



GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Web Site: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank dgotttdank@gmail.com

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Marty Dine

Message from the President and a few words From the Slope!

Hello Gulls,

Here it is March, and the year is flying by! A couple of weeks back we had our first club meeting of the year at the Torrey Pines Gliderport, which was somewhat sparsely attended (both by members, and the wind!).

A few brave souls managed to heave their machines off the cliff and get in some flying, but conditions were pretty anemic to say the least. No matter-- we had a great BS session bluffside along with an excellent lunch from the Glider Port restaurant. I think a pretty good time was had by all that attended. Watch for upcoming meetings to be held roughly quarterly at all of our flying sites. That's about it for now and don't forget our Monthly TD event coming this weekend, Sunday March 9th.

See you at the bluff and fields!



**See 2014 Club Meetings and
Activities on page 3**

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

By Lenny Brzezinski -TPG Moderator

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. 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 (R)
Mark Wood (L)

Newsletter Update - Dale Gottdank

We had great interest in the last newsletter. Thanks to Dan Cummins for his article about trimming servo covers. Keep the articles coming – Remember, I hope to have the newsletter published by the **first week of every month**.

To make the **usual** timely issue possible, I need the club members' support and help in providing me with pictures, articles and any upcoming events.

Please send in your articles (dgottdank@gmail.com) by the 20th 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>

Dale Gottdank, Editor

Club Meetings and Activities

As previously announced, the schedule for general membership meetings has been changed from monthly to quarterly (or thereabouts) in an effort to get more attendance, and make the meetings a bit more "special." Consisting of a series of fun-fly clinic events to be held at our thermal soaring fields and at Torrey Pines Gliderport, members will have ample opportunities to take advantage of our trio of excellent flying sites. 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 has returned to TPG!

Get your DLG's ready as the DLG Clinic/Contest Series resurrected by Tim Traver, John McNeil and Gary Fogel will be continued this year with Tim Traver serving as DLG Coordinator.

For more information, including format, cost, schedule (and why this is going to be so much fun), check out the full announcement on the Torrey Pines Gulls web site at

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



Tim Traver



John McNeil



Gary Fogel



Cliff Hunter

March TD Contest – Cliff Hunter -CD

March 9, 2014 - TPG Thermal Contest, Encinitas Field; Pilots meeting at 8:45 am; first round 9:00 am

Thermal Duration Soaring Contest, Sanctioned Contest – AMA Cards

Tasks

1 ST Round	5 Min. Precision Duration
2 ND Round	8 Min. Precision Duration
3 RD Round	9 Min. Precision Duration
4 th Round	12 Min. Precision Duration

Total of 34 minutes of thermal time...**If you can!**

Landings will be 50 Points with 25 foot tape.

Ribbons for 1st through 3rd for each class.

Contact Cliff at **760-703-4497** or cfhunter@att.net with any questions.



Parviz Kamiab

February TD Contest Results – Parviz Kamiab - CD

February 9, 2014 – TPG Thermal Contest, Encinitas Field

Thermal Duration Soaring Contest, Sanctioned Contest – AMA Cards

Tasks

1 ST Round	7 Min. Precision Duration
2 ND Round	7 Min. Precision Duration
3 RD Round	8 Min. Precision Duration
4 th Round	10 Min. Precision Duration

Landings: 5-foot tape, graduated from 50 to 0 points
in 10 point sections

All contestant scores are posted on the Web Site
www.torreypinesgulls.org under "Competition Results."

Place

First Place

Second Place

Third Place

Master

Mike Smith

Arthur Markiewicz

Rick Shelby

Expert

Cliff Hunter

Steve Hurd

Barth Warner

Sportsman

Novice



Tim Traver

March DLG Contest – Tim Traver -CD

March 15, 2014 – TPG DLG Clinic/Contest, Poway Glider Field

Sanctioned AMA Contest/F3K Team Selection Qualification

Tasks

- 1 F3K Task C - All Up Last Down (3:00 Max) x3
- 2 F3K Task D - Ladder
- 3 F3K Task G - Five Longest (2:00 Max)
- 4 F3K Task E - Poker (Pilot Nominated)
- 5 F3K Task A - Last Flight (5:00 Max)
- 6 F3K Task B - Last Two Flights (4:00 Max)

Here's the link to the event registration:

http://www.f3xvault.com/?action=event...w&event_id=269

Contact Tim at 858-245-8468 or timtraver@gmail.com with any questions.



John McNeil

February DLG Contest Results – John McNeil - CD

February 15, 2014 – TPG DLG Contest, Poway Glider Field

Poway is always an interesting place to fly. We had a great turnout for the first contest with 16 pilots, and it made for really great fun!

I hope to see more of you guys out there on the field for the next one (see above).

Place

First Place

Paul Anderson

Second Place

Greg Bolton

Third Place

Matt Nelson

All contestant scores are posted on the Web Site
www.torreypinesgulls.org under "Competition Results."



Dan Cummins

Articles of Interest

INTRODUCTION TO USING EPOXY RESIN, by Dan Cummins MARCH, 2014

- Most model builders use epoxy, but very few understand the specific characteristics, uses, and additives available to optimize their building outcomes. So I thought it might be helpful to discuss some epoxy, and epoxy additive basics.
- Generally, epoxy comes in two basic types.....Laminating and Adhesive resin. Basically, you use laminating epoxy resin when you are going to wet out fiberglass, Kevlar, or carbon cloth. Adhesive type resins are generally a more viscous version of laminating resin used to glue stuff together.
- The next decision is what kind of working time do you need to get your gluing/laminating job done. A good rule of thumb is: the shorter the working time, the more brittle the glue joint. For example, a 5 minute epoxy is more brittle than 30 minute epoxy, etc. You can manipulate the viscosity of resin via temperature, but be careful.....the warmer the resin, the working time goes down significantly. Also, don't be tempted to reduce viscosity by diluting with denatured alcohol.....this is an old trick, but it weakens the epoxy resin exponentially.
- The third decision you need to consider, is what you need the epoxy to do for you. Do you need the resin to be thick and stay in place on a vertical or overhead surface without running....you can use a thickening additive like Colloidal Silica (also called Cabosil) . Nice thing about Cabosil, it is also makes a resin joint or fillet less brittle.....I use it almost all the time when gluing things. There are additives that make the epoxy stick to metal parts better (West Systems 404). You can combine additives to achieve your desired gluing objective....ie use Cabosil to thicken and 404 for metal adhesion. There are also lightweight fillers that make sanding really easy for applications that don't require a lot of strength (Micro balloons for example). There are fiber fillers (Micro and Chopped) that can be added to add strength and toughness, but they are heavier and harder to sand.
- Your last consideration is clean up. Generally, you want to limit your direct exposure to uncured epoxy resins. I always use disposable gloves, stir sticks, and plastic salsa cups so everything can be thrown away when the job is done. I have also found that rubbing (denatured) alcohol is a very effective for un-cured epoxy cleanup, and it's a relatively non-toxic way to clean up spills and finger prints.

EPOXY QUICK FACTS!

- Slower cure time (30+ minute work time) = less brittle
- Faster cure time (3 to 5 minute work time) = more brittle
- Laminating resin is less viscous and is used for wetting out fiberglass, kevlar, and carbon fiber cloth.
- Additives can change the properties of epoxy resin
- Additives can reduce the working time
- Cabosil (aka Aerosil, colloidal silica, or fumed silica) = good thickening additive for applications onto a vertical or overhead surface without running (think mayonnaise). Makes cured epoxy less brittle.
- Micro balloons = non-structural. lightens mix, make it easier to sand for filleting.....good when added with Cabosil to thicken.
- Fairing Compound = Good for making light weight, sandable, smooth, non-structural fillets.
- Micro fiber or Chopped fibers = Adds strength, hard(er) to sand, great when used with Cabosil as thickener
- 404 Filler = additive for making better bond with metal parts. So-so as a thickener, better to use with some Cabosil to thicken.
- Graphite = good for making a mold "tool (top) coat". Cured surface has a semi-non-stick release property
- Combine additives to create epoxy resin properties for your specific application
- Use of additives tend to reduce the working time (pot life) of epoxy resins.

And....speaking of epoxy fillers, here's some more useful information from Keith Kindrick that Keith Finkenbiner sent along just last week:

SuperFil

After years of filling and sanding I'd like to give you the best filler I know of. Super Fill is an ultra-lightweight epoxy filler for rough fill and contouring which does not shrink. It comes in two containers (part A and part B). The mix ratio is 2 to 1. When you get the two parts of Super Fill in front of you one part is tan and the other a light blue. When the parts are mixed they remind me of warm salt water taffy being stirred into a light sky blue color. After mixing apply with a firm squeegee or putty knife. It tools around the areas you are filling super easy. If you can frost a cake you can do this! It sticks to everything you are filling. The pot life is excellent and it cures overnight without sagging or running. More consistent than hand-mixed micros. Weighs only 3.8 lbs. per gallon. Ships as NON-HAZMAT.

I've used 150 grit wet or dry paper sanding it wet to complete the contouring in need. Super Fill sands so easy and doesn't clog the paper. It is available from **Aircraftspruce.com**

Poly-Fiber SuperFil 1 Qt Kit

(20oz. Resin / 12oz. Hardener)

Part number: 09-28250 Current price is \$22.90

F3J IN THE DESERT



Mark Canfield

Anxious, excited, and nervous, these were just a few of the emotions running through me as I prepared to launch, in this, my first F3J event. Under the watchful eyes of my experienced teammates, I made it through that first launch and continued to settle into one of the best experiences of my flying career.

While similar in many ways to Thermal Duration, F3J still uses a winch to launch, followed by a measured time aloft and a spot landing to assess a point value. Ah, but this is where the similarities end.

The volume is essentially cranked up to "11", by pitting pilot against pilot at the exact same time and for the same working window. Naturally, having 12 pilots trying to maximize their flying time & point total during the same 10 minute window creates a high intensity test of disciplined flying and decision making.

Starting with the launch, F3B winches are used with 150M of braided line topped with 150M of mono. This combination used properly can award you with massive amounts of energy and lightning fast launches. Add to this, twelve other guys launching simultaneously, each fighting to be first off the "line" and "on the clock" and you have the makings of an exciting start to every round. The person launching the plane (never the pilot) has the added pressure of holding, loading, and launching at the precise moment to give the pilot the optimum launch opportunity. It is an awesome site to see! With your plane rocketing up the line, you focus on keeping it straight and pray nobody get "jiggy" and wanders into your lane. If this happens, and it does, hopefully your Jedi reflexes will prevail and all you'll be replacing is a change of drawers.

Getting your time is getting your time. I was lucky to have some of the best air readers in the business on my side and did very well in that department (for me that is). Flying a long way out is common and the sky is often very crowded so you must stay focused on you plane, and remember the blue sky rule.

Landings have their own twist and differ from TD. Planes are coming in from all directions and planning to land at the last second, so it's kind of like the San Ysidro port of entry at 5:00pm. Everybody will be jockeying for position, so be very plane aware and you'll be fine.

All said, this was a fantastic event; one that'll be on my list for years to come.

Note: Photos of the event are published under Photo of the Month Contest

Follow these links to see some videos of the event:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zY-Z-TqsY5s&authuser=1>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_ZEwEcxEhVE

And here are links to the Standings (enter your AMA # for access).

<http://www.f3xevents.com/release/F3JScore-Standings.php?EVENT=F3JDesert2014>

<http://www.f3xevents.com/release/F3JScore-FinalsStandings.php?EVENT=F3JDesert2014>



Bill Eckles

Remember to renew your 2014 Membership

Club Membership - By Bill Eckles

February is over and March is upon us with a slowly growing membership for our club. Now standing at seventy eight, we're behind our scheduled level but still healthy. There was very little response to a recent email we sent out reminding the list who've yet to "re-up" and we're hoping the recent storm fronts will be harbingers of onshore activity that will get these guys out! There are lots of good names to good guys who are good fliers remaining on the ranks of the inactive members...so, we're asking for your support! **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
- ✓ An interesting monthly newsletter with current information to help keep members informed
- ✓ We are an AMA Chartered Club #129, with benefits - field Insurance etc.

The dues remain at \$60 for the year and you can even get credit as much as \$20 for two half day work sessions if you want to help at club events or field maintenance.

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.

We have sent out renewal letters, consider them invoices, with all you need to know. to send your information in with. Also, if don't want to do paper you can use

PayPal® to speed your membership along. Go to www.torreypinesgulls.org and click on the tab "Membership". We'll make it as simple as possible to continue your membership.

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 in 2013.

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 (if they want to) can 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 (yet to be determined). Email your photos (.JPG format preferred) to Dale Gottdank at he4gott@gmail.com. Please provide your name, location of photo and what we are looking at.



January/February 2014 Winner (Ian Cummings)



Waiting for launch (Cliff Hunter)



"Planes", "Launch" and "Landing"
Three photos from Mark Canfield's
"F3J in the Desert" (see page 8)

2014 Club Officers & Contact Information

President	Marty Dine	619-665-9463	mdine@quattrologolf.com
Vice-President	Dan Cummins	619-743-0602	dc812@cox.net
Past President	Marty Dine	619-665-9463	mdine@quattrologolf.com
Secretary	Dan Cummins	619-743-0602	dc812@cox.net
Treasurer	Don Lockhead	858-451-1455	donloch@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Bill Eckles	858-703-4521	tunabiker1@hotmail.com
Newsletter	Dale Gottdank	858-449-6597	he4gott@gmail.com
Winch Master	Keith Finkenbinder	760-216-6349	keithone@cox.net
DLG Coordinator	Tim Traver	858-245-8468	timtraver@gmail.com
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	760-822-8348	mike@themapsmith.com
Thermal Coordinator	Mark Canfield	619-247-4697	macanfield5@roadrunner.com
Slope Coordinator	Marty Dine	619-665-9463	mdine@quattrologolf.com
Safety Officer	Marty Dine	619-665-9463	mdine@quattrologolf.com
SC2 Representative	Keith Finkenbiner	760-216-6349	keithone@cox.net
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	760-943-8304	steve@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	858-455-6449	gfogel@natural-selection.com
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	To be filled		
TP Soaring Council (AMA)	To be filled		

Marty Dine
President



Dan Cummins
Vice- President



Dan Cummins
Secretary



Don Lockhead
Treasurer



2014 Contest & Activity Calendar (subject to change)

Month	RES/TD	CD	HLG	Slope Race	SC2
January	12	Keith		socalsooperacing.com	
February	9	Parviz	15	socalsooperacing.com	23 SWSA
March	9	Cliff	15	socalsooperacing.com	23 VVRC
April	13	Steve	19	socalsooperacing.com	27 SULA
May	11	Mark	17	socalsooperacing.com	18 DSH at TPG
June	8	Tom	21	socalsooperacing.com	22 ISS
July	13	TBD	19	socalsooperacing.com	27 HSS
August	10	TBD	16	socalsooperacing.com	17 SWSA
September	14	Scott	27	socalsooperacing.com	21 TOSS
October	12	Tom	25	socalsooperacing.com	Encinitas
November	9	Mark	22	socalsooperacing.com	17 Rain Date
December	14	Mike		socalsooperacing.com	Sula & DSH

Note: Calendar subject to change at any moment without warning or notice. Check the Calendar often at www.torreyпинesgulls.org for updates. The SC2 schedule could change on availability of club field's check website: <http://site.sc2soaring.com/> and <http://www.torreyпинesgulls.org/calendar.htm>



Quote of the Month:

Gliders, sailplanes, they are wonderful flying machines. It's the closest you can come to being a bird.

— Neil Armstrong