



GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2018

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

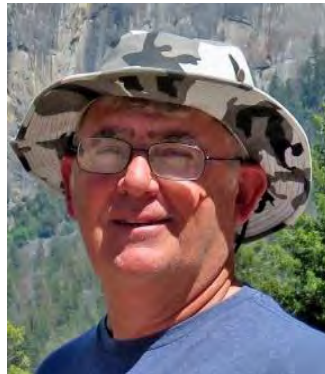
Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank

Message from the President

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Craig Hanson

Hi Gulls!

Here we are, starting into 2018, our first contests and Fun Fly in the books.

Looking forward to a great year for the Gulls.

You can reach me at:

craighanson1256@gmail.com

with any ideas or suggestions that I can help with, or call me at [858-212-4208](tel:858-212-4208).

Cheers,

Craig



Launching Jim Birkett's Typhoon at the January Fun Fly

Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

The Torrey Pines Gulls hosts monthly contests, fun-fly events, LSF (League of Silent Flight)) Soaring Accomplishment Program and onsite clinics. General meetings have morphed into competitive and non-competitive events throughout the year. Be on the lookout for upcoming details and scheduling for all TPG and related events in the Newsletter and on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org> and
<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>



Newsletter This Month - Dale Gottdank



Dale Gottdank

Please contribute to our **GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER**

Send pictures, or maybe even an article! It could be just a paragraph with some photos from a great soaring day ...even something interesting you've seen on the internet. I'd like to have the newsletter published by the first week of every month. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club!

This month, **we'll be continuing** our series by Gary Fogel on **the club's** history, with 1978 Co-Modeler of the Year, Roger Taylor.

Please send in your articles or photos (dgottdank@gmail.com) by the 25th of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter. If there are too many, we'll save them for the next issue. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>.

Club Membership Update – Bill Eckles



Bill Eckles

The turn to a new year is behind us and we're getting ready to go. Sorry to say that I've fallen behind because of some computer issues and a visit from some virus/problem. Anyway, it's really messing with my ability to get cards printed, laminated, addressed and mailed to a significant number who got their membership requests in promptly and thoroughly. In fact, I don't ever remember being off to this good a start in January.

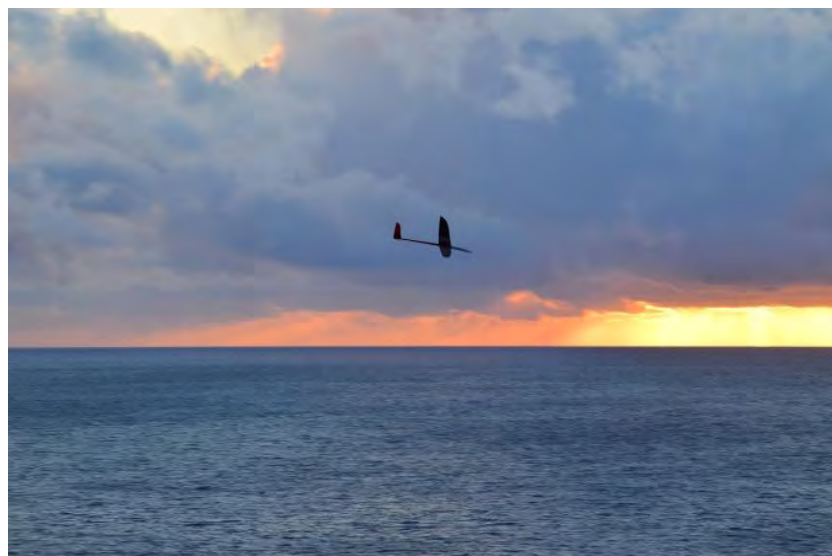
As of today, I have requests for 50 memberships, with dues money attached or sent by PayPal and fingers itching to get out and do some serious flying. I'm sure I'll have this problem solved in the near future and you guys will be able to get into the action soon after this Santa Ana disappears...hopefully during this first week of February.

Meanwhile, I have plenty of keys for the 2018 padlocks at both Poway and Encinitas fields. The Gliderport doesn't require a key, but we want them to screen for TPG membership when you register at the front desk for your waivers document. In the past, they have not been very fussy, so I suggest you ask to give them proof of your TPG memberships when you receive your card. Or, ask them to contact me at [858-703-4521](tel:858-703-4521) and I can confirm your member status as long as you have sent your materials to me. I will cooperate as best I can, having caused this difficulty.

Most of us know the other members around, so, please ask for cooperation getting verbal confirmation from a buddy to people who need to ask. If you need a key, members, please share yours with those new folks in need. Keith and Cliff, let's continue leaving the 2017 locks for a couple weeks until I get my mess straightened out.

I sincerely apologize for the confusion and wish you all safe and sane flying. Good luck and see you at the bluffs or thermal fields soon!

Bill Eckles
Membership Chairman



NAN Shadow at Torrey (Greg Houck)

Club Membership Update (continued)

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 website 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 such as field Insurance, etc.

Dues are as follows:

For the membership (calendar) year, for submissions during:

- ✓ January through June \$60
- ✓ July through September \$30
- ✓ October through December \$60 (gives you a jump on next year)
- ✓ Full-time college students \$30 per year
- ✓ Juniors under 18 years \$15 per year
- ✓ 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 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.

What do **YOU** think?

You can express your opinion at: www.torreypinesgulls.org.

We have a [QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS](#) link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over [TORREY PINES GULLS](#) next to [LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP...](#) If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, etc. for the board, here's your chance.

Check out the TPG Facebook Page

From John Blaske:

If you haven't had a chance yet, check out our TPG Facebook page by clicking the links below:

<http://www.facebook.com/TorreyPinesGulls>



[RECENTLY POSTED:](#)

Join the Yahoo Forum!

From Lenny Brzezinski:

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 including 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. On the TPG website, www.torreypinesgulls.org, you can follow the [YAHOO FORUM](#) link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over [TORREY PINES GULLS](#) next to [LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP](#).

Club Flying Site Panoramas – Ian Cummings

Here are Veep Ian Cummings' immersive panoramas of our world class flying sites; the world famous Torrey Pines Gliderport and the Poway Flight Center, where each year the club sponsors the IHLGF (International Hand Launch Glider Festival). Clicking on the pictures takes you to the Torrey Pines Gliderport during a recent TPG fun-fly event and the Poway Flight Center during this year's IHLGF. Enjoy! Stay tuned for Ian's panorama of the Encinitas Flight Center.

[Click on this photo to visit the Torrey Pines Gliderport.](#)



[Click on this photo to visit the TPG Poway Flight Center.](#)



News from the Slope – Ray Pili, Slope Coordinator



Ray Pili

Our first Fun Fly was a blast!
We had good winds from sunrise to sunset.

First in the air was an Opus MCT, couple of Aires, PSS, Jesters and then the Hoi Polloi showed up.



Many visitors stopped by to ask questions and the Club members were great representatives of the hobby. "Sammiches" were provided by the club.

I've started an RCGroups thread for the 2018 TLG Fun Fly series – go here for the latest photos, videos and scheduled events:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3007231-2018-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-Fun-Fly-Series>

Photos tell the story:



News from the Slope (continued)



News from the Slope (continued)



News from the Slope (continued)



News from the Slope (continued)



*Blue Skies,
Ray*

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration

TD Coordinator – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

For thermal duration contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Thermal Duration contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/event/thermal-duration-contest-February/>, or contact Cliff Hunter at cfhunter@att.net

Additional information may be shown in the F3X Vault site (<http://www.f3xvault.com>) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc.

Hand Launch / DLG

DLG Coordinator – Don Lochhead



Don Lochhead

For DLG contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Hand Launch/DLG contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/discus-launch-glider-series/> or contact Don Lochhead at donlochr@sbcglobal.net

Additional information may be shown in the F3X Vault site (<http://www.f3xvault.com>) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest sign-ups, tasks, results, etc. and in this RCGroups thread: <https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2820127-2017->

Club Competition Activity (continued)

January DLG Contest Report – Ray Pili

We had perfect SoCal winter weather. Started out cold in the 60's then warmed up to the 70's. Hardly any wind for the first 4 rounds. Hardly any thermals to go around either. You had to fly smooth to take advantage of the light lift. That was too much for Bruno who arrived late and left early, something about CA in the wrong place. President Craig got his feet wet as a timer.

After the 4th round we had our discussion topic: 101 ways to break your plane. Jon and Cliff gave a great rundown on the JEM where breaking your plane was common.

A light breeze began after the 5th round started and we started getting two or three thermals per heat, and by AULD the air was active. Jon was making AULD upside down.

Congrats to Top Sportsman Justin Tolman and second place Sportsmans Dan Gebhardt flying his second contest (first contest with a Libelle and now flying a Snipe). Dan flew a 1000 on round 2 "last 3"!!! Honorable mention to Dale with his third place sportsman also flying his second contest.

Congrats to Gary for winning the contest and Jon and Tim for rounding out the top three. Only 2% (113 pts) separated the top three.

Scores are no drops and for 6 rounds.

Our optional Gunslinger 7th round was very interesting. The first 10-15-20-25-30 second tasks were launch and land practice. Lift was abundant. Look for other Throwback tasks in the near future.

Jon brought his UCSD Buddy Mike out again. Jon is hooking Mike up with a DLG; hope to have Mike flying in a contest soon.

Mark B. was out again helping out with timing and other chores. He has an Aerial and is sourcing a receiver battery and peg before it's ready to fly.

Next Contest is Feb 17th and Jon Garber will be the CD.

Blue Skies,

Ray



Pilots (sans 1 who left early) at the January 27th DLG contest (Dale Osborn photo)

LSF Report – Ray Pili



Happy New Year!

Hope that your 2018 enjoys continued improvement in your LSF task achievement.

The first scheduled LSF Attempt Day will be Saturday, Feb 10th.
The rest of the year's schedule:

April 14th

June 9th

Aug 11th

Oct 13th

Dec 8th

All on Saturday and all at Poway.

I would still like to do a desert run for Goal and Return this spring.

Jan 21 Chuck Norris completed his 30 min TD Task. This report from Gary Fogel stolen from RCGroups says it all:

"Congrats to Chuck Norris who accomplished his Level III thermal duration today with a flight of 30:47 at Poway, California with a glider of his own design and construction. Witnessed by John McNeil and Gary Fogel (and two friendly red-tail hawks who came to help with thermal spotting). Good flying Chuck! 🇺🇸
-Gary"



John L. and Chuck (Gary Fogel photo)



Gary L. and Chuck (Gary Fogel photo)

Blue Skies,

Ray

tpgslope@gmail.com

TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel

This Month: Roger Taylor, 1978 Co-Modeler of the Year

Roger Taylor moved to California in 1962 from his birthplace in Pinckneyville, Illinois. He flew free flight gliders for 12 years starting in 1960. He reportedly served as Senior Chief Radioman on the aircraft carrier USS Constellation, although I had difficulty confirming that.

What is known for sure is that Roger Taylor joined the TPG in 1975. Well, surely thereabouts. At the time he was flying a Graupner Cirrus and became really interested in thermal soaring. There isn't any record of him flying at the cliffs in the old newsletters. In 1975, he competed in the club "Pro-Am" contest, flying together with Frank Cox of whom I've written about before. Over the winter holidays and into early 1976 he built a Mark's Models Windfree. He was a great builder, I think his free flight days served him well. In June of 1976 he wrote a nice article for the club newsletter on balsa wood and how to select which grain for what portion of the glider. By the end of 1976, his skills at TD soaring were improving and at the September contest he placed 9th out of 27 pilots with his Windfree (against a sea of other Windfrees). At the Pro-Am contest in Nov 1976 Roger placed first in the Am category beating 14 other amateurs. How's that for a meteoric rise!

Roger volunteered for the position of club Vice President and served in that role throughout 1977. At the 1976 Gulls X-mas party, he also CD'ed the "Sport Indoor" glider contest. Each party-goer was given a 10 cent chuck glider. The contest was a 15 second precision duration flight with a landing in a 3 foot circle. The contest went like this:



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

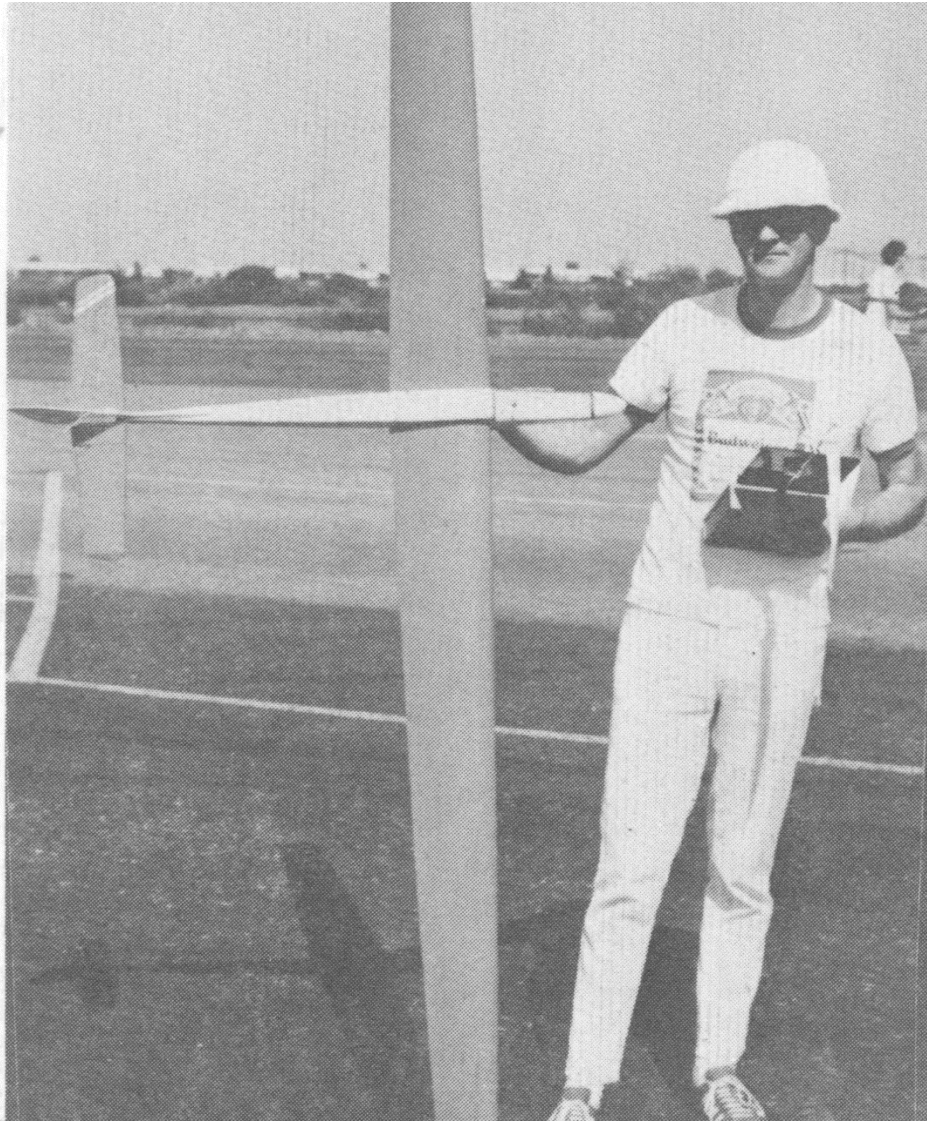
“When the contestant said GO, Bob Peck [of Peck-Polymers models – another great TPGer at that time] started a stop watch. It was the contestant’s task to guess when to throw the aircraft so as to have it land as close as possible to 15 seconds after the GO command was uttered.”

The winner received a box for an Aquila kit. What was inside the box? A kit for a Sinbad of course!



In 1977, he switched from flying a Windfree to an Aquila. This wasn't unusual. Just about everyone switched to Aquilas. (Hence the reason for the Sinbad in the Aquila box....there were no more Aquila kits in San Diego County.) At that same time, the 2-meter wingspan class (Class B) was just coming on line and was quite popular. Roger flew a 2m Super Questor. At the Gulls first 2 meter contest, Roger came in third out of 19. Also in 1977, the AMA NATS were held in Riverside, with RC soaring held near Gilman Hot Springs. Roger placed 7th overall in the modified standard class, TPG's best pilot in that category.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Roger Taylor and his Windfree at Hourglass Field in Mira Mesa.

In 1978, Roger became TPG President. He must have enjoyed building planes over wintertime, because by February 1978 he was flying a large Aquila XL in the monthly TPG TD contests! At that contest, there were 14 pilots distributed as 10 Aquilas, 3 other designs, and 1 Aquila XL (Roger). Unfortunately Roger arrived late that day and was able to fly in only two rounds. He did much better at the 2 meter club contest in April, taking first place out of a field of 16 with his Super Questor!

Roger was honored with the 1979 TPG Modeler of the Year trophy for his club leadership and comradery which lasted for many years. I'm not sure what became of Roger. If anyone knows please let me know.

Club Sponsors – Thank you!

The Torrey Pines Gulls members would like to thank all the sponsors for their donations and for supporting the 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 website for more information.

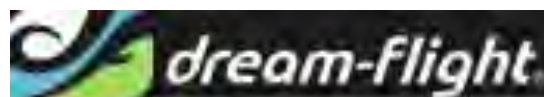


Photo of the Month Contest

Each month club members may 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 (their photo will be used as the website and newsletter masthead **AND** will appear on the following year's club membership card). Needless to say, **horizontal format photos are preferred**. Email your photos (.JPG format preferred) to Dale Gottdank at dgottdank@gmail.com. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



January Winner – Thomas Moller launching his 4M ASH-26 at Torrey (Ian Cummings photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



January Fun Fly launch (Dale Osborn photo)



TPG President Craig Hanson launches Jim Birkett's Typhoon at the Fun Fly (Ray Pili photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



February Co-Winner – 3m ASH-26 at the end of the Fun Fly day (Justin Tolman photo)



February Co-Winner – Thomas Moller launching Mike Lance's Salto at the Fun Fly (Ray Pili photo)

Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Craig Hanson	craighanson1256@gmail.com TPGulls@gmail.com
Vice-President	To be filled	
Past President	Dan Cummins	dan.cummins@cox.net
Secretary	Dale Gottdank	dgottdank@gmail.com
Treasurer	Don Lochhead	donloch@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Bill Eckles	tunabiker1@hotmail.com
Communication Officer	Dale Gottdank	dgottdank@gmail.com
Winchmaster	Mark Canfield	mcanfield5@roadrunner.com
F3K Coordinator	Tim Traver	timtraver@gmail.com
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	mike@themapsmith.com
Thermal Coordinator	Cliff Hunter	cfhunter@att.net
Slope Coordinator	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
Safety Officer	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
SC2 Representative	To be filled	
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	steve@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	garyfogel@gmail.com
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com

Craig Hanson
President



TBD
Vice- President



Dale Gottdank
Secretary



Don Lochhead
Treasurer



Bill Eckles
Membership





Quote of the Month:

“There is an art ... to flying. The knack lies in learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss.”

~ Douglas Adams, The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy



Torrey Sunset – Photo by Marty Dine