



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Web Site: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org)

Editor – Dale Gottdank [dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com)

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Dan Cummins  
President

## Message from the President

### Welcome to February, Gulls!

It's only the second month of 2015, and there has already been lots going on. AMA Convention on the 9th, DLG and TD contest on the 31st & 1st respectively (late due to rain delays) and lots of afternoon slope flying at Torrey Pines the whole month of January!

I made the pilgrimage north a couple weeks ago to attend the annual AMA Convention in Ontario CA. Our club was well represented both in attendance and participation. Speaking with our District President and the AMA president, it is clear that our club is recognized as one of the premier soaring clubs in the nation. Many aspire to have access to world class multi-discipline soaring year around. Our club is fortunate to have many world class pilots amongst our ranks that generously mentor and promote our sport year around. If you haven't attended the AMA Expo, I highly recommend it.

Our 2015 TD and DLG monthly contest kicked off a little late due to a rain delay. The months DLG contest was delayed until the last day of the month, but they had 15 pilots competing with perfect conditions! As I write this, the final round TD is being flown at our Encinitas field on this fine February 1st day.....check out the TPG website or [F3XVault.com](http://F3XVault.com) for contest results!

Slope flying season kicked off big time in January. We enjoyed generous clearing winds all month and had many great flying days! Our very own Mark Wood was down for a visit on the last day of January, and many of us joined him for a day at the bluff. We had foamy furball racing all afternoon, and closed out the month with another picture perfect day of slope soaring here in southern California!

This month we are looking forward to the second rounds of the monthly Thermal Duration and DLG contest to be followed by our fourth annual Torrey Pines Season Opener Fun Fly, Ratings day, and Swap Meet on the 21st of February (third Saturday). This is always a

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**See 2015 Club Meetings and Activities on page 3**

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**Message from the President (continued)**

fun event for members to get their waivers signed and ratings flights done if required. It is also a "good open" house to bring your friends to see what the Torrey Pines Gulls are all about.....perhaps even get some of them to join the club. It's sure to be a great day at the bluff, so mark your calendars! See the TPG website for contest and event details.

Lastly, I would encourage all to start preparing their favorite slope foam for the April TPG Slope Racing (foam only) Series. Event will be on the third Saturday of April, and should be loads of fun to bring slope racing back to Torrey Pines. All classes of foam aircraft are welcome.....no moldies for this race:}

Be sure to monitor the TPG website, the TPG Forum on RCGroups and Facebook for details on upcoming events and hangouts!

Till next month, build something good, share something cool, and get out and fly again soon!

R,

Dan Cummins  
2015 TPG President  
[TPGulls@gmail.com](mailto:TPGulls@gmail.com)

**Join the Yahoo Forum!**

From Lenny Brzezinski

The Yahoo forum was formed Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1999. There are over 200 members in the Yahoo Group. This group has many things to offer for the club. It is a way of communicating with each other. If you have any concerns you can post them here including other questions about almost anything having to do with flying, building, finding another person, and so on.

If you are new to the club, the website will give you a lot of information about the club. On the website there is a link that you can use to join the group. This group is moderated. Please use this group for flying related items. You can post on the Yahoo group files, photos, polls, members, and calendar. All of these sections are available to any member. I hope that your experience with this group will be great. Click the link below for more information: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/forum.htm>

**Check out the TPG Facebook page, too.**

From John Blasko:

If you haven't had a chance yet, check out our TPG Facebook page for more information, photos, videos, etc.

<http://www.facebook.com/TorreyPinesGulls>



Dale Gottdank

## Newsletter Update - Dale Gottdank

We're moving into February, looking forward to a great 2015 for TPG, and remember, to make this newsletter even better:

**Please send some articles!** They don't have to be a "novel," just a paragraph or two about something that interests you related in some way to RC soaring...even something interesting you happened upon on the internet –I'd like to have the newsletter published by the first week of every month. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club!

To make the timely issue possible, I need the club members' support and help in providing me with **recent** pictures, articles and any upcoming events. If there are too many, we'll save some for the next issue.

**Please send in your articles or photos ([dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com)) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter.** The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>

## Club Meetings and Activities

As we did during 2014, TPG will continue to host monthly contests, fun fly events, and onsite clinics. General meetings will coincide with non-competitive events throughout the year. As Dan mentioned above **The next event is the Annual Pilots Rating/Fun Fly Saturday February 21, 2015. Check it out in Ray Pili's "A Note From the Slope."** Be on the lookout for additional upcoming details and scheduling for all TPG and related events on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site at:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org> and  
<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar.htm>

## A Note from the Slope – Ray Pili

*Happy Birthday Feb 4<sup>th</sup> To Sloper Charles Lindberg.*



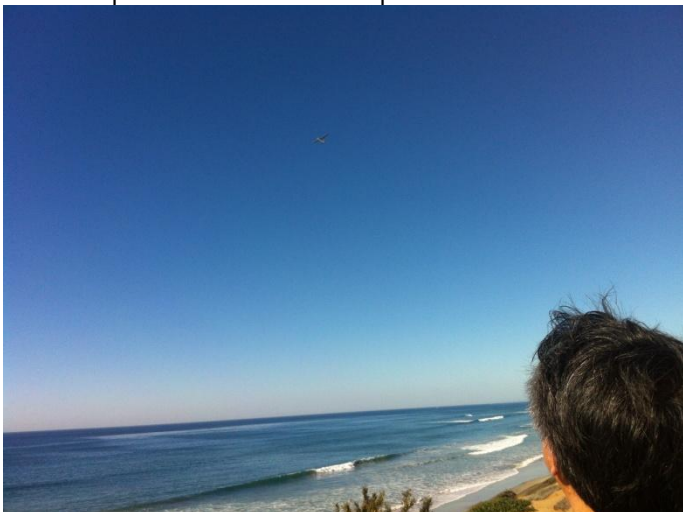
Ray Pili

January sure flew by fast. The highly anticipated AMA show came and went, with more FPV and Multi-rotor aircraft than ever, but the Soaring USA Display is still the best IMHO along with the member built aircraft on display along the perimeter.

Early January lacked slopeable wind. A number of members bought Parkzone Ka-8's over the holidays and the wind promptly stopped. Sloper Mr. Kim broke the wind jinx with a nice afternoon flight:



I'm slowly introducing a Heli flier, Albert, to sloping. Albert's first flights last year were very tentative but on a sunny 75 degree January winter day at Dave's beach in Carlsbad, he got it, and sloped his EZ Star unpowered for two 30 min sessions:



(continued next page)

**A Note from the Slope – Ray Pili (continued)**

Taggers tagged the sign next to the RC Pilots Parking lot last fall. Gang members like the slope too, and made their marks to claim the slope.



Well, the gang names have been removed, and this slope is TPG territory.

A nice recliner was installed right smack in the middle of the RC Window.



The views are wonderful.



Overall the slope is in great shape, lots of green grass and no tall weeds.

Thankfully the dirt road has been graded, smoothing the ride to the RC Parking lot. Also, make sure to fill out the 2015 liability waiver, I've been asked 4 times so far this year.

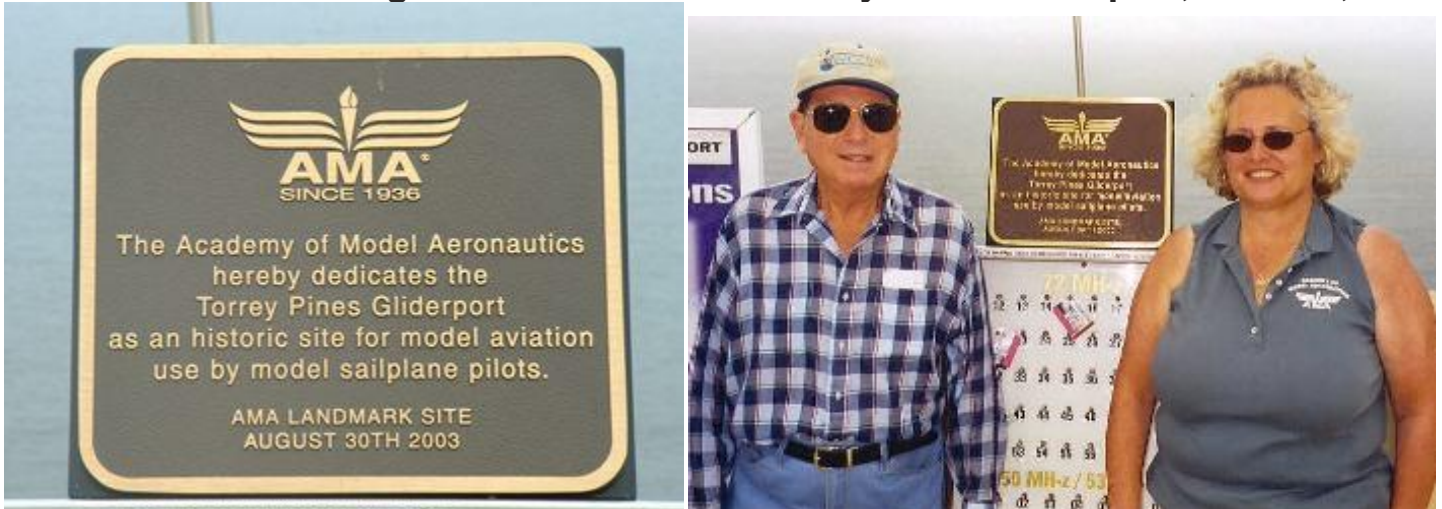
**Finally, remember to come out to the Gliderport for the **Annual Pilots Rating/Fun Fly Saturday February 21, 2015**. Lunch will be provided by the Cliff Hanger Café. A North County Flying Machines M60 Slope Gilder Kit will be given away as well as building supplies I picked up from Bill Lamping of L2 Airframes (JW60 Fame). I posted photos on RCGroups: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showpost.php?p=30597887&postcount=28>**

Till next month, Blue Skies.

Ray

## Some History About Our World Famous Slope – From Ray Pili

### National Aeromodeling Historic Site 2003 - Torrey Pines Gliderport, La Jolla, CA



On April 26, 2003 the AMA Executive Council recognized the Torrey Pines Gliderport as a National Aeromodeling Historic Landmark. Later that year, AMA Executive Director Joyce Hager was on hand for the unveiling of the plaque.

The Torrey Pines Gliderport has been used for full-scale gliders since the 1930s. In 1939, according to the Torrey Pines Gliderport History Society, it was leased by members of the Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California from San Diego and “was dedicated by then San Diego Mayor P.J. Benbough “to the youth of California.”

The U.S. Army took over much of the area during WWII, naming the encampment Camp Callan. It was used for anti-aircraft artillery training. After the war, the area was released to the Gliding group.

It took 20-plus years for the earliest model sailplanes to be launched off the cliffs, occurring in the 1950s and 1960s. As modelers’ use of the site increased, Radio Control pilots saw a need for more organization, and thus the Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society, Inc (“TPG”) formed. Members from this Society have been able to use the site to prepare for national and regional competitions and have set gliding records using the warm, rising thermals the area is known for.

The site has been dedicated several times over the years for its historical significance, including becoming a National Soaring Landmark of the National Soaring Museum (Elmira, New York), a San Diego City Historical Site, and placed on both the California Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places. On April 26, 2003, the AMA Executive Council recognized the Torrey Pines Gliderport as a Model Aviation Historical Landmark.

**Note: The gentleman in the picture is Larry Fogel, who was a longtime TPG member and Club Historian, a role now filled by his son, Gary Fogel.**

## Thermal Duration – C'mon over to Encinitas



Mark Canfield

### February TD Contest – CD – Mark Canfield

When – Sunday, February 8

Where - Encinitas Flying Field

Thermal Duration Soaring Contest, Sanctioned Contest – AMA Cards

Pilots Meeting: 8:45 AM

Contest Starts: 9:00 AM

Entry Fees: \$5.00(members)/\$10.00(non-members) One Class, TD or RES

Free AMA Juniors & Seniors

Tasks will be:

6, 8, 10 & 10 minute rounds

900 flight points

100 landing points

20 point penalty for every second over task time

For more information, contacts, rules, etc. check the following page on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site: <http://torreypinesgulls.org/upcomingcomp.htm> or will be shown in the F3X vault site (<http://www.f3xvault.com>) as TPG coordinates with the vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc.



Mark Canfield

### January TD Contest Results – CD – Mark Canfield

When - Sunday, February 1

Where - Encinitas Flying Field

Tasks: 5min, 7min, 9min, 11min

Landing: 100 point possibility (standard landing tape)

Penalties: 20 point penalty assessed for every second over the task time

#### Results

Masters:

1<sup>st</sup> Steve Condon

2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Smith

3<sup>rd</sup> Tom Keisling

Experts:

1<sup>st</sup> Doug Cronkhite

2<sup>nd</sup> Bruno Burgin

3<sup>rd</sup> Steve Hurd

All contestant scores are eventually posted on the Web Site [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org) under "Competition Results," or will be shown in the F3X vault site (<http://www.f3xvault.com>) as TPG coordinates with the vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc.

## DLG – C'mon out to Poway

Get your DLG's ready and don't miss another opportunity to hone your DLG skills as the DLG Clinic/Contest Series resurrected by Tim Traver, John McNeil and Gary Fogel continues this year with Tim Traver serving as DLG Coordinator.

For more information about Torrey Pines Gulls DLG, including format, cost, schedule (and why this is such a great idea), check out the full announcement on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site at:

<http://www.torreyпинesgulls.org/handlaunch.htm>

or keep up on the latest news and chats on RCGroups:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2318718>



Tim Traver



John McNeil



Gary Fogel

Beginning last year, DLG contest information, including upcoming contest listings, signups and contest results have been available on the F3XVault site at <http://f3xvault.com/>

If you're not already registered, go to the site listed above and register. Once you're registered, pick one of the disciplines, such as F3K (Hand Launch). Click on the event in which you're interested and go from there. You can look up results of past events (for example, the January 2015 contest is listed) or to register for future events (the February event will be listed shortly).

The February DLG Clinic/Contest is scheduled for February 28. The schedule for the entire year is as follows:

January 31st ([Full Event Info](#))\*

February 28th

March 28th (Full Event Info)

April 25th (Full Event Info)

May 30th (Full Event Info)

June 27th (Full Event Info)

July 18th (Full Event Info)

August 15th (Full Event Info)

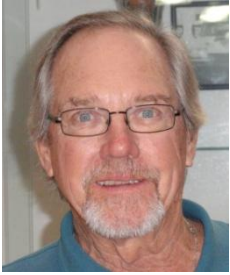
September 19th (Full Event Info)

October 24th (Full Event Info)

November 21st (Full Event Info)

\*Clicking the "Full Event Info" link will take you to the results of the January contest.

If you have any questions or need additional information, contact the DLG Coordinator, Tim Traver at [TimTraver@gmail.com](mailto:TimTraver@gmail.com)



Bill Eckles

## Membership – Bill Eckles

We have a lull in the weather at the Gliderport, but not one in membership renewals. Thanks to all who have been so prompt renewing their memberships for 2015. You've kept me hopping as I've tried to respond in kind with prompt returns of new keys and membership cards. Just yesterday I sent out membership #70, but, lo, no new requests in today's mail.

We still have plenty who have not renewed from 2014, and even more from the couple years prior, so please don't feel that an un-renewed membership means a break for ever. Rather, we still have members renewing from years past. That is good because the current Board of Directors are working hard to improve on the club and its activities with fun flies, work days and a good deal of improvements at the flying sites (better winch-battery recharging, grass/tumbleweed mowing and ankle-turning-hole-filling.)

Come on back. Fill in the renewal form I sent you or, if you were not a member last year, complete the application at the web site to bring your information up to date. The club needs you to maintain the vitality of the group and keep a good flow of fliers through the gates. We would love to get over the 100 membership level again, so don't hesitate...c'mon back!

Bill Eckles  
Membership Chairman

### Every year we need a good strong membership to continue to provide the services we offer:

- ✓ Access to three Flying Fields in La Jolla, Encinitas and Poway.
- ✓ Quarterly (or thereabouts) fun-fly clinic events to be held at our thermal soaring fields and at Torrey Pines Gliderport, where members will have ample opportunities to take advantage of our trio of excellent flying sites. Be on the lookout for upcoming details and scheduling.
- ✓ A group of guys who can answer just about any question you might ask, and do it with a smile.
- ✓ Contests that bring out world class competitors from around the globe.
- ✓ Competition and help for you, regardless of your skill level.
- ✓ A holiday party that's the envy of most gourmands in Southern California.
- ✓ A web site for current and past information [www.torreyпинesgulls.org](http://www.torreyпинesgulls.org)
- ✓ An interesting monthly newsletter with current information to help keep members informed
- ✓ We are an AMA Chartered Club #129, with benefits - field Insurance etc.

Dues are as follows:

- ✓ Dues for the membership (calendar) year are as follows for submissions during.
- ✓ January through June are \$60
- ✓ July through September are \$30
- ✓ **October through December are \$60 (gives you a jump on next year)**
- ✓ Juniors age 15 and under \$5
- ✓ Receive a *credit* of up to \$20, ten for each of up to two half-day work sessions helping the club.

If you haven't re-upped yet, or would like to join the club for the first time, go to [www.torreyпинesgulls.org](http://www.torreyпинesgulls.org) and click on the tab "Membership". We'll make it as simple as possible to continue your membership.

**Note: TPG membership information will not be shared or sold and will only be used to contact members for purposes of TPG business**

## Club Sponsors

The Torrey Pines Gulls members would like to thank all the sponsors for their donations and supporting Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society. Without the support of these fine companies, the success of many of the Club events would not have been possible.

To our members, when you are thinking of buying a hobby-related item, please consider these outstanding companies first. Please click on vendor's logo to go to their web site for more information.



## Photo of the Month Contest

Each month club members may submit photos of an activity related to soaring and the newsletter editor will post a winner to be chosen by the Board of Directors. A yearly winner will be selected from among the monthly winners and will receive a prize (their photo will be used as the website and newsletter masthead). Needless to say, horizontal format photos are preferred. Email your photos (.JPG format preferred) to Dale Gottdank at [dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com). Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



**January Winner** – KA-8 at Torrey Sunset (Andy Grose)



**February Co-Winner** – Mike Smith introducing the next generation to RC Soaring (Doug Cronkhite)



**February Co-Winner** – Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine)



Mike Smith introducing the next generation to RC Soaring (Doug Cronkhite)

## 2015 Club Officers & Contact Information

President	Dan Cummins	<a href="mailto:TPGulls@gmail.com">TPGulls@gmail.com</a>
Vice-President	Marty Dine	<a href="mailto:mdine@quattrogolf.com">mdine@quattrogolf.com</a>
Past President	Marty Dine	<a href="mailto:mdine@quattrogolf.com">mdine@quattrogolf.com</a>
Secretary	Dan Cummins	<a href="mailto:dc812@cox.net">dc812@cox.net</a>
Treasurer	Don Lockhead	<a href="mailto:donloch@sbcglobal.net">donloch@sbcglobal.net</a>
Membership	Bill Eckles	<a href="mailto:tunabiker1@hotmail.com">tunabiker1@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:he4gott@gmail.com">he4gott@gmail.com</a>
Winch Master	Mark Canfield	<a href="mailto:mcanfield5@roadrunner.com">mcanfield5@roadrunner.com</a>
DLG Coordinator	Tim Traver	<a href="mailto:timtraver@gmail.com">timtraver@gmail.com</a>
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	<a href="mailto:mike@themapsmith.com">mike@themapsmith.com</a>
Thermal Coordinator	Mark Canfield	<a href="mailto:mcanfield5@roadrunner.com">mcanfield5@roadrunner.com</a>
Slope Coordinator	Ray Pili	<a href="mailto:rpili2001@gmail.com">rpili2001@gmail.com</a>
Safety Officer	Ray Pili	<a href="mailto:rpili2001@gmail.com">rpili2001@gmail.com</a>
SC2 Representative	Keith Finkenbiner	<a href="mailto:keithone@cox.net">keithone@cox.net</a>
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	<a href="mailto:steve@torreypinesgulls.org">steve@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Historian	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:gfogel@gmail.com">gfogel@gmail.com</a>
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Marty Dine	<a href="mailto:mdine@quattrogolf.com">mdine@quattrogolf.com</a>
TP Soaring Council (AMA)	To be filled	

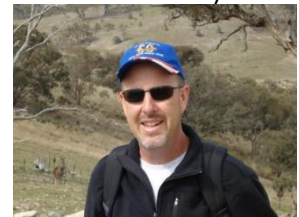
Dan Cummins  
President



Marty Dine  
Vice- President



Dan Cummins  
Secretary



Don Lockhead  
Treasurer



## 2015 Contest & Activity Calendar (subject to change)

Month	RES/ TD	CD	HLG	Slope Race	SC2	Other	Meeting	Board Meeting
January (postponed due to weather)	2/ 1	Mark C.	31	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	25 DSH			
February	8	Mark C.	28	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	15 SWSA	21 & 22 Phoenix	21 Fun-Fly	8
March	8	Cliff H.	28	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	22 SULA	23-24 TPG Classic	12	12
April	12	Tom W.	25	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	26 SWSA	12-13 Fresno	9	9
May	17	Mark C.	30	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	17 VVRC			14
June	7	Keith F.	27	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	28 HSS	8th Slope Race	22 Encinitas	11
July	12	Tom W.	18	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	19 ISS			
August	9		15	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	23 TOSS			13
September	13	Keith F.	19	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	20 SULA		7 Torrey Pines	10
October	11	Steve C.	24	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	18 TPG	3-4 Visalia		8
November	8	Mark C.	21	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	15 Rain Date		12	12
December	13	Mike S.		<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>			10	10

Note: Calendar subject to change at any moment without warning or notice.

The SC2 schedule could change on availability of club field's check website: [sc2soaring.com](http://sc2soaring.com)



### Quote of the Month:

It is the greatest shot of adrenaline to be doing what you have wanted to do so badly. You almost feel like you could fly without the plane.

— Charles Lindberg