

2023
JULY
AUGUST



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

Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 3 Upcoming TPG Events
- 4 Club Meetings, Contests and Activities
Newsletter This Month
- 5 **Lost DLG Sold by Finder – Be on the
Lookout**
- 6 Help Support Our USA F5J Team!
- 7 News from the Slope
- 14 Thank you to our IHLGF 2023 Sponsors!
- 15 June TD Contest Report
- 16 June DLG Contest Report
- 18 June F3L Contest Report
- 21 TPG History – Modeler of the Year
- 23 Club Membership Update
- 25 Where We Fly – Panoramas
- 26 How We Compete
- 29 What is LSF?
- 32 How We Connect
- 36 Club Officers and Contact Information
- 37 Photo of the Month Contest
- 43 For Sale/Wanted
- 44 Quote of the Month



Chuck Norris

As we move into summer, remember back to those pilots who helped you get started in our hobby; the ones who first let you fly their plane, then helped you pick a plane (maybe GAVE you a plane); helped get your plane checked out and adjusted and balanced so it could fly; and then helped you learn how to fly it (and repair it). I invite YOU to be that person for a new generation. Interest in our hobby is shrinking in many parts of the country, and it's critically important that we help the next generation of pilots feel the excitement of their first launch and catching their first thermal or slope lift. We are working on several opportunities that will give you that opportunity to give back to our sport in meaningful ways, and help introduce a new generation of pilots to soaring.

But for these programs to be successful, we need YOU.

It's time to test out your buddy boxes, think about passing along some of your more "sedate-flying" planes to a new pilot; and remember how it felt as you were first learning. Teaching a new pilot is something I've been doing a fair amount over the past few years, and that ability to remember what it was like for you and how your mentors helped you get to that "Aha!" moment when you felt like you could fly confidently, is the best way to begin teaching a new pilot.

(Continued next page)

Message from the President (continued)

See things from their perspective. Remember when it was hard to keep the fuselage parallel to the ground; how you learned the importance of making a smooth, efficient turn; how your knees wobbled the first time you launched from the edge at Torrey, and learned how to fly safely among paragliders. Remember when you were first learning how to set up for a landing and that feeling when you first greased it onto the grass at Torrey, or Poway, or Dave's Beach.

You'll be hearing in the newsletter and on the TPG Google Group when we have more details to share about what we're planning; or if you have ideas about how to introduce new pilots to RC soaring, please start talking about them.

Share the addiction.

Chuck



Larry Jolly launching a 1948 vintage design Hot-Shot at the June Katie Martin International Tribute at Torrey (Bob Hirsch photo)

TPG July/August Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
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
August 12 th	Fly 'n Swap	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
August 19 th	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on F3X Vault
August 22 nd	Club Virtual Meeting	Zoom link: TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link
August 26 th	F3L Contest	Encinitas Flight Center Register on F3X Vault



Launching Ted Torpin's 5-meter Slingsby T13 Petrel at the June Katie Martin International Tribute (Dale Osborn photo)

Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

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

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

Our next meeting is August 22nd.



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!

July/August Issue highlights include:

- 2011 Co-Modeler of the Year Mark Canfield by Gary Fogel
- Help Support the USA F5J Team!
- 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>.

LOST DLG SOLD BY FINDER – BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

Hi everyone,

I lost a BAMF2 in a flyaway a few months back, and it turned up on a for-sale on OfferUp for \$300. By the time I found out and got in touch with the seller, he had already sold it.

So if you happen to hear of a BAMF2 that someone got really cheap with a yellow nose-cone, it's likely mine.

I'll happily pay the buyer what they paid for it. And if they're a decent sort, I'll help them get started with DLGs. Photos below

Chuck Norris



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



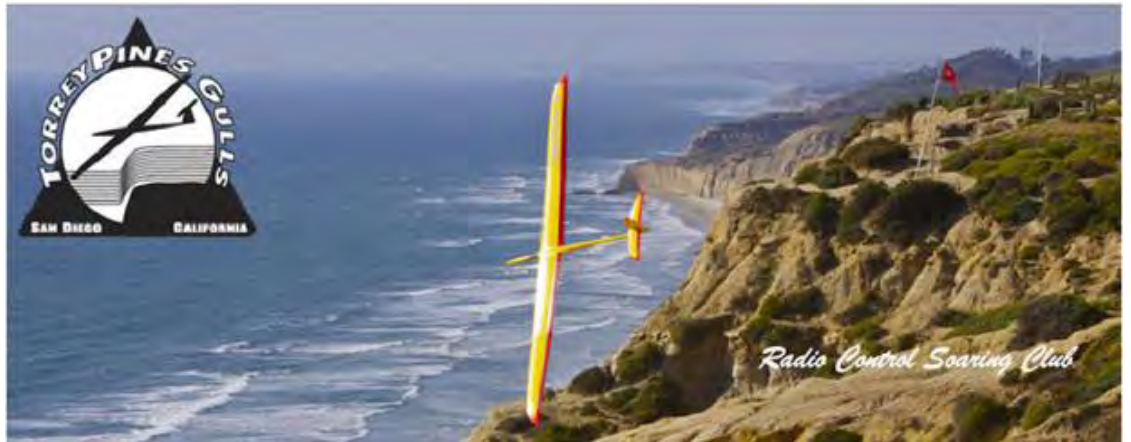
Steve Condon

News from the Slope – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator



Mark Baldacchino

Happy Summer, TP Gulls!



With the full days of May gray and June gloom behind us, the long days of light have arrived. The time for flying at the world's best slope after rush hour is finally here!

On June 3rd we were graced to have the Katie Martin International Tribute at the Gliderport. Pilots from all over the country, and even one from Australia, attended the event to commemorate Katie, and her dedication to our sport.



There were as many planes, if not more, on the east side of the walking path/pit area. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)

There were well over a hundred planes; not all Bob Martin Hobie Hawks, SR-7's, Coyote's, etc., but all types. The weather was overcast all day, except for a couple of hours in the late afternoon, and the wind was straight in, averaging 10mph. There was a raffle for several kits, a built Hobie Hawk, and all sorts of accessories.



The two blue and white Hobie Hawks are the Katie Martin Tribute planes that are flown every year together. Many kits in the foreground were the raffle prizes. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

I had the pleasure of meeting some of the pioneers of our hobby, such as Larry Jolly, and several others who are the work horses and innovators that have kept this hobby going by helping others. This event was spectacular, and one of the largest turnouts in many years. We look forward to next year's KMT! Enjoy the few pictures in this article and follow the link below to a lot more pictures, which were taken by Bob Hirsch.

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showpost.php?p=51070129&postcount=75>

News from the Slope (continued)



Some of the best craftsmanship that I've ever seen (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Jay Mendoza and his collection of Hawks that were displayed in a line of history. Each plane had a story. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Another outstanding example of craftsmanship in Eric's collection (Mark Baldacchino photo)



Lots of bright colors in this collection! (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



Just under the left wing of the white KA-8 is Keith, who read the KM annual tribute statement in Bob Martin's place. Unfortunately, Bob was unable to attend the event this year. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



A gathering of Bob Martin planes: Hobie Hawks, SR-7's, Coyotes, etc. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

News from the Slope (continued)



And more fun – the flying part! Many of the pilots were passing their transmitters to others to give everyone a chance to fly. (Mark Baldacchino photo)



During the raffle. Lots of stuff was donated by pilots and Discount Hobby Warehouse. (Mark Baldacchino photo)

On June 10th we were scheduled to have another fun fly, which was a landing contest; but the heavy overcast and lack of wind kept all but Bob Hirsch and Ray Pili at home. Needless to say, this event was a bust.

News from the Slope (continued)



This was taken about 6:30pm on the way home. plenty of light and lift (Mark Baldacchino photo)

This month we'll have an Aerobatics Day on July 8th, and since there will be no newsletter in August, we'll have another chance for a Fly 'n Swap on the August 12th.

TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2023

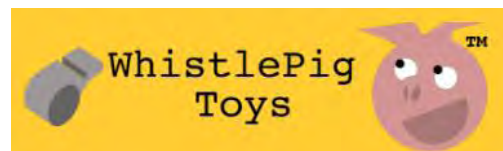
July 8 th	Aerobatics Day – TWF/PWF...Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime
August 12 th	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A Day to Fly + Swap Meet. Clean out your garage and make room for more birds.
September 9 th	Old School Vintage/Classic Woodies Again! – BOTs, Olys, Sagittas...whatever is built-up 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

Thank you to our IHLGF 2023 Sponsors!
Click on the logos to visit their websites



June TD Contest Report – Cliff Hunter, CD

The June 11, 2023 TD contest was canceled due to lack of participant signups.

Cliff Hunter, CD

June DLG Contest Report – Justin Tolman, CD

Thanks everyone for coming out for a fun Father's Day Weekend contest. The sun was shining bright and early - something we haven't seen for many months. We attempted to start the contest with 8 pilots but Chuck Norris quickly discovered a receiver issue with his plane and he was relegated to timer duties for the day. Joining us for the first time was veteran slope pilot Mike Swanson, making the trek down from Agua Dulce.

With a full blue sky first thing in the morning, the air was already dynamic for Round 1 (Task H - 1234). Gary Fogel & Justin Tolman took K's in their respective groups while Dale Osborn put in some great flights with his CX5 that he acquired at IHLGF.

With a relatively forgiving working window, Round 2 (Task A - Last flight, 5:00max/10 min window) gave pilots a few chances to clock in max time. Gary & Justin had to scratch and claw to eke out their full 5-minute flights in Group A. Cliff landed out on his first launch but he was able to get back in the air and recover nicely with a 4:59.6.


Round 3 brought us the classic timers-on-the-sidelines Task C (AULDx3). In Group A, Dale Osborn continued his exceptional flying and ever-so-slightly took the K over Gary Fogel who had a great low-level save in Flight 2. Mengchen Li & Justin Tolman knocked out all 3 flights in Group B and Cliff was able to max 2 of his 3 flights.

By Round 4 (Task N - Best flight) the wind had picked up, and the lift was running downwind in a hurry. Gary Fogel took the K in Group A with a 6:01.9 over Mengchen Li's 4:15. In Group B, Justin Tolman took the K with a 5:48.5 over Mike Swanson's 4:15 & Don Lochhead's 4:03.5. Long flights were clearly hard to come by,

The wind made quick turns in Round 5 (Task G - 5x2:00) very challenging. Cliff Hunter put together 5 great flights to take the K in Group A. In Group B, Gary Fogel and Justin Tolman battled it out but Gary took the K, accumulating 37 seconds more than Justin.

The punishing conditions continued in Round 6 (Task F - Three of 6, 3:00 max). Don Lochhead knocked out 2 of his 3, 3-minute flights to take the K in Group A. Justin Tolman and Gary Fogel got 2 of their 3, 3-minute flights but Justin eked out a slightly better 3rd flight to take the K.

Congrats to our top-3 pilots: 1) Justin Tolman, 2) Gary Fogel, 3) Cliff Hunter.

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Rounds (No Drops In E)					
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	2 Justin Tolman  	5930.8		1000	1000	1000	1000	930.8	1000
2	1 Gary Fogel  	5912.8	-18.0	1000	1000	985.5	1000	1000	927.3
3	5 Clifford Hunter  	4730.0	-1182.8	647.1	998.7	791.7	611.5	1000	681.0
4	4 Don Lochhead  	4296.7	-433.3	516.1	718.0	535.9	698.7	828.0	1000
5	9 Dale Osborn  	4220.6	-76.1	915.4	364.3	1000	409.8	795.4	735.7
6	7 Mike Swanson  	3788.9	-431.7	579.8	368.3	666.7	731.7	940.7	501.7
7	3 Mengchen Li 	3612.1	-176.8	907.5	1000	1000	704.6	0.0	0.0

June DLG Contest Report (continued)



Group shot (Chuck Norris photo)

Our next monthly contest is on July 17th. Don Lochhead will be CD. Sign up here: https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=2620

Hope to see you there!

Justin

June F3L Contest Report – John McNeil, CD

On Saturday June 3, we held our second TPG F3L contest, this time at the Encinitas field. As a reminder, F3L is flown with 2-meter wood airplanes controlled by rudder, elevator, and spoiler. We launch with hi-starts provided by the club. It is a team event that is very popular in Europe due to its relaxed pace and social atmosphere.

I arrived early along with several helpers. Thanks! Most of the gear is stored at the field, and setup is fairly easy, especially with all the help. We held the pilots meeting at 8:45 with 7 eager RCers and about twice that many planes. I decided we'd fly with one team of three and one team of four. As we had not selected teams during registration, I threw the score-sheets into the air and picked them up off the ground, randomly assigning to teams A and B as I went. (You can see the teams and full names in the result table below).



John McNeil photo

Team A only had three people, so Don Lochhead had the bright idea of having team A pilots rotate through flying their missing person's heat so that team B would have a person to fly against. This makes it more fun, and since this is scored person-on-person, gives a fairer result. Also, those of us on team A got a little extra stick time.

May gray had given over to June gloom this Saturday and there was mist in the air as we started the contest. Lift was present, but light and hard to work. There was a breeze, but what thermals there were, were not drifting fast. The great thing about this contest format is that you can launch as many times as you want in the 9-minute working window. Since your target is 6

June F3L Contest Report (continued)

minutes, you can even max a round after a re-light. Cliff nearly got 6 minutes in the first heat, and Chuck flying team A's filler slot, got 6 minutes in heat two. By heats three and four, the lift was down a bit. The best I could do was about 4 minutes in heat 3 with Gary getting 5 minutes in heat 4. We saw some great landings with a 96 from Brett, a 98 from Gary, and a perfect 100 from Chuck!



Contest action (Gary Fogel photo)

Round two was similar, as pilots were able to max heats one and two; but pilots in the last two heats were scratching for three- and four-minute flights. We again saw some great landings, with Gary and Cliff getting 98's. Round three continued with challenging lift, except for heat three, which dished out a pair of 6-minute maxes. In heat one of round three, despite these conditions, Paul flew a really nice 5-minute flight, taking the 1000. Don did the same, with 5 minutes in heat four for his 1000. Round four saw improving lift with people gaining some decent height.

One of the things I like about this format, is that everyone is gathered at the launch line for the whole contest. This allows for lots of discussion and advice, some of it even intended to be helpful. 😊 The Encinitas field is a really nice place to fly and I'm glad we're holding this contest series there. It was particularly nice as Paul mowed it the week before!

June F3L Contest Report (continued)

#	Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Completed Round			
				Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
1	1 Gary Fogel 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	4000.0		1000	1000	1000	1000
2	2 John McNeil 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	3971.5	-28.5	1000	1000	971.5	1000
3	7 Clifford Hunter 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	3567.4	-404.1	1000	987.6	882.4	697.4
4	4 Chuck Norris 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	3564.6	-2.8	676.4	1000	888.2	1000
5	10 Luke Skywalker 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	3413.8	-150.8	1000	761.4	1000	652.4
6	9 Don Lochhead 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	2977.5	-436.3	671.9	305.6	1000	1000
7	5 John Locke 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	2608.5	-369.0	713.8	595.4	826.4	472.9
8	8 Paul Nibecker 🇺🇸 🇩🇪	2357.1	-251.4	357.1	1000	1000	0.0

Congratulations to team A for the team win, and to Gary for the individual win, with a perfect 4000! Cliff will be CD for our next event, also in Encinitas, on August 26th. This gives you plenty of time to get an airplane and join us. There are some excellent kits as well as RTF planes available. A couple more photos from the contest are below. If you have questions, please email me, or join our TPG F3L Discord channel.



Cliff and Brett (Gary Fogel photo)



Paul (Gary Fogel photo)

TPG History: The Trophy – Gary Fogel

This Month: Mark Canfield, 2011 Co-Modeler of the Year



Mark served as TPG president in 2010 and 2011, following Parviz Kamiab, during a time when RCGroups was new, memberships were still mailed in through the club PO Box at the Midway Post Office, and we had just arranged for a club PayPal account. Club management was going through some turnover. Bill Eckles helped keep the newsletter going and simultaneously served as membership chairman, although it was difficult to get members to provide content. Serving as Vice President, Marty Dine helped generate fun fly events for Torrey and Poway to help grow interest. Club meetings transitioned from being held at the San Diego Air and Space Museum to the nearby San Diego Automotive Museum at Balboa Park on a monthly basis. The club had regular TD/RES contests on a monthly basis, DLG contests, and occasional slope contests, such as the 6th Annual Torrey Pines Classic F3F slope race in March, 2011.

The IHLGF in 2011 served as the team select for the F3K World Championships and had over 60 pilots in attendance. The TD/RES contests alternated between Poway and Encinitas to keep things different. And the USA F3B team composed in part of TPGers David Klein and Tom Kiesling attended the F3B World Championships in China and finished 6th and 8th respectively.

At the 2011 Holiday Party, the TPG awarded three members to share the Modeler of the Year trophy, these were Mark Wood, Don Lochhead and Mark Canfield. Mark Canfield in particular was commended by Bill Eckles in the newsletter for his “careful decision making and firm guidance along the path we all signed up for; a club we can be proud of doing things that benefit both the membership, the sport, and the community.”



TPG History: The Trophy (continued)

Mark Canfield arranged for the food at the Holiday Party which was considered to be “super” and “the bomb” – a mix of ribs, brisket, beans, coleslaw and potato salad, with brownies for dessert. It was a good time.

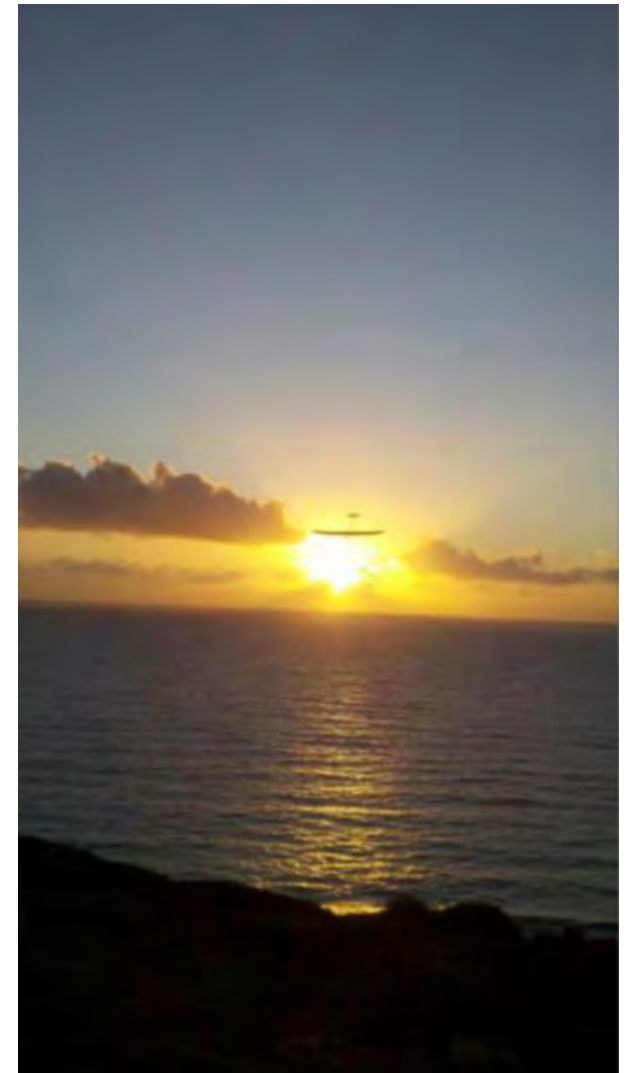
Mark Canfield continued his service to the Gulls after 2011 by serving as Vice President and Past President in 2012-2013 in support of Marty Dine as President. He also served as CD twice in 2013 for thermal duration contests and helped in slope races. Thanks for all your service to the club Mark!



Mark Canfield about to launch a thermal duration plane at Encinitas.



Mark Canfield (Left) holds the Modeler of the Year trophy with Don Lochhead (right) and the TPG Holiday party held at the San Diego Automotive Museum.



Mark also shared some great photos with TPG through the newsletter in 2013. Here is a glider sunset photo from the June 2013 Gull Wings newsletter.

Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

For the 2023 calendar year, the club membership is 118.

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 June 20, 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	1	118
Google Group as of 5/18/2023	126	

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 Aeromodeling 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 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!

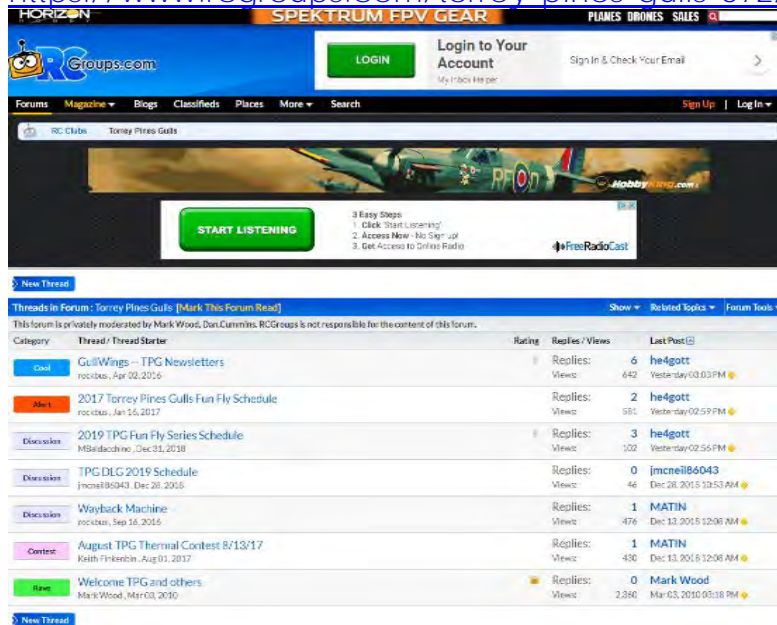
How We Connect (continued)

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 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 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 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
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.

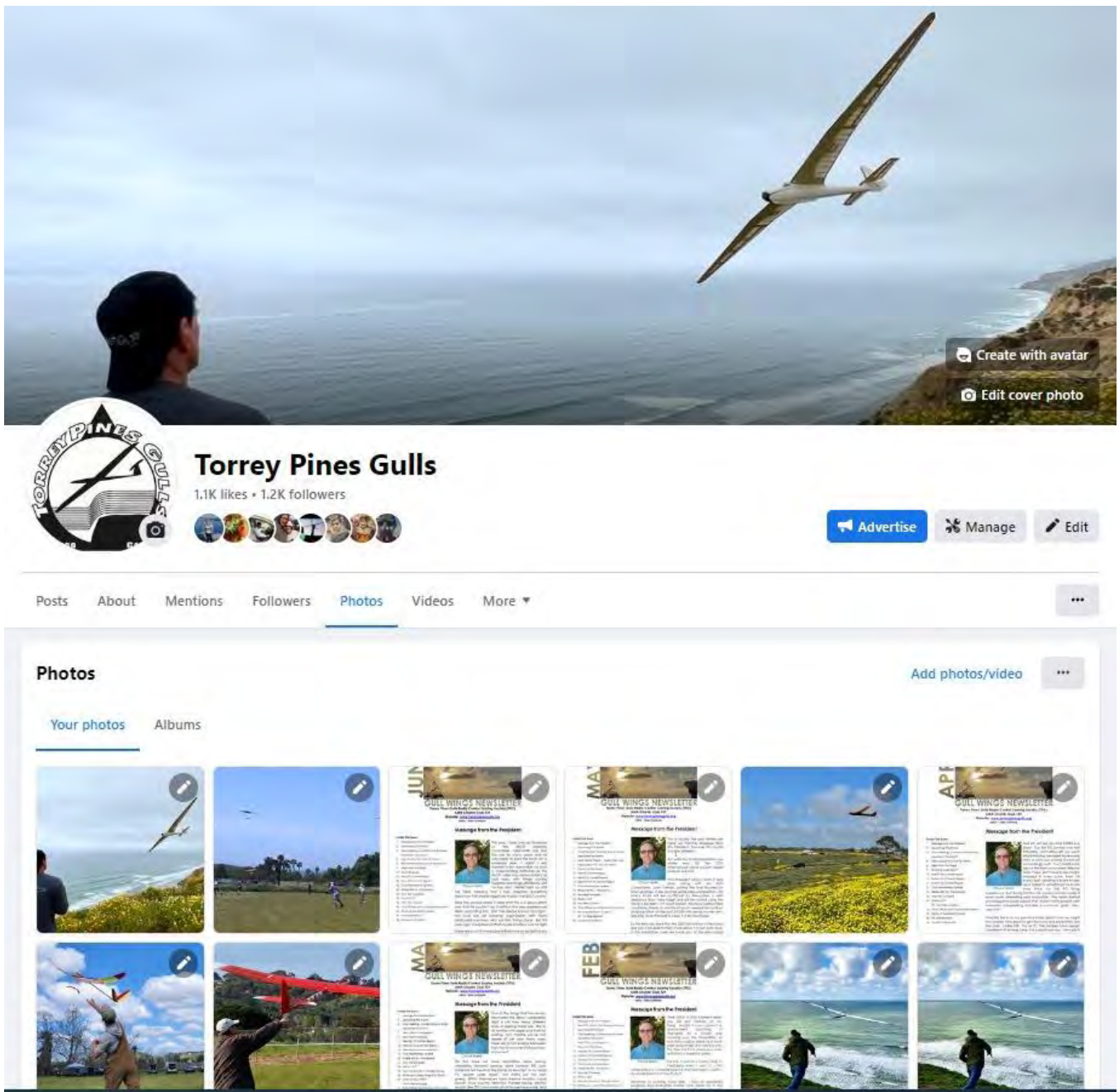
Unlike the old Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

How We Connect (continued)

Check out the TPG **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/>

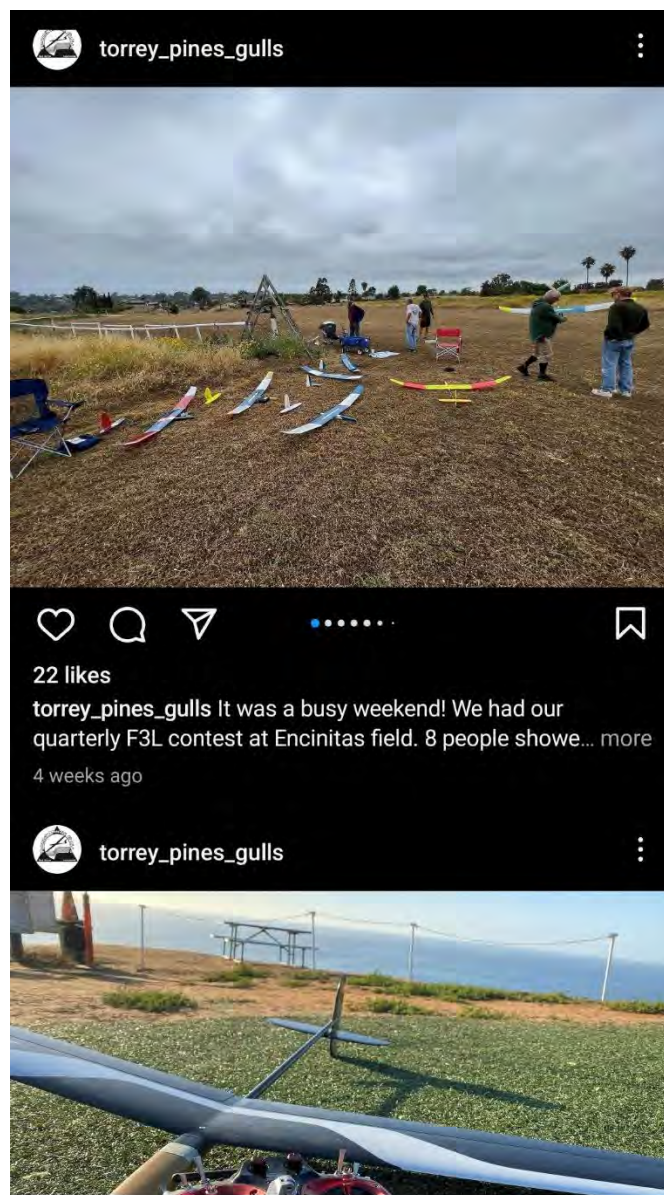


How We Connect (continued)

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 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)



Jay Mendoza launching an original Hobie Hawk prototype (Bob Hirsch photo)



Launching Ted Torpin's 5-meter Slingsby T13 Petrel (Dale Osborn photo)

Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



July/August Winner – Keith McLellan flying Ted Torpin's 5-meter Slingsby T13 Petrel. Built from a kit by Old Gliders; covered in dope and fabric (Bob Hirsch 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:

