



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2014

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

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

**Editor – Dale Gottdank [dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com)**

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Marty Dine, Pres.

## Message from the President And a Note... From the Slope!

Seasons Greetings Gulls!

Holiday time is here already, and that means that we will be having our annual Holiday Dinner and awards gathering at the San Diego Automotive Museum on Tuesday December 9th. It starts at 6:00pm and dinner will feature the always delicious Phil's Barbeque. If you haven't already done so, please drop Mark Canfield an email to reserve your spot today. It's the best meal EVER for a mere \$1.00. We will also be holding elections for the Board of Directors that night, so this will be your chance to vote for the future leadership of the club.

As 2014 comes to a close, let me say that it has been my privilege and honor to be the President of the club for the last two years. And though our overall membership number is somewhat reduced from its all-time highs, we have managed to survive the down economic times of the last few years quite well. (far better than many other Southern California clubs have fared, from what I understand) We continually invest in maintaining and upgrading the winches and gear at our sites, and are always on the lookout for other suitable flying sites. Also, I am proud to report that the International Hand Launch Glider Festival continues to be a premier event on the world-wide DLG scene, and through its success, the Gulls were able to donate a landmark \$2000.00 to support the US F3K team this year. So the outlook for the future looks bright. We are indeed a strong association with a membership who is active and willing to give back to the hobby.

Your Board is dedicated to providing opportunities for the membership to participate and grow in our hobby, but these events cannot occur without the generous outlay of time and effort volunteered by a select few of our members. These guys truly make it happen, and I want to say a heartfelt thanks to all of you. Without you, our club simply couldn't function.

Our club runs solely on volunteer energy and enthusiasm. If you haven't had the chance, I strongly encourage you to get involved and help out at one or more of our events in 2015. It's a great way to meet your fellow members, and rub shoulders with some of the best pilots in the hobby.

We will continue to develop and host events that foster periodic competition, education and most of all, fun for our members. We are constantly seeking to enhance the benefits of your membership, and to that end, we have recently enacted a new monthly contest fee structure for 2015 which lowers the entry for active club members to \$5.00 (down from \$10.00). On that note, we are always open to new ideas, so if you know of a way we can make the club better, or have an idea for an event, please let us know. Also, be on the lookout for some new events we are cooking up for 2015!

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

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Finally, your club needs you! When you receive your membership renewal in the mail, please remember to fill it out and get it back to us as soon as possible so that we can continue to operate our flying sites and host events throughout the upcoming year.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Holiday Party and at the slope or flying field.

All the best to you and yours,

Marty Dine  
President

## And a Note...From the Slope!

Torrey Pines has been enjoying some relatively good flying conditions lately, and we are all looking forward to the storm conditions that the onset of Winter signals! Remember to get your new waivers signed for the new year and let's hope for a good windy Winter flying season!

Marty

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

From 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

This is the final issue of **GULL WINGS** for 2014. It's been fun. One of the things we're looking forward to in 2015, is getting all of the contests (in addition to the DLG events) listed in the F3X vault. Hopefully, this will happen, as it will allow contestants to sign up, view the list of pilots entered and view the results without waiting for the newsletter or the website to publish them...we'll see.

**Next year, please send some articles!** No big deal...and no one will criticize your grammar. It could be something you author, or something interesting you happened upon on the internet or in a newspaper (what's a newspaper, you ask?) – I'd like to have the newsletter published by the first week of every month. 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>

December 3, I'm going in for some surgery to have a baclofen (muscle relaxant) pump implanted in my belly fat (yeah...like most of us couldn't afford to lose some;-) with a catheter to release the muscle relaxant directly to the base of my spine. I've been taking relaxants orally, which help a little but mostly make me drowsy. In a month or so, this should relieve the extra tone (spasticity) in my legs (resulting from a spinal staph infection 2 years ago) and I can return to physical therapy and relearn to stand and hopefully walk again. Should be an interesting 2015.

## Club Meetings and Activities

In 2014, the schedule for general membership meetings was changed from monthly to quarterly (or thereabouts) in an effort to increase 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 have ample opportunities to take advantage of our trio of excellent flying sites. **We're planning on doing the same for 2015. Check out page the Torrey Pines Gulls website for the next event!** 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>



## 2014 TPG Holiday Dinner



Mark Canfield

It's hard to believe that 2014 is quickly coming to an end, and it's time to celebrate another successful year. I hope you'll join us at the annual "2014" TPG Holiday Dinner!

It will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 9th, 6:00pm at the Auto Museum.

*In addition to the fantastic meal we have planned (Phil's BBQ), we'll also be handing out awards for the club Thermal Duration contests and "Modeler of the Year" and announce the winner of the "Photo of the Month" contest.*

Also, we'll use this time to vote in the new 2015 board members. And like years before, we'll have full access to the Auto Museum and the multitude of awesome vehicles they have on display!

Looking forward to seeing you there, it's sure to be a fun evening. Let me know (via e-mail) how many will be in your party (the more the Merrier!)

Thank you,

Mark Canfield  
[mcanfield5@roadrunner.com](mailto:mcanfield5@roadrunner.com)

### From Terry Throop:

### 2nd Annual Mark Child Memorial Toys-4-Tots Contest December 14, 2014

2nd Annual Mark Child Memorial Toys-4-Tots Contest

Contest is to support Soaring Union of Los Angeles' community services commitment for use of the Field of Dreams soccer field and to remember Mark Child.

Contest details:

Field: Field of Dreams in San Pedro, CA.

Date: Sunday December 14, 2014. Pilot's meeting at 8:30am. Start of contest is at 9:00am.

4 Classes: Open, RES, Open ALES and Foamy ALES. The ALES is not man-on-man scoring but will be for launching only.

Trophies: Traditional Bear trophies for the first three places in each class.

Entrance Fee: For each class entered a \$10-\$15 unwrapped toy for the Marines Toy-4-Tots toy drive and a \$5 field use fee.

Rounds: Three rounds, 5 min, 10 min and 10 min with 950 flight points and 50 landing points. The landing will be the normal surprise landing to be announced at the Pilots' meeting.

Come out and support the effort, enjoy the flying and remember our friend.

Thanks,

Terry Throop, CD

760.715.6810 or RCGroups Thread: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2275571>





Mike Smith

## December TD Contest – Mike Smith – CD

**December 14, 2014** – TPG Thermal Contest, Encinitas Field

Thermal Duration Soaring Contest, Sanctioned Contest – AMA Cards

Sign-up: 8:30 AM

Pilots Meeting: 8:45 AM

Contest Starts: 9:00 AM

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

\$20.00 One Class + RES or ALES

Free for AMA Juniors & Seniors

### Tasks:

The tasks are yet to be decided at the time of this publication. However it goes, you know it'll be fun so come on out for a great contest!

Check out the TPG web site (<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>) for further updates.



Keith Finkenbiner

## November TD Contest Results - Keith Finkenbiner - CD

**November 16, 2014** – TPG Thermal Contest, Encinitas Field

Thermal Duration Soaring Contest, Sanctioned Contest – AMA Cards

### Tasks

4 Rounds

Round 1: 5 Minutes

Round 2: 7 Minutes

Round 3: 9 Minutes

Round 4: 10 Minutes

Total 31 Minutes

Landings: Landing circles with point possibilities of 25, 15 and 5.

### Results

#### **Master Class**

1<sup>st</sup> Mike Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Kiesling

3<sup>rd</sup> Mario Scolari

#### **Expert Class**

1<sup>st</sup> Target

2<sup>nd</sup> John Vance

3<sup>rd</sup> Steve Hurd

Mark Canfield was unable to CD the November contest as he had hernia surgery and was home recuperating. We had fourteen pilots compete in what was forecast as very wind Santa Ana conditions. The contest got started at 9 AM and four rounds were flown. Mike Smith was the big winner with 3970.9. Tom Kiesling was second with 3966.8 and Mario Scolari was third with 3966.7. See all the scores TPG web site:

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

The contest was finished by 11: 45. Thanks to all the help from club members. Only one line break and the winches performed great after Arthur made an adjustment to the winches.



Tim Traver



John McNeil



Gary Fogel

## No December Contest

The last of the official TPG monthly series on was held Saturday November 22nd. TPG provided lunch for a special year-end event. Since there's no contest this month, here's a little something to remind you all to practice a lot and avoid trees.



## November DLG Contest Results – Tim Traver - CD

**November 22, 2014** – TPG DLG Clinic/Contest, Poway Glider Field  
Sanctioned AMA Contest / TPG Special Event  
Pilot's meeting 8:45, fly at 9:00

### Results

- 1<sup>st</sup> Paul Anderson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun Catacutan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Doug Cronkhite

All contestant scores are posted at the F3X Vault site at:

[http://www.f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event\\_view&event\\_id=277](http://www.f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=277)

Also check out the RC groups thread:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2070798>



Tim Traver

See next page for event recap from a few attendees.

## October DLG Contest Recap from Tim Traver, Mike Seid, John Blaske, Jun Catacutan, and Chris Brooksby

Wow! Totally awesome day today.  
The weather was just incredible. Very Comfortable.  
So, the scores are in f3xvault.  
The top position goes to Paul (again), and Jun right on his heels, only 4.5 points back! Doug put in a great performance to complete the podium.

Thanks for all your help this Tim! Great to have you step and CD!!  
What a huge turn around for TPG and the contest series. So much credit goes to John McNeil and Gary Fogel for their efforts this year. Thanks guys. I hope the momentum continues. I finally had some plane trouble this year with a funky servo that cost me the 2 min due to a plane change in the ladder, but it wouldn't have changed the results. Great flying Doug, Jun and Paul!  
What a great day today. Thanks for everyone who made it!

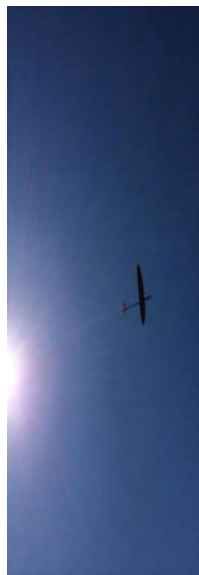
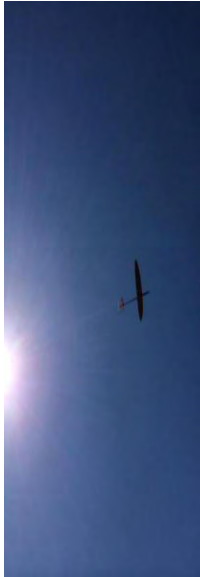
HUGE thanks to all you guys for putting off the start of the contest to wait for me to get there. This is what makes our DLG community so great; all the amazing people in it. Had such a great time. I missed getting out to the monthlies the past few months, and this contest was definitely a good little break from the usual school/work grind. Thanks to Traver, Fogel, and McNeil for holding such an awesome DLG series. Looking forward to seeing the crew when we start this up again next year.

Fun fun fun!  
Thanks, Tim and the TPG crew for another great contest.  
I'm actually tired. 2 heats, you're either timing or flying is tiring.  
4.5 points??? I want a recount!!!  
Ahahahaha  
Congrats, Paul and Doug!  
Can't wait for the next one!

Wow yesterday was quite a day, If you weren't there here's what you missed:  
A couple of guys decided that they wanted to fly their airplanes in the same place at the same time. I didn't see it, but I heard it, and it sounded spectacular  
Someone threw not only their plane but their transmitter as well, (I missed this one also but I am told it was done "like a boss..."),  
There was some good flying.  
There was some not so good flying.  
There was some heckling.  
We had lunch together, (Thanks Tim and the TPG!!!!).  
There were a lot of laughs.

I guess the bottom line is if you weren't there you missed out, because as always it was fun to hang out with your buddies and fly toy airplanes while standing in the middle of a big dirt field.

A big thanks is due to the guys who have worked so hard to put these things on, especially Tim Traver, John McNeil, and Gary Fogel. You guys rule!







Bill Eckles

## Membership – Bill Eckles (Reminder – reprinted from last issue)

We'll be getting the reminders to renew memberships out during early December with no major changes. We will be counting on renewals, so be sure to return your applications early. And all you competitors, remember your memberships go a long way to provide the monthly contests and pay the fees. So, have lots of fun and take home a trophy! As of October 1, the dues returned to \$60 but extend until the end of 2015 rather than 2014. So, new memberships got a three month bonus over the normal 12 months of the calendar; renewals simply get a head start on the new membership year.

It has been a good year as we added a half dozen or so new faces and lost only a few to things like family expansion, changing locations and even a little lethargy. Still, membership in the Gulls remains a bargain giving you a choice of three formal club-maintained flying sites and a lot of club equipment to share...winches, high starts, landing tapes and other competition paraphernalia. As well, there is much camaraderie to support utilizing aero-tow facilities and shared rides to off-trail slope soaring locations.

We hope you'll continue your memberships into the new year. The plan is to keep membership the same price as previously, provide four membership meetings held at flying locations for non-competitive activities, provide appropriate competitions for slope, thermal and hand launching, as well as access to literally hundreds of "soaring minds" with experience in areas in which you ponder on your own! We'll attempt to build memberships more aggressively in 2015, but the core benefits will remain that we've provided during the history of the club.

Here's wishing you continued thrilling and peaceful (both) soaring and safe one-piece landings!

### 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 (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 [dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com). Please provide your name, location of photo and what we are looking at.



January/February 2014 Winner (Ian Cummings)



March 2014 Winner (Mark Canfield) F3J in the Desert



April Winner (Scott Condon) - 1/3 Scale L-213 at Torrey



May Winner (Marty Dine) Oran's Big Pink Knockin' Down the Cans at Dave's Beach



June Winner (Dale Gottdank) Perfect CFIT (Pilot Unidentified) at Torrey





July Winner (Matin Taraz) Greg Houck's One Day Build P-39 Maiden at Dave's Beach



August Winner (Ian Cummings) Steffen Peters and Phil Davy Launching Mark Foster's 5m Arcus at Torrey



September Winner (Marty Dine) The Legendary Bob Martin Surrounded by Some of His Designs at Torrey



October Co-Winner (Greg Houck) Dan Cummins' Zephyr over Cajon Pass



October Co-Winner (John Blaske) Torrey Sunset



November Winner (Greg Houck) Scott's Lightweight Cobra and Brian Laird's Schmitt Dogfight over Dave's Beach





December Co-Winner (Ian Cummings) Mick Tinker Launching his Wing at Mount Laguna



December Contest (Ian Cummings) Phil Davy Launching his Wing at Mount Laguna



It was a little windy at Mount Laguna Nov. 23, 2014



December Co-Winner (John Blaske) Glider – full scale? Over Torrey

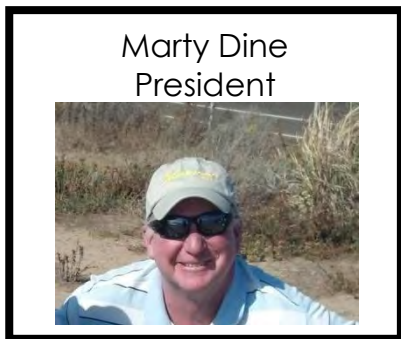


December Contest (John Blaske) Glider over Torrey



## 2014 Club Officers & Contact Information

President	Marty Dine	<a href="mailto:mdine@quattrogolf.com">mdine@quattrogolf.com</a>
Vice-President	Dan Cummins	<a href="mailto:dc812@cox.net">dc812@cox.net</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	Marty Dine	<a href="mailto:mdine@quattrogolf.com">mdine@quattrogolf.com</a>
Safety Officer	Marty Dine	<a href="mailto:mdine@quattrogolf.com">mdine@quattrogolf.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	



## 2014 Contest & Activity Calendar (subject to change)

Month	RES/TD	CD	HLG	Slope Race	SC2
January	12	Keith		<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	
February	9	Parviz	15	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	23 SWSA
March	9	Cliff	15	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	23 VVRC
April	13	Steve	19	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	27 SULA
May	See SC2	Mark	17	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	18 at TPG Encinitas
June	8	Tom	28	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	22 ISS
July	13	Keith	19	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	27 HSS
August	10	TBD	16	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	17 SWSA
September	14	Scott	13	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	21 TOSS
October	See SC2	Keith	18	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	26 at TPG Encinitas
November	9	Mark	22	<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	17 Rain Date
December	14	Mike		<a href="http://socalsloperacing.com">socalsloperacing.com</a>	Sula & DSH



### Quote of the Month:

**They done it! They done it! Damned if they ain't flew.**

— *Johnny Moore, shouted while running to the village of Kitty Hawk. 17 December 1903.*