

GullWings A Busy Year Begins!

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society

February 2008

President's corner

Parviz Kamiab, President

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to be part of a soaring club which promotes fun, friendship and an opportunity to learn the exciting art of flying. I would also like to thank the previous board of directors, especially Cliff Hunter for their excellent jobs.

It is a new year and there are a lot of activities planned. We have planned the Thermal Duration and Handlaunch contest schedule for the year. We have great speakers lined up for the club meetings. We also have brought back the swap meet which will be at the March club meeting.

Another big event for TPG is the "International Handlaunch". This is the biggest event for our club, which requires a lot of help from volunteers. Ron Scharck and Don Richmond have been promoting this event for last 13 years and deserve a lot of the credit.

2008 year calendar is on the web site. You can find the dates for all the contest and events through out the year. This calendar will be updated as new events are scheduled. Another one of the yearly events is our annual Holiday party. The number of attendees has been growing for last 3 years and we are happy to see so much participation. We had 90 pilots and their friend and family joining us for the 2007 Christmas party. If this group gets any larger, we have to look into getting a larger room. Steve Hurd has done a great job in keeping the web site updated with its valuable information.

Do not forget the "Beat the president" TD contest this month. There will be a Pizza get together afterward.

Have fun flying.

Schweizer Fun Fly

Sal Peluso

[It is looking very good for the much anticipated "Schweizer Fun Fly" to be held at Torrey Pines Glider Port in March. Here is an E-mail Sal sent in later January....]

I have communicated with Dave Jebb, first by e-mail and then I called him Sunday January 27. Dave has given his approval for the TPSSS Schweizer Fun Fly on March 9, 2008. Dave checked his calendar and said this date will be good as "there is nothing going on March 9." He was very upbeat and agreed with our request to put the event on that day. I told him the only thing formal about the event was that we would request a photo shoot at the top of the grass hill where the hang gliders land. He also said he would clear the window for a fly-by photo shoot. I assured him that we would hold a pilots meeting and that every participant would abide by all Torrey Pines Gliderport rules. He said that "we will make this a nice event." So March 9 is the day, and we look forward to having a good time.

Sal

News from the Cliff

Mike Lance, TPG Safety Officer

Flying at Torrey has been off and on for the past several weeks. All has been running smooth with the exception of a week ago last Wednesday.

We had the first day in weeks with great lift and there were 30 Para gliders and Hang gliders in the sky at all times. There was no flight director controlling traffic which made for difficult flying for the RCers. We had one Para glider land with the chute over an RC pilot, a hang glider that crashed right in front of the RC mound and a hang glider that crossed right in front of an RC glider on approach. When we ask the one

instructor what was going on he told us that unless they have student pilots they do not have a flight director to control the traffic during the week.

That is unacceptable. I talked with Gabe at the Soaring Council meeting that evening and the next day had a conversation with Dave Jebb. He and Gabe agreed that it was unsafe flying and would not let that happen again.

If you are out flying at the Torrey and something happens PLEASE don't yell at the pilots. Go see the flight director and he will take care of the problem. The TPSSS will be hosting the Schweitzer Fun Fly on March 9, 2008 and we hope all of you will come out and enjoy a great day of flying. All the Torrey Pines flying rules will be enforced except for a photo shoot for a fly by of all the Schweitzer gliders at one time. The flight director for the Para gliders and Hang gliders will clear the window for us for the photo opportunity. So get out any Schweitzer glider you have and come join us a fun day of flying. I will have a great treat for everyone to see. I will have the 1/2 scale TG-2 on display and you don't want to miss this.

That's all for now and remember to have a spotter with you when flying at the Cliff.

F3F Returns to Torrey

David Klein, VP TP Gulls

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am proud to announce that the official sign ups for the Torrey Pines Classic have just been opened. Sign up is quick and easy, online at <http://torreypinesgulls.org/TPGclassic.htm>. This is a 2 day F3F race taking place on Saturday and Sunday March 29th and 30th. This will be a great event at the world famous Torrey Pines Glider Port in La Jolla California.

The entry fee is \$50 and includes day use fees to the glider port and lunch on both days. For additional information, please see the contest's website.

Thank you,

David Kleindjklein@ucsd.edu

F3J Competition

Bill Eckles, Editor

Ben Clerx from the Harbor Soaring Society asked that we publish this announcement and request for support for the US Team. He's a good guy and certainly the cause has merit. See what you can do to help.

"The US F3J Soaring Team will be competing in the world championships June 30-July 5th, 2008 in Turkey. The team is selling raffle tickets and merchandise to help fund the trip. Please check out their website (USF3JTeam.com) for pilot

Month	HLG	RES/TD	RES/TD Contest Director	(SC)2 TD	Other	Meeting Board/General
Feb	16	24	Steve C.		2/3 F3B Clinic 16/17 Phoenix	6/12
March	15	9	Terry T,		29/30 Slope	5/11
April	19	13	Scott C.			2/8
May	17	18	Cliff H.			7/13
June	7/8	22	Don R.		7/8 IHLGF	Summer
July	19	20	Parviz K.			Summer
August	16	10	Mike S.			Summer
Septemb	20	14	Scott C.			3/9
October	18	12	Keith F.		4/5 Visalia	8/14
Novemb	15	9	Dave K.			5/11
December	6	14	Steve C.			3/9

Calendar dates subject to change. Please review the calendar each month and watch the TPGulls@yahoo.com list for updates.

biographies (three senior pilots, three junior pilots and one 2006 returning junior world champion), merchandise, raffle tickets, sponsors and F3J info. The plan is for the website to also report daily contest results. The team appreciates your support in their quest to bring home the gold".

Hand Tow Launching

Drew Arnett

For quite a while now I've wanted to try "hand tow" to launch a sailplane instead of a winch or high start. There are some interesting articles about this, one on the TPG website and a couple on an Australian club's website. Very interesting is that there are actually several different methods used for hand tow. For some reason, I've always pictured the single pulley, two man style of tow most frequently used for F3J.

Also of note is that hand tow was used for free flight gliders.

John and I work near each other and had been flying during lunch time once a week. John had found a nice soccer field at a local park. I asked if he wanted to sacrifice, I mean volunteer, his 2m EPP sailplane for a hand tow experiment. He was game, so we tried it out.

He setup and test flew his glider. Because we were going to launch crosswise on the soccer field, I cut a short, 20 yard piece of mono, tied one end to a keyring and the other to a stick to pull with. A piece of VHS tape normally used on the end of a transmitter antenna was used as a ribbon on the keyring. We got in position, then I started sprinting.

I could feel tension rather quickly on the line. I continued running, trying to keep a consistent and reasonable amount of tension on the line. He came off the ring nicely at the top and glided back down though a few bumps of rising air.

Success! We tried a second time. This time also with no wind and no favorable thermal activity, the glider did not rotate immediately. So, after I started sprinting, there was some delay before the tension built up. At least the glider didn't fly off of the towline early. Again, John had a very nice launch off of the top and had a nice glide back down.

Wow, what a cool way to launch sailplanes! I can't wait to try it again. In the mean time, I've been asking around and researching to learn how to deal with some of the problems including the early launch rotation and how to spool and store twisted mono. A no-pulley launch might be a good way to burn off

the excess energy of any kids, as long as they can provide a reliable amount of tension (don't want 'em to pull the wings off!

I think it'll be interesting to try out a pulley hand tow launch, too. With the multiplier of a pulley system, hand tow launches can be made in no wind without "running." The Australian club sets up the pulley tow so that the tower is near the pilot. This would make it almost as convenient as winching (read no walking) without the fun of lugging those winch batteries around. That club actually does sport rather than F3J contests with hand tow.

I'll keep you posted on my experimental experiences with hand-tow and John and I are becoming addicted advocates. Besides, the body can use some of the conditioning it provides.

Big Meeting Tuesday

Bill Eckles, Editor

Don't forget! The February general meeting will be held on Tuesday February 12 at the Aerospace Museum in Balboa Park. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM and will be over no later than 9:00. Sean Porter will talk to us about his moldings. He's a good presenter and this should be a favorite for learning opportunities.

Moose will have lots of goodies for the raffle, so don't forget to bring some cash along.

TPG LSF

Drew Arnett

There is currently a special interest group of 11 TPG members who are working on the LSF (League of Silent Flight) soaring achievement program. The group provides encouragement and assistance for each other with the tasks. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this group, please let me know (arnett.drew@gmail.com)

The program consists of tasks involving thermal duration, slope, cross country, precision landing, and competition flying. For more information, see the LSF website. (www.silentflight.org)

Update Your Email, Please!

Bill Eckles, Editor

Our Email address list is getting way out of date and we would like to start using it again. Please send any changes in your email to Steve Hurd, our webmaster who will make every effort to keep things current. Thanks in advance for your help on this issue!

2008 Torrey Pines Gulls Thermal Competition Rules Competition Classes

The 2008 competition season shall have two competition classes, flown at the same contest: Unlimited and RES. Unlimited may be flown by any sailplane without a motor. RES may be flown by any sailplane that is controlled by Rudder, Elevator and spoiler. No movable trailing edge may be used on the primary wing.

Competition Classes

There shall be four competitor classes flown in unlimited: Master, Expert, Sportsman and Novice. All classes will be determined by pilots' choice. There will be no standard for promotion. A competitor may advance to a higher class, but may not demote themselves.

There shall be one competitor class flown in RES. Pilots will fly against each other.

Tasks

All contents shall have at least 4 rounds, subject to weather or other conditions. Contest Directors will coordinate tasks with the Thermal Coordinator, and provide contest announcement in the club newsletter. Announcement shall be submitted no later than the 15th of each month.

Timing

All timing shall be consistent with the "rounding" method. Times which show X:XX.50 shall round up to the next second. Times which show X:XX.49 shall use the seconds shown on the watch.

Scoring

All competition classes and competitor classes shall be scored together at each contest. All scores shall be maintained to two decimal places.

Cumulative Scoring

All Unlimited and RES pilot classes shall be scored together and normalized to 1000 points. The season championship shall be determined by the best 9 scores.

Year-end awards shall be given for Sportsman, Expert, Master and RES. Season "High Points" award shall be given to the competitors that accumulate the most points in Unlimited and RES.

Contributions

Bill Eckles, Editor

It seems always to be the case. We are in need of material for the newsletter. Don't worry about being a great creative writer, we can put words around most ideas. But if you have experiences that are interesting, accomplishments, activities...please let us know. Our own Moose took a memorable trip in a full size glider out a Warner Springs. This month Drew learned what it is like to tow a foamy at the end of 20 yards of monofilament. Did you get attacked by a red tail hawk? Did a traffic helicopter shout at you? Any rattle snakes at the bluff?

Let us know what's going on. We can always use articles and if you have a picture, so much the better. We'll give you credit in the byline and the respect and admiration of your buddies.

Also, what 's for sale?

Torrey Pines Gulls Board of Directors -- 2008

President	Parviz Kamiab	760-415-0374	pkamiab@hotmail.com
Vice President	David Klein	858-336-7827	d.james.klein@gmail.com
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TP Soaring Council Rep (TPG)	Mike Lance/David Klein		
TP Soaring Council Reg (AMA)	Joe Holzman		
Historian	Gary Fogel		gfogel@natural-selection.com

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Poway Field



Adam Smith
858-278-8088
Torrey Slope



Alan "Moose" Butler
619-200-6034
Torrey Slope

Next General Meeting...

February 12 at 7:00 PM

San Diego Aerospace Museum
Balboa Park

The Torrey Pines Gulls

A non-profit society whose primary purpose is to support and encourage the activities of its members engaged in radio controlled sailplane flying

Trading Page

Buy, Sell or Trade

(Just keep it honest!)

Nothing new for sale this month!

Swap Meet in March at the

General Meeting!

Bring your old, idle stuff and swap it

for someone else's old, idle stuff!

Clean out that closet or garage!

Someone wants that equipment
you don't use anymore.

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who will appreciate it.



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When you are thinking of buying a hobby-related item, please consider these outstanding companies first.