

2023  
APR



# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

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

Editor – Dale Gottdank

## Message from the President

### Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 3 Upcoming TPG Events
- 4 Club Meetings, Contests and Activities  
Newsletter This Month
- 5 Help Support Our USA F5J Team!
- 6 News from the Slope
- 9 Encinitas Super Bloom
- 10 March F5J Contest Report
- 13 March DLG Contest Report
- 16 March F3L Contest Report
- 21 Club Membership Update
- 22 Where We Fly – Panoramas
- 23 How We Compete
- 27 What is LSF?
  - 30 How We Connect
- 34 Club Officers and Contact Information
- 35 Photo of the Month Contest
- 40 For Sale/Wanted
- 44 Quote of the Month



Chuck Norris

First off, let me say that F3RES is a blast! Our first F3L contest was last Saturday, and although we went into it thinking we might have some kinks to work out, overall, it went off exceedingly well. **You'll read more** about this from our contest director Gary Fogel, but I have to say I really enjoyed it even more than I'd expected! Sending a balsa model up a hi-start is something I've loved ever since my first RC flying experience, but doing it in the F3L contest format made it even more interesting and enjoyable. The team format **encourages a social aspect that I hadn't anticipated**; with everyone cooperating towards a common goal. Very, very fun!

And this ties in to my previous notes about how we might encourage new pilots to get involved and potentially join the club. Unlike F3K, F5J or TD, the models have design constraints that help keep the overall cost low. New pilots can get involved with a very modest budget: kits are reasonably priced, ARF planes are readily available, and inexpensive servos work just fine. New pilots who are just getting started can give it a try without breaking the bank.

(continued)

## Message from the President (continued)

But don't think this is a sport just for beginners - it's got a lot going on that is fun and engaging for experienced pilots. New models perform very well, and there is a great selection of planes in the marketplace.

Stop by the next contest to check it out, or dust off the two-meter rudder/elevator model you haven't flown in years and come join us! And invite any friends who may have expressed interest in the past, but were intimidated by the costs.

Chuck



Me, launching my new Yellow Jacket earlier this year (Gary Fogel photo)

## TPG April/May Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up wood	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	TD Contest	Encinitas Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	F5J Fun Fly	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Club Virtual Meeting	Zoom link: <a href="#">TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link</a>
April 29 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>	International Handlaunch Glider Festival	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Foamies – Ahis, Alulas, Ka-8's, Radians...If it's foam, this is your day!	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	F5J Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>



Jim Birkett with his Espada R at Torrey after landing (Ian Cummings 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 last meeting was February 28<sup>th</sup>, where we enjoyed an excellent presentation by our own Gary Fogel.

Our next club meeting, is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. We're working on bringing you another year of great presentations and some cool raffle prizes.

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!

April Issue highlights include:

- **Help Support Our USA F5J Team!** (Page 5)
- **Encinitas Super Bloom** (Page 9)
- **First F3L Contest Report** (Page 16)
- **Photo of the Month Contest** (Page 35)

Please send in your articles or photos ([communications@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org)) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter. If there are too many, we'll save them for the next issue. 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>.

## Help Support Our USA F5J Team!



Every two years, the FAI (Fédération Aéronautique Internationale) holds the F5J (Electric Powered Thermal Duration Glider) World Championship competition. This year's competition, organized by the Bulgarian Aeromodelling Federation and Modelclub Ikar will be held in Dupnitsa, Bulgaria.

What makes this year's competition so special, is that for the first time, TPG has not one, but three members on the USA F5J team. Congratulations Team USA!

TPG members Mike Smith and Tom Kiesling (pilots) will be headed for Bulgaria this August along with Team Manager, Steve Condon; making this a trifecta for TPG at the World Championships!

Attending the World Championships is no small undertaking and depends on donations from RC manufacturers, soaring clubs and private individuals. When you have a chance, check out the USA F5J Team website (still a work in progress) at <https://teamf5jusa.org/>. If you're able, please donate what you can to help our guys and Team USA fly to victory in Bulgaria this summer! Follow this link to make your donation: <https://teamf5jusa.org/index.php/donations>



Mike Smith



Tom Kiesling



Steve Condon

## News from the Slope – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



Mark Baldacchino

Happy April, TP Gulls!



Both our March 11<sup>th</sup> Scale Plane Fun Fly, and our Soaring Council meeting didn't happen due to being rained-out. It seemed like more often than not, it rained on the weekends; while perfect, sunny weather prevailed during the work weeks. The Soaring Council meeting has been rescheduled for the same day as the Foamie Fun Fly on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM.

Also on that day, we will host several students from SDSU and UCSD who are studying Aeronautical Engineering. Three club members have stepped up to volunteer their time assisting these students with buddy box set ups. There's a lot going on that day; don't miss it!

If you recall from last month's column, I mentioned and posted a few pictures that had a "flag fence" all the way around our landing zone. Someone from the Gliderport; I believe a paraglider pilot, purchased and installed the flag fence. This is an outstanding improvement, keeping the public passersby from wandering all around the LZ. It's been a long-standing safety concern, and the flag fence will make a great difference!

Our next Fun Fly is scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup>, and is all about old school, classic "woodies." If they're made of balsa, bring them out and enjoy the day! There's another one of these Fun Fly's scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> due to high demand.

On the following pages are some photos showing the weed growth in and around our pit area. We really need your help to clear out the weeds and make the area more hospitable to our members, guests and their aircraft. We'll be scheduling a clean-up day in the near future, providing an opportunity to get a little workout, enjoy the spectacular view and receive a \$10 discount on your next year's membership dues! Keep an eye out for an announcement in this RC Groups thread: [San Diego Sloping!!!](#)

## News from the Slope (continued)



Walt, Jim, Paul and Bob enjoying a rare sunny Saturday. Check out the weeds! (Mark Baldacchino photo)



This was March 17<sup>th</sup>, and it actually rained that night. Light wind, but sunny! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

## News from the Slope (continued)



There was wind, but mostly from the north, (Mark Baldacchino photo)

## TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2023

April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up wood
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Foamies – Ahis, Alulas, Ka-8's, Radians...If it's foam, this is your day!
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Katie Martin International Tribute. A Bob Martin event for mostly Hobie Hawks: <a href="#">RCGroups</a>
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Landing Strip Contest – Get closest to the pin. Ribbons for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Aerobatics Day – TWF/PWF...Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A Day to Fly + Swap Meet. Clean out your garage and make room for more birds.
September 9 <sup>th</sup>	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies Again! – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up wood
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	Redman Rules & Landing Contest – Ribbons for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> . For the uninitiated, Redman Rules involve beer can bowling and limbo line.
November 25 <sup>th</sup>	No Shopping Saturday – A couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house

See you all out at the Gliderport.  
Blue Skies!

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino



## Encinitas Super Bloom – Cliff Hunter

In late March, when Cliff and Sandy Hunter were kind enough to once again keep our Encinitas field looking trimmed and prepared for our TD and F3L contests, they encountered some natural spring beauty. Cliff sent along these photos. Thanks Cliff and Sandy!



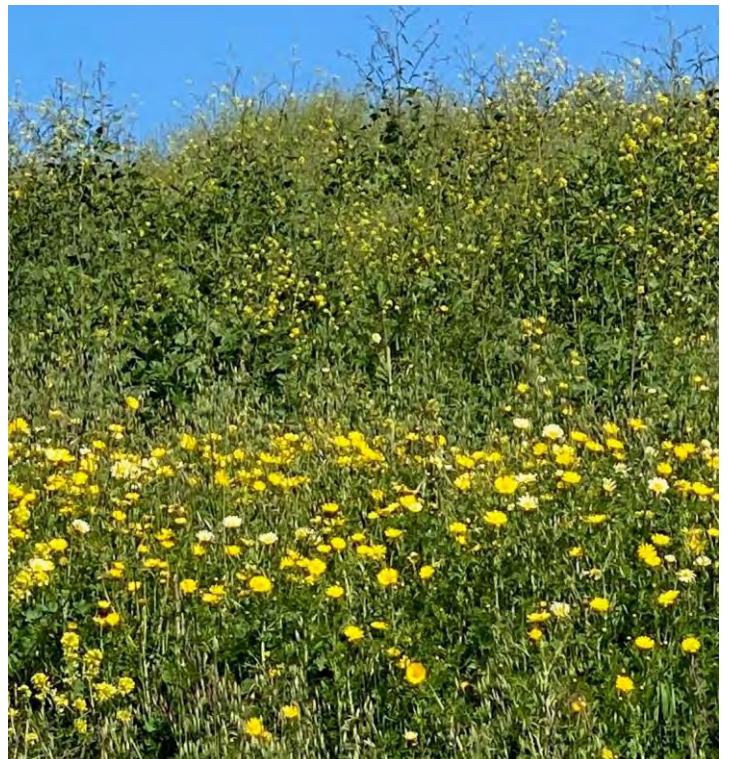
Sandy Hunter photo



Sandy Hunter photo



Sandy Hunter photo



Sandy Hunter photo

## March F5J Contest (Perris, CA) Report – Cliff Hunter

The contest was held on March 12, 2023, at the Perris Free Flight/Glider Field with the F5JINLA crew. We had 24 pilots sign up and 10 of the pilots were from Torrey Pines Gulls. Because of the previous rain, the field condition was a little muddy, but the air was very flyable. It was cloudy and cold, and the grass was wet. It was best that you warmed up your batteries before each flight. It's known that LiPo's don't like cold weather. The battery will act as if it's fully charged, and while it gives a great launch (maybe); it then reduces power; or shuts off, depending on the settings of your ESC. Ask Arthur about that. The conditions in the morning were fair for the first 3 rounds and most pilots did get the times and landings.



The Perris Free Flight/Glider Field pit area. Note that everyone's wearing a coat. (Cliff Hunter photo)

The wind came up for Rounds 4 -6, depending on when you got to launch...and how high you launched. You might just get your time and a landing. Tough afternoon for some!

## March F5J Contest (Perris, CA) Report (continued)



Pilots launching in cloudy conditions. Despite the clouds, there WERE thermals! (Cliff Hunter photo)



Seconds after the launch. The weeds and grass made landings a bit easier. (Cliff Hunter photo)

## March F5J Contest (Perris, CA) Report (continued)

Below are the TPG members in order of contest ranking:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mike Verzuh
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim Traver
- 4<sup>th</sup> Steve Condon
- 7<sup>th</sup> Cliff Hunter
- 8<sup>th</sup> Tom Kiesling
- 11<sup>th</sup> Ron Rossetti
- 12<sup>th</sup> Mike Smith
- 15<sup>th</sup> Bob Schumacher
- 17<sup>th</sup> Arthur Markiewicz
- 18<sup>th</sup> Steve Hurd

Here are the scores from the F3X Vault:

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (1 Drop In Effect)					
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	Mike Verzuh	4972.89		1000	1000	972.89	967.82	1000	1000
2	Tim Traver	4813.00	-159.89	891.80	957.14	964.06	1000	548.02	1000
3	Dave Freund	4743.51	-69.49	1000	918.49	952.88	342.67	903.95	968.19
4	Steve Condon	4730.72	-12.79	981.32	963.82	991.21	995.23	215.25	799.14
5	Keith Kindrick	4711.94	-18.78	916.02	967.93	928.23	899.76	1000	847.77
6	Steve Stanton	4531.67	-180.27	966.84	971.88	948.88	988.47	172.20	655.60
7	Clifford Hunter	4400.23	-131.44	963.64	925.99	914.86	716.81	878.93	643.15
8	Tom Kiesling	4337.75	-62.48	980.43	851.15	975.10	1000	531.07	340.50
9	Michael Reagan	4298.28	-39.47	923.81	981.80	964.86	987.13	440.68	425.71
10	Josh Freund	4216.56	-81.72	927.94	976.47	1000	222.05	493.27	818.88
11	Ron Rossetti	4201.23	-15.33	979.54	1000	221.69	165.57	1000	1000
12	Mike Smith	4164.21	-37.02	996.54	960.50	1000	1000	207.17	0.00
13	Warren Day	4150.39	-13.82	982.68	960.53	950.48	328.67	712.49	544.21
14	Ron Creager	4035.36	-115.03	947.64	949.55	593.57	846.46	698.14	486.70
15	Bob Schumacher	4021.44	-13.92	600.53	943.26	964.66	977.72	0.00	535.27
16	John Butler	3966.52	-54.92	1000	1000	1000	0.00	0.00	966.52
17	Arthur Markiewicz	3444.33	-522.19	0.00	944.58	949.68	970.56	579.51	0.00
18	Steve Hurd	3107.59	-336.74	833.77	528.54	59.01	856.01	0.00	889.27
19	Carlos Acosta	2905.70	-201.89	937.17	963.61	0.00	490.12	514.80	0.00
20	John Yee	2751.42	-154.28	919.93	968.07	863.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Manny Tau	2477.06	-274.36	981.68	505.04	0.00	0.00	533.69	456.65
22	Luke Skywalker	0.00	-2477.06	0.00	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS
23	Darth Vader	0.00		0.00	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS
24	John Snider	0.00		0.00	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS

## March DLG Contest Report – Justin Tolman, CD

Thanks to all 15 pilots that made it out on Saturday for the March DLG contest! Special thanks to Don & John for ensuring we had substantial DC power to get us through the contest. Also, a collective thank you to everyone who took time to throw for fresh-out-of-surgery John McNeil – it's always cool to see everyone come together and step up like that. In the end, we all got to experience a whirlwind 6-round contest during a typical, atypical weather day at Poway.



Round 1 (Task B, Last 2 flights) presented the daunting task of finding 3-minute air when there was little to no energy to be found anywhere. Mengchen Li and Mike Smith somehow made the impossible possible with two, three-minute flights each.

Round 2 (Big Ladder) started with similar doldrum conditions as Round 1, but by group C, the Santa Ana switch got turned on out of nowhere. Groups A & B saw Ks go to Mike Smith and Rick Jay who accumulated well over 9-1/2 minutes of flight time. Group C got pounded by the rapidly changing conditions: Mengchen landed out once, yours truly landed out TWICE, and Ron took the K with 6:45 accumulated flight time.

## March DLG Contest Report (continued)

Round 3 (Two Flights, 5:00/max) was fraught with carnage, including several flights under 1 minute. Pilots either hooked up in monster lift, or got pounded. Mike Smith snagged the only 5-minute flight of the round. Ray Pili and Scott McCurdy found huge lift in group C, but they both struggled for 1-minute flights on their second launch.

Conditions in Round 4 (Three Longest) continued to be challenging. Chuck Norris (group A) and Mengchen (group B) took Ks with only 7.5 minutes of accumulated flight time. Group C had Mike Smith and Rick Jay put on a clinic by accumulating nearly all of the maximum 10-minute flight time.

Lift continued to be hit or miss in Round 5 (AULD).

We ended the day with Task N - Best Flight (a proposed new task for 2023). Conditions had settled into somewhat more readable and manageable at that point and it showed on the scoreboard, as several pilots had the longest flights of the day. Mengchen (group A) ended Mike Smith's perfect day with an 8:49 flight – beating Mike Smith's 7:55. I managed a 7:10 in group B and John McNeil (with a personal thrower) took the K with an 8:25 (besting Rick Jay by a mere three-tenths of a second). Overall, the new task seemed to be well received.

Podium spots went to (1) Mike Smith, (2) Rick Jay and (3) Mengchen Li. Ray Pili gets honorable mention after missing 3<sup>rd</sup> place by a mere 7/10 of a point.

Here are the contest results from the F3X Vault:

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)					
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	16 Mike Smith 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	5898.0		1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	898.0
2	7 Rick Jay 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	5452.4	-445.6	804.4	1000	1000	994.6	654.0	999.4
3	8 Mengchen Li 🇨🇳	5139.3	-313.1	1000	897.5	241.8	1000	1000	1000
4	14 Ray Pili 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	5138.6	-0.7	831.1	977.6	1000	805.9	1000	524.0
5	4 John McNeil 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	5127.3	-11.3	703.6	887.6	550.1	986.0	1000	1000
6	5 Chuck Norris 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	5076.5	-50.8	790.8	855.5	854.9	1000	977.6	597.7
7	1 Charles Martin 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	4948.5	-128.0	650.8	953.1	918.5	748.0	829.1	849.0
8	2 Justin Tolman 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	4680.0	-268.5	814.3	516.9	646.2	909.1	793.5	1000
9	13 Ron Rossetti 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	4513.9	-166.1	729.3	1000	700.2	655.3	734.5	694.6
10	6 Edward LaCroix 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	4263.9	-250.0	879.4	933.9	0.0	851.8	978.0	620.8
11	11 Scott McCurdy 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	4167.7	-96.2	590.0	788.6	899.1	574.8	797.0	518.2
12	10 Gary Legerton 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	3231.5	-936.2	866.1	894.3	158.3	624.7	379.8	308.3
13	12 Dale Osborn 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	3143.7	-87.8	644.0	526.7	0.0	799.7	835.2	338.1
14	9 Don Lochhead 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	3127.1	-16.6	709.2	716.8	493.3	519.4	488.6	199.8
15	3 Gary Fogel 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	1000.0	-2127.1	1000	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16	15 Darth Vader 🇺🇸 🇨🇦	0.0	-1000.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Cliff Hunter will CD our next contest on April 15<sup>th</sup>. This will be your last chance to shake off the rust and get some much-needed practice before the IHLGF at the end of April.

Sign up for April 15<sup>th</sup> contest on the F3X Vault:

[https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event\\_view&event\\_id=2617](https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2617)

## March DLG Contest Report (continued)



Rick Jay (2<sup>nd</sup>), Mike Smith (1<sup>st</sup>) and Mengchen Li (3<sup>rd</sup>). Congratulations!

## March F3L Contest Report – Gary Fogel, CD

On Saturday, March 25, 2023, eight pilots gathered at Poway to kick off the first ever TPG F3L series. Despite a lot of planning, this actually wasn't the way we had planned it initially. After the decision was made in late 2022 to start this contest series, a dedicated core group of members including Cliff Hunter, Don Lochhead, Paul Niebecker, Paul Palmer, John McNeil, Chuck Norris, and Gary Fogel got together to order aircraft kits, hi-start materials, etc. Cliff very kindly sponsored build sessions at his place, and most of the components required for a contest were coming together by February. We even met at Encinitas to make sure our hi-starts were well matched (they weren't initially, but they were afterward!) and fit the field, as a prep for the first contest at Encinitas. However, this being 2023, one of the rainiest years on record for San Diego, we were forced to postpone due to rain from Feb 25 to Mar 25 and then forced to move the contest from Encinitas to Poway, given the 5-day no-fly-after-rain rules at Encinitas. Having focused all of our attention on getting this set for Encinitas and not really knowing how well any of the hi-starts would fit at Poway, it was a gamble we took to make sure the series launched.

Members arrived early on Saturday to get the equipment set up. Given 8 pilots were expected, we set up two launch lanes in parallel, one at the far south edge, the other a required minimum distance to the north of that lane. We then had to measure the pull on the line to mark both minimums and maximums. Then we selected where landing lanes should go (while avoiding gopher holes) and got the audio working. We had a few user issues with the newly programmed F3L component in F3X Vault. To make matters even a bit more confusing for the CD, pilot Jim Vanderzyl was unfortunately forced to cancel the night before, while previously unregistered pilot Manny Gomes came down from Riverside (Inland Soaring Society) to check it out. Les Ward (Orange County) kindly offered to share his Medina with Manny but that meant that they had to fly on the same F3L team. A bunch of re-jiggering later we had the right names on the right score cards and would figure it all out in the Vault later! Let's get flying!



Competitors for the first TPG F3L contest. 3 Yellow Jackets, 2 Medinas, 1 Purito, 1 Wiki, and lots of colors!



## March F3L Contest Report (continued)

Poway, well, can be Poway. This year, Poway is especially green, and Cliff and Sandy mowed the field just a few days before the contest, so on the ground Poway frankly couldn't have looked any better. And after months of rain, the day began with partly cloudy and very lifty conditions, and it was clear that in the air, Poway frankly couldn't look much better either. With largely calm winds, this was a perfect environment for our first F3L contest. We held a brief pilots meeting to review some of the dos and don'ts of F3L, especially the numerous ways in which one can get a zero on landing. Given the use of only two teams and two lanes, the contest was going to be flown man-on-man. Initially we hoped for 6 rounds, but in the end, we could only get in 4 rounds before it was already 1:15pm, so the CD had judged that one wrong. However, with 8 pilots that meant 4 rounds of 4 heats each, two pilots per heat.



Once we divided into our teams the competition became fierce!

In F3L, pilots have a 9-minute working window in which to fly a 6-minute max thermal duration flight, followed by a landing for points. On Saturday, the air was so nice at 9:00am, that for the first three heats everyone managed better than 5 min 30 sec. However, by Round 1 Heat D, Poway showed who was in charge; all of the thermals were shut off like a light switch and teams had to work to retrieve lines and get multiple launches in for pilots. John McNeil took that round over Les Ward with a 3:55 flight and a very nice 98 points on landing. Manny Gomes really did a super job of flying in Round 1 Heat A vs. Gary as he had never flown a Medina before, but managed to get a 5:59 on the board and a 90 for landing basically tying with Gary.



In Round 2, conditions once again returned to being very nice – most competitors again got more than 5:30 on their flights with the exception of Don Lockheed who just couldn't find the elusive thermal against Manny Gomes in a battle of the Medinas, but did manage to nail a 99 with a super landing.

By Round 3 Poway became a little trickier and when the sun was out it as nice and sunny and wonderful soaring and when the sun was behind a cloud temps dropped considerably and things shut off dramatically again. This was especially true for heat B when both Don and Cliff Hunter had a tough time finding lift with Cliff taking the heat with a 2:11 flight and a 98 on landing. Chuck and Christoph had a nice duel nearly tying in heat C but with Chuck holding a slight advantage on time.

## March F3L Contest Report (continued)

Round 4 was the most interesting, and largely decided the contest. In heat A, Chuck and John battled and differed by only 1 second on their total time (5:56 vs. 5:55 respectively) but John happened to fly through considerable sink on approach, barely making the mowed area of the field. As a result, Chuck took the heat on landing points. In heat B, Cliff required a relaunch but unfortunately landed out, leaving Gary with the win for that heat. In heat C, Christoph battled Manny in challenging conditions, requiring them both to find thermals at tree height. After working for quite some time, Christoph finally managed to rack up a thermal with his Purito and get to altitude while Manny just couldn't find the core. Christoph capped his great flight with a 99 on the landing. In the last heat of the contest, Les Ward and Don Lochhead dueled in what was challenging air until a large thermal came over the field and carried them along for some time. It was then a matter of who could outlast the sink on the other side, and Les managed to exceed Don by 17 seconds and with a better landing.

We wrapped it up around 1:20pm and held a pilots meeting to recap the pros and cons. Unfortunately, no total scores could be announced at that time, but within 24 hours we had them on F3X Vault with Tim Traver's help as follows:

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completi			
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
1	<b>1</b> Gary Fogel  	4000.0		1000	1000	1000	1000
2	<b>4</b> Christoph Efstathiou  	3981.0	-19.0	992.4	991.1	997.5	1000
3	<b>5</b> Chuck Norris  	3940.6	-40.4	1000	940.6	1000	1000
4	<b>2</b> John McNeil  	3880.9	-59.7	1000	1000	1000	880.9
5	<b>6</b> Manny Gomes  	3534.3	-346.6	997.5	1000	984.0	552.8
6	<b>9</b> Don Lochhead  	3278.9	-255.4	946.5	414.7	1000	917.7
7	<b>11</b> Les Ward  	3250.7	-28.2	711.3	1000	539.4	1000
8	<b>3</b> Clifford Hunter  	2736.7	-514.0	1000	958.9	777.8	0.0

Really great flying by all competitors! It was nice to see that every pilot had at least one 1000-point heat somewhere along the way. It's also interesting to realize that the top 4 pilots were separated by less than 60 points! Which team won? Well, everyone had a good time but, in the end, the total sums for the pilots on each team had Gary's Angels beating the Naked Mole Rats.

Come out and join us June 3 for our next F3L contest, likely at Encinitas, with John McNeil as CD. If you are interest in flying with us or learning more about F3L, please send me an email. You can also check out our new Discord channel within TPG's Discord (thanks to Justin Tolman for helping set it up:

<https://discord.com/channels/1066140493634871316/1088954554906849322>

Check out some more photos from the event on the following pages:

## March F3L Contest Report (continued)



Competitors Cliff (left) and Christoph (right) proceed to launch their planes on the hi-starts at Poway. (Gary Fogel photo)



El Presidente de TPG, Chuck Norris having fun flying his Yellow Jacket (Gary Fogel photo)



Cliff Hunter launches his Yellow Jacket at Poway. (Gary Fogel photo)



Chuck (left) and Christoph (right) launch in round 3. (Gary Fogel photo)



Don Lochhead on final approach with John McNeil assisting as timer (Gary Fogel photo)

## March F3L Contest Report (continued)



Chuck (left) and Christoph (right) nearing the end of the round getting ready for landing approach. (Gary Fogel photo)



Cliff having fun at the F3L contest (Gary Fogel photo)



Christoph launching Don's Medina for one of the flights (Gary Fogel photo)

## Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

For the 2023 calendar year, the club membership is 108. That is great news! Please renew your TPG Membership for calendar year 2023. Gate locks for 2022 have been removed. Please use the link below when joining as a new member or renewing an existing membership. Fill out the registration form completely and pay using PayPal, credit card or check. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an individual email when becoming a member.

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

### Membership Activity Summary as of March 23, 2023

The table below is a summary of lifetime members, new and renewed full members, and youth members; based on completed registration forms received to date.

2023 Membership		
Date	Since Last Report	Total as of 3/23/2023
New and Renewed Members	2	108
Google Group as of 12/19/2022	160	

### Membership Processing

Please use the link below when joining as a new member or renewing an existing membership. Fill out the registration form completely and pay using PayPal, credit card or check. Current members 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.

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

All new and renewing members will receive a membership card and key (if requested, for Encinitas and Poway). The key provides access to the gates at our Encinitas and Poway flying sites. Members who fly at the Torrey Pines Gliderport and are Gliderport rated will receive a club lanyard from a club representative at the Gliderport. Members must wear the lanyard with the membership card attached when flying at the 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 at: [membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org) if you have not received your membership materials or have any membership-related questions.

## Club Membership Update (continued)

### Annual Membership

TPG's membership period is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Renewals begin November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Club 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
- Work Credit You will receive a credit of up to \$20 on your annual dues; \$10 per each half-day working at any TPG flying field. When filling out your registration form, there is a place to input your hours/credit.

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.

You can get more detailed information regarding your yearly membership benefits by using the following link: [Torrey Pines Gulls Membership Guide](#), which will provide answers to many of your questions regarding Torrey Pines Gulls activities. Also review the TPG Club Bylaws for more information at: [Club Bylaws](#)

Cliff Hunter  
Membership Chairman  
[membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org)  
760-703-4497 cell

### Sample Membership Card



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

## Where We Fly – 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.



## How We Compete

### 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 2023 TPG TD & F5J contest schedule thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4241075-2023-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-TD-F5J-contest-schedule>

or contact Tom Watson at [thermal@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org)

### Hand Launch / DLG / F3K Contest Series

---



Justin Tolman

#### DLG Coordinator – Justin Tolman

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 2023 Torrey Pines Gulls DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for the latest contest news:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4260691-2023-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series>

or contact Justin Tolman at [dlg@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:dlg@torreypinesgulls.org)



## How We Compete (continued)

### F3L Contest Series

---



Gary Fogel

In 2021, the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) approved a new contest format for hi-start launched thermal soaring with rudder-elevator-spoiler (RES) aircraft. This type of event had been flown for many years as F3-RES but its formalization as the new “F3L” program for “RC thermal gliders RES” was approved in 2021. The rules for this can be found in the current FAI Sporting Code for Aeromodeling under Volume F3 Soaring.

[https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc4\\_vol\\_f3\\_soaring\\_22.pdf](https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc4_vol_f3_soaring_22.pdf)

A goal of the F3L program is to serve as a low-cost introduction to RC soaring competition that is achievable even for those who have average skills.

F3L has been gaining in popularity in the US, and our recent virtual club meeting in late 2022 on the topic by Corky Miller and Larry Jolly inspired many to try it out. So, in 2023 we have established a new F3L program with quarterly contests. We will be using the FAI rules and have year-end trophies for open and sportsman classes. Contests will be held at the Encinitas Flight Center with pilots meeting at 8:45am, first launch at 9:00am. A small entry fee will be required to help offset the costs of club equipment. Additional information will be forthcoming on the RC Groups TPG F3L contest thread:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4259523-2023-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-F3L-%28F3RES%29-contest-schedule>

Come join us at the quarterly contests on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, August 26<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup>. The year's series events may be found on [F3X Vault](#).

If you would like to be added to a TPG-internal email chain focused on F3L, please let me know: [garyfogel@gmail.com](mailto:garyfogel@gmail.com)

## How We Compete (continued)

### F5J Fun Fly and Contest/Clinic Series

---



Don Lochhead

Want to get into F5J, but not quite sure how do it? Or maybe you have a Radian in your hanger and are looking for an excuse to get out for a bit of fun-flying. Then come on out to the Poway field and check out one of our F5J Fun-Fly events.

We started out calling this a foamy event because the Night Radian was (and continues to be) the most popular plane to fly. However, we began simply calling it an F5J Fun Fly, because any glider under 2 meters that can be flown to the F5J rules as we apply them at Poway is welcome. This is a fly-what-you-got type event, so everything from a vintage Easy Glider to a brand-new Yellow Jacket is welcome.

We configure the field with landing tapes and the sound system to get as close to full-up F5J flying as possible. To maximize everyone's flying time, we reduce the flight window to 7 minutes. This is a very low-key meet-up and everyone is welcome no matter what your skill level.

For 2023 we have three remaining events scheduled: April 22, July 29 and October 28. Pilots meeting is at 8:45 with first up at 9 am. We typically fly five or six rounds, finishing up by noon. The event is free to TPG members and \$5 for guests. We do ask everyone to pre-register on the F3X Vault so we know how many pilots to expect and can run the matrix ahead of time.

[https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event\\_view&event\\_id=2602](https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2602)

We are hoping that these events will help to introduce new pilots to what TPG has to offer. See you at our next F5J Fun Fly. Whatever you bring, you are sure to have a great time. If you have been thinking about getting into F5J, but were not sure where to start this is the event for you.



January 2023 F5J Fun Fly (Bob Hirsch photo)

# What is LSF? – Gary Fogel



Gary Fogel

The League of Silent Flight (LSF) <https://www.silentflight.org/> is the special interest group (SIG) representing RC soaring to the Academy of Model Aeronautics. LSF has its own lengthy and important history, having first been conceived of in Northern California over 50 years ago, and helps arrange the annual RC soaring Nationals at Muncie, Indiana each summer. Additional info on its history can be found here: <http://www.silentflight.org/images/documents/lfsstory.pdf>

In addition to this, LSF has two types of Soaring Accomplishment Programs (SAPs) that encourage personal skill development in the sport and are fun! There is an SAP that is strictly for RC soaring (the oldest and original SAP) and with the advent of electric launch methods, an eSAP was added more recently that duplicates the original SAP but with the use of electric motors for launch.

Each SAP consists of a series of five levels of achievement with increasing difficulty (Figure 1). The levels involve slope and thermal soaring, spot landings, cross-country flights and participation at contests. A pilot needs to achieve Level I before proceeding to Level II and so forth all the way up through Level V.

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

Fig. 1. The requirements for the LSF SAP and eSAP levels of achievement. (Source: <https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lfs-program/lfs-tasks>)

The people who originated the program in the 1970s arranged it such that it was easy for novice pilots to attain Level I with minimum effort. However, as pilots proceed through intermediate levels, they have to attend contests (with increasing number of total contestants per contest to qualify) and accumulate points (and/or wins). For instance, for Level II a contest can be as few as five participants, whereas by Level IV the contest has to be at least 15 participants. This requirement helps drive interest in contests as they are crucial towards proceeding to the next level. Those interested in the LSF program help foster contest development.

## What is LSF? – (continued)



Similarly, pilots who regularly hone their skills at contests generally improve in overall performance and over time, seek increasingly different and difficult tasks. By the time a pilot achieves Level IV, the Level V tasks can feel daunting. A 2-hour thermal duration flight. An 8-hour slope duration flight (some refer to this as the “bladder test”). A goal and return cross-country flight of 6.2 miles out and 6.2 miles back. Its longer than it seems. And Level V requires 3 contest wins at large contests over 20 participants. These days it can be hard to find contests of this size, and the requirement to win them really means the pilot has to be on the top of their game. It can take years or decades for a pilot to complete Level V. Some pilots never do complete Level V; in fact, only 138 people in the history of the program have done so.

So how do you get started? It's EASY. Firstly, go to:

<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php/lsf-program/lsf-tasks>

and print out a copy of the voucher form. Choose the path you wish (SAP and/or eSAP)

Bring the appropriate voucher with you to any of our many TPG events in 2023 and participate! If, for instance, you are flying in an F5J contest, each landing can be considered as a spot landing for the Level I and II requirements. Even the contest flights can have sufficient time to satisfy Level I requirements. Whenever you do make an achievement, have the contest director or your timer sign your form as a witness. We have Torrey Pines Gliderport (and other slopes) at our disposal – easy to get a 15 min slope flight with your buddies.

Once you've completed all of the Level I tasks, submit the completed voucher to LSF Secretary John Marien at [john@ne-aero.com](mailto:john@ne-aero.com) as a pdf scan or photo that clearly shows the witness signatures. 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.

A question then – who in the TPG has what LSF levels in SAP and eSAP? Well, we collect that information as a part of membership renewal. The Table on the following page provides the current LSF Levels for those who indicated so on their membership forms. This can (and should!) of course change over time.

Note that we have 10 members who are Level I. It doesn't take much for them to get to Level II. At the other end of the spectrum, we have 8 members who are Level IV. It's going to take some teamwork to get them to Level V. In between we have lots of pilots who can benefit by flying in our contests or getting out for some slope duration at Torrey, etc. If you aren't on the list and have achieved an LSF level, please let me know.

## What is LSF? – (continued)



Last Name	First Name	SAP	eSAP
Blodgett	Edward	Level I	
Brooksby	Chris	Level I	
Butler	Alan "Moose"	Level I	
Hanson	Craig	Level I	
Houck	Greg	Level I	
Hunter	Cliff	Level I	
Lochhead	Donald	Level I	
McFarland	Dan	Level I	
Metzdorff	Eric	Level I	
Ungar	Kyle	Level I	
Cummings	Ian	Level II	
Cummins	Dan	Level II	
Hanson	Kirk	Level II	
McNeil	John	Level II	
Miller	Corky	Level II	
Pili	Ray	Level II	Level I
Redman	Mike	Level II	
Rozek	Dieter	Level II	
Kiesling	Thomas	Level III	
Norris	Charles	Level III	
Verzuh	Mike	Level III	
Ward	Les	Level III	
Warner	Garth	Level III	
Clerx	Ben	Level IV	Level I
Condon	Steve	Level IV	
Fogel	Gary	Level IV	Level II
Hall	Dave	Level IV	Level I
Schafer	Chris	Level IV	
Smith	Mike	Level IV	
Throop	Terry	Level IV	
Watson	Tom	Level IV	

How many Level increases can TPG members achieve in 2023 for either SAP or eSAP? Feel free to reach out to me or others on this list and they will be pleased to help recommend some strategies or serve as a witness if they can for your achievements. If there is interest, we could arrange special LSF days; however, at present, none are scheduled for 2023. Use our many contests and fun flies as a way to help advance in these programs. Just be sure to bring your vouchers and if necessary, arrange in advance for the proper number and type of witnesses so they can sign your form afterwards.

Want to find out more? Check out the LSF program at:  
<https://www.silentflight.org/index.php>.

## How We Connect

### What do YOU think?

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

We have a [QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS](#) link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over [TORREY PINES GULLS](#) next to [LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP...](#) If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, etc. for the board, here's your chance.

# 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](mailto: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!

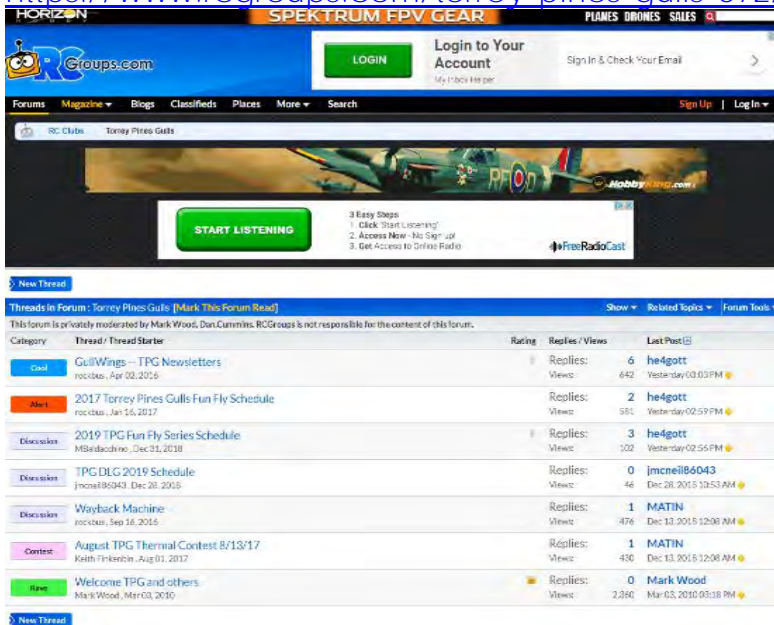
## How We Connect (continued)

# 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 HSEabochrome, Dec 01, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 102	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcneil86043, Dec 28, 2015		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcneil86043 Dec 28, 2015 12:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccas, Sep 16, 2016		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2015 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Finkstein, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2015 12:08 AM
Site	Welcome TPG and others Mark Wood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,860	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.

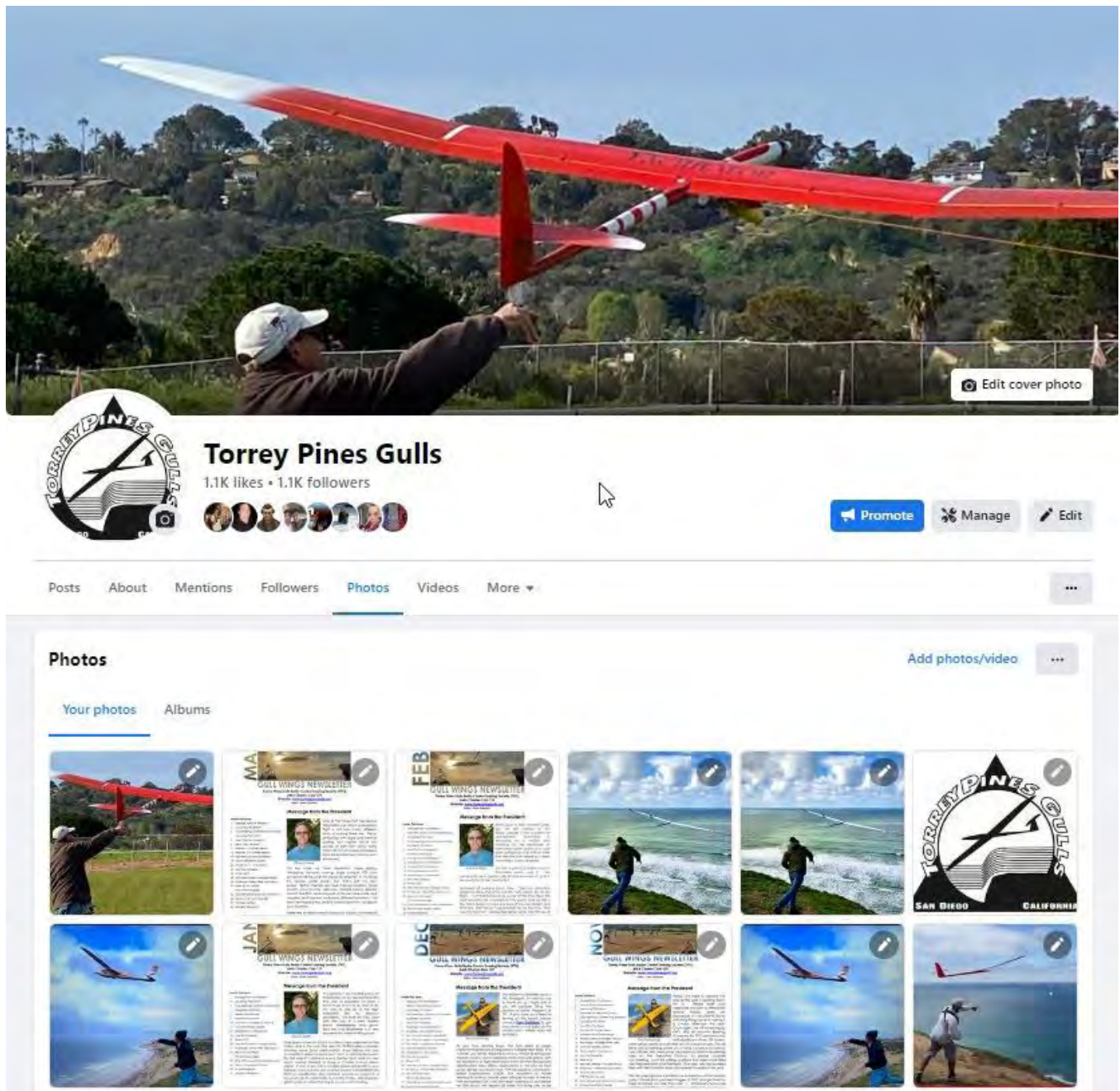
Unlike the old Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

## How We Connect (continued)

# 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/>



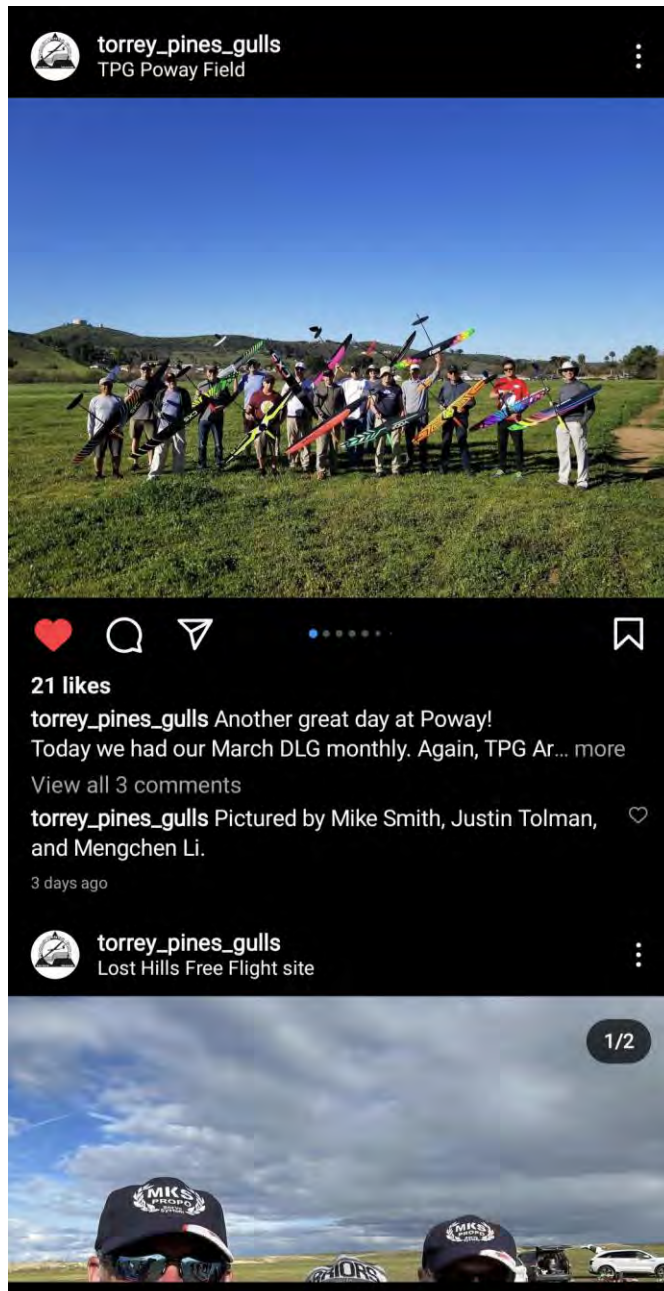


## How We Connect (continued)

# TPG is on

TPG's Media Coordinator, Mengchen Li, has created an Instagram account for the Torrey Pines Gulls. If you're already on Instagram, search for `torrey_pines_gulls` and click on follow. If you're not on Instagram, well, now's a great time to join!

Also, if you have any photos or videos of your RC soaring activities, contests, builds, fun flies, etc., send them along to Mengchen at [media@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org) and you might find your submittal on a TPG Instagram post.



## Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Chuck Norris	<a href="mailto:president@torreypinesgulls.org">president@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Vice-President	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:vp@torreypinesgulls.org">vp@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Past President	Ian Cummings	
Secretary	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:secretary@torreypinesgulls.org">secretary@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Treasurer	Don Lochhead	<a href="mailto:treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org">treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Communications Officer	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org">communications@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Thermal Coordinator	Tom Watson	<a href="mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org">thermal@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Slope Coordinator	Mark Baldacchino	<a href="mailto:slope@torreypinesgulls.org">slope@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
DLG Coordinator	Justin Tolman	<a href="mailto:dlg@torreypinesgulls.org">dlg@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Membership Chair	Cliff Hunter	<a href="mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org">membership@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
IHLGF Coordinator	Mike Smith	<a href="mailto:mike@themapsmith.com">mike@themapsmith.com</a>
LSF Coordinator	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:lsf@torreypinesgulls.org">lsf@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Webmaster	Steve Hurd	<a href="mailto:web@torreypinesgulls.org">web@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Media Coordinator	Mengchen Li	<a href="mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org">media@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Historian	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:historian@torreypinesgulls.org">historian@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Mark Baldacchino	<a href="mailto:soaringcouncil@torreypinesgulls.org">soaringcouncil@torreypinesgulls.org</a>

### Executive Officers



Chuck Norris



Gary Fogel



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



Tom Watson



Mark Baldacchino



Justin Tolman



Cliff Hunter

## 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 Photo of the Year 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](mailto:submit@torreypinesgulls.org). Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description. Note: December photo of the month winner(s) will be included in the following year's Photo of the Year competition.



December 2022 Co-Winner – Mike Lance & Thomas Moller flying Thomas's Mystique (Ian Cummings)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



December 2022 Co-Winner – Mark Canfield's Freestyler (Marty Dine photo)



December 2022 Co-Winner – Steve Condon launching his Vixen 2 at a TPG F5J contest (Bob Hirsch photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



February Winner – Ian Cummings launching his Cyril (Marty Dine photo)



March Winner – Arthur Markiewicz launching at the monthly TD contest at the Encinitas field (Cliff Hunter photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



F5JINLA contest in Perris, CA (Cliff Hunter photo)



Group launch at the F5JINLA contest in Perris, CA (Cliff Hunter photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



April Winner – Christoph Efstathiou launching Don Lochhead's Medina at the inaugural TPG F3L contest in Poway (Gary Fogel photo)



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](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org). Ads must be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Spektrum Power Stage, Battery & Smart Bundle

Smart Battery 5000 mAh 2s battery  
 Charger S150 Smart Charger  
 \$50 dollars or best offer

Cliff Hunter  
 760-703-4497 cell







AND WANTED

### Svenson Azizo

79" WS. Never flown.

2 channels. Painted fuse/film covered wing/silk dope(?) tail. Small puncture on wingtip and stabilizer. \$40

Brad

310-809-4176





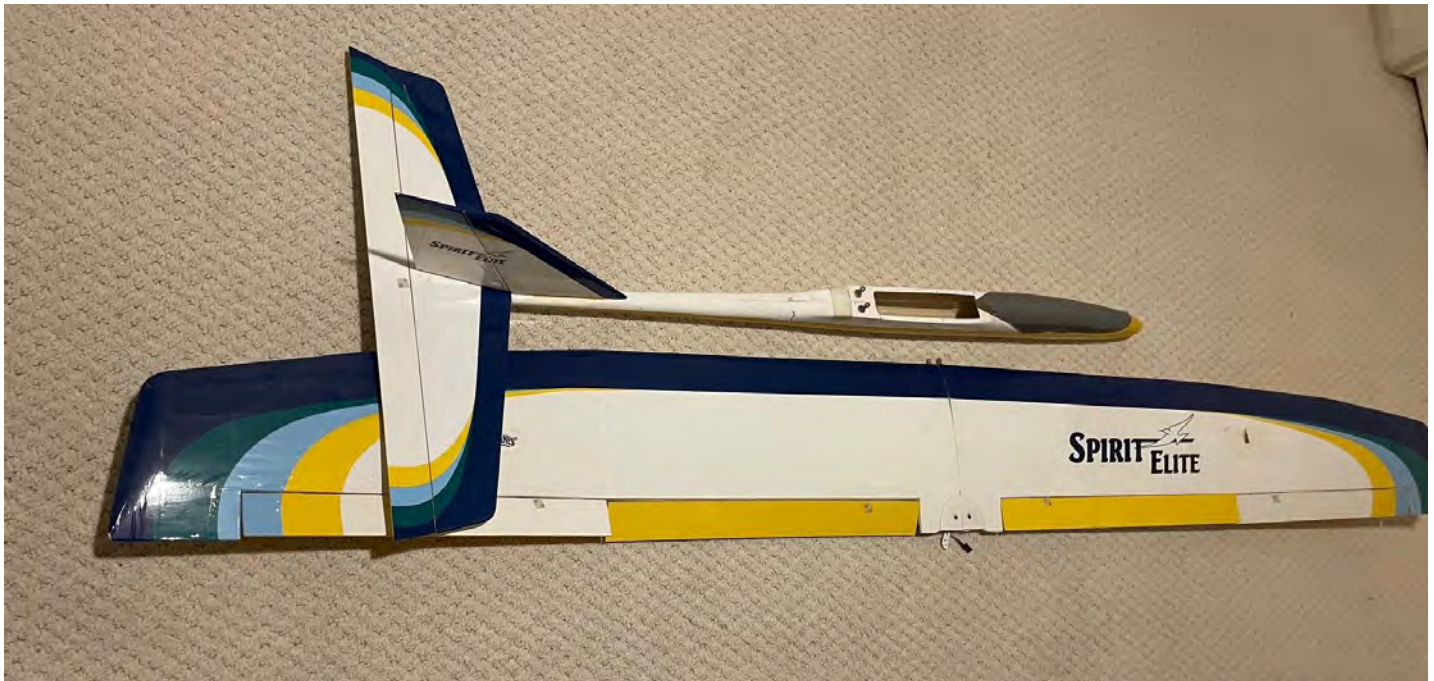
AND WANTED

### Great Planes Spirit Elite ARF

78.5" ws. **Personal airplane, great flier!**

4 channels, 6 servos included (flaps/crow); wingtip damage, top wing punctured.  
\$100

Brad  
310-809-4176





AND WANTED

### Soarcraft Kestrel 19

44" glass fuselage; 67" built-up wing panels. 1/8" wing rods.

2 channels. Needs TLC

\$60

Brad  
310-809-4176





## Quote of the Month:

*“I sometimes wonder if the manufacturers of foolproof items keep a fool or two on their payroll to test things.”*  
~ Alan Coren



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)