



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2016

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org)

Editor – Dale Gottdank

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Dan Cummins

## Message from the President

Howdy Gulls,

We are in the twilight of May, and it has been an amazing month for our club.

The highlight of the month was the International Hand Launch Glider Festival at our Poway Field. This year's field of world class pilots was one of the largest yet. Weather cooperated with some cooler conditions and

for once, our field wasn't a dust bowl thanks to this year's El Niño conditions that brought us some rain this winter.

Pilots make the event, volunteers and sponsors make the event happen. I would like to thank all the pilots that came out this year. I would like to thank the event volunteers Mike Seid (CD), Mike Smith (event instigator), Don Lochhead (green visor guy), John McNeil & Sean Porter keeping the scores, and Gary Fogel & John Blaske for handling the pictures and video, and all the event sponsors that make a great event a *lofty* success!

This month at the Torrey slope, we've had the best wind of the year.....many exceptional air days, and lots more that were typical Torrey 12+ straight at 2:00. Hopefully we will get another good month of wind before the summer doldrums set in. Also coming up in June, the LSF group is going to host a foamy slope race at the community slope in Poway. This is a fun little slermally slope, and a great place to fly foamies.

Our monthly TD contest got bumped one weekend due to the International, and our monthly DLG contest was usurped by the International, but will start right back up in June.

(continued next page)

## Message from the President (continued)

With all this going on, I want to thank our newsletter editor Dale Gottdank for helping share the clubs goings on with the whole club....it's a thankless job, but Dale always comes through with a great newsletter. That being said, Dale ([dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com)) relies on all of us to send in pictures and articles each month to keep making the newsletter great.....so make an effort to snap some pictures and write down a few words the next time you go flying, or write up a short how-to during your next build project.

That's all for this month. I am off to finish building my ME109 for the PSS (Fake) Festival happening over the Memorial Day weekend. Every year it seems the group build project remains half done until the last week or two before the festival and we are adding panel lines in the hotel room on Friday night. If you've never checked out the PSS Fest, you should add it to your bucket list....it happens the Saturday before Memorial Day every year.

Till next month....fly more, and build something cool, and check out the TPG website calendar for upcoming events!

Cheers!

Dan Cummins

2016 TP Gulls President



Speaking of the PSS Fest, here's Mike Slean at Torrey on a perfect 20 mph day to maiden his 47-once Me-109.

## Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

As we did last year, TPG will continue to host monthly contests, fun-fly events, and onsite clinics. General meetings have morphed into competitive and non-competitive events throughout the year. Be on the lookout for upcoming details and scheduling for all TPG and related events in the Newsletter, Newsletter Calendar in this issue and on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at:

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



Dale Gottdank

### Newsletter Update - Dale Gottdank

*Just about summertime!*

Please contribute to our *GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER*

***Please Send Pictures! Send an article,*** perhaps. It doesn'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! **This month, we have an article from Eric Metzdorff on cutting foam wings.**

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 website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>

## What do **YOU** think?

You can express your opinion at: [www.torреypinesgulls.org](http://www.torреypinesgulls.org).

We have a **QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS** link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over **TORREY PINES GULLS** next to **LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP...** If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, etc. for the board, here's your chance.

## Check out the TPG Facebook Page

From John Blasko:

If you haven't had a chance yet, check out our TPG Facebook page:

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



## 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. On the TPG website, [www.torреypinesgulls.org](http://www.torреypinesgulls.org), you can follow the **YAHOO FORUM** link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over **TORREY PINES GULLS** next to **LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP.**

## News from the Slope – Ray Pili, Slope Coordinator



Ray Pili

May was a great month of moderate to strong on shore breezes. Unfortunately, I have no photos to back this up.

Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> is the 6th Annual Katie Martin Tribute Fly-In.

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2558251>

Below are photos from last year's event and here's a video from the Spain slope enthusiasts:

<https://vimeo.com/130738781>



Gregg (L), Paul (R), make Bob (C) an Honorary Hitec Team Pilot. Photo by R.C. Scott

## News from the Slope (continued)



Bob (R) explaining the differences in the New and Old SR-7. Photo by Bob M.



Rota-Cadiz-Spain Slopers. Photo by Manolo.

## News from the Slope (continued)

Saturday July 24th will be the PNF/TWF Fun Fly. So as last time, sharpen up those noses and lube up them cams.



Ward H with his TW/PN Scirocco. Photo by R. Pili



Pitcheron Savaron Style. Photo by Dale.

## News from the Slope (continued)

### *Safety tip:*

Climbing down the Bluff at Torrey to retrieve a downed glider is not recommended, unless you're Crazy like George. The bluff is very steep in places and the sand/gravel surface is slippery. Lifeguards will tell you not to climb down the bluff. **If you do lose your glider, find Larry at the Gliderport.** Larry returned a glider for me twice last month.



*Blue Skies,  
Ray Pili*

## Katie Martin Memorial Tribute – Bob Martin

JUNE 4TH, 2016  
TORREY PINES GLIDERPORT

It is with my great appreciation to the Torrey Pines Gulls for hosting this annual event.

I would like to invite all of the Torrey Pines Gulls to join in and enjoy this annual day of remembrance of Katie Martin, one of the pioneers of slope soaring and soaring in general. This event is the HOME event with other Katie Tributes happening in Spain, Great Britain and Venezuela.

Who is Katie? For more than 25 years she was well known in our industry for her enthusiasm and charm at events and trade shows throughout the country. She also holds the distinction of being the first woman to fly RC in Costa Rica. She served as AMA Club President for two consecutive years, and secured a flying site for her club in the Santa Fe Dam area. She worked hard for various clubs in many roles including Newsletter Editor, and in 1988 was awarded the AMA National Newsletter Editor of the Year. She also was awarded the Hawk of the Year, an honor going to the member of the Desert Hawks Club that made the most impact on the club that year. She was also the inspiration that led to the formation of Bob Martin RC Models in the mid 70's when she asked for and received a Hobie Hawk. That same Hobie Hawk will be flown in the Katie Martin Tribute with a small amount of her ashes epoxied into the nose. Katie was all about having fun and enjoying the sport, therefore in line with that attitude, this event is open to all sailplanes regardless of manufacturer or type. It is an open fly-in, the only rules are those of safety.

Some of us will arrive on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> to prepare for Saturday. The Dedication, Moment of Silence and the flying of Katie's Hobie Hawk solo will commence at noon. Open flying will be all day as conditions permit.

I look forward to meeting and talking with any of you that join us in celebrating the legacy of a great lady.

Bob Martin

### Katie Martin Memorial Tribute – Bob Martin (continued)



Dave Garwood of Model Aviation Mag. handing Katie his transmitter. He asked Katie to fly his Coyote at Soar Utah as I watched. She was a very accomplished pilot.



Shot of Katie launching a Katie II proto-type



Famous shot of Katie launching a early SR-7....became a cover shot for RCM Magazine



Head shot of Katie at a trade show....circa 1980

## Club Competition Activity

### Thermal Duration

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Mark Canfield

#### Thermal Coordinator/Winchmaster – Mark Canfield

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Thermal Duration contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/event/thermal-duration-contest-march/>

or contact Mark Canfield at [mcanfield5@roadrunner.com](mailto:mcanfield5@roadrunner.com)

More information may be shown in the F3X Vault site (<http://www.f3xvault.com>) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc.

### Hand Launch

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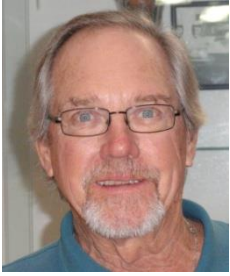
Tim Traver

#### F3K Coordinator – Tim Traver

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Hand Launch/DLG contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/discus-launch-glider-series/> or contact Tim Traver at [TimTraver@gmail.com](mailto:TimTraver@gmail.com)

More information may be shown in the F3X Vault site (<http://www.f3xvault.com>) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc. and in this RCGroups thread: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2318718>

## Club Membership Update – Bill Eckles



Bill Eckles

Spring is about done and as we anticipate, we do so with now 89 members... welcome Ludovic Vignals to our group. Things are quite slow, so please encourage previous members to re-up and non-members to give us a try. We continue to replace our club meetings with quarterly fun-fly activities at our three venues, making especially the summer months quite filled with competitive and fun activities. It is a great time to enjoy your club! Thanks for all the support and keep it coming!

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 website for current and past information [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.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 \$60
- ✓ July through September \$30
- ✓ October through December \$60 (gives you a jump on next year)
- ✓ Full-time college students \$30 per year
- ✓ Juniors under 18 years \$15 per year
- ✓ 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.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.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**

## LSF Report – Ray Pili



### June 2016 LSF Schedule

We're planning a friendly **Man-on-Man Pylon Speed Race Saturday, June 11 2016 at the Poway Slope.**

Two Glider classes are scheduled:

Class A (Maximum of 1.5M Wingspan)

Class C (Wingspan between 2M and 100 inches)

The only pilot class flown will be "Open"

AMA required.

CD is the Honorable John McNeil.

Pilots meeting at 1 PM on top of the Poway Slope.

Contest rules will follow AMA Radio Control RC Soaring Competition

Regulations 14.2. Task S2—Pylon Speed; Flying Start 10 second countdown: 5 laps, up to 4 aircraft per heat; 4 points for 1st place, 3 for 2nd, 2 for 3rd, 1 for 4th place and 0 for DNF/DNS/DQ.

All planes entered must be made primarily of foam. No balsa or primarily composite aircraft allowed.

CD John will sanction the event with AMA.

Almost everyone has a foamy, so iron out the wrinkles, goop the nose back on your Moth, and polish the wings on your Ka-8/EX Glider/Radian. It's time to race!

## Tekoa Feathercut – Cutting Foam Wings – Eric Metzdorff



I owned a Katie II back in 1983 and remembered what a gentle flyer it was. Plus, it had that bullet proof Duralene fuselage. So I scored this 80's era Aileron Trainer off E-bay and as described and expected, it was incomplete. I figured where there's a will, there's a way and that whatever was missing, as long as it had the fuselage, I could manage. I happy to find out the only thing missing was the original wing cores and balsa sheeting. Fabulous, I can fix that! The other important stuff like an original canopy and precut balsa for fin and stab and original documentation also included.



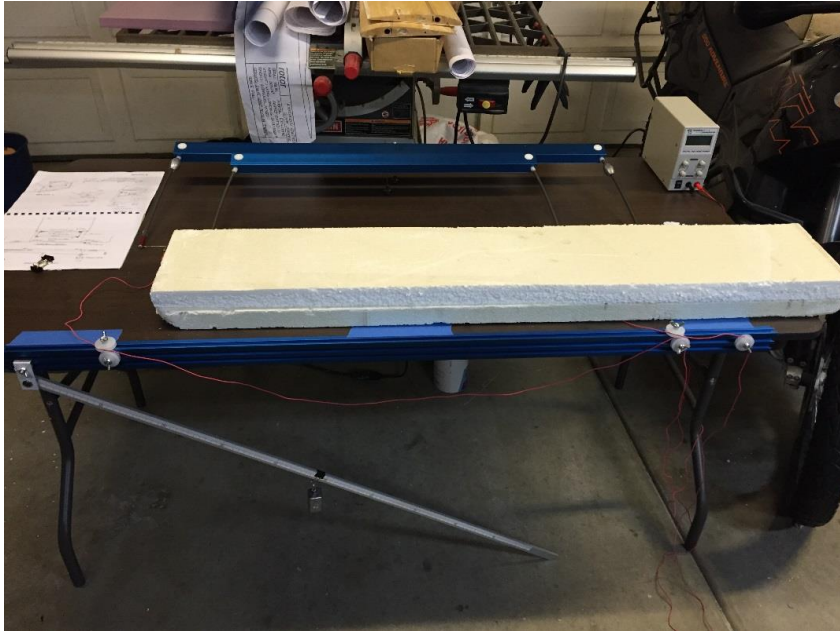
## Tekoa Feathercut – (continued)

I previously bought a Tekoa Feathercut, off E-bay (again) new and unused. Saved about \$100 bucks. It came with everything needed except for a larger bow to cut 3 foot panels. I ordered that directly from Tekoa. Come to find out, Roger (owner inventor) lives only 20 minutes from me. We arranged for pickup and saved shipping cost. I had months to read, and re-read the instructions before my collapsible table arrived and I was finally ready to cut some panels. Two of templates I made are shown next to the Thermal generator. I started with two rib templates from a Wanderer which also had a flat bottomed airfoil.



Matched the closest sizes to the original wing saddles that came with the kit. Just plan for an upper and lower using the same attachment points and offset the lower profile for the wire thickness. . I bought a sheet of Formica laminate sheet that was damaged from Lowes for only \$2.00. I now have enough Formica for templates to last me the rest of my life. The foam I got came from my late Father. He had three sheets of 1-1/2" thick 4' x 8' panels up in the rafters of his garage. Everything gathered and assembled per the instructions and ready to start. I rough cut some slabs of foam with a box knife but need to trim down to finish dimensions. I used the smaller included Bow for the ends and the larger, purchased separate Bow for the long sides. You just hang the foam over the edge and set the bow wire across where you want to cut and let gravity do the work.

## Tekoa Feathercut – (continued)



Feather cut system set-up on collapsible table due to limited



Cutting the ends with the small bow. I set up some soft foam bumpers in case I drop the bow. Roger say's run current to top, adjust voltage to control heat. You can see the clean cut the Sizzle wire produces. It is NOT ni-chrome wire but an Inconel wire which is expensive but far superior in hot applications.

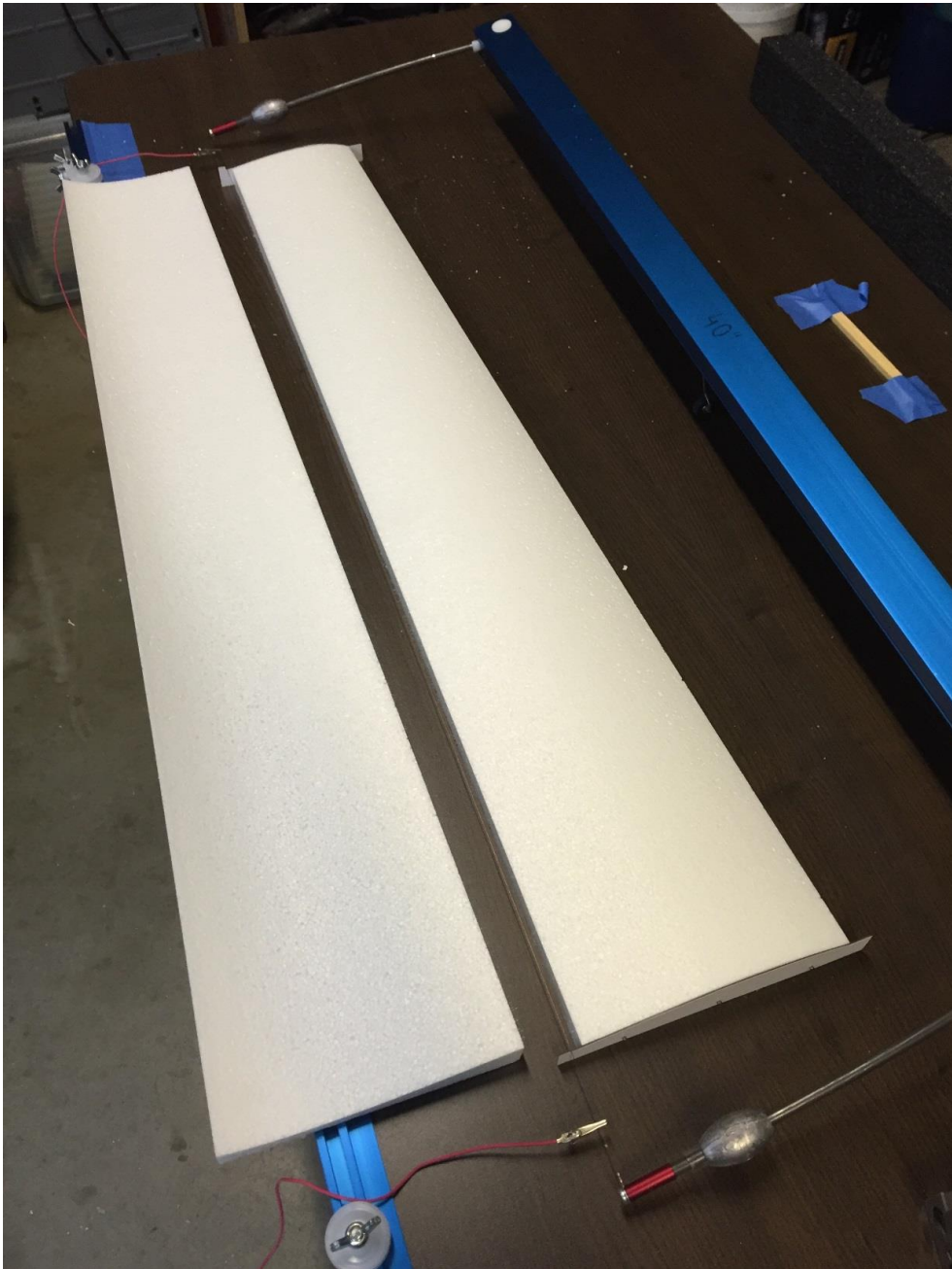
## Tekoa Feathercut – (continued)



I included a movie (<https://youtu.be/2hpTAyLq2xg>) of cutting the long edge. You can see how quick the process is. You must be careful not to touch the wire as it will be HOT!! I keep my finger on the power switch and use the other hand to catch the bow after it breaks through the bottom. The trailing edge is square to the root so identify and mark the blanks at the right angle corners so you don't cut them backwards.



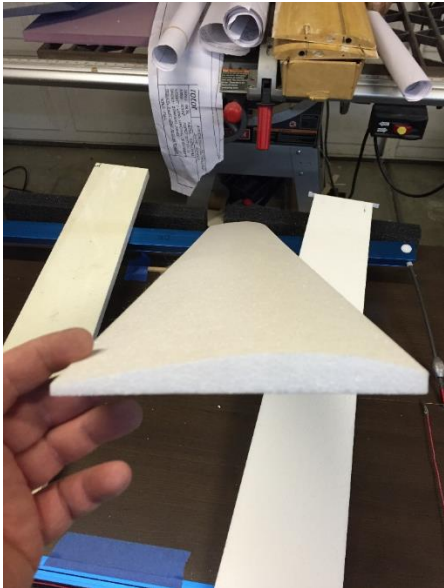
## Tekoa Feathercut – (continued)



Follow the instructions for a tapered panel. My results were (one pull cable set at 100% second set @ 72%). Results after first cut, Left panel, upper surface. Perfect cut, nice and clean. Watch the lower surface cut movie:

<https://youtu.be/9uE39nmfVv4>

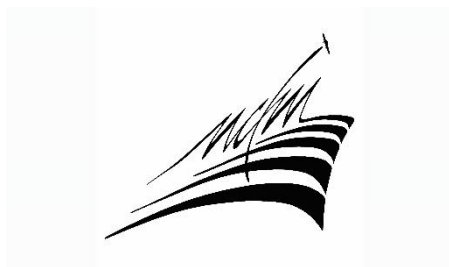
### Tekoa Feathercut – (continued)



## 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 website 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 AND will appear on the following year's club membership card). 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.



New artificial turf installed at the Torrey Pines Gliderport picnic table/pit area by L-R: Ray, Kevin, Mike, Sean, Robert (Ray P. & Kevin B.)



**January Winner** - Mr. Robert (Peterson) & son Cam flying their Skua at Torrey (Greg Houck)

### Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Plane mounted camera view from Phil Davy's Xperience Pro Carbon 3.3 at Torrey



Camera catches Phil flying the Xperience



Come to papa!



**February Winner** – Phil Davy's Xperience Pro Carbon 3.3 camera view flying inverted over Torrey

### Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Screenshot – Ka-8 DS'ing at Bill's Hill (Phil Davy)



Screenshot – Ka-8 DS'ing at Bill's Hill (Phil Davy)



February 6, 2016 Torrey Fun Fly (Ian Cummings)

### Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Kat's Spirit Elite with seagull in pursuit at Torrey (Ian Cummings)



Kat's Spirit Elite with seagull at Torrey (Ian Cummings)



Kat flying his Spirit



**March Winner** – Sunlight under a Spirit Elite and a Torrey Pines Gull (Ian Cummings)

### Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Launching foamies at the Torrey Classic Slope Race (Ian Cummings)



Launching moldies at the Torrey Classic Slope Race (Ian Cummings)



Tight turn at the Torrey Classic Slope Race (Ian Cummings)

### Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Torrey Sunset (Ray Pili)



**April Winner** – Torrey before El Niño Squall (Ray Pili)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



**May Winner** – Shelby the Slope Dog at Torrey (Bob Scheidt)



The joy of DLG (Cliff Hunter)



WeaselFest (Greg Houck)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



B-24 Witchcraft on approach about 1.5 miles out at John Wayne Airport (Pete Rissman)  
Pete has one SERIOUS lens!!!



**June Winner** – WeaselFest (Greg Houck)

## Club Officers and Contact Information

|                          |               |  |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|
| President                | Dan Cummins   | <a href="mailto:TPGulls@gmail.com">TPGulls@gmail.com</a>                   |
| Vice-President           | Ian Cummings  | <a href="mailto:icummings@earthlink.net">icummings@earthlink.net</a>       |
| Past President           | Dan Cummins   | <a href="mailto:TPGulls@gmail.com">TPGulls@gmail.com</a>                   |
| Secretary                | To be filled  |  |
| 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>         |
| Communications           | Dale Gottdank | <a href="mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com">dgottdank@gmail.com</a>               |
| Winch Master             | Mark Canfield | <a href="mailto:mcanfield5@roadrunner.com">mcanfield5@roadrunner.com</a>   |
| F3K 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       | To be filled  |  |
| Webmaster                | Steve Hurd    | <a href="mailto:steve@torreypinesgulls.org">steve@torreypinesgulls.org</a> |
| Historian                | Gary Fogel    | <a href="mailto:garyfogel@gmail.com">garyfogel@gmail.com</a>               |
| TP Soaring Council (TPG) | Ray Pili      | <a href="mailto:rpili2001@gmail.com">rpili2001@gmail.com</a>               |
| TP Soaring Council (AMA) | To be filled  |  |

Dan Cummins  
President

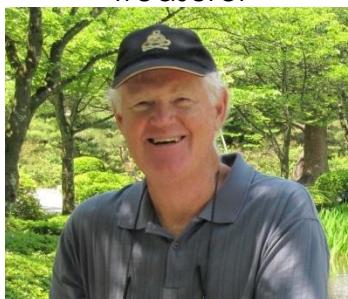


Ian Cummings  
Vice- President



Secretary

Don Lockhead  
Treasurer





## Quote of the Month:

*“A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken”*

*~James Dent – author, sportswriter*



Torrey Sunset – Photo by Marty Dine