

GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2016

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG) AMA Charter Club 129

Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor - Dale Gottdank

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Dan Cummins

Message from the President

Howdy Gulls,

2016 has been a banner year for the Torrey Pines Gulls. Membership ended up at over 100! I credit our club members and contest CD's for always providing a welcoming environment for pilots to fly and compete. If you

want to fly or compete, the club provide multiple opportunities most months of the year.

To that end, both the monthly DLG and TD coordinators (Tim Traver and Mark Canfield) have been the driving force that make the monthly contests happen. They have both CD'd more than their fair share of contest this year. Ray Pili has been instrumental as the Sloper Coordinator in helping new member introduction to flying at the Torrey Pines Gliderport. He has also found creative reasons to have four fun-fly events and two LSF qualifiers this year giving the slope flyer crowd reason to get out to the bluffs and fly again.

The efforts of the club members and the board are what keep our club viable year after year. The club always needs volunteers to CD monthly contests and we always need people to volunteer and serve on the club board. The commitments for each are minimal and all have a substantial positive impact to the club.

Message from the President (continued)

If you want to get more involved, just let me or any of the board members know, and we can help connect you with an opportunity to help make future club activities happen. Nominations for 2017 board positions can be submitted to me or at the TPG Dinner on the 13th. If someone has an interest in participating on the board, we'll find them a spot to help out!

I also want to remind you to RSVP for the Holiday Awards Dinner coming up on the **Tuesday the 13th of December at Phil's BBQ Event Center on Sports Arena Boul**evard. I need RSVP's by the Tuesday before to let our host plan for setup. Personally, I have already started fasting today to prepare for the feast....yuuummmm! You can RSVP at TPGulls@gmail.com or text me at 619-743-0602. Finish the year strong and join me at Phil's on the 13th to catch up with fellow Gulls and recognize fellow members' accomplishments.

Cheers!

Dan Cummins 2016 President



Ray Pili launching my NAN Shadow



Perfect day for a maiden flight at Torrey (photos by Greg Houck)



Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

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

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







Dale Gottdank

Newsletter Update - Dale Gottdank

Please contribute to our **GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER**

<u>Send Pictures!</u> <u>Send an article,</u> perhaps. It doesn't have to be a "novel," just a paragraph or two about something that interests you related in some way to RC soaring...even something interesting you happened upon on the internet. I'd like to have the newsletter published by the <u>first week of every month</u>. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club! This month, we have a nice write-up of TPG participation in the Torrey Pines Docent Society, Arts and Crafts Exposition from Membership Chair, Bill Eckles. Thanks Bill!

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) by the 25th of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at http://www.torreypinesgulls.org

What do YOU think?

You can express your opinion at: www.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

From John Blaske:

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



RECENTLY POSTED:

No recent posts, so...POST SOMETHING, people!

Join the Yahoo Forum!

From Lenny Brzezinski:

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

If you are new to the club, the website will give you a lot of information about the club. On the website there is a link that you can use to join the group. This group is moderated. Please use this group for flying related items. You can post on the Yahoo group files, photos, polls, members, and calendar. All of these sections are available to any member. I hope that your experience with this group will be great. On the TPG website, www.torreypinesgulls.org, you can follow the YAHOO FORUM link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over TORREY PINES GULLS next to LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP.

Photo of the Year Winner - Matin Taraz



Ian Cummings flying under a Torrey sunset

News from the Slope - Ray Pili, Slope Coordinator



Happy Winter Solstice Month!!



Santana winds slowed the start of the November Slope scene, but El Niño storms more than made up for it during Thanksgiving week.

Monday the 21st Dawn Patrol was greeted with 20 mph winds straight in.



Ray P. with Me-109, Dan C. with Me-109 and Greg H. with Ubercraft Raven (Ian Cummings)

News from the Slope (continued)







lan C. Cyril

Saturday after Black Friday gave Dan the winds to re-maiden his rebuilt and custom painted Shadow 3.7m.



Dan C NAN Shadow

News from the Slope (continued)



Sunday the 27th was an Epic day with Gusts over 40 mph. A full scale Motor Glider joined the fun.

From Ian
Cummings:
I looked up the
tail numbers and
it's a Phoenix Air
U15 Phoenix.

Phoenix Air U15 Phoenix, produced in the Czech Republic (Ian Cummings)



Bill and an event volunteer and attendee

Membership Chair Bill invited the Club to display RC Gliders at the Torrey Pines Arts and Crafts Display just around the corner from the Gliderport. We met a number of RC pilots that flew Torrey back in the 70's and 80's.

For more about this, see Bill's write-up on page 11.

News from the Slope (continued)

Safety tip:

Since winter is almost here, our friends at WebMD have posted tips to identify and prevent frostbite:

http://www.webmd.com/skin-problems-and-treatments/frostbite-how-spot-treat-prevent#1



Okay, not so much of a problem here in San Diego

But perhaps you'll find yourself at a slightly colder soaring venue.



Top Tips to remember:

How Can I Avoid Getting Frostbite?

Layer your clothing, loosely. Tight clothing raises your risk of frostbite. Instead, choose loose layers that allow body heat to get around.

You want three layers:

- The first layer should be of a material that helps keep you dry.
- The second layer goes over the first and should be made of an insulator like wool or fleece.
- The third layer should be worn on top and should be wind and waterproof.

Make sure your hat covers your head and ears. Get yourself a wool or fleece one with ear flaps. This will keep your ears warm and protected.

Choose insulating mittens or gloves.

Don't skimp on socks or shoes. Feet are very vulnerable to frostbite.

Blue Skies, Ray Pili



Sharing the Fun - Bill Eckles



I belong to a group of volunteers called the Torrey Pines Docent Society. This groups supports the State Nature Reserve just up the coast from our flying site at San Diego's well known Gliderport where quite a few of us get our flying fixes whenever the ocean breezes exceed about 5 mph and come even close to the magic 270 degrees, straight west into the bluffs. On Sunday, November 13 this group held an "Arts and Crafts" exposition, demonstrating the skills of many of its members by way of exhibits for the visitors to the reserve who wandered off the trails to the historical Lodge serving a museum, business office for the State Ranger staff and support for the docents, themselves. The idea was to show the public some things the group makes using natural materials, how Kumeyaay residents used these articles and also how "nature" provides food, clothing, shelter and, to many, entertainment and social pleasures.





As a frequent user of the Gliderport and the Reserve, I sensed a connection between the Native Americans' use of resources and the many ways that we in the Gulls used some of the same natural phenomena in today's modern, more sophisticated environment. I put out the word and four of us felt moved enough to bring a few sailplanes to the exposition along with personal experiences and a welcoming attitude to provide a display and information for the visitors. It turned out we all had a good day, stirred up conversations with folks who flew, had flown, used to "do that," opened the eyes of quite a few with information that nature provided us with a lot of fun.



Sharing the Fun - Bill Eckles (continued)



We had planes reflecting several aspects of model flying. My foamy Zulu with its "drooperons" led the "I have no idea" group when asked "what does that do?" However, it was only slightly ahead of my Big Bird with its funky wing's trailing edge. Ray Pili's DLG appeared simple until he explained the pin in the wing was the only launching method. Ray was particularly good at bringing the pleasures of soaring, r/c flight down to earth.





Eric Metzdorff had an array of beautifully constructed models and several additional kits to help explain basics of building and materials used. He also got into some deep discussions of benefits of different materials and the "how to's" of constructing these planes. They made a colorful and interesting display lined up along the sidewalk. But Gary Fogel's 1/4 scale SG38 received a lion's share of the curiosity draw with its uniqueness in today's aeronautical world of aerodynamic, complicated designs.



Sharing the Fun - Bill Eckles (continued)







All in all, this was a well spent several hours spreading the name and face of the Torrey Pines Gulls to the non-flying world. I encourage others in the club to be aware of possible venues to do the same thing. While our membership remains at a sturdy level, we could always benefit from additional numbers. They come from unusual sources: I feel very positive because of the big smiles we received from a gentleman in a wheel chair's (Greg) reaction to Dale's progress and enjoyment addressing his similar challenges. I'm hoping to see him again before long as he renews his interests and skills in r/c soaring at the Gliderport or Thermal fields.

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration

Thermal Coordinator/Winchmaster - Mark Canfield

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

or contact Mark Canfield at mcanfield5@roadrunner.com

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



Mark Canfield Hand Launch

F3K Coordinator - Tim Traver



Tim Traver

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

More information may be shown in the F3X Vault site (http://www.f3xvault.com) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc. and in this RCGroups thread: http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2580257

LSF Report - Ray Pili



December 2016 LSF Report

November was a bye month for LSF.

The final 2016 LSF attempt day will be Saturday, December 10.

For 2017, expect LSF attempt days starting on a Saturday in February.

Blue Skies,

Ray

And...a few photos from 2016:



Justin KA-8, summer 2016



John M. Ro-8, spring 2016



Ray P, Larry J, Daniel M., spring 2016

Club Membership Update - Bill Eckles



Bill Eckles

Here it is, only late November and we've topped our goal of 100 memberships this year. Because of the lateness in the year, the new members get an early start on 2017...a benefit for new members only, but a good one nonetheless. What I'm doing is sending our 2016 card with 2017 information on it, so try to get your pilot ratings completed as soon as possible. Our staff of raters is willing to go out of their ways a bit to help you get going. I'm confident you'll be glad you did, too.

This year was a good one for memberships. We set our expectations with the conservative goal of under-achieving compared to 2015, so we're pleased to have solidly put that level behind us. Now it's time to think about 2017, and when we do that things look bright. We have a vital membership involved in all aspects of *soaring* radio controlled aircraft...thermal, slope, hand launched, dynamic; competitive and sport, both. Our members help each other and share the knowledge they've attained; our core of repeating members is good and reliable. Additionally, as many of our new members are eager learners as there are providers of useful experience.

So, continue on the current path. Get the word out and reinforce our existing base of skilled experts. Add new, eager learners able to both benefit from this group and add more experiences to the base.

Does it sound like remnants of an election year? Yes, but it resonates with a meaningful ideal. Let's keep adding to the benefits of our club to make it even stronger in the future. We've done that in the past and will expect to carry it on. It's wonderful what we can accomplish! Thanks, and happy flying!

Bill Eckles Membership Chairman



NAN Shadow at Torrey (Greg Houck

Club Membership Update - Bill Eckles (continued)

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

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

Dues are as follows:

- ✓ Dues for the membership (calendar) year are as follows for submissions during.
- ✓ January through June \$60
- ✓ July through September \$30
- ✓ October through December \$60 (gives you a jump on next year)
- ✓ Full-time college students \$30 per year
- ✓ Juniors under 18 years \$15 per year
- ✓ Receive a credit of up to \$20, ten for each of up to two half-day work sessions helping the club.

If you haven't re-upped yet, or would like to join the club for the first time, go to www.torreypinesgulls.org 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.

Torrey Pines Gulls Apparel Store

The Torrey Pines Gulls Apparel Store is in business. We anticipate adding a DLG version of the logo soon, and we're open for any other additions down the road. Follow this link, http://tpgstore.qbstores.com or click on the images below to access the TPG Apparel Store. Choose from short and long sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies!





Club Sponsors

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

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











Photo of the Month Contest

Each month club members may submit photos of an activity related to soaring and the newsletter editor will post a winner to be chosen by the Board of Directors.

A yearly winner will be selected from among the monthly winners and will receive a prize (their photo will be used as the website and newsletter masthead AND will appear on the following year's club membership card). Needless to say, horizontal format photos are preferred. Email your photos (.JPG format preferred) to Dale Gottdank at dgottdank@gmail.com. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



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



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



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



Camera catches Phil flying the Xperience



Come to papa!



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



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



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



February 6, 2016 Torrey Fun Fly (lan Cummings)



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



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



Kat flying his Spirit



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



Launching foamies at the Torrey Classic Slope Race (Ian Cummings



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



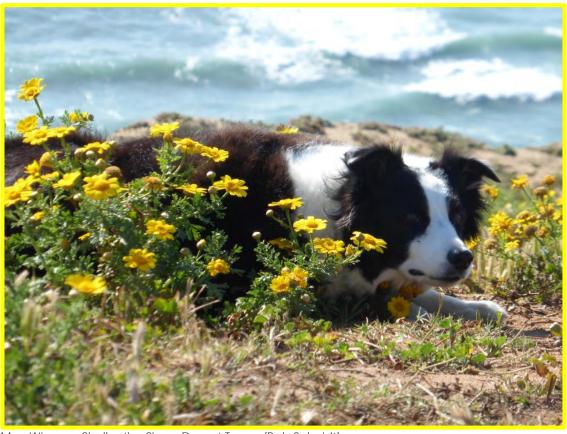
Tight turn at the Torrey Classic Slope Race (Ian Cummings)



Torrey Sunset (Ray Pili)



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



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



The joy of DLG (Cliff Hunter)



WeaselFest (Greg Houck)



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



June Winner - WeaselFest (Greg Houck)



July Winner – Nice sequence showing Airacobra mid-air at the 2016 FakeFest (Greg Houck)



More FakeFest Airacobras (Pete Rissman)



(August Winner) Launching over Cajon at the 2016 FakeFest (Pete Rissman)



Dynamic Racing – Phil Davy and Scott Magner – Ascot and Precision (Phil Davy)



Ward Hagaman's Scirocco at FakeFest 2016 (Matin Taraz)



(September Winner) Greg Houck's Heinkel at FakeFest 2016 (Dan Cummins)



(October Co-Winner) Slopers Down Under (Matin Taraz)



(October Co-Winner) Bird's-eye View (Ian Cummings)



Brian Laird launches the new Matin Taraz-Designed/Laird-Built Super Tucano on its maiden flight at Cajon Pass (Greg Hauck)



Super Tucano over Cajon (Greg Hauck)



Super Tucano landing approach at Cajon (Greg Hauck)



Super Tucano landing (Greg Hauck)



(November Winner) Ian Cummings flying under a Torrey sunset (Matin Taraz)

Since we've already selected the Photo of the year winner, and many excellent photos were taken at the bluff during excellent conditions, we're going to save some for the January issue of the newsletter. Hey, all you TD and DLG guys; how about some photos from you? Any, here's a little preview:







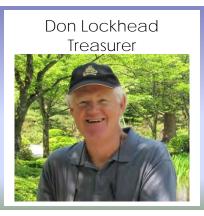


Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Dan Cummins	TPGulls@gmail.com
Vice-President	Ian Cummings	icummings@earthlink.net
Past President	Dan Cummins	TPGulls@gmail.com
Secretary	To be filled	
Treasurer	Don Lockhead	donloch@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Bill Eckles	tunabiker1@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Dale Gottdank	dgottdank@gmail.com
Winch Master	Mark Canfield	mcanfield5@roadrunner.com
F3K Coordinator	Tim Traver	timtraver@gmail.com
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	mike@themapsmith.com
Thermal Coordinator	Mark Canfield	mcanfield5@roadrunner.com
Slope Coordinator	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
Safety Officer	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
SC2 Representative	To be filled	
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	steve@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	garyfogel@gmail.com
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
TP Soaring Council (AMA)	To be filled	

Dan Cummins President Ian Cummings Vice- President

Secretary





Quote of the Month:

"How did it get so late so soon?" ~Dr. Seuss



Torrey Sunset - Photo by Marty Dine