



FLIGHT LINE

THE PUBLICATION OF THE WINGS OF ROGALLO
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION
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NASA's Mars Spirit returns the first color picture of Stanford, Texas

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925-838-9225

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408-946-9516

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www.wingsofrogallo.org

The Editor's Turn

Elections for club officers are coming up this month. Steve Deleo and Wayne Michelsen have both submitted campaign statements for this month's issue of the *Flight Line*. The full list of candidates appears in the December Meeting Minutes, and remember that you can always elect more candidates at the upcoming meeting. So be sure to show up, vote, and buy me beer!

This most visually obvious news for this month may be that our club's ancient and venerable installation of Quark Express that I use to create this newsletter seems to have broken. Something has gone dreadfully wrong with the graphics, and several hours of work has failed to put things right. There is a very real possibility that all of the graphics for this month's issue will come out flat black. Argh. This brings to mind the larger issue of the Editor Search. In my opinion, it really is time to get some new blood, new ideas, and yes... new software for this job. So if any of you want to volunteer, give me a call, or contact a member of the executive committee.

Realistically speaking, this is the kind of job where it may take some time to get up to speed, but once everything is in place, it should only take 3-10 hours per month. Over the past few years, the biggest issues have been getting material (particularly cover pictures!), getting club-related articles out on time, and getting the column lengths to come out right. This last turns out to be the most frustrating aspect of the job. Few things are more annoying than ending up with exactly 5 or 7 pages, which makes it difficult to pad things or remove material to get a 6 or 8-page issue. Indeed, that's why I was forced to leave out the *Wings For Sale* to make room for the renewal form into this month's newsletter. I'll try to do better next month.

I've heard rumor that there was a hard nose-in accident at Ed Levin recently when a glider hit on of the traffic cones in the LZ. Fortunately, it does not sound like the pilot or glider were two badly hurt. The moral of this story may be that when your basetube hits something, this is almost always a Bad Thing. Keep an eye out for tall grass, brush, traffic cones, and small farm animals when you're on final, and be prepared to flare above them. Remember, if you are trying to land in a pen filled with walruses, treat the tops of the walruses as if they were the ground. And watch out for those tusks. They can be sharp.

President Candidate's Statement from Steve Deleo

Since I'm running for President, I thought it would be a good idea to introduce myself to everyone. I'm 47 and a Master rated pilot. I'll celebrate my 30th year flying in September of 2004 and I'm still totally addicted. I've been fortunate enough to experience virtually the entire evolution of the sport as we know it. I'm the Flight Design representative in California currently flying the Ghostbuster and Axxess rigid wings. Most weekends you can find me circling over Mt Diablo.

I've always been active in the Hang Gliding clubs with which I've been associated. I've help the president's office on several times before. It's interesting that the issues we wrestle with, as a club, haven't changed much over the last 30 years. Site acquisition / maintenance, training, safety, and the ever popular club rules and finance are all very real issues

Looking back over the last 30 years I clearly recognize that what keeps me doing this is simply how much fun it is. I've also come to

realize how easy it is for seemingly small nuisances to seriously detract from that fun factor. Rules and politics certainly head the list of complaints by pilots. We do have lot more rules that we did 30 years ago and that's a double edged sword. We live in a state where we would not have the beautiful, convenient places to fly without rules. But, the challenge is balancing the necessity of some regulation and the politics and constraints that are a result.

So, my commitment to the members, if I'm elected, will be to stay focused on fun and always look at regulation with a critical eye. I would like to see more mentoring opportunities for upcoming pilots. I would also like to find a way to ease the tension that seems to be building between the paraglider and hang glider pilots. At the end of the day we're all just pilots looking for some air time.

Steve Daleo

Vice-President Candidate s State- ment from Wayne Michelsen

Dear WOR pilot,

As you may know, I'm running for the 2004 WOR Vice-President position.

Having taken my very first leap under a wing in May '99, I am relatively new to the sport. But, those who know me, also know I've been bitten by the flying bug in a big way. I've flown and hung-out with many of you around the local (and not so local) sites, and look forward to more of it in the future.

As a club, I think our greatest

efforts should be applied to growing the pilot population and acquiring (or at least preserving) flying sites. For example, several of us have been researching sites around the Clear Creek Management Area and we are anxious to open them to both HG and PG flying. I also believe we should promote more club outings, site intros and flying clinics to encourage newer pilots and maintain interest in the sport.

Wayne

December 2003 Meeting Minutes *by Paul Clayton*

NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS

Jeff - H3, back in the sport; wants to buy a glider.

GREAT FLIGHTS

There were 2 good Sundays at Mission this month.

Mike Foy - flew Ed Levin Tuesday in a due south wind.

Eric Hinrichs - Soared at Big Sur in shear conditions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Phyl Hamby.

The rangers opened the road at Ed Levin sooner than usual after a recent rain. This is due in part to road maintenance done by Stan Boehm, which has improved the drainage. Culvert maintenance is an ongoing challenge.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - George Morford

There is a potential flying site 2 hours south of the Bay Area called Beaver Dam. Gene Pfifer plans to show the landowner the waivers and other paperwork that would protect him from liability.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Don

Herrick

Income from membership renewals is starting to come in.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES - Carmela Moreno

There were 531 members at the end of 2003. 59 people have renewed, about 1/2 using the on-line process.

FLIGHT DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Juan Laos

No incidents to report.

Ed Levin Site Committee Report - Steve Pittman

Road work is continuing.

MISSION PEAK SITE COMMITTEE REPORT - Steve Rodrigues

A vote was taken on the regulations for the east side launch, as published in the last issue of Flight Line. An amendment was proposed to the effect that any pilot who had had the site intro could also sign off on it. The regulations were approved with this amendment.

MT. DIABLO SITE COMMITTEE REPORT - None

SITE ACQUISITION - Gene Pfifer, George Morford

See VP report.

COMPETITION COMMITTEE - None

OLD BUSINESS

The following nominations for 2004-2005 club officers have been made:

President - Steve Delayo, Phyl Hamby

Vice President - Wayne Michelson, George Morford, Tom Moock

Treasurer - Don Herrick

Flight Director - Juan Laos, Pat Denevan
Membership Services Coordinator - Carmela Moreno, Rex Runyon
Secretary - Colin Perry, Paul Clayton

A picnic and fly-in is planned for Ed Levin on March 20th.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Mullholland is organizing a party for Bay Area flying clubs at City Beach in Fremont sometime this winter.

Wayne Michelson reported that he has flown a new site called Goat Mountain. It is on BLM property.

Jim Woodward reported that California condors are to be released at the Pinnacles near Hollister.

A chute clinic is to be held on 23 January. Contact Pat Denevan for details.

A vote will take place regarding the Coyote Lake site on 13 January.

Entertainment - None.

Prizes were raffled.

END OF MEETING MINUTES

The 2004 Region 2 Regional Directors Election

by Paul Gazis

As most of you know by now, Urs Kellenberger and I were elected as your new Regional Directors for Region 2. I do not recall the exact numbers, but I believe the final tally was fairly close, and I believe we all owe a vote of thanks to David Beerman and John Wilde for running, and to our outgoing directors for the difficult job with which they have wrestled for the past several years.

I've talked with Urs, with Jayne DePanfilis at the USHGA, and with others in our club, and we're all quite optimistic. The big issue we're hoping to address is communication, so if you have any concerns about our national organization or Region 2, please get them to Urs or me before the March BOD meeting. Dave Wills is trying to put together a Region 2 Mailing List, so once that is up and running, that should help.

The biggest issues on the national level may be powered flight and the FAA's new Sport Pilot regulation. I'm still getting up to speed on these things myself, and how they will affect us, but I believe there will be articles on both these issues in the next two HG/PG magazines. My biggest worry is that since both Urs and I are HG pilots, we might not appreciate all the issues facing the PG community, so if you are a PG pilot and have some concern that you feel has been neglected, let me know. Hey, I took two lessons, so that should make me at least partially bi-wingual, right?

The other big issue may be the combined HG/PG calendar. I have yet to hear from anyone who is enthusiastic about it. Indeed, I have yet to even see one. So if you have any feeling about the issue, one way or another... talk with Urs! With any luck at all, I should be able to foist the whole issue off on him!

Parachute Clinic, Practice Toss, and Repack, Feb 21-22

It's winter, the east winds have you sitting at home, and your parachute needs repacking. So come sharpen your skills and

unstuck that velcro bag at a chute safety clinic, practice throw, and repack session with world-class experts Betty Pfeiffer and Bill Gargano.

The activities include:

- * Up to four practice deployments, with your own harness and chute, while being gently turbulated by your fellow pilots
- * Parachute inspection and repack
- * Video and seminar presentations on:
 - o inspecting harnesses and parachute systems
 - o executing proper deployments
 - o handling problems after deployment
 - o preparing for landing, avoiding being hurt or dragged on landing
 - o landing on water, power, and other major hazards, and many other topics

The fun will be held at Oceana High School, about 10 minutes south of Fort Funston, 9:00 a.m. sharp until evening. Pick Saturday or Sunday. Cost is \$40, or a little bit more than a repack would set you back.

Online sign-up and more information on the web at www.fly-funston.org, or contact Daniel Pifko at (650) 207-1999. Limited spots available.

Not convinced yet? Ok, here's a story for you: Only last year, a Bay area hang glider pilot practicing his throws at a repack session took a full 10 seconds to get his old chute out of its Velcro pocket, compared to only 1-3 seconds for everyone else. He replaced his parachute and bag, and loosened the Velcro. A few weeks later he was in a mid-air collision and had to deploy. How far would you have fallen in 10 seconds?

Sponsored by Fellow Feathers.

Place USHGA Hang Gliding Card or temporary rating here and photocopy.

Keep Original for your records

Place USHGA Paragliding Card or temporary rating here and photocopy.

Keep Original for your records

New Members - Please complete the Application in full.

All Others – Enter only information that has changed or is different than USHGA card.

Mail to:
Wings of Rogallo
PO Box 361885
Milpitas, CA 95036-1885

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Tel # : (_____) _____ Work Tel # (_____) _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Tel # (_____) _____

Birthdate: _____ Profession: _____

USHGA Appointments: _____ Today's Date: _____ HAM call sign: _____

Dues and Fees

(Full year (FY) amounts must be paid if you have been a WOR member within the last 2 years. Choose only 1 membership option.)

WOR Basic Membership Option 1 (Includes monthly Flight Line via <http://www.wingsofrogallo.org>) FY - \$12.00 _____

Email address (required): _____ (NO HARD-COPY NEWSLETTER)

If Not a member during the last 2 years - _____ months at 1.00/month _____

WOR Basic Membership Option 2 (Includes a hardcopy monthly Flight Line via US Postal Service) FY - \$27.00 _____

If Not a member during the last 2 years - _____ months at 2.00/month _____

WOR Family Membership FY - \$6.00 _____

Mission/Diablo Renewal FY - \$12.00 _____

If Not a member during the last 2 years - _____ months at 1.00/month _____

Donation for cards and stickers: \$2.00 _____ \$3.00 _____ \$5.00 _____ Other _____

Total: _____

Check ONLY if sticker(s) required (year stickers are issued automatically)

Hang Gliding

_____ Hang 1 (green)

_____ Hang 2 (red)

_____ Hang 3/4 (blue)

_____ Mission / Diablo (Silver)

Paragliding

_____ Para 1 (green)

_____ Para 2 (red)

_____ Para 3/4 (blue)

_____ Mission (Silver)

Other

_____ WOR ID

Note: Your WOR ID# will change
If a new ID Sticker is issued.

Reason for sticker(s) _____

(ie. new member, new helmet, sticker wore off, .etc.)

Important – The following should accompany this Application:

1. **Photocopies** – USHGA card (s) and/or temporary ratings.
2. **Waivers If not already on file** – Ed Levin Park and/or Diablo (legible, signed and properly witnessed)
3. **Self Addressed stamped envelope** (helps to speed up the process)

Note: Application not filled out properly will be returned. All pilots are required to have a proficiency sticker **BEFORE** flying.

WINGS FOR SALE



Wings for Sale

(Ad policy: ads are marked by date run for 6 months, then are cancelled automatically unless they are renewed. Ads are free to WOR members)

Rigid Wings

2000 Ghostbuster. Exc cond, about 50 hrs. Includes spare down tubes and custom XC bag. \$7000. Contact Steven Wertheimer at (415) 385-0423. (01/03)

Flexwings

Dream 220. Black /spectrum colors, w storage tube, \$900 with stripdown or \$500 without. Contact Rudy Visaya at (510) 579-4661 or rudyvisaya@attbi.com (01/03)

Wills Wing Falcon 225. Blue/yellow, 150 hours, 5 yrs old, poor condition but still a good flyer, \$500.00, some spare parts available at half retail, Tom Adams, 925-933-1757 (6/03).

Wills Wing Raven 229. Exc cond, great beginner to intermediate or tandem glider. \$500 obo. Contact Paul Sussman (650) 994-8215 (03/03).

Wills Wing Super Sport 153. Blue/white, previously owned by Mike Donahue and before him Dan Boatright, hours unknown, very good condition, \$750.00, Tom Adams, 925-933-1757 (6/03).

Wills Wing UltraSport 147. Only 3 years old, about 150 hours, great condition, red and gray undersurface. Includes tail fin (never used), 2 spare down tubes, manual, batten chart. Base tube fitted with small Hall wheels, your choice to keep or remove. \$2000. Contact Dan Maguire, 408-779-2492. (08/03)

Paragliders

Advance Epsilon 3/30. Large (DHV 1/2). Blue with gray leading edge. about 40 hours. One flight since last annual inspection which puts the wing as new. Package includes wing, backpack, speedbar + bag. \$1500 obo. Contact Alex Chattaway at 408 2307388, bapa@chatty.org (01/03)

Equipment

High Energy Pod Harness. 5'5" to 5'11", great cond. \$75 obo.

Robertson Cocoon Harness. great cond, \$60 obo. Other harnesses also available. Contact Paul Sussman (650) 994-8215 (03/03)

Wanted: New or used **Thin Air** or **Vapor Harness** by ThinRedLine. Contact Rudy Visaya at (510) 579-4661, rudyvisaya@attbi.com (01/03)

Powered Aircraft

Bede 5B airplane kit. Skin and structural pieces only, unbuilt and still in shipping boxes, \$850.00, Tom Adams, 925-933-1757 (6/03).

Lost and Found

Found. A blue soft lunchbox/mini-cooler container, with a note pad inside containing notes, names, phone numbers, etc. Owner can claim it by calling Mike at (510) 710-5394 or with an email to mike@vorhis.com. (12/02)

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



*Wings of
Rogallo*

FLIGHT LINE

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The next Wings of Rogallo Meeting will be
Tuesday, January 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 for this month's meeting will be...
Elections for new Club Officers!
Now what could possibly be more entertaining?