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# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

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

Editor – Dale Gottdank

## Message from the President

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Chuck Norris

Hi everyone,

As we get going with planning for 2024, I'm reminded that we really have a vibrant, diverse group of aeromodellers that is really unique in our hobby. I recently attended the woodie fun fly at Torrey and got to fly some balsa and hang out with a part of our community that I tend to miss, since I usually fly at Poway or Encinitas. Torrey is a special place. It's a great place

just to enjoy for the view and not only that; **we get to fly there!**

For the new year, there are a few things I'd like you to be thinking about:

First, Cliff will start sending out membership cards in early November, so please help us out and get your 2024 registration in early. And if you fly at the Poway or Encinitas fields, don't forget to check the box on the membership renewal form to get a key to the gates. Just go to [torreypinesgulls.org](http://torreypinesgulls.org) and click on the Membership tab at the top. Club dues haven't changed in over 10 years, so you're getting amazing value for your money!

(continued next page)

## Message from the President (continued)

Also, we're always on the lookout for content for our Instagram feed. If you've got some nice photos or short videos, submit them to [media@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org).

Lastly, there's still time to submit your favorite photos to [communications@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org) for entry into the Photo of the Month contest and consideration for Photo of the Year. This will be the photo that appears on the 2024 membership cards, so if your photo is picked, every club member will get a laminated copy of **your** photo for their wallet!

Thank you all for what you bring to our club!

Chuck

## TPG October/November Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	F5J Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	UCSD/TPG Buddy Box Skilled Pilots Mentorship Day	Torrey Pines Gliderport Volunteers Welcome!
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	Club Virtual Meeting	Zoom link: <a href="#">TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link</a>
October 28 <sup>th</sup>	F5J Fun Fly	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	F3L Contest	Encinitas Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	Redman Rules & Landing Contest – Ribbons for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> . For the uninitiated, Redman Rules involve beer can bowling and limbo line.	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
November 18 <sup>th</sup>	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
November 25 <sup>th</sup>	No Shopping Saturday – A couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!



*Save the Date!*

We are happy to announce that this year's  
*TPG Holiday Party* will be held on  
*Sunday, December 10th* at the  
*AleSmith Brewing Company*  
9990 AleSmith Court, San Diego, CA 92126  
(off Miramar Rd.)  
No cover charge

Doors open at *4:00 pm*, and we'll kick off the  
2022 annual meeting and awards  
presentations sometime after *5 pm*.

More details to follow...

Gary Fogel  
Torrey Pines Gulls  
2023 Vice President

## Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

The Torrey Pines Gulls hosts monthly contests, fun-fly events, LSF (League of Silent Flight) Soaring Accomplishment Program, onsite clinics and bi-monthly club meetings.

Our club meetings are currently conducted via Zoom, so it's really easy to join in, chat with flying buddies and hear a great presentation about RC soaring and related topics...**and don't forget our monthly raffle!**

**Our next meeting is October 24<sup>th</sup>** and will feature Ben Saraceno from FrSky to discuss Ethos programming. Click on the FrSKY and ETHOS logos below for ore information.



**Ben Saraceno**

Technical Operations Director at FrSky RC, Inc.

Be on the lookout for upcoming meeting 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!

**October Issue highlights include:**

- **Holiday Party – Save the Date!**
- **News from the Slope AND from Poway**
- **VP Items of Interest**
- **2013 Modeler of the Year Chuck Norris by Gary Fogel**
- **Photo of the Month Contest**

Please send in your articles or photos ([communications@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org)) by the **25<sup>th</sup>** 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. Photos should be in their original, high-resolution format. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>.

## News from the Slope – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



Mark Baldacchino

**Happy  
October  
TP Gulls!**



On September 9<sup>th</sup>, we had our second Classic/Vintage Woody Fun Fly event at the Gliderport. It was another great day of flying with sunny skies, and the typical, mostly westerly wind in the 8-10 MPH range. There were a couple of Olympic II's, an Olympic 650, a Windward dressed up as the Red Baron, an Astro-Flight Malibu and a few others. One of the OLY 650's was an attic find that re-maidened; and the latest was a Yellow Jacket that is built up from wood that our President Chuck brought out.



A beautiful day for a Fun Fly! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

## News from the Slope (continued)



A couple of younger pilots who can really fly well. Great to see the next gen keeping our sport going. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Paul, who usually flies at Encinitas, re-maidened this OLY 650 attic find. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Chef Ian prepping the hot dogs (Mark Baldacchino photo)

The wind was a bit from the north and a little fluky, so not all planes were able to fly. Some of the pilots who were used to their latest aileron ships, were commenting on how slow and relaxed these planes flew. Vintage planes just don't perform like newer planes. I even heard one pilot say, "I've gave it full rudder input, and it took 30 seconds for it to start turning." A bit of an exaggeration, but you get the idea! 😊

Ian Cummings brought us hot dogs and drinks for lunch; his portable grill works wonders. Hot dogs tastes SO much better when eaten outside with such a spectacular view, too! All-in-all, the day was super fun, and we look forward to the next Woody Fun Fly in April of next year.

## News from the Slope (continued)



Are they done yet? Check out all the hot dogs on the grill (Walt Quitt photo)



President Chuck and his fine collection of woodies. Great craftsmanship and pilot! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

## News from the Slope (continued)



A beautiful day, with walt flying through the office (Mark Baldacchino photo)

### TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2023

October 21 <sup>st</sup>	UCSD/TPG Buddy Box Skilled Pilots Mentorship Day Volunteers (with or without buddy boxes) welcome!
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	Redman Rules & Landing Contest – Ribbons for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> . For the uninitiated, Redman Rules involve beer can bowling and limbo line.
November 25 <sup>th</sup>	No Shopping Saturday – A couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house

See you all out at the Gliderport, and Blue Skies!

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino

## News from Poway – Cliff Hunter



Downed tree before work party (Cliff Hunter photo)

Recently, a large Sycamore tree located at the west end of our Poway field fell.

The club needed a work party willing to cut the tree into firewood-size logs for club members use. We hoped to reduce and remove as much of the downed (VERY LARGE) tree as possible. The smaller limbs were to be left at the field; windrowed along the edge of the remaining trees.

Mike Smith rented a gas-powered chain saw from Home Depot. Tom Farley brought a wheelbarrow and several battery-operated tools. Cliff Hunter brought a chain saw and more battery-operated tools as well as a truck. Paul Nibecker, Bob Hirsh and Brett Locke all came prepared to work hard and complete the tree removal by noon.

All deserve a Big Thank You!



Mike Smith cutting up the larger sections into smaller pieces (Bob Hirsch photo)

## News from Poway (continued)



Tired, but happy worker, l-r, Bob Hirsch, Paul Nibecker, Brett Lock and Tom Farley. Cliff Hunter is the in the green shirt taking the picture and Mike left to return the chain rented chainsaw and broken chain. (Cliff Hunter photo)



One of two truckloads of prime cuts (Cliff Hunter photo)



We did it! End of the work party day, with a bit more to cut another time (Cliff Hunter photo)

## VP Items of Interest

As you know I've been trying to forge a relationship between TPG and UCSD's AIAA DBF student team in 2023. Recently, long-time TPG member Paul Palmer decided to largely get out of the hobby and sold various planes and building equipment to myself, Chuck, and TPG member David Hall. Based on that and in addition to some other transmitters and equipment I was no longer needing, over the last few weeks we've donated an RTF radian with Tx, two additional Tx's, heaps of servos, etc., vacuum bagging equipment, epoxy, and additional materials on behalf of TPG. More will probably come their way soon. I was pleased to receive the attached letter of thanks from UCSD AIAA DBF to the TPG.

Gary Fogel



**Design, Build, Fly**  
University of California, San Diego  
[dbf@ucsd.edu](mailto:dbf@ucsd.edu)  
<https://dbf.ucsd.edu/>

September 14th, 2023

Gary Fogel  
Vice President  
Torrey Pines Gulls

Dear Gary Fogel,

Thank you very much for your generous donation of a trainer plane (Radian), two transmitters, a vacuum pump, vacuum bags, and epoxy to the Design/Build/Fly at UC San Diego (DBF@UCSD) club.

Our team will use the donated fabrication equipment this year to speed up the fabrication process of the plane of our planned two prototype planes and our final competition plane. In addition, our team plans to use the Radian and the extra transmitters to help train any students who may be interested in becoming our team pilot. For as long as I was a member of DBF@UCSD (2021-present), our team had no formal workflow to train new student pilots. The donation of the transmitters and trainer plane will help our team implement a procedure to train new student pilots to fly RC planes built by our club.

Once again, on behalf of the DBF@UCSD project team, we would like to thank you for your donation of the aforementioned to our club. Lastly, thank you very much for helping to facilitate the relationship between the Torrey Pines Gulls and the DBF@UCSD project team. I am hopeful that our collaboration this year will blossom into a long and fruitful partnership that will benefit both organizations in the future.

Best regards,

Kevin Vo  
Project Manager

Ryan Lay  
Chief Engineer

## VP Items of Interest (continued)

TPG Vice President Gary Fogel, who's also our Club Historian, sent along this information about the International Vintage Sailplane Meet. For anyone who might be interested, it's being held at the National Soaring Museum, in Elmira, NY from July 6<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. It's the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Vintage Sailplane Association and the 8<sup>th</sup> International Vintage Sailplane Meet.



For more information about this event, the Vintage Sailplane Association and the National Soaring Museum, follow these links:

<https://www.soaringmuseum.org/international-vintage-sailplane-meet-registration.php>

<https://www.vintagesailplane.org/>

<https://www.soaringmuseum.org/>

## September DLG – Poway Invitational Report – Justin Tolman, CD

The Third Annual Poway Invitational took place on Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. The Miramar Air Show was in town, but their fleet had nothing on our cool collection of 1.5m hand-launch and 1.5m motor-launch gliders competing together for the first time. Speaking of firsts, TPG filed the club's first NOTAM for the event, securing airspace around the Poway field up to 700 feet.



Sunrise...contest day

We conducted a quick pilots meeting under dark and dreary skies knowing we had a full day of flying ahead of us.

Despite the early 8:45am start, and heavy cloud cover, 5-minute air was prevalent in Round 1 (Task A, Last Flight). In Group A four pilots (McNeil, Smith, Shantz and Fogel) shared the K after collecting all of their 5 minutes. Motor pilot John Locke also put in a very solid 4:35. In Group B, Mengchen and Jantz shared the K after collecting their 5 minutes of flight time as well. All six pilots in Group C, including Sportsman pilot Mike Swanson, earned the K after the entire group was able to collect their 5 minutes.



Pilots meeting (Gary Fogel photo)

## September DLG – Poway Invitational Report (continued)

The skies began to clear but lifty conditions were still very present in Round 2 (Task F, Three of six). Eight pilots across all three groups were able to get all 3 of their 3:00 minute flights. The highlight of Round 2 was the Lockheed U-2 that flew over during Group B. Some pilots flew out of lift just to get their gliders in an eye shot of the rarely seen spy plane.

By Round 3 (Task E, Poker), dynamics were changing and lift was becoming less of a given. In Group A, Kevin Jantz took a quick scouting flight then nailed a beautiful window call to accumulate 9:55 of flight time to take the K. Sportsman pilot Milan Bregman made a smart call to get back in the air with only 18 seconds left in the window after he realized he had made only 2 nominations - every second counts! In Group B, Justin Tolman took 2 scouting flights then survived a 5:11 window call with multiple low saves to take the K. Mike Smith's valiant All In call in Group B fell short. In Group C, Mengchen accumulated 9:37 across 3 flights to take the K over Gary Fogel's 8:30.

The mostly sunny skies and, increasing wind, of Round 4 (Task G, 5x2) presented a formidable challenge for many. Three pilots, including Mengchen, Shantz and Tolman, each accumulated more than 9 minutes of flight time in Group A. Group B fought a tough fight: Mike Smith took the K with 8:43 accumulated time while a few pilots recorded times of less than one minute. John McNeil lost one of his planes to an unruly tree monster.

An ample hour and a half break after Round 4 allowed pilots to get some lunch and recharge their stomachs and batteries.

The contest resumed at 1:30 for Round 5 (Task C, AULD). Lift seemed to be sprouting up all over the place. In Group A, Mengchen, Smith and Shantz got all 3 of their flights. In Group B, Jantz and LaCroix got all 3 of theirs as well; LaCroix with some impressive saves in his first flight. In Group C, Fogel and Tolman shared a few thermals and got all 3 of their flights as well.

Round 6 (Task B, Last 2) was a daunting task in the middle of the afternoon, but the best pilots were able to master the challenge. In Group A, Charles Martin took the K while nailing both his 4:00 flights. In Group B, Fogel, Mengchen and Mike Smith all got both of their 4-minute flights. Mike Swanson was right there with them, only dropping 7 seconds on his 2nd flight. In Group C, Mierop, Shantz and Kevin Jantz knocked it out of the park and got both of their flights as well. Justin Tolman got the first 4:00 but took a huge hit by dropping several minutes in the 2nd flight.

Round 7 (Task N, Best Flight) proved that you'd better feel comfortable flying deep downwind if you wanted to put up big numbers. In Group A, Shantz did just that, accumulating 8:43. In Group B, Fogel also went deep and went walking towards the entry gate to keep an eye on his distant glide, bringing it back from deep down wind to accumulate a maximum 9:59. Not to be outdone in Group C, Mengchen also put in a stellar flight to also grab a 9:59.

The prelims would culminate with breezy, challenging, conditions in Round 8 (Task K, Big Ladder). In Group A, Menchen dropped less than 15 seconds to take the K. Mike Smith put on a clinic in Group B, dropping less than 11 seconds to take the K. Bregman took the K in Group C.

## September DLG – Poway Invitational Report (continued)



Group photo of prelim pilots



Flyoff pilots (Left to Right) Kevin Jantz, Ed LaCroix, Cory Shantz, Justin Tolman, Mengchen Li, Gary Fogel

## September DLG – Poway Invitational Report (continued)

Heading into the flyoffs, Mengchen Li maintained a small lead over Gary Fogel and Kevin Jantz. Cory Shantz, Justin Tolman and Ed LaCroix would fill out the flyoff field of six pilots.

Round 9 (Task H, 1,2,3,4) kicked off the flyoffs just 90-minutes before sunset. With cooling air and a predominant westerly breeze, downwind thermals were the name of the game. Once again, Mengchen put in a dominant performance dropping just 11 seconds.

A big cycle of sinky air presented itself for Round 10 (Task M, Huge Ladder). The longest flight of the round was Mengchen's 5:00 attempt when he clocked in a 3:46. During their 7:00 minute attempt, Shantz landed out trying to make it back to the field and Tolman landed out just a few feet from the boundary line. LaCroix landed out just to the north of the pits.

Two more launches in Round 11 (Task D, 2x5) would decide it. It was clear that the lift was deep to the northeast out over the school. Some were able to connect and some were left floundering. Mengchen hooked up for two, four-minute flights, sweeping the flyoffs and securing the top spot on the podium.

Congrats to top Sportsman pilot Milan Bregman.

Congrats to top eDLG pilot Cliff Hunter.

Congrats to 3rd place Open Kevin Jantz, 2nd place Open Gary Fogel and 1st place Open Mengchen Li.



Cliff Hunter (top eDLG) and Justin Tolman (Gary Fogel photo)



Justin Tolman and Kevin Jantz (3rd place, Open) (Gary Fogel photo)

## September DLG – Poway Invitational Report (continued)



Justin Tolman and Gary Fogel (2nd place, Open) & Justin Tolman



Justin Tolman and Mengchen Li (1st place, Open)  
(Gary Fogel photo)



Gary Fogel, Mengchen Li and Kevin Jantz

# September DLG – Poway Invitational Report (continued)

## Preliminary Round Scores

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)								
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	
1	8 Mengchen Li	7885.7		1000	885.7	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
2	5 Gary Fogel	7829.8	-55.9	1000	1000	883.3	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	946.5
3	17 Kevin Jantz	7763.3	-66.5	1000	1000	1000	968.9	1000	1000	1000	821.7	972.7
4	14 Cory Shantz	7529.8	-233.5	1000	1000	571.1	978.4	1000	1000	1000	1000	980.3
5	1 Justin Tolman	7245.3	-284.5	1000	1000	1000	970.3	1000	681.5	625.9	625.9	967.6
6	9 Edward LaCroix	6372.6	-872.7	1000	1000	115.1	881.4	1000	950.6	597.2	597.2	828.3
7	22 Mike Smith	6303.2	-69.4	1000	890.7	0.0	1000	1000	1000	1000	412.5	1000
8	6 Charles Martin	6264.0	-38.2	1000	722.2	311.7	875.2	711.1	1000	1000	820.5	823.3
9	2 Chuck Norris	6196.2	-67.8	700.3	1000	403.2	852.9	744.8	989.6	639.5	639.5	865.9
10	4 John McNeil	6190.6	-5.0	1000	1000	519.6	456.8	676.5	682.3	930.5	930.5	924.9
11	12 Milan Bregman	5954.1	-236.5	611.0	898.5	483.8	847.7	618.0	796.9	697.3	697.3	1000
12	19 Lex Mierop	5939.0	-13.1	1000	1000	151.2	860.1	775.4	1000	1000	288.0	864.3
13	11 Mike Swanson	5748.2	-190.8	1000	946.1	369.4	865.8	437.0	985.8	486.0	486.0	658.1
14	7 Clifford Hunter	5483.4	-264.8	1000	896.1	345.2	841.1	621.5	729.2	207.5	207.5	842.8
15	18 Dale Osborn	4050.2	-1433.2	421.3	870.0	207.8	847.6	554.3	283.5	188.8	188.8	676.9
16	10 Don Lochhead	3697.5	-352.7	398.0	560.0	460.3	833.6	442.4	302.3	309.5	309.5	391.4
17	13 Ray Pili	3200.7	-496.8	771.0	866.1	779.4	784.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
18	21 John Locke	2857.6	-343.1	916.7	444.6	454.6	495.7	137.2	408.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
19	3 Bob Hirsch	2802.7	-54.9	602.7	0.0	345.2	833.8	455.0	445.0	120.9	120.9	0.0
20	23 Darth Vader	0.0	-2802.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS

## Flyoff Scores

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)		
				Round 9	Round 10	Round 11
1	8 Mengchen Li	10885.7		1000	1000	1000
2	5 Gary Fogel	10243.2	-642.5	995.1	637.6	780.7
3	17 Kevin Jantz	10127.7	-115.5	937.2	751.6	675.6
4	14 Cory Shantz	9249.0	-878.7	900.9	467.3	351.0
5	1 Justin Tolman	8855.1	-393.9	786.1	467.6	356.1
6	9 Edward LaCroix	7510.9	-1344.2	838.5	299.8	0.0

Huge thanks to Cliff for manicuring the field, bringing drinks and hauling a bunch of tents and contest equipment back and forth from Encinitas. Thanks to Don for handling the contest speakers and the quick troubleshooting when we lost a battery powering a set of speakers. Thanks to Chuck for the clockboard, laptop and F3XVault troubleshooting assistance. Thanks to Gary for handling the AMA and FAA paperwork and contest sign in. Thanks to Bob and Brett for their assistance in clearing some of the massive fallen tree on Friday. These contests don't happen by accident and your help and support is invaluable. Last but not least, special thanks to the out-of-town pilots that invested their time and effort to be a part of our little contest!

We look forward to seeing everyone again soon. TPG will continue with our monthly contest series on October 21st. It also sounds like TPG will be well-represented in SWSS's BSOAZ in November. And then maybe something called The International happens again in April 2024. Stay tuned.

Justin Tolman

## TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel

### This Month: Chuck Norris, 2013 Modeler of the Year



Charles (Chuck) Norris was born in Austin, Texas, the son of a Presbyterian minister and a mother who worked at the University of Texas. As a child, he enjoyed building static plastic models of aircraft, however his father's service as a chaplain in the U.S. Army led the family to move around the United States regularly, including two moves to Germany. His first trip to Germany at age 6 started with his first flight on a commercial aircraft, he was fascinated at the time by flight, the shape of the aircraft, the sounds, the aesthetics; everything. Chuck's second trip to Germany (near Erlangen) occurred when Chuck was a teenager and led Chuck to witness RC aircraft for the first time. He became intrigued, but the models were very expensive. These RC models were exclusively powered models. Chuck never had the money to join in the fun. He returned to the US when he was 16 years old, finishing his primary education at a military high school in Texas. Graduating in the top 15% of his class, he was accepted into the University of Texas, Austin right away.

During Chuck's childhood, the Apollo missions had captured public interest internationally. He remembers watching the Apollo 11 moon landing with his family at age 6 and thereafter always had an affinity for rockets. At age 7-8 he was building and flying Estes rockets. Shooting them off was fun too. It was through rocketry that he learned the basics about stability, center of gravity, design, and physics. He would make his own designs to improve things, tinker with balance, etc. This childhood experience, coupled with the magic of Apollo, led Chuck to pursue a degree in aerospace engineering while at the University of Texas at Austin. After a course in orbital mechanics, his instructor found him a path to a summer internship at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. This experience was life changing. Orbital two-body equations were amazing.



## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

The math made sense and came naturally. JPL was the center of the universe when it came to unmanned spacecraft and he recalls watching the pictures return from the NASA Voyager probe on its pass of Neptune – humanity's first close views of this planet, from a spacecraft millions of miles away, with the engineers who had built it sitting next to him watching the same pictures arrive. It was a very special time and an amazing internship. While anyone with considerable responsibility at JPL already had a Ph.D., Chuck found that there were a lot of people his age as interns at the time and JPL fostered a great deal of "team thinking" which Chuck enjoyed. He was able to work on computers at JPL, programming a system called the hypercube in C. Just a few years later, Chuck graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Aerospace Engineering. During the degree process, one had to specialize in either aeronautics or astronautics – the choice for Chuck was already quite clear, and he designed an aero-braking Mars lander as his senior project.

While living in Monrovia and attending JPL, Chuck found his way to the Hobby People store in Pasadena. He ended up chatting with the owner, who encouraged him to purchase and build a Goldberg Gentle Lady. It was Chuck's first RC aircraft and the kit looked complicated, but the owner promised "if you build it and come back, I'll teach you how to fly." Chuck spent his days at JPL and nights building the Gentle Lady in roughly 1984/1985. He installed a low-end Futaba radio system and really detailed the Gentle Lady out nicely. The owner helped him get to the Pasadena Soaring Society (PSS) who were flying on the weekends on the grass outside of the Rose Bowl. (Here is a nice link for some pictures of what flying is like on the grass just outside of the Rose Bowl <https://www.rcsoaring.com/photo-gallery/2000/2000-pss/>)

**CARL GOLDBERG**

Introducing the *Gentle Lady*  
**2-METER SAILPLANE**

**GREAT FOR LEARNING RADIO CONTROL and A SWEETHEART FOR FUN AND COMPETITION!**

One of the *best* ways to get into Radio Control is with Sailplanes. They use low-cost 2 or 3-channel radios, build easily, and fly slowly enough for novice reactions. Yet there's a real challenge and a thrill in finding rising air currents, and getting long soaring flights!

*Gentle Lady* really is gentle and a lady. Very easy to fly, and stable. Reacts quickly to "lift." Simple to build, yet very clean, and efficient enough for competition. Optional detachable wing tip panels for small cars. Can be flown by high-start, winch, slope soaring, or by small engines or electric power. Available in good hobby shops everywhere – see your dealer!

WING SPAN	.....	78 1/4"
WING AREA	.....	663 sq.in.
WEIGHT (With Radio, Ready To Fly)	.....	22-25 oz.
LENGTH	.....	41"

As Published in R.C. MODELER MAGAZINE

FOR 2-CHANNEL RADIO, AND TOW, SLOPE, OR .049 - .10 ENGINE OR ELECTRIC POWER

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The famous Goldberg Gentle Lady that helped start many RC soaring careers, including Chuck's.

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Those first flights were knee bucklers, but fun, and some of the PSSers were also trying various javelin-launched gliders for fun and also doing slope soaring at various locations in the area. Chuck built a slope plane and began flying it off a hill near the 210 freeway with others. Slope was great fun, but the winds were never consistent and he gravitated more towards thermalling. Armed with the Gentle Lady he was hooked, but in a search for better performance, he built an Airtronics Sagitta 600.

Realizing the importance of a Ph.D. in this field, Chuck decided to continue with his education. He was accepted to a graduate program in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Within that program was the Center for Atmospheric Research (Earth Science) which included data processing from satellite imagery to improve our understanding of the effect of water vapor on sea temperature. This became the focus of his research, which led to his dissertation on the topic via a 6-year program. It was at this same time that he met his future wife, Paula; and it was also here that he realized that the air in Colorado was a lot cleaner than the air near Pasadena. And it was here that he also brought all of his RC aircraft from Los Angeles, as there must be places to fly in Colorado... Indeed, there were, and Chuck enjoyed just flying on his own near Boulder whenever time would allow.

As Paula was eager to obtain her Ph.D. in the biological sciences, she applied to UCSD, UCLA, and the University of Washington. She got into all three and chose San Diego. So, after Chuck's Ph.D. was complete, they moved to San Diego with Chuck obtaining a postdoc at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in climate research with John Rhodes. Chuck had heard about Torrey Pines and its connection to RC soaring. He showed up one day and volunteered to help with a slope race that was happening that day. This was super cool! Parviz Kamiab was the main ambassador for TPG at the time at the cliff, and he and Chuck hit it off. Parviz encouraged Chuck to attend club meetings, contests, etc. His first experience at thermalling with the club was flying his Gentle Lady rather gingerly up a winch at the Encinitas field. Realizing that the design was not really competitive, he built a pair of Oly II planes with Bill Eckles and together they enjoyed sharing flight time at Encinitas. Chuck focused on thermalling.

At the time, TPG was ramping up the International Hand Launch Glider Festival each year and with that many people on the field, scoring by hand per round was very tedious. Armed with his programming skills, Chuck produced a one-off online scoring system, the first one of its kind available, and used this at the IHLGF via IHLGF.com. Later, Tim Traver used this prototype for the development of the more popular F3X Vault. At this time Chuck was not yet flying DLGs, but thereafter he got into it, building his own DLG with fiberglass and wing bagging. That aircraft was short lived and folded its wing on a hard launch. Amardeep Dugal assisted with design and construction pointers, and together they built some one-off planes in Chuck's garage with fuselages ordered from someone in Israel. With a design similar to the SuperGee, Chuck entered his first IHLGF. Other mentors began to assist him more, including Mike Smith, Mike Seid, John McNeil, Gary Fogel, Parviz Kaimab, and Bill Eckles. The TPG was very welcoming.

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Club meetings were still being held at the San Diego Air and Space Museum and Chuck provided a presentation once on the build of his Wind Dancer. However, time commitments of a family and work reduced his available time for RC soaring. After his postdoc, he started a web development company with innovative ideas about video loops. While this wasn't wildly successful, the experience provided good lessons during an important time in the development of the Internet. Chuck landed a job with another startup and with that larger salary could afford a home in Scripps Ranch. The startup was eventually acquired by Akamai, a streaming media company for video-on-demand and live streaming. The co-founder CTO of Akamai, Daniel Lewin, was tragically on the first plane that was flown into the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Shortly thereafter, the company closed the San Diego office. For a time, Chuck worked for mp3 and then Napster, building the content delivery network for Napster 2.0 to its acquisition by Best Buy. He then once



Chuck Norris in mid launch at Poway with his discus launch glider in 2020 just before the pandemic changed things for a while.

again shifted careers as first engineer and eventually CTO of Eventful, a company built to handle online events. Chuck worked here for 14 years and the company was eventually purchased by CBS and sold to Intercom, the second largest radio company. After this he worked as a consultant and currently works for a consulting firm to Meta.

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Chuck Norris (right) and David Hall (left) enjoying some thermalling together.



Chuck Norris and Mengchen Li enjoying time at the 2022 Poway Invitational, a contest that Chuck helped get going along with Gary Fogel after the pandemic.

And of course, Chuck remains affiliated with the TPG serving currently as the club President, but also previously as DLG Coordinator. For his efforts to help build the online scoring system for IHLGF, Chuck was awarded the Modeler of the Year trophy in 2013. He repeated again as Modeler of the Year in 2019 after building a timing board for the IHLGF and helping in many other ways with the club. Chuck also currently volunteers his time helping teams of students at SDSU compete with 3D-printed RC model aircraft. Thanks for all your hard work, Chuck!

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Chuck Norris (left) launching at one of the TPG F5J Fun Flies (Bob Hirsch photo)



Your 2023 TPG President Chuck Norris!

## Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

**Membership renewals will be open as of November 1, 2023. Mark your calendar to renew.**

For the 2023 calendar year, the club membership so far is **125**. Please use the link below when joining as a new member or renewing an existing membership. Fill out the registration form completely and pay using PayPal, credit card or check. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an individual email when becoming a member.

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

### Membership Activity Summary as of September 28, 2023

The table below is a summary of lifetime members, new and renewed full members, and youth members; based on completed registration forms received to date.

2023 Membership		
Date	Since Last Report	Total
New and Renewed Members		125
Google Group Members		132

### Membership Processing

Please use the link below when joining as a new member or renewing an existing membership. Fill out the registration form completely and pay using PayPal, credit card or check. Current members will receive a renewal notice using the TPG Google Group email process. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an individual email.

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

All new and renewing members will receive a membership card and key (if requested, for Encinitas and Poway). The key provides access to the gates at our Encinitas and Poway flying sites. Members who fly at the Torrey Pines Gliderport and are Gliderport rated will receive a club lanyard from a club representative at the Gliderport. Members must wear the lanyard with the membership card attached when flying at the Gliderport, for safety reasons. Remember, you must have a current AMA membership to join TPG. To join AMA, follow this link: <https://join.modelaircraft.org/torreyпинesgulls/>

Please contact me at: [membership@torreyпинesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreyпинesgulls.org) if you have not received your membership materials or have any membership-related questions.

## Club Membership Update (continued)

### Annual Membership

TPG's membership period is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Renewals begin November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### Club Dues are as follows:

- **Full Members** – \$60 per year
- **Youth Members** (19 years or younger) – \$5 per year
- **Student Members** (full-time) – \$30 per year
- **Work Credit** You will receive a credit of up to \$20 on your annual dues; \$10 per each half-day working at any TPG flying field. When filling out your registration form, there is a place to input your hours/credit.

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.

You can get more detailed information regarding your yearly membership benefits by using the following link: [Torrey Pines Gulls Membership Guide](#), which will provide answers to many of your questions regarding Torrey Pines Gulls activities. Also review the TPG Club Bylaws for more information at: [Club Bylaws](#)

### Cliff Hunter

Membership Chairman

[membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org)

760-703-4497 cell

### Sample Membership Card



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

## Where We Fly – 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.**



## How We Compete

### Thermal Duration / F5J Contest Series

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Tom Watson

#### Thermal Coordinator – 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 subscribe to the RCGroups 2023 TPG TD & F5J contest schedule thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4241075-2023-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-TD-F5J-contest-schedule>

or contact Tom Watson at [thermal@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org)

### Hand Launch / DLG / F3K Contest Series

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Justin Tolman

#### DLG Coordinator – Justin Tolman

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/>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2023 Torrey Pines Gulls DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4260691-2023-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series>

or contact Justin Tolman at [dlg@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:dlg@torreypinesgulls.org)

## How We Compete (continued)

### F3L/F3-RES Contest Series

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Gary Fogel

In 2021, the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) approved a new contest format for hi-start launched thermal soaring with rudder-elevator-spoiler (RES) aircraft. This type of event had been flown for many years as F3-RES but its formalization as the new “F3L” program for “RC thermal gliders RES” was approved in 2021. The rules for this can be found in the current FAI Sporting Code for Aeromodeling under Volume F3 Soaring.

[https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc4\\_vol\\_f3\\_soaring\\_22.pdf](https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc4_vol_f3_soaring_22.pdf)

A goal of the F3L program is to serve as a low-cost introduction to RC soaring competition that is achievable even for those who have average skills.

F3L has been gaining in popularity in the US, and our recent virtual club meeting in late 2022 on the topic by Corky Miller and Larry Jolly inspired many to try it out. So, in 2023 we have established a new F3L program with quarterly contests. We will be using the FAI rules and have year-end trophies for open and sportsman classes. Contests will be held at the Encinitas Flight Center with pilots meeting at 8:45am, first launch at 9:00am. A small entry fee will be required to help offset the costs of club equipment. Additional information will be forthcoming on the RC Groups TPG F3L contest thread:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4259523-2023-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-F3L-%28F3RES%29-contest-schedule>

Come join us at the quarterly contests on August 26<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup>. The year's series events may be found on [F3X Vault](#).

If you would like to be added to a TPG-internal email chain focused on F3L, please let me know: [garyfogel@gmail.com](mailto:garyfogel@gmail.com)

## How We Compete (continued)

### F5J Fun Fly and Contest/Clinic Series

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Don Lochhead

Want to get into F5J, but not quite sure how do it? Or maybe you have a Radian in your hangar and are looking for an excuse to get out for a bit of fun-flying. Then come on out to the Poway field and check out one of our F5J Fun-Fly events.

We started out calling this a foamy event because the Night Radian was (and continues to be) the most popular plane to fly. However, we began simply calling it an F5J Fun Fly, because any glider under 2 meters that can be flown to the F5J rules as we apply them at Poway is welcome. This is a fly-what-you-got type event, so everything from a vintage Easy Glider to a brand-new Yellow Jacket is welcome.

We configure the field with landing tapes and the sound system to get as close to full-up F5J flying as possible. To maximize everyone's flying time, we reduce the flight window to 7 minutes. This is a very low-key meet-up and everyone is welcome no matter what your skill level.

For 2023 we have one remaining fun fly scheduled: October 28. Pilots meeting is at 8:45 with first up at 9 am. We typically fly five or six rounds, finishing up by noon. The event is free to TPG members and \$5 for guests. We do ask everyone to pre-register on the F3X Vault so we know how many pilots to expect and can run the matrix ahead of time.

[https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event\\_view&event\\_id=2604](https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2604)

We are hoping that these events will help to introduce new pilots to what TPG has to offer. See you at our next F5J Fun Fly. Whatever you bring, you are sure to have a great time. If you have been thinking about getting into F5J, but were not sure where to start this is the event for you.



January 2023 F5J Fun Fly (Bob Hirsch photo)

# What is LSF? – Gary Fogel



Gary Fogel

The League of Silent Flight (LSF) <https://www.silentflight.org/> is the special interest group (SIG) representing RC soaring to the Academy of Model Aeronautics. LSF has its own lengthy and important history, having first been conceived of in Northern California over 50 years ago, and helps arrange the annual RC soaring Nationals at Muncie, Indiana each summer. Additional info on its history can be found here: <http://www.silentflight.org/images/documents/lfstory.pdf>

In addition to this, LSF has two types of Soaring Accomplishment Programs (SAPs) that encourage personal skill development in the sport and are fun! There is an SAP that is strictly for RC soaring (the oldest and original SAP) and with the advent of electric launch methods, an eSAP was added more recently that duplicates the original SAP but with the use of electric motors for launch.

Each SAP consists of a series of five levels of achievement with increasing difficulty (Figure 1). The levels involve slope and thermal soaring, spot landings, cross-country flights and participation at contests. A pilot needs to achieve Level I before proceeding to Level II and so forth all the way up through Level V.

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

Fig. 1. The requirements for the LSF SAP and eSAP levels of achievement. (Source: <https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>)

The people who originated the program in the 1970s arranged it such that it was easy for novice pilots to attain Level I with minimum effort. However, as pilots proceed through intermediate levels, they have to attend contests (with increasing number of total contestants per contest to qualify) and accumulate points (and/or wins). For instance, for Level II a contest can be as few as five participants, whereas by Level IV the contest has to be at least 15 participants. This requirement helps drive interest in contests as they are crucial towards proceeding to the next level. Those interested in the LSF program help foster contest development.

## What is LSF? – (continued)



Similarly, pilots who regularly hone their skills at contests generally improve in overall performance and over time, seek increasingly different and difficult tasks. By the time a pilot achieves Level IV, the Level V tasks can feel daunting. A 2-hour thermal duration flight. An 8-hour slope duration flight (some refer to this as the “bladder test”). A goal and return cross-country flight of 6.2 miles out and 6.2 miles back. Its longer than it seems. And Level V requires 3 contest wins at large contests over 20 participants. These days it can be hard to find contests of this size, and the requirement to win them really means the pilot has to be on the top of their game. It can take years or decades for a pilot to complete Level V. Some pilots never do complete Level V; in fact, only 138 people in the history of the program have done so.

So how do you get started? It's **EASY**. Firstly, go to:

<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>

and print out a copy of the voucher form. Choose the path you wish (SAP and/or eSAP)

Bring the appropriate voucher with you to any of our many TPG events in 2023 and participate! If, for instance, you are flying in an F5J contest, each landing can be considered as a spot landing for the Level I and II requirements. Even the contest flights can have sufficient time to satisfy Level I requirements. Whenever you do make an achievement, have the contest director or your timer sign your form as a witness. We have Torrey Pines Gliderport (and other slopes) at our disposal – easy to get a 15 min slope flight with your buddies.

Once you've completed all of the Level I tasks, submit the completed voucher to LSF Secretary John Marien at [john@ne-aero.com](mailto:john@ne-aero.com) as a pdf scan or photo that clearly shows the witness signatures. 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.

A question then – who in the TPG has what LSF levels in SAP and eSAP? Well, we collect that information as a part of membership renewal. The Table on the following page provides the current LSF Levels for those who indicated so on their membership forms. This can (and should!) of course change over time.

Note that we have 11 members who are SAP Level I and 3 members who are eSAP Level I. It doesn't take much for them to get to Level II. At the other end of the spectrum, we have 8 members who are Level IV. It's going to take some teamwork to get them to Level V. In between we have lots of pilots who can benefit by flying in our contests or getting out for some slope duration at Torrey, etc. If you aren't on the list and have achieved an LSF level, please let me know.

## What is LSF? – (continued)



How many Level increases can TPG members achieve in 2023 for either SAP or eSAP? Feel free to reach out to me or others on this list and they will be pleased to help recommend some strategies or serve as a witness if they can, for your achievements. If there is interest, we could arrange special LSF days; we had on such LSF day on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

Use our many contests and fun flies as a way to help advance in these programs. Just be sure to bring your vouchers and if necessary, arrange in advance for the proper number and type of witnesses so they can sign your form afterwards.

Want to find out more? Check out the LSF program at:

<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php>

Last Name	First Name	SAP	eSAP
Blodgett	Edward	Level I	
Bregman	Milan	Working on Level I	
Brooksby	Chris	Level I	
Butler	Alan "Moose"	Level I	
Clerx	Ben	Level IV	Level I
Condon	Steve	Level IV	
Cronkhite	Doug	Level I	
Cummings	Ian	Level II	
Cummins	Dan	Level II	
Fogel	Gary	Level IV	Level II
Hall	Dave	Level IV	Level I
Hanson	Craig	Level I	
Hanson	Kirk	Level II	
Houck	Greg	Level I	
Hunter	Cliff	Level I	
Hunter	Cliff		Working on Level I
Kiesling	Thomas	Level III	
Legerton	Gary	Working on Level I	
Lochhead	Donald	Level I	Working on Level I
McCurdy	Scott		Level I
McFarland	Dan	Level I	
McNeil	John	Level II	
Metzdorff	Eric	Level I	
Miller	Corky	Level II	
Norris	Charles	Level III	
Pili	Ray	Level II	Working on Level II
Redman	Mike	Level II	
Rozek	Dieter	Level II	
Schafer	Chris	Level IV	
Smith	Mike	Level IV	
Throop	Terry	Level IV	
Ungar	Kyle	Level I	
Verzuh	Mike	Level III	
Ward	Les	Level III	
Warner	Garth	Level III	
Watson	Tom	Level IV	

## How We Connect

### What do **YOU** think?

**You** can express your opinion at: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://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.

**Don't forget to join** 

For all current and recently joined TPG members:

In order to maintain a line of communication among members, we have a TPG Google Group. Please make sure that our club Membership Chairman has your current email address. You can confirm this by contacting [membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org). If you are not already a member of the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an invitation to join.

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.



Google Groups provides a great way of communicating with one another. If you have any questions or concerns about almost anything having to do with flying, building, finding another club member, etc., you can post them on Google Groups. It also allows you to send links and attachments, just like regular email.

...and, very importantly, since all postings/emails are done through Google Groups, your actual email address is not visible when notifications are sent out to the club members. Also, only members of the group can post to the group, so joining the group does not add to your spam burden.

So, verify that the club has your correct email, make sure you receive an invitation to join Google Groups and sign up!

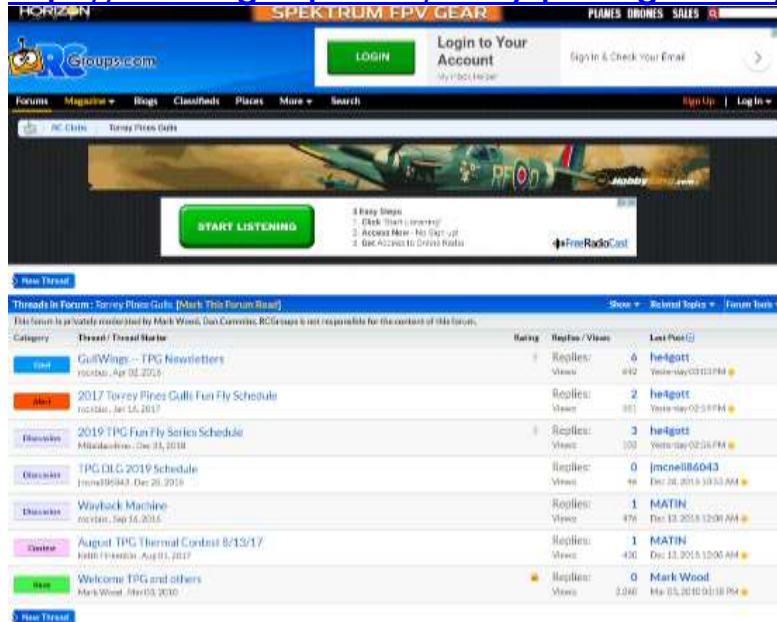
## How We Connect (continued)

# 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
Thread	GullWings -- TPG Newsletters foculdas, Apr 01, 2015		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gatt Yesterday 03:33 PM
Thread	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccidao, Jan 14, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 301	he4gatt Yesterday 02:38 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule Mikaelsson, Dec 31, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 103	he4gatt Yesterday 02:34 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcneil86043, Dec 20, 2018		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcneil86043 Dec 20, 2018 10:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccidao, Sep 14, 2016		Replies: 1 Views: 876	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:01 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Kathie, Feb 03, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:00 AM
Thread	Welcome TPG and others Mark Wood, Mar 05, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,246	Mark Wood Mar 05, 2010 10:18 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.

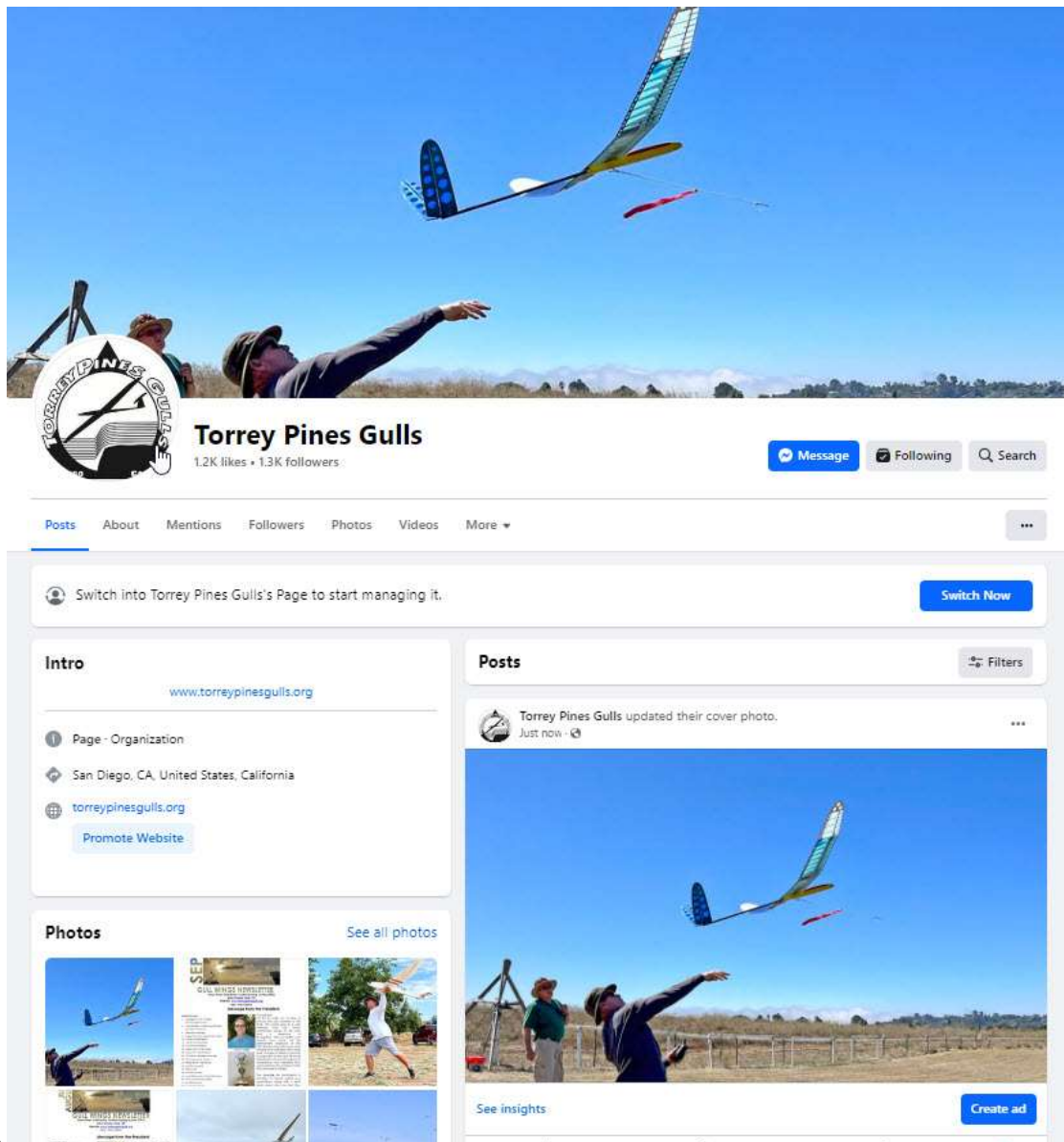
Unlike the old Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

## How We Connect (continued)

# Check out the TPG 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/>

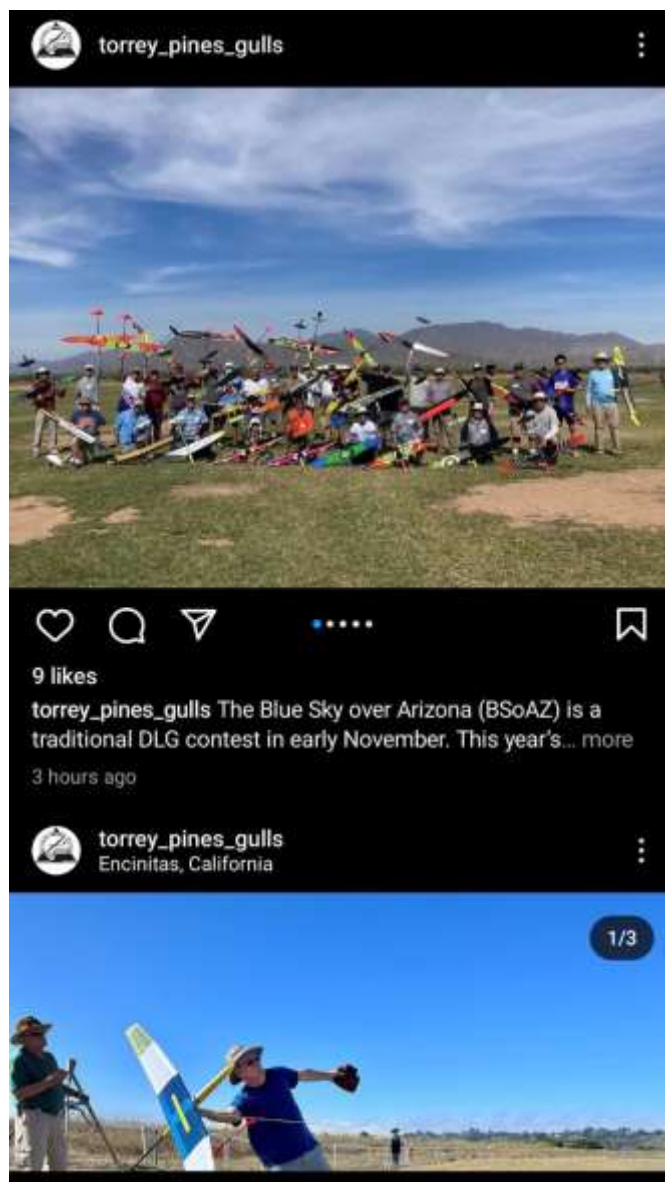


## How We Connect (continued)

# TPG is on

TPG's Media Coordinator, Mengchen Li, has created an Instagram account for the Torrey Pines Gulls. If you're already on Instagram, search for `torrey_pines_gulls` and click on follow. If you're not on Instagram, well, now's a great time to join!

Also, if you have any photos or videos of your RC soaring activities, contests, builds, fun flies, etc., send them along to Mengchen at [media@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org) and you might find your submittal on a TPG Instagram post.



## Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Chuck Norris	<a href="mailto:president@torreypinesgulls.org">president@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Vice-President	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:vp@torreypinesgulls.org">vp@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Past President	Ian Cummings	
Secretary	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:secretary@torreypinesgulls.org">secretary@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Treasurer	Don Lochhead	<a href="mailto:treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org">treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Communications Officer	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org">communications@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Thermal Coordinator	Tom Watson	<a href="mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org">thermal@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Slope Coordinator	Mark Baldacchino	<a href="mailto:slope@torreypinesgulls.org">slope@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
DLG Coordinator	Justin Tolman	<a href="mailto:dlg@torreypinesgulls.org">dlg@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Membership Chair	Cliff Hunter	<a href="mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org">membership@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	<a href="mailto:mike@themapsmith.com">mike@themapsmith.com</a>
LSF Coordinator	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:lsf@torreypinesgulls.org">lsf@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	<a href="mailto:web@torreypinesgulls.org">web@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Media Coordinator	Mengchen Li	<a href="mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org">media@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Historian	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:historian@torreypinesgulls.org">historian@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Mark Baldacchino	<a href="mailto:soaringcouncil@torreypinesgulls.org">soaringcouncil@torreypinesgulls.org</a>

### Executive Officers



Chuck Norris



Gary Fogel



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Tom Watson



Mark Baldacchino



Justin Tolman



Cliff Hunter

## 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**.

A Photo of the Year 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); so **horizontal format photos are preferred**.

Email your photos (**JPG format and original high-resolution version, please**) to Dale Gottdank at [submit@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:submit@torreypinesgulls.org). Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description. Note: December photo of the month winner(s) will be included in the following year's Photo of the Year competition.



**December 2022 Co-Winner** – Mike Lance & Thomas Moller flying Thomas's Mystique (Ian Cummings)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



**December 2022 Co-Winner** – Mark Canfield's Freestyler (Marty Dine photo)



**December 2022 Co-Winner** – Steve Condon launching his Vixen 2 at a TPG F5J contest (Bob Hirsch photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



**February Winner** – Ian Cummings launching his Cyril (Marty Dine photo)



**March Winner** – Arthur Markiewicz launching at the monthly TD contest at the Encinitas field (Cliff Hunter photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



**April Winner** – Christoph Efstathiou launching Don Lochhead's Medina at the inaugural TPG F3L contest in Poway (Gary Fogel photo)



**May Winner** – Craig Hanson's Windfree flying over the amazing wildflowers at Torrey (Bob Hirsch photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



**July/August Winner** – Keith McLellan flying Ted Torpin's 5-meter Slingsby T13 Petrel. Built from a kit by Old Gliders; covered in dope and fabric (Bob Hirsch photo)



**September Winner** – Ray Pili launching at the July F5J Fun Fly at Poway (Bob Hirsch photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Gary Fogel launching at the August F3L contest (Bob Hirsch photo)



**October Winner** – Brett Lock launching at the August F3L contest at Encinitas (Bob Hirsch photo)



AND WANTED

**TPG Classified Ads Policy**

Classified ads are free to TPG members for non-commercial purposes. Commercial customers should contact the editor. To submit an advertisement, send the information to [communications@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org). Ads must be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to appear in the next issue. All advertisements will remain in the newsletter for the month of issue and will be removed for the following issue. If you wish to advertise for another month, you will need to notify the editor or resubmit.



**Tattu LiPo Batteries for sale**

**All new - box never opened**

**Information is on each box shown in the photo**

**\$10 each**

**Contact Cliff Hunter for more information!**

**760-703-4497 cell or [cfhunter@att.net](mailto:cfhunter@att.net)**



AND WANTED

## Tattu LiPo - Batteries for Sale

New and used batteries – all useable

Information is on each label shown in the photo

\$10 each



Contact Cliff Hunter for more information!

760-703-4497 cell or [cfhunter@att.net](mailto:cfhunter@att.net)



**Quote of the Month:**

*“Anyone could see that the wind was a special wind this night, and the darkness took on a special feel because it was All Hallows' Eve.”*

*~ Ray Bradbury*



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)