



# FLIGHTLINE



The publication of the Wings Of Rogallo Northern California Hang Gliding Association  
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Bob Shelton at Big Sur?

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## Winter 2015 Flying Rumors and Stuff

- \* 20 Jan WOR meeting with **FREE BEER** & Executive Committee nominations
- \* 24 Jan Picnic & Memorial at ERLCP with **FREE BEER**



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### Sept 2014 Meeting Minutes

#### Entertainment

Wayne Michelson and Ben Dunn's recent X-C flight was presented with images of the flight path from Google Earth and pictures of the launch and surrounding area, including the bailout LZ.

#### New Members and Guests

Ed Abert: an H2; flies a Falcon at Hollister

#### Great Flights

Ben Dunn and Wayne Michelson flew X-C from Wildass to Tres Pinos. Ben and Wayne also flew at the Bridgeport Classic. About 30 pilots flew; many made it from Sweetwater launch to Bridgeport. Wayne made it to Bode; Ben flew almost to Janies near Montgomery Pass.

#### President: Paul Gazis

Nothing significant to report.

#### Vice President: None

#### Treasurer: Don Herrick

Expenses exceeded income this past month. The Mission road fee has been paid. The club balances are stable.

#### Member Services: Phyl Hamby

There are 344 paid members for 2014.

#### Flight Director: None

#### Ed Levin: Phyl Hamby

Stan Boehm has been working on the road.

An HG pilot launched from the 600 launch and landed out, injuring his shoulder.

A PG pilot landed in an oak tree at the north end of the green.

Please send in incident reports within 24 hours of an incident. All members are responsible for monitoring the site, not just site committee members.

There was an instructor at the site recently who didn't have a current instructor rating and was also not a WOR member.

#### Mission: Chris Valley by text message

The EIR for the parking area options is still in progress.

CRV is in the process of working with EBRPD to renew our Special Use Agreement. The Park had initially indicated this would be done by October, but it appears the timeline has been moved toward the end of the year or beginning of 2015.

#### Diablo: None

#### Site Acquisition Jim Woodward, et al

An "encroachment permit" from the county parks dept is needed for access to the LZ. Authorization from the Open Space Authority is needed for access to the launch.

#### Old Business None

#### New Business

Ben Dunn will do a talk on glider tuning as entertainment at next month's meeting.

#### END of meeting minutes

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### Oct 2014 Meeting Minutes

#### Entertainment

Ben Dunn gave a talk on glider tuning.

#### New Members and Guests

One new member, whose name was not recorded.

#### Great Flights

There had to be some, but no details are available.

#### President: Paul Gazis

Nothing significant to report.

#### Vice President: None

#### Treasurer: Don Herrick

Expenses exceeded income this past month. Various club expenses have been paid. The club balances are stable.

#### Member Services: Phyl Hamby

There are 363 paid members for 2014.

#### Flight Director: All

Still no details on the 9-7-2014 incident at the 600 launch at Ed Levin. Robert Booth and Phyl Hamby plan to organize another instructor meeting at Ed Levin.

There have been some recent violations and other incidents.

#### Secretary: Paul Clayton

I wasn't present at the meeting. Thanks to Karl Allmandinger for

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*Oct minutes continued...*

what information we have on what was discussed. The September minutes are posted on the "Announcements" board.

**Ed Levin** Phyl Hamby

Members should report accidents in a timely manner. This applies to everyone, not just site committee members.

**Mission** Chris Valley by e-mail

A new windsock was installed at the Mission Ridge LZ... big thanks to John Taylor and Tom Low for helping out. Chris Valley has one more windsock left-over.

Regarding the parking lot options: The Park recently received the geotechnical study. Their design engineer has the geo study and is revising the conceptual designs accordingly. After this step is completed, the Park Planner can finalize the project description and turn it over to their EIR consultants to wrap up the environmental impact analysis. If all goes well, the Draft EIR could be out for public review in late spring or early summer of 2015.

Chris Valley is working with the Park toward renewing our Special Use Agreement. The timeline for that is late 2014 / early 2015.

Each key holder is responsible for ensuring the gates are closed properly. Please make sure when you slide the gate closed that all the bar holes are lined up such that the gate is secure when the lock is closed. Chris Valley will be holding a 3-day workshop on how to properly close site access gates. Also, remember to drive slow on the road up to launch. Lots of folks are using Mill Creek Road as a hiking trail in addition to the fire road. The beginning of November, there'll be a post on the WOR bulletin board for 2015 Mission Site key holder applications - get your application

in early! Fly safe!  
**Diablo** None

**Site Acquisition** Jim Woodward, et al  
An "encroachment permit" from the county parks dept is needed for access to the LZ. Authorization from the Open Space Authority is needed for access to the launch.

**Old Business** None noted  
**New Business** None noted

**END of Meeting Minutes**  
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**Nov 2014 Meeting Minutes**

**Entertainment**

Ben Dunn showed images from a flight between wave clouds after launching from the 600 at Ed Levin and also a flight track of a flight from Ed Levin to a field near his house where aviation pioneer John Montgomery once flew.

**New Members and Guests** None recognized

**Great Flights**

Tom Low and others flew Tam 2 weeks ago.  
Paul Clayton got to 4800 on a post-frontal day at Diablo

**President:** Paul Gazis Nothing significant to report.  
**Vice President:** None

**Treasurer:** Don Herrick by e-mail  
In October the club's expenses exceeded income. Our balances decreased by less than 1%. I expect dues income to be increasing in the new year. In general our bank balances are stable.

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**Member Services Director:** Phyl Hamby  
There are 367 paid members for 2014.

**Flight Director:** Ben Dunn  
Robert Booth is organizing a meeting of Ed Levin Instructors.

**Secretary:** Paul Clayton  
The October minutes have been posted on the discussion board.

**Ed Levin** Phyl Hamby  
There were no reportable incidents in the past month.

**Mission** Chris Valley by e-mail  
Chris has been working with Renee Patterson, Administrative Analyst at EBRPD, regarding the renewal of our Special Use Agreement (SUA) in 2015, and to address the "airport" insurance issue. Chris feels it would be good to get a letter (near the time of our SUA renewal) from USHPA's legal counsel that clearly defines how our free-flight activity is nowhere related to that of "airport" - this would help in the eyes of the Park and their self-insured company. And, it would help to present this to the Board Operations Committee when it comes time for review of our SUA. Ultimately, it is up to the Park's self-insured company as far as what insurance is or is not required.

The current pressing issue(s) with the Park is the hikers and parking, both at the Stanford lot / staging area and neighboring residential communities.

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*Nov meeting minutes continued ...*

In addition to the parking issue(s), the Park is also contending with off-trail hikers resulting in erosion, etc. WOR is still considered a very good partner in the eyes of the Park.

Renee wants to address our renewal and insurance matters after the storm has passed with the hiking and parking issues. The renewal timeline should be around mid-2015.

In the meantime, while hiking up toward launch, please stay on trail - the Park is watching and taking notes.

Paul Gazis plans to contact Mark Forbes at USHPA regarding the "airport insurance" issue after discussing the matter with Chris Valley.

**Diablo** No official report. However it has been soarable and the site is open for flying.

**Site Acquisition** Jim Woodward, Wayne Michelson, et al "Airport" insurance is also an issue for Coyote Lake.

Pat Denevan is leading the effort to open the site.

**Old Business** None noted

**New Business**

Wayne Michelson noted that the Windy Hill Launch has been cleared.

A recall notice for the Austrialpin no-snap carabiners has been issued. A new lot of biners will soon be available.

There was some discussion of the December meeting/holiday party. It may take the form of a pot-luck at Ed Levin or an event at Summit Pointe, if a volunteer can be found to organize it.

**End of Meeting Minutes**

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**Dec 2014 Meeting Minutes**

**Entertainment**

Ben Dunn showed some flying images of his vacation in Valle de Bravo and told of his encounter with the Mexican Federales, who were patrolling for drug smugglers.

**New Members and Guests:**

Martin Palmac, executive director of USHPA

**Great Flights:**

Martin flew Ed Levin on Saturday.

Roy Spencer flew Mission on Sunday and landed

south of the usual LZ due to a strong south wind.

A number of pilots soared at Diablo 2 weeks ago, including Site Chair Matt Epperson.

**President:** Paul Gazis

It is rumored that there are slides on the top access road at Ed Levin; Phyl Hamby might know more details.

**Vice President:** None

**Treasurer::** Don Herrick

Income exceeded expenses in the past month as renewals are coming in.

**Member Services::** Don Herrick for Phyl Hamby

There are 367 paid members for 2014 and 60 for 2015.

**Flight Director: :** Ben Dunn

A pilot flew at Ed Levin without a helmet. Ben has not heard what action, if any the site committee plans to take, but plans to contact Site Chair Phyl Hamby by e-mail.

**Secretary: :** Paul Clayton

The November minutes have been posted.

**Ed Levin:** None

**Mission: :** Chris Valley

A new windsock is needed at launch as the existing sock has been shredded by high winds. 10 key applications have been received for 2015. The wet road rule should be observed, i.e. if mud sticks to your shoes, it's too wet.

There has been a slide on Mill Creek Road. The city has been keeping it clear and has posted a sign at the lower end of the road stating it is open for "locals only" , which includes WOR keyholders. Ranger Neil is on leave and has been replaced by Ranger Marie. The Special Use Agreement is up for renewal.

**Diablo:** No official report. However it has been soarable and the site is open for flying. Steve Smith plans to contact Matt Epperson about filing site reports.

**Site Acquisition:** Tom, et al

"Airport" insurance is still an issue for Coyote Lake and permits still need to be issued. Martin Palmac mentioned that USHPA site insurance covers up to \$1M per incident and \$2M aggregate per year.

**Old Business:** None noted

**New Business:**

The following people were nominated for club offices...

Vice President: Paul Gazis

Treasurer: Don Herrick

Member Services: Phyl Hammy

Flight Director: Paul Gazis, Ben Dunn

Secretary: Paul Clayton

Carmela Moreno plans to organize a picnic next month, tentatively on 24 January, in memory of Bob Shelton. Don Herrick mentioned that the club has a budget for picnics.

The owner for the Copper Creek Camp in Indian Valley was murdered last week, putting future use of the LZ and campground in doubt.

Steve Smith noted that the windtalker at Ed Levin is not working and volunteered to investigate options for getting a working weather station in place.

Don Herrick noted that the club still needs a webmaster. Wayne Michelson noted that most USHPA chapters have a websites and wondered if there is or could be a standard template. The present site is time consuming to maintain, according to several people present who have worked on it.

It was mentioned that Steve Rodrigues is the Secretary of USHPA.

Martin Palmac mentioned that a large proportion of HG pilots are 55-65 years old, putting the future of the sport in question. PG pilots have a more uniform age distribution. Martin is looking for ways to bring in some new blood, such a cross-training days like WOR has organized in the past.

**End of Meeting Minutes**

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**OBITS**

Bob Shelton: USHPA #89488, Hung out with the Wills brothers back in the day of billow-cruisers. Always had a smile and a story or 2.

Paul Coullaird: USHPA #35290, Founding father of FLAPPO (Fun Loving Aviators Persistently Plummeting Outta-da-sky)

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