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GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank

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Message from the President



Ian Cummings

Ah, the long days of summer. This is a great time of year to get in some extra flying time, with warm temperatures and extended days. No excuses; get out there and fly!

I want to remind you though, that we are the Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society, with an emphasis on “soaring”.

The use of motors is strictly forbidden at two of our fields (Torrey and Encinitas) and should only be used at Poway under strict F5J guidelines. In a nutshell, if using a motor at Poway, it may only be run for a 30 second launch and needs to be off for the remainder of the flight. We have reports of RC pilots breaking these rules. Our use agreements at all three flying sites provide us with the privilege to fly but are not guaranteed. We could lose our usage rights at any time, especially if we are violating agreed upon regulations. If you see other pilots breaking these rules, please politely remind them. We also have reports of non-members using the fields without sponsors or even AMA affiliation. Again, please introduce them to our club and let them know they must be members or sponsored guests in order to fly at our fields.

Let's all fly safely and ensure our flying sites are open for years to come.

Happy landings, Ian

TPG June General Membership Virtual Meeting
June 22nd, 7:00 pm., on Zoom

Zoom link will be sent via Google Groups before the meeting.



The World's Largest Glider (With 6 Jet Engines)

Speaker: Brent Lytle, Principal Avionics Engineer, Stratolaunch LLC



Half a million pounds of carbon, epoxy, and trace bits of aluminum and titanium took flight (again) on April 29th 2021. A discussion of some of the familiar and simple methods used to build this behemoth, and some of the more challenging aspects of building, flying, and maintaining such a machine. We'll discuss the similarities of how the world's largest aircraft has roots in model aviation and what you get when you combine two Boeing 747s, a sailplane, and a ton of servos.

Stratolaunch is located in Mojave California, and we're hiring! - Please see <https://careers.stratolaunch.com/> for more details.



Brent Lytle has been flying model sailplanes for over 30 years and his love of model aviation has led him down an engineering career path. He is an avid discus launch glider enthusiast, private pilot/experimental aircraft owner, and is currently the Principal Avionics Engineer at Stratolaunch, responsible for the electrically signaled flight controls for the world's largest aircraft.

Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

The Torrey Pines Gulls hosts monthly contests, fun-fly events, LSF (League of Silent Flight)) Soaring Accomplishment Program, onsite clinics and bi-monthly club meetings.

This year, after a long hiatus, club meetings have returned. Our next general meeting, on June 22nd, will feature Brent Lytle, Principal Avionics Engineer at Stratolaunch. Check out the announcement on page 2 of this newsletter.

Be on the lookout for upcoming meeting 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!

June Issue highlights include:

- June General Membership Meeting – Special Guest Speaker, Brent Lytle
- Profile of 2000 Modeler of the Year Gary Fogel
- First Torrey Fun Fly Wrap-up
- New items for sale!

Please send in your articles or photos (submit@torreypinesgulls.org) by the 25th of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter. If there are too many, we'll save them for the next issue. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>.

Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

Activity Membership Summary 2021

The following table below is a summary of new and renewal membership activities based on completed registration forms received from members for May and June 2021.

2021	May	June
Total Members as of 5-19-2021	116	124
Outstanding renewal members	33	31
Average Club Member Age	59	65
Google Group Members as of 4-20-21	120	123
New Members	24	28

We have four renewals or new members. Please welcome Seth McLaughlin, Glenn Branch, Charles Onstott and Walter Quitt.

We welcome all of the new and renewing members to Torrey Pines Gulls Soaring Society. All new and renewing members will receive a membership card and key. For the members who slope fly at Torrey Pines Gliderport and are Torrey Pines Gliderport rated; you will receive a membership card and key; and a lanyard will be given to you by a club member at Torrey Pines Gliderport. You must wear the lanyard and membership card when flying at the Torrey Pines Gliderport effective January 1, 2021 for safety reasons.

Please contact me (membership@torreypinesgulls.org) if you have not received a 2021 renewal membership card, key and lanyard. The key gives you access to the gates at our Encinitas and

Membership Processing:

You should have received a renewal notice using the new TPG Google Group email process. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group you will be sent an individual email. Please use the following link when renewing your membership:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/membership/>

We request online payment via PayPal, which allows payment using PayPal, debit/credit card.

However, if you chose to pay by check or cash, please email me at:

membership@torreypinesgulls.org and I will mail you a membership application form. When the form is completed, please mail your membership application and payment using the provided preaddressed return envelope.

Club Membership Update (continued)

Annual Membership Dues are as follows:

- Full Members – \$60 per year
- Youth Members (19 years or younger) – \$5 per year
- Student Members (full-time) – \$30 per year
- Receive a credit of up to \$20 on your annual dues. \$10 per each half-day working at any TPG flying field

New members joining in the first six months of the year pay the full rate. Those joining in July through September pay half the applicable rate. If you are a new member joining in October through December you pay the full rate but your membership is considered paid through the end of the following year.

Full Members. Full Members of the Society shall consist of those persons who are and remain Full members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), 5161 East Memorial Drive, Muncie IN 47302, have signified their interest in model aeronautics and a desire to be such a member of the Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society, Inc. and have paid all requisite dues.

Youth Members. Youth members of the Society shall consist of those persons who are 19 years or younger and remain Youth members of the AMA, have signified their interest in model aeronautics and a desire to be such a member of the Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society, Inc. and have paid all requisite dues.

Student Members. Student members of the Society shall consist of those persons who have a current full-time student status at a college or university, have current membership (full or youth) in the AMA, have signified their interest in model aeronautics and a desire to be such a member of the Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society, Inc. and have paid all requisite dues.



David Fierro photo

Club Membership Update (continued)

Your yearly membership allows TPG to continue to provide you with:

- Access to three Flying Fields in La Jolla (Torrey Pines Gliderport), Encinitas and Poway.
- Monthly (or thereabouts) fun-fly events held at the world famous Torrey Pines Gliderport, and events at our Poway and Encinitas Flight Centers, 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 RC soaring pilots 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 yearly holiday party to gather with flying buddies, friends and family.
- A website for current and past information www.torreypinesgulls.org
- A monthly newsletter with updated information, contest reports and interesting articles to help keep members informed.
- We are an AMA Chartered Club, #129, with benefits such as field insurance, etc.

Cliff Hunter

Membership Chairman

membership@torreypinesgulls.org

760-703-4497 cell



Ian Cummings photo

Note: TPG membership information will not be shared or sold and will only be used to contact members for purposes of TPG business.

Google Groups – Staying Connected

Don't forget to join

For all current and recently joined TPG members:

In the past year, Yahoo Groups announced that it would no longer be supporting groups. In order to maintain a line of communication among members, last year we established a TPG Google Group.

Please make sure that our club Membership Chairman has your current email address. You can confirm this by contacting membership@torreypinesgulls.org. If you are not already a member of the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an invitation to join.

When you join as a member of the private TPG Google Group, the club will distribute notifications, newsletters, contest events and holiday party info, etc. This information will keep you informed of all club activities throughout the year. You **don't** need a Gmail address to participate in Google Groups, but you do need to be a member of TPG.



Google Groups provides a great way of communicating with one another. If you have any questions or concerns about almost anything having to do with flying, building, finding another club member, etc., you can post them on Google Groups. It also allows you to send links and attachments, just like regular email.

...and, very importantly, since all postings/emails are done through Google Groups, your actual email address is not visible when notifications are sent out to the club members. Also, only members of the group can post to the group, so joining the group does not add to your spam burden.

So, verify that the club has your correct email, make sure you receive an invitation to join Google Groups and sign up!

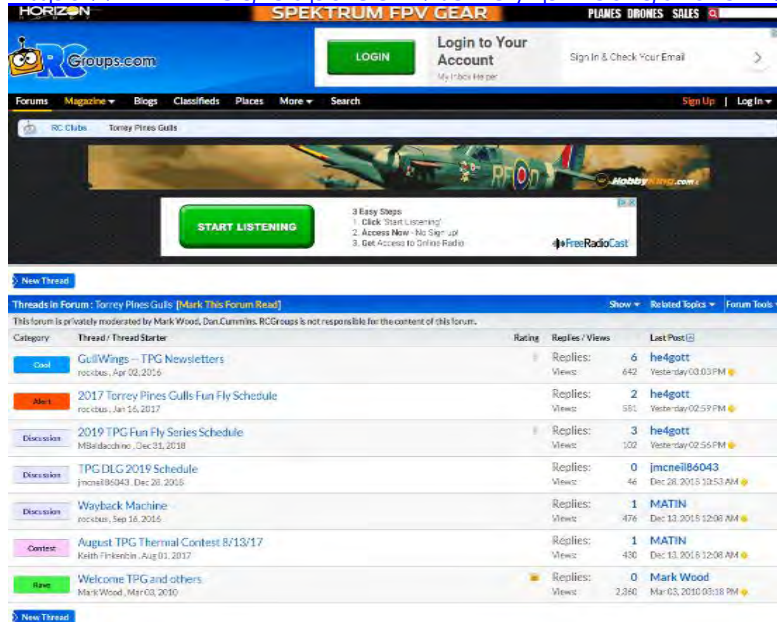
RCGroups – Torrey Pines Gulls Forum

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/>



The screenshot shows the RCGroups website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Forums, Magazine, Blogs, Classifieds, Places, More, and Search. A large banner for 'START LISTENING' is prominent, featuring a green button and a list of steps: 1. Click 'Start Listening!', 2. Access Now - No Sign Up!, 3. Get Access to Online Radio. Below the banner, there's a section titled 'Threads in Forum: Torrey Pines Gulls [Mark This Forum Read]'. This section contains a table of forum threads with columns for Category, Thread / Thread Starter, Rating, Replies / Views, and Last Post.

Category	Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Replies / Views	Last Post
Club	GullWings - TPG Newsletters roccas, Apr 02, 2015		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccas, Jan 16, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 561	he4gott Yesterday 02:57 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule MSBacchini, Dec 21, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 102	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcneil86043, Dec 20, 2015		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcneil86043 Dec 28, 2015 12:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccas, Sep 16, 2015		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2015 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Pinkerton, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2015 12:08 AM
Item	Welcome TPG and others MarkWood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,340	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 old 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?

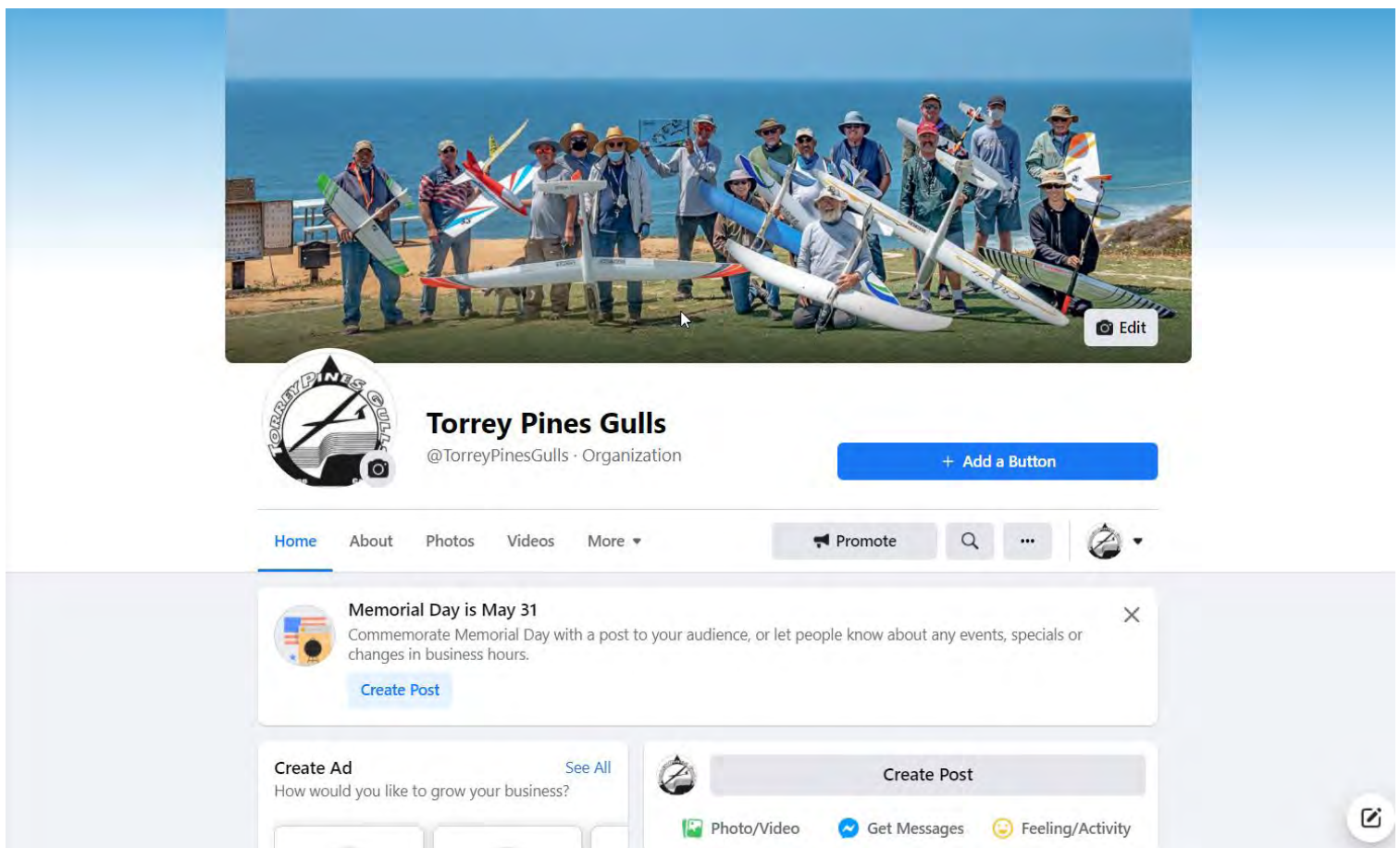
You can express your opinion at: www.torreypinesgulls.org.

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 for new content posted by club members and friends.

<https://www.facebook.com/TorreyPinesGulls/>



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

Happy May, TPGulls!



After 14 months of not having a fun fly at Torey Pines Gliderport, we finally were able to get one in the books. It was the Foamy Fun Fly, held on May 8th. The event really couldn't have been any better as the wind was up to 10+ MPH at 10:00AM, a bit southwest, and picked up to 12-15+ for the whole day. We had 17 pilots show up; two of them made it down from Los Angeles and one from Palm Springs. Everyone had a great time, and we all kept our distance as we were at the tail end of the health order. In other words, no none sat at the picnic bench. ☺



Fresh air, sun, and fun. Five planes in the air at once (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)

President Ian had made a trip to Discount Hobby Warehouse, and the owner had donated a brand new DreamFlight® Alula kit as a raffle prize for our event. VP Bob had a roll of double tickets for the raffle; five tickets were given to members and one ticket to nonmembers. The lucky winner was Jim Birkett.

Everyone had a great time! Everyone, including the paragliders were well behaved, for a really fun day. Below are a few more pics from the Foamy Fun Fly.



Jim Birkett with his raffle prize; a DreamFlight ®Alula kit donated by Discount Hobby Warehouse (Ian Cummings photo)



Mark Baldacchino photo

News from the Slope (continued)



Lots of Foamies! (Mark Baldacchino photo)



And “not” Foamies showed up. These planes belong to Charles Onstott, who built all of them from scratch. Kits are not much of a challenge for him. His covering skills are incredible. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Lots of planes and pilots at the Foamy Fun Fly (Ian Cummings screen shot)

In other news...For new members who get their check flight completed, I have the lanyards for the membership cards, now – not Cliff. After you've successfully been checked out, ping me and I'll get you a lanyard.

News from the Slope (continued)



Group photo (Chris Parks photo)

And, a heads up for June 17th through the 20th. The US Open Golf Championship will be held at the Torrey Pines Golf Course, and it's going to be mega-packed. In speaking with the folks at the glider shack, they lost the war for keeping any parking available. They will only have about 10 parking spots right up next to their storage containers, and the rest of the City Park, including our parking lot will be used for this event. It's going to be a nightmare there, so I advise all to just hang loose and stay away from the Gliderport for those few days.

TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2021:

- July 24th – Aerobatics Day – TWF/ PNF – **Jesters, Ahi's, Shrikes**; whatever turns on a dime
- Aug 21st – TPG 50th Anniversary Again. Rescheduled from 2020 Run-What-You-Brung
- Sept 25th – LSF & Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies – Balsa BOTs, Olys, Sagittas – whatever is built-up wood
- Oct 23rd – Landing Contest – let's see who's the top three at landing on our new strip. Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd
- Nov 27th – No Shopping Saturday – a couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house

Stay safe, and Blue Skies!

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino
Slope Coordinator

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration / F5J



Tom Watson

Thermal Coordinator – Tom Watson

For Thermal Duration and F5J contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/>

For contest rules, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/torrey-pines-gulls-thermal-competition-rules/>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2021 TPG TD & F5J contest schedule thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3771517-2021-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-TD-F5J-contest-schedule>

or contact Tom Watson at thermal@torreypinesgulls.org

Hand Launch / DLG / F3K



Chuck Norris

DLG Coordinator – Chuck Norris

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/>

Additional information will be shown in the F3X Vault site (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.

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2021 Torrey Pines Gulls DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3798531-2021-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-Contest-Clinic-Series>

or contact Chuck Norris at dlq@torreypinesgulls.org

Club Competition Activity (continued)

Foamy F5J



Ray Pili

For 2021 TPG is hosting a Foamy F5J contest series at the Poway Flight Center.

This series is open to everyone with AMA (must be Full or Youth membership) and a Foam F5J sailplane with the intention to introduce folks to F5J. Guests are welcome to compete; no experience is necessary. The format will be geared for first time F5J contestants. Expect ample time between rounds to get your stuff together, timer help, understanding Rules and Task support, and responsible use of the "Mike Smith Rule". Registration is via F3X Vault. CDs are welcome to volunteer. The schedule for the rest of 2021 is:

July 10

Oct 3

Register at the F3X Vault:

https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=event&country_id=0&state_id=0&search=

Examples of Foam F5J planes are: ParkZone Radian and Radian XL, EFlite Night Radian. Multiplex Easy Glider, Solius. This list is not exclusive. Other planes may be acceptable but please check with the CD prior to registration. The spirit of the requirement is to allow contestants to compete and learn with inexpensive planes. **If you don't have an F5J competition altimeter, come fly anyway...we have a workaround.**

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2021TPG Foamy F5J Schedule thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3803797-2021-TPG-Foamy-F5J-Schedule>

*These contests count toward LSF Level I Requirements. See LSF Report in this newsletter.

F5J Explained



Mike Smith

CD Mike Smith

This event is open to all electric sailplanes, so anyone with an electric model (Radian, Sport model, etc.) can give it a try. However, it is important to state that all airplanes must be equipped with an approved F5J Competition Altimeter.

If you don't have one, SoaringUSA sells several for around \$60. Click here to check out the Altis Nano:

<https://www.soaringusa.com/Altis-Competition-Altimeter-NANO.html>

To learn more about F5J, follow this link:

<http://www.f5j-usa.com/f5j-primer/>

Mike Smith, CD

May TD Contest Report – Cliff Hunter, CD

Seven pilots signed up and six pilots flew on a rainy day. We were able to get one round in before it poured cats and dogs. The first round was nothing but elevator lift.

We canceled the contest because of the rain; also to protect our equipment. It did not look like the rain was going to let up. It did not stop raining the rest of the day until late afternoon.

TPG continues its 2021 thermal contest series with F5J at the Poway Flight Center, on Sunday June 13th.

Some information regarding the upcoming F5J contest:

Regarding COVID-19 restrictions - California intends to fully reopen its economy across the state on June 15th, barring any changes in vaccine availability and hospitalization rates. TPG's updated contest protocol is as follows:

1. Masks and distancing are at the participants' discretion.
2. Pre-registration for each event is required via F3XVault. No cash payments on site. NO EXCEPTIONS.
3. Scoring will be through mobile devices direct to F3XVault.
4. Please stay home if you do not feel well or have any symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Pre-registration and payment on F3XVault is working well and will continue, and it allows us to generate the contest flight matrix ahead of time. If you are not registered as a pilot on the Vault, you must do so before signing up for the event. NO EXCEPTIONS - show up unregistered and you will not be able to fly. Contest registration closes Saturday June 12th, at noon. Entry is limited to 20 pilots.

Contest registration link:

https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2005

We encourage any and all pilots with any and all levels of equipment to come out and try this task. It is very challenging and quite fun. We include a sportsman class for any newcomers that want to play. Bring your Radians, home brews, or converted Wanderers and have fun. If you don't have a motor timer/altitude logging device such as the Altis V4 or similar, that is ok. We will figure something out for you. The point is to come out, try the format and have fun.

We plan to fly four rounds. We will accommodate five lanes for launching and landing, so five pilots per heat is the goal.

Pilots meeting at 8:30 with the first round starting at 9:00am. All Poway Flight Center rules and no-fly zones apply. Cost is \$5 for TPG Members and \$10 for non-members.

We hope to see you there.

Tom Watson, on behalf of Mike Verzuh (CD)

May DLG Contest Report – Cliff Hunter, CD

14 pilots signed up and 14 pilots flew on a “May gray” day in the high 60’s. The day did warm up to 78 degrees with very little sun.



Group photo (Dale Osborn photo)

The first task of the day Task H – 1,2,3,4 minutes which started at 0900 sharp. Out of 14 pilots three 1000 rounds were achieved!

The second task of the day Task B – Last two flights (3:00 max) 7 minute working window. We had another three 1000 rounds achieved.

The third task of the day Task G – Five longest (2:00 max) ten minute window. We had another three 1000 rounds achieved.

The fourth task of the day Task E – Poker (pilot nominated times) 3 flights in 10 minutes. Again we had another three 1000 rounds achieved. Everyone loves to fly the poker round, it makes or breaks the contest, sometimes.

The fifth task of the day Task C – All up last down (3:00 minute Max) x3 – timer sits in the pit area, no help for the pilot looking for good air. Of course, another three 1000 rounds achieved.

The results are:
1st Jeff Chipman
2nd Chuck Norris
3rd John McNeil

...and a shout out for Ron Rossetti, 4th place; 1.06 points behind John McNeil.

May DLG Contest Report (continued)

Attached is a final overall standings screen shot from the F3x vault for all 14 pilots.

Next DLG Clinic is Saturday, June 19, 2021 0900 – sign up on the [F3X Vault](#)

Preliminary Rounds 5 Pilots 14 Draw Position Chart Rankings Stats									
Preliminary Overall Standings									
Rounds (1-5)									
#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Completed Rounds (No D
1	14 Jeff Chipman	4927.76		996.94	1000	1000	1000	930.82	
2	8 Chuck Norris	4716.20	-211.56	787.67	992.78	935.75	1000	1000	
3	12 John McNeil	4668.44	-47.76	1000	713.89	1000	954.55	1000	
4	9 Ron Rossetti	4667.38	-1.06	1000	1000	1000	1000	667.38	
5	5 John Butler	4081.65	-585.73	803.85	970.00	898.11	545.45	864.24	
6	2 Mengchen Li	3861.80	-219.85	986.10	890.00	985.70	0.00	1000	
7	3 Ray Pili	3798.96	-62.84	1000	741.11	926.41	315.13	816.31	
8	11 Dale Osborn	3716.53	-82.43	955.22	695.56	690.73	665.76	709.26	
9	6 Michael Kruger	3600.69	-115.84	998.30	877.78	909.16	0.00	815.45	
10	13 Scott Mccurdy	3588.53	-12.16	936.13	543.33	811.76	625.00	672.31	
11	1 Clifford Hunter	3391.40	-197.13	748.29	749.72	784.27	462.18	646.94	
12	4 Don Lochhead	3160.59	-230.81	898.99	477.78	711.74	500.00	572.08	
13	10 Gary Fogel	2903.84	-256.75	926.27	1000	977.57	0.00	0.00	
14	7 Christoph Efstathiou	2263.99	-639.85	425.00	324.17	485.28	666.67	362.87	

March Foamy F5J Contest Report – Ray Pili, CD

Today's contest ended up as a fun fly. Don, Mike, Jim, Scott, Craig, Mengchen and the ringer kid, Seth showed up.

Seth was flying an RC plane (a Radian) for the first time. Don and Mengchen helped Seth get the hang of it with some hand tosses. Later we powered up the plane to 200 ft. and let Seth fly it around with the motor off. On the second or third power up and glide, Seth hooked up a thermal and flew for over 8 minutes. Not bad for a first day. Seth did say he had a month of simulator practice, but still, he caught on fast.

We flew a number of 5 minute AULD, and a number of F5J tasks with landing tapes. We had good lift with temps in the high 70's and a little bit of wind. Not bad for a spring day.

Afterwards Craig, Scott, Mengchen and I went to Torrey for the Foamy Fun Fly.

Over all, a fun day of flying.

Also, I completed the eLSF level 1 tasks. Don, Seth and Scott started theirs.

Next foamy f5j contest is July 10th. I will call a 6 contestant minimum.

Ray



Ray Pili photo

LSF Report – Ray Pili



Hi Gulls,

We **haven't planned any LSF-specific** event for the calendar as of yet, although the Foamy F5J contest on July 10th qualifies for LSF eSAP credit. In the meantime, here's some general information about the League of Silent Flight Soaring Accomplishment Program:

This table outlines the various tasks required for each level. (Source: <https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>)

Requirements	Primary	Intermediate			Advanced
Level	I	II	III	IV	V
Thermal Duration	5 min.	15 min.	30 min	1 hr	2 hrs.
Slope Duration	15 min.*	1 Hr.*	2 hrs.*	4 hrs.*	8 hrs.
Precision Spot Landing	5 landings 3m (9.84 ft) or less	10 landings 1.5m (4.92 ft. or less)	None	None	None
Goal and Return	None	None	1km (0.62 mi.)	2km (1.24 mi.)	10km(6.2 mi)
Competition	None	6 contests** w/ 1 place or 3,000 pts	6 contests** w/ 2 place or 4,500 pts	6 contests** w/ 2 places and 1 win or 6,000 pts	6 contests** with 12,000 points including 3 wins

As you can see, Level I is not that difficult if you are a thermal pilot. If you fly slope only, that 5 min. thermal will tear you down. With Poway and Torrey within fairly close proximity, I believe someone local can complete Level I in one day.

If you are interested in participating in a scheduled LSF event, bring your AMA card, a thermal plane or e-thermal glider such as the E-flite Radian and download a copy of the Accomplishment Vouchers (SAP or eSAP) from the LSF site (<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>). The events are free; you don't have to be a Gulls member.

The Vouchers describe in more detail what each task involves and the credentials of your witnesses.

LSF Report (continued)

The Vouchers describe in more detail what each task involves and the credentials of your witnesses.

Submittal of a completed voucher is as follows:

1. Email the LSF Secretary John Marien: john@ne-aero.com a clear photo, or PDF scan of your completed (and signed by witnesses) Voucher.

That's it. No more sending money or sending your original hard copy.

John will then review your voucher and email you your acceptance or rejection of the voucher submission. If for some reason your voucher is rejected, you will have to adjudicate rejections with John.

Another nice change is while you are waiting for a reply you can down load a new voucher and start on the next level.

As a reminder, LSF is a 5 level program for RC Glider Pilots. Each level has increasingly more difficult tasks. LSF involves Slope flying, Thermal flying, Spot Landings, Cross-Country Flying and Contest participation. Each level must be completed before proceeding to the next. Makes for a well-rounded RC Glider pilot.

The pure glider program is called SAP (Soaring Accomplishment Program).
The electric launched glider program is called Electric SAP (eSAP).

Blue Skies,

Ray Pili
LSF Coordinator
lsf@torreypinesgulls.org

TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel with Dale Gottdank



This Month: Gary Fogel 2000 Modeler of the Year

At long last, we enter the 2000s with our Modeler of the Year history. Some of you may remember the Y2K bug concerns; all computers on Earth were going to come to a halt because of a built in software glitch. Fortunately, they didn't. That same year, TPG awarded the Modeler of the Year trophy to Gary Fogel. No, he didn't solve the Y2K problem. He did, however, do some good things especially concerning the Gliderport, deserving of recognition.

A native La Jollan, Gary started flying free flight gliders at about age 3. He didn't really have much choice in the matter, as his parents, Larry and Eva and older brother David were more than a little bit supportive. Larry had helped the TPG get started in the early 1970s, and both David and Gary considered the Gliderport as their playground. Doesn't everyone's playground come equipped with a 300 foot cliff, beautiful view, and model airplanes?

In the early to mid-1970s Gary would fly free flight gliders off the cliffs at Torrey, experimenting with different designs; building them with his dad and then trying them out the following weekend. Some were very small (~4 inch wingspan); and some quite large (~6 foot wingspan). Most of these were trimmed so as to either hover into the prevailing wind or make giant arcs out over the cliff edge, climb in the lift and then complete a 360 degree circle without landing in the golf course. Most of the time it worked out okay.



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Larry and Gary Fogel with a foamy Schweizer 1-26 in about 1972.

Gary graduated to RC in 1977 and made his first solo at Torrey at age 9 on an Ed Slobod designed polyhedral Pierce Arrow, a great trainer. However, during one lesson about not stalling while on a downwind approach, Gary of course stalled, and the glider was immediately re-kitted in truly spectacular fashion in the backfield. (The good news for Gary is that he hasn't repeated that mistake since.)



Gary standing on the mound at Torrey about to launch his free flight "Alaskan Condor" off the edge in 1976.



Pierce Arrow

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

The next sailplane was a 2 channel Avatar, which survived long enough for Gary to really learn on. From there, he moved up to ever more complex gliders; a Gryphon flying wing; a Graupner Cumulus, until eventually finding a considerable interest with scale RC sailplanes. Like many TPGers, his first experience with scale RC sailplanes was with Larry's ¼ scale Kestral-17, a very large plane for the time with a top-of-the-line 7 channel Kraft system. A successful landing left Gary with wobbly knees and left his dad Larry very proud.

Larry and Gary were mainstays with the TPG. Larry was heavily involved with club operations, while Gary enjoyed flying mainly at the slope. Later, Gary developed an interest in thermaling, and from there, hand launch gliders, his favorite being the Bridi Tercel. Gary built and modified many of those while attending La Jolla High School in the 1980s.

During the summer of 1984, Larry, Eva, Gary, and Angelo Orona went for a 2 week soaring safari to Europe, flying RC sailplanes at many locations including Kirchheim Teck in Germany and Hahnenmoospass high in the Swiss Alps. They also enjoyed stopping at just about every model shop they could find. With the US Dollar worth about four German Marks, they purchased many scale sailplanes, planes which eventually found their way to other TPGers.

Soon Gary left San Diego to attend UC Santa Cruz with an interest in paleobiology. He took several gliders with him and enjoyed flying RC on the slopes in northern California. He graduated with his Bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in earth sciences in 1991, starting his Ph.D. program in biology at UC Los Angeles that same summer. Once again, he had an apartment closet full of RC sailplanes and flew at various locations in the Los Angeles area. All the while, he remained a TPG member and would join in at TPG events whenever he was in San Diego. He also joined the Torrey Pines Scale Soaring Society as that club formed with interest solely around RC scale soaring.



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.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)



Gary with a 1/4 scale Multiplex DG-300 ready for takeoff at Torrey Pines in the early 1990s.



Gary with his 1/4 scale Bowlus Baby Albatross at Torrey Pines in about 1995.

Before we get into the story of Gary's Modeler of the Year Award, some background on the Torrey Pines Gliderport.

The Gliderport has many complexities, the first of which is property ownership. The cliff-side portion of the Gliderport is known at Torrey Pines City Park and operated by the City of San Diego. The inland portion of the Gliderport, used for full-scale sailplane operations is owned by the Regents of the University of California and operated as a part of UC San Diego. This division did not always exist. In the late 1950s/early 1960s, the citizens of San Diego deeded property to the University of California in order to attract them to build a campus in La Jolla. Citizens who voted for this had no idea that they were deeding half of the Gliderport to the Regents. In the description of the measure, the property was listed as Pueblo Lot 1324, etc. Despite pleas from the Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California not to include the Gliderport as a part of this transfer, San Diegans voted in favor of the measure, creating the property divide. At the time, UC San Diego Chancellor Revelle felt that it would be possible to continue manned glider operations at Torrey Pines, seeing particular educational and scientific benefits for a campus associated with a glider port. In the 1970s, the campus even had its own UCSD Glider Club operating manned Schweizer sailplanes alongside the AGCSC at Torrey Pines.

However, in 1989 UCSD produced a long-range development plan (LRDP) which listed half of the UCSD owned Gliderport property as "academic reserve," a fancy term for "future academic high-rise buildings." Upon seeing this while at UC Santa Cruz, Gary alerted his father Larry, and together they began to formulate a plan to determine how to change the LRDP view.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Gary wrote a letter to the National Soaring Museum (NSM) suggesting that the Torrey Pines Gliderport should be considered as a National Soaring Landmark (NSL). At the time, the NSM had honored six sites in the US as National Soaring Landmarks but none west of the Mississippi. The process of proposing a NSL was complex, and required an application with documentation of the location's history. Gary set forth to research this history, while Larry set forth making arrangements for the ceremony. Fortunately the application was eventually accepted, and in 1991 a large dedication of the National Soaring Landmark was held at the cliff, **and included many of the site's earliest pioneers**, such as Woody Brown, John



View of the Gliderport with UCSD buildings in the background (source: Wikipedia)

Robinson, Paul MacCready, Bill Ivans, Helen Dick, and many others. This designation however was only honorific. If the UC Regents still wanted to build on the Gliderport, they could do so. But with all of the favorable press in the papers, a clear signal was sent that many people considered the Gliderport sacred ground.

While Gary continued to research the history further, Larry began to campaign with the City of San Diego to get the site formally recognized as a city historic site. This required another round of letters, another application to convince the Historic Resources Board of the site's importance to San Diego, etc. At the same time, Gary started his Ph.D. coursework at UCLA. It was an exceptionally busy time. This left Larry largely in command of trying to engage directly with the city while Gary focused on historical documentation, making use of UCLA's considerably amazing libraries (including a full catalog of *Soaring* magazines, books on the history of gliding, and microfiche of early newspapers!). At the City hearings UCSD objected as the City of San Diego had no jurisdiction over UC property. As a result, the City of San Diego approved the site as being historic, but only the portion owned by the City of San Diego. It is unfortunate that it wasn't recognized as a City Historic Site before the property could be deeded to the UC Regents; the Gliderport today would be a very different place.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

For the Fogels, this wasn't good enough. Larry Fogel mounted another campaign to go to the State Historic Commission and get the entire site listed on the California Register of Historic Places. This required yet another nomination, and this time the documentation had to be even more detailed; and include rationale as to why the site was important to the entire state. Gary connected with, and interviewed many of the original glider pioneers, and used this together with assistance by members of the Save Our Heritage Organisation to craft a winning nomination. Larry took this to a critical meeting at Riverside where the fate of the proposal would be determined. There, despite many objections by UC San Diego administrators, the proposal was approved. Finally the entire Gliderport was recognized as historic by a body at the same level as the UC Regents. Yet, **it was learned that even this couldn't preclude the UC from building on the property.** California has a coastal law and organization that restricts the height of buildings near the

(the California Coastal Commission). The Coastal Commission enforces these restrictions on all property owners within 3 miles of the coast, except in the case of the UC, where the UC Regents get to approve their own buildings and heights on their property within 3 miles of the coast.

Applications that are approved at the state level of historic significance are then considered for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places automatically. Gary and Larry were sure to document not only the importance of the Gliderport to the state, but to the nation's gliding history in the original application. Once again, despite UC objection, the Keeper of the Register found that the site was historically important to the nation, and it was added to the National Register, the first Gliderport in the US to have this distinction.



Gary (seated near the US flag) and Larry (at podium) addressing the crowd at the 1991 National Soaring Landmark dedication. Special glider mail was flown in to the ceremony using the Schweizer 2-33 parked behind.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

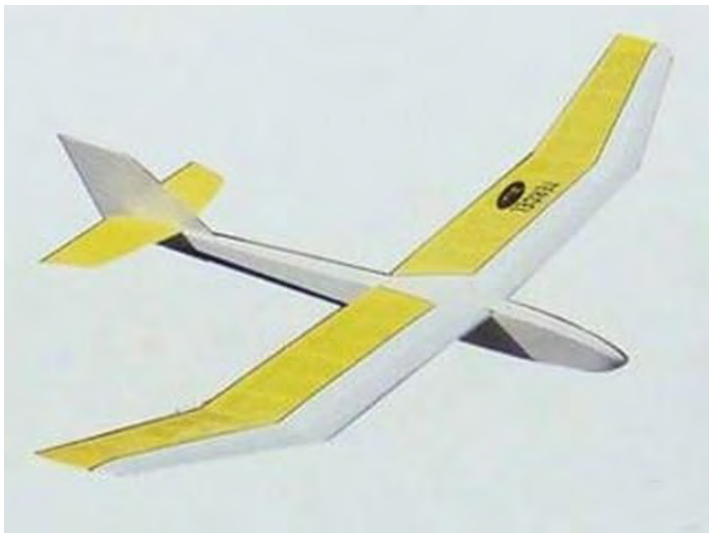
All of this occurred between 1990 and 1993 and left the Fogel family quite tired, but also left Gary with a large amount of historical information about the Gliderport and gliding history in general. He became very interested in the early history of gliding in San Diego; not just of the Torrey Pines Gliderport but of activities regionally. He continued to interview pioneering glider pilots, became a member of the National Soaring Museum, Soaring Society of America, and Vintage Sailplane Association. He established a short lived new AMA club called the Vintage RC Sailplane Association and then co-established the International Scale Soaring Association to help promote the importance of preserving soaring history through models.



After researching gliding history, Gary became well-connected with the Vintage Sailplane Association. Here he is about to take off in the backseat of a WWII vintage LK-10 (TG-4A) piloted by Doug Fronius with Ed Slater assisting with pre-flight. The photo is from the Hemet-Ryan Airport at a vintage sailplane meet in 1993.

In 1995 he set his first RC record; a Class A (60" wingspan) declared distance record by launching at the north end of the cliffs at Torrey Pines and walking all the way to the Scripps Pier, flying his Tercel from the beach with a team of witnesses following him.

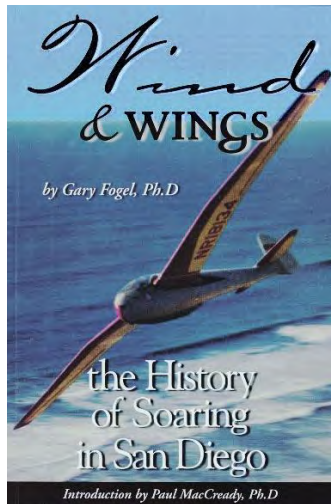
That same year he married his wife Joanne and three years later he completed his Ph.D. and moved to San Diego to take a position at his father's company Natural Selection, Inc., applying machine learning to biomedical problems. 23 years later he is still working at Natural Selection, Inc. running the company as its CEO.



Bridi Tercel

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

In 1999, Gary pulled together a rough timeline of the region's gliding history and published this as *Wind and Wings: The History of Soaring in San Diego*. The book was reprinted again in 2000. Not meant to be a prize winner, this book was merely a compilation of all of the facts that Gary was able to obtain about the region's history as was required for the various historical designations. Despite that, it did win a book of the year award; the Joseph C. Lincoln Award from the Soaring Society of America in 2000. In light of this accomplishment, the TPG also honored Gary with the Modeler of the Year Award for his service in helping to preserve the Gliderport for all forms of motorless flight.



This is the cover of Gary's glider history book from 1999. Check out the For Sale/Wanted Section at the end of this newsletter for an opportunity to purchase one of the last remaining copies of this historical book.



Gary preparing to do a quick turn with a Snipe DLG as Austin Gossard times at Poway.

Gary continues to fly RC gliders, focused mainly on discus launch gliding and record setting and he has served as TPG's historian since 1991. He has also continued to publish aviation history books, and has a new book on a pioneering balloonist Park Van Tassel due for release in September, 2021. Gary assures me that this next book is a much easier read than *Wind and Wings*. In a general lack of spare time, Gary also teaches a course, "Introduction to Aerospace Engineering" at San Diego State University in the fall semester. He is an IEEE Fellow, AIAA Associate Fellow and Fellow of the AMA. As for the Gliderport, it's still very much under threat of development, however that development would also have to preserve its historic use for gliding. There is always work to be done to ensure that the public understands the importance of this unique resource for motorless flight.

Photo of the Month Contest

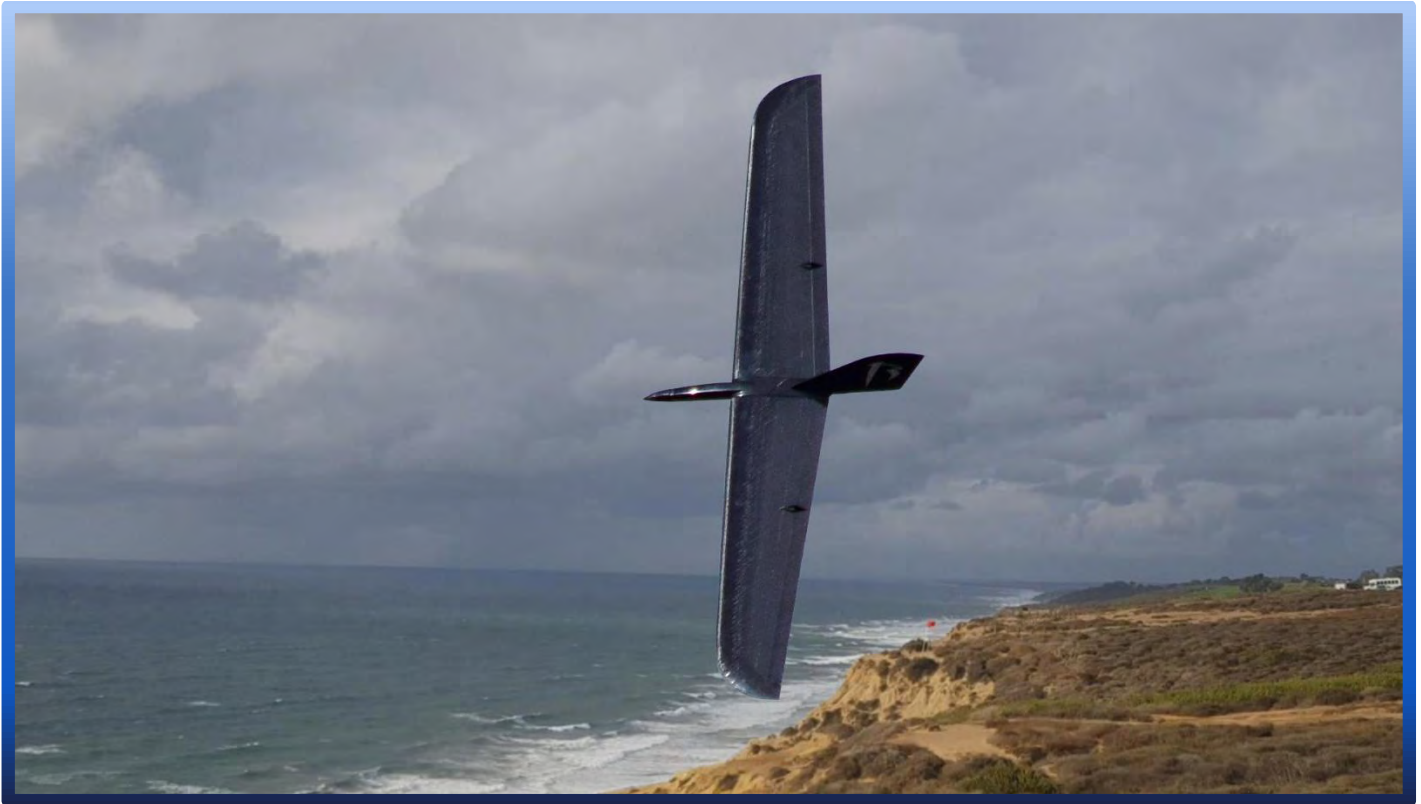
Each month club members may submit photos of an activity related to soaring and the newsletter editor will post a **winner**.

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 submit@torreypinesgulls.org. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description.



January Co-Winner – Aaron Wallace's scale ASW-27 coming in to land on a windy Torrey day (Greg Houck photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



January Co-Winner – Matin Taraz's Raven2 at Torrey (Greg Houck/Matin Taraz photo)



February Winner – Mike Frandsen is about to toss his 28oz. Jester into 40+ mph winds, gusting to over 70 (Ian Cummings photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



March Winner – Mike Frandsen in the process of saving an inverted launch of his 28 oz. Jester in 45+ mph winds at Torrey in January (Ian Cummings photo)



April Co-Winner – Mengchen Li launching at the March DLG contest (Ray Pili photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



April Co-Winner – Thomas Moller launching Steffen Peters' LET Model DG-1000 (Paul Broyles photo)



Foamie launch at Torrey (Marty Jack Zabawa photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Mike Smith launching his Vixen at the March TD contest (Cliff Hunter photo)



Steve Hurd launching at the April F5J contest (Cliff Hunter photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



May Co-Winner – PSS Ki-84 over Cajon contest (Greg Houck photo)



May Co-Winner – Group launch at the April F5J contest (Cliff Hunter photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Steffen Peters' Arcus on landing approach at Torrey (Ray Pili photo)



Steffen Peters' Arcus over Torrey (Ray Pili photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



June Winner – Steffen Peters' Arcus at Torrey (Thomas Moller photo)

Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Ian Cummings	president@torreypinesgulls.org
Vice-President	Bob Hirsch	vp@torreypinesgulls.org
Past President	Craig Hanson	
Secretary	Dale Gottdank	secretary@torreypinesgulls.org
Treasurer	Don Lochhead	treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org
Communications Officer	Dale Gottdank	communications@torreypinesgulls.org
Thermal Coordinator	Tom Watson	thermal@torreypinesgulls.org
Slope Coordinator	Mark Baldacchino	slope@torreypinesgulls.org
DLG Coordinator	Chuck Norris	dlg@torreypinesgulls.org
Membership Chair	Cliff Hunter	membership@torreypinesgulls.org
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	mike@themapsmith.com
LSF Coordinator	Ray Pili	lsf@torreypinesgulls.org
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	web@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	historian@torreypinesgulls.org
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Mark Baldacchino	soaringcouncil@torreypinesgulls.org

Executive Officers



Ian Cummings



Bob Hirsch



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Tom Watson



Mark Baldacchino



Chuck Norris



Cliff Hunter



AND WANTED

TPG Classified Ads Policy

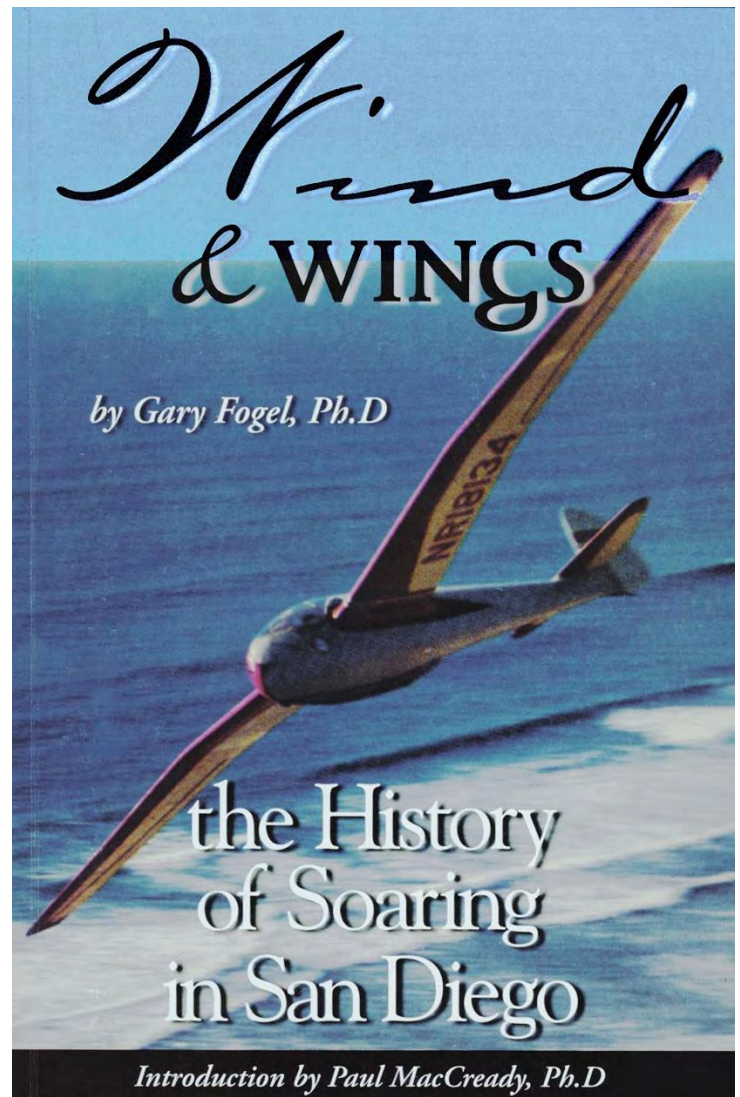
Classified ads are free to TPG members for non-commercial purposes. Commercial customers should contact the editor. To submit an advertisement, send the information to communications@torreypinesgulls.org. Ads must be submitted by the 25th of the month to appear in the next issue. All advertisements will remain in the newsletter for the month of issue and will be removed for the following issue. If you wish to advertise for another month, you will need to notify the editor or resubmit.

While supplies last...

Special pricing for TPG Members only!

Wind & Wings by our own Gary Fogel

In this first comprehensive history of soaring in San Diego, Gary Fogel captures the local desire to fly on silent wings. The history begins with John J. Montgomery's first attempts at gliding flight at Otay Mesa in 1883, 20 years prior to the development of powered flight by the Wright Brothers. Fogel takes the reader through major local advances in subsequent years, placing these significant achievements in the context of other historical events around the United States. Among the highlights of this collection are accounts of flights by William Hawley Bowlus, Charles and Anne Lindbergh, Frank Hawks, John Robinson and Woody Brown and the effects of these pioneers on the development of soaring in America. The early development of various local gliderports including Point Loma, Emerald Hills, and Torrey Pines are also included. In addition, personal recollections of pioneering glider pilots are included in this book. The text covers all local gliding and soaring events between the years 1883 to 1950. This information has been gathered from the archives of the National Soaring Museum, Vintage Sailplane Association, Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California, Soaring Society of America and through personal files of many glider pilots. With over 100 photographs, *Wind and Wings* will appeal to soaring enthusiasts, aviation historians, and anyone with an interest in silent flight.



\$20 + shipping for a clean cover version
 \$15 + shipping for a not so clean cover image

To get your copy, contact Gary Fogel at garyfogel@gmail.com



Quote of the Month:

*“Some days... I walk.
Some days... I run.
And on the odd day... I fly.
And when I have a really special day...I soar!”*

~ Anthony T. Hincks



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)