wings of Rogallo Meeting will be held  
Tuesday, February 19.  
at the Summit Point Golf Club in Milpitas near Ed Levin Park  
Check the Wings of Rogallo WWW Page  
<http://www.wingsofrogallo.org/meetings.html>  
for details and directions.

Entertainment at the next meeting may include, among  
other things, an Interesting Video from Big Sur