

GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER - MARCH 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!

I just wanted to say how proud I am of our club members helping out new fliers. Over the last couple weeks I have seen several examples of this and just wanted to note it.

In the last couple of months I have been trying to visit our flying sites.

I helped with the DLG contest at Poway and everybody there was helpful and friendly.

At the Encinitas site I recently purchased a Shadow F3J glider. I got a lot of help with programing tips and flying from the guys at Encinitas, especially Mike Smith. He said "it's ready to fly, let's put it on the winch!" I am like, "No way!" - I want to take out to the cliff and wring it out. We each have our own comfort zone!!! In the end we did winch it and what a joy - it flew great!

Message from the President (continued)



Here's my Shadow!

I encourage everyone to come out to all our fields - not necessarily to fly but even to watch.

Also note: please make sure dues are in: key changes take effect on March 1.

Keep an eye on the upcoming events in this newsletter:

Mar 11 - Encinitas thermal duration contest

Mar 17 – Poway DLG contest:

Mar 24 - Torrey Happy Hour Fun Fly

Cheers,

Craig Hanson 2018 TPG President 858-212-4208

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**

<u>Send pictures, or maybe even an article!</u> 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 <u>first week of every month</u>. 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, Bob Anderson. Also, we have a great Bird of Time build article from new member Mark Baldacchino and **some great photos from the President's Day activities at Torrey.**

<u>Please send in your articles or photos</u> (<u>dgottdank@gmail.com</u>) 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

Last year we expanded our memberships by about 10 (net) by adding a few and losing a few. We started the 2018 year similarly with lots of spontaneous enrolments from the membership base and have already added several new folks to the club. I need to clarify an element with you all, however...

My computer got as messed up as its operator and in an attempt to clean up my mess, I lost track of who paid his dues and who didn't. Here's my solution. I have already sent out about 75 sets of cards and keys for the 2018 membership year. I know that most of you who received them have paid your dues and all is square. So, if this is the case, don't do anything. I will know that you have sent in your dues

and I responded with your membership card and a key to the new lock to the thermal fields (Encinitas and Poway).

However, if you sent in your dues and have not received your card and keys, please let me know with an email to tunabiker@gmail.com. I will get them to you as soon as I can and things will be good.

If you received your card and key, but have not paid your dues, please send your dues in immediately (using PayPal from the web site or send a check to me at the *Torrey Pines Gulls*, 13941 Durango Drive, Del Mar CA 92014.

While we made a really great start to the new year, we're now running below a trickle. Don't forget to renew your memberships for 2018 and to do it soon. The new locks for the new keys will probably have been replaced by the time you receive this and the old locks will have been removed. We all make up an honorable bunch, and I hope my faith will be rewarded.

I'm looking forward to a great spring and summer and we will also likely have full scale aircraft flying in March and April. Fun Flies will be plentiful, so join the crowd.

Good flying,

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 Charted 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
 ✓ Juniors under 18 years
 \$30 per year
 \$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:

https://www.facebook.com/TorreyPinesGulls/



REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the 25th Anniversary of this hallmark DLG Competition!

Dates: April 27, 28 & 29, 2018

Join the Yahoo Forum!

The Yahoo forum was formed Oct. 18th, 1999 by club member Lenny Brzezinski. 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 Ian Cummings' immersive panoramas of our world class flying sites; the world famous Torrey Pines Gliderport, Poway Flight Center, where each year the club sponsors the IHLGF (International Hand Launch Glider Festival) and the Encinitas Flight Center. Clicking on the pictures takes you to our sites:

Click on this photo to visit the Torrey Pines Gliderport.



Click on this photo to visit the TPG Poway Flight Center.



Click on this photo to visit the TPG Encinitas Flight Center.



News from the Slope - Ray Pili, Slope Coordinator



Now that **Valentine's Dayv** is over...

We can spend more time on the slope with our other passion – Gliders!







Brad W. and 3 of his buddies from Colorado, came out to the bluff as part of a week-long RC flying vacation that included a stay in Vegas.

They had two days of sloping and on the last day the fog came in and they donated a Radian to the wind gods.
President Craig found the plane after the Colorado gang had left for Vegas and they kindly donated the plane to the club.

News from the Slope (continued)

Presidents Day was spectacular at the Gliderport. 30+ mph at 8 AM with great wind lasting till dusk. One nice informal West Coast PSS Fest was on tap. I only snapped a few photos (too busy flying!). Some of the other participants did get some photos which you can check out starting on page 19.



Blue Skies, Ray

Greg managed to maiden his PSS Tucano (shown above). Jim Birkett looks very happy with his RCRCM Typhoon (right), as Matin Taraz's PSS Zero attacks (below).





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-March/, 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-

LSF Report - Ray Pili



Our February 10th LSF Attempt Day was well attended. Ian, Mark B., Dale O., President Craig, David, full scale Jonathan (Friend of Gary's), Justin and his dad Nick, Don, me and Gary's winch were present. Of course I forgot to take a group picture but we have a couple to tell the story.

Dale Osborn completed his 5 minute TD flight for LSF 1 using his STREAM DLG. Justin Tolman finished off his remaining landing tasks, completing his LSF Level 1. Justin's weapon of choice for checking off all his LSF 1 tasks was his Parkzone Ka-8.

lan made two valiant attempts at his 15 min TD flight for LSF II. The first was with his vintage Fred Sage Compulsion off Gary's winch. In lan's words, stolen from the groups:

"My second launch with my vintage 3 meter Fred Sage Compulsion seemed to be short lived. I was on final approach and ready to pull flaps, less than twenty feet up (Ray says 15) and I got a small bump. I decided to give it one more circle and sure enough, it started climbing, and climbed up to a respectable altitude for thermaling. WhooHoo that was so much fun. I managed to turn it into a 12:30 flight. Craig, you owe me lunch. ""

lan's second attempt was with his DLG:

"After that, I turned to my DLG and managed to get into a big thermal and ride it for quite some time. I hit the subsequent sink and couldn't latch on to anything else, so came down with a time of 14:35, 25 seconds short of my 15 minute goal. A real heartbreaker, but very fun all the same."

Gary loaned us his sport winch which is a great way to learn the use of a winch. My launches with the Ka-8 are a good example of how uncoordinated I am, I can't fly the sticks and tap my foot to save my life. But President Craig was there to coach us. Justin and Ian seemed to get the hang of it and may be visiting Encinitas more often.

LSF Report - Ray Pili



Dale Osborn, after completing his 5 minute TD flight

The next scheduled LSF Attempt Day will be Saturday April 14th.

The year's remaining schedule:

June 9th Aug 11th Oct 13th Dec 8th

All on Saturday and all at Poway.



lan Cummings on the sticks for the launch of his Compulsion

Blue Skies,

Ray tpgslope@gmail.



TPG History: The Trophy - Gary Fogel



This Month: Bob Anderson, 1978 Co-Modeler of the Year

Robert "Bob" Anderson was born in Cherry Point, North Carolina in 1947 into a US Army family. His father was stationed in various places until 1961 when they settled in San Diego. Bob always expressed an interest in aviation and secured his pilot's license at age 19. He received a bachelor's degree in graphic arts from San Diego State University and soon thereafter helped establish a company that worked for Boeing as a contractor to develop the artwork for the manuals for the B767 and many other Boeing designs. These were not small catalogs but required generating 2,500 pages of art every month with 500 people in the company drafting all of the artwork. (Ah those "pre-Photoshop" days). Bob learned a lot about aircraft through those projects. Every rivet and screw of many Boeing aircraft.

Sometime in the 1970s Bob's brother gave him a free flight Guillows kit. It wasn't designed for RC but Bob built it to include RC. His first radio was a Kraft 1976 series transmitter. In June 1977, He heard about the group of modelers flying RC gliders at Torrey Pines and decided to check it out. He was hooked quickly and people in the club helped him learn to fly. Bob's first mentor was Ken Banks, and Bob would show up during the week at Torrey and fly - on many of those days he was the only one flying anything at all over the cliffs. It was magical. Other modelers provided lots of assistance and encouragement for Bob at Torrey including Steve Neu, Steve Manganelli, Roger Taylor, and Al Bendett. Bob purchased a second plane, a Windfree.





TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

For whatever reason, he found the Windfree to be exceedingly difficult to fly. He purchased a Wanderer instead and that was the ticket. As I've mentioned in previous articles, the TPG had monthly slope races at Torrey in the 1970s, mainly with "profile" gliders that were u-control kits converted to RC. Most of these were of World War II designs, such as a P-51 or Airacobra. Bob purchased a P-51 kit and built it, coloring it white with red checker striping like a race car would have. It looked great, but it also reminded some in the club of the red checker Purina cat chow logo. Thus the glider was nicknamed "Purina Pursuit". Bob became very adept at aerobatics with his P-51, doing repeated loops and rolls in the bowl. Very fun!

It didn't take long for Bob to realize that the TPG also has a group of people using RC sailplanes for thermal soaring. He became intrigued and rapidly became an active monthly contestant. He placed 11th overall in his first year. He enjoyed flying the popular Aquila with a Miller modification for the airfoil for standard TD, and flew an Oly 650 in the then-burgeoning 2-meter class. After the Oly 650, he began to scratch build his own 2m and open class aircraft.

For his rather meteoric rise from new pilot in mid-1977 to several first places at contests in both slope and thermal, and for being an all-around wonderful guy for the club, the Gulls honored him in 1978 with the Modeler of the Year Trophy, shared that year with Roger Taylor. Bob Anderson responded by volunteering to be club president in 1979.

In the 1980s the TPG went through a period of political infighting and rather than take part in all of that, Bob began flying more with the Thermal Pilots Association, an RC soaring club that flew in San Marcos and also in South Bay. Over time as electric RC aircraft were on the rise, Bob became interested and joined the Silent Electric Flyers of San Diego.



Bob Anderson enjoyed a rapid rise from novice to expert pilot in the TPG.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Bob appreciates being remembered by TPG as one of the two 1978 Modelers of the Year and still thinks of those golden days at Torrey with fond remembrance. I had a great call with Bob and he sends his regards to all Gulls.



Bob Anderson pictured at a thermal duration contest at Hourglass Field in Mira Mesa in 1978.

Bird of Time Build - Mark Baldacchino



I bought a Dynaflite Bird of Time (BOT) while I was living in Phoenix in 2005. I knew that someday I would fly this bird in San Diego after I got settled. I built the wing, but I didn't want to risk damaging the balsa during my move out here, so I left the wing tips and leading edge unshaped. I got involved in R/C sailing out here for a few years in Mission Bay, but I finally decided to get back into sailplanes. Ray & Ian helped me get my feet wet and checked out at TP Gliderport, so know I'm good to go again!



The build outside; shaping the balsa:

I re-started this project last November by building the tail feathers and fuse. This kit is by no means a beginner's kit. The wood quality is pretty good, and the full size drawings are great, but the written instructions, in my opinion, are open to a lot of interpretation. In fact, I found four different build instructions from other builders, printed them and used them for this one build. It was like using the four Gospels in the Bible to get the full perspective.

Bird of Time Build - Mark Baldacchino (continued)



Just covered. That's an 8' table with an 11.8' wing: This was just used for covering on the green cutting mat in the foreground, and finally assembly.

Almost done: The two standard servos are for the elevator and rudder. The one mini-servo against the bulkhead will be used for the spoilers. I just copied the idea from my Spirit 2M, using fishing Dacron line to each spoiler through pushrod tubes; simple, inexpensive, and effective.



Servo setup

Bird of Time Build - Mark Baldacchino (continued)

Here it is again, outside, to see how the transparent blue looks in the sun. I hope to have this ready for TP by the end of March – finally!

New member, Mark Baldacchino



Post-Storm Torrey Day

Several Gulls members and friends enjoyed some excellent post-storm clearing wind conditions at the Gliderport on President's Day. Straight in, 24 mph winds and clear skies made for perfect flying conditions. PSS'ers were out in force, along with twisty-wings, planks and big scalies. There was even a full-scale Phoenix Motor Glider cruising over the Gliderport, whose passenger turned out to be our own club historian, Gary Fogel. The pictures tell the



Early arrivals (Matin Taraz photo)



Jim Birkett prepping his RCRCM Typhoon (Ray Pili photo)



Greg Houck getting ready to maiden his PSS Tucano (Ray Pili photo)



Steve Condon with his Southern Sailplanes Ricochet. It was built it in 1986 and recently got a full renovation with new linkages and full digital 2.4 Spektrum radio gear. (Mike Smith photo)



Steve enjoying the re-maiden of his Ricochet, with Joe Cormier flying his Mach One (Mike Smith photo)



Steve flying his Ricochet (Mike Smith photo)



Thomas Moller and friends



Dan Cummins' Mach One twisty wing...twisting (Greg Houck photo)



Matin Taraz's PSS Zero (Greg Houck photo)



Greg's Tucano – How 'bout that color scheme! (Greg Houck...or Dan Cummins...or Matin Taraz photo...whoever.



Full-scale Phoenix Motor Glider with TPG club historian Gary Fogel on board (Greg Houck photo)



Ward Hagaman's Scirocco



Yup, that's Gary Fogel in the Phoenix!



The Gliderport, from Gary's point of view in the Phoenix (Gary Fogel photo)



Matin's PSS fleet (Dale Gottdank photo)



Another view from the Phoenix (Gary Fogel photo)



Beautiful end to a perfect Torrey day (Matin Taraz photo)

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 (lan Cummings photo)



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)



Matin Taraz, happy to be flying in Australia! (Owan Hedger photo)



Torrey Pines Gliderport from a Phoenix Motor Glider above (Gary Fogel photo)



Phoenix Motor Glider over Torrey (Greg Houck photo)



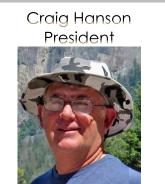
End of the epic President's Day at Torrey (Matin Taraz photo)

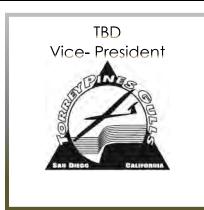


March Winner – Steve Condon re-maidening his Southern Sailplanes Ricochet (Mike Smith photo)

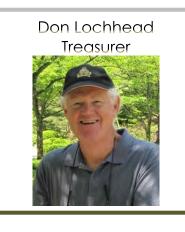
Club Officers and Contact Information

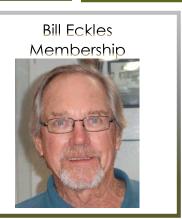
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Quote of the Month:

"Good landings are so much more satisfying than good flying."

~ Greg Houck



Torrey Sunset - Photo by Marty Dine