



# FLIGHTLINE



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The publication of the Wings Of Rogallo Northern California Hang Gliding Association  
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Photo : Spring time somewhere..... pilot & photographer unknown (except perhaps unto themselves)

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## Spring 2011 Flying Rumors and Stuff

14&15 May: HowlingCoyotes@McClure.aero  
6&7 May: Sonoma Wings St Helena Flyin  
21&22 May: SonomaWings Flyin at Diablo (it is really their site dont you know, not WORs)  
28-30 May: Star Thistle Flyin  
June 3,4,5,10,11,12: Yosemite with Chris and/or Brian

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WOR Member Database

<http://wingsofrogallo.org/memberdb>

**Feb 2011 Meeting Minutes**

**New Members/Guests**

Bruce Hafman, P2, flies Ed Levin and Mussel Rocks.

Jesse Myer, P4, T3, basic instructor.

**Great Flights**

Ben Dunn flew 3.5 hours and reached 8000' after launching from the 600' hill at Ed Levin; went as far as Alum Rock.

Robert and Mike flew for 2.5 hours at McClure.

**President:** Eric Froelich

There was a public meeting to discuss the plans for public access at Mt Umunum. Photos of flying are sought for Parks and Open Space websites. This could be an opportunity to promote our sport.

**Vice President:** Karl Allmandinger

Nothing to report.

**Treasurer:** Don Herrick

Income is exceeding expenses as membership renewals come in.

**Flight Director:** Pat Denevan

There was an injury at Hollister when a H3 pilot zoomed up before flaring for landing, then stalled and dove in. The pilot was driven to a hospital, where it was discovered that he had suffered a spinal injury. In hindsight, the pilot should have been evacuated by ambulance using a back board, etc. It's better to be more conservative in evaluating an injured pilot. Dave Will mentioned that an accident report should be provided to USHPA. This affects coverage under the USHPA insurance policy. Pat

mentioned that a "high altitude" special skill rating is under consideration. The skill sign-off would cover launching above 6000' MSL.

**Membership Services:** Phyl Hamby

There are 237 paid members for 2011. Phyl reminded members to renew their USHPA membership before it lapses.

**Ed Levin:** Eric Froelich

Jon Blome, the current site chair is resigning. Phyl is acting chair.

Phyl noted that the flying has been good for the last 2 weeks. Also, there have been people shooting in the park, in violation of park regulations, and a dead deer was discovered. Phyl speculated that the shooters may be poachers or may be growing an illegal crop.

Eric noted that a pilot launched 45 minutes after the park closing time. Mind the closing time, which is one hour before the sunset time posted on the kiosk at the part entrance.

**Mission Ridge:** Roy Spencer

Ranger Neil Spargur is out of the hospital and will be back on duty at the park soon. Volunteers are taking a survey about parking at the Stanford Ave entrance. The parking lot there may be expanded.

The key exchange will take place at the March meeting. The deadline for key applications is 22 February. Late applications will not be processed.

Dave Kilbourne, who pioneered Mission Ridge as a soaring site,

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passed away recently.

**Mount Diablo:** Robert Moore by e-mail

Robert had nothing to report, but Eric noted that the Diablo procedures have been updated on the WOR website.

**Coyote Lake:** Jim Woodward

The creek is currently too high to allow access to the launch. Gene Pfifer is working with the Parks Dept and Open Space District to finalize plans to open the site. Several of the rangers and elected officials involved have been replaced.

**Goat Mountain/Wild Ass:** None  
**Old Business**

Jim Woodward brought up Mike Jefferson's suspension from Ed Levin. Paul Gazis said he will publish the appeal procedure for rejected instructor applications.

Don Herrick noted that he has USHPA rack cards. See Don if you would like to distribute some; he suggested outdoor sports venues as a good place to display them.

**New Business**

Dave Wills noted that USHPA and Fox Theaters have jointly produced a 15 second spot showing foot launched flight. This is to be shown with the movie "Rio".

Jesse Myer noted that he has applied for authorization to instruct at Ed Levin and wants to schedule an instructor clinic with Juan Laos.

Prizes were raffled.

**End of Meeting Minutes**

**March, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

**Entertainment**

Dave Wills showed the animated hang gliding and bird flight sequence from the film "Rio".

Mayumi Honda showed images of a hiking and paragliding race through the Alps in Europe. Honza Rejmanek, who has competed in the event several times, answered questions about the race and requested funding through his website, www.honzair.com.

**New Members/Guests**

Honza Rejmanek PG comp pilot

**Great Flights**

Last Saturday was good at Mission.

**President:** Eric Froelich

The speed gliding contest took place this past weekend. The pilots who rescued the pilot who landed in the pond at Dunlap were honored at the speed meet. There was a crash at Ed Levin. Several WOR members took part in the rescue. The Fire and Rescue personnel who responded noted that it is best not to move an accident victim and praised the people on the scene for leaving the victim in place until they arrived.

Eric also noted that it was his last meeting as president.

**Vice President:** Karl Allmandinger

Nothing to report.

**Treasurer:** Don Herrick

Income is exceeding expenses as dues revenue comes in. The site insurance premiums have been paid. The fee for road maintenance and the special use agreement at Mission is due soon.

**Flight Director:** Pat Denevan

The HG pilot who recently flew into the hill at Ed Levin was flying slow and close to the hill. He should have been flying faster and likely was tense. **Membership Services:** Phyl Hamby

There are 272 paid members for 2011.

**Ed Levin:** Phyl Hamby

The HG pilot who crashed on Sunday is OK. A PG pilot crashed in the LZ and was evacuated on a back board. She later stated that she was glad the people on the scene did not let her move. She apparently suffered a back injury. The pay phone in the LZ works for 911 calls without coins.

Phyl is arranging a work party with the Parks Dept. The Parks want WOR to help obtain crushed rock for the road. Phyl also noted that the Parks does not want WOR to make "water bars" on the road. They require that water diversions be built up rather than cut down, a "rolling dip". Eric Froelich noted that the road has been widened in places by people driving around the ruts.

**Mission Ridge:** Roy Spencer

Ranger Neil Spargur is out of the hospital is back on duty at the park.

Rock is to be spread on the road between the outhouses and launch.

Roy discussed the answers to the keyholder quiz. Status of keyholder applications will be posted on the bulletin board.

**Mount Diablo:** None

**Coyote Lake:** Jim Woodward and Gene Pfifer

Thanks to Eric for doing the graphics for the site plan.

The insurance papers are under review by the Parks Dept. Phyl Hamby noted that the insurance papers were delivered on 3-1.

Test flight days are planned prior to issuance of the Special Use Permit. These will be announced on the bulletin board.

**Goat Mountain/Wild Ass:** None

**Old Business**

The Speed Gliding Meet was a success. Thanks to Chris Valley and Brian Foster, who organized it. After 5 weekends of delay, 18 pilots competed without incident. Special thanks to all the volunteers. One round was flown each day. The

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revenues and expenses from the event will be settled with the treasurer. Brian Horgan had the fastest time at 1:28. Another event is planned for next year.

**New Business**

Pat Denevan announced that a 7 day instructor clinic is planned starting 4-1.

Prizes were raffled.

**End of Meeting Minutes**

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**Editors Psychotic Ramblings**

This just in... According to an article in the British Medical Journal date 20 Dec 2003, the effectiveness of parachutes to reduce the risk of injury after gravitational challenge has never been proven. "The perception that parachutes are a successful intervention is based largely on anecdotal evidence". The journal found that there has been no "double-blind, randomised, placebo controlled crossover trial of the parachute". It further states that "the major weakness of observational data is the possibility of bias ... which can be obviated largely by using randomised controlled trials. The relevance to parachute use is that individuals jumping from aircraft without the help of a parachute are likely to have a high prevalence of pre-existing psychiatric morbidity. Individuals who use parachutes are likely to have less psychiatric morbidity and may differ in key demographic factors such as income and cigarette use".

The journal notes that "the parachute industry has earned billions of dollars for vast multi-national corporations whose profits depend of belief in the efficacy of their product. One would hardly expect these vast commercial concerns to have the bravery to test their product in the setting of a randomised controlled trial. Moreover, industry-sponsored trials are likely to conclude in favour of their commercial product".

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P E T E R	M U R R A Y	408-823-7485
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