

GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 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!

Well, here we are well into summer. We've had some good days out at the Gliderport. We seem to be communicating better with the paragliders. We had a pretty constructive meeting with Robin and we're still trying to work out better communication paragliders and RCers.

As you can see in the pictures below, we're trying to get rid of the ugly traffic cones at the mound.

These are just prototypes. We'll see how they're received by the RC flyers at the scale fun-fly on August 25th.

Message from the President (continued)



Keep an eye on the upcoming events in this newsletter and on the website:
www.torreypinesgulls.org

Till next time,

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**

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 1982 Modeler of the Year, Bozorn Byrd. Yes, Bozorn Byrd. **Sound unusual? Check out this interesting story from TPG's past.**

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

So, gents, while we'll welcome any further new memberships, reality tells us we're pretty topped out for the year. I'm hoping that all our members, new and old alike, have had a super year's flying. So far I'm not aware that we've lost anyone in the fields of Poway or the rolling hills of Encinitas. Although I've had at least my share of equipment failures at the Gliderport, I am able to blame pilot error to a much greater extent than faulty equipment. I have been there enough to know that we've a good group of fliers, both slope and thermal, and all bring a good vibe of positive attitudes and cooperative, helpful knowledge. Yes, we have a good group of Torrey Pines Gulls members.

We are stuck at 97 members for the year, only a tad fewer than in 2017. Even at that, I'm pleased at the attitudes I've seen. There is a good sense of camaraderie and willingness to both help and learn from our brotherhood. The group is good and our size is at a level that provides enough working budget to cover our expenditures and provide for a number of sandwiches, drinks and generic fun flies to fill out the normal competitions our competitive group demands. I hope you all have had a good year of fun and enjoyable R/C flying. We'll soon be asking you to renew for 2019, but for now, enjoy! Fly safely and well.

Bill Eckles
Membership Chairman



August 25th Fun Fly (Ray Pili 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?

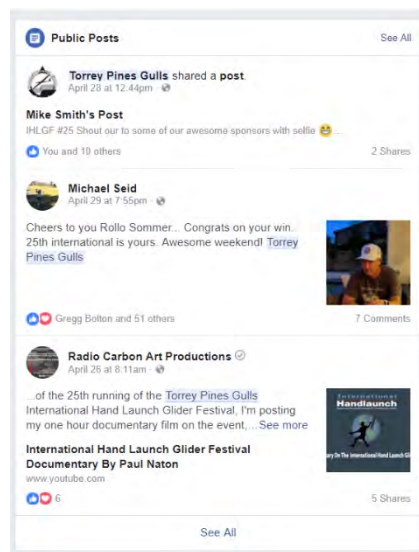
You can express your opinion at: www.torreypinesgulls.org.

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/>



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

Days are getting shorter!!!! I'll miss sunlight at 8 pm.

We had a couple of fun flies at the Gliderport; July 28th was the Twisty Wing/Pointy Nose Fetish Fun Fly. I could not attend but club member Mark A. officiated. Seemed like everyone in attendance flew and had good time at the beach. Must have been nicer than being inland with the crummy humidity.

Aug 25th was the Scale Fun Fly. We had a great gathering of pilots and planes. . Tom Ramirez from OC brought three ¼ scale planes; DG 1000, Two Seat Grob and another who's name escapes me. He brought a couple of his OC buddies down to fly.

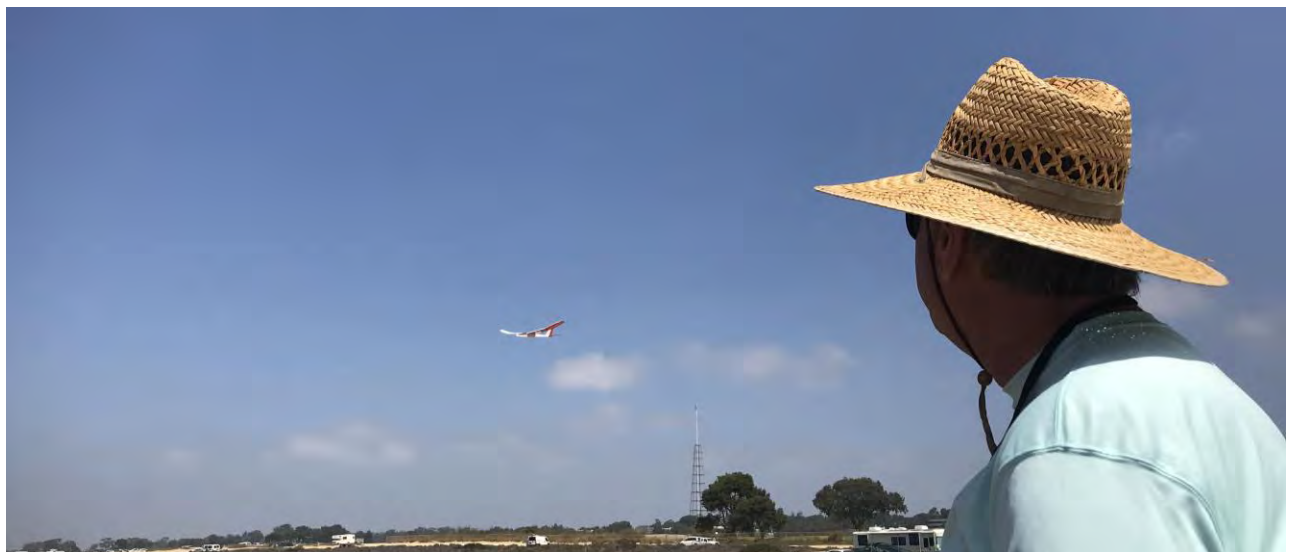
Tom and Mark B. were flying before 11 am with building onshore conditions. By 1 pm we had beautiful 12-14 mph winds. Tom was able to fly all his ¼ scale planes before he left for the day. Andy from NORCAL was visiting Torrey for the first time and flew his Sunbird. I hope he gets a chance to fly again before he leaves.

President Craig built a prototype fence (check out his Message from the President) to discourage tourists from wandering near the bluff edge. Take a look and send in your comments.

Blue Skies,

Ray

tpgslope@gmail.com



News from the Slope (continued)



News from the Slope (continued)



News from the Slope (continued)



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-September/>, 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



Don Lochhead

DLG Coordinator – 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



The Dog Days of summer was upon us for the Aug 11th LSF Attempt day. Dale, Justin, Ken W, Don, Observer Paul and I were in attendance.

We were greeted with a warm morning evolving into another hot humid afternoon. We flew DLG to start. I was trying for a 30 min task but the most I could get was 12-14 mins. I don't recall anyone else making their tasks.

Late morning, we set up Gary's sport winch. With Ken and Justin's help we had a number of successful launches starting with my Ka8. Until I got brave and decided to launch myself, which resulted in a broken fuse. Easily repairable, but did not help my confidence. Justin took on the winch next and had many successful launches.

By Noonish we were beat and called it a day.

BTW, observer Paul is a builder and was asking many questions about our DLG's. He also came out to the Monthly DLG Contest to ask more questions. He is interested in building a DLG.

We have two LSF dates left for the year at Poway (Saturdays):
Oct 13th and Dec 8th.

If anyone is interested in making a day run out to Perris, Jon Swain from the Riverside area offered to show us around the location he completed his LSF 1 Km Goal and Return.

Email me if interested.

Blue Skies,

Ray

tpgslope@gmail.com

TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel



This Month: Bozorn Byrd, 1982 Modeler of the Year

With the departure of Pepper Kay as Club President, a largely new crew took over the reins for 1982 including Dave Watson as president, Forrest Simmons as Vice President, and others including Steve Neu as Membership chairman, and Steve Manganeli as Secretary. For those of you who also fly with the Silent Electric Flyers of San Diego (SEFSD) those latter two names should be very familiar. Pepper continued on as newsletter editor, although the first issue of 1982 was a "January-February" issue indicating that it was perhaps difficult to round up the troops after the holidays.

The club itself was going through several transitions, perhaps all at the same time. The core group of older individuals who had helped form the club as mentors were either passing on or passing the reigns of mentorship to others. The younger core group now found themselves in club leadership roles. There was also a continued dichotomy in the club of thermal or slope (it really should have been thermal AND slope but for whatever reason the two camps rarely overlapped). There was also a dichotomy about the importance of competitions vs. simply enjoying the hobby for fun with perhaps fun fly events as "important" as they get. Pepper Kay in particular did his best at trying to represent all of these views in the newsletter, stressing the importance of "AND" rather than "OR" when it comes to these decisions – There is a place for competition just as there is a place for relaxation.



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Flying at the cliff was getting more onerous, with additional growth of hang gliders, and City interest in rules and regulations. The City required a Flight Director to be at the site monitoring flight safety and the Gulls worked hard to preserve a safe and fun flying environment for everyone.

In the early 1980s, “Bozo the Clown” was making a sort of resurgence of popularity through syndication on this new thing called “cable TV”. Thus the term “bozo” was more common in the local vernacular of the time – and as newsletter editor, Pepper used the term more than once. But, in the August 1982 newsletter, Pepper provided a write up of the TPG SC² contest that he had run as contest director:

“2 gliders were lost on launch, with a 3rd making a beautiful flight which ended in a tree, sans radio. Other than that, not even the famous Hourglass 00-grit landing surface, seemed to take much toll of planes or pilots. One bozo, who shall remain nameless, began whining about the scoring, halfway through the 2nd round, with a result being all scores for the 2nd round having to be re-computed, and this new method incorporated for round 3. The humor of the situation becomes apparent, when you learn that said bozo dropped from XX place to YY place, in the final standings.”

Readers today need to remember that others in the club such as Al Doig had a dry wit, and so did Pepper, but the above description was not seen as humorous to all, especially the member who was “bozo,” Rick Schrameck.

Pepper left the club soon after this, reportedly due to a lack of free time as a real estate agent, and the club was left without a newsletter editor. But Rick wrote a letter to the editor that was printed in the September 1982 newsletter voicing his concern, and this letter and the difficult discussions that resulted from it, probably prompted Pepper to leave more than his lack of free time:

“I feel that the Torrey Pines Newsletter is not the place for you Pepper Kay, or anyone else to call people names. When someone makes a legitimate complain to the CD regarding the way a contest is run or scored, the complaint should be considered, a change should be made if appropriate and that should be the end of it. For you to mention it in the newsletter and then call someone a ‘bozo’ shows your total lack of class and your disregard for others. I would like to note that I felt that the contest was run very well, but a CD should know how to score or he should not be running a contest of this caliber. I hope this will be the last time that the newsletter will be used by the editor, or anyone for vicious name calling or snide personal remarks. These things should never happen again no matter who edits the newsletter. – Rick Schrameck, Alias ‘Bozo’”

As president, Dave Watson now found himself in the unusual place of having to mend fences between Pepper and Rick, between those who took competition “sort of” seriously and those who took competition “very” seriously, while also searching for a new newsletter editor, and producing one every month... Dave Watson flew at both Torrey and Hourglass but mostly enjoyed flying for fun rather than competition.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

For instance he was one of the earlier members to adopt and interest in simply flying scale sailplanes just to enjoy their grace. Meanwhile, TPG was to host a 2-meter world cup in 1982 but proposed CD (Rick Schrameck) called Dave Watson to say that given the lack of coordination between the parties involved with that project, he was pulling out as CD.

But hey, not everyone was having a bad 1982 – a rather new guy by the name of Mike Smith took first place in the September TPG thermal contest. (Hey you guys in 1983 - watch out for that Mike, he's pretty good!) Mike came in second at the October TD contest.

Then, in November of 1982 just when fences were being mended, the club lost its club meeting location – the second story of the San Diego Federal Bank on Torrey Pines Road in La Jolla. The club had met there for many years, nearly since the time of its inception. Losing it was a huge blow. Dave Watson initiated contact with the San Diego Air and Space Museum about seeing if the club could meet there instead.

The newsletters began to make fun of the crazy situation by listing the position of “R&D” in the list of board directors with the word “BOZO” as the person in charge of that position. Meanwhile, Steve Manganelli resigned as Secretary, was replaced by Bob Maldonado for a time in that role before John Brunner agreed to serve as Secretary while Bob Maldonado moved to Cliff Coordinator.

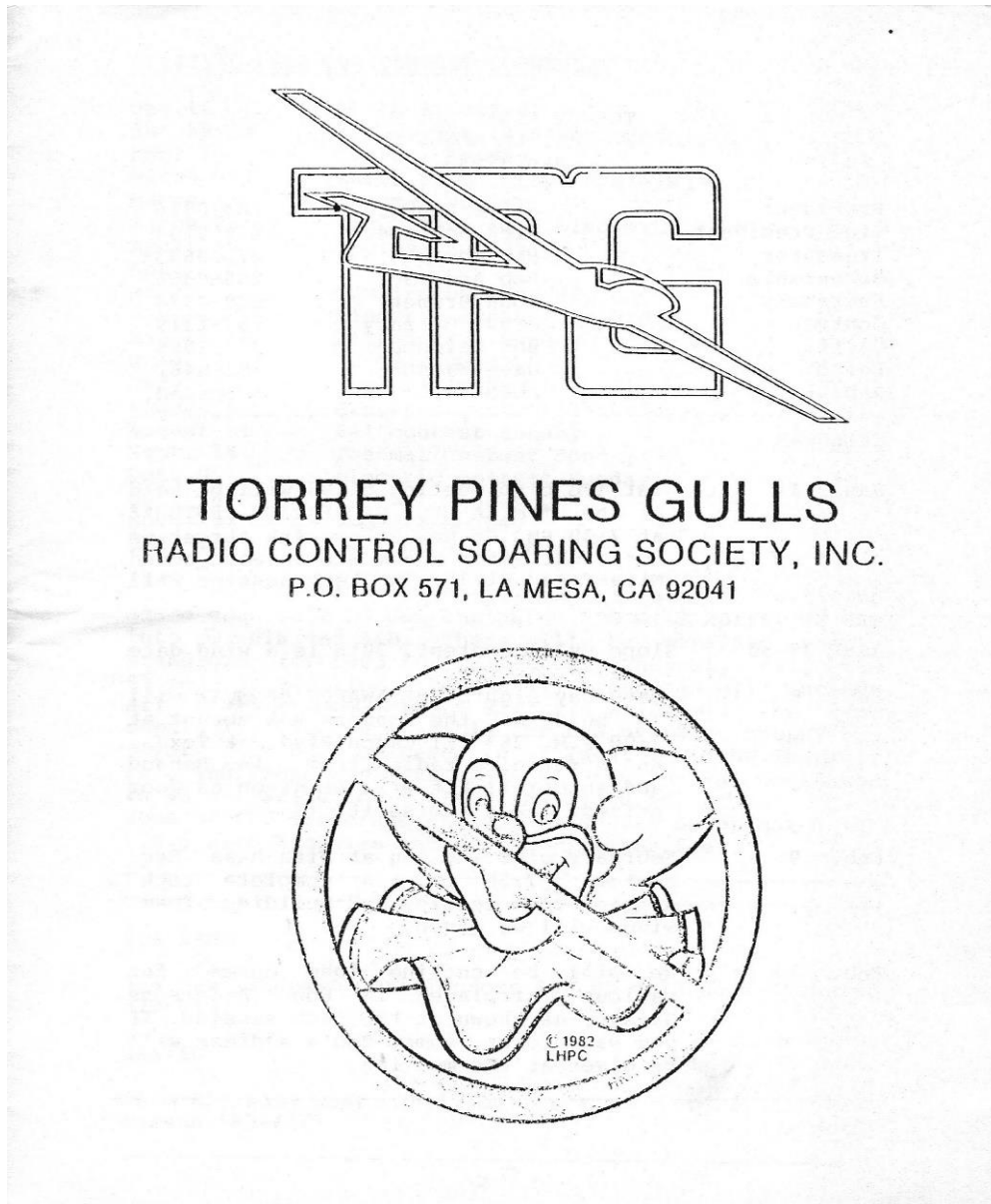
It seemed that just about everything that could happen to the club was all happening in one year, and this included the simmering tensions between the competition and fun fly types. The January 1983 issue cover had a clear “No Bozo” sign on the front as a way of hopefully ridding the club of these demons. If Dave Watson could have found a Bozo the Clown voodoo doll, he probably would have used it.

Steve Neu very kindly took the reigns as club President in 1983 during this tumultuous time. David Watson wrote a personal note to the membership in the January 1983 newsletter “It was a long year with many problems, but we made it. Many of the problems continue however and I hope the new board will receive the same excellent support the 82 board had.” Given no one else stepped up, David Watson volunteered to be newsletter editor in 1983 and remain in service to the club.

By March 1983 it was announced that the club had finally come to an agreement with the San Diego Air and Space Museum to have monthly meetings there. It actually probably was a good thing that there was a hiatus in the club monthly meetings as that allowed cooler heads to prevail with a fresh start in this new location.

New meetings helped get everyone in the club back on the same page – we are all in this to enjoy RC soaring in many forms, and not about saying which type is “better” than another, or about calling each other names in the newsletter! Enough said – go out and soar!

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Cover page: Torrey Pines Gulls Newsletter, January, 1983

As a result of all of the difficulties of 1982, the club elected to present the Modeler of the Year trophy to a fictitious "Bozorn Byrd." It just as easily could have gone to Dave Watson for surviving 1982 as club president among all the turmoil but I bet Dave would have still wanted the trophy to honor Bozo instead.

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)



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



PSS Tucano over Cajon (Greg Houck photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



PSS B-17 at Cajon (Greg Houck photo)



Greg Houck launching Raven for Martin Taraz (Ian Cummings photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Dan Cummins lunching at Cajon (Greg Houck photo)



September Winner – Nick Taraz's Tucano flyby of the moon at Cajon (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:

“And falling's just another way to fly.”

~ Emilie Autumn



Torrey Sunset – Photo by Marty Dine