



FLIGHTLINE

The publication of the Wings of Rogallo
Volume 139, Number 1 January 2021



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WOR Member Database

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December 2020 Meeting Minutes

Wings of Rogallo Meeting Notes
2020-12-15

[Juan] President's final message

Brief history....Recap of the year, huge accomplishments, brought the club into the 21st century. Thanks so much to the exec and site chairs, VP for bringing huge experience, insights and keeping everyone in check as well as follow up on so many fronts with patience and understanding, Sec for keeping track of and executing processes and for huge amount of legwork on the nuts and bolts of the processes for modernizing club by laws, etc, Treasurer for keeping us fiscally sound, finding fiscal leaks and patching them and additional insights into processes modernizing etc, Safety coordinator, again huge amounts of work, complete revamp of website and processes for sites making it so much easier for the membership to just fly, membership director for hard work in making it so much easier to be a member by streamlining the process etc. all of the chairs for taking care of the sites and helping to modernize the process. Communications director for newsletter, communications during a difficult time. New site. And of course to incoming officers for volunteering. I am so grateful to all of you for allowing me to be a part of the literal rebirth of the best and largest free-flight club in the country, Exec should all be very proud of themselves for their selfless and magnanimous actions over the past year. Thank you for letting me be a part of it. I hope it has been as pleasant for you as it has for me. Showed me how we can truly have a good collaborative effort to make visions become realities! All went way above the call of duty and gave 110% no, 1,000% to make the club the best of the best for you, the membership!

[Ben] Treasurer's report

- 20k in the bank
- Paid for Mission for the year
- Renewals are coming in.

Site reports

[Robert] Diablo

[Soham] Ed Levin

- New Ed Levin site procedures are in place. Please read them, as well as the most recent club email, before flying at Ed Levin.
- Instruction is temporarily suspended for all instructors until at least January 4th, 2021 due to Santa Clara County health order.

[Steve] Mission

- New COVID-19 protocols are in place, aligned with county health order on social distancing.
- Key holders may now use electronic sign in for signing out keys.
- Everyone should be using electronic sign in, including passengers.
- Paper logs are deprecated, and are only for backup.

[Bob] RRRG site renewals, risk assessments status update

- Working very hard to finish all of the requisite paperwork within the next week. We are 3 weeks ahead of schedule
- We are now waiting for the RRRG to make some database changes before we can submit everything.
- Expected to have this finished before Jan 1.

[Bob] WOR will be taking over The Stables and Mori Point from BAPA in 2021

- BAPA members voted on this and it passed.
- WOR board held a vote approving the acquisition which also passed.
- BAPA has funded the permit fees for 2021-2022
- WOR is completing the RRRG risk assessment for 2021-2022.
- WOR and BAPA are currently in discussions with the GGNRA with the expectation that WOR will be issued a new permit under a new special use agreement.
- The transfer is expected to occur on March 1st, 2021, after BAPA's certificate of insurance expires on Feb 28, 2021. The Stables remains a BAPA site until then. The goal is to ensure continuity, avoid a lapse in coverage, and keep the site open during the transition.

[Julie] Election and survey results

- 99 ballots submitted (26% of eligible voters)
 - President: Ben Wedlock (uncontested)
 - Vice President: Pamela Kinnaird (uncontested)
 - Secretary: Evan Cohen (uncontested)
 - Treasurer: Tristan Horn (uncontested)
 - Safety Coordinator: Dan Zaslavsky (uncontested)
 - Membership Services Director: Richard Sibley (58.6%)
 - Communications Director: Isaiah Clapp (reappointed by president-elect)
- Survey results (high level)
 - General feedback - 28% of the respondents submitted comments
 - Common topics:
 - Officers did a great job this year - lots of improvements.
 - Clubs in the area should merge (not just BAPA, but the others as well)
 - Thoughts on changing the club's name
 - 75.6% of those responding to the question voted Yes (in favor of exploring changing the club's name)
 - San Francisco Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association (SFHPA) and Bay Area Free Flight Association (BAFFA) were the top 2

General member Q&A

[Wayne Michelsen] extended thanks to the officers.

Wayne wants to know the motivation for transitioning The Stables from BAPA to WOR?

- Julie
 - BAPA still potentially serves a purpose for the Bay Area PG community as a social club (non-USHPA affiliated), but it's no longer viable to manage sites due to RRRG requirements to consolidate sites under a single club. BAPA membership is dwindling, and officers no longer motivated to serve
 - Transferring The Stables to WOR was the logical way for keeping the site open.
- Ben
 - Also a financial advantage - there's a small volume discount for managing more sites under a single club.

Epic flights

- Nothing notable locally.
- Jenn and Jason had nice flights at Cayucos near SLO

END

Next Wings of Rogallo Meeting: January 19th 2021

7:30 PM with Zoom component emailed to members

Editorial December 2020

As much of a meme 2020 has become due to universal loathing, it provided its fair share of material for nostalgia. The year has been the most challenging for most people in living memory, but the efforts to persevere left lasting impacts. This edition is an ode to the year with reminders of the challenges and outlook for what to expect in the year 2021.

Obviously the elephant in the 2020 challenge room is SARS-CoV-2 the unwelcome parasite that has dominated the discourse of the past year. So much damage has been caused that it's so easy to forget the darkest days California has seen when wildfires turned the sky into a Mars-esque orange for days and littered the air with dangerous ash particulate. The human response to these disasters has proved both inspiring, as struggle summons innovation, and counterproductive, as trust in institutions has withered.

Making the best of the cards dealt, Wings of Rogallo members were able to participate in governance at an accelerated rate in order to make positive change for the structure of the club and sites. With only three quarters of the year to do it, the officers modernized the club, easing the struggle of new members to become intermediate rated pilots and added two coastal sites, to mention only the most recent advances. Members of Wings of Rogallo broke records on XC flights and personal records on hours, duration and altitude.

Feedback for the year has been mostly positive. A casualty of the modernization missed by many is the website's forum. There was some discussion of the biggest fans of the forum taking the next step to maintain it on a different site and the possibility has been left open. The major issue with the forum was security, so the website now shares links to useful and secure Telegram discussion forums and this is the application used for the majority of communication between the club officers and site chairs. Another issue was too few nominations for officer positions, so please put your name in if you can dedicate some time in 2022; it is a collaborative effort.

For 2021 you can expect changes to continue. The two new coastal sites officially transfer near the end of the first quarter and the most common freeform comment on the election ballots was a rename of the club. The new officers share the goal of modernization and simplification and we may see an auto-renew option to membership and bi-wingual cookouts and clinics. Some things won't change. Expect a 2021 wildfire season and ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Expect awesome conditions and eager pilots.

A new year begins today bringing a new set of challenges to overcome. While making the best of the conditions, remember that many will not get the chance to get any positive output. Live it 100% for them and squeeze out ever last drop of joy.

Skydancer

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To: