



GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2019

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank

Message from the President

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Craig Hanson

Hello Gulls!

We all enjoyed some great conditions at the Gliderport last month with all the storms passing through. Unfortunately, it wasn't so good for the TD contests, which have been repeatedly rained out.

Three gentlemen from Colorado made their annual visit last weekend to Torrey Pines Gliderport. Brad Wessenfes, Steve Mortimer and Ernie Stoos came hauling a trailer full of airplanes. They had good winds on the 23rd and 24th. It was fun to listen to their conversations as they were flying having a good old time. Check out my photo of them in the Photo of the Month Contest.

Keep an eye on the upcoming events in this newsletter and on the website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

See you out there!

Blue Skies and West Winds,

Craig Hanson
TPG President
tpgulls@gmail.com

Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

The Torrey Pines Gulls hosts monthly contests, fun-fly events, LSF (League of Silent Flight)) Soaring Accomplishment Program 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 and on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at:

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



Newsletter This Month - Dale Gottdank



Dale Gottdank

Please contribute to our [GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER](#)

Send pictures, or maybe even an article! It could be just a paragraph with some photos from a great soaring day ...even something interesting you've seen 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'll be continuing our series by Gary Fogel on the club's history, with 1986 Modeler of the Year, Steve O'Leary; and make sure you're connected with our Torrey Pines Gulls Club Forum on RCGroups (see page 5).

Please send in your articles or photos (dgottdank@gmail.com) by the **25th** of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter. If there are too many, we'll save them for the next issue. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>.

Club Membership Update – Bill Eckles



Bill Eckles

Hi Gulls!

Membership activity has slowed dramatically, but we're off to a good start. As of Sunday, we have 83 active memberships, about as many as last year. We added one more today and are eager to acquire a young man the likes of which I haven't experienced, here or back in OC.

I've been speaking mostly with his mother, but he has expressed a strong desire to pilot planes like he has made in the recent past. His name is Neil Tong and I have encouraged him and his mom to come down to the Gliderport soon and promised we would have someone there to counsel him in the rudiments of motor-less flight and the equipment he will need. He would be the youngest of our members at 12 years old, yet his enthusiasm seems to make up for his lack of experience. So, if a young man is awkwardly lurking around the pilot box and acting uneasy about approaching you, please make him comfortable and perhaps, acquire a new friend and fellow flier. I'll try to join him and his mom in an orientation visit, but if they beat me to it, please fill in for me.

We're looking forward to another good year of flying and friendship

Happy flying,

Bill Eckles

Membership Chairman

tunabiker1@hotmail.com



January 2019 Fun Fly (Dale Gottdank photo)

Club Membership Update (continued)

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
- ✓ An interesting monthly newsletter with current information to help keep members informed
- ✓ We are an AMA Chartered Club, #129, with benefits such as field Insurance, etc.

Dues are as follows:

For the membership (calendar) year, for submissions during:

- ✓ January through June \$60
- ✓ July through September \$30
- ✓ October through December \$60 (gives you a jump on next year)
- ✓ Full-time students \$30 per year
- ✓ Juniors under 15 years \$5 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 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.

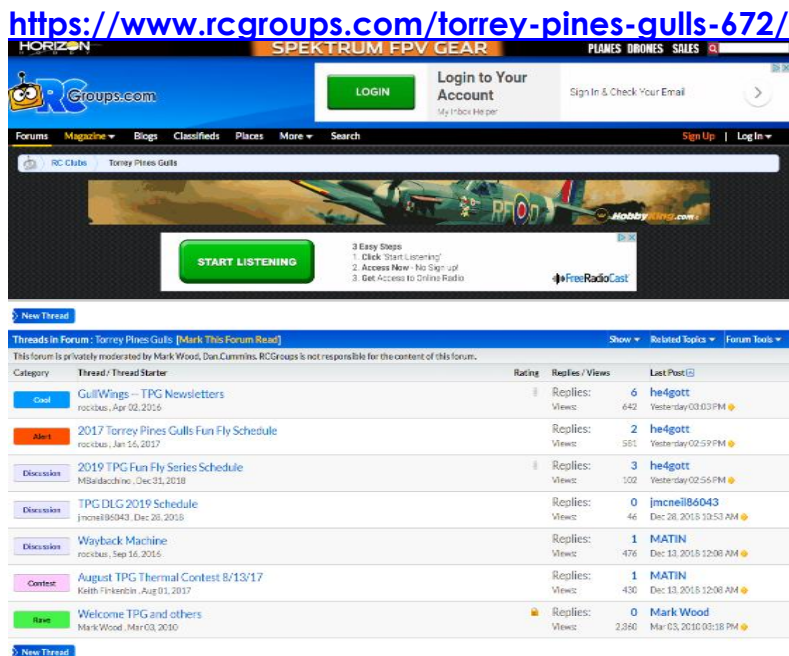
RCGroups – Torrey Pines Gulls Forum

Are you a member of ?

If you're not...**you should be!** RCGroups is the most widely used and active online Radio Control Community for everything RC, from planes to cars, to boats, drones, radios, power systems...pretty much anything RC! It includes forums, specific interest threads, blogs, discussions, etc....and, more importantly, The Torrey Pines Gulls Forum.

To get started, click on the link or web page below to get to the TPG Club forum. You can also get there from the **Clubs** link at the lower right of the RCGroups home page and scroll down to Torrey Pines Gulls.

<https://www.rcgroups.com/torrey-pines-gulls-672/>



The screenshot shows the RCGroups website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'FORUMS', 'MAGAZINE', 'BLOGS', 'CLASSIFIEDS', 'PLACES', and 'MORE'. A 'LOGIN' button is prominently displayed, along with a 'Sign Up' link. Below the navigation, there is a banner for 'SPEKTRUM FPV GEAR' and 'PLANES DRONES SALES'. The main content area features a 'START LISTENING' button and a list of forum threads. The threads are listed in a table with columns for 'Category', 'Thread / Thread Starter', 'Rating', 'Replies / Views', and 'Last Post'.

Category	Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Replies / Views	Last Post
Club	GullWings – TPG Newsletters roccles, Apr 02, 2016		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccles, Jan 16, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 551	he4gott Yesterday 02:59 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule MBaradachino, Dec 31, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 102	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcneil86043, Dec 28, 2018		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcneil86043 Dec 28, 2018 10:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccles, Sep 16, 2016		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Pinkerton, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:06 AM
Item	Welcome TPG and others MarkWood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,840	Mark Wood Mar 03, 2010 03:18 PM

If you haven't yet joined RCGroups, click on the **Sign Up** link at the upper right and follow the instructions.

Once you've navigated to the Torrey Pines Gulls Forum, you can subscribe to the Forum or to any of the individual threads within the Forum.

To subscribe to the Forum, click the **Forum Tools** link and select "Subscribe to This Forum" from the dropdown menu. Then choose from the notification dropdown menu. If you want to subscribe to a specific thread, click to open the thread, and click the **Thread Tools** link. Select "Subscribe to This Thread" from the dropdown menu. Again, choose from the notification dropdown menu.

Unlike the Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

What do **YOU** think?

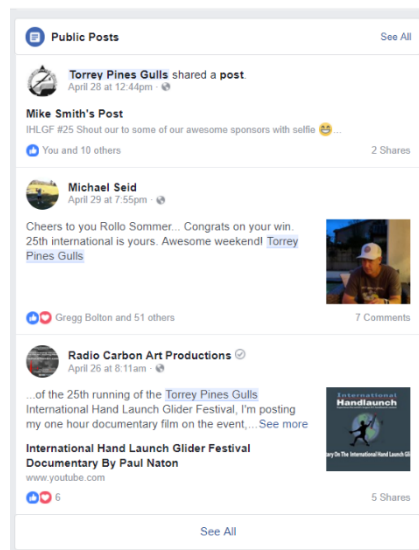
You can express your opinion at: www.torreypinesgulls.org.

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

If you haven't had a chance yet, check out our TPG Facebook page by clicking the links below:

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



Join the Yahoo Forum!

The Yahoo forum was formed Oct. 18th, 1999 by club member Lenny Brzezinski. 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.torreypinesgulls.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**.

Club Flying Site Panoramas – Ian Cummings

Here are Ian Cummings' immersive panoramas of our world class flying sites; the world famous Torrey Pines Gliderport, Poway Flight Center, where each year the club sponsors the IHLGF (International Hand Launch Glider Festival) and the Encinitas Flight Center. Clicking on the pictures takes you to our sites:

Click on this photo to visit the Torrey Pines Gliderport.



Click on this photo to visit the TPG Poway Flight Center.



Click on this photo to visit the TPG Encinitas Flight Center.



News from the Slope – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



Mark Baldacchino

Hi Gulls!

February was a pretty rainy month, which brought us the much needed rain, and plenty of wind at times. A few brave souls made it to the cliff during the weeks and on weekends, which gave some of us an excuse to ditch work or school. Battling a three week long cold, and avoiding the rain in February, gave me a chance to do some homework and get my stuff together, especially on **SAFETY**.



February green, my Blaster 3 DLG, and Shelby. A perfect day to maiden. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

Speaking of green; being that I'm still a bit green to RC sailplanes, I did some homework on our rules at the cliff. Too many times we've been out there and tensions rise between us RCers and the paraglider folks. We all want to have fun and enjoy what we do, but I believe that we all have the same goal, which is **to be safe**. I did some existing rule checking from both the AMA and I found the Gliderport rules as well.

News from the Slope (continued)

SAFETY



TIP

Here are a few yellow highlighted points/ rules that I found on the AMA site:

[Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code](#)

As an AMA member I agree:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's *See and Avoid Guidance* and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.

On the 1st bullet above on "Spotters", there's an AMA Supplement Document #540-D, which I encourage ALL of you to read here. Probably a good idea to print it out to keep handy:

- <https://www.modelaircraft.org/sites/default/files/540-D.pdf>

On the 2nd bullet above, I'm asking for cooperation from the few of you that I've seen in a landing pattern come in between the mound and the glider shack to the south. There's usually too many people in this area to not follow that rule above. Rather, come in to the LZ between the mound and our RC parking lot to the north.

I then found a set of rules that are provided from the Torrey Pines Gliderport, found here:

<https://www.flytorrey.com/site-rules/>



Here are a few things I'd like to point out that are for both the Paragliders & us RC'ers:

News from the Slope (continued)

ALL FLIGHT OPERATIONS

1. All pilots must be USHPA members and have in their possession while flying, their USHPA membership card or a temporary 30-day USHPA membership card issued by the Torrey Pines Gliderports shop.
2. All pilots must have all required waivers on file that are no more than 1-year old, show proof of rating and sign-in at the Flight Operations Center each day prior to flying.
3. All pilots must sign-in prior to flying.
4. Paragliding, hang gliding and sail plane pilots must fly with a two (2)- meter radio, set to the pilot emergency frequency.
5. Preflight your glider and harness and lock in. Due to the convenience of the launch this is easy to forget.
6. Helmet, whistle, radio, and reserve parachute are required for all flights.
7. Immediately prior to launch, announce intended direction of launch to RC pilots, then sound your whistle loud and clear.
8. Only ONE glider in the window at a time.
9. You must blow your whistle loud and clear when entering the window and every few seconds while transitioning through the window.
10. No turning or loitering in the window – it is prioritized airspace for RC model use only.
11. Northbound glider has right of way.
12. Yield to the right.
13. Announce intended landings and sound whistle loud and clear prior to final approach.
14. Launch and land in designated areas only.
15. Gliders must be parked well clear of landing area.
16. When kiting your paraglider, please drop the glider to the ground when other gliders are on final approach.
17. Only safe landings will be tolerated. No low altitude approaches, no flying through the landing area.
18. No low altitude flying over spectators or car.
19. No flying over the RC model set up area.
20. All turns should be away from the cliffs.
21. Lower glider has the right of way.
22. Whistle must be carried by pilots at all time.
23. No alcohol or intoxicating substances prior to flying.
24. All tandem instructional flights must be cleared by the Flight Director.
25. No flight shall go above 1500ft from launch altitude (300ft above Mean Sea Level). Controlled airspace (Class B) begins at 1800ft MSL

HANG GLIDER & PARAGLIDER OPERATIONS

1. All pilots must be USHPA members
2. Hang glider pilots must have an USHPA Advanced (H-4) or equivalent foreign rating at the least. Paraglider pilots must have a USHPA Intermediate (P-3) or equivalent foreign rating. Intermediate rated Paraglider pilots must have at least 50 hours of air time, demonstrable in their log book. Tandem flights require a USHPA Tandem Rated pilot and permission of the Torrey Pines Gliderport Flight Director.
3. Preflight your glider and harness and lock in. Due to the convenience of the launch this is easy to forget.
4. Helmets, reserve chute, radio and whistle are required on all flights.
5. The "Window" (See map for North and South Window boundary flags) extends from the beach upward with no altitude limits and East and West with no limits. It is primarily for Radio Controlled aircraft flying.
 - Only one hang glider or paraglider shall be in the Window at a time.
 - Fly straight through the Window. No turning or loitering while in the Window.
 - Sounding a whistle communicates your location to the RC pilots, other pilots and spectators. Sounding a whistle and announcing your intentions is for your safety and the avoidance of accidents.
6. Immediately prior to launch, announce your intended direction and sound your whistle loudly.
7. Prior to entering the Window announce your flight direction and sound your whistle loudly. Sound your whistle several times while transiting the Window.
8. Prior to landing, announce your intended landing and sound your whistle loudly.
9. Standard right-of-way rules apply:
 - Head-on: Stay to the right. Northbound glider has the right-of-way.
 - Converging: Glider on right has the right-of-way.
 - Overtaking: Pass on the cliff side. Slower glider has the right-of-way.
 - On approach or landing: Lower glider has the right-of-way.
10. Launch and land only in designated areas.
11. No "touch and goes" or flying through the landing area.
12. Do not loiter, kite or park your glider in the launch or landing areas.
13. No flying or landing north of Bathtub Rock.
14. No flying or landing south of the Scripps Pier.
15. No landing south of the Life Guard Access Road (horizons).
16. No intentional beach landings (sled rides) unless approved by the Flight Director.
17. All pilots must fly with cell phones and/or radios and notify the staff of emergency and/or non-intentional beach landings.
18. Pilots violating these policies may receive a citation and/or have their flight privileges suspended.

News from the Slope (continued)

➤ For us RC'ers

RADIO CONTROLLED MODELS OPERATIONS

1. Radio Control pilots must be AMA members. Before soloing each pilot must demonstrate their ability to safely fly their aircraft to the Flight Director or his designated representative.
2. Beginning pilots are permitted to fly only with the assistance of an experienced pilot.
3. Radio Controlled aircraft must be operated in accordance with the AMA safety codes. An experienced pilot must check new aircraft before they're first flight.
4. All transmitters must meet current FCC and AMA guidelines.
5. Only Torrey Pines Flight Authorization Cards are allowed on the frequency board (one card per frequency, the transmitter being turned on only while the card is posted on a proper frequency). Limit flight time to 15 minutes if another pilot requests your frequency.
6. Radio controlled aircraft may be flown anywhere along the cliff, but have primary use of the Window area. Always keep "Blue Sky" between your aircraft and all other aircraft. Listen for whistles from hang gliders and paragliders. Give man-carrying aircraft the right-of-way. Do not fly at or near man-carrying aircraft.
7. All RC pilots must have a spotter/observer to monitor and inform the pilot regarding air traffic during full-scale glider operations. During times of heavy hang glider / paraglider operations the Flight Director may require RC pilots to have a spotter/observer. The requirement for having a spotter/observer must be conspicuously posted near the RC frequency board.
8. When there are pilots near the cliff edge, all launches must be from the cliff edge except for test glides or hi-start/winch launches remote from the RC pit area. RC pilots shall fly their aircraft from a position where they can observe the hang glider and paraglider launching area, except when landing their aircraft in the eastern RC landing area. Hi-start/winch launches must be coordinated with other flight operations.
9. RC models will NOT be launched or flown from any other location within two miles of the Torrey Pines Gliderport. This includes the UCSD Biological Reserve, Horizons (the Burial Grounds) and North Face.

So in conclusion to my homework, and being relatively new to this sport, I see that the rules are already in place, and there's no need to reinvent the wheel. My next steps are to join with our council & President and meet with the Gliderport owner/ Management to come to an agreement on following these rules. I believe if both sides follow the rules, there will be less to no tension, achieve our goals of safety, and all have a great time. I don't believe all of this will happen overnight, but it's time to get the ball rolling. More to come, but until then, let's do our part with obeying the Blue Sky Rule and let's chip in to be spotters.



(Mike Smith photo)

News from the Slope (continued)

Another note of interest:

You all probably received an email from AMA recently to register with the FAA. It's called the **Interim Final Rule** and can be found here:

<https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=93045>

There are two ways to register, and it's really an easy process – takes 5 minutes, costs \$5 and is good for 3 years.

Just create an account here: <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>

Choose Part 336. This choice registers the pilot with one number that's applied to all of your planes. The other choice is Part 107, which registers every plane that you have at \$5/ea. Which can get quite pricey.

See you all on March 23rd, and lets have a brew or two afterwards!

Torrey Pines Gliderport Schedule:

- Mar 23rd – Followed by Happy Hour @ AleSmith Brewery
- Apr 7th Sunday/ April 14th Backup day – Torrey Pines Classic F3F Race. Open to all, register on the Vault.
- May 25th – Foamies
- June 1st - Katie Martin Int'l Tribute – Not a Gulls Only Fun Fly event, but International Event
- July 27th – TWF/PNF – that's Twisty Wings & Pointy Nosed birds
- Aug 24th – Scalies
- Sept 21st – Old School Vintage/ Crunchies
- Nov 23rd – No Shopping Saturday

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino

Slope Coordinator

mbaldacchino@san.rr.com

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration

TD Coordinator – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

For thermal duration contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>

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/february-thermal-duration-4-4/?instance_id=360, or contact Cliff Hunter at cfhunter@att.net

Hand Launch / DLG

DLG Coordinator – Gary Fogel



Gary Fogel

For DLG contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>

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 Gary Fogel at gfogel@natural-selection.com

Additional information will be shown in the F3X Vault site (https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=location&function=location_view&location_id=2002) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc. and in this RCGroups thread: <https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3176895-2019-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series>

Thermal Duration Contest Report – Cliff Hunter

The thermal duration contest for Encinitas on February 10, 2019 was cancelled due to rain and field restriction after a rain storm. The weather has stopped us from flying TD for December 2018, January 2019, and February 2019. The field is extremely wet with standing water as of today!

All TD contests are held at the Encinitas flying site, located at 2099 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas, CA 9204 – old landfill. There are two gates with keyed access. The following are Encinitas Field Regulations:

- Radio Controlled Sailplanes Only – NO Power or Electric flying allowed
- Club Members in good standing only – Guests welcome
- Gates shall remain locked for landfill security.
- Hours of Operation 8am – 6pm 7, days a week
- No flying within 100 feet of power lines located to the north and over the homes, west, and south of the field
- No flying entry to site after a rain of ¼ inch or more for at least 5 full days
- Maintenance will occur between the hours of 8am – 5pm Monday –Friday.
- No Driving on the landfill – stay on roadway or defined parking areas
- Wells & Methane piping shall be protected at all times from damage by sailplanes. No climbing or driving on or near methane system
- Please maintain a peaceful and quiet flying area.
- Remove your trash and put in trash cans at site.
- For Emergencies, dial 9-1-1 Field location is 2099 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas, CA 92024.
- For TPG Club needs or concerns, please contact Field Safety Officer Cliff Hunter at 760-703-4497.

Torrey Pines Gulls Thermal Duration Contest Schedule 2019

Date	Contest Director*	Comments/Tasks
December 9, 2018	Cliff Hunter	Canceled due to rain
January 13, 2019	Cliff Hunter	Canceled due to rain
February 10, 2019	Cliff Hunter	Canceled due to rain
March 10, 2019	Tom Watson	Tasks -TBD
April 14, 2019	Steve Condon	Tasks -7,8,9,10
May 5, 2019	Open*	
June 9, 2019	Open*	
July 14, 2019	Tom Watson	Tasks TBD
August 11, 2019	Open*	
September 8, 2019	Open*	
October 13, 2019	Open*	
November 10, 2019	Open*	
December 15, 2019	Open*	Rain Date

*We are looking for, and need CD'S for Contest Director open months.

Thermal Duration Contest Report (continued)



The following is the contest format we use:

- Thermal Duration Spring Contest, may be AMA sanctioned, AMA cards required to fly.
- Pilots Meeting: 8:45 am
- Entry Fee: \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 non-members **Contest Director** does not pay the entry fee! All fees go to maintenance of the equipment and field.
- Contest Starts: 9:00 am; ends around noon.
- Field mowed grass or dirt depending on the time of year
- Three Classes: Masters, Experts and Sportsman
- Computer Scoring at the field

Tasks: normally are 4 rounds, time in the air soaring, in minutes.

Scoring: normally 900 flight points and 100 landing points.
The task and scoring are determined by the Contest Director (CD)

DLG Contest Report – Don Lochhead

Congratulations to first place finisher Justin. Gary and Sean followed with just 14 points and 61 points of separation.

Forecast was for windy conditions but wind never really materialized. Lift was out there but lots of punishing sink was also to be found as shown by multiple land-outs and times when a relaunch into sure lift turned disastrous. Conditions really rewarded good decision making and cost you otherwise.

We talked about maybe making the March contest an afternoon event to provide some much needed practice flying in afternoon conditions - stay tuned for a decision.

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)						Sub	Drop	Pen	Percent	
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6					
1	3 Justin Tolman 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	5886		1000	1000	990	1000	1000	896			5886		100%
2	2 Gary Fogel 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	5872	-14	1000	984	1000	1000	937	951			5872		100%
3	9 Sean Porter 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	5811	-61	972	1000	870	969	1000	1000			5811		99%
4	6 Dan Gebhardt 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	5443	-368	977	980	534	952	1000	1000			5443		92%
5	7 John McNeil 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	5242	-201	865	1000	1000	1000	823	554			5242		89%
6	4 Chuck Norris	5030	-212	833	855	816	719	1000	907		100	5130	100	85%
7	8 Dale Osborn 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	4061	-969	787	804	724	240	913	593			4061		69%
8	1 Don Lochhead 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	3718	-343	904	796	762	443	240	573			3718		63%
9	5 Cliff Hunter 🇺🇸 🇮🇪	3311	-407	619	819	493	0	533	847			3311		56%



Freshly mowed (thanks to Cliff Hunter and the missus) and VERY green Poway field (Ray Pili photo)

LSF Report – Ian Cummings



Unfortunately, the LSF event scheduled for February 9 was cancelled due to morning rain showers. It cleared in time for us to have the combat session at the Poway slope in the afternoon. We actually got some flyable lift on the slope and put in some good combat flying. I think the head count was around 13-15 RC pilots. It's ironic; when you put a bunch of planes in the air, fly random and reckless patterns, and try to hit each other; it's hard to have a mid-air collision. That said, we had only two pilots score a kill in the competition, Chuck Norris and Ian Cummings; and no broken planes that I'm aware of. There were a number of bumps here and there, but most were able to fly them out. There was certainly lots of laughing and good camaraderie. If you haven't flown combat before, it's a lot of fun. Now's the time to start working on a wing (if you don't already have one) for the next session. I hope we'll do it again.

Next 2019 LSF Attempt Day

- Apr 13

As a reminder, this chart is a list of tasks for each level of LSF. If you are a competent RC Pilot, Level 1 should be easily achievable. I still think a ringer can complete Level 1 in one day. Start out at Poway and knock out the landing and thermal tasks then head to Torrey for the easy-peasy slope task. It would be nice for someone to take on this challenge and maybe write an article for the AMA magazine.

Section 12 - SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

Requirements	Primary	Intermediate			Advanced
	I	II	III	IV	V
Thermal Duration	5 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes	1 hour	2 hours
Slope Duration	15 minutes*	1 hour*	2 hours*	4 hours*	8 hours
Precision Spot Landings	5 landings 3m (9.84ft) or less	10 landings 1.5m (4.92ft) or less	None	None	None
Goal and Return	None	None	1 km (0.62 mile)	2 km (1.24 miles)	10 km (6.2 miles)
Competition	None	6 contests** with 1 place or 3,000 points	6 contests** with 2 places or 4,500 points	6 contests** with 2 places and 1 win or 6,000 points	6 contests** with 12,000 points Including 3 wins

*A second thermal flight which meets the basic Thermal Duration requirement for this Level may be flown in lieu of the Slope Duration requirement. However, the second thermal flight may not be flown on the same day as the first.

Here's a link to the Voucher Form and explanation of the Soaring Accomplishments Program of the League of Silent Flight.

<https://www.silentflight.org/images/documents/LSF-BLUE-SHEET-DEC-2018.pdf>

Blue Skies,

Ian Cummings for Ray Pili

LSF Coordinator

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TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel



This Month: Steve O'Leary, 1986 Modeler of the Year

Steven O'Leary came to the TPG in the late 1970s/early 1980s. Early on, Steve was a prolific writer for the newsletter, and was well trained in aerodynamics. In the 1970s, it was primarily Ken Banks that kept the club moving forward in terms of aerodynamics knowledge. By the early 1980s, Steve O'Leary was filling those large shoes very capably (some issues had articles from both Steve and Ken – those were great!). For instance, his article in the May 1982 issue was on wing bending, to show the membership how it is possible to calculate the load at any portion of wing during a winch launch and therefore to know how strong it has to be to survive. (This in the era of folding balsa spar wings on increasingly powerful electric winches...) Pepper Kay was the newsletter editor at this time and definitely benefitted from O'Leary's writing. . Some of Steve's other works included a paper on material properties (June 1982) and a two-part story on wing spar construction and strength (August and Sept 1982). The articles generated a lot of interest in the local competition crowd.

Steve also regularly attended the club monthly thermal duration contests, in both open and 2-meter classes, which were popular in the early 1980s. Steve finished in 5th overall for 2-meter in 1982, helped arrange SC² contests in 1983 as the club contest chairman. Steve also competed on the slope, enjoying races at Torrey in 1983, the Redman Rules contest in July 1983 (he finished in 4th place), and again in 1984. For those of you not familiar with Redman Rules, they are a contest format started by a TPGer (Mike/Mark? Redman) including beer can bowling, limbo, combat (with



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

paper streamers), and carrier landing...fun stuff. He also would partake in the annual “build and fly” contest at Torrey Pines where contestants started the day with a pile of balsa donated by Mark Smith and the first to soar and land successfully would end the contest.

In 1985, Steve O’Leary volunteered to serve as TPG President. At the January 1985 thermal duration contest he placed first in both open and 2-meter! He did really well that year, doing a lot for contests of all types, and the club in general. After a one year term, in 1986 he became Contest Coordinator again and also Newsletter Editor, after a period where the editorship went through several editors quickly and sorely needed someone to come in and keep it going strong. Steve was just what the doctor ordered.

In those years, the year-end banquet was actually held in the first quarter of the following year. So for instance the 1986 awards banquet was held in March, to honor the accomplishments of those in 1985. As I mentioned last month, Reg Moore received the Modeler of the Year Award at that time, but the voting was so close that it was nearly a three-way tie between Reg, Steve O’Leary, and Hap Merrifield. In 1986, Steve continued doing a stellar job as editor, while also finishing in 3rd place in both 2-meter and open TD for the year. Thus perhaps rather not surprisingly for so much effort over a good six year span, Steve O’Leary was awarded Modeler of the Year at the annual awards banquet at Pea Soup Anderson’s (now TGI Fridays) in Carlsbad in February of 1987. Steve continued flying with the club into the 1990s – I’m not sure what happened to him, so if you know more please send me a note.

Figure 1. Steve O’Leary at the December 1986 TPG meeting, holding a test section of a wing. He CD’d the “wing structure contest” at that meeting, with five entrants trying different rib/spar combinations to see which was strongest. The wings were load tested at the meeting until failure using a “wing crusher” device. Steve’s design used walnut sheeting over the spar for additional strength. It survived 58 pounds of force before breaking, but that was sufficient only for third place in the contest.



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Figure 2. Reg Moore's test section fared better – surviving 73.4 lbs. of force! You'll remember Reg Moore from last month's column – I finally found his photo!

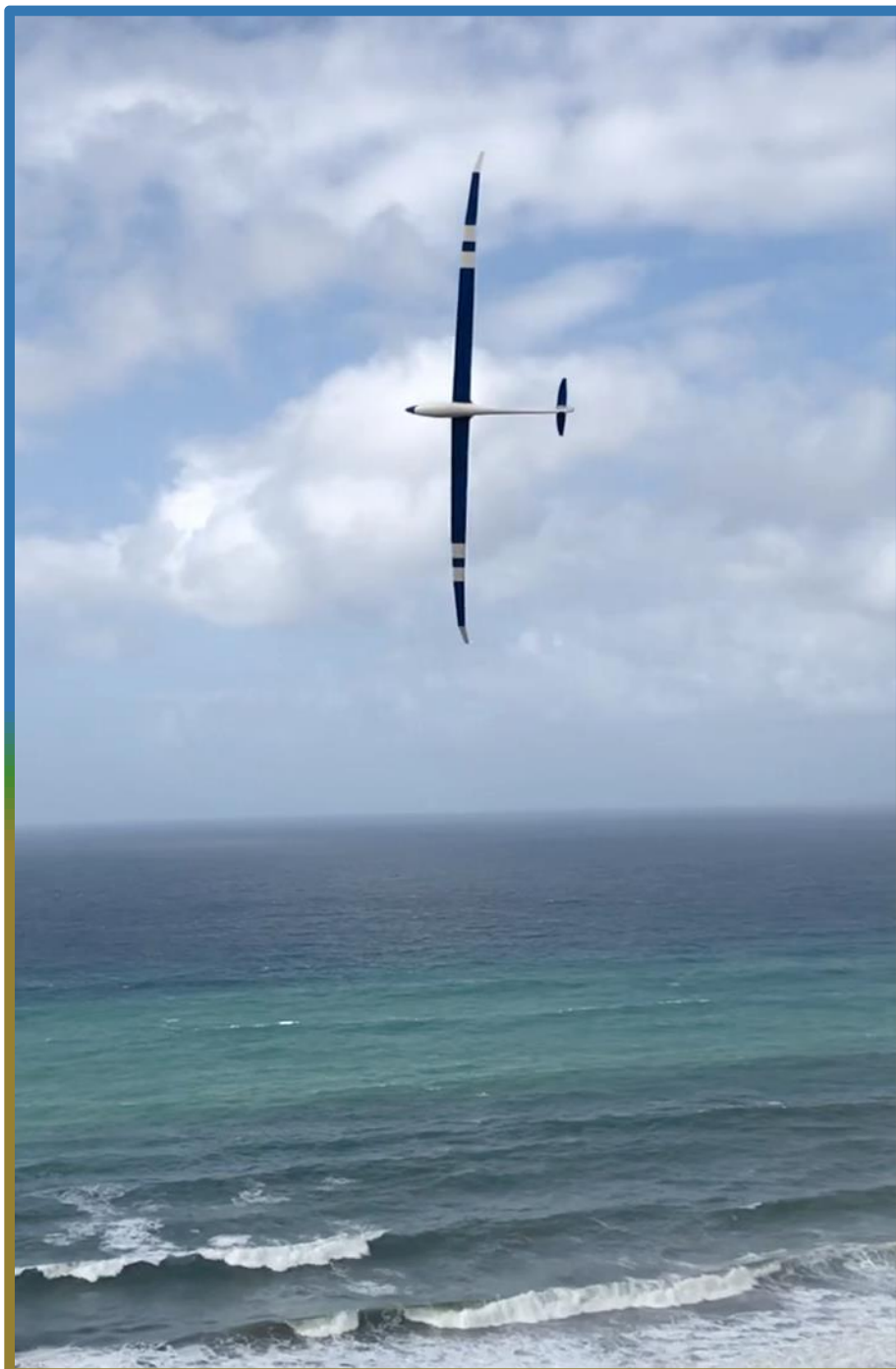
Figure 3. Another Modeler of the Year, John Menard with his test section, didn't fare as well as Moore's – his section with a top and bottom spruce spar and light ply shear web survived only to 64.7 lbs. of force. However, the top competitor in the competition was Ron Conero, who built a continuous spar of spruce with the balsa ribs glued to either side of the shear webbing on the spar. That managed to survive 100 lbs. of force – greater than the maximum that the wing crusher could produce!



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. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



January Winner – Steve Condon's LET JS1 at Torrey (Mike Smith photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



February Winner – Thomas Moller launches Steffen Peters' Arcus (Justin Tolman photo)



Cliff Hunter watching the missus mow the Poway field (Ray Pili photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



UberCraft (North County Flying Machines) Raven over Torrey (Cameron Peterson photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)

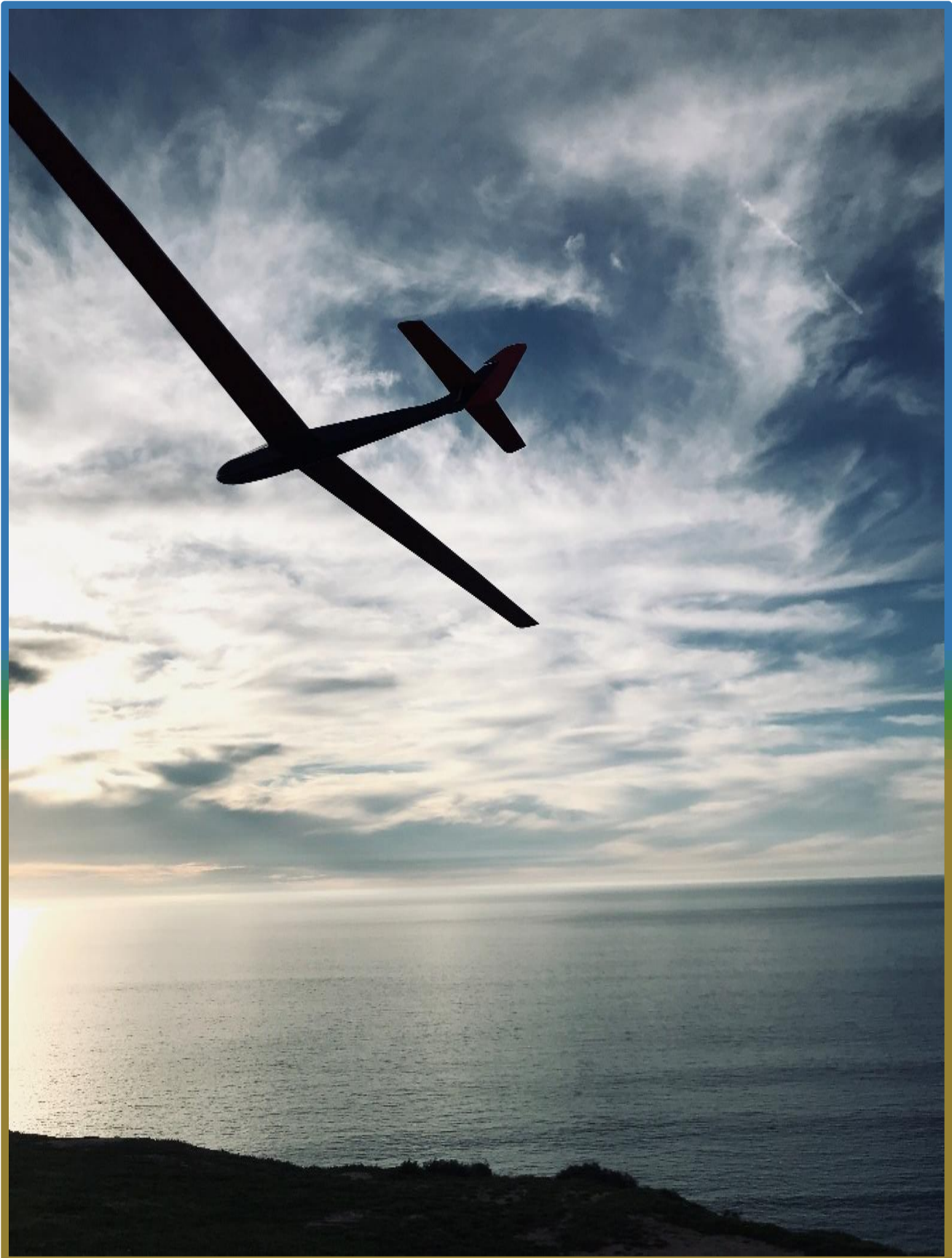


Brad, Steve and Ernie enjoying a beautiful Torrey day (Craig Hanson photo)



Craig Hanson's plan over Torrey (Cameron Peterson photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



March Winner – Craig Hanson's plane over Torrey (Cameron Peterson photo)

Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Craig Hanson	TPGulls@gmail.com
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TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
SC2 Representative	To be filled	

Executive Officers



Craig Hanson



Dale Gottdank



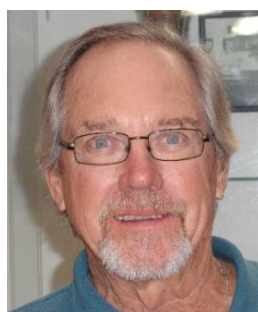
Don Lochhead



Cliff Hunter



Mark Baldacchino



Bill Eckles



Mark Canfield



Quote of the Month:

“It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.”

~ Charles Dickens, Great Expectations



Torrey Sunset – Photo by Marty Dine