



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2019

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

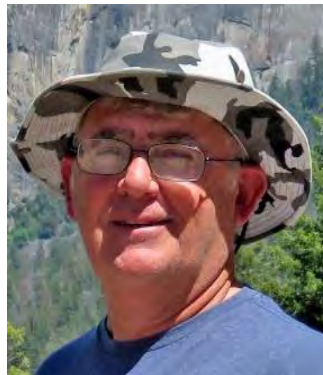
Website: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org)

Editor – Dale Gottdank

## Message from the President

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Craig Hanson

Hello Gulls!

Summer is here; time for that sunscreen and those hats. I'd like to remind our members about our 3 flying sights: Torrey Pines Gliderport for slope flying; Poway for DLG and thermal flying; and Encinitas for DLG and thermal flying. Remember, there are monthly TD contests at the Encinitas field and DLG contests at both Poway and Encinitas.

You can check out directions on our website. I spend most of my time at Torrey, dodging paragliders. It's very friendly and has gotten better in the last couple of years. If **you're** new, the Poway field is great for beginners and experienced pilots alike; again, very friendly and we're always willing to help our new flyers. Encinitas is on an old landfill site. It's a great place to lay out the winches for the large composite aircraft. Even though they're competitive out there, they are happy to show you the ropes, Great bunch of guys! **Let's** have fun out there and keep 'em flying!

Blue Skies,

Craig Hanson  
TPG President

[tpgulls@gmail.com](mailto: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**

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 1989 Co-Modeler of the Year, Sal Peluso. Make sure to stay connected with our Torrey Pines Gulls Club Forum on RCGroups (see page 5).***

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

Hi Gulls!

There isn't much to report regarding membership this month. At this point, we're up to 99 paid memberships and I expect a few more to trickle in over the coming months.

Have a great summer, and fly safe!

Bill Eckles  
Membership Chairman  
[tunabiker1@hotmail.com](mailto: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 [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.

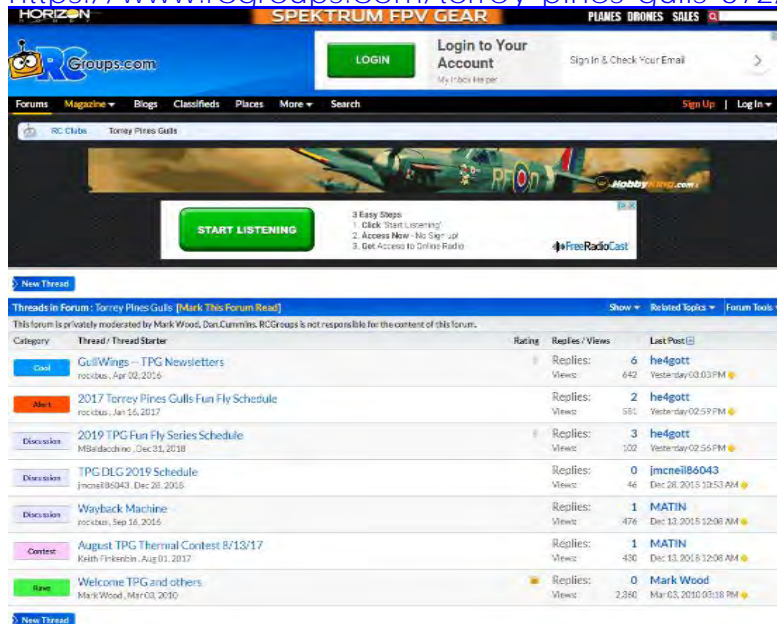
## RCGroups – Torrey Pines Gulls Forum

# Are you a member of ?

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.

<https://www.rcgroups.com/torrey-pines-gulls-672/>



Category	Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Replies / Views	Last Post
Good	GullWings - TPG Newsletters roccles, Apr 02, 2015		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccles, Jan 15, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 551	he4gott Yesterday 02:59 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule MBarbadoine, Dec 31, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 202	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcneil86043, Dec 28, 2015		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcneil86043 Dec 28, 2015 12:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccles, Sep 16, 2015		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2015 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Finkeon, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 436	MATIN Dec 13, 2015 12:06 AM
New	Welcome TPG and others Mark Wood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,840	Mark Wood Mar 03, 2010 03:18 PM

If you haven't yet joined RCGroups, click on the **Sign Up** 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?

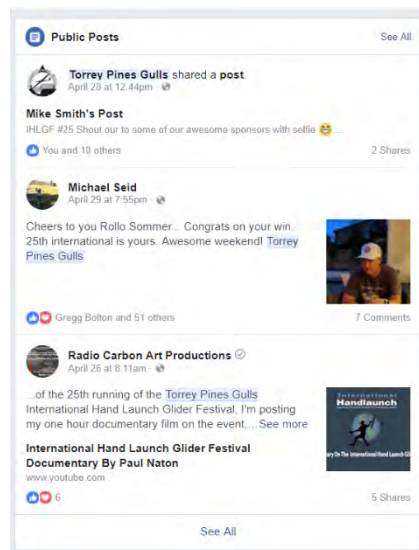
You can express your opinion at: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org).

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 – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



Mark Baldacchino

Hi TP Gulls, and Happy Summer!

It's been a couple of months since the last newsletter, and there's been some good activity at the Gliderport. The big news to report is that Bill Eckles, Ray Pili, myself attended the much awaited Torrey Pines Soaring Council meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM. . It was my first one, and the positive takeaway is that we're turning the corner by working together as a team; after some positive reinforcement that there's been "a change" with respect to rules from the PG'ers with Robin. What I mean is that the paraglider folks are much more adherent to the "one-in-the-window" rule and the use of whistles or alerting their presence within the last three months.

After I gave this feedback, Robin said he's coming down on the flight directors to deliver consequences to rule violators. **They'll** give the PG pilot one warning; the next time they violate **a rule, they're sent home!** We can do our part by giving a flyby PG pilot a warning when we see multiple PG's in the window, or no warning they're coming through, but a better solution is to get the color of the PG, tell Steve, Greg, or Robin what you saw, if they didn't see it already.



A nice place for a meeting. I wish my office had that view! TPSC meeting site on May 20<sup>th</sup>.  
(Mark Baldacchino photo)

We're far from being out of the woods with this issue, but I believe the ball is just starting to roll. If you haven't flown there in a while, it much safer than it used to be. More to come on this as we build momentum.



## News from the Slope (continued)

Our next generation pilot.

Meet Neil who I believe is 12, and is a super enthusiastic kid who loves to fly. He moved from China to SD with his parents, and I can tell you that he's going to be an asset to our club. He's very safe, and can fly with the best of us. When you see him, give Neil a warm welcome!



Mark Baldacchino photo



Mark Baldacchino photo



## News from the Slope (continued)

Some goings-on at Torrey.



Ray Pili getting some fresh air, getting his KA-8 ready  
(Mark Baldacchino photo)



Stefan Peters calling it a day (Mark Baldacchino photo)



## News from the Slope (continued)



One of these paragliders is a model. (Ray Pili photo)

On June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Katie Martin Int'l fly in was held. I wasn't there that day as it was my sons graduation day, but I hear, and read on RCGroups, that it was the best ever KM event. I also hear that the wind was a bit too light for the PG'ers and that Robin moved the flight school off site that day, but we'll go with it. A BIG thanks to our president, Craig Hansen who was able to be there and help Bob Martin run the event. Craig and I discussed months back, and Craig reinforced the rule of a maximum of seven, (7) RC planes in the sky at one time. Last year I counted over 12+ at one time, and it was pretty much a nightmare waiting to happen. I'm SO glad to hear this event turned out well.



Unknown photographer – taken from RCGroups on June 3, 2019.



## News from the Slope (continued)

## SAFETY



## TIP

This month's safety tip is about NOT losing signal to your plane. As you'll see at right, Mike Frandsen's poor bird lost link, and thank God that this didn't hit someone. Just as a reminder to everyone, please look under the hood in your plane and ensure that the antenna ends are 90 degrees from one another. It doesn't matter if they exit a carbon fuse at two 45's or have them inside taped or in pushrod tubes, but please ensure that the end are 90 degree from one another.



Mike Frandsen photo

## Torrey Pines Gliderport Schedule:

- July 27<sup>th</sup> – TWF/PNF – that's Twisty Wings & Pointy Nosed birds
- Aug 24<sup>th</sup> – Scalies
- Sept 21<sup>st</sup> – Old School Vintage/ Crunchies
- Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> – No Shopping Saturday

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino  
Slope Coordinator

[mbaldacchino@san.rr.com](mailto:mbaldacchino@san.rr.com)

## Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up – Bob Martin

After the scary KMIT in 2018, I had reservations about returning to Torrey Pines for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual event. Torrey was chosen many years ago to stage the Tribute to Katie because when we began our business, Bob Martin RC Models, it was considered the finest slope site in America and the birth place of slope soaring. The genre of slope soaring has grown enormously and there are sites all over our great country now, but I considered Torrey the Mecca and wanted to honor Katie there.

There were two goals for this Tribute to Katie. For those that attend, each year I read a dedication that is the reason behind the Tribute. Katie was much more than my wife and moral support for our business, she was the reason we got into gliders to begin with. I bought her a Hobie Hawk when they first came out and the fun and enjoyment we gained from that brought me to designing my own gliders. We were in love with slope and so that was the direction my designs went. Katie was a flier and my intellectual partner in deciding what our fledgling niche of slope soaring needed. She and I worked together to build, what became the largest slope soaring model company in the world, eventually producing 2,500 kits of all designs per month. Because she did not get the recognition she deserved, the Katie Tribute was designed to correct that error.



This year's event as seen from Ian Cummings' Ka-8 (Ian Cummings photo)

As the years progressed, the Katie Tribute gained national and even international attention. Each year was unique in its own way. Through the years, Venezuela and Spain were the first to join in honoring Katie on the designated day. Great Britain would join and Germany too and for the past couple of years a second Tribute is staged in central Spain. The word has spread internationally.

In 2016, the KATIE MARTIN INT'L TRIBUTE had a full segment in AMA Video Magazine, the whole Slope Soaring Column in Model Aviation magazine and Slope Soaring Digest.

## Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up (continued)

That was then, what about now.....

I was very hesitant to return to Torrey because of the chaos of last year. The jellies were not following the rules and quite honestly, we were not controlling our fliers very well either. At times there were as many as five jellies in the box while we had as many as 20 aircraft airborne at one time. I was so afraid that we would collide with one of them and Lord forbid, hurt or kill someone. I expressed my concern to your leadership and that unless fixed, we would move or cancel the Katie.

Working with your board and mostly with Craig, I was assured that all items that concerned me would be dealt with. He stated that the TPG would like us to return and he would work with Robin, the Gliderport manager to address the issues, primarily the safety part.

One other item that was a problem in 2018 was where we set up. Robin had a fit because we had grown so big that we were spread all over the place. In meetings with Robin and the TPGulls, he drew on a map, where he wanted us to set up. I published it on the Katie thread for everyone to see. Everything looked like it had be addressed.

When I arrived on Friday before the event, I found three foot tall weeds in the main area we are supposed to set up. Maybe I was confused, so I went over to see Robin and find out if he would be my guide and show me where we are supposed to be. He looked at the map and said he did not mark that map and he had never seen it. (NOTE: I later found out that more than one TPGulls member witnessed him marking this.) Who was I to believe?

Robin escorted me to the RC area and expanded the areas marked on the map. He told the head instructor to take the school somewhere else for Saturday. He also personally got the lawn mower out and mowed the entire area. I was very pleased at this point....tomorrow the area would be as good as can be for the Katie Tribute. I left around 4 pm to check into my hotel...I was very tired.

June 1<sup>st</sup>, Katie's birthday, I arrived at the Gliderport around 8 in the morning. Soon others arrived and together we got the tables set up and the tarps for the raffle. We had a very nice amount of prizes to give away. We had attendees as well as companies donating prizes to the raffle. The flying conditions and weather were fantastic. The overcast saved a lot of us from returning home looking like lobsters.

Some photos from Stehl Donahue, visiting from Australia, and Dale Gottdank are included below.



Another great shot from Ian showing the Gliderport building, parking area and landing zone (Ian Cummings photo)



## Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up (continued)



Stehl Donahue photo

Apparently, Robin and your board, led by Craig Hansen, really got the word out to the jellies as they were the best I have ever seen them in following the rules. We restricted RC aircraft to 7 and the day went great. Lift varied but at some point, you could fly anything you wanted, it was great. The crowd was down from last year, but most of that is probably my fault. This year was probably the best Katie Tribute it terms of flying conditions, traffic control, weather and wonderful people.

We seem to draw some pretty heavy weights, as Daryl Perkins repeated his 2011 Memorial flight of the original Hobie Hawk I bought for Katie that started this whole thing, and we had Tony Johnson, designer and manufacturer of the Superhawk fly down for the day to fly the Katie Special Superhawk in the Memorial flight. We were honored to have Larry Jolly continue his support and fly with us and many more super people join in honoring Katie Martin.....



Stehl Donahue photo

My sincere thanks to all the Torrey Pines Gulls for allowing us to stage the Katie Tribute at the world famous Torrey Pines Gliderport. My very special thanks to Craig Hansen for coming through on a very difficult task, but hopefully what he started will help the rest of you TPG's in the future. I would like to return in 2020, June 6<sup>th</sup>, Katie and my 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Good job guys~!

Bob Martin

## Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up (continued)



Stehl Donahue photo



Stehl Donahue photo



## Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up (continued)



Stehl Donahue photo



Stehl taking some shots (Dale Gottdank photo)



Stehl Donahue photo



# Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up (continued)



Stehl Donahue photo



Stehl Donahue photo

## Katie Martin International Tribute Follow-up (continued)



Dale Gottdank photo



Dale Gottdank photo



Dale Gottdank photo



Stehl Donahue photo



## Club Competition Activity

### Thermal Duration

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Cliff Hunter

#### TD Coordinator – 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/august-thermal-duration-4-4/?instance\\_id=360](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/event/august-thermal-duration-4-4/?instance_id=360), or contact Cliff Hunter at [cfhunter@att.net](mailto:cfhunter@att.net)

### Hand Launch / DLG

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Gary Fogel

#### DLG Coordinator – Gary Fogel

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 Gary Fogel at [gfogel@natural-selection.com](mailto:gfogel@natural-selection.com)

Additional information will be shown in the F3X Vault site ([https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=location&function=location\\_view&location\\_id=2002](https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=location&function=location_view&location_id=2002)) 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?3176895-2019-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series>



## Thermal Duration Contest Report – Cliff Hunter

Unfortunately, due to poor turnout, no contests were held in June or July.



The following is the contest format we use:

- Thermal Duration Spring 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)

## Thermal Duration Contest Report (continued)

On another subject, To increase the number of TD contest participants, we're proposing the following:

### **F5J – Thermal Duration Gliders with Electric Motor and Altimeter/Motor Run Timer**

We propose to fly Thermal Duration at Encinitas field one month and F5J at Poway field the next month. The F5J planes can be as simple as a Radian or as complex as a Vixen.

The essence of F5J is 10-minute rounds flown man-on-man with a launch window regulated like F3K. BUT, there is the launch-height penalty that makes it different from any other soaring discipline - the ultimate challenge!

- You cannot launch before the start horn begins and you cannot be in the air (not even an inch) when the end of window horn begins.
- Flight points are 1 point per second.
- Landing task is worth 50 points and is 5 points per meter. Within 1m is 50, 1-2m is 45 and so on. Not actually sure what the circle diameter is - maybe 10m.

Lanes are all adjacent and are only about 10-12 meters apart depending on the width of the field (Poway will probably only allow for 4-5 lanes tops).

- There is a penalty of 0.5 points per meter (up to 200m) of launch height which is measured as the maximum altitude reached between launch and 10 seconds after the motor stops. Above 200m the penalty is 3 points per meter.
- Scoring is 1 point per second + landing points - the height penalty normalized to 1000 per flight group.

For a true F5J contest, there are at least 4 preliminary 10-minute rounds and then an optional fly-off (15-min flights) of the top pilots, which is typically determined by the number of lanes. 3-4 fly-off rounds can be held. For a monthly club event I would say we may skip the fly-off...especially if we can only fit 4 lanes.

For more detailed information, click [here](#).

For the inaugural contest Steve Condon has volunteered to be the CD and will be glad to help coordinate others as well.

In order to launch (no pun intended...well, maybe) an F5J program we will need to acquire the following equipment, which must be approved by the board:

- Display clock (Chuck Norris is currently working on a prototype that can also be used for F3K contests.)
- Scoring and timing software from glider [score.com](http://score.com) to run the event. Software is free.
- FAI landing tapes (probably need 5, maybe 6)... These are the same as the old F3B tapes that score in 1 meter increments.
- Sound system for speakers along the flight line so contestants can hear the countdown & horns. We may be able to use the existing club DLG equipment.

It is proposed that the first event be in the fall. Possible dates include September 15th and October 13th - unless we want to move to a Saturday. We will need to coordinate with the DLG schedule as well.



## DLG June Contest Report – Ray Pili (CD)

Wow, we had a great showing this month! Conrad and Charles visited from Nevada; Brent, Jim, Tom, Brian, wife and dog from ELDO; Marc from South OC; and expat Gregg from distant lands.

Thanks to Don and Justin for helping with the contest after having aircraft issues. Tasks were:

Round Number	Round Type	Task
1	Preliminary Round ▼	F3K Task J - Last Three (3:00 Max)
2	Preliminary Round ▼	F3K Task B - Last Two Flights (4:00 Max)
3	Preliminary Round ▼	F3K Task E - Poker (Pilot Nominated)
4	Preliminary Round ▼	F3K Task K - Big Ladder
5	Preliminary Round ▼	F3K Task H - 1,2,3,4 Minute
6	Preliminary Round ▼	F3K Task G - Five Longest (2:00 Max)

The first three tasks are my most hated tasks.



Ray Pili photo



Ray Pili photo



Ray Pili photo



# DLG June Contest Report (continued)

Congratulations to:

Open: Gregg, Me and Marc  
 Sportsman: Dan and Scott



Ray Pili photo

**Preliminary Overall Standings** Add Scoring Round ▾

Rounds (1-6)

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)						Sub	Drop	Pen	Percent
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6				
1	16 Gregg Bolton	5963		1000	1000	1000	1000	972	991	5963		100%	
2	9 Ray Pili	5794	-169	1000	1000	834	1000	960	1000	5794		97%	
3	8 Marc Maher	5747	-47	1000	1000	1000	784	1000	963	5747		96%	
4	7 Brian Chirriok	5724	-23	1000	804	964	971	985	1000	5724		96%	
5	2 Joseph Conrad	5645	-79	1000	1000	1000	965	986	894	5645		95%	
6	10 Gary Fogel	5635	-10	1000	1000	899	977	1000	759	5635		94%	
7	4 Charles Martin	5613	-22	1000	1000	975	966	817	865	5613		94%	
8	5 Brent Lytle	5593	-20	894	1000	783	978	969	969	5593		94%	
9	14 Chuck Norris	5260	-333	1000	1000	642	966	784	848	5260		88%	
10	13 Tom Nrudson	5164	-96	1000	946	471	944	922	879	5164		87%	
11	11 Dan Gebhardt	4843	-321	976	853	353	956	737	968	4843		81%	
12	12 Clifford Hunter	4916	-527	1000	450	508	929	623	806	4916		72%	
13	6 Jim Lytle	3980	-336	1000	530	202	756	671	821	3980		67%	
14	15 Scott Meurty	2852	-1128	556	150	305	812	597	432	2852		48%	
15	3 Don Lochhead	0	-2852	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0%	

I initially entered the scores in to the Vault without the A and B rounds but after double checks from Justin, Gary and Don the above are the correct scores. I greatly benefited from the rescoring.

The early rounds had good air surprisingly. Most everyone did well with the last 3 and 2 rounds and with poker. The later rounds had shifting winds which causes problems with a few land outs.



## DLG June Contest Report (continued)

Conrad and Joseph want to extend an invite to the next Blue Skies Over Nevada flying out of a Sod Farm near the state line.

[Blue Skies Over Nevada 2019](#)

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3318691-Blue-Skies-Over-Nevada-2019#post41934401>

Also remember the Cookie Toss Matt organizes up in Eldorado Park Long Beach.

Next TPG DLG monthly is July 20, but at Encinitas instead of Poway. Cliff Hunter is the CD.

...and, from Gary Fogel:

DLG events are going well. Our last monthly was nicely attended, and run by Ray. Next will be July 20 and CD'ed by Cliff Hunter. We will be trying Encinitas for the first time for a DLG contest and the meet will be in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. Cliff it would be nice to have at least one AULD round in honor of glider pilot and modeler Neil Armstrong. Neil was both before he walked on the Moon.

In other news, Chuck Norris is busy at work prototyping a new LED scoreboard for our use for F3K and F5J. He is making great progress, Don and others are assisting but it's largely Chuck just forging ahead. I suspect we'll have a working board soon at low cost and it might actually serve as a prototype for other clubs to use in the future. This is important for the club as it helps wean us off of relying on the kindness of Adrian each year for the scoreboard during the IHLGF, allows us to practice at our monthlies with a clock on the field, and also helps get the club set for additional F5J events to come at Poway. According to Mike Smith, F5J is approved for Poway, but a scoreboard/clock is a contest requirement.

Lastly I attended Ken Tagami's service yesterday with my mom. Ken was an early TPG member, perhaps even all the way back to the formation of the club. A go-getter who helped volunteer for everything. Not a contest type and thus never much of a trophy winner, but for him it was about friendship and helping others more than trophies. He helped get my dad flying in RC and many others as well. Ken also helped volunteer with the AGCSC (Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California), routinely serving as the gate guard during Torrey Ops, also as a ham operator helping to arrange for communications between aircraft and the ground "tower" for launch/landing cycles. He often crewed for Harry Baldwin, a fabulous 1-26 pilot who set many distance records and in fact holds the distance record for the longest flight from Torrey Pines in a sailplane – Torrey to Desert Center from a winch launch in a 1-26 (Desert Center is east of Coachella, about halfway out to Blythe). Ken also was well known for bluegrass and played many instruments. His service was well attended, largely by ham and bluegrass friends but also Harry Baldwin and Don Wemple from the AGCSC, myself and Alan Butler from TPG, and Floyd Fronius from the ultralight community. It was nice to see a great turnout in celebration of a wonderful guy.

## LSF Report – Ray Pili



Nothing new to report.

Next 2019 LSF Attempt Day

- Saturday, August 10 at Poway Field

Blue Skies,

Ray Pili  
LSF Coordinator  
[tpgslope@gmail.com](mailto:tpgslope@gmail.com)



## TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel



This Month: Sal Peluso, 1989 Co-Modeler of the Year

I've known Sal for many years. He is a builder's builder and a pilot's pilot. He's also a great gift to the history of both the Torrey Pines Gulls and the Torrey Pines Scale Soaring Society. Born in the 1950s, Sal first started developing an interest in model aviation at age 10. One of his neighbors in Linda Vista, a gentleman named Bob Enslo, was a local modeler who had a passion for gas-powered free flight planes. After dinners at home, Sal would walk down the street and if the light was on in Enslo's garage, Sal knew it would be OK to enter through a side door and join him (and his cat) in the garage. They would build something. It didn't matter what as long as it flew.

In those days, free flight contests were held at Kearney Mesa right about where Claremont Mesa Drive meets Ruffin Road on what was at the time an empty field west of where Discount Hobby Warehouse is today. Sal would occasionally attend the contests too, and also explored free flight catapult gliders. The local hobby shop in Linda Vista had a nice selection of model kits, mainly Gullows or other types of free flight/rubber band powered designs. These were somewhat inexpensive for a kid, but one year Sal had his eye on a Sinbad glider. It was too expensive: \$1.25. That year, Santa provided \$5.00 for Christmas and Sal knew just what to do. He bought a Sinbad kit and glue. But he still lacked enough money for tissue paper for the covering. Fortunately, the same shopping mall had a shoe store, and behind the shoe store was a dumpster. The shoe boxes always had tissue paper in them, and Sal gathered up as much free



## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

tissue paper as he could find. Glue was also expensive, so much of Sal's work focused on using white glue and just wetting the tissue paper lightly so that it would shrink in place without warping. He became very proficient at this technique. Enslo's high school aged son would also sometimes fly u-control models with Sal.

In 1946, Sal's father had started a local company called San Diego Fireworks. They were the main company in town for 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations and Sal worked for his dad for a time. Sal left aeromodelling for a time to pursue dirt flat track motorcycle racing. He became very adept at this and for a time raced on the Grand National Circuit for professional experts. When not racing or launching fireworks, Sal worked for a welding shop in Pacific Beach. It was a job-shop with many different types of custom fabrications. This hands-on experience taught Sal a lot about design, construction, and engineering, and he later would apply those lessons to airplanes.



Sal Peluso and his scratch built Schweizer 1-26 (Gary Fogel photo)

Sal married at 22 years of age. In 1977 he started his own welding company, Kearney Mesa Welding and one year later in 1978 he stopped racing motor track.

On a rainy day he went back to the hobby store and the trip re-kindled his interest in models. He bought a Frank Zaic Thermic glider and later a Gentle Lady. Not knowing where or how to fly a radio-controlled glider, he started flying on his own near Mission Bay. This resulted in many crashes. One smart onlooker suggested that he should go to Torrey Pines, as that's where most people were flying RC gliders and there would be a club to help him. Sal and last issue's Modeler of the Year Bob Mohrlock got into RC at the same time this way and became buddies. Together and through help of many people in the Torrey Pines Gulls, largely Ken Tagami and Joe McBride, they learned aerodynamics by doing. Upon checking



## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Sal putting together his scratch-built Schweizer TG-2  
(Gary Fogel photo)

out the scene at Torrey, Sal saw all of the “hi-tech” equipment and larger, sleeker designs. He quickly wanted to get into other aspects of RC soaring. Multiplex was manufacturing larger ¼ scale sailplanes at the time, and Sal thought that the scale ships were beautiful. With encouragement by Carl Gwartney, Larry Fogel, and Angelo Orona, Sal got seriously into scale. Using Carl Gwartney’s workshop at his house in Morena, and with his many years of building techniques, Sal started scratch building models. His first scratch built scale aircraft was a Schweizer TG-2, the same that Carl Gwartney had trained in as a glider pilot in World War II.

In 1980, Sal attained both a private pilot’s license at Montgomery Field and also an amateur radio license which allowed him to fly RC on the less popular 53MHz frequencies and avoid frequency issues with 72MHz at the cliff. This was a common approach for scale enthusiasts, who had a lot of time and money to lose in their larger sailplanes – avoiding a pin-board frequency conflict and crash was paramount. After his father passed unexpectedly, Sal and his family carried on with the family fireworks company, operating shows all over San Diego including sporting events and at Sea World. In 1984 they sold the fireworks company, but Sal continued to help as an operator of shows until 1994 when he helped establish another Peluso-related fireworks company called Fireworks America. Sal helped that company with shows until 2014 and the company still exists.

Sal continued flying RC during these years. He attended thermal duration contests with the Thermal Pilots Association led by John Menard in the South Bay or with the Torrey Pines Gulls and friend Bob Anderson at

Hourglass Field. With a growing interest and dedication towards scale soaring, Sal Peluso, Angelo Orona, Larry Fogel, and Carl Gwartney formed the Torrey Pines Scale Soaring Society in 1991, a club which still **exists today**. **Oddly, given Sal’s** many hours spent with motor track racing, he never did develop much of an interest in slope racing. However, Sal saw the importance of helping both clubs – the TPG for contests and to help newcomers, and the TPSSS for scale soaring, building, and the unique issues that arise when working with larger models.

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

In the 2000s, Sal remembered his Sinbad. It was an interesting design, one that looked like it actually could have been a real glider was never was. Sal set it in mind to scratch build a Sinbad but modify it slightly to make it look even more scale, and size it up by 150%, with a wingspan between what would have been something on the order of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$  scale had there actually been a real man carrying Sinbad glider. He built this model over many months. Selecting specific wood, matching grains on the wings so that they were symmetrical, etc. The result was an immaculate Sinbad that has flown at Torrey several times, a remarkable glider that represents not only Sal's amazing talent at building but his many years of association with aeromodelling.



Sal with his tremendous 150% Sinbad; a true modeler's masterpiece (Gary Fogel photo)



## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

In 2004, Sal sold Kearney Mesa Welding, not to retire but simply to have someone else run the company. The TPG have benefited over the years with Sal's expertise at welding – the current pin-board at Torrey is Sal's handiwork, as was the one prior to that (and even perhaps the one prior to that).

Sal served as Treasurer for the TPG for several years and helped generate considerable interest in the hobby at Torrey. I had the pleasure of interviewing him for this article and he wanted to say that he is proud that the Torrey Pines Gulls lives on, and continues to provide all of the things it does to help new pilots get into the hobby. He especially wants to thank the club officers for keeping it all going, as he knows how much effort that can be. Expect to see Sal back at Torrey soon!



Vintage Super Sinbad kit



If you didn't know any better, perhaps you'd think this was a "full-scale" Sinbad soaring at Torrey! (Gary Fogel photo)

## TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Sal's Sinbad soaring over Torrey Pines (Gary Fogel photo)



## 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). Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



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

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



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



## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



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

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



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)



## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



May/June Co-Winner – Arthur Markiewicz's 4-meter DG-300 (Mark Baldacchino photo)



May/June Co-Winner – Craig flying his Windfree close in at Torrey (Ward Hagaman photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



May/June Co-Winner – Craig launching his Windfree at Torrey (Matin Taraz photo)



Torrey launch (Marty Zimmerman photo)



## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Glider and PG's over Torrey (Marty Zimmerman photo)



## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



John McNeil landing his Discus at Torrey (Dale Osborn photo)



Greg Houck's awesome orca themed BD-5 ready for launch at Cajon's 2019 PSS Fest (Dan Cummins photo)



## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Greg's BD-5 over Cajon (Stehl Donahue photo)



Summer Co-Winner – Scale flyby at Torrey (Marty Zimmerman photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Summer Co-Winner – Sal Peluso's giant Sinbad over Torrey (Gary Fogel photo photo)



## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Summer Co-Winner – Brian Laird launching Martin Taraz's Qantas themed BD-5 (Greg Houck photo 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>
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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	

### Executive Officers



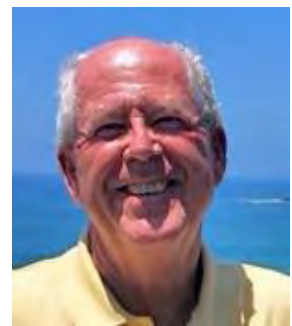
Craig Hanson



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Cliff Hunter



Mark Baldacchino



Bill Eckles



Mark Canfield





## Quote of the Month:

*"It ain't the heat; it's the humility."*

*~ Yogi Berra*



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)