



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2018

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org)

Editor – Dale Gottdank

## Message from the President

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Craig Hanson

Hello Gulls!

Winter Is coming! I heard that somewhere...It's time for long pants and a coat!! At Torrey, the "Marine Layer" is showing its ugly head. After you fly, wiping the dew off your wings lets you know. Winter is here!

We had a board meeting last month. I am happy to report that things look good all around. We talked about fees for younger flyers, and about the upcoming Christmas party at Phil's BBQ in December - no date on that yet. We also discussed the opening for a new Slope Coordinator among other positions to be filled for next year. That position will help with events and other activities that are held at the Torrey Pines Gliderport (see next page).

I can't thank our board members enough for what they do, but, Thanks Guys!!!

## Message from the President (continued)

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

[www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org)

Till next time,

Craig Hanson  
2018 TPG President  
858-212-4208



Help us to keep the Torrey Pines Gulls a vital, member-oriented organization by participating in club leadership. Please volunteer for one or more of the open positions for 2019:

*Vice President*  
*Slope Coordinator*  
*DLG Coordinator*  
*SC2 Representative*

Contact me, Craig Hanson at 858-212-4208, or Club Secretary, Dale Gottdank at 858-449-6597.



### *Howdy there Gulls!*

We are happy to announce that this year's *TPG Holiday Party* will be held in *Early December (date and venue TBD)*. The last few years it's been held at *Phil's BBQ Event Center on Sports Arena Blvd.*

We'll be getting word out in the next week or two with actual date/time and location and we expect the cost will be *\$10-\$15* per person for members and guests, payable at the door.

*Please rsvp by November 27th* to [TPGulls@gmail.com](mailto:TPGulls@gmail.com) or text me at 858-212-4208, so we can give our host a head count.

*Hope to see you there!*

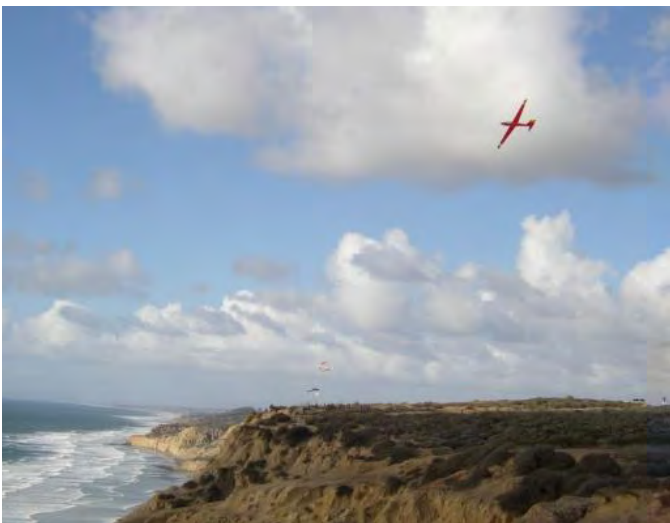
*Craig Hanson  
Torrey Pines Gulls  
2018 President*



## 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 have an article about the new UberCraft Raven, an **updated version of Martin Taraz's 2008 composite plank**. Also, we'll be continuing our series by Gary Fogel on **the club's history, with 1983 Modeler of the Year, Angelo Orona**.

Please send in your articles or photos ([dgottdank@gmail.com](mailto:dgottdank@gmail.com)) by the 25<sup>th</sup> 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

No new news since the October issue.

Bill Eckles  
Membership Chairman



August 25<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 students \$30 per year
- ✓ Juniors under 15 years \$5 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](http://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?

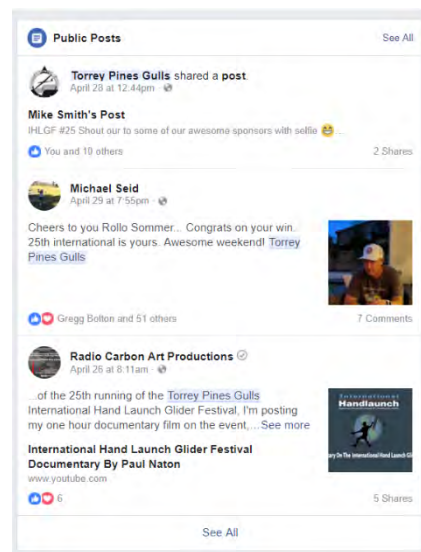
You can express your opinion at: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org).

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. 18<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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

Hi Gulls!

Well, it seems that this month there's nothing new to report, but...

Remember, the next fun fly event is November 24<sup>th</sup>, the Saturday after Thanksgiving!

*Blue Skies,*

*Ray*

[tpgslope@gmail.com](mailto:tpgslope@gmail.com)



Matin Taraz photo

## Club Competition Activity

### Thermal Duration

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#### 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-november/>, or contact Cliff Hunter at [cfhunter@att.net](mailto: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

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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](mailto: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



We have one remaining LSF date left for the year at Poway (Saturday):  
Dec 8<sup>th</sup>.

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](mailto:tpgslope@gmail.com)

## Ravens Return to Torrey

On October 12th, Matin Taraz and Greg Houck maiden their newest version of the UberCraft Raven at the Gliderport. They had hoped to test fly the Raven during their trip to Australia last month. Unfortunately the weather didn't cooperate.

For those unfamiliar with the model, the original UberCraft Raven was a circa 2008, 60" plank with a hybrid construction consisting of a two-piece EPP wing, a carbon/polyurethane rubber fuselage and a balsa fin.



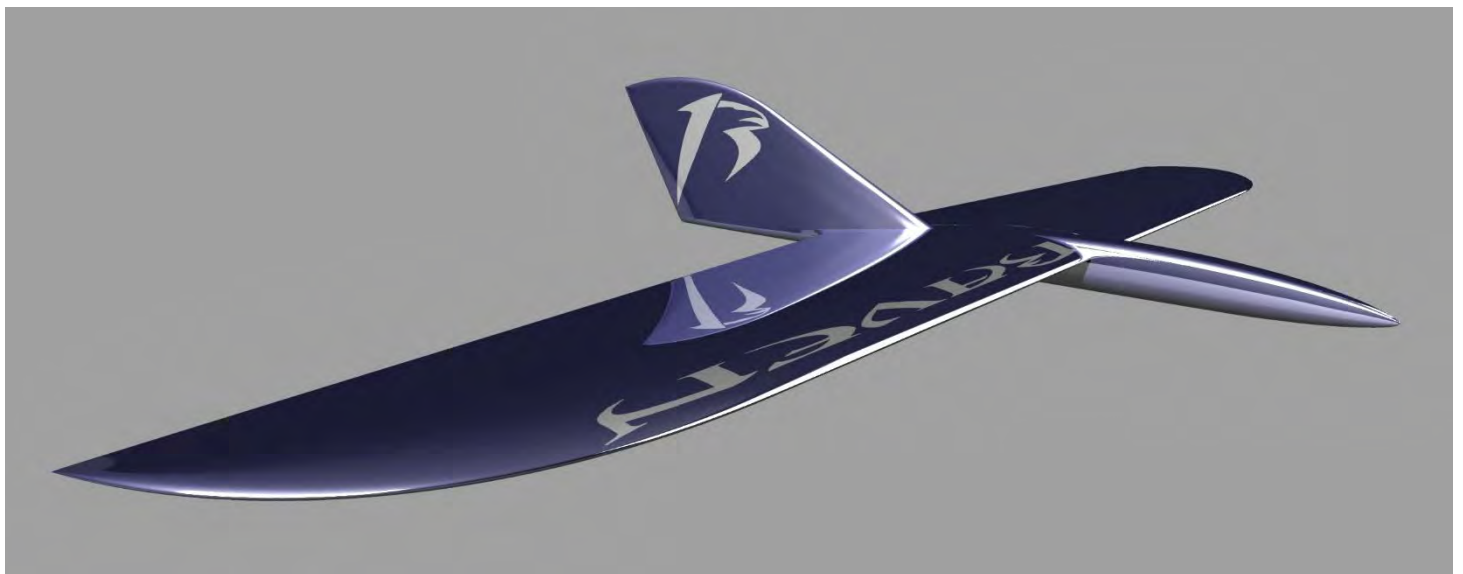
Dale's Raven kit right out of the box.



Dale's Raven at the slope.

The fuselage frame of the original, which consisted of 7 separate and removable pieces and contained no electronics, was covered in the front by a flexible polyurethane rubber nosecone. Once mounted onto the wing, the fuselage just went for the ride and participated only in keeping the glider in balance and controlling its yaw. All the electronics were housed in the wing.

Raven owners loved the beast but UberCraft wanted improvements. The improvements were intended to make the new Raven easier for the manufacturer to produce and even easier for owners to operate.



A CG rendering of the new Raven

## Ravens Return to Torrey (continued)

Here's how Matin describes the new and improved model:

"The new Raven simplifies things by combining all 8 fuselage components of the original into one polyurethane rubber fuselage which houses the receiver and the flight battery. The two wing halves slide onto a joiner that protrudes from the fuselage and Multiplex connectors close the circuit between the wing servos and the RC gear inside the fuselage. A stiff fiberglass fin slides into a slot in the back of the fuselage and is securely held in place via a removable pin. This new arrangement of components produces an airframe that is very easy to assemble and disassemble, is much stiffer in the air and on landing and preserves the excellent aerodynamic and flight characteristics of the original."



Matin's new Raven



Greg's new Raven

## Ravens Return to Torrey (continued)

According to Matin, the launch went on without a hitch and they encountered no issues during the test flights.

"It seems to fly a little faster and feels more solid in the air" he said. "All in all, I think it flies better than the original."



Greg launching his Raven (Ward Hagaman photo)



Matin's Raven on landing approach (Greg Houck photo)

## Ravens Return to Torrey (continued)



Looks like a winner! (Greg Houck photo)



The thrill of victory! A successful maiden! (Ward Hagaman photo)

## TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel

### This Month: Angelo Orona, 1983 Modeler of the Year

Each month tells a different story about another important TPG modeler. Fortunately for me, I've known Angelo Orona since the time he earned this award. However, piecing together his initial interest in RC was a surprise – he actually won this award after having only a very limited amount of time with the club. The back story to his involvement required further investigation and I interviewed Angelo to set this part of the story straight.

Angelo grew up in the San Bernardino area and even as a young boy became infatuated with the airplanes that would take off and land from a local airport near Little Mountain. He built balsa kits and flew chuck gliders but given he was too young to understand the importance of CG, **they didn't fly all that well.** Angelo graduated from Colton High School and then later served in the US Naval Reserve making a trip to South America aboard the USS Wetterberg just about the time that the Korean War began. In 1951, he and a buddy transferred from the Naval Reserves to the US Air Force. Angelo was assigned to a radiology school for training as a medic, graduating in the top third of his class. Fortunately just at the time of his graduation, March AFB in Riverside required six x-ray technicians and Angelo was assigned to one of these six positions as a part of the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force. After the war and after fulfilling his service, he went to UC Santa Barbara with an interest in sociology, **receiving a Bachelor's degree.** Never far to stray from aviation, while at Santa Barbara, he worked at the Goleta Airport.





## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Angelo soon realized a desire to teach and went to graduate school at UCLA to pursue a Master's degree and then a Ph.D. in anthropology. His dissertation focused on the culture of Venezuelan fishermen, specifically those on Margarita Island. These particular fisherman had a strong bond with the environment and especially the sea. They could read the sea and know where the fish would be. Angelo lived with them for one year as a part of his Ph.D. After graduating in 1968, Angelo took a teaching position at the University of San Diego in Anthropology in 1973.

In the spring of 1981, he and his wife took a drive up the coast to Carlsbad, coming back to San Diego on Pacific Coast Hwy. There, as they neared Torrey Pines, Angelo saw the hang gliders in the air and he wondered where they could be launching from. They found their way to the gliderport, where Angelo not only saw the hang glider launching and landing area but a group of very friendly RCers.



Dr. Angelo Orona

He remembers walking up to the pit area and introducing himself and specifically remembers how friendly and outgoing the modelers were. This tight group of RC pilots reminded him of the Venezuelan fishermen – a group of people who were adapting their culture to the environment, knowing where to fly their models, how to keep them aloft without motors, watching the sea for air currents and wind direction, etc. It was a fascinating combination of anthropology and aviation that had alluded him for most of his life. He was hooked. A year or so later Angelo was a fixture at the cliff.

Angelo's first RC glider was a 2m Top Flite Metrick. (I have to say I remember this plane well, and it was just about the prettiest build of a Metrick anyone at the cliff had ever seen at the time. Angelo was an immaculate builder, and the plane looked absolutely like the photo on the kit! Even perfect monokoting and the proper colors. Not only was it a great flier, but it looked great flying!) With this model, Angelo quickly advanced in RC soaring.

**TOP FLITE**  
**F**

**Two for your weekends  
...from Top Flite**

**Soar with the 2 meter Metrick**

Top Flite's Metrick is the sailplane that's docile enough for the novice yet offers the experienced pilot a superb competition machine.

The Metrick is designed for 2-channel operation with 3-channel, 4-function capability for optional spoilers and tow hook. Top quality balsa and plywood parts feature clean, accurate die-cutting.

• Designed by Scott Christensen, co-founder of The League of Silent Flight • Super strong D-box wing construction • Webbed spruce spars • Stressed for full 12 volt winch launch • 2-piece wing panels • Modified Eppler 205 airfoil • Fantastic L/D ratio • Hardware package • Generous radio compartment • Full-size, rolled plans with power option.

**Specifications:**

Wingspan . . . . . 78 1/2 in.	Flying Wt. . . . . 55-56 oz.
Wing Area . . . . . 600 sq. in.	(ballast space provided)
Length . . . . . 43 in.	Radio Equip. . . . . 2/3-channel
	Kit No. . . . . RC-29

See our two exciting new planes, the Antares and the Elder, at the Chicago Expo — Oct. 15 & 16, 1983.

The Top Flight Metrick kit that was popular in 1983 and Angelo's first model.

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

He next purchased a Hobie Hawk, and followed this with a 2m Precision Model Products Challenger. Once again Angelo produced an absolutely perfect version of the Challenger, complete with the same color scheme as on the box. This guy was a master builder!! At the time, the 2 meter (Class B) RC sailplane class was very popular, especially for thermal contests. The Challenger was a good design and Angelo started flying both slope and thermal with TPG. Within the space of a year, Angelo went from "who is the new guy?" to "go talk to Angelo, he can help you get started" or "go talk to Angelo, he knows how to build anything."



Eva Fogel, Gary Fogel, Larry Fogel and Angelo Orona enjoying being on the inside of the Aletsch Glacier at Jungfrauoch in Switzerland on their soaring safari during the summer of 1984 (it was a bad day for flying, so why not freeze inside a glacier?)



A Precision Model Products Challenger 2m kit. Hard to find these days but a great plane! I don't think this is a picture of Angelo's plane, but it sure could have been.

He spent many hours at Torrey enjoying soaring and helping others. For his service to the club and for being a solid representative of the professional spirit of what membership should mean, Angelo was awarded the Modeler of the Year trophy at the Awards Dinner held in January of 1984 at Tom Ham's Lighthouse on Harbor Island. (Mark Smith of Mark's Models who originally donated the trophy itself was the guest speaker that evening!).

Angelo went on to serve as TPG Vice President in 1984, helping the club get through some turbulent times as I've discussed previously. He later served as TPG President. In 1984 I had the pleasure of traveling with Angelo and my parents to Germany and Switzerland on a soaring safari.

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Angelo Orona (left) and Gary Fogel (right) walking to the RC set up area at Kirchheim Teck in southern Germany in 1984, one of the most famous RC soaring sites in the world.

We had some incredible adventures together, Angelo flying his Hobie while I flew a Tercel. Angelo Orona still flies RC sailplanes as a member of the Torrey Pines Scale Soaring Society, mainly scale sailplanes at Torrey Pines and other locations in California. He also still teaches anthropology at USD, and as an Associate Professor Dr. Orona has served as Chair of the Department of Anthropology. If you see Angelo at Torrey, be sure to say hi and thanks for all of his efforts for TPG and local RC soaring in general and for his service in the Korean War.



Dr. Angelo Orona (left) and Mike Lance (right) enjoying hangar talk at Torrey at a recent scale event.

## 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](mailto: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 – 4m 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)

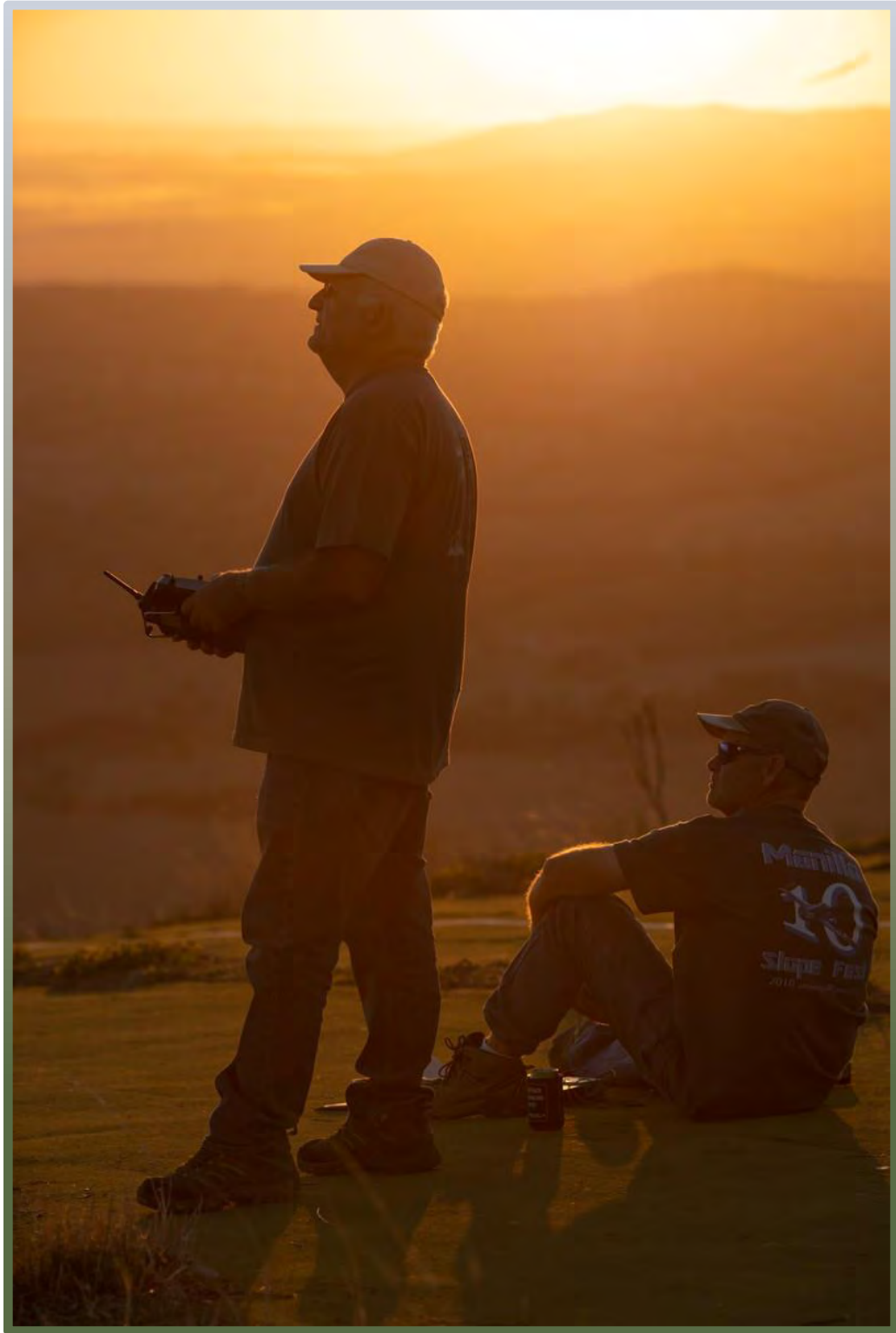


## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



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

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



October Winner – The end of a great day of flying at Manilla (Shane Spoor photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Scalie headed out over Torrey (Greg Houck photo)



Scalie at Torrey (Greg Houck photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



November Winner – Greg Houck launching his Raven at Torrey (Ward Hagaman photo)

## Club Officers and Contact Information

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

### Executive Officers



Craig Hanson



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Cliff Hunter



Ray Pili



Bill Eckles



Mark Canfield



## Quote of the Month:

*“Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread, and pumpkin pie.”*

*~ Jim Davis*



Torrey Sunset – Photo by Marty Dine