



FLIGHTLINE

The publication of the Wings of Rogallo
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In Lieu of Meeting Minutes

Wings of Rogallo has not had a meeting in April.

END

Editorial May 2022

The month of April delivered as one would have imagined. March was incredible so expectations were high. Generally, conditions were bigger but probably more hours and km were flown in the previous month. Here's a summary of the reported flying days.

Mission was excellent all month but started it off 4/1 as a so-so day with small thermals and lots of sink but plenty for extended sledgers per Mission/Ed Levin PG/HG Telegram. 4/2 was light NW to consistent inversion NE. 4/7 was a good day to fly at Mission getting to 4,000 and top landing after the OTB period. 4/8 had good conditions but were gustier than forecast with good thermals sharing space with small punchy osnes and the wind in the sink was difficult to penetrate. 4/13 pilots were planning for around noon. 4/14 it rained on them and they had to hike down.

On 4/15 paragliders from Mission were over Ed Levin, wind was a little bit WSW aloft making out and returns possible and there was a flight to San Jose with thermals influenced more heavily by the marine layer higher than expected. On 4/17 there were 5 paragliders early a few hundred over far out West at 5-8 mph and a low thermal 300 feet above launch took a pilot +1,500 in a couple of minutes. In total, 15-20 paragliders launched and there were reports of at least one hang glider. 4/19 was a good day with 12 pg up, 7 over launch and one on the way to Ed Levin per an observer on the highway. Pilots flew to Alum Rock and past Evergreen with lots of lift and wind. Saturday 4/23 was a great day with hg getting well over a thousand over launch.

4/29 had lots of lift, strong climbs, strong sink, some well consolidated thermals, a few ratty broken ones, trouble getting down, lots of lift over LZ and decent NNW aloft. There were noisy gliders, indicating some trouble in the air. One pilot said, "as the summer gets closer mission starts to show its teeth, as told by the transition from green to gold, which is fun fact a good indicator where the thermal generators are."

Ed Levin is in great shape, thanks in part to Spencer for putting in the hours and the club for supporting him with tools. 4/7 was a good day to fly enjoyed by the birds and pilots. On 4/15 paragliders flew over Ed Levin from Mission but reports were weak from Ed Levin, particularly that the 600 wasn't very buoyant. On 4/17 it was better up top but very turbulent, especially down low with a windsock painting a rosier picture. Thy say late-afternoons-at-Ed-Levin season is over. 4/18 was a good day for many landing out close to 20 km with puffy clouds. Wednesday 4/20 was epic with personal and site records broken, H2 got as high as 5200 in about an hour, pretty clouds but rather high wind. Razi set the record for the site with 150km flight from the 300 going past Diablo and through the delta. That day definitely hit the mark.

Diablo was well utilized in April. On 4/13 a hang glider flew to Livermore, and another almost 110 km to NASA Crows Landing by deciding to go South early on, with top of lift 4,500 and a mix of cirrus and cumulus, some thought top of lift would have been 2,500 higher. On 4/15 someone went 27 km. On 4/17 a paraglider and sailplane shared a thermal SW of discovery bay. On 4/23 Saturday someone landed in Dublin, and there were reports of several great climbs after 3pm when it went super buoyant with 1000 fpm to 5,700. On 4/25 hang glider pilots flew in straight-in 8mph cycles, with 3-4 m/s climbs, very little wind aloft, almost two hours of flying and one cloud allowing one pilot to reach it at 6,700.

The early 90's Bay Area pilots remember Kathy Wilde who was a regular at your favorite Bay Area flying sites and passed this month. The biggest changes tend to happen in the busiest of times. Insurance cost are expected to have significant increases soon, due to changes at USHPA & RRRG, potentially jeopardizing Mori Point as a site. Don't know what you have 'til it's gone.

Spring 2022 has kept the pilot community busy with free-flight. Nearly 2/3 of the days were reported to have people commit to aviation. Mays are always wonderful here so imagine what you'll read next month.
Skydancer

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