



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2015

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

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

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## Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Message from the President (cont.)  
Yahoo Forum and Facebook
- 3 Newsletter Update  
Club Meetings and Activities  
DLG – C'mon Out to Poway
- 4 A Note from the Slope
- 5 Thermal Duration Activity
- 6 Discus Launch Glider Activity
- 7 Nice DLG Photo
- 8 Club Membership
- 9 Club Sponsors – Thank you
- 10 Photo of the Month Contest
- 11 Photo of the Month Contest (cont.)
- 12 2015 Club Officers & Contact  
Information
- 13 2015 Contest & Activity Calendar  
Quote of the Month



Dan Cummins  
President

## Message from the President

### Welcome to 2015!

The Torrey Pines Gulls are gearing up for another great year of flying, competing, and enjoying some world class flying sites that we as TPG members get to enjoy year around. As I write this, I am relaxing after some of us had the opportunity to kick off the first 2015 winter storm season at the Torrey cliffs on the last days of

December. The lift was epic at the slope, the temperature was relatively mild, and it gave all the slope addicts a chance to dust off their ballast and heavy planes for some high performance flying at the Torrey Bluff. A reminder that our club namesake is a world class site! New Years is a time for resolutions. For 2015, I urge club members to reflect on each of our roles as ambassadors to this great hobby and to the world class flying sites that we enjoy. Though answering questions, running through a preflight with the new guy, or helping someone launch their latest prized glider may seem mundane, that little extra effort could inspire a new RC pilot to learn to fly, a hesitant beginner to compete in the next TD contest, or inspire someone to scratch build their first glider. You could be that mentor, helper, or friend that helps someone enjoy this great hobby of ours for the rest of their life! We are a unique bunch of folks, and only a small percentage of people have the ability and/or opportunity to pilot remote control aircraft, and even fewer master unpowered flight. Our club has about 100 such glider pilots and many of those compete at the national level and have fun doing so!

To that end, the TPG board is working hard behind the scenes to add membership value, and to generate opportunities for TPG members to participate and share information about flying, building, and competing in the various disciplines in which TPG participates. In 2015 TPG will continue to host monthly contests, fun fly events, and onsite clinics. General meetings will coincide with non-competitive events throughout the year.

(continued next page)

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

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### Message from the President (continued)

This month check out the AMA Convention up the road in Ontario from 9th to the 11th, and the monthly TD contest on Sunday the 11th. Be sure to monitor the TPG website for upcoming events! Till next month, remember to fly more, share when you have the opportunity, and have FUN!

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

### Join the Yahoo Forum! (reprinted as a reminder to club members)

By Lenny Brzezinski -TPG Moderator

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

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



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

From John Blaske:

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

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



Dale Gottdank

## Newsletter Update - Dale Gottdank

Like Dan said, we're looking forward to a great 2015 for TPG, and remember, to make this newsletter even better:

**Please send some articles!** They don't have to be a "novel," just a paragraph or two about something that interests you related in some way to RC soaring...even something interesting you happened upon on the internet –I'd like to have the newsletter published by the first week of every month. If there's a roject you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club! To make the timely issue possible, I need the club members' support and help in providing me with **recent** pictures, articles and any upcoming events. If there are too many, we'll save some for the next issue.

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

## Club Meetings and Activities

As Dan mentioned above, TPG will continue to host monthly contests, fun fly events, and onsite clinics. General meetings will coincide with non-competitive events throughout the year. Be on the lookout for upcoming details and scheduling for all TPG and related events on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site at:

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

## DLG – C'mon out to Poway

Get your DLG's ready and don't miss another opportunity to hone your DLG skills as the DLG Clinic/Contest Series resurrected by Tim Traver, John McNeil and Gary Fogel continues this year with Tim Traver serving as DLG Coordinator. **Congratulations to Tim for being named TPG 2014 Modeler of the Year.**

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

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



Tim Traver

**2014**

**Modeler of the Year**



John McNeil



Gary Fogel



Ray Pili

## A Note from the Slope – Ray Pili

Happy New Slope Year All

I trust everyone had a wonderful relaxing holiday with family and friends. For you good boys and girls, Santa may have left you a shiny Ducati Red Sloper under the tree. And if he didn't, maybe your name was on Santa's "other" list.

If you're asking yourself, who is this new guy with grey hair; Well I'm Ray Pili and I'll be the slope coordinator for 2015. Please feel free to contact me for any slope related comments, suggestions, issues or questions. My goal is to ensure safe, fun and memorable slope sessions at the Torrey Pines Gliderport. We are very lucky to have such a beautiful flying site right in our backyard.

Speaking of memories, please remember to send Dale or myself, a few photos and comments of your visits to the Gliderport this year. Tell us of your gliders first flight, (or its last flight), an epic clearing winds slope session, your "sneak out of work for a long lunch attitude adjustment" flight, or a photo of the green flash at sunset. We all enjoy these stories.

The club's first scheduled event at the Gliderport will be the Annual Pilots Rating/Fun Fly tentatively scheduled for Saturday February 22 2015. This would be a very good time to fill out the liability waiver. Details will be forthcoming and posted on yahoo groups and the club website calendar as well as on RCGroups. As a reminder, the requirements to fly at the Gliderport can be found on the club website (<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/flyingtorrey.htm>). Note the daily use fee is \$10; the yearly pass is now available for \$200. Our heaven-sent December rains have greened up the slope nicely and we now have a soft LZ for your new Christmas sailplanes. The photos below were taken December 17<sup>th</sup> 2014.

Blue Skies





Mark Canfield

## January TD Contest – CD – Mark Canfield

**January 12, 2015** – TPG Thermal Contest, Encinitas Field

Thermal Duration Soaring Contest, Sanctioned Contest – AMA Cards

Pilots Meeting: 8:45 AM

Entry Fee: \$10.00 One Class, RES or ALES

Contest Starts: 9:00 AM

\$20.00 One Class + RES or ALES

Free AMA Juniors & Seniors

Field: Mowed Grass/ Dirt

### **TASKS:**

#### **4 Rounds**

5 min

7 min

9 min

11 min

#### **Scoring:**

900 Flight points

100 Landing points (landing tape)

#### **Penalties:**

20 points for every second over the task time

For more information, contacts, rules, etc. check the following page on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site: <http://torreypinesgulls.org/upcomingcomp.htm>



Mike Smith

## December TD Contest Results – CD – Mike Smith

**December 14, 2014** – Results not available at the time of this publication. Check for updates on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site.

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



## January DLG Contest – CD - TBD

**January – No Contest Scheduled at the time of this publication. If there is one, it will be:**

TPG DLG Clinic/Contest, Poway Glider Field  
 Sanctioned AMA Contest  
 Pilot's meeting 8:30, fly at 9:00 sharp)  
 Entry Fee \$10

**Tasks** - TBD

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Check out the TPG web site

(<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>) and the RCGroups link  
 (<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2070798> )

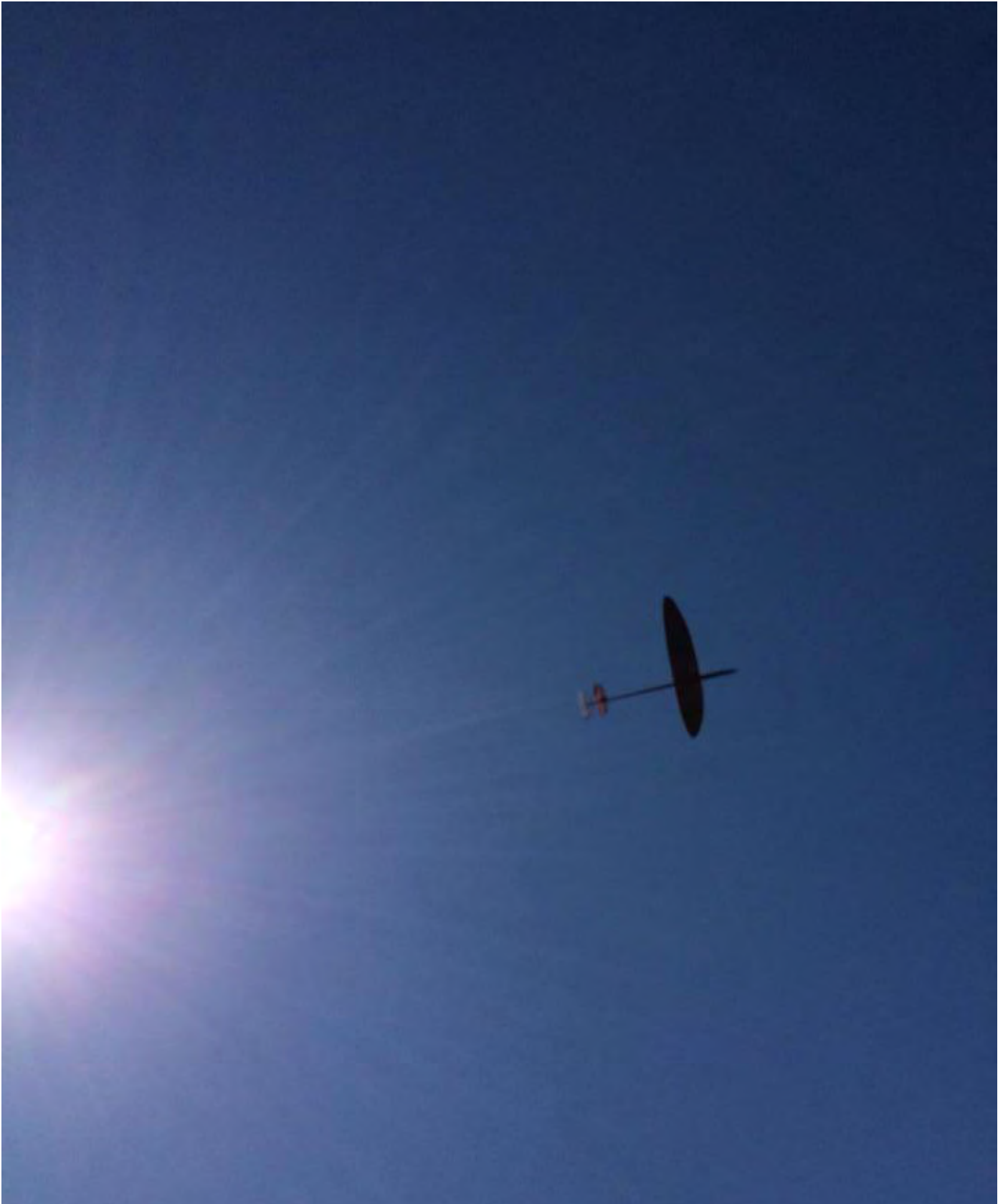
for further updates. Looking forward to a solid local turnout!  
 Come enjoy fun in the sun and get some pointers from the pros.



## December DLG Contest Results

The DLG crowd took the month of December off (at least as contests are concerned). Instead, here's a nice shot of Phil Davy making an inverted hand catch of a DLG at Torrey. Photo by Andy Grose.







Bill Eckles

## Membership – Bill Eckles

It's time to renew your memberships in the Torrey Pines Gulls for an exciting new year, filled with fun flies, work parties, contest opportunities and just plain lounging and recreational flying. Our three key flying spots are currently in good shape and as the new year progresses, so will our fields with green grass and blue skies and balmy Southern California breezes. Of course, there will also be on-shore winds in the 20's at the Gliderport and infrequent showers at the thermal fields to add spice and comfort.

The new board is not much different than the old one as the industrious workers tend to rise to the top, but lots of thought is going into the plans for the year and a great year is in their sights. Reminders have been sent to members from last year and so far the response is good. We're over 40 strong and we expect an increased response during the month of January. Please return your reminders or, if you didn't get one, go to the website and join us. The more members we have, the more we can help each other and the better the club functions. We'll get your membership cards and keys out as quickly as we can and you can comfortably enjoy the imminent seasonal up-tick in flying fun.

See you at the flying fields and club meetings.

Bill Eckles  
Membership Chairman

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

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

Dues are as follows:

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

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

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



# Club Sponsors

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

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



## Photo of the Month Contest

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



2014 Winner of the Photo of the Month Contest. Steffen Peters and Phil Davy launching Mark Foster's 5M Arcus sailplane (Shelby the Slope Dog spotting). Photo by Ian Cummings.



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



Sunset Silhouettes at Torrey (Ian Cummings)



Andy Grose flying his Ka-8 in the Torrey Sunset (Ian Cummings)



Andy Grose flyby with Shelby going airborne (Ian Cummings)



Rainbow over Torrey (Andrea Cole)



Phil Davy flying his Xperience Pro at Torrey (Will Bushnell)



Will Bushnell, his plane, Shelby and paraglider at Torrey (Andrea A.)

## 2015 Club Officers & Contact Information

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

Dan Cummins  
President



Marty Dine  
Vice- President



Dan Cummins  
Secretary



Don Lockhead  
Treasurer



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

Month	RES/ TD	CD	HLG	Slope Race	SC2	Other	Meeting	Board Meeting
January	12	Mark		<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>				
February	9	Parviz	15	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	23 SWSA	21 & 22 Phoenix		8
March	9	Cliff	15	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	23 VVRC	23-24 TPG Classic	12	12
April	13	Steve	19	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	27 SULA	12-13 Fresno	9	9
May	18	Mark	17	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	18 DSH at TPG			14
June	8	Tom	21	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	22 ISS	8th Slope Race	22 Encinitas	11
July	13		19	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	27 HSS			
August	10		16	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	17 SWSA			13
September	14	Scott	27	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	21 TOSS		7 Torrey Pines	10
October	12	Tom	25	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	Encinitas	5-6 Visalia		8
November	9	Mark	22	<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	17 Rain Date		12	12
December	14	Mike		<a href="http://socalsooperacing.com">socalsooperacing.com</a>	Sula & DSH		10	10

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

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



### Quote of the Month:

But whether [the source of lift] be a rising current or something else, it is as well able to support a flying machine as a bird, if man once learns the art of utilizing it.

— Wilbur Wright, 18 September 1901