

GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 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

Hello Gulls!

Have a great summer. Fly safe and enjoy our three amazing flying sites.

Keep an eye on the upcoming events in this newsletter and on the website:

www.torreypinesgulls.org

Till September,

Craig Hanson
2018 TPG President
858-212-4208



Torrey in June (Matin Taraz photo)

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 1981 Modeler of the Year, Pepper Kay. Also, we have Bob Martin's recap of the 2018 Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-in.

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

Looks like we're back over a hundred paying members going into summer, which is great news! There's not much else to say about membership this month, so...Enjoy the summer. See you in a few months.

Fun and safe flying,

Bill Eckles
Membership Chairman



ASH 26 at the May Fun Fly (Jay Mendoza photo)

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?

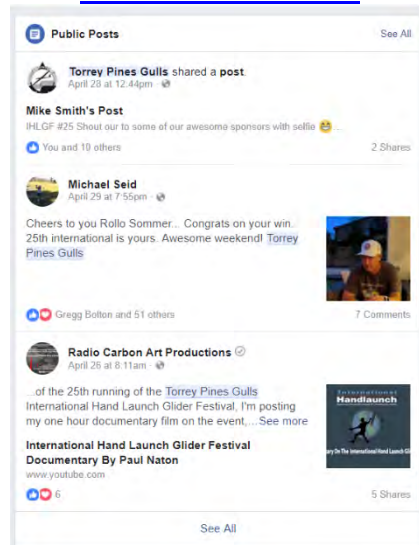
You can express your opinion at: www.torreypinesgulls.org.

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

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

<https://www.facebook.com/TorreyPinesGulls/>
[RECENTLY POSTED:](#)



[IHLGF Follow-up](#)

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



Ray Pili

Happy Grad and Dad's Day! Summer's here!



May and June has had many slopeable days at the Gliderport.

The Gliderport now has a nice webcam pointing North West from the shack with a good view of the LZ and the RC mound. It also shows wind conditions. Works on my iPhone as well as Androids and laptops. Here's the link:

<http://gliderport.thilenius.com/#/Home>

Our Saturday May 26th Fun Fly was moved one week ahead to May 19th. George C. and Mark A. were the Gulls POC and reported great conditions with many in attendance.

June 2nd was a beautiful day for the Katie Martin International Tribute. Each year Bob's tribute to his wife Katie grows in attendance. By some accounts over 140 planes were on the LZ. At least 30 were Hobies. 20+ RC pilots were in attendance and probably 10+ RC pilots who stopped by.

There are many photos and stories posted on RCgroups of the event. We had a dozen gliders in the air at times. Many of the RC pilots spotted for each other throughout the day.

Here is a link to some photos on the Katie Martin International Tribute 2018 RCGroups Thread:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2996916-Katie-martin-int-l-tribute-2018/page18#post39772917>

Also, check out Bob's article on page 12 of this Newsletter.

The next fun fly is July 28th, Saturday. TWF/PNF.

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-July/>, 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



May 20th. Gary Fogel and his buddy, Dave organized a LSF Goal & Return event out at Lucerne Dry Lake Bed. I met Chuck, Jim, Gary, and Dave out on the lake bed at 9:03 am. Gary had his winch. Chuck had a Hi Start and Dave had the ultimate goal and return vehicle. The West-East Dirt road had cones marking the 1 km turnaround from the starting line Cones. The surface was crusty and soft, rough and featureless, littered with spent rocket motors.



Dave's Goal and Return Mobile. Swivel seats in the bed, windscreen, and external speakers



Barren, featureless landscape

LSF Report (continued)

The first hour or so was thermal-sparse. Gary and others were bird dogging with Radians. As the sun climbed higher, thermals started to fill in.

I made a run for it on the G&R Mobile after climbing the Flitz2 up to a few hundred feet. Then off to the west to find another thermal but it was slim pickings. At about 0.7 km to the turnaround I landed after 25+ minutes of flying. That was the best for me that day.

Chuck went later, but also landed short. It looked like the thermals were very far apart.



Imagine Chuck riding the back of this truck going down the dirt road for the G&R attempt.



LSF Report (continued)

In the meantime, Jim was high starting his crunchies and flew 8:42 to complete his LSF 1 Thermal task (5 min). Jim also found a buffalo head nickel on the lake bed.

Dave also gave us practice rides in the G&R Mobile flying an electric radian. Climbing in, speed commands, flying while moving, and flying while the truck is turning.

Near noon, the wind picked up with some very strong thermals blowing through. I found a couple of 15+ min thermals and one where my Flitz2 never came down. Lost sight of it after thinking the plane is getting hard to see and pretty soon I lost sight of it. The guys helped me search for the plane for a couple of hours but to no avail.

A few takeaways:

1. Judging distances on a featureless landscape is difficult.
2. Clues as to where a thermal is were limited with no features (trees, shrubs, grass). Had to feel the wind and watch for dust kicked up from vehicles. Birddogging helped.
3. My reference to what the plane is doing relative to lift was thrown off when in a moving vehicle. A variometer would be a useful tool.

Quite a few LSFers provided advice in G&R on this RCGroups Thread:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?832596-Post-the-results-of-your-LSF-duration-distance-or-landing-tasks/page102>

John Swain from Riverside suggested trying the next G&R out at Perris, CA. There are a couple lightly traveled roads that cover N/S and E/W.

LSF Saturday June 9th at Poway was attended by a small group which included Dale O, Myself, Don L (who brought Carboweave), and Ken W. We had a couple of visitors from Temecula, Daniel and Scott. Daniel cuts foam cores for a hobby and Scott is thinking of scratch building a DLG. Had a couple of 13+ min thermals, so still looking for a 30 min flight.

The next LSF event is Saturday August 11 2018, followed by

Oct 13th

Dec 8th

All Saturday and All at Poway.

Blue Skies,

Ray

tpgslope@gmail.com

Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-In – Bob Martin

There are four things that can make an event outstanding. First, you need an adequate site to hold the event...better yet one with a magical history. Second, you need to have good weather that is conducive to the event. Thirdly, you need people to organize and lastly you need good attendance.

In its eighth year, the 2018 Katie Martin International Tribute had all of four things come together to make it one outstanding event. First of all, again we had the world famous magical slope soaring site of Torrey Pines, in California. Secondly, we had perfect weather and flying conditions. Thirdly, we had the Torrey Pines Gulls overseeing the event and we had loyal fliers from near and far attending this year's Tribute to Katie.

Every year the event attracts more and more fliers. This year I spoke to several that were first time attendees and a few that were surprised to learn of the importance Katie played in growing our hobby/sport and true involvement in the formation and success of Bob Martin RC Models. This thrills me, as the reason behind the Katie Martin Tribute is to inform the modeling world of the importance she played in the growth of our sport and of Bob Martin RC Models.

Another item that is essential in a successful event is promotion. In today's world, we do not go out and buy thousand dollar ads in magazines, we have the internet. On that internet there are forums like RC Groups that are free. Modelers around the world can participate, post, read and learn from the many forum it offers. The Katie Martin International Tribute has such a thread that keeps everyone interested up to date on the when, where and what is currently happening and posting stories with pictures of the event. I mentioned the international scope in that Katie Tributes have sprung up in Venezuela, Spain, Germany, and Great Britain. Because Katie's first sailplane was a Hobie Hawk, another thread has been extremely beneficial in the promotion of the Katie Tribute.....a BIG THANK YOU goes out the Curt White's Hobie Tales, a great site for everything Hobie and has supported the Katie Tribute for years.

Yes...the 2018 Katie Martin Int'l Tribute was a huge success. We had perfect weather at a magical place, hosted by a great club, over a hundred attendees with over 100 aircraft and a raffle that made enough to send the American Heart Association \$1,250.00.

Thank you TPG's.....we had a great time....hope you did too! A few pictures from the event on the following pages.

Bob Martin

Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-In (continued)



Bob in front of the pit area and pilot's mound.



Keith McLellan and Larry Jolly, preparing to launch the SuperHawk and Katie's own Hobie Hawk.

Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-In (continued)



Hobie Hawks and SuperHawks gathered at Torrey. This is only about 60% of the Hawks at the event!

Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-In (continued)



Great Torrey turnout!



The Spanish contingent gathered for the Tribute!

Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-In (continued)



The raffle drawing. This year's raffle raised \$1,250.00 for the American Heart Association!

Katie Martin International Tribute Fly-In (continued)



The SuperHawk and Katie's Hobie Hawk soaring over Torrey

TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel

This Month: Pepper Kay, 1981 Modeler of the Year

I think I've mentioned it before, but I'll say it again. Sometimes there just isn't a lot of information to go on for these previous Modeler of the Year winners, which is a shame. Others have a wealth of info and history. This month's assignment is Norman E. "Pepper" Kay, winner of the TPG Modeler of the Year trophy in 1981. A great guy and modeler, but not a lot to go on. I'll do my best.

Pepper started his career working odd jobs at Gillespie Field in return for flight time in private aircraft. This included a P-51D that a friend (and ex-USAF instructor) owned. It was a 2-place P-51 and he enjoyed two flights of about 90 min each cruising around the skies of San Diego.

He eventually worked his way up to Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA) receiving his jet training and experience as a flight engineer with PSA. He then started working for an overseas airline flying routes in Asia before leaving the airline industry altogether and joining Forrest E. Olson, a residential real estate firm in Clairemont Mesa. By 1978, he had been with Olson for 5 years when he started coming out to the TPG activities at Hourglass field and enjoying thermal duration. Pepper worked closely with Al Doig to get the monthly newsletter out to club members – every month it was Pepper's responsibility to get the stamps and mailing labels on the newsletters and get them out on time.



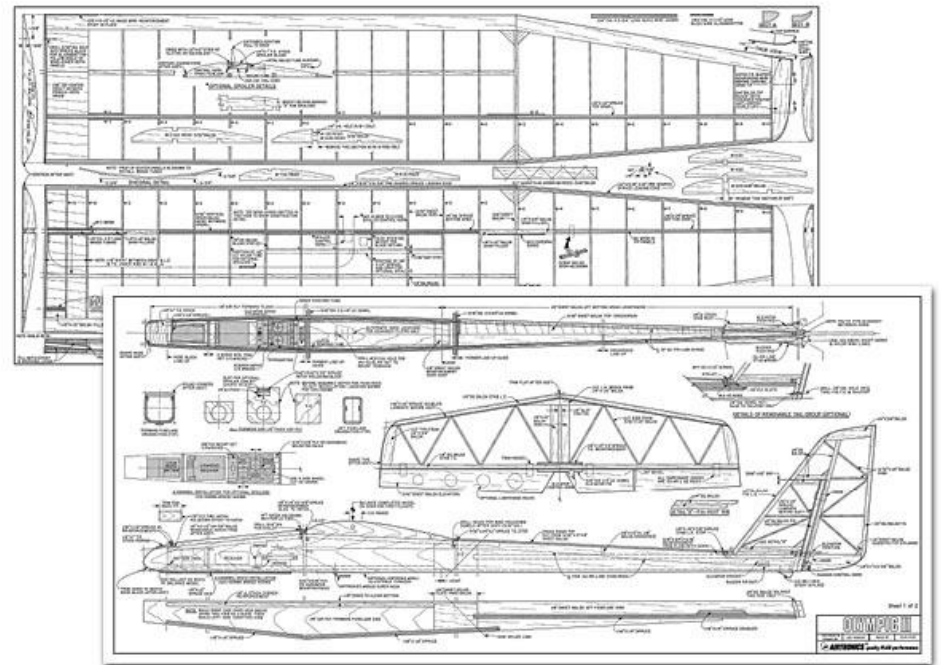
TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Pepper enjoyed flying in the “new” 2-meter wingspan class, which was up-and-coming at the time. He also flew an Olympic II.

While he was general a “behind the scenes” kind of guy, he kindly volunteered for the office of TPG President in 1980. Perhaps this was a result of his winning the December 1979 TD contest as he rarely entered contests before then, and I have to wonder if he was egged on by the other contestants.



Vintage Airtronics Olympic (Oly) 650, designed by Lee Renaud



Plans for the Olympic II, the 99-inch wingspan version of the 650.

The Gulls were quite a vibrant club in 1980. In addition to monthly TD contests, there were slope races, build-and-fly meets at Torrey, night flight contests, and even the “TPG Inter-Galactic Cosmic Thermal Championships” in May 1980. The winner was proclaimed the “Supreme Thermal Pilot of the Cosmos.” (Not bad, eh?) This was Bob Worley for 2 meter, Don Edberg for Open A, and Harry Sollers for Open B. Too bad they didn’t have a fly off to see who the real “Supremo” pilot was.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Norman E. "Pepper" Kay in 1980 as TPG President

After his term as President in 1980, Pepper volunteered for newsletter editor in 1981. He began flying an Oly 650 and enjoyed it throughout much of 1981. An unfortunate winch launch occurred in July/August 1980 when Pepper forgot to turn on the receiver. The plane proceeded to make a nice launch, but the short flight resulted in a one-point, nose first attitude approach and the plane was re-kitted.

For all of his service to the club over the two years 1980-1981, the club honored him with the Modeler of the Year trophy. Pepper remained active with the Gulls in the 1980s and then it becomes unclear what happened to him. I do know that in the 2000s he moved to the Dallas area and continued flying RC. However, he unfortunately passed away on December 21, 2011.

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 with the 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)



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)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



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



April Winner – The Joy of Flight! Jim Birkett on Espada maiden flight. Looking on: Mark Anderson, Ray Pili, Marty Dine (TPG Past President) and Matin Taraz (Ian Cummings photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



May Co Winner – Jon Garber launch windup at this year's IHLGF (Gary Fogel photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



May Co Winner – Steffen Peters' 6m LET DG-1000 taking advantage of great Torrey lift with an unusual saw tooth-shaped cloud formation setting the stage (Greg Houck photo).



May Co Winner – John McNeil launching with Gary Fogel timing...and ducking at the IHLGF (Ian Cummings photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Brian Laird's Tucano at Cajon (Greg Houck photo)



Group build Mustangs at this year's PSS FakeFest at Cajon (Ed Blodgett photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Summer Winner – Brian Laird and Matin Taraz enjoying a Saturday at Cajon. Brian's Airacobra in the middle (Greg Houck photo)

Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Craig Hanson	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
Thermal Coordinator	Cliff Hunter	cfhunter@att.net
Communications Officer	Dale Gottdank	dgottdank@gmail.com
Slope Coordinator	Ray Pili	tpgslope@gmail.com
Membership	Bill Eckles	tunabiker1@hotmail.com
Winchmaster	Mark Canfield	mcanfield5@roadrunner.com
F3K Coordinator	Don Lochhead	donloch@sbcglobal.net
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	mike@themapsmith.com
Safety Officer	Ray Pili	tpgslope@gmail.com
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	steve@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	garyfogel@gmail.com
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Ray Pili	tpgslope@gmail.com
SC2 Representative	To be filled	
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Ray Pili	tpgslope@gmail.com

Executive Officers



Craig Hanson



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Cliff Hunter



Ray Pili



Bill Eckles



Mark Canfield



Quote of the Month:

“If you can walk away from a landing, it's a good landing. If you use the airplane the next day, it's an outstanding landing.”

~ Chuck Yeager



Torrey Sunset – Photo by Marty Dine