



FLIGHTLINE



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Photo : ERLCP on an occasionally soarable day

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Spring 2014 Flying Rumors and Stuff

TBD

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WOR Member Database

February, 2014 Meeting Minutes

New Members and Guests
Bill Sprague, H2, flies a Sport 2

Great Flights

Mark Mullholland flew X-C from Mission to Ed Levin and shot video of a golden eagle.

Patrick Pannese soared at Mission. Ben Dunn flew tandem with Carmela's niece and got to 4400.

Chris top landed on the 150 launch at Ed Levin and also flew to Horseshoe at McClure.

Janica flew at Fort Funston.

President - Eric Hinrichs Ed Levin is starting to turn green.

Vice President - Paul Gazis Nothing to report.

Treasurer - Don Herrick
Income exceeded expenses this past month as dues for 2014 are coming in.

Member Services Director - Phyl Hamby There are 228 members for 2014.

Flight Director - Pat Denevan
A paraglider pilot was dragged into a fence while attempting to land at Ed Levin as a gust front was passing. Several hang glider pilots have been sucked up into clouds in separate incidents over the years, and landed various different places. Conditions can change rapidly in the spring. Watch the water surface on the bay to see strong winds coming.

Ed Levin - Phyl Hamby

Pilots have been in the park after closing time. Another park visitor, not a pilot, was smoking, which is against park regulations.

Mission - Chris Valley by e-mail

The report below was read at the meeting. It was also noted that kites have been seen flying in the LZ.

* Reminder that the deadline for Mission key applications is February 25th.

* To date, your devoted Site Chair has processed 33 key applications - keep them coming!

* Key allocation will be at the March 18th WOR meeting - bring your old key or a twenty dollar deposit if you don't have your old key, or if this is your first Mission Site key.

* Regarding the parking lot options: The Park District last week decided to have a geotech study completed for the two staging area options to better address geology, landslides, and stormwater effects in the EIR. They want to be certain these topics are properly analyzed and addressed. So, there will be a small delay that should result in a better environmental analysis. CRV is in touch with the Principal Planner of this project and will provide updated information as it becomes available.

* We have two replacement windsocks available. Please notify CRV if a windsock needs to be replaced. The windsocks in the LZ and at launch are approximately 1-year old.

* Fly safe!

Diablo - Matt Epperson by E-mail

The report below was not read at the meeting.

Our windtalker was removed last year from the Mt Diablo Summit building along with San Ramon Valley Fire's publicly accessible weather station, due to a restoration project of the Summit Building. Due to The Summit Building's historic value it is unlikely we will be able to replace our windtalker. Robert Moore and myself have met with State Park Staff and other stakeholders who are interested in real time weather data at Diablo. Currently it looks possible that San Jose State University will place a weather station at a site below the summit and supply real time, accessible weather data. San Jose State indicates this station will be updated every 5 minutes and is incredibly accurate. Hopefully this weather station will be up and running in the near future as I have not found any other weather stations which accurately reflect the wind occurring on top of Diablo.

Old Business -

Wayne Michelson reported that Clear Creek will be open soon. Asbestos is still a concern.

New Business -

Colin Perry was organizing a fly-in at Big Sur on Easter weekend, April 20th. Offer retracted days later after he actually checked his calendar

Meeting Minutes March 18th 2014

New Members and Guests

None, although there was a large turnout due to the Mission key allocation.

Great Flights

Ben Dunn got to 6800' east of the peak at Ed Levin on Sunday; there were numerous Golden Eagle flights that day.

Mayumi Honda got to 5900' the same day.

Mike Kellogg reached 4000' over the gravel quarry.

Wayne Michelson saw a juvenile bald eagle over the golf course. Apparently there's a bald eagle pair nesting near Ed Levin.

President - Eric Hinrichs

Nothing to report; Paul Gazis is taking over as president next month.

Vice President - Paul Gazis

The launches near the house at Dunlap are to be closed due to the sale of the house.

Treasurer - Don Herrick

Expenses exceeded income in the past month. Insurance premiums and Diablo site fee were paid this month.

Member Services Director - Phyl Hamby

There are 264 members for 2014.

Flight Director - Pat Denevan

Pat is planning to meet with the Parks Dept. regarding the Coyote Lake site insurance situation and the USHPA policy.

Ed Levin - Phyl Hamby

There was a dog bitten by a rattlesnake this past weekend. There have been 20 rattlesnake sightings this spring.

Mission - Chris Valley

All of the Mission keys have been issued except
1. Construction of additional parking is not likely to happen anytime soon.

Diablo - no official report

Bruno Jahn noted that people have been flying and the [weather website](#) is running.

Old Business -

Pedro is working on the WOR website and plans to demo the updated site at next month's meeting.

Steve Rodrigues reported that Tom Low is rumored to be making inquiries about a landing zone for Mt Umuhnum, possibly in Quicksilver Park.

There was some discussion about the road at Ed Levin. The Parks Dept. has no maintenance planned and will not allow WOR to bring in power equipment.

New Business -

Steve Rodrigues has quick open carabiners for sale.

Julie Spiegler, USHPA program manager, was at the meeting. She's a pilot who lives in the Bay Area.

Don Herrick mentioned the use of online waivers and the risk of them being challenged in court. Julie Spiegler mentioned that the first waiver must be a hardcopy, with renewals possibly online. Don wants to adopt finger signature for Ed Levin waivers, to make the waiver process less burdensome.

Janica Lee proposed another HG/PG cross training and possibly a barbeque at Ed Levin. Don Herrick stated that the club has a budget for events of that sort.

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Uncle Colin Speaks

Hi kids! been skiing heaps this winter, now time to fly. A flying buddy recently pointed me to an outernet page with my name in it ==>
<http://www.uniondemocrat.com/News/Local-News/For-hang-gliders-the-skys-the-limit>
I'd send 5 copies to my mother, but she dont click on any of that outernet stuff. However, seeing that newspaper interview inspired me to to share the following poem that I referenced therein.

High Flight ... by John Gillespie Magee, Jr
Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, --and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of --Wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air...
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark or even eagle flew --
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

I hope all our flights contain this joy expressed so elegantly above.....