

JULY 2022
AUGUST 2022



GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank

Message from the President

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Ian Cummings

Ah, the lazy days of summer. The sun is finally out and the crowds have been building at the Gliderport with nonstop tandem paraglider flights. Air traffic has been rather busy, especially on weekends. That's all the more reason to have someone spot for you while flying, or for you to spot for someone else while not flying. I must say, the flight directors have been doing a good job of enforcing window rules since the

Soaring Council meeting in May. If you haven't flown Torrey for a while, it's a good time to come out. Live music is back on Saturdays and it's a pretty relaxing vibe out there.

Please keep an eye on the [TPG Calendar](#). Events for July include Aerobatics Day – TWF/PNF Fun Fly at Torrey (July 9), TD Contest at Encinitas (July 10), and DLG Monthly Contest at Poway (July 16). It's your participation that makes these events worth organizing.

Happy Landings,

In Memoriam



Keith Finkenbiner

February 28, 1932 – June 23, 2022

A Celebration of Life Service for Keith will be held in July; Details to follow.

We received the unfortunate news of the passing of long-time TPGer and RC modeler Keith Finkenbiner on June 23rd. Keith was a keystone supporter of every RC club he belonged to, helping in the background to make things feel seamless, helping new people get into the hobby and in general being an amazing person. Keith received the 2008 TPG Co-Modeler of the Year award for his effort (along with Cliff Hunter and Tom Minegar and others) to merge the North County Clouds thermal soaring club into the TPG and find a new thermal field at the Encinitas Landfill. In 2020, he donated the remainder of his RC collection to the TPG as a club fundraiser, for which he again received the Modeler of the Year Award. In this issue, we are reprinting a previous write-up in memory of our good friend and mentor Keith Finkenbiner. Please consider attending his Celebration of Life which will be announced in forthcoming TPG Google Groups messages.



TPG past presidents Parvis Kamiab, Steve Condon, Keith Finkenbiner and Cliff Hunter receiving lifetime memberships in recognition of their work for the club.



Keith, flanked by wife, Shirley and Cliff Hunter presenting the proceeds of the sale of his RC collection.



Keith participating at one of the many Encinitas Field work parties.

Next TPG Virtual Club Meeting – August 23, 2022

Hey TPGers,

We hope you enjoyed our June 28th virtual club meeting and got a lot out of Mike Smith's presentation on FAI F5J competition strategy. We also enjoyed a show-and-tell about the unique articulating aileron and flap systems on Mike's new Concept Phoenix F5J plane. Presentations regarding TD and DLG competition strategy may be in the works for future meetings.

We haven't yet decided on the presentation for the August 23rd club meeting, so we'll be sending out a Google Groups notice to you all once we do.



Tom Watson and Mike Smith

And congratulations to Sean Harris, winner of the Javelin II raffle prize, who also provided a show-and-tell of a couple of beautiful scale helicopters he's been working on.



Hopefully, sometime we can get back to meetings in person, but until then, we're eager to generate a meeting place where members can chat, show and tell new products, ask questions, hear a great speaker and win a raffle prize.

The virtual club meetings will be held at 7:00pm on the following Tuesday evenings:

- Aug 23
- Oct 25

In December, the annual holiday party will substitute for our virtual meeting and we're planning on getting together in person for that year-end occasion. The Zoom link for the meetings is: [TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link](#). Google Groups reminders will be sent to members prior to meetings.

TPG July/August/September Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
July 9	Aerobatics Day – TWF/PWF...Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
July 10	TD Contest	Encinitas Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
July 16	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
August 13	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A Day to Fly + Swap Meet. Clean out your garage and make room for more birds.	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
August 20	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
August 23	Virtual Club Meeting	Zoom link: TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link
August 27	Foamy F5J Contest & Clinic	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
September 10	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies Again! – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up wood	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
September 11	F5J Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
September 16-17	DLG Contest/Poway Invitational	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault



Thomas Moller's 8.8m DG-1000 (Steffen Peters photo)

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.

Our club meetings are currently conducted via Zoom, so it's really easy to join in, chat with flying buddies and hear a great presentation about RC soaring and related topics...**and don't forget** our monthly raffle!

Our next meeting, will be Tuesday, August 23rd. We're currently working on arranging a guest speaker, member show-and-tell and of course, an excellent raffle.

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

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!

July/August Issue highlights include:

- [June 28th virtual club meeting recap](#)
- [2008 Co-Modeler of the Year, Keith Finkenbiner by Cliff Hunter](#)

Please send in your articles or photos (communications@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.** Photos should be in their original, high-resolution format. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>.



Dale Gottdank

Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

REMINDER: If you have not renewed your membership, you will not receive Google Group emails. As of June 21, 2022, you have been removed from the group! If you wish to continue receiving TPG Google Group emails, please renew your membership.

Encinitas Field update: **“NO Bees”** [bee proofing worked, so far.](#)

Reminder: the access lock on the cargo container has been replaced with a gate key lock so access into the cargo container is consistent with the gate locks. Access to the equipment has been made easier.

As a reminder, instead of our traditional mailed registration form to each member, we have transitioned to a web-based process. Please use this link when signing up: <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/membership/>. Please fill out the registration form completely. We will use this information to help the club's Executive Council plan and develop future events, competitions and activities for members and review the [Torrey Pines Gulls Membership Guide](#) which will provide answers to many of your questions regarding Torrey Pines Gulls activities.

Membership Activity Summary as of June 21, 2022

The table below is a summary of new, renewed and lifetime members based on completed registration forms received from members in the past month.

Membership for 2021/2022	January – December 2021	Paid New Members for 2022	Paid Renewal Members for 2022	Total Paid Members For 2022
Members for 2021 (incl. 4 lifetime)	136			
New and Renewal Members for 2022	2	26	90 + 4 lifetime	120
Google Group Members*	134	2	NA	139

*Note: if you are not a member of Google Groups and want to be, please contact membership@torreypinesgulls.org.

Please welcome our new members this month, John Campbell and James Grant

All new and renewing members will receive a membership card and key. The key gives you access to the gates at our Encinitas and Poway flying sites. For members who slope fly at Torrey Pines Gliderport and are Torrey Pines Gliderport rated: In addition to the membership card and key, you will receive a club lanyard from a club representative at the Torrey Pines Gliderport. You must wear the lanyard with the membership card attached when flying at the Torrey Pines Gliderport, for safety reasons. Remember, you must have a current AMA membership to join TPG. To join AMA, follow this link: <https://join.modelaircraft.org/torreypinesgulls/>

Please contact me (membership@torreypinesgulls.org) if you have not received your membership materials or have any membership-related questions.

Club Membership Update (continued)

Membership Processing:

You will receive a renewal notice using the 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 or 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.

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. The Torrey Pines Gulls has the following types of membership:

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.

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

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 order to maintain a line of communication among members, we have 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!

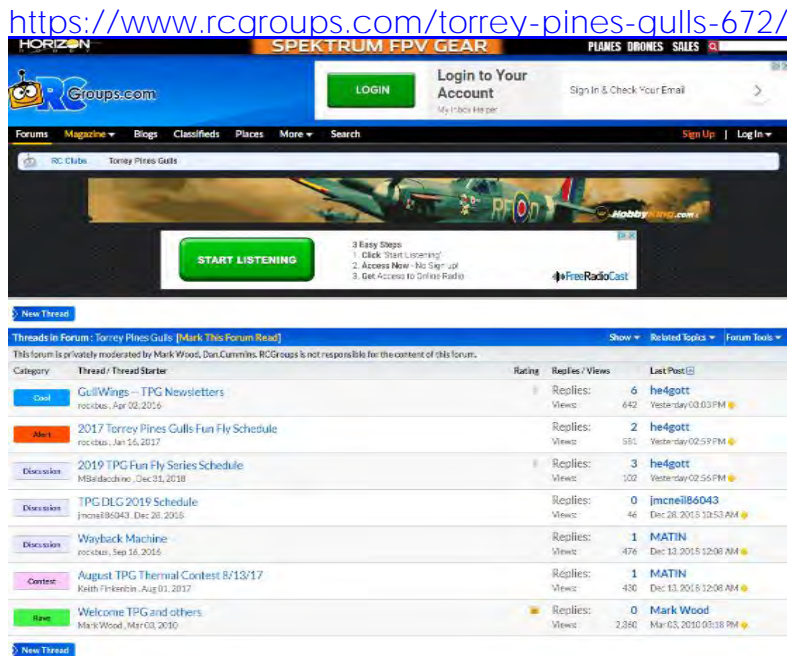
RCGroups – Torrey Pines Gulls Forum

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/>



Category	Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Replies / Views	Last Post
Good	GullWings – TPG Newsletters roccas, Apr 02, 2016		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccas, Jan 16, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 591	he4gott Yesterday 02:59 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule MBaruchino, Dec 31, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 102	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcnel86043, Dec 28, 2018		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcnel86043 Dec 28, 2018 12:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccas, Sep 16, 2016		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Thierstein, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
None	Welcome TPG and others MarkWood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,360	Mark Wood Mar 03, 2010 09:18 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?

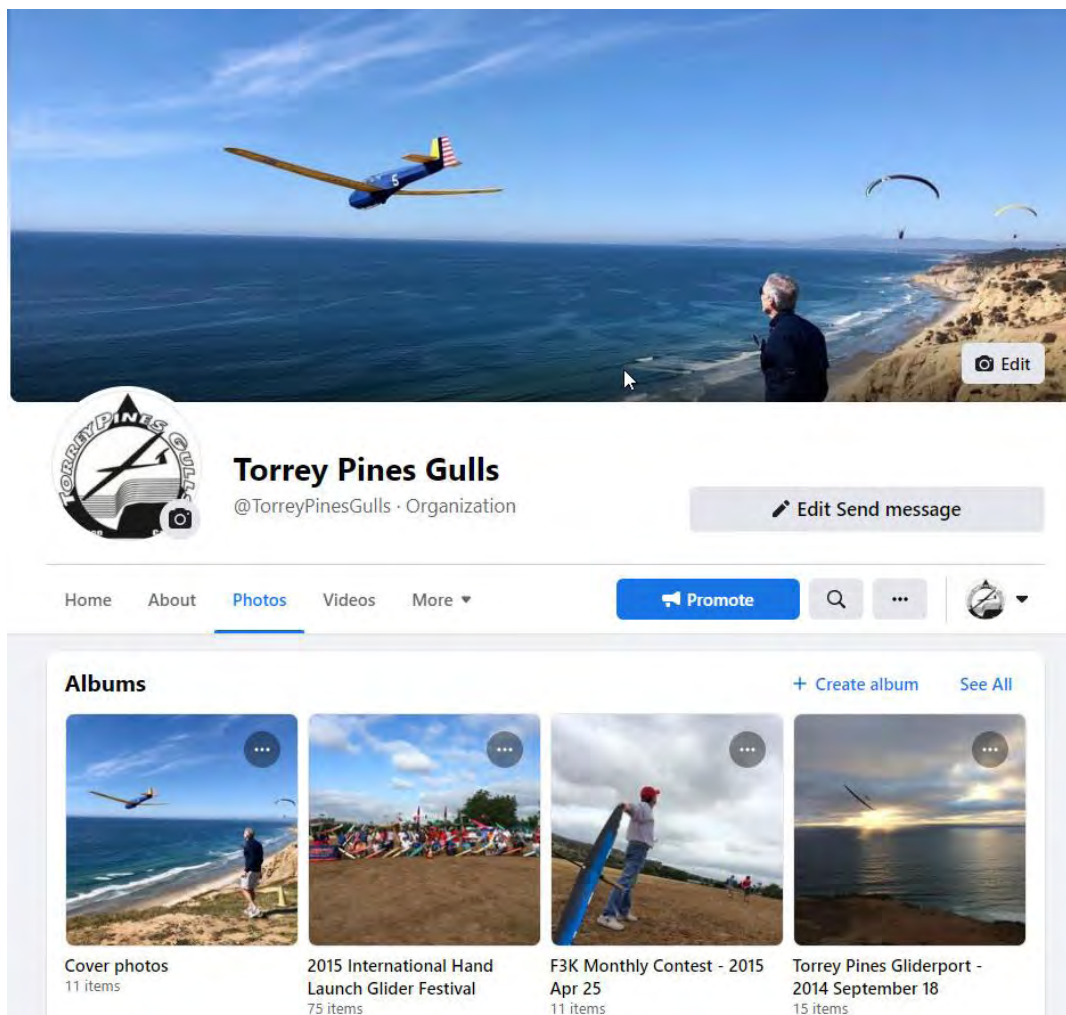
You can express your opinion at: www.torreypinesgulls.org.

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/>



Torrey Pines Gulls
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- Cover photos
11 items
- 2015 International Hand Launch Glider Festival
75 items
- F3K Monthly Contest - 2015
Apr 25
11 items
- Torrey Pines Gliderport -
2014 September 18
15 items

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



Bob Hirsch for
Mark Baldacchino



The scene at June's Katie Martin International Tribute (Bob Hirsch photo)

Well, I have to say that this summer at the Torrey Pines Gliderport started out with a very successful and well-attended Katie Martin Tribute. After a 2 year Covid break, it was nice to have the event back at our slope. Host Bob Martin expressed that the combination of great weather, excellent flying conditions, volunteers, and a nice turnout made this event one of the best that our Club has hosted. A big thanks to those Gulls that attended and helped with spotting and landings. There were zero incidents with the paragliders during the entire 2 days!

Check out RCGroups and scroll down for lots of Katie Martin Tribute event photo posts:
<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3521889-10th-ANNUAL-KATIE-MARTIN-INT-L-TRIBUTE/page13>

Post #4984 here for Bob Martin's review and thanks:
<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2466607-Hobie-Tales/page333>

And that brings me to my next comment... It appears that after the Soaring Council meeting this past spring with the Gliderport instructors and Gulls attending among others, following the safety rules has been improving. The use of whistles has gotten much better and the instructors are getting better about calling out safety violations. **Let's all work together to keep things safe at Torrey; and when you're not flying, consider spotting for someone else who is flying.** This is a great way to make the flying experience at the slope both safer and a lot more enjoyable!

I hope to see a lot of you at Torrey this summer and let's continue to work on keeping the skies safe for all!

Blue skies,

Bob Hirsch
TPG Vice President

News from the Slope (continued)

TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2022

July 9 th	Aerobatics Day – TWF/PWF...Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime
August 13 th	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A Day to Fly + Swap Meet. Clean out your garage and make room for more birds.
September 10 th	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies Again! – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up wood
October 22 nd	Redman Rules & Landing Contest – Ribbons for 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd . For the uninitiated, Redman Rules involve beer can bowling and limbo line.
November 26 th	No Shopping Saturday – A couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house



Another shot from the Katie Martin Tribute (Bob Hirsch photo)

Club Competition Activity

Thermal Duration / F5J Contest Series



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 2022 TPG TD & F5J contest schedule thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4013905-2022-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-TD-F5J-contest-schedule.>

or contact Tom Watson at thermal@torreypinesgulls.org

Hand Launch / DLG / F3K Contest Series



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/>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2022 Torrey Pines Gulls DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4040675-2022-TPG-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series#post48416967.>

or contact Chuck Norris at dlg@torreypinesgulls.org

Club Competition Activity (continued)

2022 Foamy F5J Clinic and Fun-Fly contest Series



Don Lochhead

For 2022 we will be continuing with our F5J Foamy events at Poway, with combined Clinics and contests scheduled for Saturday mornings from 9-12 on:

- August 27
- November 5

Based on our popular DLG Contest and Clinic format, this year we are going to emphasize the “Clinic” aspect while continuing to fly contests. This is first and foremost a fun-fly event. So, if you are just getting started in F5J or just looking for an excuse to dig out your Foamy for a morning of relaxing flying this is the event for you.

Future clinics will cover the aspects (rules, strategies, scoring, timer duties, etc.) of F5J contests that are a bit different from other TD events.

The contest element will be set up to emphasize the fun-fly aspect. We will have the field configured with landing tapes and the sound system. To get the most flying in for everyone, the flight window will be reduced from the regulation 10 minutes down to 7 minutes. We will plan on at least five rounds so everyone will get in plenty of stick-time.

We will ask everyone to pre-register on F3X Vault:

(https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2334) and will be using self-entry of scoring results to give those of you who may not have used this system yet a chance to get some practice. Entry fees for the Clinic and contest will be free for TPG members and \$5 for non-members. We have opened a thread on RC groups so everyone can stay up to date on the event:

(<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4038751-2022-TPG-Foamy-Clinic-and-Contest>).

We are hoping that this event will help to introduce new pilots to what TPG has to offer. The council is considering the purchase of a club Radian that would be available for new members to learn to fly on. To make this work we will need some club members to offer to act as mentor pilots. If you would be interested, please contact any council member.

See you on August 27th!

June F5J Contest Report – Cliff Hunter, CD

The June 12th F5J event was at our Poway Flight Center. Attendance was good and we ended up with ten pilots. We flew five rounds with one throw-out round.

We started off with the pilots meeting at 8:45 am. Flight safety was discussed, including field boundaries and the “No Fly Zone” over the horse facility (See below for detailed Restricted Flight Zone safety rules for Poway Field).

In addition, we had computer and speaker problems. TPG vice-president, Bob Hirsch stepped up and announced all five rounds. He was the life saver of the day! Thank you, Bob!

The weather was hot (90°+) with clear skies. The morning had little wind, which gradually increased throughout the day; and of course Poway’s traditional varying wind direction, thermals and as usual, sink. The lowest launch height of the day was 61 meters, and the highest launch height was 192 meters. There were a few great low-level saves again. Tom Kiesling won with a perfect score of 4,000 points, Bob Schumacher was second with 3,990.69 points and Mike Verzuh was third with 3,976.85 points.



L-R, Bob Schumacher (2nd), Tom Kiesling (1st) Mike Verzuh (3rd)

The club’s established procedures for electronic registration/payments, and self-entry scoring on the F3X Vault platform continues to work very well.

Cliff Hunter
Contest Director

Preliminary Overall Standings

Rounds (1-5)

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (1-5)				
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	9 Tom Kiesling	4000.00		1000	0.00	1000	1000	1000
2	3 Bob Schumacher	3990.69	-9.31	1000	1000	998.31	992.38	0.00
3	4 Mike Verzuh	3976.85	-13.84	1000	391.42	988.18	1000	988.67
4	8 Steve Stanton	3961.75	-15.10	969.29	1000	1000	992.46	298.72
5	10 Sean Summers	3658.91	-302.84	967.95	984.95	706.01	441.75	1000
6	11 Ron Rossetti	3484.48	-174.43	554.49	0.00	974.49	1000	955.50
7	6 Arthur Markiewicz	2891.29	-593.19	891.29	1000	1000	0.00	0.00
8	2 Clifford Hunter	2345.18	-546.11	0.00	909.87	912.76	522.55	0.00
9	7 W. Sean Harris	2071.57	-273.61	221.04	530.33	101.07	320.20	1000
10	5 Jon Vance	272.06	-1799.51	43.26	272.06	0.00	0.00	0.00

June F5J Contest Report – (continued)

Following the June 12th F5J contest, we received several complaints from the horse facility owners of low flying planes over the corrals. During the contest, I did remind flyers they were in the No-Fly zone. I regret that I missed some. It is especially important that all club members and visitors understand the importance of following the “Restricted Flight Zone.” By violating these simple rules, you risk losing your flight privileges at the Poway Field. Also, you jeopardize the privilege to fly for everyone in the club. As all of you know, trying to find a new field in San Diego County is next to impossible.

It is every pilot’s responsibility to follow the “No-Fly Zone Rule” and to call people out if they are too close to the No-Fly Zone. Please review the Poway Flight Center Rules, below:

Torrey Pines Gulls - Poway Flight Center

Welcome to the Poway Flight Center - We Are Guests Here


Our ongoing use of this property is totally dependent on being good guests. Please respect the rules and make safe flying your number one priority.

Horses and People
The areas surrounding the field are an active horse facility. As such horses and people are likely to be nearby. Even if you are in the fly-zone you are responsible for maintaining a safe distance between your plane and the horses and people.

What Is Required To Fly Here?

1. AMA membership. If you are a visitor please be prepared to show your card.
2. Membership in the Torrey Pines Gulls (or be accompanied by a TPG member)
3. Everyone must obey all AMA and local flight regulations.


What May I Fly Here?
Poway is a glider only field. No powered aircraft of any kind (including e-gliders) are allowed.



Restricted Flight Zone

Due to the proximity of the horse facility there are strict limits on where flight is permitted. If you violate the zones you risk losing your flight privilege here and possibly jeopardize the privilege to fly here for everyone.

The entire area over the horse facility is No-Fly



At the last Executive Council meeting, the following contest procedures were adopted:

1. No-fly zone rules will be clearly outlined at the pilots meeting.
2. The timer will also be responsible for making sure the pilot stays within the boundaries.
3. During the contest, violators will be given a warning. If the pilot does not immediately exit the no-fly zone, he/she will be penalized 1,000 points (effectively a zero score for the round).
4. A second violation during the same contest will result in disqualification from the contest.
5. Same pilot violations in multiple events may result in banning the pilot from flying at Poway. Need for such action will be assessed case-by-case.

June DLG Contest Report – Chuck Norris, CD

The weather was amazing; sunny but not too hot. We had a small group a total of six pilots, so we went with only two groups and were able to get in a total of six rounds. We used Tim Traver's fantastic new F3X Audio program to run the contest, so setup was very simple; and last-minute changes to the lineup were no problem. With only two groups, **sometimes it's hard to find time** to enter scores, so I adjusted the gap between groups to give another minute of preparation time. That seemed to help a lot, although we occasionally paused to allow people to catch up.

During warmup, the lift was soft and seemed to be everywhere. The first task was "One Two Three Four, Any Order", and we were all optimistic that we would find 4 minute air without too much trouble. But Poway's fickle weather turned around, and by the time group A started, **there wasn't a 4 minute thermal** to be found anywhere. The best group A could do was under two minutes. Things improved considerably by group B, with John McNeil dropping only 15 seconds for the round.

Round two was 5 x 2, and conditions continued to stay pretty good, with lots of 2 minute flights in both groups. John McNeil took group A, dropping 1:11 and I took group B dropping only 21 seconds. I was quite pleased, although I showed I need a lot of work on my quick turns, bobbling more than a couple.

Round three, Big Ladder, was pretty challenging for group A. Only John McNeil managed to get a 3 minute flight, with some imperfect flights in between. By the time group B flew, things were looking better, with all pilots managing to get most of their 3 minute flight time; but with some carnage for the 2 minute flight to spread things out.











Round four, Last 2 x 4, was a personal disaster for me. I was launching well, had a great read, and hooked up into a great thermal right around the time my battery died. It was high enough voltage to report the battery voltage of 2.4V, but not enough to move any servos. I watched as my plane began to porpoise, stalling at the top and recovering to do it again, all the while gaining altitude. I watched until I lost sight far downwind to the east. At this point, I left the **contest to try to catch a telemetry update from Sycamore Canyon Road to the east, but I wasn't** able to get a single ping. I spent the next round searching and returned in time to time for John McNeil in round 6. The short version is I never found it, despite considerable effort including a lot of back-country hiking that evening after the temperature dropped.

Round five, 3 x All Up, 3 minute Max, was tough all around. There was only one 3 minute flight in group A (Don Lochhead), and two in group B. ALL the rest of the flights were under 2 minutes, and some well-under one minute. Poway was being Poway!

Round six, Poker, was tough for everyone, as usual. Conditions were falling apart, with the wind starting to blow, and the longest flight of the round was a single 2 minute flight by Cliff Hunter for a total of 4 minutes on the board, which earned him a K! The next closest was just 1:30 and people had to work really hard to get THAT. **Cliff's 2 minute flight** was quite an achievement considering the conditions. Most people had to work pretty hard just to get 1:30, with lots of multiple flights required to get the time.

June DLG Contest Report – (continued)

Final results ended up with John McNeil in the lead, with a total of 5 Ks; Ron Rossetti in second with 3 Ks and Don Lochhead in 3rd with one K. The F3X Vault results are shown below:

Preliminary Rounds 6									
Pilots 6									
Draw									
Position Chart									
Rankings									
Stats									
Send Messages									
Preliminary Overall Standings									
Rounds (1-6)									
#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	4 John McNeil  	5924.97		1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	924.97
2	9 Ron Rossetti  	5140.17	-784.80	1000	715.77	1000	1000	736.90	687.50
3	1 Don Lochhead  	5004.23	-135.94	800.00	684.00	914.39	680.87	1000	924.97
4	10 Mike Ray	4567.02	-437.21	766.03	776.99	631.44	647.54	745.02	1000
5	8 Clifford Hunter  	4311.31	-255.71	982.17	570.54	465.39	662.88	630.33	1000
6	5 Chuck Norris  	2699.51	-1611.80	911.39	1000	788.12	0.00	0.00	0.00

I wish I could say I had a good time. Losing my plane was a not a fun way to spend the day. But I certainly enjoyed the flying that I did manage to do, and I think everyone else had a good day. Conditions were challenging, but everyone had flashes of brilliance. Every pilot got at least one K during the day, something that doesn't happen often.

LSF Report – Gary Fogel



Gary Fogel

Hi Gulls,

Picking up where Ray Pili left off last year, I'm serving as the 2022 TPG LSF Coordinator. Although we haven't planned any LSF-specific events for 2022, club TD and DLG competitions qualify for LSF SAP (Soaring Accomplishment Program) credit and the Foamy F5J Clinic and Fun-Fly contest Series and F5J contests qualify for LSF eSAP (Electric Soaring Accomplishment Program) credit. Depending upon club member interest, additional LSF Attempt Day events may be scheduled

In the meantime, here's some general information about the League of Silent Flight program.
<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php>.

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. With Poway and Torrey within fairly close proximity, it is absolutely possible to complete Level I in one day with help from witnesses.

LSF Report (continued)

In order to participate in the LSF program, please go to:

<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>. Bring the voucher as well as your AMA card to one of the TPG events and get started! It's as simple as that.

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, which 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,

Gary Fogel
LSF Coordinator
lsf@torreypinesgulls.org

TPG History: The Trophy – Cliff Hunter

This Month: Keith Finkenbiner, 2008 Modeler of the Year

This article is about long-time TPG member, Keith Finkenbiner who, sadly, passed away this past June. It was originally published in the November 2020 issue of Gull Wings.

Keith had retired from RC soaring, and after a thermal duration contest in February 2020, a select group of club members went to Keith's house and cleaned out his garage, moving his collection into the TPG cargo container at the Encinitas field. The intent at the time was to host a large swap meet to sell his hobby collection before our yearly International Hand Launch Glider Festival in April. However, the coronavirus hit the "WORLD" and life as we all knew it changed. Thus, the swap meet was not going to work.

Keith's collection in the cargo container created storage and space problems. Thus, a photo catalog was created to display the items that were for sale. The TPG Board allowed the catalog to be placed into the TPG Newsletter as a Summer Sale Supplement. The items were stored at Cliff Hunter's garage in San Marcos during this process. Over the years, Keith amassed quite a collection of planes, kits, tools, supplies, etc.! More than 200 items were sold to fellow hobbyists from TPG and other clubs in the region. The sale netted a total of \$4,754.00. Following the sale of these items, Keith and Shirley Finkenbiner made it known that they intend to donate all of the proceeds to the Torrey Pines Gulls RC Soaring Society. Keith has been a tireless worker behind the scenes for TPG for decades, especially when it comes to competition and



field maintenance for Encinitas other projects. His kind contribution to the club helps the TPG survive a challenging year and is appreciated by many. The following provides a brief history of Keith's involvement and love of model airplanes.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Brief bio as relayed by Keith (88 years old) and Shirley Finkenbiner in September 2020 to Cliff Hunter

- Keith built his first “rise-off-ground” (ROG) free flight model planes in 1940.
- In 1941, his uncle and cousins who lived with his family went into the service and left all their modeling things with him. Keith migrated through Brown Jr. motors, free flight, and then control line.
- Whenever kits were released for model aircraft or u-control, Keith would build them. He basically built them all. The best was P40 Olson & Rice with 60 gas engine.
- In 1950-54, Keith had joined the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at Williams AFB Chandler, Arizona with the 3525-3526 Pilot Training Group. There he trained pilots for instrument flying using Link Trainers, then an A-T6 Texan then T-33 Shooting Star jets.
- Keith built his first RC radio transmitter in 1956. Back then RC transmitters were hard to find and building them from kits or from scratch was the way to go. In 1958 Keith's neighbor was also into RC. Keith joined the Weak Signals RC Club in Toledo, Ohio. Weak Signals started a conference on RC that continues to this day.
- Keith started in RC Pattern Flying but switched to gliders when his son showed some interest. His son didn't care for motors. (Smart kid!)
- Keith moved to New Jersey in Sept 1967 and continued flying RC.
- In November 1973 as RC soaring really “took off,” Keith moved again to Naperville, IL. There he joined the popular S.O.A.R. club serving as Vice President and President. He helped run the very popular SOAR NATS that predated the establishment of RC soaring Nationals via the AMA.



Keith Finkenbiner in August 20, near his home in Vista, CA.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

- In January 1979 he moved once again to Wilmington, DE. He continued soaring, this time as a part of the East Coast Soaring League.
- He flew in the first AMA-sponsored World Championship at Lakehurst NJ (Lakehurst Naval Air Station) in 1982 or 1983.
- Fortunately for us, in June of 1982 he moved to Fremont, CA and joined the South Bay Soaring Society. At least he was now in California.
- Three years later in July 1985 he moved to Carlsbad, CA flying with the North County Clouds and then the Torrey Pines Gulls.
- A regular through many thermal duration competitions from the 1970s through to the 2000s, Keith attained League of Silent Flight (LSF) Level V #108 – finalizing this on June 13, 2002. (Only 138 people in the history of RC soaring have made this achievement)
- He was honored as the TPG Co-Modeler of the Year in 2008 and again as Modeler of the Year in 2020.
- He (2008- 2018) helped in the development and maintenance of the new Encinitas Inactive Landfill flying field by making barricades to protect the methane piping, purchased the cargo container, adding shelving, grinding, painting the cargo container with approval of the San Diego County Landfill Section. Purchased a riding mower and trailer. The trailer and mower then could transport the mower to other fields. Did yearly inspections at the Encinitas Field with County of San Diego. Mowed the Encinitas Field as needed yearly with some help, not a small task with at least (3) plus hours of mowing.
- Over the last (18) years, Keith served as a Contest Director for thermal duration competition at Encinitas filling that role many, many times.
- Keith was the SC² (Southern California Soaring Clubs, 10 clubs) representing TPG and CD'd the SC² contest every year in October at the Poway or Encinitas fields.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

- Keith was also an active member of CVRC (Central Valley RC Soaring Club) located in Visalia, CA. They held the largest sailplane contest (two-day contest) in the United States, at least 300 contestants each year. It is the first weekend in every October. Keith often served as an announcer for the rounds and pilots and he always managed to fly as well.
- Keith has been a tireless worker behind the TPG scenes (never wanting any recognition for his hard time consuming work) for many years, especially with regards to competition and field maintenance.

Gull Wings Newsletter January 2010 – Keith is Awarded Lifetime TPG Membership



Past Presidents Kamiab, Condon, Finkenbinder and Hunter are recognized for their contributions to TPG with Lifetime Memberships.

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

1974 Aerolympics in New Jersey

It is regarded as the first International RC Sailplane contest.

“US's Keith Finkenbiner, study of concentration, as he works for 5th place!”



U.S.'s Keith Finkenbiner, study of concentration, as he works for 5th place

SOARING AT THE

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

In February 2001, as newsletter editor, Gary Fogel published another biography on Keith in the club newsletter. This one has additional detail:

Gary Fogel 2/2001: Keith has been a tireless worker behind the TPG scenes for many years, especially with regards to competition. Thanks for the hard work Keith!

KF: I got started in model aviation very early at age eight just before WWII. My uncle and cousins who were living with us were building and flying rubber and gas free flight models. My job was to chase after them and retrieve. When the war broke out and they enlisted in service inherited the models. They also sent me many of the consolidated model kits to build during the war. I grew up in Toledo, Ohio and belonged to the Model Manglers Club which became the Toledo Weak Signals. Eight club members started the original Weak Signals symposiums at a local golf course in the dead of winter to break the boredom and see what other modelers were doing. I helped direct many of these early shows. Look what it has become today.

When the Korean War broke out I enlisted in the Air Force and trained fighter pilots in P-80 and T-33v jet airplanes. After the war I returned to

Toledo and attended college. My professional career started as a chemist for Union Carbide. My work in polymer chemistry took me all over the United States and I belonged to many different clubs such as Central New Jersey RIC Club with Leon Shulman and many other early free flight competitors, Chicago Soar Club with Dan Pruss and the Soar Nationals, South Bay Soaring Club in San Jose, Visalia Central Valley Club and TPG in San Diego. I have been president of many of these clubs and also Secretary/Treasurer of LSF for five years, VP of East Coast Soaring League for four years. Currently I am chairman of the FAI Electric Team Selection Committee for the United States.

Competition flying in both Power and Sailplanes has been my main interest. Flew with the first FAI team for the United States in 1974 at Lakehurst, NJ. Placing third overall. I have been team manager for both F3B in England and F5B and F5D in Australia. I have attended every team selection for F5B and F5D in the United States.



Torrey Pines Gulls member Keith Finkenbiner and his new granddaughter (and future TPG/FAI member) Rachel. February 2001

TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

My work in TPG has been to help where possible using my experience with competition events. I am a Contest Director and Leader member of AMA with number 650. I was asked to direct the FAI team selection for F5B which was held in San Diego in 1998. I also work with the International Hand Launch committee each year. Because of my commitment to work at Neutronics as President/CEO I am not always available to help with other club events.

My favorite competition sailplane is a design that was developed with three of my friends called the No Name Sailplane. Many friends have asked why such a name and the answer is it doesn't need a name as we don't want to sell them or be in the manufacturing business. The model has no secrets, just straight forward practical application of twenty years' experience. I am happy to discuss it with anybody interested. I am hoping to retire next year and enjoy the time to build some models and go flying more often. At sixty eight years old I still enjoy competing with the young hotshots. I believe it keeps you young.

To paraphrase our current President, Ian Cummings; the love of silent flight is a common thread among all of us in the club. The volunteerism and participation that members like Keith have shown over the years, has been the key to the success of Torrey Pines Gulls Soaring Society.

On October 1, 2020, Keith and Shirley Finkenbinder presented a cashier's check in the amount of \$4,754.00 as a donation to Torrey Pines Gulls Soaring Society to Cliff Hunter, who received the check on behalf of TPG. This was a result of many club members' efforts cleaning out his garage, which held his collection of planes, kits, tools, supplies, etc.

The collection was sold through the *Gull Wings* Newsletter over the summer. Over 100 items were sold and 25 interested buyers (95% TPG members) purchased everything imaginable!

The Club wants to thank you, Keith & Shirley Finkenbinder, for your generosity and donation to the Torrey Pines Gulls Soaring Society.



Left, Cliff Hunter, right, Shirley Finkenbinder and center, Keith Finkenbinder; October 1, 2020 (Sandy Hunter 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**.

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); so horizontal format photos are preferred.

Email your photos (JPG format and original high-resolution version, please) to Dale Gottdank at submit@torreypinesgulls.org. Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description. Note: Photos submitted during November will be included in the 2023 Photo of the Month contest starting in January.



January Winner – Thomas Moller's Paritech DG-1000 at Palomar RC field (Steffen Peters screenshot)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)

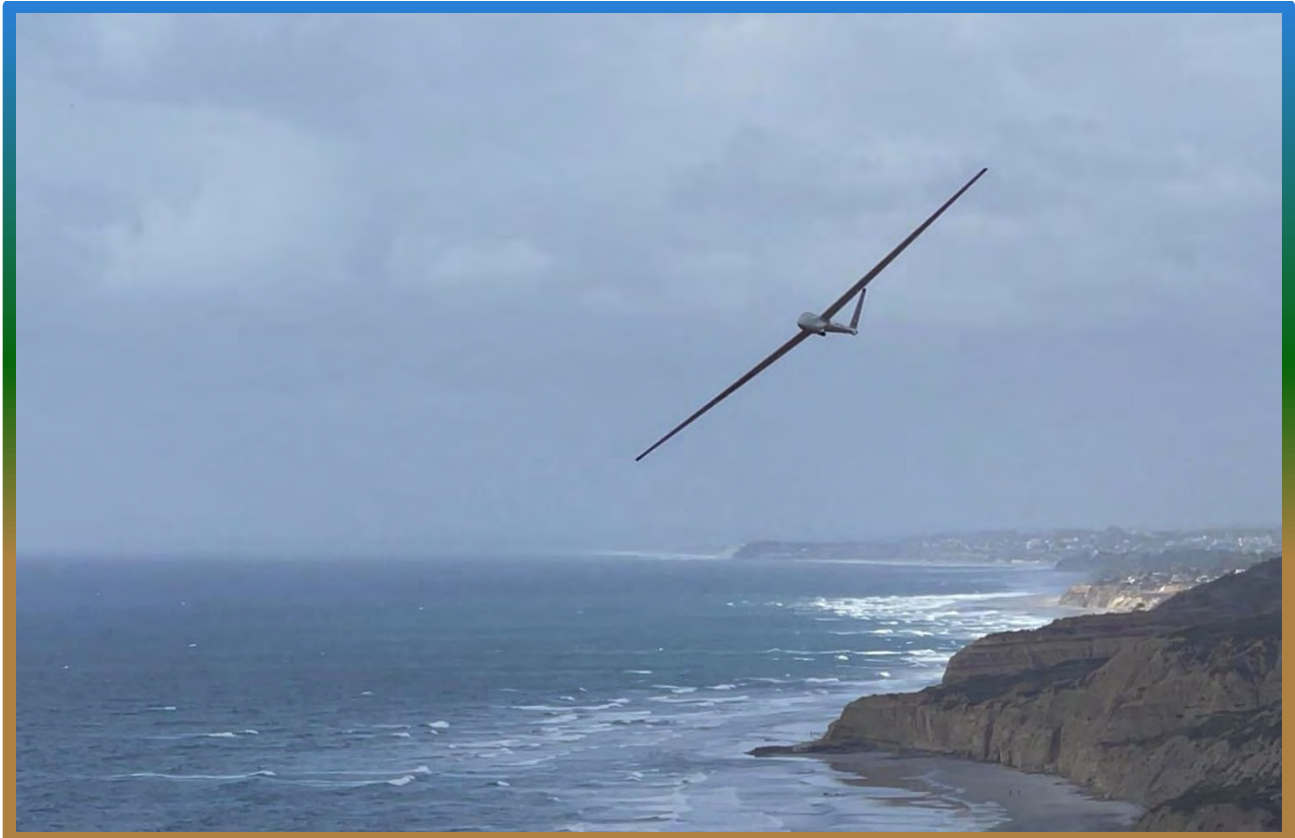


February Winner – George Clarke's close flyby with his Ka-8 at Torrey (Mark Baldacchino photo)



March Co-Winner – George's Joe Cormier Racer heading out over Torrey (Greg Houck photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



March Co-Winner – Steffen Peters' Valenta Model Salto over Torrey (Thomas Moller photo)



April Co-Winner – Merrill Brady's Slingsby Tutor over Torrey (Gary Fogel photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)

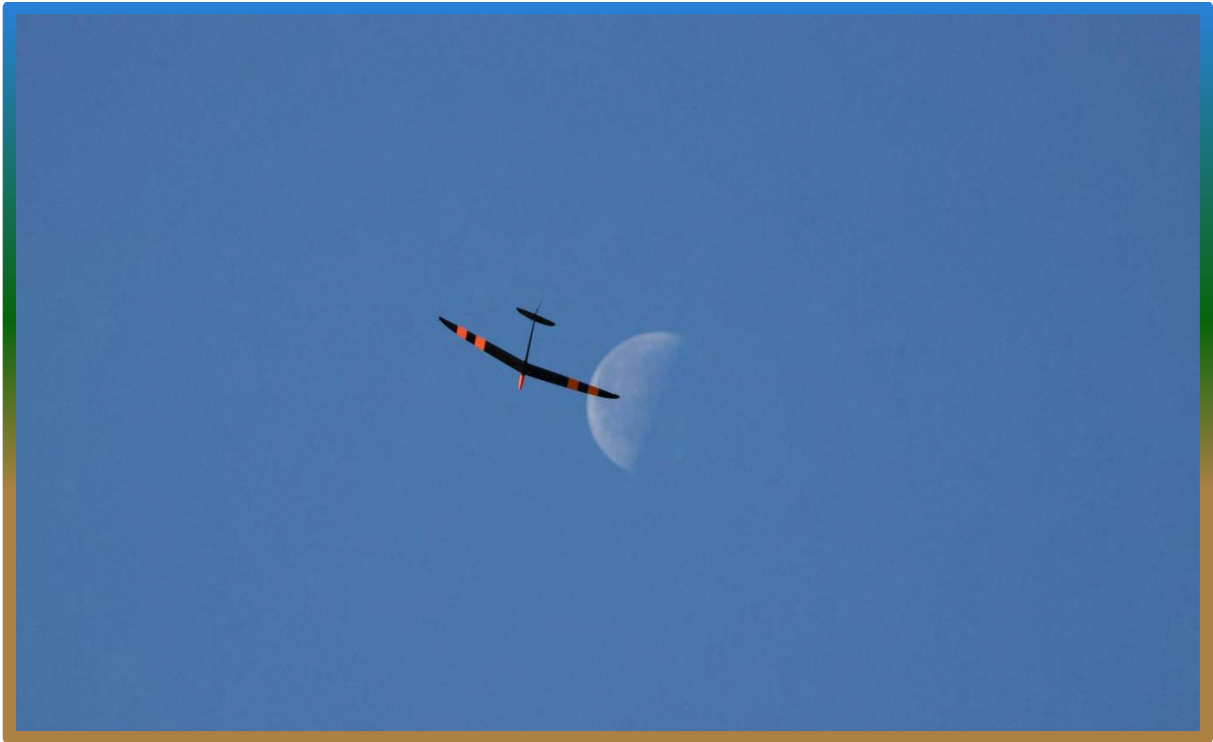


April Co-Winner – Gary Fogel's Schweizer TG-3 after launch by Greg Schibler (Mark Baldacchino photo)

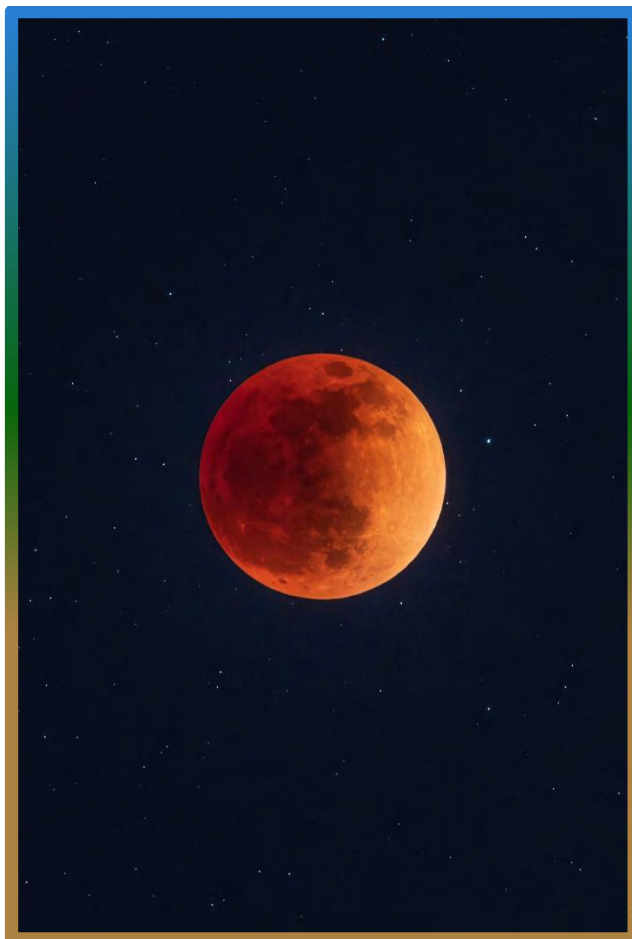


May Co-Winner – DG-1000's, Steffen Peters and Aaron Wallace at Visalia (Thomas Moller photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



May Co-Winner – Another shot of Walther's CX5 from IHLGF pilot Paul Reese of Shoreline, WA



June Winner – May 15th blood moon eclipse (Burt Crismore photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Aaron's DG, Thomas' DG & Steffen's DG-1000 at Visalia May 2022 Aerotow (Thomas Moller photo)



Tom Ramirez's DC-3 over Cajon Pass (Greg Houck photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Aaron's DG-1000 (FES) 8.8m at night camp lights shining through canopy (Aaron Wallace photo)



Summer Winner – Tom Ramirez (TRISME on RCGroups) launches Martin Taraz's Hellcat at Cajon Pass (Greg Houck 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	Gary Fogel	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.

4 METER BAUDIS SALTO H101 for SALE

STATS

- Wing Span 160"
- Length 70"
- Weight AU 12.75 lbs.
- Wing Area 1230 sq. in.
- Wing Loading 23.88oz.



(continued next page)



AND WANTED

4 METER BAUDIS SALTO H101 for SALE (continued)

CONTROLS

- 2 Digital MKS HV6130 on Flaps with IDS
- 2 Digital MKS HV6110 on Ailerons with IDS
- 2 Digital MKS HV6110 on Rudders with IDS
- 1 Digital TGY-4409MD on the Tow Release (120 oz/in)
- 2 Cell 2500 LiFe Battery
- NO RECEIVER



(continued next page)



AND WANTED

4 METER BAUDIS SALTO H101 for SALE (continued)



I have flown the Salto twice since restoration. I was very worried about the landing, which the previous owner cautioned me on. The landings are a snap with all the flap available. It flies very nicely as long as you keep the speed up. It has a very flat glide.

I am looking for \$1500; will not ship.

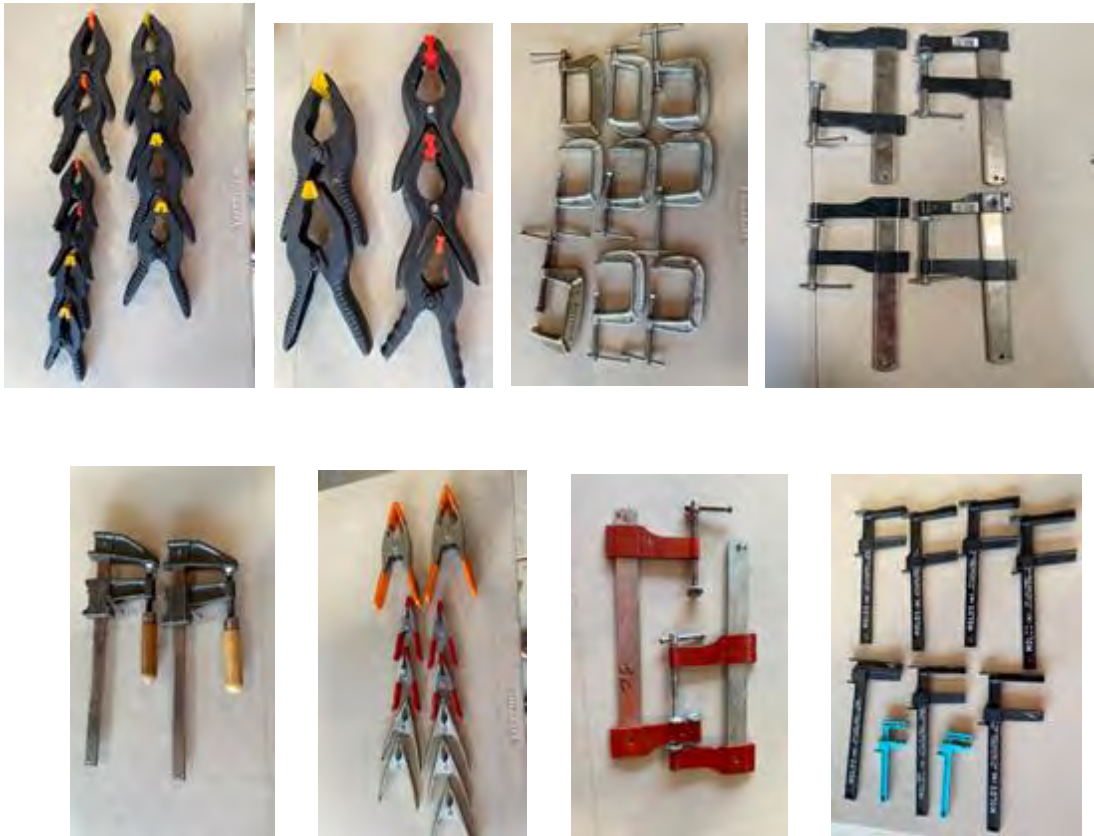
Jim Gallacher
Escondido CA
jgallacher@cox.net



AND WANTED

The following items are **FREE** – contact Cliff Hunter 760-703-4497 (cell)

CLAMPS - FREE



BALSA AND PLYWOOD – VARIOUS SIZES - FREE





AND WANTED

The following items are **FREE** – contact Cliff Hunter 760-703-4497 (cell)

ROUTER TABLE & ROUTER/CRAFTSMAN ROUTER BITS FOR USE WITH ROUTER – FREE





Quote of the Month:

“I share my name with an aerobatic bird that can whiz across a whole summer sky in seconds. A swift is so equipped for speed that it can scarcely cope with being stationary.

~ Graham Swift



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)