

## Three, We Have Three Fields!

Bill Eckles, Ed.

At the start of 2009 our Torrey Pines Gulls have three functioning flying fields. In addition to the famous Glider Port location at Torrey Pines and the refreshed site in Poway, we have a brand, spanking new facility in Encinitas. Not to gloat, but very few flying clubs can say that in today's crowded, urban sprawl that makes up the areas where most soaring fanatics reside.

We are blessed. Through a combination of far sighted club members and cooperative municipal leaders and an exceptional record of good neighbor cultivation, the Gulls have cemented long term relationships in these three locations.

While other clubs, especially in southern California, are losing access to good lift areas, we have managed to add to our opportunities.

The Torrey Pines Glider Port remains the signature site for our club. It is an unique location that provides reliable, flyable lift and one of the most beautiful locations in the United States. Day fees are \$7.00, but your Gulls membership and cooperation in following some simple rules gives you the ability to use this world-famous flying site. The ocean breeze comes in almost every day, hits those sandstone bluffs and allows us to fly everything from Gentle Ladies to ballasted slope rockets in the lift it produces.

Rules are simple. Fly with a buddy, spotter and keep blue sky between your ship and others and you'll do pretty fine. Of course, the concessionaire wants a bit of money to use the facility, but it is modest considering what it delivers. Landings should be in the designated area and care must be taken to provide a wide berth for the manned aircraft to maneuver, but otherwise "good sense" prevails. Be sure to use the frequency board and, whenever possible, have a spotter to help. Senior pilots will gladly help overcome those new-guy jitters and sign off on your passing the basic skills test that qualify you

to sail there.

The Poway Flight Center is located just off Poway Road on Garden Road and across from the elementary school on the east side of Poway. Enter the gate using either the combination (get it from Parviz) or the key (get it from Parviz) lock and turn right before you get to the creek. Follow your nose and park at the east end of the mowed launch/land area and set up your winch or high start.

Be sure to check frequencies using our new board. Don't buzz any horses; in fact, give them wide berth, too, and NEVER fly over the property on the hill behind you on the east end of the property. You will find the lift can be spectacular, especially when the dark ground cover heats up in the mid-morning sun and those little wispy clouds show where the air is going up. If you're lucky, a friendly red-tail hawk or a playful raven will lead the way. This area has provided many a TPG soaring fan hours of fun, competition and even relaxation in a pastoral setting that is difficult to match in most urban flying locations.

Up in Encinitas, east of Camino Real and just west of Encinitas Boulevard is a big old landfill that currently sports green, ankle deep grass, parking areas, cement platforms for club winches and even a clean porta-pottie maintained by San Diego County.

Our club has leased access to this area and has dressed the field up with barriers and facilities to make our flying fun and care free. Rules are posted, but they simply reinforce our need to be good neighbors to the people residing in the area as well as the maintenance people who run the capturing of methane from the refuse buried there.

Access is gained through a locked gate at the east end of the landfill and our club lock (labeled, get the key from Parviz). The owners' biggest concern is that we break nothing and do not penetrate the membrand separating the refuse from the atmosphere...

NO FLYING IS ALLOWED FOR FIVE DAYS FOLLOWING A RAINFALL.

Rain is defined as either 1/4" or creating puddles. Park in marked areas only. Drive NO stakes. Use the club equipment whenever possible.

Here is where we have club contests (TD) and SCSC contests, so the contest director decides and rules. This is another wonderful site with plenty of room to fly and lots of lift under even modest conditions.

So why all the talk? We are privileged to have three very good places to exercise our soaring passions. More than most clubs. Our membership dues are small. Our club is active and takes good care of these locations. Use them, too! Keep active! Let your friends know about the club. Spread the word and encourage many more to participate with us. Contests or solo, this is the stuff of which great memories are made. Good flying!

## Aerotow in February

February 21 at Palomar Flyer Club. I-15 at 76!  
Be there!

## The "New Deal" on Dues

Bill Eckles, Ed.

For 2009 we have a new set of rules for club membership dues. The dollar amount remains the same at \$40. However, we will begin allowing credits toward NEXT year's dues for organized club work of \$10 for each "workday" session of four hours. There is a maximum allowed amount of \$20. This is being implemented to help offset an increase next year to \$60, or that same \$20 amount increase.

Sound confusing? It's not. To get more guys out to help maintain our three flying sites, the board decided credit for time worked would be a good trade off, so here you go. The guys who want to take it easy can do so at the cost price of an extra \$20; the rest of us hold our dues at their current level. Think it will work? We hope so and look forward to seeing all of you out helping with contests and mowing the grass.

Month	HLG	RES/TD	RES/TD Contest Director	(SC)2 TD	Other	Meeting Board/General
January		18	Steve Condon	No Contest		6/13
February		15	Larry Jolly.		Phoenix	3/10
March		15	Don Richmond.			3/10
April						7/14
May		17	Cliff Hunter			5/12
June		14	Terry Throop			No Meeting
July		19	Steve Condon			No Meeting
August		16	Scott Condon			No Meeting
Septemb		13	Tom Kiesling			1/8
October		18	Keith Finkenbiner		Visalia 4 & 5	6/13
Novemb		18	Dave Klein			3/10
Decembe		14	Mike Smith			1/8

### Next General Meeting...

February 10 at 7:00 PM

San Diego Aerospace Museum  
Balboa Park

### The Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society

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

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

# Torrey Pines Gulls Board of Directors -- 2008

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Safety Officer, Slope	Mike Lance		
Safety Officer,	Parviz Kamiab	760-415-0374	pkamiab@hotmail.com
Historian	Gary Fogel		gfogel@natural-selection.com

## Club Mentors



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Poway Field



Adam Smith  
858-278-8088  
Torrey Slope



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

# Flying at Torrey...

Lenny Brzezinski

One day in December:

I was on vacation for the Christmas holidays so I planned to get as much flying in as possible during my time off. The day after Christmas was to be a flying day for me. My wife had to work so it was off to Torrey Pines glider port. I knew it would be a good day for flying something fast.

The wind was blowing about 10 to 15 mph. I took the P51 mustang, P38 and the Alpina. As to my surprise on my arrival at Torrey, there were others that had the same idea as me. There were a few small fast gliders, some larger ones, and then there was one half scale glider. I have seen 3 meter, 4 meter, 5 meter, even 6 meter gliders flying at Torrey. This was an 8.8 meter, 1/2 scale DG1000.

The glider is owned by Mario. It was somewhere about 28 foot 6 inch. This was the biggest glider I had ever seen. It weighed in at 80 lbs. If we were to throw it off the cliff it would take four people to launch it. The plan was to auto-tow it. After setting it up we did a pre run with the launch vehicle. Everything checked out OK. After checking and double checking everything, it was time to launch this monster radio control glide. It was flawless and without a doubt an awesome site to see.

I guess it is just in a day of flying at Torrey Pines.

Above: Tower and towee at Palomar in December.  
Photo by Lenny



## Ae ro-Tow

Lenny Brzezinski

December aero-tow

The morning was cold, mid to upper 40's. I didn't know if it would be a good day for thermals or not. The Palomar flyers hosted this event. They are trying to do an aero-tow every two months. <http://www.palomarrcflyers.org/>

There were 4 glider pilots there with their 4 meter gliders. Tom, Gary, Don and Lenny. By 11:00 we were taking off our jackets. It turned out to be a great day for thermals. Everyone was having a great time.



Above: Half scale glider provides a show at TP Gliderport in December!  
Photo by Lenny

See Moose for Sm og and m ore!



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# An Open Letter to TPG Members

Mike Smith, Poway Field Coordinator

December 15, 2008

Thank you TPG.

You have once again proven your generosity. You have also inspired generosity in others and in the shops that serve us. Discount Hobby Warehouse graciously discounted our gifts for the Poway owner, and as of right now, I think we have nearly double the contributions than the gifts actually cost. The extra money is in the capable hands of Mr. Tom Minegar, the TPG treasurer, and will be used to pay for some of the field maintenance that is sure to be needed after the weeds and oats grow from our recent rains...

I delivered to our generous land owner a Real Flight G-3 flight simulator, and an RTF Blade 400 3D helicopter on Saturday evening. Needless to say, he was very happy to receive these gifts of appreciation. He asked me to forward his thanks to the club, and to say that he is happy to be providing the new field area to us.

I feel like we did a very good thing here, and I want to encourage each and every one of our members to make sure that the land that we do "borrow" and the neighborhood nearby, is very well cared for and respected. If we continue to be as conscientious as we have been, we will likely promote the sport on top of having land owners that are actually proud to have us on their land.

Great work everyone. Enjoy Poway, enjoy Encinitas, and enjoy your hobby.

Sincerely,

Mike Smith

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and  
The USA World Air Games 2009 Selection Contest  
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