

GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2019

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG) AMA Charter Club 129 Website: <u>www.torreypinesgulls.org</u> Editor – Dale Gottdank

Message from the President

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Craig Hanson

Hello Gulls!

We're continuing to see some really good conditions at the Gliderport. Sadly, the March TD contest, like February, January and December, was a rainout.

Not much else to say this month. The fields have been growing, and...Thanks to our volunteers, who have been knocking it down.

I have never seen it so green out at Torrey. Mark Baldacchino, our Slope Coordinator, did a great job at our Fun Fly at Torrey last week.

Fly safe and check those batteries and connectors.

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

Blue Skies,

Craig Hanson TPG President tpgulls@gmail.com

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 1987 Modeler of the Year, Gary Knapp; and **make sure you're** connected with our Torrey Pines Gulls Club Forum on RCGroups (see page 5).

<u>Please send in your articles or photos</u> (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 <u>http://www.torreypinesgulls.org</u>.

Club Membership Update - Bill Eckles



Bill Eckles

Hi Gulls!

It's only fair that the rate of new memberships has slowed dramatically as we near April's showers...ooops! That's back in the Midwest. But the beautifully spaced rains that arrived late this season have greened the flying fields to a new shade of healthy! It is such a good feeling to experience a thermal popping off a rolling hill out in Encinitas or Poway's tree-line ...Nature at her best!

Although our numbers are pretty good this year, we still have some normally strong members who haven't taken care of their memberships of late. We seem stuck in the high 80s and I would love to get still closer to that century mark. If you've misplaced the renewal form we sent out in February, don't fret. It is easy to dig into this web site and send me all the information we need by internet. You will get such a sense of relief by completing that form and using PayPal! Give it a try as so many of you have already.

I look forward to seeing you all as this weather turns into San Diego's reputation.

Have fun, fly safely and good landings,

Bill Eckles Membership Chairman tunabiker1@hotmail.com



January 2019 Fun Fly (Dale Gottdank 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 <u>www.torreypinesgulls@org</u>
- 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 <u>www.torreypinesgulls.org</u> 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.

RCGroups - Torrey Pines Gulls Forum

Are you a member of or comparent?

If you're not...you should be! RCGroups is the most widely used and active online Radio Control Community for everything RC, from planes to cars, to boats, drones, radios, power systems...pretty much anything RC! It includes forums, specific interest threads, blogs, discussions, etc....and, more importantly, The Torrey Pines Gulls Forum.

To get started, click on the link or web page below to get to the TPG Club forum. You can also get there from the Clubs link at the lower right of the RCGroups home page and scroll down to Torrey Pines Gulls.

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If you haven't yet joined RCGroups, click on the <u>Sign Up</u> link at the upper right and follow the instructions.

Once you've navigated to the Torrey Pines Gulls Forum, you can subscribe to the Forum or to any of the individual threads within the Forum.

To subscribe to the Forum, click the Forum Tools link and select "Subscribe to This Forum" from the dropdown menu. Then choose from the notification dropdown menu. If you want to subscribe to a specific thread, click to open the thread, and click the Thread Tools link. Select "Subscribe to This Thread" from the dropdown menu. Again, choose from the notification dropdown menu.

Unlike the Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

What do YOU think?

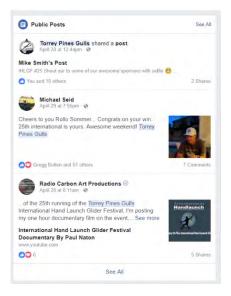
You can express your opinion at: <u>www.torreypinesgulls.org</u>.

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. <u>Please</u> <u>use this group for flying related items.</u> 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, <u>www.torreypinesgulls.org</u>, 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 - Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



Mark Baldacchino

Hi Gulls and Happy April!

And Happy Spring! The City of San Diego, including the Gliderport, is as green as we can remember, thanks to the much needed rain.

The TPG Board had a meeting on March 13th, and things are starting to look positive for Torrey. We discussed a bit about the rules and there adherence, and agreed it's time to take it up a notch or two. There's still a bit of work to do on our side before we go to the Soaring Council, but we're on the right track. We are also looking into making an appropriate crowd control barrier to help minimize people wandering up from the surrounding parking lot into

our Land Zone. Along with the barrier, not to be confused with the border wall, is that a couple of our members are able to fabricate some signage that will be placed below and to the right of the mound to keep people from wondering in front of us, and around the parking lot to accompany the barrier. More to come on this, but we need to discuss this with the Soaring Council first.



Mark Baldacchino photo

The March 23rd Fun-Fly was a success! About 20 guys showed up with all sorts of planes, and there were a few long time members that came out **who haven't flown** in decades! It's nice to see them return; their workmanship, and the smiles on their faces while they were flying. We were able to provide sandwiches from the Gliderport this month, as well. I decided to split the available money into two Fun-Fly's, so there will be another treat in the coming months!!! Above and below are some of my photos from the event.



Mark Baldacchino photo



Mark Baldacchino photo



Sal Peluso, who used to be the Torrey Pines Gulls President, enjoying a Fun-Fly day (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Ian Cummings launches. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



TIP

This month's safety is not about flying safety, but about personal safety, such as avoiding skin cancer. Now that spring is here, and the sun is higher in the sky, and the days are getting longer, cover-up that skin that can get damaged, and worse, get skin cancer. I've been around too many modelers in my day where I've seen the ill effects of what the sun can do:

- Seek the shade, especially between 10 AM and 4 PM.
- Don't get sunburned. ٠
- Cover up with clothing, including a broad-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses.
- Use a broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher every day. • For extended outdoor activity, use a water-resistant, broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher.
- Apply 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) of sunscreen to your exposed skin 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours after excessive sweating.
- Examine your skin head-to-toe every month.
- See a dermatologist at least once a year for a professional skin exam.

Another note of interest:

This month, we have a special treat to either watch or participate in an F3F race. Please note that is on a Sunday, the 7th, and if the wind doesn't cooperate that day, the very next Sunday, the 14th will be race day. If you don't race, come on out and watch!

Here's a link to the TPG website event info: http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/event/torrey-classic-f3f/



Torrey Pines Gliderport Schedule:

- Apr 7th Sunday/ April 14th Backup day Torrey Pines Classic F3F Race. Open to all, register on the Vault.
- May 25th Foamies
- June 1st Katie Martin Int'l Tribute Not a Gulls Only Fun Fly event, but International Event
- July 27th TWF/PNF that's Twisty Wings & Pointy Nosed birds
- Aug 24th Scalies
- Sept 21st Old School Vintage/ Crunchies
- Nov 23rd No Shopping Saturday

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino Slope Coordinator <u>mbaldacchino@san.rr.com</u>

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration



Cliff Hunter

Hand Launch / DLG

Gary Fogel

TD Coordinator – Cliff Hunter

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

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Thermal Duration contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <u>http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/event/april-thermal-duration-4-4/?instance_id=360</u>, or contact Cliff Hunter at <u>cfhunter@att.net</u>

DLG Coordinator - Gary Fogel

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

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Hand Launch/DLG contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: <u>http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/discus-launch-glider-series/</u> or contact Gary Fogel at <u>gfogel@natural-selection.com</u>

Additional information will be shown in the F3X Vault site (https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=location&function=location_view&l ocation_id=2002) as TPG coordinates with the Vault for contest signups, tasks, results, etc. and in this RCGroups thread: https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3176895-2019-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series

Thermal Duration Contest Report - Cliff Hunter

The thermal duration contest for Encinitas on March 10, 2019 was cancelled due to rain and f field restriction after a rain storm. The weather has stopped us from flying TD for December 2018, and January, February and March 2019.

All TD contests are held at the Encinitas flying site, located at 2099 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas, CA 9204 – old landfill. There are two gates with keyed access. The following are Encinitas Field Regulations:

- Radio Controlled Sailplanes Only NO Power or Electric flying allowed
- Club Members in good standing only Guests welcome
- Gates shall remain locked for landfill security.
- Hours of Operation 8am 6pm 7, days a week
- No flying within 100 feet of power lines located to the north and over the homes, west, and south of the field
- No flying entry to site after a rain of 1/4 inch or more for at least 5 full days
- Maintenance will occur between the hours of 8am 5pm Monday Friday.
- No Driving on the landfill stay on roadway or defined parking areas
- Wells & Methane piping shall be protected at all times from damage by sailplanes. No climbing or driving on or near methane system
- Please maintain a peaceful and quiet flying area.
- Remove your trash and put in trash cans at site.
- For Emergencies, dial 9-1-1 Field location is 2099 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas, CA 92024.
- For TPG Club needs or concerns, please contact Field Safety Officer Cliff Hunter at 760-703-4497.

Contest Schedule 2019				
Date	Contest Director*	Comments/Tasks		
April 14, 2019	Steve Condon	Tasks -7,8,9,10		
May 5, 2019	Open*			
June 9, 2019	Open*			
July 14, 2019	Tom Watson	Tasks TBD		
August 11, 2019	Open*			
September 8, 2019	Open*			
October 13, 2019	Open*			
November 10, 2019	Open*			
December 15, 2019	Open*	Rain Date		

Torrey Pines Gulls Thermal Duration

*We are looking for, and need CD'S for Contest Director open months.

Thermal Duration Contest Report (continued)



The following is the contest format we use:

- Thermal Duration Soring Contest, may be AMA sanctioned, AMA cards required to fly.
- Pilots Meeting: 8:45 am
- Entry Fee: \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 non-members Contest Director does not pay the entry fee! All fees go to maintenance of the equipment and field.
- Contest Starts: 9:00 am; ends around noon.
- Field mowed grass or dirt depending on the time of year
- Three Classes: Masters, Experts and Sportsman
- Computer Scoring at the field

Tasks: normally are 4 rounds, time in the air soaring, in minutes.

Scoring: normally 900 flight points and 100 landing points. The task and scoring are determined by the Contest Director (CD)

DLG Contest Report - Ray Pili

We planned for a clinic on "Flying in Wind with Ballast as Your Friend", following the March DLG contest, and what did we get? We got one of the calmest conditions in recent memory!

The early rounds were dead calm. Pilots found low level thermals, many times less than launch height.

By round 4 a few thermals to the east started popping. By Poker a few guys got brave and after a 1-1:30 first or second hand call they threw in all the chips for the rest of window. David Hall, Mike and Sean won their bets. Don had an unfortunate meeting with a tree.

Since there were no indications of wind, the clinic was called off.

The breeze gods tricked us on round 6 (Last 2 4 min max). Many got 4 on their first flight but then were swatted down for the second flight. Winds came from all 4 compass points on round 6 making it difficult to decide where to throw.

We had a nice group: Brian and Marc came down from OC so the CD provided cookies. David Hall, aka Jun from Elsinore, made it down with stories of crazy flower people clogging the freeways.

Ironically, Santa Ana winds picked up while we were gathering the scores....

Congrats to Jun, Mike, Marc, Sean. Top sportsman was Dan G. Dan has got his launches down.

Here are some photos from contest day:



DLG Contest Report - (continued)



Ray Pili photo



Ray Pili photo



Ray Pili photo

DLG Contest Report - (continued)



Ray Pili photo



Dale Osborne photo

LSF Report - Ray Pili



Unfortunately, there is nothing to report this month.

Next 2019 LSF Attempt Day

• Apr 13

As a reminder, this chart is a list of tasks for each level of LSF. If you are a competent RC Pilot, Level 1 should be easily achievable. I still think a ringer can complete Level 1 in one day. Start out at Poway and knock out the landing and thermal tasks then head to Torrey for the easy-peasy slope task. It would be nice for someone to take on this challenge and maybe write an article for the AMA magazine.

	S	ection 12 - SUMMARY OF	REQUIREMENTS		
Requirements	Primary	Primary Intermediate			
Level	1	п	ш	IV	V
Thermal Duration	5 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes	1 hour	2 hours
Slope Duration	15 minutes.	1 hour•	2 hours.	4 hours-	8 hours
Precision Spot Landings	5 landings 3m (9.84ft) or less	10 landings 1.5m (4.92ft) or less	None	None	None
Goal and Return	None	None	1 km (0.62 mile)	2 km (1.24 miles)	10 km (6.2 miles)
Competition	None	6 contests** with 1 place or 3,000 points	6 contests** with 2 places or 4,500 points	6 contests** with 2 places and 1 win or 6,000 points	6 contests** with 12,000 points Including 3 wins

*A second thermal flight which meets the basic Thermal Duration requirement for this Level may be flown In lieu of the Slope Duration requirement. However, the second thermal flight may not be flown on the same day as the first.

Here's a link to the Voucher Form and explanation of the Soaring Accomplishments Program of the League of Silent Flight.

https://www.silentflight.org/images/documents/LSF-BLUE-SHEET-DEC-2018.pdf

Blue Skies,

Ray Pili LSF Coordinator rpili2001@gmail.com



This Month: Gary Knapp, 1987 Modeler of the Year

💶 TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel 🏴

Gary Knapp joined the TPG sometime in the mid-1980s. I remember him as a wonderfully friendly guy, willing to help anyone at any time. He became a frequent pilot at the slope at Torrey Pines, honing his skills on a variety of aircraft.

At the February 1987 meeting it was announced that then-current club Vice President, Steve Growchowski, resigned unexpectedly for reasons not having to do with the club. Seeing this hole in management, and wanting to help the club, Gary Knapp immediately volunteered to serve as his replacement and was approved by vote of the members attending the meeting.

At the July 1987 thermal fun fly held at Bay Terraces City Park, Gary Knapp and his good friend

and fellow TPGer Jerry Miller helped run the registration booth. They were fantastically efficient and served in this role often at larger club events. As VP, Gary Knapp also started building a tremendous "Gulls Nest" including glider kits monthly and an occasional transmitter. He really helped build up the Gulls Nest into a major attraction for the club, resulting in attendance at the meetings and a growing membership. He also started arranging for monthly speakers in 1987 including Bob Renaud of Airtronics, or Curt Stevens of Model Research Laboratories. He also took it upon himself to arrange for the Awards Banquet for February 6, 1988 at the Papagayo restaurant in Seaport Village with Don Edberg as the guest speaker.



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

The executive board meetings were even held at Gary Knapp's home and office. In short, during 1987, Gary Knapp worked tirelessly on behalf of all aspects of TPG.

At the Awards Banquet, the previous Modeler of the Year winner Steven O'Leary presented the 1987 award to Gary – he stepped up to fill a hole at an important time and then performed with exemplary service throughout the year. The newsletter reported that Knapp was "an outstanding positive influence on the success of the club last year."

The board of directors changed again in 1988 with Robert Mohrlock taking Gary's place at VP and Larry Fogel serving as President. However, Gary's service to the club was just starting. Throughout 1988, he donated his time as one of four club volunteers to help beginner pilots learn how to fly. The Board meetings were still held at Gary's house throughout 1988. And despite no longer being VP, Gary continued to help raise awareness and donations for the growing monthly Gulls Nest. For instance, at the October 1988 meeting, he arranged for Bob Renaud of Airtronics to donate six Oly 650 kits and a discount on another six kits to members at the meeting, this in addition to the many other prizes. Gary Knapp (and Jerry Miller) became a driving force for the meetings, even making sure there were ample cookies, drinks, speakers, and raffle prizes for attendees. At the 1988 awards banquet (held in February 1989), the club gave Gary a special plaque as an "honorary board member" for continuing to allow the board to use his office. At the time the club was also very



An unknown modeler (left; possible Roger Taylor?) on final approach with his Aquila for the tape marker at a thermal duration contest at Hourglass Field in Mira Mesa. Note: no houses yet on the hills in the background!

active in finding and using three thermal fields: Hourglass Field at Miramar College in Mira Mesa, Bay Terraces Park near Chula Vista, and a new field at Montgomery-Waller Park in south bay.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

At the December 1988 meeting, Gary Knapp was elected as President for 1989. He served as a high-quality leader during that year, helping to inspire a large 3-day scale fun fly at Torrey Pines for Thanksgiving weekend. The planning for that meeting started as early as February 1989. Through his arrangement the Gulls also had a display at the Miramar Air Show



The pit area for one of the thermal duration contests in the 1980s at Hourglass. Note Bob Peck in the wheelchair in the background – Bob was a famous long-time free flight modeler and operator of the free flight kit manufacturer Peck Polymers with his wife Sandy. Bob also used to enjoy flying RC as a member of the Gulls.

that year. The Thanksgiving scale fun fly was an amazing success, led by Gary Knapp with a team of ~20 pilots helping to coordinate a whopping 80 pilots, 100+ planes (yes, that's correct!), and 200+ spectators, including a massive transmitter impound (in the days when 72MHz was still the way to fly). At the December 1989 club meeting at the Aerospace Museum, Gary CD'ed the paper airplane contest, with competitors having to fly their planes through two hoops or make a spot landing. 29 entrants!

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

In January 1990, when Gary became Past-President, and Angelo Orona became president, the location of the board meetings was moved to the Tecolote Park. Gary continued flying with the Gulls and helping the club for several additional years, before moving to Utah in the mid/late 1990s. There he continued to help the local RC glider club with its large Soar Utah event at Point of the Mountain.

I cannot seem to locate a photo of Gary in my collection. If I do, I'll provide it in a future issue.

Editor's note:

When I first started flying RC gliders in 1991 or so, Gary Knapp was one of the many Gulls members who stepped in to teach me how to fly and to improve my building skills. As I was advancing from rudder/elevator to aileron planes, Gary sold me a Dodgson Pivot kit. Although it was a bit beyond my skill level, his pointers and advice really helped. I still have that plane.

Unfortunately, Gary Knapp passed away in 2005 at the age of 70, in Utah. Here's a link to his obituary.

https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/saltlaketribune/obituary.aspx?n=gary-john-knapp&pid=14592563



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.

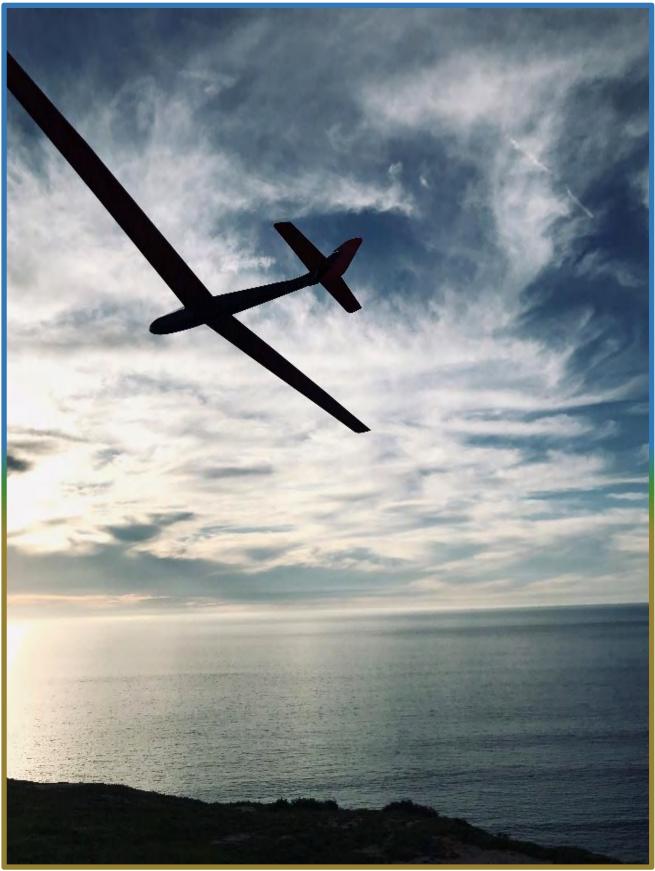
A yearly winner will be selected from among the monthly winners and will receive a prize (their photo will be used as the website and newsletter masthead AND will appear on the following year's club membership card). Needless to say, horizontal format photos are preferred. Email your photos (.JPG format preferred) to Dale Gottdank at <u>dgottdank@gmail.com</u>. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



January Winner – Steve Condon's LET JS1 at Torrey (Mike Smith photo)



February Winner – Thomas Moller launches Steffen Peters' Arcus (Justin Tolman photo)



March Winner – Craig Hanson's plane over Torrey (Cameron Peterson photo)



Phil Davy DS'ing his Pitbull (Phil Davy photo)



Ian Cummings launching at Torrey (Greg Houck photo)



Jester at the March Fun Fly (Greg Houck photo photo)



April Co-Winner – Perfect conditions at Torrey (Cameron Peterson photo)



April Co-Winner – Ian Cummings flying with the pelicans...or is it the other way around? (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	Mark Baldacchino	mbaldacchino@san.rr.com
Membership	Bill Eckles	tunabiker1@hotmail.com
Winchmaster	Mark Canfield	mcanfield5@roadrunner.com
F3K Coordinator	Gary Fogel	gfogel@natural-selection.com
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	mike@themapsmith.com
Safety Officer	Mark Baldacchino	tpgslope@gmail.com
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	steve@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	garyfogel@gmail.com
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Ray Pili	rpili2001@gmail.com
SC2 Representative	To be filled	

Executive Officers



Craig Hanson



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Cliff Hunter



Mark Baldacchino



Bill Eckles



Mark Canfield



Quote of the Month:

"Eagles may soar, but weasels never get sucked into jet air



intakes."

