

# FLIGHT LINE

THE PUBLICATION OF THE WINGS OF ROGALLO  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HANG GLIDER ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME 101, NUMBER 11, NOVEMBER 2001



I've completely forgotten who sent me this awesome shot. Let me know so I can give you credit!

## *In This Issue:*

Officers	2	August Meeting Minutes	3	Next Meeting	8
The Editor's Turn	2	September Meeting Minutes	4		
Good Quality Fun	2	<i>Becoming a Ham</i>	5		
		<b>WOR</b> Meeting Poll	6		
		Wings for Sale	7		

WOR Officers

**President**

Steve Rodrigues  
831-476-2227  
srskeypuppy@aol.com

**Vice President**

John Wilde  
650-556-1320 (H)  
wildeblu@aol.com

**Treasurer**

Don Jones 510-793-3551  
wort@aol.com

**Membership Services**

Carmela Moreno  
510-490-2398 (H)  
408-435-2470 (W)  
memberservices@wingsofrogallo.org

**Secretary**

Paul Clayton  
408-246-2218

**Flight Director**

Mike Vorhis  
(510) 744-1953  
vorhis@corp.cirrus.com

**HG Observer Coordinator**

Dave Jacobs 510-651-6313

**PG Observer Coordinators**

Kathy Wilde 650-556-1320  
Wildeblu@aol.com  
Kim Galvin 510-748-0451  
Kim\_Galvin@mpsh.com

**Editor**

Paul Gazis  
428 Madera Ave #1  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
408-736-0764 (H)  
650-604-5704 (W)  
pgazis@mail.arc.nasa.gov

**Member Services**

**WOR Soaring Forecast**  
408-973-1976

**Mt. Diablo Weather Robot**

925-838-9225

**Ed Levin Weather Robot**

408-946-9516

**WOR Business**  
**PO Box 361885**  
**Milpitas, CA 95036**

**WOR Web Site**  
[www.wingsofrogallo.org](http://www.wingsofrogallo.org)

## The Editor's Turn

It looks like the season's drawing to a close. The rains have begun, and those high pressure regions are moving in, to bring those endless weeks of Santa Ana conditions we all know and dread.

Still, all is not lost. With any luck, we'll have some good post-frontal days at Tam. Big Sur can be great fun this time of year. And hey, Southern California is only a 6-9 drive away!

We can also look forward to the effects of global warming. This will produce significant changes in global, regional, and local weather patterns. Fronts will arrive earlier in the spring, and continue later into the summer. Winter Santa Ana conditions will be replaced by unstable air, with convection toppling out around 3-4,000'.

The sea breeze pattern will shift, so that the convergence that now sets up along edge of the Central Valley will move west until it connects with Ed Levin and Mission. The world economy will recover to bring a new era of prosperity. Advances in materials and design will produce hang gliders that weigh less than 55 lbs, with glide ratios in excess of 20:1, and paragliders with top speeds of 35 MPH or more that never collapse. 100-mile flights will become so commonplace that they become one of the Hang-II ratings tasks.

Peace will spread throughout the globe. Medical science will find cures to all major diseases, and go on to develop ways to extend the healthy adult human lifespan by decades or more. New SUVs will get 45 MPG, cost less than \$25,000, and come equipped with fully autonomous control systems that allow them to perform retrieves and drive chase without the need for a driver. And best of all, we'll get some new flying sites in the Bay Area!

Well, hey, it *could* happen! Check out Gene Pfeiffer's article in this issue of the *Flight Line*!

## Site Acquisition --

### Coyote Lake

by Gene Pfeiffer

On October 29 Jim Woodward and I attended the Public Meeting in Gilroy for the *Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch County Park*. At last month's **WOR** meeting Jim ask the membership to attend the meeting to support a landing area next to Coyote Lake. I also put a notice on the **WOR** e-mail list. Sharkar N., George M. and John W. also attended the meeting who are all paraglider pilots. Does this mean that no hang-glider pilots other than Jim are interested in flying at *Coyote Lake*?

Now that I have your attention, let me tell you about the meeting. There was a large turnout of the public at the meeting. We were listed on the Agenda (thanks to Jim by attending the Task Force meetings) under Recreational Elements in a sub category called "*Paragliding/Hang Gliding*" A slide show was shown of all the possible uses of the park. A paraglider flying was shown as an example of one of the possible uses of the park. There were a large number of people there who were in favor of a golf course.

After the slide show the audience was split up into groups of 8 to 10 to discuss the different possible uses of the park. As there were a total of five of us there from **WOR**, we had five groups that had hang gliding and paragliding as one the possible uses of the park. A lot of the people were against a golf course, but I did not hear of anyone expressing disapproval of hang gliding or paragliding. I believe the staff may be more against us than they indicate. We have built a good base from

the bottom by attending the task force meetings and the public meetings. Now we need to work on getting support from the top.

To lean more about the *Coyote Lake Park*, go to

[www.parkhere.org](http://www.parkhere.org) and click on "*Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch Master Plan information and Newsletter*".

Securing a landing area is only the first step to flying at *Coyote Lake Park*. The launch area is in on the adjoining property, which is controlled by the *Santa Clara Open Space Authority*. They have told me that they are trying to acquire more land in the area so that some of the existing roads can be used for access to the hills behind *Coyote Lake*. They will be starting their Master Plan in the near future and we will then need to secure a launch area from the *Santa Clara Open Space Authority*. As you can see, this is a long-term project.

Why spend such a long period of time on a long draw out project? Because Jim and I believe this site could be the best thermal site in Santa Clara County. As it farther south than Ed Levin or Mission, the afternoon marine influence does not reach there until later in the afternoon. An added benefit is it is one of the few parks in Santa Clara County that allows overnight camping. **WOR** could have a weekend fly-in at the site. I hope we can count on your support in the future as our flying future at *Coyote Lake* depends on it.

---

## November Mission Ridge Report

by *Steve Rodrigues*

With the onset of Easterly winds, we have organized special teams to evaluate flying conditions on the East side of Mission Ridge.

Because this is essentially a new site, we need to pay close attention to safety issues. When the site committee has determined the required parameters for safe flight, an addendum will be published to the Site Procedures and Regulations. The Eastside will then be officially opened to Mission stickered pilots. We hope to have this accomplished ASAP.

Another work in progress is the relocation of fencing on Mission Peak. The cattle rancher hopes to work out a plan with the EBRPD to rearrange his pastures. I am attempting to have the new fencing completely bypass our launch and landing area. Since this bypass would eliminate the need for agate at launch, we have postponed the gate widening project.

This winter, please remember; The "damp road" test still applies to dirt sections of the road to launch, and there is a "no rut" policy on the graveled sections.

Finally, thanks to the folks who helped install the new windsock at launch; Kevin Dutt, Carmella Moreno, Rex Runyon, Randy Tribe, and yours truly. Stay tuned for progress reports!

---

## President s Report

also by.. *you guessed it... Steve Rodrigues!*

Those members who attend our club meetings on a regular basis may have noticed a conspicuous lack of a president lately. I am sure that the terrible world events of late have affected us all. I also admit to having a habit of piling my own plate a little too high, so much so that I have missed a few club meetings. Thanks to the other WOR Executive's for taking the reins in my absence. I hope everyone has enjoyed the changing faces at the front of the room. Speaking of the room, your Executive Committee is still

wondering what we can do to make the meetings something that more people want to attend. If you have not filled out the last poll, please do, or better yet, come to a meeting. We want to know where you would like to meet, and what interests you. One area of interest that we will be working on is more club flying. These frequent events may not necessarily look like a "Fly-in", but will more often be a low key get together to share rides, introduce pilots to new sites, and just camp out and have a good time. If you have any sites in particular that you would like to fly, please let me know and I'll put them on our list. Lastly, remember that WOR is what you and I make it. Speak out and get involved! More on this next month.

---

## Mt Diablo Report

by *Roger Moore*

I am coordinating with the Park Ranger to set a date for launch maintenance. A date will be announced on the WOR website, and through the newsletter. Fall flying is swinging into high gear at Diablo. Light to moderate NW conditions can bring great general soaring and even XC potential. SE winds make for nice soaring as well. When things are looking iffy at Mission or Ed Levin, don't forget Diablo.

---

## October 2001 Meeting Minutes

by *Paul Clayton*

### NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS

Birk - Hang 2

### GREAT FLIGHTS

Mike Gomes - Flew Indian Valley on Labor Day; got to 11500'  
Vince Endtner - Flew 200 miles in 3 days Labor Day weekend.  
George Morford - Flew from

Piute to the hot springs in the Owens Valley. 3 pilots, Urs Kellenberger, George Artz, and Charles Nelson spotted a car belonging to a missing elderly couple from the air near Windy Hill.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - None

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
- John Wilde

Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT -  
Don Jones

Don has reconciled the club accounts on Quicken. He also collected checks for the benefit of Mark Mullholland.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE -  
Carmela Moreno

We now have about 557 members for 2001. Stickers for 2002 are in stock. The website is now set up for on-line renewals.

ED LEVIN SITE COMMITTEE  
REPORT - Steve Pittman

The site is open again.

MISSION PEAK SITE COM-  
MITTEE REPORT - Carmela  
Moreno

A new windsock has been installed. Thanks to Randy Tribe for his help on this task.

MT. DIOABLO SITE COM-  
MITTEE REPORT - None

NEWSLETTER REPORT -  
None

COMPETITION COMMITTEE  
REPORT - None

SITE ACQUISITION COM-  
MITTEE - Gene Pfifer, Steve  
Pittman

A meeting of the County Parks Steering Committee will be held

on October 29th in Gilroy, to allow public comment on the planned use of new park lands.

## OLD BUSINESS

The meeting poll is to be published in the newsletter. An e-mail poll has produced 11 responses, out of 189 members on the e-mail list.

## NEW BUSINESS

Rick Cavallero requested that the club allocate \$250 to defray the Funston web-cam phone bill. This motion was approved.

A motion was approved to use club funds to match the amount collected to benefit Mark Mullholland.

A motion was approved to add \$1 to the club fees for people using paypal, which charges the club for each use of the service.

Rex Runyon reported that Bradley Ream, a long time Bay Area pilot and instructor, passed away from cancer the night before the meeting.

Eric Froelich volunteered to organize an events committee.

22 people attended the meeting.

## END OF MEETING MINUTES

---

## St Johns Site

Cleanup  
*by Gene Pfeiffer*

To all hg and pg pilots,

I received a call from Liz Horn last night regarding St. John and Potato Hill flying sites. She was up there last week paragliding at St. John and was talking to the head ranger. The ranger would like to have around 7 members from each group who uses Potato

Hill or St. John for paragliding or hang gliding for a one-day work party. The work party will be working on the off-road campground on Sunday, November 18, 2001, from 9 to 5. Liz suggested coming up to fly on Saturday, camp at Dixie Glad, and then help the rangers on Sunday. He said T-shirts will be given out and a group picture will be taken. The pictures will be used to show how the users of the area have an interest in the area and are helping to restore the campground after the fire.

The ranger would really like to see a good turnout from the different users including pilots from BAPA and WOR. He said that there is talk to expand the wilderness area to Mt Snow, and a showing from lots of users would help keep the area open to flying. We need to support the rangers and in turn they will support us.

Please check with Liz on the details as to where to meet, time, etc. She said the date is not completely confirmed, so be sure to check with her before going. The rangers are looking for all-day adult volunteers, not just someone to help for an hour or two. Please pass this on to other flying groups that use the area. Liz's e-mail is: [houseofdesign@snowcrest.net](mailto:houseofdesign@snowcrest.net)

Thank You,  
Gene Pfeiffer

---

## Survey Results

*by Gregg Knepp*

1) Total number of meetings per year per venue:  
*Summit Pointe Golf Club:* 70 ( 53% of all meeting opportunities --  $70/12*11=.53$ )  
*Omega Restaurant:* 80 (61% of all meeting opportunities)

2) Motivation to attend? Eating with friends: 10. Staying

informed: 8

3) How important is restaurant choice? Not: 3. Somewhat: 5. Very: 2

4) Travel time increased? 10 no, 0 yes

5) Travel time important? 10 no, 1 yes

6) Suggestions:

**Pilot 1:**

1/ I would suggest sending an email and the newsletter no later than two days before each meeting.

2/ Additionally, I would find out if either restaurants is truly in a central location for membership of the club.

3/ There needs to be more club flying events. The Santa Rosa club seems to be closer because they go on trips together. The local flying sites are ok but none of them are really great. There was a weak attempt at having a multi-club fly-in. But it was led by a bagger and wasn't promoted well either by the **WOR** website or via email. Club fly-in's at Indian Valley, Hull, Dunlap, McClures, Slide, Hat, Sylimar, Lakeview, etc. should be planned bimonthly at a minimum. They would generate photos and stories and comraderey.

Additionally, having advance pilot intro's at local sites for beginners might be enticing. For example, How do you get up over Highway 1 and on the ridge at Wadell? Or when flying X-country, what are the landing sites available to you as you fly east towards Yosemite? How do you define waypoints in your GPS and download them from your computer to your handheld.

**Pilot 2:**

The current venue is nicer than the *Omega*, although the food is

not great. Overall, I prefer the *Summit Pointe*.

**Pilot 3:**

I've never had anything but bad service and bad food at the *Omega*. I think it's embarrassing for visiting pilots to go to such a poor place.

**Pilot 4:**

I really don't attend many meetings, but I have to say I was unimpressed with the *Omega*. Maybe the old timers have some great memories of the place but I've only been with **WOR** for about three years. I have no such delusions. I don't have any problem with people who like the *Omega* or the fine staff of the restaurant, but the *Summit* is awesome in comparison. Don't make me go back!

**Pilot 5:**

I think an important factor in attendance is the entertainment program: 1) enticing material and 2) sufficient advance notice that members can plan to attend. As we all know, the former has been a challenge over the years.

**Pilot 6:**

Usually attend for specifically advertised events that need a vote or affect me directly.

The main reason for my limited attendance is that I live on the peninsular and with the normal rush flow of traffic, it takes me over an hour to get to the meetings, and I have other events until 7:30 pm or later, so it makes it difficult to easily attend all meetings.

**Pilot 7:**

Other reason for attending: *To enjoy dinner with a suitable menu, which the Summit does not have and Omega does have!*  
OES HAVE.

**Pilot 8:**

*Summit Pointe*: Good beer on tap, poor food

*Omega*: Good food, good beer in bottles

Other reason for attending: Part of the duty of the exec committee to attend, :-). A better menu selection would be nice. If we continue with the Country Club then I will probably eat before hand.

Bring back the raffle. That was fun.

My vote is for the *Omega*.

---

## More to Ed than Flying

by Mike Kellogg

After years of coming only to fly Ed Levin, I found a park pamphlet in the LZ showing hiking trails south of Calaveras Road! The next day my girlfriend and I decided to explore.

We started up the Spring Valley Trail, which connects with the Los Coches Ridge Trail, ventured north of Calaveras Road via the Calaveras Ridge Trail, then Tularcitos and Calera Creek trails, returning via the Agua Caliente and Airpoint trails, all in all a pleasant - and not-too-steep - loop of our beloved flying site. Admittedly it was excruciating watching all the good flying in progress, so pick a marginal flying day, get a park pamphlet (which includes a trail map) at an entrance kiosk, and take a hike! A downloadable PDF file of the pamphlet is available at <http://www.parkhere.org/prk-pages/levin.htm>.

What inspired this writing (beyond trying to fill a blank column!), however, was a short detour we made to the Laguna Cemetery Historical Monument, where a display including photos and descriptions of the trailblazers and early landowners of good ol' Ed and environs. These folks

rest beyond the wrought iron gate; you really owe it to yourself (and them) to visit, take a trip back in time, and pay your respects.

To learn more about the area surrounding Ed Levin, I spoke to Raisch Products spokesman John Armando. The Raisch Products Serpa Pit is adjacent the southwest corner of the LZ. Raisch provides quarry material for construction. Armando said the recent development we see to the south of the LZ is a materials stockpile. According to Ed Levin rangers, Raisch has made efforts to ensure that runoff from the stockpile doesn't foul the mini-wetland in our LZ. Take it from me, it can be rowdy as hell over the pit if you should ever dare to

fly over for a look-see. FYI, the huge quarry a mile to the north is Curtner Quarry, operated by Dumbarton Quarry Associates of Fremont.

I also asked the Ed Levin rangers about the ranch by the 1750 gate; it's the Minnis Ranch, which has a lease on park property. The ranch to the west of there (the one with the large, triangular pond and several weathered outbuildings) is the old Scott (see Scott Creek and Road) family ranch. As yet another alternative to summer sledders, the rangers said you can rent paddleboats at Sandy Wool Lake.

Trivia question: Who was the first person to fly Ed Levin? No, not Mike Vorhis. According to

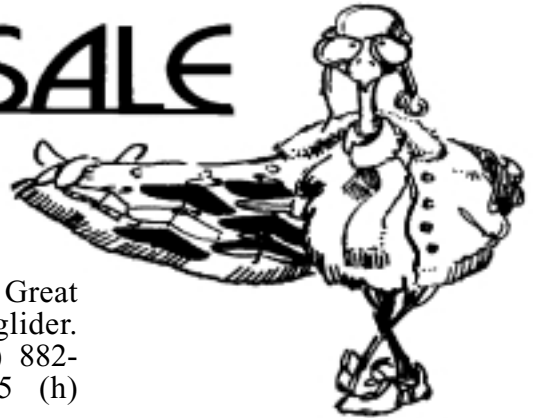
Pat Denevan, Dave Kilbourne, a WOR founder and Hewlett-Packard models engineer, flew a scaled-up tow kite from hills south of the park around 1970. Pat also noted that "several" fatalities occurred during the early days, when the bald peak immediately east of the 1200 was used as a launch to fly the bowl above the Chaparral Ranch. Speaking of which, according to Mary at Chaparral, you can take guided horseback rides for \$30/hr.; discount rates are available - call the Chaparral Ranch at 408/263-3336.

Hiking, horseback riding, boating, exploring local history, and of course, flying - good ol' Ed has a lot to offer!



Ed Levin may also offer some unique launch opportunities. Don't take advantage of them...

# 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.** Floresent green LE, black, yellow. Good condition. \$800. Call Roy (408) 985 2810 [netedtec@pacbell.net](mailto:netedtec@pacbell.net)

**WillsWing Sport AT 167.** Floresent green LE, black, yellow. Good condition. \$1000. Call Roy 408 985 2810 [netedtec@pacbell.net](mailto:netedtec@pacbell.net)

**Wills Wing Super Sport 153.** Very good condition. \$800. Call Mercury, (408) 353.2383. [MercuryFly@aol.com](mailto:MercuryFly@aol.com)

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

**Wills Wing XC 155** Fair to good condition \$400. Call Russ (408) 737-8745

### 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

**20 gore H.G. parachute with swivel.** Never used and in excellent condition. \$100 or obo. Call Rick at (408) 224-4378, [sport@onemain.com](mailto:sport@onemain.com)

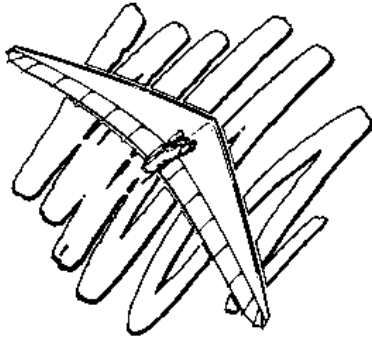
**Apco Top Secura Harness** with kevlar backplate and CO2 air-bag protection. \$200 obo. Call Steve Thorpe (408) 435 2600 ext. 506 (w), (408) 260 7029 (h), [thorpes@arklogic.com](mailto:thorpes@arklogic.com)

**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.

Wings of Rogallo  
P.O. Box 361885  
Milpitas, CA 95036-1885



*Wings of  
Rogallo*

# FLIGHT LINE

*VOL. 101 NO. 11 NOVEMBER 2001*

The next Wings of Rogallo Meeting will be held  
Tuesday, November 20.  
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 will be The Vote .  
...to decide where future meetings will be held!