



# *FLIGHTLINE*

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**In Lieu of Meeting Minutes**

Wings of Rogallo has not had a meeting in September.

END

## Editorial October 2022

Just as expected, September's weather was good enough for Wings of Rogallo pilots to log plenty of hours at their favorite sites. On this October 1<sup>st</sup> there are reports of nice flying days at Mission Peak, Ed Levin, Diablo and even the coast. There are also some general notes about keeping these sites fun for all.

Mission Peak was good for half of the days in September that people were able to get out there with their wings. Most lifty days had top of lift around launch height. It was closed for the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> due to high heat and rangers were offering \$300.00 fines for anyone that would show up anyway. The 11<sup>th</sup> was lovely, the 14<sup>th</sup> a visiting pilot from Colorado flew to Gilroy and the 15<sup>th</sup> 3 paragliders flew to Ed Levin, just to name a few.

Ed Levin had some soarable days and some blown out days. The 10<sup>th</sup>, in particular, was excellent following a tropical cyclone. The ridge lift was reliable followed by abundant smokey thermal lift for 3-hour flights to 2,730 feet under 100% cloud cover. The 14<sup>th</sup> was good with the hang gliders having a good day and one paraglider making it to Mission Peak. The 17<sup>th</sup> was good for an hour flight to 3,000. The 19<sup>th</sup> was very lifty for paraglider pilots that launched the 600 with thermals everywhere and one pilot landing only because there were no other pilots in sight. The next day pilots found it easy to fly to 4,000 feet from the 1,750 launch.

Diablo broke its silence in September in the last weekend of the month on the 24<sup>th</sup> with 24 paraglider pilots and a few hang glider pilots with some getting to 7,200 feet. Evan landed in Danville by 1:20pm shortly before many pilots were grounded for a Medivac helicopter landed at 1:45pm to help a bicyclist that took a spill coming

down from the summit at high speed. It became rather cross on launch around that time with reportedly lee-side rotor around launch and unpleasant air. Dodam made personal best 2 hours and 29.38 km. Gabriel was thermaling and felt like a nuclear bomb hit him closing his wing and spinning him before the wing opened back up nicely. Some launched Towers at 3pm, topped out at 5,600 feet and boated around peaks and Clayton. It was some of the smoothest air Lionel has flown at Diablo in many years, with super buoyant air and lift everywhere on the North side and glass-off-like conditions allowing flying until sunset. The day reminded folks of the saying "If you want entertainment, watch paragliders takeoff and hang gliders land."

Coastal flying was good in September for sites like The Stables. The hot days at the start of the month offered good flying with wind straight in albeit light as could be imagined. Mid-month offered shear conditions on the coast for flights around 1,700 feet for a couple of days.

Housekeeping items for the month have something for everyone. Reach out to the club if you know someone around Portola Valley with a view of Windy Hill that would be interested in hosting a windsock webcam. At Ed Levin, Karl replaced the tattered windsock. Please be careful to keep the landing spots at Ed Levin and paths to them clear of kiting and hanging out. Please be sure to verify gates are locked properly when you leave them.

September was a fantastic time to be a free-flight pilot in Northern California. Pilots were welcomed from several states away, making new friends and having amazing flights. October tends to be another wonderful month for change-of-season flying around here and your editor can't wait to read all about it and share it here.

Skydancer

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To: