



# FLIGHTLINE



The publication of the Wings Of Rogallo Northern California Hang Gliding Association  
Volume-134, Number 5 July 2015



Chris Valley at Yosemite Photo by Wendy Valley

## Index:

1. [Cover photo](#)
2. [June Minutes](#)
3. [June Minutes](#)
4. [My Summer Vacation](#)
5. [My Summer Vacation](#)
6. [Back Cover](#)

## Spring 2015 Flying Rumors and Stuff

\* WOR meeting Aug 18 at:  
Firehouse Grill and Brewery  
Murphy Street Sunnyvale  
<http://firehousegrill.com/>

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## May 2015 Meeting Minutes

### Entertainment

Roy Spencer showed video of his recent flight from Glacier Point in Yosemite Valley.

Wayne Michelson showed a video of Wills Wing factory pilots flying at Lake Elsinore and Torrey Pines, including a turbulence induced inversion and parachute deployment..

### New Members and Guests

None

### Great Flights

Karl Allmandinger, Joe Vilifor and Lauren aerotowed in Brentwood and got their AT ratings.

Ricardo flew Funston.

### .President:

Robert Booth

Nothing to report.

Page 2                    1                    2

### Vice President:

Patrick Pannese

Nothing to report.

### Treasurer: Don Herrick

Income exceeded expenses in the past month as dues income is declining. The club's balances are stable..

### Member Services:

Phyl Hamby

There are 326 paid members for 2015. Students who don't have permanent USHPA numbers should mention the name of their instructor on applications for membership, or attach their completed waivers. Waivers executed by temporary USHPA members are harder to find in the database..

### Flight Director:

Paul Gazis

Nothing to report

### Secretary's Report:

Paul Clayton The May minutes have been posted on the discussion board and had gotten 68 views as of the time of the meeting.

3                    4                    5                    6

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### Ed Levin:

Phyl Hamby

There have been a couple of incidents. The Parks officials want reports filled out for any incidents..

### Mission:

Chris Valley by e-mail

In late May, a hiker was supposedly stomped by a cow - be careful of cows is the moral to this story. They are not as quick as bears, but they can do some damage as we've learned.

Rattlers are in abundance - sighting of one adjacent to the gate entering the road to the LZ - be careful and check where you're setting up your wing or laying out your PG. You can avoid rattlers by spending the rest of your career flying Fort Funston.

Thank you to Alan Deikman for re-aligning the Mission Ridge web cam. It is volunteers like Alan that make the world go around and keep web cams in alignment.

As always - fly safe, get high, go far!

Hello Flightline Readers

In this issue I have written a little report on my experiences flying in Yosemite in June. I hope you enjoy it.

The front cover photo features Yosemite monitor Chris Valley showing us how it is done on the Glacier Point launch.

Next issue might be published as the Augtember issue.

**Diablo** – Robert Moore by e-mail

Earlier this month, a visiting pilot began a confrontational interaction with a worker at the Diablo Tower launch site. The situation was quickly defused by a member of the Site Committee, but the event reinforced the need for restraint in this situation.

With the change in management of the Diablo Tower launch site, there has been some confusion among tower service workers regarding the legitimacy of our presence at launch. Additionally, the access lock combinations have been changed. Please keep in mind that pilots unfamiliar with Tower Site access protocols should only visit the launch with members of the Site Committee, as our knowledge and experience in interacting with Tower workers is key to retaining the site.  
[this report was not read at the meeting]

**Site Acquisition** Coyote Lake – Jim Woodward, et al

According to Ben Dunn, Kimlee is working on engineering reports that are required to get the site open. Don Herrick reported that he saw some of the engineering drawings at the last Coyote Lake Committee meeting. Apparently the reports are required by the Roads and Airports Dept, rather than the Parks Dept. The reports are due at the time we apply for access, along with the \$1100 fee discussed earlier.

**Site Acquisition** Goat Mountain

Wayne Michelson

Charlie Nelson reports that Goat is open for flying and hang gliding is listed as an activity in the Clear Creek Recreation Area plan. The road to launch has been bulldozed and is smooth. It is steep enough to require 4WD. The launches are in good shape. Sailplane pilots refer to the area near Goat as elevator 3 due to a convergence that often is present there. The area is administered by the BLM; the site itself is un-regulated. The bailout LZ is a creek bed. It's a long glide to the main LZ.

**Old Business**

Roy Spencer noted that the June issue of Flightline has been published. Don Herrick mentioned the proposal for a change in meeting venue. Colin Perry has suggested the Firehouse Grill in Sunnyvale. Don proposed to defer a vote on the subject to the July Meeting. Phyl Hamby noted that Hans Truax was seen at the Coyote Howl. Phyl called him but didn't get through. Phyl is still serving as Member Services Director.

**New Business**

Don Herrick noted that USHPA promotes Free Flight Film Festivals as a marketing tool. Don displayed festival posters and other swag and asked for a volunteer to organize one in the Bay Area. Mike Jefferson noted that Fellow Feathers hosts such a festival most years.

**END of Meeting Minutes**

#####

**What I Did On My Summer Vacation  
by Roy spencer**

In June of 2015 I planned to fly multiple days in Yosemite. Here is how it went.

Thursday June 4

Janelle and I arrived in Yosemite. Fortunately, I was able to get reservations at Crane Flat campgrounds. We found our site. Not so flat.

After unpacking and setting up camp, we went into Yosemite Valley. I stopped at the Swinging Bridge landing zone. After walking the LZ and planning my approach, we started out.

Then I noticed a pilot and an entourage of people headed back out into the LZ. I caught up with the group and introduced myself.

The pilot turned out to be Jeff Shapiro. The entourage turned out to be a National Geographic film crew. They were making a documentary about Hang Gliding in Yosemite.

So we continued our tour about the valley. It rained a bit in the midafternoon.

Friday June 5

*Since Crane Flat is 1.5 hours from Glacier Point and the setup window for launching is early, we got up at 5AM. Without coffee, I drove to launch and was met by our monitor Chris Valley. Several other pilots including Jeff, Eric, and JT were also there.*

*I got set up and got the GoPro recording while others launched. So I was one of the last to launch.*

*It was so nice to have a little breeze coming straight in at launch. The launch went well and the flight was off-the-charts beautiful. I made a good landing exactly where I planned to land.*

*We watched Chris land and finished packing up. My lovely wife showed up with my 4Runner.*

*At that point Eric put his harness in my vehicle. Then I put my harness in my vehicle. Our harness bags look a lot alike. (Can you see this one coming?)*

A little later Eric's vehicle arrived and Eric moved a harness into his vehicle. Then we went to brunch. The coffee was good.

Eric departed for a hike and Janelle and I went for a float down the river in our little inflatable kayak. At that point it was a nice day.

After 30 minutes I noticed that the CUs were getting bigger. But it was a nice day. After another 30 minutes, it started to rain. No big deal right?

So we floated on.

After another 30 minutes, it started to rain very hard. We floated on.

Then it started hailing. Then lightning. I wanted to abandon ship but Janelle was having too much fun. So we paddled on.

By the time we made it to the take out, we were very wet, cold, and muddy. Quite the adventure.

Saturday June 6

Up again at 5 &@#\$\$%^ AM. Paul C joined us for the drive to launch. Once there, I proceeded to set up. However, when I set my harness bag down I noticed it had a green logo. My harness has a blue logo. It was not my bag. Eric had gone back to the bay area already and I had his harness. Oh well.

I packed up and drove for Rick H. I was able to video everyone else's launch.

Back down in the valley Paul, Janelle, and I rented bicycles. A short way into the ride I spotted a man's wallet in the road. We rescued the wallet. It belonged to a young man. Janelle called his mother. We ended the ride just as it started to rain.

We were able to return the young man's wallet to him. Then we had a long lunch, watched the Triple Crown horse race, and watched it rain a bunch.

Sunday June 7

We packed up and headed home. I understand that the other pilots had another good day to fly.

I must thank Chris (and Windy) for being the monitor and encouraging me to make the flight. I got a very nice video and set it to Steve Miller Wild Mountain Honey.  
[https://youtu.be/Nvwn6\\_\\_\\_JXQ](https://youtu.be/Nvwn6___JXQ)

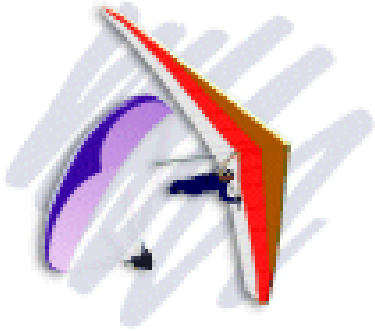
Roy

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To: