

## Activity at Encinitas

Bill Eckles, Ed.

We've had some activity at the Encinitas site that we don't want. On March 2, the maintenance crew from the landfill saw a few guys flying electrics at the flying area. When they were approached and asked about this activity, they replied that "...the Gills told them it was ok to fly their electrics." Of course, this isn't the case and we received an email from the manager at the landfill advising us of this activity. In the process, we lost our lock for the main gate to the site.

So, we are a bit up in the air. Please be advised...

- We are NOT allowed to fly electrics as the site, so please do not violate this rule. We have worked too hard to establish a good relationship with the maintainers of the area to risk losing this tremendous facility.

- Keep your eyes out for a gold Ford Explorer with the CA license 4YXP886. If you see "them", please advise them of our difficulties and do not let them fly there. Find out who they are and why they have the wrong information about the site. Give the new information to a board member for follow up. A telephone number along with name would be very helpful.

- Keith will bring new keys for a new lock to the Meeting Tuesday. Please show up to get your key.

- We will soon adjust the locks so that one key works for both Encinitas and Poway. For now, the old key works only at Poway.

- Do NOT share your key with non-members who do not have an interest in the continued use of the facility. Please protect the privilege of the entire club.

- Please accept our apologies for the inconvenience this has caused.

## Encinitas Mowing

Keith Finkenbiner, Field Guru

Fellow Club Members...

You may not know but our tractor would not start and had to be taken into the shop for repair. This set us back two weeks in mowing and the grass has become extremely tall. We started mowing on Feb 26 for four hours and have about half of the field mowed. I expect to complete the initial mowing just after the first of March baring more rain. The field will require two mowings as it was too tall to complete final mowing the first time. Please be patient with the appearance right now.

## March Raffle

John Bruner, Raffle Chairman

March is usually the month for our annual Swap Meet. This year, however, we've not planned for it and we will hold another raffle instead. Last month, recall, we had a great array of prizes that were both valuable and desirable. Some of our new members are pretty grateful for the "luck of the draw."

We are entertaining the idea of having a swap meet in the parking lot before meetings as the days get longer and we can see what's going on before the get together. What do you think? Good idea? Let me know and I'll try to arrange things.

Thanks for your help in advance!

# Sign-ups at Torrey

Bill Eckles, Ed.

It was a busy time at the bluff on March 1. I arrived at noon to find our new slope coordinator quietly and calmly guiding a hand-launch "Fling" in the almost absent lift at the cliff's edge. He was checking out the lift to see how the expected "newbies" would fare as they arrived. "Not good, but it should work," he said. He had just gotten a supply of qualification forms copied at the office machine and he was getting things organized.

The first to show was Jim Rellas who discovered that his radio battery was not adequate as he went through his pre-flight check out, so it was back to the car for a refresher by his charger. After watching a couple other guys who had drifted in get signed in to fly at this special slope site, Jim was ready to go again...this time with a fully functioning plane.

Up it went, gently, in the light lift after advising every one that he was "launching". Fly out, get some speed, turn north, keep her level...Jim was conscious of what was going on. Fortunately,

there was lots of blue sky available, so following that rule was not a big problem.

Mark was counseling as Jim progressed, trying to keep the new flier calm and confident.



A few passes north and south, stall and recover, keep alert for traffic, don't listen to the chit-chat going on at the picnic table...Jim did fine. Circle back over the knoll and land into the on-shore breeze, all went well with a gentle, smooth landing in the spring-time grass. Jim had done fine and now got Mark's signature on the back of his membership card.

It was a good day and fruitful. All told Mark

Mark Wood, Slope Coordinator, checks out Jim Rellas about his knowledge and skills in flying at the Glider Port.

Month	HLG	RES/TD	RES/TD Contest Director	(SC)2 TD	Other	Meeting Board/General
March		14	Steve Condon	21 SULA		2/9
April	10	11	Parviz Kamiab	18 VVRCF	3/4 Fresno	6/13
May	2	16	Cliff Hunter	16 Soarheads		4/11
June	5	13	Tom Watson	20 ISS		1/8
July	11	11	Terry Throop	17 ISS (MOM)		6/na
August	7	8	TBD	29 TOSS		3/na
September	5	12	TBD	19 HSS		7/14
October	9	24	Keith Finkenbiner	24 TPG	2/3 Visalia	5/12
November	7	14	David Klein	21 Rain Date		2/9
December	4	12	Mike Smith			7/14

## Next General Meeting...

March 9 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@yahoogroups.com list for updates.

registered a half dozen new pilots to fly at our iconic glider port. A good crowd turned up and visitors saw a structured process to authorize good pilots to fly well and safely. Old timers helped the new guys learn the intricacies of the bluffs. It was a good day.

Thanks for organizing a productive day, Mark. Keep it up!

## More from Encinitas

Bill Eckles, Ed.

It is time to talk electrics at Encinitas...

The committee has received an answer to their request to allow flying electrics at our new site. In a word, the word is "denied". We're not sure why, but the powers over the rules out there denied our request, full of facts and figures to support our cause, Just so you know, here's what it looked like. Now its our job to make sure the administrators continue to hold us and ours in high regard and FOLLOW THEIR RULES.



Mark Foster is understandably proud of his "extra large" *Swift S1* scale plane. It has a huge wing span and weighs about 50 pounds, Launch needs the help of a burly assistant (Robin) but it flies very stately and regally! C'mon out and watch our friends from the TPSS fly their scale ships in the March winds!

## Club Meeting in March

Bill Eckles, Ed.

The March club meeting was a resounding success.

After a few minutes spend discussing the news events of the month including the condition of the sites (great), the membership numbers (great), the performance of the site coordinators (great) and the upcoming contest (3/14 at Poway if it rains at Encinitas) we heard from Tuan Le, a cyber friend to many club members.

Tuan spent quite a bit of his time discussing the benefits and intricacies of A123 batteries. He has done much research and strongly recommends them for their power, durability and efficiency. Club members were generous with questions and Tuan had many answers, even though he was not reluctant to admit he didn't know all the answers...most of us learned a lot and benefitted from the discussion.

The subject turned to DRS (direct rotation servos) and Tuan shared some of his techniques of manufacturing and installing these very positive, responsive surface controls. He pointed out some intricacies here, as well,

and explained the benefits of the procedures in reducing flutter, improving precision and enhancing weight distribution.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 after another good raffle by John Bruner.

## April Meeting

Bill Eckles, Ed.

The April meeting is scheduled for April 13 and will be the annual SWAP MEET. Bring the clutter from your garage and take home someone else's! This is your chance to get even and maybe find a treasure.

# Torrey Pines Gulls Board of Directors -- 2010

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## Club Mentors

Don't Forget Memberships  
Your Membership Counts!

Three active club sites and more coming  
do your part...pay your dues

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Adam Smith  
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Torrey Slope