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JUN



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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Chuck Norris

This year, I took over as Chairman of the IHLGF planning committee. Mike Smith has had the role for many years, and he was ready to pass the torch on to someone new. I admit I was worried to be responsible for such a long-standing institution as the IHLGF - Mike has always made it all look easy, with things coming together seemingly effortlessly with no fuss; and I fretted right up until the pilots meeting that I had forgotten something important that would negatively impact the 2023 contest.

Mike has always made it clear that this is a group effort, and that he couldn't do it without the very experienced team supporting him; and I've always known he's right - the Gulls are an amazing organization with many dedicated members who just Get Things Done. But this year, I got to experience that myself, and boy was he right.

There are a lot of moving parts that have to go right to pull off an event like the IHLGF. From facilities, to scoring, to food, to outreach, to sponsors, and many more details. But with our excellent team, things just happened without a lot of fuss. I truly, truly appreciate it in a way Mike Smith has expressed before, but I only fully understand now.

(Continued next page)

Message from the President (continued)

I want to give a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who helped make 2023 a successful event!

The committee has already begun planning for 2024, sharing ideas about what worked well and how we might improve. This group has shown it has what it takes to continue the high standards for the IHLGF into the future; and although there are some new faces and maybe some new ideas, I am confident that the IHLGF is in excellent hands going forward.

Chuck Norris

IHLGF Chairman



L-R Co-CDs Gary Fogel and Mengchen Li and IHLGF Chairman, Chuck Norris (Bob Hirsch photo)

TPG June/July Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
June 3 rd	Katie Martin International Tribute	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required More information here: RC Groups
June 3 rd	F3L Contest	Encinitas Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
June 10 th	Landing Strip Contest – Get closest to the pin. Ribbons for 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
June 11 th	TD Contest	Encinitas Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
June 16 th	Tour of General Atomics with Scott McCurdy	See information below
June 17 th	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
June 27 th	Club Virtual Meeting	Zoom link: TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link
July 8 th	Aerobatics Day - TWF/PNF - Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
July 9 th	F5J Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
July 15 th	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
July 29 th	F5J Fun Fly	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault

**Torrey Pines Gulls – Tour of General Atomics
Poway Manufacturing Facilities -**

Friday - June 16th - 1:00-3:00 pm
14115 Stowe Dr. Poway 92064 (Not far from the Costco/Home Depot-Poway)

– See the MQ-9 Reaper, MQ-1C Gray Eagle, and new MQ-9B SkyGuardian

Please RSVP to Scott McCurdy by June 7th, 2023
at imaero2022@gmail.com

**GENERAL ATOMICS
AERONAUTICAL**

MQ-1C Gray Eagle

MQ-9B SkyGuardian

*US citizen
*valid form of photo ID - State DL/Passport required
* No children under 6

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 April 25th, when we enjoyed an excellent presentation by our own Tom Kiesling discussing the design and construction of his own F5J models and the upcoming F5J World Championships in Dupnitsa, Bulgaria. Thanks Tom! Our next meeting is June 27th.



Newsletter This Month - Dale Gottdank



Dale Gottdank

Please contribute to our **GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER**

Send pictures, or maybe even an article! It could be just a paragraph with some photos from a great soaring day ...even something interesting you've seen on the internet. I'd like to have the newsletter published by the first week of every month. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club!

June Issue highlights include:

- Tour of General Atomics – RSVP by June 7 (see page 3)
- TPG Members Honored at AIAA SD Section Awards Banquet
- IHLGF Wrap-Up
- Photo of the Month Contest

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>.

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

TPG Members Honored at AIAA SD Section Awards Banquet

On May 20, 2023, the local AIAA San Diego Section held its annual awards banquet at the Allen Airways Flying Museum at Gillespie Field. For those of you who might not be familiar with either, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) is the largest professional aerospace engineering society in the United States and our local San Diego Section (<https://www.aiaa-sd.org/>) is one of the larger regional divisions in the nation. AIAA has a lot of great programs and scholarships for students, and it's a great way to network within the community.

Two TPG members were honored at the event. Gary Fogel received an award for Outstanding Contribution to Aerospace Education for his efforts at San Diego State University to involve model airplanes with an introductory aerospace engineering course. Marty Dine received an award for his management of the San Diego Low Speed Wind Tunnel at San Diego Lindbergh Field, as that facility is now enjoying its 75th year of operation. TPG members David Hall and Tom Farley also attended the function.

If you haven't ever had a chance to check out the Allen Airways Flying Museum it's an amazing facility! (<http://www.allenairwaysflyingmuseum.com/>) Congratulations to all awardees!



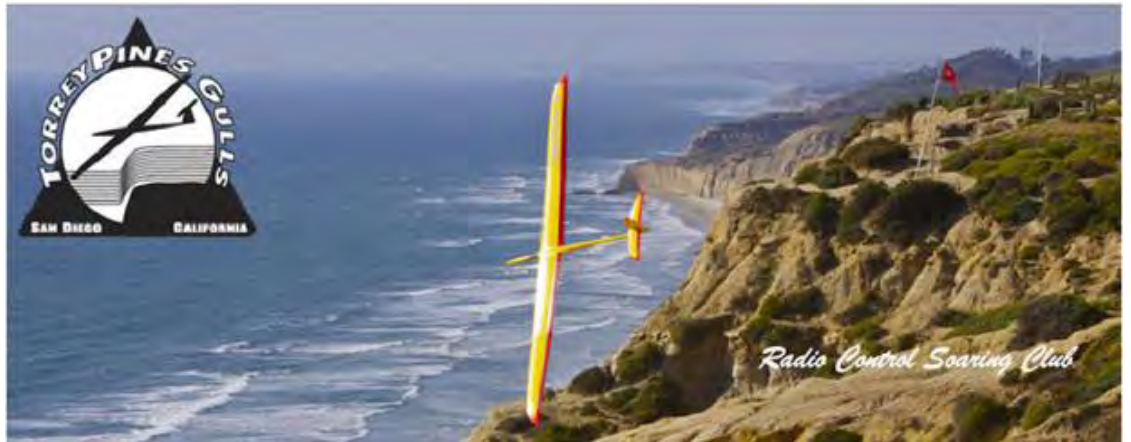
Marty Dine (center); Gary Fogel (right)

News from the Slope – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



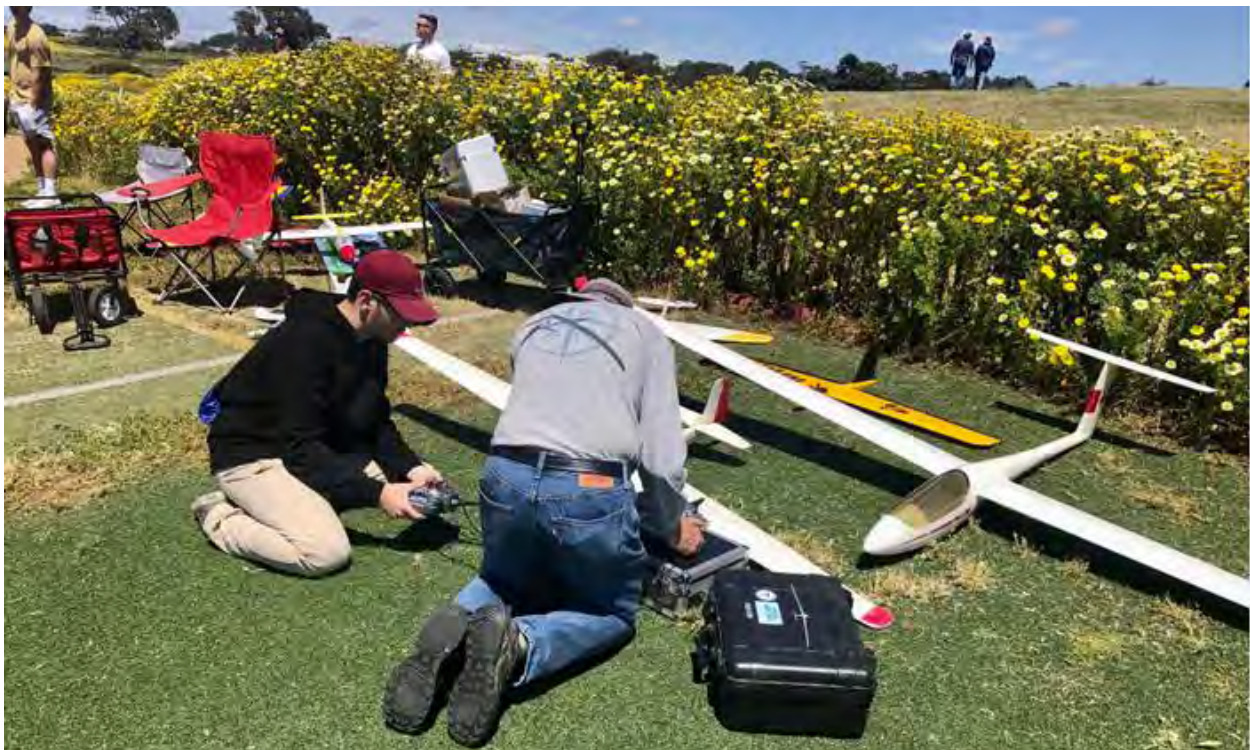
Mark Baldacchino

Happy June, TP Gulls!



And, happy summer in a few weeks! The long days of flying at the slope past dinner time are here!

We had a couple of Fun Fly events in May, just like we'll have two events this month. On May 6th, we had about 10 students from UCSD who are studying aerospace engineering, come out to try their hand at flying at the slope on a buddy box. The wind was steady from the west at 10-12 mph, and everyone got a chance to fly; a couple of them got to fly twice. Ian Cummings reported that a couple of students that he was training, actually were able to land on their own!



Ian Cummings teaches some ground school to a UCSD student. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Walt Quitt ground schooling three students (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Walt and a student heading to the cliff's edge for a launch (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Ian and student in the air on the buddy box (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Jim Burkett and Marty Zimmerman keeping a close eye on training (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Ian preparing to launch (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Ian training another student (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



TPG instructors and a few of the students who turned out to fly. A fun day! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

On May 13th, we had a Foamie Fun Fly, or as some call it – Foam Frenzy. I wasn't able to make it to this event, but from what I was told, there weren't many pilots who showed up. Maybe it was due to the low wind conditions and "May-Gray" skies.

Just around the corner, this Saturday, June 3rd, Bob Martin will be hosting the Katie Martin International Tribute. This is spectacular event that you really should come out to see! It'll be a lot like a car show with mostly vintage models, including many Hobie Hawks. It's usually very well attended, and I've seen well over a hundred planes out there before. Don't miss it.

Then, on the next Saturday, June 10th, we will use our landing strip for a bit of fun completion – a landing contest. We'll have ribbons for the first three, (3) places, and there is no entry fee – its free! Whoever lands closest to the pin, gets the blues ribbon. I've asked Bob Hirsch to host this event as I'm not able to see the measuring tape.

News from the Slope (continued)

TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2023

June 3 rd	11 th Annual Katie Martin International Tribute. A Bob Martin event for mostly Hobie Hawks: RCGroups
June 10 th	Landing Strip Contest – Get closest to the pin. Ribbons for 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd
July 8 th	Aerobatics Day – TWF/PWF...Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime
August 12 th	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A Day to Fly + Swap Meet. Clean out your garage and make room for more birds.
September 9 th	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies Again! – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up wood
October 21 st	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 25 th	No Shopping Saturday – A couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of the house

See you all out at the Gliderport, and Blue Skies!

Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino

IHLGF Wrap-up – Mengchen Li and Gary Fogel, Co-CDs

It is always difficult to recap two days of fun and friendship into an article for a newsletter, just as it is always a lot of effort for a large team to pull together the IHLGF in the first place. Planning for this year's IHLGF began in late 2022 and really started in earnest in early 2023. A decision was made early on to "pass the reigns" from Mike Smith as chairman, and Mike Seid as contest director to Chuck Norris and Mengchen Li respectively. This decision wasn't without a great deal of thought; but with the continuity of the event in mind and making sure that younger members such as Mengchen are being positioned for leadership roles.

TPG does an amazing job of rallying together to put on an event of this size. Each year it seems that people know what to do and get jobs done just because they can. This year's organizing committee consisted of Mengchen Li as Contest Director; Gary Fogel as co-Contest Director; Chuck Norris as Chairman; Justin Tolman and Gary Fogel working hard on outreach and getting signups; Mengchen Li for Social Media; Chuck Norris and Tim Traver for scoring via F3X Vault; Adrian Dybwad as our CTO tech guru; Don Lochhead as Treasurer; John McNeil, Aubrey McNeil and Mike Smith with food and catering plans; Chuck Norris, Sean Porter, and Mike Smith with sanitation planning; Mike Seid with logo and trophy design; Cliff and Sandy Hunter with field maintenance; and Bob Hirsch and Gary Fogel as photographers. For the first time, we also tried an experiment with line judges to ensure that pilots took the no-fly zone seriously. Bob Hirsch volunteered his time along with others for this task. A contest jury of Mike Smith, Justin Tolman, and Lex Mierop was convened before the event just in case there were any protests.

Pilots representing the US, Canada, China, Germany, Philippines and South Africa took part in what was the 28th IHLGF, but in its 30th year. We definitely missed our friends from other nations who were unable to make it, but we hope they will be with us in 2024. As usual, the IHLGF started with an informal gathering of competitors at Phil's BBQ on Thursday, April 27 to catch up with friends. Many competitors had already arrived and were practicing at the field until late on Thursday, so the fun at Phil's started a little later than normal; but everyone had a good time. Friday, April 28 was dedicated to prepping the field for the contest and getting registrants signed in while people practiced. The field actually never looked better for an IHLGF. Given all of the rain, Cliff and Sandy mowed the field not once, not twice, but three times prior to the event, and the field had the feeling of a putting green. It was very nice!! A taco fiesta on Friday night ended that day's festivities. We keep hearing good things about the quality of the tacos.



TPG's Poway Field ready for the IHLGF (Justin Tolman photo)

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)

The contest itself started on Saturday April 29 and ended in the afternoon of Sunday April 30, with 12 rounds of flying in the preliminary rounds and another 4 rounds in the flyoffs. Another first at this event was the use of Pandora for timing in addition to regular timers. While other contests have used them, we believe this hasn't been done before at IHLGF. A "not so silent auction" was held at the end of the preliminary rounds and before the flyoffs to help raise money for the USA F3K team. We were very fortunate not only to have wonderful sponsors helping us with this goal, but to have two members of the USA F3K team with us at IHLGF including Joseph Dougherty and our own Mengchen Li. Through the process, TPG was able to donate \$2500 to help the USA F3K team to success later this year in Romania! TPG once again is leading the way with donations to keep F3K going strong. Again, we thank our sponsors and everyone who bid on items during the auction.

The contest rounds were announced in advance of the contest as:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <i>K - Big Ladder</i>
1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00 | <u><i>Last 4 Tasks Top 12 pilots progress to flyoffs</i></u> |
| 2. <i>G - Best 5 x 2:00</i>
Best 5 flights, 2:00 max, 10:00 window | <i>M – Huge Ladder</i>
3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 15:00 window |
| 3. <i>C - All up 3 x 3:00</i>
All up, 3 flights, 3:00 max | <i>A - Last 5:00 in 7:00</i>
Last flight, 5:00 max, 7:00 window |
| 4. <i>I - Best 3 x 200s</i>
Best 3 flights, 200s (3:20) max, 10:00 window | <i>L – One Flight</i>
One flight only, 9:59 max, 10:00 window |
| 5. <i>A - Last 5:00 in 7:00</i>
Last flight, 5:00 max, 7:00 window | <i>C - All up 5 x 3:00</i>
All up, 5 flights, 3:00 max |
| 6. <i>J - Last 3 x 3:00</i>
Last 3 flights, 3:00 max, 10:00 window | |
| 7. <i>H - 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00</i>
Best 4 flights, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00 max in any order, 10:00 window | |
| 8. <i>E - Poker</i>
Poker, 3 self-nominated targets, 10:00 window | |
| 9. <i>F – 3 out of 6 x 3:00</i>
Best 3 flights out of 6, 3:00 max, 10:00 window | |
| 10. <i>D – Two Flights x 5:00</i>
2 flights only, 5:00 max, 10:00 window | |
| 11. <i>E - Poker</i>
Poker, 3 self-nominated targets, 10:00 window | |
| 12. <i>B - Last 2 x 3:00</i>
Last 2 flights, 4:00 max, 7:00 window | |

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)

Given the first day was planned to have the first 8 rounds, we snuck poker in again on Sunday morning in round 11. The flyoff tasks were, well, appropriately challenging and intended to be that way. But two things are always certain at Poway: 1) it doesn't matter what task you fly when; it could be easy or hard, it's all up to Poway, 2) even if tasks are overly difficult, people still have fun trying, and that's one of the points of F3K – mutual suffering! F3X Vault link:

https://www.f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2696



IHLGF Pilots (Bob Hirsch photo)

The real fight begins:

Round 1-Big Ladder: This task was regarded as a warm-up task in the morning. The challenging part was probably the last flight of 3 minutes. In Heat 1, Rollo had an unfortunate midair and landed out, which was not a good start for him, and his score in this round became his drop for the contest. Most people in that heat were struggling making their 3-minute flight. Only Mengchen Li and Mike Seid managed to make all the time, and Mengchen got the K with less time burned for quick turn. In Heat 2, the conditions improved, and all the pilots in this heat had a total time longer than 9:28 out of 10:00, and Brent Lytle won the heat. In Heat 3, Poway felt it had treated the pilots too well in the last heat. Only 5 pilots got all 5 flight times, and Markus from Germany took the K. In Heat 4, all the pilots got their last 3-minute flight, but there were 2 land-outs. Joseph Dougherty won this heat with only 4.2 seconds dropped. He's prepared for the World Championships. In Heat 5, the scores were even closer. 8 pilots had an accumulated time longer than 9:40. Gary Fogel took the K and Kevin Jantz missed it by 0.2 seconds.

Round 2-Best 5 x 2:00: This was another warm-up task for the morning, when thermals were not quite active. 4 people dropped less than 20 seconds in Heat 1. Ron Rossetti dominated this heat. In Heat 2, 6 dropped less than 20 seconds, and the fastest quick turn belonged to John Graham. Adrian won in Heat 3; Joseph Dougherty won in Heat 4 and Markus won in Heat 5. Up to this point, Joseph and Markus had 2 perfect rounds and led the pack.

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)

Round 3-All Up Last Down: This task was originally slated for the first round at 8:30am, because the dumb CD wanted to create some score separations. However, eventually this idea was abandoned, as we still want everyone to return next year. But Heat 1 was already difficult. Only John Graham got three 3-minute flights and took the K in this heat. Second place in heat 1 earned <800 points. In Heat 2, Justin Tolman and Walther from Germany got the K with 9 minutes flight time in total. Justin made a good representation of local pilots. In Heat 3, we had pretty good thermals and 5 people got all 9 minutes. The thermal cycle was short. For Heat 4 and Heat 5, only 2 and 3 pilots made their time respectively. Markus in Heat 5 landed out in his 3rd flight, so only Joseph Dougherty's perfect score was still intact.

Round 4-Best 3 x 3:20: In the first two heats, the thermals were very active, and this just became a quick turn task for some pilots. Joseph Dougherty got the K in Heat 1, and Ron Rossetti got the K in Heat 2, but 6 people in Heat 2 dropped less than 10 seconds. This was Joe's 4th K and Ron's 2nd K. Good air and bad air came alternatively. In Heat 3 and Heat 4, no one could make their time. The best score (Adrian) for Heat 3 was barely over 8 minutes, and the best score (Joe Nave) for Heat 4 still dropped 30 seconds. The air turned better again in Heat 5. 4 people dropped less than 20 seconds, and Jon Finch won this heat.

Round 5-Last 5 in 7 min: Starting at this round, a strong wind picked up, bringing with it additional challenges. It was a typical Poway afternoon. However, since the thermal life cycle was surprisingly long in this round, it was still possible to spot a thermal where others were and go. More than half of the pilots (26) made 5 minutes.



Launch during contest (Dale Osborn photo)

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)

Round 6-Last 3 x 3:00: Thermals were getting progressively weaker through this round. 3 people had their 9-minute flight time in Heat 1; 2 people in Heat 2; 1 pilot in Heat 3 and 4; the longest accumulated time in Heat 5 was less than 8 minutes. Yet, Joseph Dougherty once again achieved a perfect score for 6000 points in the first 6 rounds.

Round 7-1,2,3,4: The tough conditions continued in Round 7. Any mistake, either in strategy or flight, might cost you the round. Rollo won the first heat, but he dropped more than a minute. Mike Smith in Heat 2 made all 4 flights with very good strategy and skills. In Heat 3, with better conditions, 7 pilots dropped less than 15 seconds. Followed by another tough cycle in Heat 4, no one made their time, and Markus won the heat with a 30-second drop. Walther was the only pilot who made his time in Heat 5 and got the K.

Round 8-Poker: This was the last round of Day 1. When we started flying this round, it was already 5:00pm. Thermals were scattered and weak, while the wind was still strong. Poker in the late afternoon is tricky. Top pilots might get punished for aggressive calls in such conditions, and pilots who are conservative could also get the K for their good strategies. Joseph Dougherty made a 1:30 call and a 3:00 call, and then waited on the ground for 2 minutes until he spotted a thermal. He won in this heat with 7:32.3 total time. Walther hooked a thermal in his 3rd flight with a window call. He was very high until he encountered a huge Poway sink on his way back. He tried, but he missed his time by 20 seconds and landed out.

In heat 2, Mengchen Li's first two calls were conservative, 1:30 and 2:30. He then copied Joseph Dougherty and waited on the ground for a while to spot a thermal. Someone was circling and Mengchen thought it was a good thermal. He said "window" to his timer Joe, but Joe didn't hear it clearly. When Mengchen was about to rotate, Joe asked him what the call was. At the time Mengchen continued rotating and yelled "Window" as he launched his glider, loud enough for the entire field to hear the window call (maybe even some folks in Ramona)! However, Mengchen couldn't locate the thermal he had spotted. Maybe it just dissipated, and Mengchen's pink Bamf2 was just about a tree high upwind. He hooked a weak thermal and followed it far downwind. There was still 1 minute left in the window. Now the issue became how to bring it back and still make the time. Mengchen made a mistake in a turn and his glider dropped a lot. Pilots off the field thought it was over, short of time and land-out. However, Mengchen hit a HUGE bump 10 feet above the ground on the way back, and lifted his glider for 5 more feet. A "Wow!" came from pilots off the field. Of course, everyone was watching it, but it still seemed impossible to make the field and the time. 5 seconds later, when the pink Bamf2 was 10 feet above the ground again, it hit another HUGE bump and gained another 5 feet. "Wow!" again, and now it was close to making the field with that glider angle, but the time was probably still short. Finally, when that Bamf2 was about 8 feet above the ground, the third HUGE bump appeared and boosted it for another 5 feet. Mengchen finally made the field and the plane touched down 0.5 seconds with a total time of 7:57.5 after people heard the buzzer. Mengchen yelled "Nice!" just as loud as his "Window!". After Mengchen landed, Lawrence Doan told him: "I thought you were a dead man at least three times". I would say this was the most epic flight of the day.

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)



Mengchen launching (Bob Hirsch photo)

In Heat 3, Rollo got the K with a total time of 7:50; John Butler got the K in Heat 4 with a total time of 7:32.4; Kevin Jantz got the K in Heat 5 with a total time of 6:00. After 8 rounds, Mengchen Li was leading the scoreboard with 7902 points, followed by Joseph Dougherty and Gary Fogel, since no drop was in effect before Round 12, per FAI rules.

On Sunday morning the field was covered by mist. The visibility was not good, and the CD asked if anyone wanted to start the contest later when the visibility turned better. Interestingly, Lex said he just had a 6-min flight, so it should be fine, and everyone then agreed to start the contest right away. We also had good news. Paul Reese had a lockout on day 1, and lost his brand new CX5. Luckily, the plane was found by a kind local resident who brought it to the field. The CX5 was still intact! That was the best recovery of the contest.

Round 9-3 out of 6: This round was challenging in the early morning. Three 3-minute flights are not easy without the help of thermals. However, the mist brought light thermals. The air was buoyant, and gliders would not lose much height while cruising. This was more like Seattle's air as Joseph Dougherty said. 20 people maximized their time in this round.

Round 10-Two Flights: The thermals kept developing. Although the sun was still hidden, light thermals were everywhere. It was not hard to make a 5-minute flight with this air. 33 pilots had at least one 5-minute flight, and 15 pilots got both. Mike Smith, Joseph Dougherty, Rollo Sommer, Paul Reese, and Gary Fogel got the K in their heats.

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)

Round 11-Poker again: The sun finally showed up and it was the sign of more thermals. This Poker was easier than Saturday's and conditions were well suited for "all in" calls. 13 pilots made the window call and got their time. 8 more pilots made 2 or 3 calls and still got a total time longer than 9:50. Based on the feedback after the contest, some people were not Poker-haters anymore after this round.

Round 12-Last Two: To save time for the flyoffs, a simplified task B was used in this round. 33 pilots made the total 6 minutes or just missed by less than 1 second for rotation time. In Heat 2, everyone who showed up made the time. That was a 1000-even heat. We were glad to wrap up the prelim rounds with these good results. Now, the pilots were ready for flyoffs.

After 12 preliminary rounds, 12 pilots made the flyoffs. They were Joseph Dougherty, Rollo Sommer, Gary Fogel, Walther Bednarz, Mengchen Li, Markus Kellerer, Jon Finch, Charlie Morris, Mike Smith, Matt Nelson, Rick Jay, and Lawrence Doan.

The flyoff rounds:

Flyoff round 1-Huge Ladder: No doubt, the strong wind was coming again. That was another typical Poway afternoon. 5 pilots got their first 3-minute flight, but the second flight of 5 minutes was tough. A lot of pilots ended up with only 1 or 2 minutes for the second flight. Only Gary Fogel and Charlie Morris got their 5. Interestingly, they both did not make their first 3-min flight. 6 pilots got their 7. Markus won this round with a total time of 12:31.6.

Flyoff round 2-Last 5 in 7. This task now was more of a gamble. The thermal cycle was so fast, that if you waited for just a few seconds, the air could be totally different. Joseph Dougherty, Gary Fogel, and Mike Smith were the only three pilots making the 5 minutes, and this round created a large score separation.

Flyoff round 3-Single Flight: Everyone knew this task could be the most decisive one, but still, we all underestimated it. Most pilots launched at the buzzer. Only 3 or 4 pilots decided to hold a little bit. The planes upwind were noticeably knocked down by the sink and about to land after just a minute. Pilots still on the ground felt lucky not to have launched upwind; and they spotted a thermal downwind. A CX5 with ChaServo paint was circling in it, so they all launched there and followed that thermal far downwind. Everything was fine at first, but drastically turned bad after a few minutes. When the pilots realized that, it was too late. Massive sink covered the whole field; strong sink between the pilots and their gliders downwind. Some pilots tried to bail out with full speed right after they noticed the sink but it was in vain. The gliders coming back from the center line of the field all landed more than 150 feet away. The tree line did not work either. Gliders trying to use the tree line all ended up on the trail and even further. Joseph Dougherty was coming back along the boundary of the no-fly zone, and it looked like the best path at the time. He flew his CX5 at a reasonable speed, but the glide angle seemed too low. He hit a thermal on his way back and worked it. The CX5 gained more altitude and the glide angle looked much better. In his last turn he fell out of the thermal and was in trouble again. Unless he hit more lift on the way home, it would be almost impossible to make the field. Joe tried his best, and he was so close. Finally, he missed the field by 5 feet, and his flight time was about 8 minutes.

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)

After Joe landed out, pilots on the field started asking each other if ANYONE landed in! Finch said he made a 1:10 upwind, and then people heard 1:20, 1:27, and 1:43. That was all. A staggeringly low 1:43 was enough to get a K in this flyoff round, and only later did we realize that a simple 1:10 flight in this round was enough to generate an IHLGF champion.

Flyoff round 4-All Up Last Down x 5: This task is a spectator-friendly task. After two days of contest, it is a good idea to sit in the shade and watch the flyoff pilots launching their gliders at the same time. This task also tested the stamina of all the flyoff pilots, especially since they had flown 15 rounds. Only the true warrior who went through this last stand would finally win the contest. In this round, Rollo Sommer was the only pilot making all five 3 minutes. Markus, Mengchen, Gary, Jon Finch, and Joseph Dougherty made 4 of them. The flyoff ended with everyone's applause.

This is not the end of story:

Before the results were announced. TPG awarded Mike Smith and Mike Seid a special trophy to recognize their huge contributions to the IHLGF over 15 years. They have been indispensable for this long-lasting international DLG contest in the past, present, and we hope, also in the future.

After Tim and Chuck's effort with the F3XVault, the results were announced. Joe Nave, all the way from Hawaii, won the Sportsman Class. He also brought a few nice glider CG scales as sponsor items, and they sold quickly. The new TPG member from Arizona, Edward LaCroix, got 3rd place in the Eagle Class. The contest director of RMSA events in Colorado, John Jonke, took 2nd place in the Eagle Class. The contest director of Cascadia in Washington, Rick Jay, won the Eagle Class.

In the Open Class, Charlie Morris, with a serious shoulder injury, made 12th place. We appreciated his passion and contribution to the DLG community and the USA F3K Team. Rick Jay took 11th place earning his second trophy. He and the Washington crews are now calling him TTR (Two Trophy Rick). Lawrence Doan, a TPG alumnus now in Washington, made the flyoffs of the International for the first time and got 10th place. Markus Kellerer made the long trip from Germany again this year and got 9th place. He said he achieved his goal this time (to make the flyoffs). Our previous IHLGF Chairman, Mike Smith, took 8th place. Last year's Champion, Walther Bednarz, took 7th place. The young contest director of the IHLGF this year, Mengchen Li, took 6th place. The TPG Poway field has witnessed his growth and progress. The contest director of El Dorado Cookie Toss, Matt Nelson, took 5th place with a remarkable K of the flyoff round 3, Single Flight. Rollo Sommer, the son of Master Rolland Sommer Sr., got 4th place. CD Mengchen was rather impressed by the picture of Rollo and his father on the wing of one of Rollo's CX5s, bowing to that picture in respect when he saw the CX5 on the table. The co-CD this year, Gary Fogel, took 3rd place. He was the winner of the TPG DLG Monthly Contest Series last year, and represented TPG well. This year's F3K U.S. Team member, Joseph Dougherty, took 2nd place. We wish him the best luck in Romania! Jon Finch from Utah won this year's IHLGF. We always like the story of hero's comeback!

We hope to see everyone again in 2024 for the next International Hand Launch Glider Festival!

IHLGF Wrap-up (continued)



The winners (Bob Hirsch photo)



First Place trophy (Bob Hirsch photo)

Many more photos and commentary are available on the IHLGF RC Groups thread:

[IHLGF 2023: April 29-April 30 2023](#)

IHLGF Wrap-Up – Thank you to our IHLGF 2023 Sponsors!



May F5J Contest Report – Cliff Hunter, CD

The May 21, 2023 F5J contest was canceled due to conflicting events and a lack of participant signups.

Cliff Hunter, CD

May DLG Contest Report – Justin Tolman, CD

Thanks everyone for coming out for the May edition of our series. “May Gray” was in full effect, but the dynamic weather made for a very fun contest.

Round 1 (Task B, Last 2x4) started under gray overcast skies but big pillowy lift was already abundant – 6 out of 8 pilots were able to max out the round with 8-minute flight times. The air would quickly start to become much more dynamic for Round 2 (Classic Ladder). In Group B, all 4 pilots missed their first attempt at their 1:15 flight! Overall, scores remained very tight as 9 pilots recorded Ks for the round. By Round 3 (Last 3, 3:00 max) the low-level cloud cover had cleared completely. Only 3 pilots were able to max all 3 flights at 3 minutes: Scott McCurdy, Charles Martin & Mengchen Li.

At the start of Round 4 (Poker), Group A was greeted with a massive thermal approaching the west end of the field, clearly illustrated by the dozen or so local birds circling. ‘All In’ was the call for 3 of the 4 Group A pilots: Ed LaCroix, Ken Jantz & Cliff Hunter. Ed & Charles knocked it out of the park. In Group B, Charles Martin also went ‘All In’ and got it done. By Round 5 (Three Longest), “Down Wind Poway” had spun up with thermals running down wind quickly. Ed LaCroix & Kevin Jantz took the Ks for the round.

Round 6 (Huge Ladder) was full of chaos. In Group A, all 4 pilots struggled mightily in rough conditions. For their 3:00 attempt, all 4 pilots flew for less than 1:30. Spotting a local bird in a thermal and hoping to recreate the Poker ‘All In’ success, some pilots went to seek out that lift for their 5:00 attempt but everyone missed – all 4 pilots were up for less than 1:00. There was now plenty of spare working time left for the 7:00 attempt. Yours truly was able to K the Group with a 5:23. Group B tackled similar tricky conditions. Kevin Jantz and Charles Martin both maxed their 3:00 attempt, but landed out in the 5:00! Kevin was able to redeem himself with a stellar 6:22 in his 7:00 attempt to K the Group.



Contest pilots (RC Groups photo)

May DLG Contest Report (continued)



Congrats to our top-3 pilots: 1st Mengchen Li (center), 2nd Kevin Jantz (right) and 3rd Ed LaCroix (left)

Here are the full results:

Rounds (1-6)

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect)					
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	9 Mengchen Li 🇨🇳	5790.8		1000	1000	1000	962.8	911.1	916.9
2	6 Kevin Jantz 🇺🇸	5766.5	-24.3	1000	1000	766.5	1000	1000	1000
3	3 Edward LaCroix 🇺🇸	5502.0	-264.5	1000	1000	877.9	1000	1000	624.1
4	5 Charles Martin 🇺🇸	5333.7	-168.3	910.6	1000	1000	1000	983.5	439.6
5	11 Ron Rossetti 🇺🇸	5144.2	-189.5	1000	1000	839.1	601.0	829.8	874.3
6	1 Justin Tolman 🇺🇸	5010.7	-133.5	1000	1000	876.0	200.3	934.4	1000
7	10 Scott McCurdy 🇺🇸	4486.1	-524.6	1000	1000	1000	400.7	694.3	391.1
8	8 Clifford Hunter 🇺🇸	2914.9	-1571.2	653.8	571.4	697.8	0.0	630.7	361.2

Up next is a DLG practice day in Poway on Saturday June 10th.

Our next monthly contest will be Saturday June 17th (Father's Day Weekend). Sign up here: https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2619

Until next time,
Justin

Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

For the 2023 calendar year, the club membership is 117.

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 May 18, 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 5/18/2023
New and Renewed Members	2	117
Google Group as of 5/18/2023	162	

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 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 1st through December 31st. Renewals begin November 1st 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
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

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

How We Compete (continued)

F3L/F3-RES 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 Aeromodelling under Volume F3 Soaring.

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 3rd, August 26th and November 4th. 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

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 hangar 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 two remaining events scheduled: 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=2603

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 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.

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. 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!

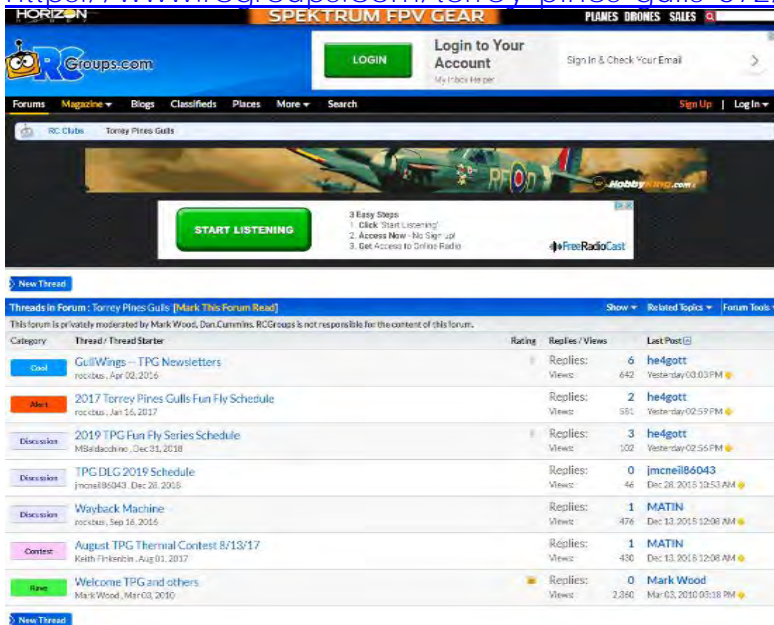
How We Connect (continued)

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 roccdas, Apr 02, 2016		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccdas, Jan 16, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 591	he4gott Yesterday 02:59 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule HSEabachne, 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 roccdas, 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
Alert	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.

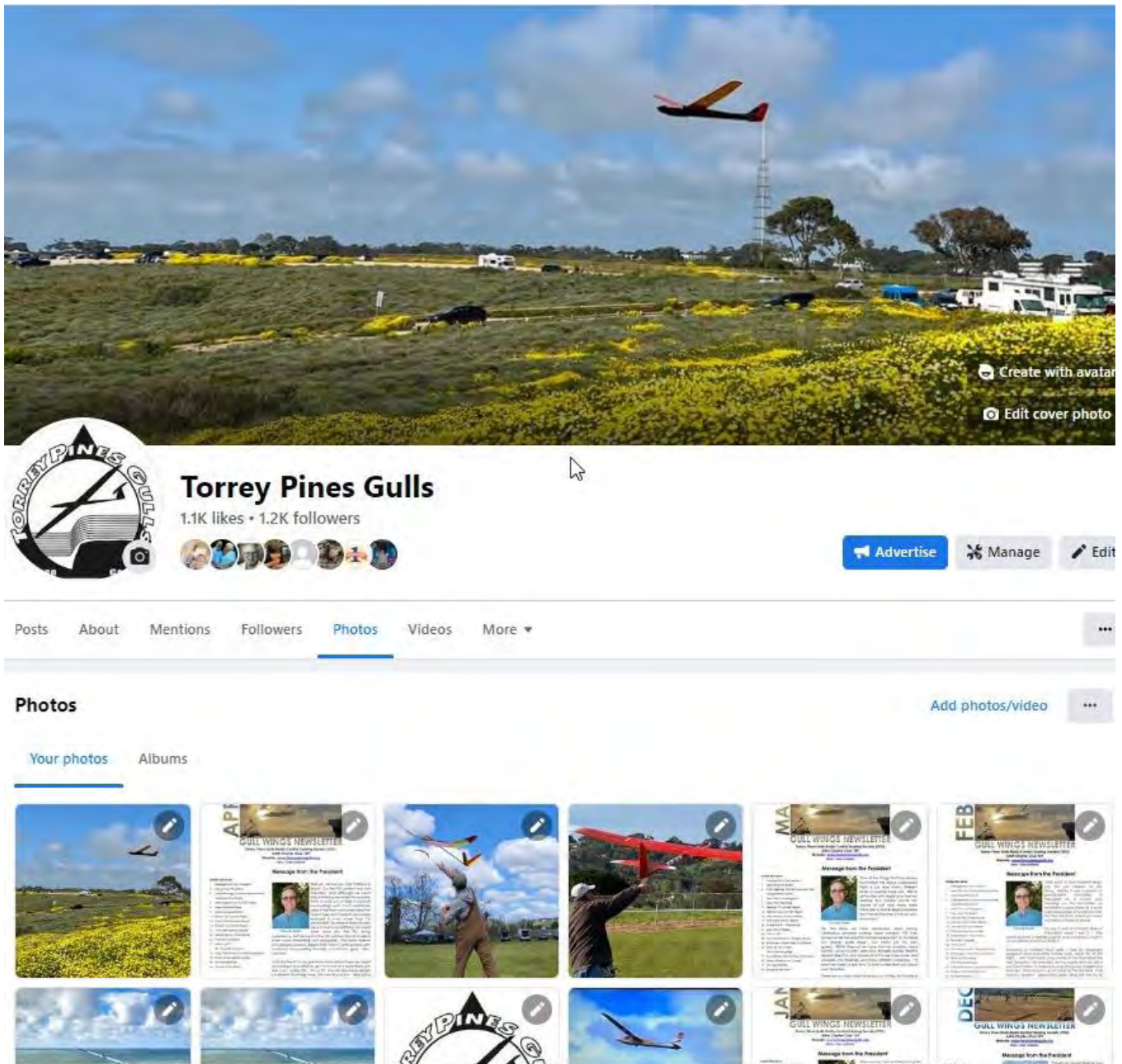
Unlike the old Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

How We Connect (continued)

Check out the TPG 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/>

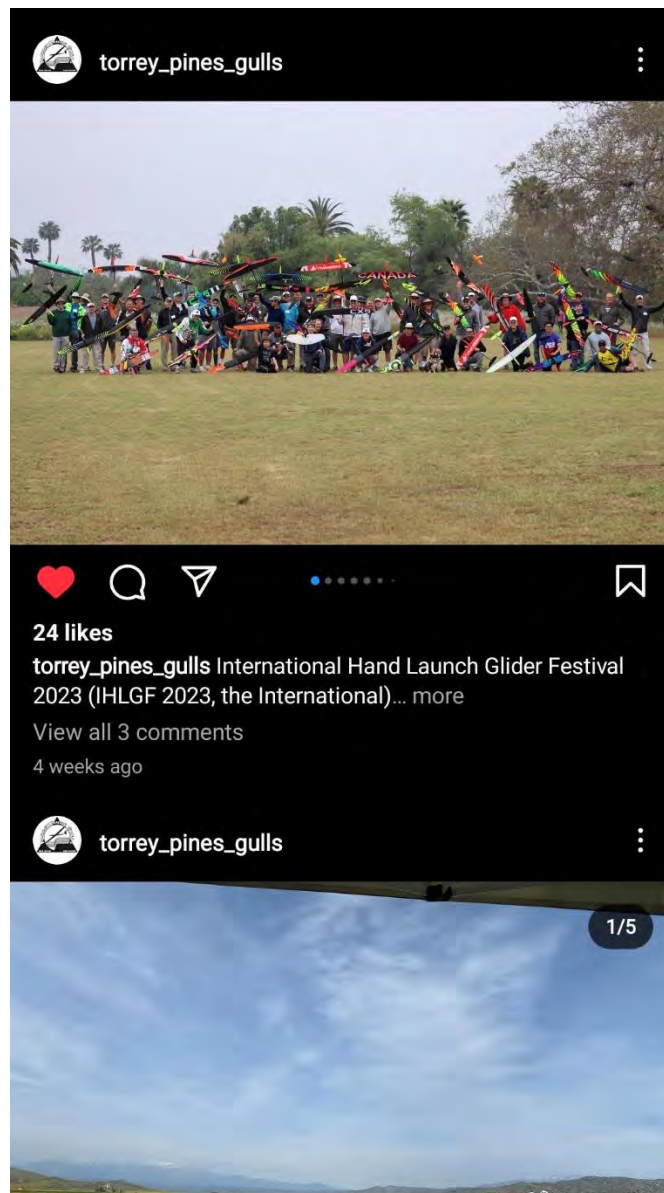


How We Connect (continued)

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 and you might find your submittal on a TPG Instagram post.



Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Chuck Norris	president@torreypinesgulls.org
Vice-President	Gary Fogel	vp@torreypinesgulls.org
Past President	Ian Cummings	
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	Justin Tolman	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
Media Coordinator	Mengchen Li	media@torreypinesgulls.org
Historian	Gary Fogel	historian@torreypinesgulls.org
TP Soaring Council (TPG)	Mark Baldacchino	soaringcouncil@torreypinesgulls.org

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. 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)



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



May Winner – Craig Hanson's Windfree flying over the amazing wildflowers at Torrey (Bob Hirsch photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Mary and Joe Chovan's 1/12 scale Super Constellation over Cajon Pass (Greg Houck photo)



Launch at Cajon Pass (Greg Houck photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Flowers around the pit area at Torrey (Bob Hirsch photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Mengchen Li launching at the IHLGF (Bob Hirsch photo)



June Winner – Group launch at the IHLGF (Dale Osborn 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. 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.

Spektrum PowerStage, Battery & Smart Bundle

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

Cliff Hunter
 760-703-4497 cell





Quote of the Month:

“A fool and his money are soon flying more aircraft than he can handle.”

~ Anon.



Torrey Sunset (Marty Dine photo)