



GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2020

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank

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Ian Cummings

Message from the President

It's been a busy month for the TPG board. Thanks go out to Gary Fogel, Tom Watson and Don Lochhead for taking the lead on redrafting our bylaws. As it turns out they were rather outdated and needed some long overdue polishing (the bylaws that is). That's been completed and now only needs to be approved by the members, so please take a moment to cast your vote at the holiday Zoom party. And, yes, you read that correctly. Regrettably, due to COVID restrictions, we will not be having an in-person holiday party this year. We will be having a Zoom version of it on December 8 (details on the following page). Gary has put together some vintage footage and guest interviews for entertainment. We will also be voting on a revision of the Bylaws and board positions for 2021. Details are on the following pages. If you have an interest in filling a position or want to nominate a member (with their approval), please contact any member of the current board right away. That said, all of the incumbents have been nominated and are willing to serve in 2021. Take time ahead to get your webcam working and some beverages of choice in the cooler. Let's party COVID style. Here's to a better year in 2021.

Ian Cummings

BREAKING NEWS

The Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society is featured in the November 30th La Jolla Light newspaper! Click on the image to the right to read all about it!



2020 TPG Holiday Party Plans

The Torrey Pines Gulls usually has an end-of-year meeting in December to celebrate the holidays and another year of flying together as a club. This is also an important meeting for year-end trophies, including the presentation of the TPG Modeler of the Year award.

In light of the current pandemic and restrictions on indoor gatherings, the TPG Board has agreed to have a **special virtual December membership meeting via Zoom on December 8, 2020 at 6:00pm**. This will be the club's first virtual membership meeting. We'll be providing a zoom link as we get closer to the date.

The Board had planned several events around our 50th anniversary as a club in 2020. Those plans were unfortunately scrubbed. However, our own club Historian Gary Fogel has agreed to provide a special historical perspective on the club including photos and home videos most never seen before outside of the Fogel family collection. Additionally Gary is trying to arrange for some of the early TPGers from the 1970s and 1980s to join us in this special celebration as we re-live the early days of the club. Those who have been with the club for a long time will be invited to reflect on their years with the club and what TPG means to them. We might even have a few other special guests lined up. And if the Zoom meeting thing works, we might consider doing a similar format more regularly in 2021.

At that same meeting members will also vote to confirm the 2021 slate of TPG officers, handle any other club business including reviewing plans for the 2021 calendar, and we'll announce the trophy winners virtually with winners receiving their trophies at the first contest of 2021.

So remember to mark December 8 at 6:00pm on your calendars and look for additional information as we get closer to the event!

Important Annual Meeting Notice

Bylaws

TPG members,

The club's Bylaws are in need of a refresh (last revision was completed in 2008). To that end, the Executive Council began work this past summer and developed a comprehensive update which we recently voted to adopt, to become effective January 1, 2021.

The proposed Bylaws must also be ratified by the general membership, and we intend to solicit a vote during the upcoming virtual member meeting on December 8th. Please review the proposal ahead of the meeting and be prepared to vote. The proposed Bylaws and a summary of the changes can be found on the TPG web site here:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/proposed-club-bylaws-revisions/>

Tom Watson
On behalf of the Executive Council

Executive Council

Below is the slate of candidates you will be voting on for the 2021 Executive Council:

President	Ian Cummings
Vice President	Bob Hirsch
Secretary	Dale Gottdank
Treasurer	Don Lochhead
Communications Officer	Dale Gottdank
Thermal Coordinator	Tom Watson
Slope Coordinator	Mark Baldacchino
DLG Coordinator	Chuck Norris
Membership Chairman	Cliff Hunter

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. 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. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club!

November Issue highlights include:

- Important Holiday Party and Annual Meeting information
- Profile of 1995 Modeler of the Year Jerry Fry.
- Photo of the Year Winner

Please send in your articles or photos (submit@torreypinesgulls.org) 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 – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

As of November 25, 2020 we have received 54 renewals of our current members. We currently have a total of 128 total club members for 2020. We welcome all of the renewing members to Torrey Pines Gulls Soaring Society. All renewing members should receive a membership card and key. For the members who slope fly at Torrey Pines and are Torrey Pines rated, you will received a membership card, key and lanyard. You must wear the lanyard and membership card when flying at the Torrey Pines Gliderport, effective January 1, 2021, for safety reasons.

Remember, Life soaring is like a camera, Zoom what's important, capture the good times, and develop the best, and delete the rest.

Please contact me (cfhunter@att.net) if you have not received a 2021 renewal membership card, key and lanyard. The key gives you access to the gates at our Encinitas and Poway flying sites. All flying sites (Torrey Pines Gliderport, Encinitas and Poway) are maintained by club members

Important Membership Change:

There is a new PayPal address for payment of membership fees. When you renew, be sure that your payment is sent to paytpg@torreypinesgulls.org.



James VanWinkle photo

Your yearly membership allows TPG to continue to provide you with:

- Access to three Flying Fields in La Jolla (Torrey Pines Gliderport), Encinitas and Poway.
- Monthly (or thereabouts) fun-fly events held at the world famous Torrey Pines Gliderport, and events at our Poway and Encinitas Flight Centers, 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 RC soaring pilots 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 yearly holiday party to gather with flying buddies, friends and family.
- A website for current and past information www.torreypinesgulls.org
- A monthly newsletter with updated information, contest reports and interesting articles to help keep members informed.
- We are an AMA Chartered Club, #129, with benefits such as field Insurance, etc.

Club Membership Update (continued)

Annual Membership Dues are as follows:

- Adult \$60 per year
- Full-time Students \$30 per year
- Youth under 19 years old (per AMA) \$5 per year
- Receive a credit of up to \$20 on your annual dues. \$10.00 per each half-day working at any TPG flying field

New members joining in the first six months of the year pay the full rate. Those joining in July through September pay half the applicable rate. If you are a new member joining in October through December you pay the full rate but your membership is considered paid through the end of the following year.

Membership Processing Changes:

You should have received a renewal notice using the new TPG Google Group email process. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group you will be sent an individual email. Please use the following link when renewing your membership:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/membership/>

We request online payment via PayPal, which allows payment using PayPal, debit or credit card.

However, if you chose to pay by check or cash, please email me at: cfhunter@att.net and I will mail you a membership application form. When the form is completed, please mail your membership application and payment using the provided preaddressed return envelope to the TPG Treasurer, Don Lochhead.

Cliff Hunter

Membership Chairman

cfhunter@att.net

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

Torrey Pines Gulls 2021 Membership Renewal



Dear Member,

It is time to renew your TPG membership. We want to start off by thanking you for being a member. As a member of the Torrey Pines Gulls you are part of an organization that constantly strives to make our hobby better. Hopefully you will agree that your TPG membership is a great value.

In order to be a TPG member you must first be member of Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA).

TPG dues are as follows:

- Full members (Adult) -\$60 Annual
- Full-time students - \$30 Annual
- Youth under 19 years old -\$5 Annual

Note: Receive a credit of up to \$20 on your annual dues. \$10 per each half-day working at any TPG flying field.

Our club is unique in that we have access to three great flying sites. We host monthly DLG, F5J and TD contests plus periodic fun fly events at the slopes and Poway. Torrey Pines Gulls dues have remained the same for over 10 years so we hope you agree this is one of the best values out there.

Please go to the TPG membership web page to renew your membership.
(<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/membership/>)

Once your renewal is completed you will then be sent your 2021 membership card and a new key for the Encinitas and Poway flying field locks. The 2021 lock will be installed January 1 and the 2020 lock will be removed February 1st 2021.

In an effort to improve our communications we are asking all members to confirm their contact information. In addition, if you have not done so already please provide us with your email address. If you are not already a member of the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an invitation to join. If you join as a member of the private TPG Google group, the club will distribute notifications, newsletters, contest events and holiday party info, etc. This information will keep you informed of all club activities throughout the year. You do not have to have a Gmail address to participate in google groups.

Thank You,

Cliff Hunter, TPG Membership Chairman

Google Groups – Staying Connected

Don't forget to join

For all current and recently joined TPG members:

In the past year, Yahoo Groups announced that it would no longer be supporting groups. In order to maintain a line of communication among members, during 2020 we have established a TPG Google Group.

When you join as a member of the private TPG Google Group, the club will distribute notifications, newsletters, contest events and holiday party info, etc. This information will keep you informed of all club activities throughout the year. You don't need a Gmail address to participate in Google Groups, but you do need to be a member of TPG. When posting information to tpgulls@googlegroups.com the content shall:

1. Be related to TPG or AMA
2. Be related to soaring
3. No commercial content
4. RC items for sale by TPG members is permissible
5. Avoid politics other than actions strictly related to TPG/AMA best interests (e.g., pending FAA actions)



We encourage use of Google Groups for communication between members, questions related to contests, flying, building, etc. Members are able to share links and attachments just like most emails.

Most importantly, when emailing through Google Groups, your actual email address is not visible when notifications are sent out to the club members.

The TPG Communications Officer has authority to suspend/bar a member from Google Group use.

If you are not receiving Google group's emails, contact our club Membership Chairman to make sure he has your current email address. You can confirm this by contacting cfhunter@att.net. If you are not already a member of the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an invitation to join. So, verify that the club has your correct email, make sure you receive an invitation to join Google Groups and sign up!

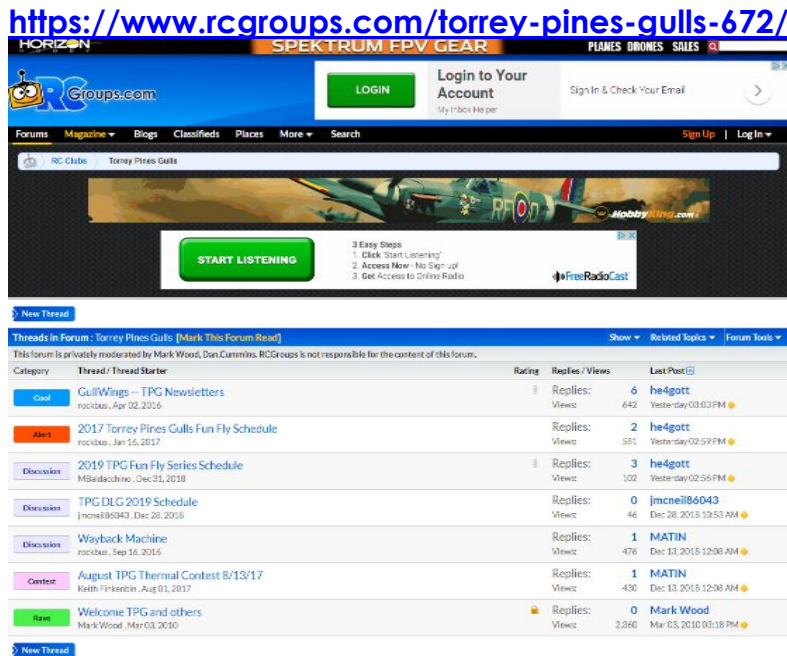
RCGroups – Torrey Pines Gulls Forum

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/>



Category	Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Replies / Views	Last Post
Good	GullWings – TPG Newsletters roccas, Apr 02, 2016		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccas, Jan 16, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 561	he4gott Yesterday 02:59 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule MBarbadoche, Dec 31, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 102	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcnel86043, Dec 28, 2018		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcnel86043 Dec 28, 2018 10:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccas, Sep 16, 2016		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Fikarich, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
None	Welcome TPG and others MarkWood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,860	Mark Wood Mar 03, 2010 02:18 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 old 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 for new content posted by club members and friends.

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

The screenshot displays the Facebook profile for Torrey Pines Gulls. The top navigation bar includes the page name, a search bar, and user options like 'Dale', 'Home', and 'Create'. Below this, there are links for 'Page', 'Inbox', 'Notifications', 'Insights', 'Publishing Tools', 'Ad Center', and 'More'. The main content area features a large image of two individuals working on a large, white and red RC glider in an open field. Below the image are interaction buttons for 'Liked', 'Following', and 'Share', along with an 'Add a Button' option. A 'Create' section offers options for 'Live', 'Event', 'Offer', and 'Job'. A post from 'Torrey Pines Gulls' is visible, dated February 2, 2020, with text about a newsletter and an FAA rule. A 'Visitor Posts' section shows recent posts from Dale Gottdank and Jack Zabawa.

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

Happy December,
TP Gulls!

What a crazy year it's been for a lot of us, BUT what a year it's been for improving our slope

soaring site! So much improvement, and SO much help for you guys has made this a year a memorable one. There's always room for improvement, but we now have added over 2,600 square feet of AstroTurf in the pit area, and a nice sized landing strip. There are a few photos below of before and

After, as well as our last install day when we added four (4) more rolls to the landing strip that were purchased by TPSSS member, Steffen Peters. There will be more opportunities to come out and help maintain the grounds by hacking tumbleweeds, and maybe installing more AstroTurf on the east side of the walking path for even more models and equipment next year. So, keep an eye-out on RCGroups, under Slope/ San Diego Sloping. Before I forget to mention, for about a year, I've been after some signage to place around the perimeter of the parking lot in the LZ to keep passersby from walking through, or camping-out in the LZ. There's a picture below of one of about a dozen signs that came out of nowhere. Upon some investigating, I found out that one of the tandem paraglider pilots, (Jerry) who works for the Gliderport, took it upon himself to make and install these signs. Not only have we R/C'ers had issues landing with people walking aimlessly around in the LZ, but the PG people did, too. It seems like our enthusiasm for site improvement is contagious. ☺ We'll see how this works, and how long the signs last, but there are still plans by the TPSSS club to install a plastic fence all the way around, separating the parking lot and LZ. For now, let's enjoy the fruits of our labor, and hopefully we'll get some wind!



One of about a dozen signs. These are about 18" wide x 12" high. MUCH needed; thanks Jerry! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Pit area before. A couple of large scale planes here took up the whole area. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



After - much more room! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Halloween Day: Our last install day of doubling the width of the landing strip. The two workhorses throughout the whole project; Ray and Carlos. Thanks guys! (Mark Baldacchino photo)



From left to right - Carlos on the tractor, Tom, Ward, Ray, Craig, Walt, Bob, and Ian. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Unrolling with the infill still in the AstroTurf. Four more rolls are going here to double the width. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Our new mini football field. Now, we can have many more planes and more equipment without being in the dirt. Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)

I've also created the 2021 Fun Fly event calendar, below. We realize that, at least the first few, will be cancelled due to COVID, and not being able to have >10 people in close proximity, but at least have something penciled in. Like before, print that page out, cut it to size, and tape/magnet it to your fridge, by your computer, or wherever.

Tentative TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2021:

- Jan 23rd – 2021 Kickoff Event – Not on the same date as the Farmers Open. Bring what you have
- Feb 20th – Fly 'n Swap – A day to fly + Swap Meet. Clean out your garages and make room for more birds
- Mar 13th – Scale Planes – Both TPG & TPSSS Fun Fly Day
- Apr 18th Sunday -This date is tentative, and subject to change - Torrey Pines Classic F3F Race. Open to all, register on the Vault.
- May 8th – Foamies – Ahis, Alulas, KA-8s, Radians – if it's foam, this is your day.
- June 5th - Katie Martin Int'l Tribute – Not a Gulls Only Fun Fly event, but International Event
- July 24th – Aerobatics Day - TWF/ PNF – Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime
- Aug 21st – TPG 50th Anniversary Again. Rescheduled from 2020 -Run-What-You-Brung
- Sept 25st – LSF & Old School Vintage/ Classic Woodies –Balsa BOT's, Olys, Sagittas – whatever is built-up wood
- Oct 23rd – Landing Contest – let's see who's the top three at landing on our new strip. Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd
- Nov 27th – No Shopping Saturday – a couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house

One last item – don't forget that you'll be required to show your TPG membership card at all times while flying that the Gliderport. You should receive a nice lanyard with your membership card, so wear it proudly, let's be safe, and let's have some much needed fun next year!

Stay safe, and Blue Skies!

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino

Slope Coordinator

mbaldacchino@san.rr.com



TPG/TPSSS Lanyards!

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration / F5J

TD Coordinator – Tom Watson



Tom Watson

For Thermal Duration and F5J contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

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

For contest rules, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/torrey-pines-gulls-thermal-competition-rules/>

Also, be sure to look for and subscribe to the RCGroups 2021 TPG TD contest schedule thread for the latest contest news.

or contact Tom Watson at tewatson60@outlook.com

Hand Launch / DLG / F3K

DLG Coordinator – Chuck Norris



Chuck Norris

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/>

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.

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2021 Torrey Pines Gulls DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for the latest contest news.

or contact Chuck Norris at chuck@clnorris.com

Club Competition Activity (continued)

F5J Explained



Mike Smith

Mike Smith

This event is open to all electric sailplanes, so anyone that with an electric model (Radian, Sport model, etc.) can give it a try. However, it is important to state that all airplanes must be equipped with an approved F5J Competition Altimeter.

If you don't have one, SoaringUSA sells several for around \$60. Click here to check out the Altis Nano:

<https://www.soaringusa.com/Altis-Competition-Altimeter-NANO.html>

Entry Fee is \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. Two pilot classes will be flown: *Sportsman and Expert*.

To learn more about F5J, follow this link:

<http://www.f5j-usa.com/f5j-primer/>

For F5J and Thermal Duration contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2021 TPG F5J contest schedule thread for the latest contest news.

or contact Tom Watson at tewatson60@outlook.com

Mike Smith, CD

November F5J Contest Report – Tom Watson CD

November 15th marked the final contest of our 2020 thermal season. Inclement weather on the original date forced us to push the event back a week, and conditions were very good. 28 pilots registered, reflecting how popular the F5J format has become.

We had two no-shows, leaving us with 26 pilots. Since the Poway field is wide enough for just five F5J lanes, six heats per round were required. At 15 minutes per heat (including prep time), this made for 1-1/2 hour rounds and a longer day than normal. It was warm and we saw a wide range of conditions with varying challenges. There was also some attrition throughout the day and just 18 pilots finished all four rounds. Mike Smith won, Mario Scolari was second, and Tom Watson third. Full contest standings are on the following page.

Our COVID procedures (including electronic registration, payments, and competitor scoring on the F3X Vault platform) continue and everything went smoothly once again. Thanks to all the pilots for observing mask and distancing recommendations at the field.

TPG's 2021 event calendar is still under development, with the first TD contest of the year tentatively scheduled for January 10th. See you next year!

Tom Watson
CD



Contest launch (Dale Osborn photo)

November F5J Contest Report (continued)

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)			
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
1	14 Mike Smith 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	4000.00		1000	1000	1000	1000
2	30 Mario Scolari 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3932.81	-67.19	1000	948.74	984.07	1000
3	1 Tom Watson 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3890.47	-42.34	958.07	1000	1000	932.40
4	28 Austin Gossard 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3666.42	-224.05	1000	1000	708.30	958.12
5	8 Mike Verzuh 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3577.18	-89.24	943.24	683.31	967.31	983.32
6	20 William Malvey 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3349.03	-228.15	1000	663.03	1000	686.00
7	21 Joshua Freund 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3305.64	-43.39	1000	919.28	572.36	814.00
8	3 Steve Condon 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3255.46	-50.18	1000	255.46	1000	1000
9	19 Warren Day 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	3244.43	-11.03	767.27	1000	790.45	686.71
10	26 john swain	3113.77	-130.66	998.88	770.05	408.05	936.79
11	11 Steve Stanton 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2970.45	-143.32	0.00	970.45	1000	1000
12	10 Sean Summers	2868.85	-101.60	624.78	1000	1000	244.07
13	15 Steve Hurd 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2635.95	-232.90	843.80	421.72	687.43	683.00
14	29 Alvin Bacani 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2579.57	-56.38	677.07	801.96	935.37	165.17
15	4 Arthur Markiewicz 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2378.63	-200.94	0.00	1000	378.63	1000
16	9 Clifford Hunter 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2343.86	-34.77	241.25	993.67	400.41	708.53
17	12 Dale Osborn 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2310.84	-33.02	571.28	911.76	827.80	0.00
18	25 Manny Tau 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	2148.65	-162.19	589.88	512.20	140.82	905.75
19	17 Chuck Norris 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	1885.42	-263.23	566.14	453.87	865.41	0.00
20	27 Tim Traver 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	1798.04	-87.38	372.88	506.89	519.71	398.56
21	2 Gary Fogel 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	992.34	-805.70	631.79	360.55	0.00	0.00
22	23 Jon Vance 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	947.37	-44.97	947.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	22 Ed Stewart Jr.	707.87	-239.50	707.87	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	7 Les Ward 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	0.00	-707.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	18 Don Van Gundy	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	24 Paul Smith 🇺🇸 ✖	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	16 Doug Cronkhite 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28	13 Ron Rossetti 🇺🇸 🇮🇹	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



Contest landing (Dale Osborn photo)

November DLG Contest Report – Gary Fogel CD

On November 21, 12 pilots gathered at the Poway Flight Center for the November DLG Contest/Clinic – the last in the 2020 series. It's been a challenging year for contest flying of any kind. Although we have covid requirements for the field such as use of masks and personal spacing, we increased safety further by capping this event at 12 pilots.

The event started with a pilots meeting at 8:45. Also attending as guests were Col. John Telles (ret) and Rich Kenney of the AeroED Group, who are interested in learning more about model airplanes and how they could be used to help in STEM education for K-12 students. Thanks also to Ron Rossetti, Austin Gossard and Bobby Sandoval for making the drive from Riverside to attend. Chuck Norris and Tim Traver assisted in getting everything set up with the audio and contest management. (Thanks guys!) The weather was perfect – 70s, no wind, high clouds, weak winter thermals.



The 12 DLG competitors on November 21, 2020 at the Poway Flight Center. Yes, they really are all smiling....

The contest started at 9:00 Task G – 5x2s. Despite the weak conditions many pilots were able to make >9:20 total time. Task H – 1,2,3,4 any order was next. Once again despite some weak conditions, most pilots were able to make over 9 min total time. The thermals were either wispy ropes or general areas of lift and sink. Even by 9:30 in the morning it felt like the air was still trying to figure itself out.

The third task was Task F – best 3 of 6. Conditions were now changing. In Heat A only one pilot, Austin Gossard, managed to get three 3:00s. However in Heat B three pilots (Bobby Sandoval, Tim Traver, and Mengchen Li) scored 3:00s. It was sometimes hard to find the lift, you had to really watch for indications. Sticking with the 3:00 flight time theme, the next Task was Task J – last three flights, 3:00 max. Three pilots managed three 3:00s in the first heat (Chuck Norris, Tim Traver, Ray Pili), but by the second heat the air started to sour and it was difficult to get more than 8 minutes total time. We took a short break.

November DLG Contest Report (continued)

Actually, I had thought that perhaps we'd have a conversation about thermal hunting, but since we had increased the time between heats from 3 min to 5 min to allow score entry into the Vault, we skipped the clinic, had some much needed agua, and then went right back at it...with of course more tasks with 3:00min intervals in mind – Task C All up last down. By this time the air was surprisingly difficult. Lots of large patches of sink with only small areas of zero sink or mild climb and the best lift seemed to set up east of the field although there really wasn't much of a sea breeze all day long. In general those who worked the trees to the east did well, those who didn't struggled. This pattern repeated in both heats. Cliff Hunter made a GREAT flight on his all up last down, and was the last pilot to land. That led to a good amount of cheers from the sidelines. During heat B I had good fortune to the east and on one flight managed to hook a thermal that decided to go ballistic to altitude just at that time. A competitor 10-15 feet below me (can't recall who) didn't get pulled up along with me. If you didn't have a solid read from the start, the all ups in Heat B were tough. To close out the contest, we flew Task E – old school poker. The way I figured in this crazy year of 2020 we had to end with the craziest task. It happened to be well timed to the craziest air of the day. Many pilots barely managed a total of 3:00. In Heat A, Ray Pili set himself apart from the competition with a 6:15. In Heat B, Mengchen Li and I had a 9:50 and 7:09 respectively. Mengchen flew really well throughout the entire contest.

In the end we had two pilots in sportsman with Scott McCurdy beating El President Ian Cummings by a mere 385 points. In open class in ascending order we had Gary Fogel (third), Ray Pili (second), and Mengchen Li (first). Mengchen scored a 1000 in four of the six rounds and was very consistent with his launches and thermalling skill all day. I think he has been practicing! Watch out! I believe this was also Mengchen's first win of the 2020 season. Well deserved! All winners received TPG ribbons for their good performances.

Thus we conclude the 2020 TPG DLG Contest/Clinic Series. We look forward to seeing what Chuck Norris has in store for us in 2021 as DLG Coordinator and hopefully we can start this back up as planned in January. Thanks again to everyone who turned out for this last contest and to those CDs who ran the series in 2020 despite difficult external conditions.

Gary Fogel
CD

Preliminary Overall Standings													
Rounds (1-6)													
#	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	Mengchen Li	5937		990	948	1000	999	1000	1000	5937			100%
2	Ray Pili	5815	-122	978	983	728	1000	826	1000	5515			93%
3	Gary Fogel	5452	-483	999	997	741	989	1000	726	5452			92%
4	Dan Gebhardt	5141	-611	960	972	991	806	879	533	5141			87%
5	Tim Traver	4888	-653	840	1000	1000	1000	448	600	4888			82%
6	Chuck Norris	4850	-685	981	975	448	1000	923	523	4850			82%
7	Bobby Sandoval	4777	-766	989	1000	1000	840	628	320	4777			80%
8	Ron Rossetti	4670	-875	958	998	900	811	648	355	4670			79%
9	Austin Gossard	4575	-980	1000	892	1000	813	667	203	4575			77%
10	Clifford Hunter	4144	-1401	720	826	796	950	692	100	4144			70%
11	Scott McCurdy	3480	-2457	571	923	676	717	433	160	3480			59%
12	Ian Cummings	3095	-2842	744	645	393	272	696	355	3095			52%

LSF Report – Ray Pili



Hi Gulls,

There are no scheduled LSF events for December. We're currently working on next year's overall TPG calendar. Depending upon the level of interest among club members, we hope to continue the LSF Program for club members.

Here's some general information for you.

This table outlines the various tasks required for each level. (Source: <https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>)

Requirements	Primary	Intermediate			Advanced
Level	I	II	III	IV	V
Thermal Duration	5 min.	15 min.	30 min	1 hr	2 hrs.
Slope Duration	15 min.*	1 Hr.*	2 hrs.*	4 hrs.*	8 hrs.
Precision Spot Landing	5 landings 3m (9.84 ft) or less	10 landings 1.5m (4.92 ft. or less)	None	None	None
Goal and Return	None	None	1km (0.62 mi.)	2km (1.24 mi.)	10km(6.2 mi)
Competition	None	6 contests** w/ 1 place or 3,000 pts	6 contests** w/ 2 place or 4,500 pts	6 contests** w/ 2 places and 1 win or 6,000 pts	6 contests** with 12,000 points including 3 wins

As you can see, Level I is not that difficult if you are a thermal pilot. If you fly slope only, that 5 min. thermal will tear you down. With Poway and Torrey within fairly close proximity, I believe someone local can complete Level I in one day.

If you are interested in participating in a scheduled LSF event, bring your AMA card, a thermal plane or e-thermal glider such as the E-flite Radian and download a copy of the Accomplishment Vouchers (SAP or ESAP) from the LSF site (<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>). The events are free; you don't have to be a Gulls member.

LSF Report (continued)

The Vouchers describe in more detail what each task involves and the credentials of your witnesses. Submittal of a completed voucher is as follows:

1. Email the LSF Secretary John Marien: john@ne-aero.com a clear photo, or PDF scan of your completed (and signed by witnesses) Voucher.

That's it. No more sending money or sending your original hard copy.

John will then review your voucher and email you your acceptance or rejection of the voucher submission. If for some reason your voucher is rejected, you will have to adjudicate rejections with John.

Another nice change is while you are waiting for a reply you can download a new voucher and start on the next level.

LSF Procedures for Poway

We will follow the COVID-19 rules outlined by Chuck Norris for the Poway DLG contests. I paraphrase:

- 1) Pilots must have a mask when arriving at the field.
- 2) Masks are required when you are within 6 feet of separation such as during pilots meeting.
- 3) Masks are optional when flying or timing, as long as the 6 feet separation is maintained.
- 4) Hand Sanitizers/disinfectant wipes will be provided for users of high starts and winches and any measuring devices used.
- 5) Everyone is encouraged to bring their own writing utensils to record results and to sign as witness.
- 6) Maintain 6 feet separation between pilots and timers at all times.
- 7) Please stay home if you do not feel well or have any symptoms associated with Covid-19.

As a reminder, LSF is a 5 level program for RC Glider Pilots. Each level has increasingly more difficult tasks. LSF involves Slope flying, Thermal flying, Spot landings and Contest participation. Each level must be completed before proceeding to the next. Makes for a well-rounded RC Glider pilot.

The pure glider program is called SAP (Soaring Accomplishment Program).
The electric launched glider program is called Electric SAP (ESAP).

Blue Skies,

Ray Pili
LSF Coordinator
tpgslope@gmail.com

TPG at 50: Looking Back – AMA Recognition

As many of you already know, the AMA selected the Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society as their November 2020 Club of the Month. This included recognition in Model Aviation magazine and on the AMA website, as well as an interview by AMA podcaster Matt Ruddick with TPG President Ian Cummings and Club Historian Gary Fogel. Click the image below to hear the podcast:

We are monitoring the news surrounding COVID-19. AMA will continue to post updates to our IAC and Sanctioned Event calendars to reflect the latest information from clubs and Special Interest Groups. Updates are posted to modelaircraft.org/covid-19

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PODCAST

Matt Ruddick | podcast@modelaircraft.org

THE AMA PODCAST

Ep 59 - The Torrey Pines Gulls

NOV 23, 2020 SEASON 1 EPISODE 59

The Academy of Model Aeronautics

The Torrey Pines Gulls, one of the first AMA Chartered clubs dedicated solely to RC soaring, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The Gulls operate three fields in San Diego County: The Torrey Pines

Ep 59 - The Torrey Pines Gulls	39:18
Ep 58 - Burt Rutan from AMA Expo 2010	54:25
Ep 57 - Lee Ray and Fitz Walker from RC Roundtable (Rebroadcast)	53:49
Ep 56 - Greater St. Louis Modeling Association	50:16
Ep 55 - Building With Foam	1:00:59

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Click on the image below to view the original Club of the Month article on the AMA website along with the talk given by Gary Fogel about our world famous soaring venue.



TPG History: The Trophy – Cliff Hunter



This Month: Jerry Fry, 1995 Modeler of the Year

This month's Modeler of the Year article shows how it is possible for anyone to make a lasting positive impact on the TPG, even a newcomer that decides to join the board and make a difference.

Jerry Fry joined the Gulls sometime in 1993/1994. I have record of him entering the November 1994 thermal duration contest as a sportsman, but no records of him involved with slope racing at the cliff. It didn't take long for Jerry to volunteer to be editor for the club newsletter, beginning right away in January 1995 with a great 16-page issue. Being an editor in 1995 was quite a chore. Fortunately, things had converted from typewritten newspapers and Xeroxing to newsletters that were typeset on a PC! (Having served in that era as newsletter editor I remember the pain!) However even with a PC, there was still considerable effort in figuring out how to make a piece of software work for the production of a three column newsletter, printing it on front and back of a 11x17 sheet of paper so that it could be folded to make a nice newsletter, then stapled, then folded again in order to get to the required smaller size for mailing, then labeled with the address of a member, then taken to the post office for mail by a specific date each month so that it could go out as bulk mail. Not many people wanted to take on this daunting task. John McNeil had done so in 1993, Steve Stricklett did so in 1994 and not it was Jerry's turn. Surrounded by a lot of great Gulls, he generated some truly amazing newsletters that year.

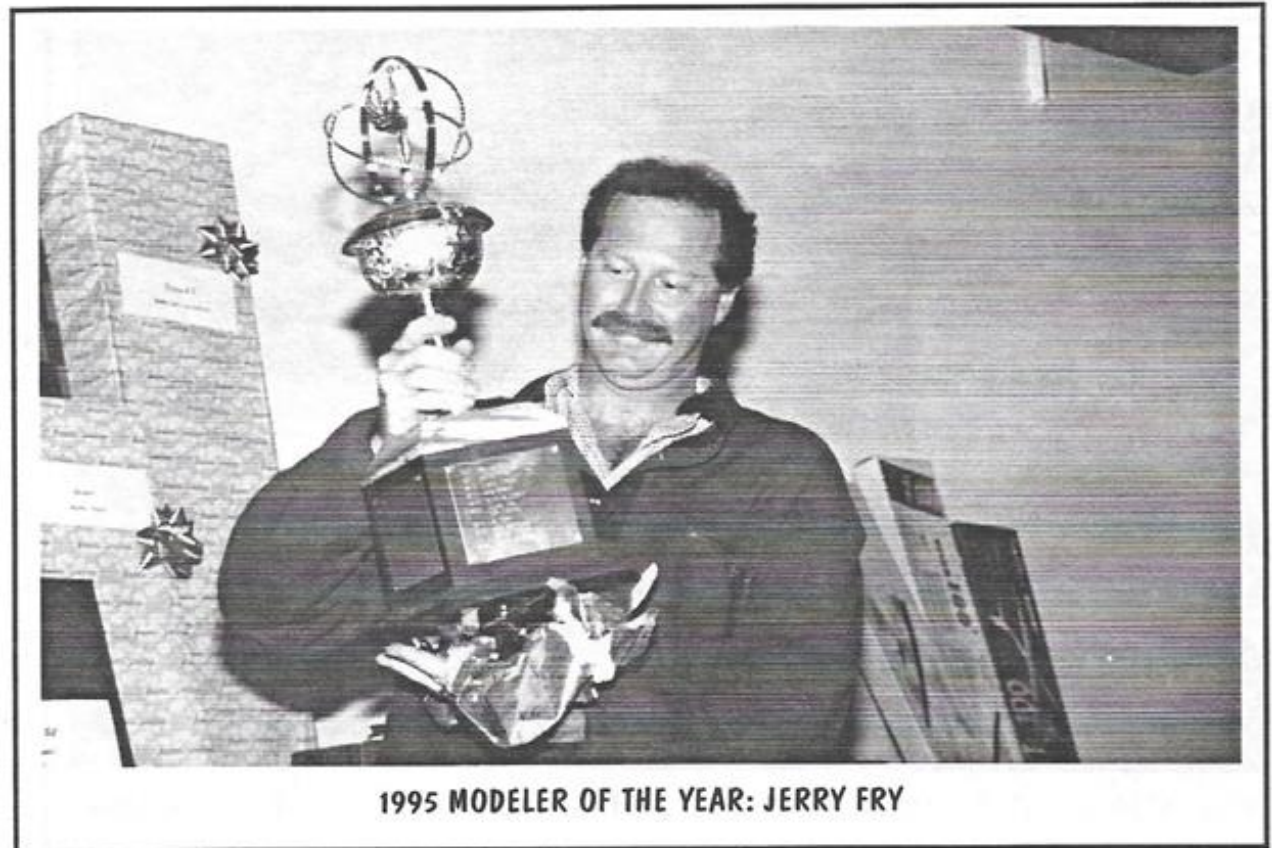


TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

At the time, the club was still meeting at the San Diego Aerospace Museum. The attendance at these monthly meetings typically ranged from 80 to 100 members although the December 1995 meeting must have set a new record with >170 folks in attendance! Jerry's newsletters were key to keeping the membership informed, as it was well before the Internet and yet the club was just beginning some important new directions such as the International Hand Launch Glider Festival.

In addition to his duties as newsletter editor, Jerry also felt it was important for us to give back to the community as a club. He started up a school demonstration program where TPGers could visit local area public schools and demo either hi-start launching or javelin style HLG. For the first time ever, the June 1995 newsletter included a list of emails of contacts for other clubs and resources – a list developed by Manny Tau. Jerry Fry noted "Now many of you will say 'I've never used email and I don't have the slightest idea how to do it.' I know for a fact that many of you have computers in your home or at work but you've never used the modem to do anything but send faxes. I also know that all of you, whether you have a computer or not, have friends who do have computers and they'll probably be happy to either email your messages for you or show you how to do it yourself....it's not hard. Really!"

This was the state of affairs 25 years ago – simply getting club members to use email for communication. This is a good reminder of how important the newsletter was as a central source of all club information. The newsletter and the club meetings were it!



1995 MODELER OF THE YEAR: JERRY FRY

Jerry Fry receiving the 1995 Modeler of the Year trophy. Note all of the kits and presents on the wall behind him – a Super Hooper Duper December Raffle arranged by Ron Scharck! No wonder there were >170 people in attendance!

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Also Jerry wrote a nice article for the July 1995 issue on the merits of PPM vs. PCM for radio transmission. In order to develop this article, Jerry emailed some of the “greats” like Joe Wurts, Don Edberg, Manny Tau and others and asked for their opinion. The experts felt that PPM was better than PCM in general. *

At the 1995 December holiday party, TPG awarded Jerry Fry with the Modeler of the Year trophy. Ron Scharck noted “The ‘Modeler of the Year’ award is presented to that TPG member whose efforts, above and beyond the call of duty, have most influenced the club, both internally and externally, during the past year. Chosen by his peers, the Modeler of the Year, is that single person who has contributed the most to the advancement of the club. Due in great part to his outstanding work in developing the TPG newsletter into a state of the art publication that is acknowledged and admired as one of the outstanding club newsletters in print, the 1995 Modeler of the Year award was presented to 1995 TPG Newsletter Editor, Jerry Fry. Thank you Jerry for your zealous drive to perfection. The club is, without doubt, a better club because of your efforts.” Jerry continued flying with TPG for several years and continued with his goal of community outreach via school programs and also an annual TPG fundraiser for Toys for Tots. I am not certain what became of him in the 2000s, so if you know, please let me know...

- Editor’s note: For additional information on PPM/PCM, click on this link:
https://www.aerodesign.de/peter/2000/PCM/PCM_PPM_eng.html

Photo of the Month Contest – Photo of the Year Winner

Each month club members may submit photos of an activity related to soaring and the newsletter editor will post a **winner**:

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 submit@torreypinesgulls.org. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.

This year's Photo of the Year winner is Greg Houck, with his shot of Ray Pili's Pitbull over Torrey on a perfect March day. Congratulations, Greg!

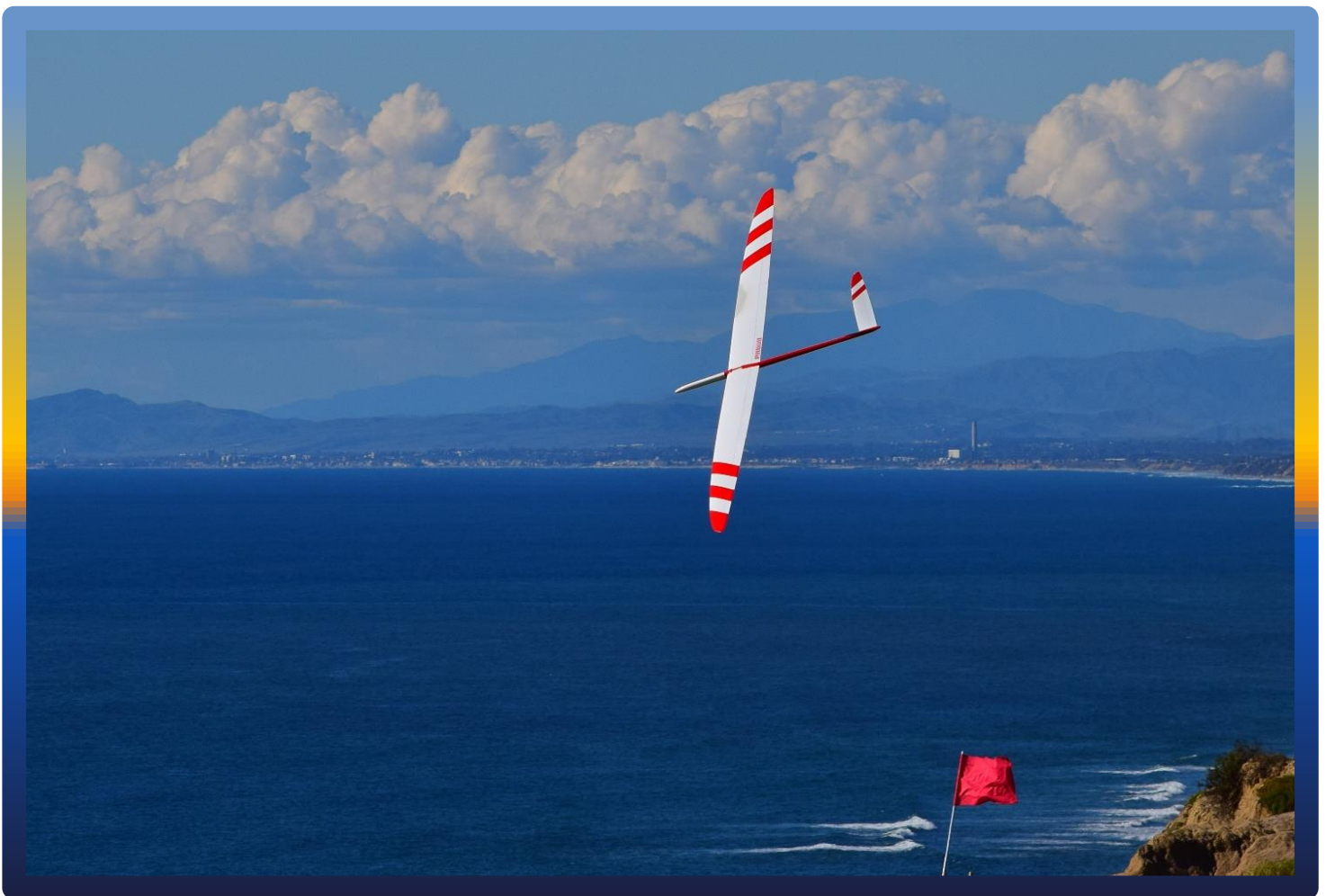


Photo of the Year Winner – Ray Pili's Pitbull over Torrey (Greg Houck photo)

Club Officers and Contact Information

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Past President	Craig Hanson	craighanson1256@gmail.com
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Slope Coordinator	Mark Baldacchino	mbaldacchino@san.rr.com
DLG Coordinator	Chuck Norris	chuck@cnorris.com
Membership Chair	Cliff Hunter	cfhunter@att.net
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	mike@themapsmith.com
LSF Coordinator	Ray Pili	tpgslope@gmail.com
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	steve@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	garyfogel@gmail.com
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Mark Baldacchino	mbaldacchino@san.rr.com

Executive Officers



Ian Cummings



Bob Hirsch



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Tom Watson



Mark Baldacchino



Cliff Hunter



Quote of the Month:

“When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it.”

~ Henry Ford



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)