

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: www.torreypinesgulls.org

Editor – Dale Gottdank

TPG Shows How It's Done!

Inside This Issue

- 1 TPG Shows How it's Done!
- 4 Upcoming TPG Events Newsletter This Month
- 5 Club Meetings, Contests and Activities
- 6 The Return of Slope Combat!
- 7 News from the Slope
- 9 July DLG Contest Report
- 12 July F5J Contest Report
- 14 July Tow Hook Series Contest Report
- 17 July F5J Fun Fly Contest Report
- 17 Club Membership Update
- 19 Where We Fly Panoramas
- 20 How We Compete
- 25 What is LSF?
- 28 How We Connect
- 32 Club Officers and Contact Information
- 33 Photo of the Month Contest
- 41 For Sale/Wanted
- 42 Quote of the Month



At the end of July, the AMA held the F3K (Hand Launch/DLG) National Aeromodeling Championship Contest in Muncie, Indiana. Two of our members, Mengchen Li and Milan Bregman each won 1st Place in their respective divisions.

Here's a quote from Jason Cole (RCG_Jason on RC Groups):

OK, Day 2 is in the books and we have a new National Champion with **Mengchen Li** at the top followed by Joe Dougherty and the CD Mickey Nowell on the podium. The award for Best Junior went to **Milan Bregman**.

One notable flight happened in round 11 with junior pilot Milan Bregman. The task was to score 1 flight in the 10-minute window. He went up and got low, but had an epic save climbing out and scoring 9 minutes and 25 seconds beating out all but one pilot in the group for time, including the new national champ. Great flying Milan!

Photo above: Mike Lance and Thomas Moller flying Thomas' Mystique by Ian Cummings

TPG Shows How It's Done! (continued)



The top finishers. Milan Bregman (far left) and Mengchen Li (4th from left with his TAIR DLG) (Jason Cole photo)



Mengchen accepting his 1st Place award from CD, Mickey Nowell (Jason Cole photo)



Milan accepting Best Junior award from Mickey. Milan placed 7th overall against some of the best! (Jason Cole photo)

Results To Round 16

#	Name	Ctry	Score	Pcnt
1	Li, Mengchen		14513.5	100.00
2	Dougherty, Joseph	-	14426.2	99.40
3	Nowell, Charles		14143.2	97.45
4	Wizynajtys, Michael		13794.3	95.04
5	Cole, Jason		13767.1	94.86
6	Christofferson, Clint		13730.8	94.61
7	Bregman, Milan		13547.0	93.34
8	Cytrynowicz, David	-	13461.7	92.75
9	Cytrynowicz, Oscar		13444.2	92.63
10	Jonke, John	-	13291.7	91.58
11	Ferguson, John	120	12889.0	88.81
12	Kelley, Thomas		12670.7	87.30
13	Roberts, Reid		12365.7	85.20
14	Weston, Adam	-	10145.7	69.91
15	Reisinger, David	0.00	10104.4	69.62
16	Simpson, Richard		9680.2	66.70

For more detailed narrative and some great photos, follow this link to the RE Groups thread:

F3K at The Nats 2024

TPG Shows How It's Done! (continued)

As if that wasn't enough, this past week, TPG member **Tom Kiesling** won 1st Place at the F5J National Aeromodeling Championship Contest in Muncie, with past member **John Butler** taking 3rd Place. Also participating were TPG member **Mike Verzuh** (31st) and past members **Justin Rizor** (15th) and **Gavin Trussell** (35th) out of a field of 60 pilots. In addition, Tom and John both qualified for the USA F5J Team. Congrats! For more details and photos, follow this RC Groups link: **2024 F5J National Championships/Team Selects Coverage** and the final report from AMA: **2024 RC Soaring F5J Team Selects Final Report**



Tom Kiesling (right)accepting his 1st Place award from CD Norman Poti



2024 USA F5J Team members, John Butler, Tom Kiesling and Steven "Junior" Wilcox

And lastly (but certainly not least), TPG member **Steve Condon** took 1st Place in both Scale/SLS and Sport Classes, with TPGer **Mike Smith** taking 2nd Place in Scale/SLS. Congratulations guys! For more detail and photos click on the GPS Racing logo:



Scale/SLS Class podium (L-R) Mike Smith, Steve Condon and past TPG member John Elias



Sport Class podium (L-R) Pat TPG member John Elias, Steve Condon and Rick Shelby

TPG August/September Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
August 10 th	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A day to fly and swap meet. Clean out your garages and make room for more birds	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
August 17 th	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <u>F3X Vault</u>
August 27 th	Club Virtual Meeting	Zoom link: <u>TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link</u>
September 7 th	Old School Vintage Classic Woodies Again! – Balsa BOTs, Olys, Sagittas – whatever is built- up wood	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
September 21st	DLG Contest Poway Invitational	Poway Flight Center Register on <u>F3X Vault</u>
September 22 nd	Team DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <u>F3X Vault</u>

Newsletter This Month - Dale Gottdank, Editor

Please contribute to our GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER



Dale Gottdank

<u>Send pictures, or maybe even an article!</u> 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 <u>first week of every month</u>. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club!

August Issue highlights include:

- > TPG members win top places at AMA NATS! (starting on page 1)
- The Return of Slope Combat! (page 6)
- Lots of contest reports (starting on page 9)
- Photo of the Month Contest (page 33)

<u>Please send in your articles or photos</u> (<u>communications@torreypinesgulls.org</u>) by the **25**th 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.

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 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.

Our next club meeting is Tuesday, August 27th at 7:00pm. Don't miss out on a chance for TPG's new Super Raffle! (see info below)

Our speaker will be TPG Thermal Coordinator John McNeil



Topic: Capacity and Wire-size Planning for Radios, Motors, and BECs

Abstract: Powering the radio on an RC sailplane is straightforward until you want to optimize for long flight times, lightness, or both. Under any interesting constraints, battery cell type, cell count, wire size, and use of a regulator are all parameters to you can optimize. Electric-launch gliders add ESC, BEC, motor, prop, and motor wiring to the variable list. I will show how to select components using simple applications of Ohm's law and lookup tables.

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/







A long ago in a galaxy far, far away, the Torrey Pines Gulls used to have regular monthly meetings in person; and at each meeting, members would have an opportunity to win some great prizes in a raffle. One of the prizes each month was a "Super Raffle" ticket that allowed the winner to attend a really amazing raffle at the holiday party and get some additional goodies.

Unfortunately, we no longer have in-person meetings but we're doing the best we can with virtual club meetings via zoom. The next meeting will be August 27th at 7pm with a presentation. However, at that meeting we're also going to have a random draw for two super raffle tickets and the winners will be able to choose some prizes at the year-end holiday party. So come join the virtual meeting, hang in there through the presentation, get that winning raffle ticket and see what you might win in December!

See you at the next meeting!



The Return of Slope Combat!



It's been quite some time since TPG sponsored a Slope Combat session. Anyone who's ever participated in a Slope Combat event knows how much fun it is when a bunch of foamie combat wings (or other foamie aircraft) take to the skies and a riotous furball ensues. Only one will be the last plane flying, but getting to that point **IS THE POINT!**



When: October 5, 2022
Where: Poway Slope

There will be more information to follow as we get closer to the event date. For those of you who already have a weapon of choice...you know the drill. For anyone who might need a bit more info:

Basic Rules:

- You score a kill when after you impact another glider,
 - a) the other glider is on the ground (or in the cactus), and
 - b) you complete a loop or a roll
- Walking down the hill to get your downed plane is "the walk of shame". You can earn back some respect if you walk through cactus
- If someone on the hill says "I am not a target", you must avoid hitting their lovely, crunchy, aircraft"

Advice:

- Bring water and sunscreen and a hat
- Bring strapping tape (field repairs will be required (3)
- Be prepared for your cheeks to hurt from grinning...yes...those cheeks!

If anyone needs help building, setting up, or whatever, just ask in the #Slope Soaring channel on the TPG Discord server.

News from the Slope – Mark Baldacchino, Slope Coordinator







Happy Summer TP Gulls!

I hope all of you are beating the heat this summer! To me, it seems like it's getting hotter, and sticking around longer than usual. One way to beat the heat is to come out and fly at the Gliderport.

Speaking of heat, we were scheduled to have an Aerobatics Fun Fly Day at Torry on July 6th, but I made an informed decision to cancel the event based on the Windfinder® app. The forecast showed that there was to be some wind, but coming in from the south all day. Later that day, I checked the Gliderport webcam, and saw paragliders and a couple of planes flying! Oh well, sometimes the data that we receive isn't so reliable. I've heard on local weather news that Mexico didn't install any weather sensors for accurate weather forecasts. Leason learned!

Luckily, our next Fun Fly won't need a bunch of straight in wind, as it's the 2nd for the year, Fly and Swap on August 10th. This event has been a big hit lately, bringing pilots to buy and sell from all over SoCal. That's why I scheduled two of them. The last swap meet had every sort of sailplane that you can think of, including PSS, DLG's, foamies, woodies, moldies, and electronics. Come out early to buy, sell, or trade. You won't be disappointed, and hopefully, the wind will cooperate for some flying fun!

After three and half terms, (7 years) and lots of contemplating, I've decided to pass on the torch of being the Slope Coordinator. I'll continue in this role until the year's end, but I thought I'd get the word out now. The reason for this decision is that I want to get out and enjoy other activities that are so abundant here in San Diego. My vision has improved 50% in the last year or so, and I got some special glass that allow me to drive my truck again! I can't wait to go deep sea fishing again, as well as hiking, mountain biking, and surfing. This role has been a lot of fun and fulfilling over the years, and has helped to improve my leadership skills. With that said, let me know if you're interested in taking over, and I'll start transitioning over to you. Besides being present for the monthly Fun Fly events, it's not a lot of work; an hour or two a month to write a newsletter article; an hour for the monthly Executive Council meeting; and helping pilots get their rating to fly at the world's best slope. Let me know!

News from the Slope (continued)

TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2024

August 10 th	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A day to fly and swap meet. Clean out your garages
	and make room for more birds
September 7 th	Old School Vintage Classic Woodies Again! – Balsa BOTs, Olys, Sagittas –
	whatever is built-up wood
October 19 th	UCSD/TPG Buddy Box & Skilled Pilots Mentorship Day
November 30 th	No Shopping Saturday – A couple of days after Thanksgiving to get out of
	the house

Blue Skies! Best Regards,

Mark Baldacchino



Tossing my Ka-8 at the Gliderport (Bob Hirsch photo)

July DLG Contest Report - Mengchen Li, CD

It's only been three weeks since our last monthly DLG contest. Time flies! This time we had 15 registrants. We were glad to have Lawrence Doan from Seattle in the contest and happy to see lan, Arthur, and Tom flying more regularly in the DLG monthly. In addition, there were also a couple of volunteers at the field, Marc and Darian, accompanying Will and Milan respectively.

Since my life had been a bit boring recently, I decided to make this contest a little more fun. How much fun was it? Well, when we have some of the most challenging tasks around, and you never know what will happen, the contest becomes unpredictable...and fun. That was my take, and I just did that. I put Task N (Best flight), L (Single flight), and D (Two flights) in the list while keeping the first three rounds somewhat relaxing. When there's contrast, there will be more fun!



Competitors for the July TPG DLG monthly contest at Poway (Darian Bregman photo)

Round 1. Old Task D-Ladder: The old school rocked. This task was good for the beginning as it required 7 launches, which is a good amount to warm-up, and the longest flight is 2 minutes; not too long to make, and the quick turn was not required. In group 1, Lawrence and Will made all their times. In group 2, the conditions improved, and Gary, Mengchen, Milan, John, and Justin shared the K.

Round 2. Best 5 by 2: This was another task for warm-up. However, the conditions were very tricky for group 1. Only Lawrence and Mengchen managed to make their first flight 2 minutes, while others were struggling. Lawrence then made all 5 flights the full time, and Mengchen missed the third one. Gary didn't make his first flight, but it was close, and his accumulated time was longer than Mengchen's. In group 2, Tom got the K with his electric Fury.

July DLG Contest Report (continued)

Round 3. AULD: This was the last peaceful round before the "carnage". In Group 1, Will got the K. He has been flying and feeling the air so well although his launch is not super high. I guess he'll become the next Gary Fogel maybe? In Group 2, Gary, Mengchen, and Justin shared the K.

Round 4. Best flight: this is a new 2024 Task. It was relatively moderate compared to the single flight, which we would be flying right after. In group 1, everyone launched at the buzzer. Gary, Scott, Mengchen, and John worked the 9:59 out. In group 2, there was a sink cycle at first, but the air turned better again. Arthur launched at the buzzer and survived for 8:26. Lawrence and Chuck launched twice and flew to the window. They were pretty close to Arthur's K.

Round 5. Single flight: This is where the real challenge kicked in. I won't discuss the details of the ensuing "carnage", as this task was probably too harsh for some people. In group 1, Gary got the K with a 9:59 (well, 9:58.8 actually). Will was about 1 minute shorter than Gary. The third longest time in this group was about 2 minutes. In group 2, Mengchen and Arthur made the 9:59. Milan held for a bit and got a 9:45. The longest time after that was about 5:35.

Round 6. Two flights: This round was challenging, as no one made the full time. This was the case I mentioned about the "fun". In group 1, Lawrence and Mengchen both made their first 5:00. The conditions deteriorated after that, and the only thermal was drifting towards the no-fly zone. Mengchen stayed up there a bit longer than Lawrence and got the K. In group 2, Gary managed to get the K.

In the end, Gary Fogel won the contest, followed by Mengchen Li and Arthur Markiewicz. Congratulations!

Completed Rounds (No Drops In Effect) Pilot Name Total Diff Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6 Gary Fogel **E** 5993.8 1000 993.8 1000 1000 100at 1000 5973.0 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 Mengchen Li -20.8 973.0 771.4 1000 Arthur Markiewicz 5268.5 -704.5 920.1 775.9 1000 801.1 Chuck Norris E 2 4768.8 -499.7 771.4 952.8 856.7 973.1 352.6 862.2 Lawrence Doan W 💹 4720.1 -48.7 1000 1000 714.9 987.4 92.4 925.4 John McNeil 💹 🙇 4465.9 -254.2 1000 750.7 931.0 1000 105.5 678.7 -174.1 4291.8 1000 884.8 1000 360.4 893.3 153.3 Justin Tolman E 🙇 4214.6 -77.2 1000 965.3 1000 914.2 127.8 207.3 Milan Bregman 💹 🙇 4126.1 -88.5 1000 877.5 666.7 380.0 977.0 224.9 571.4 599.6 Don Lochhead ... 3698.3 -427.8909.1 955.4 482.8 180.0 771.4 1000 0.0 Scott Mccurdy 3588.2 -110.1 821.2 825.1 170.5

771.4

771.4

571.4

400.0

1000

872.7

929.4

586.4

-131.8

-237.2

-487.9

-220.9

544.4

661.5

423.1

472.5

438.7

188.1

249.7

592.7

106.9

558.9

198.6

127.5

595.0

166.6

359.1

331.3

F3X Vault Scores

Tom Farley E 🙇

Mike Ray

Clifford Hunter E 2

Ian Cummings E ...

3456.4

3219.2

2731.3

2510.4

July DLG Contest Report (continued)



Contest Winners Mengchen Li (2nd Place), Gary Fogel (1st Place) and Arthur Markiewicz (3rd Place) (Justin Tolman photo)

July F5J Contest Report - Cliff Hunter, CD

July 14, 2024; just another warm day at Poway. When I left at around noon, it was only 100° F. We had 7 pilots sign up, and 6 flew the contest. The CD (Cliff Hunter) failed to bring very some important equipment, like a transmitter, batteries and tool box. So, he became the timer. We had 2 groups with three pilots each. We flew 6 rounds with one throw-out round.



Left to right, Steve Hurd, Mike Smith, Steve Condon, Dale Osborn, Arthur Markiewicz. Don Van Gundy (Milan Bregman photo)



Mike Smith launching his Phoenix DF (Cliff Hunter photo)



Mike's follow through (Cliff Hunter photo)

July F5J Contest Report (continued)

It was a great contest. There were no damaged planes and the lowest launch height was 34 meters. Thermals were everyhwere for the most part.

First place was Mike Smith with a score of 4989.4

Second Place was Steve Condon with a score of 4987.5. The difference between 1ST and 2nd place: 1.9 point;s darn close!

Third place was Arthur Markiewicz with a score of 4616.7

F3X Vault Scores

Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
Mike Smith 💹 🙇	4989.64		1000	1000	993.64	996.00	210.78	1000
Steve Condon Steve	4987.52	-2.12	987.52	1000	1000	1000	1000	0.00
Arthur Markiewicz 💹 🙇	4616.76	-370.76	1000	616.76	1000	1000	0.00	1000
Dale Osborn 💹 🙇	3785.52	-831.24	927.54	930.84	286.40	378.95	788.35	759.84
Steve Hurd 💹 🙇	3238.37	-547.15	979.20	452.80	223,55	715.79	709,98	380.60
Don van gundy 🌉 🙇	2823.75	-414.62	0.00	0.00	852.55	971.20	1000	0.00
Clifford Hunter	0.00	-2823,75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

July Tow Hook Series Contest Report – John McNeil, CD

Nine Gulls flew in two classes of tow hook RES at our contest on Sunday, July 21, 2024. Sandy and Cliff had freshly mowed the field, which was green and lush. The clear blue skies made for a beautiful day of flying. The lift, on the other hand, was fickle and difficult to work. This led to many flights under the target time, and these were usually associated with "interesting" last-minute landing approaches. Despite that, we saw many near-perfect flights, including Chuck's 6:00 with 99 landing points in round 4. Not to be outdone, Gary got the same in round 6.

Brian and Jake are two of our newest club members, and they flew their first contests on Sunday. Brian worked on sorting out his newly acquired Yellow Jacket. Jake flew a gorgeous Gentle Lady. His best flight was 4:00 with a 70-point landing — outstanding for a first day and no spoilers!

As usual, we flew six rounds of 2m and five rounds of 1.5m. There was plenty of time to help each other, and to chat. We also needed a bit of time to untangle lines as the wind was Southwest, leading to many crossed lines. Everybody had a nice time, with plenty of flying but minimal pressure.

Our next event is on Sunday, October 6. Depending on pilot interest, we will likely set up a winch that day and add a round to 2m. That is our last Tow Hook for 2024, so come on out and fly!



Tow Hook (1.5m and 2m) pilots ready to compete (Cliff Hunter photo)

July Tow Hook Series Contest Report (continued)



Top2-meter finishers Chuck Norris (3rd Place), Gary Fogel (1st Place) and Dave Hall (2nd Place). Gary also took 1st Place in 1.5m. (Cliff Hunter photo)

F3X Vault Scores

2.0 meter

						Comple	ted Rounds (N	lo Drops In Ef
Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
Gary Fogel 🌉 🙇	2421.00		455.00	456.00	448.00	359.00	244.00	459.00
David Hall 💹 🙇	1859.00	-562.00	429.00	445.00	116.00	296.00	420.00	153.00
Charles Norris 🌉 🙇	1790.00	-69.00	448.00	156.00	218.00	459.00	85.00	424.00
John McNeil 💹 🙇	1689.00	-101.00	368.00	173.00	241.00	232,00	443.00	232.00
John Locke 🌉 🙇	1621.00	-68.00	419.00	160.00	347.00	440.00	116.00	139.00
Clifford Hunter 🌉 🙇	1223.00	-398.00	88.00	320.00	157.00	254.00	231.00	173.00
Jake Olefsky 🌉 🙇	1196.00	-27.00	304,00	108.00	186.00	87.00	311.00	200.00
Paul Nibecker 🌉 🙇	319.00	-877.00	167.00	152.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brian Moore 🌉 🙇	0.00	-319.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1.5 meter

						Comple	ted Rounds (N
Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
Gary Fogel 🌉 🙇	1713.00		393.00	388.00	397.00	293.00	242.00
John McNeil 💹 🙇	1569.00	-144.00	388.00	212.00	389.00	324.00	256.00

July F5J Fun Fly Contest Report – Don Lochhead, CD

Nine pilots came out to Poway for the July F5J Foamy Fun Fly. The field was in great shape thanks to Cliff and Sandy; no pesky mustard stalks to foil a perfect landing. We had a good collection of planes. As usual, Night Radians were the popular choice. We had one new pilot, Adina Conwell, join us. She flew a UMX Radian and got in several very competitive scores.

Conditions started out calm. with temperatures in the low 80's. By noon, the wind was just starting to pick up from the west. Most pilots found lift to the west that tended not to drift east very much. We flew a 3-heat / 6-round format which kept everyone busy, but still provided opportunity to find some shade between flying and timing.

By the end of the morning, Ray Pili finished first with 5 K's. Brian Moore finished second with Tom Farley just 29 points behind for third.

Our next F5J Foamy Fun Fly will be on October 26th – mark your calendar.



F5J Fun Fly contest winners (Don Lochhead photo)

F3X Vault Scores

						Complete	d Rounds (N	lo Drops in Effec
Pilot Name	Total	Diff	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
Ray Pili 🧮 🙇	5679.67		1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	679.67
Brian Moore 🌃 🙇	5027.40	-652.27	1000	916.43	1000	993.20	937.50	180.27
Tom Farley 🌉 🙇	4998.12	-29.28	952.46	218.25	1000	827.41	1000	1000
Arthur Markiewicz 🎫 🗻	4432.18	-565,94	0.00	1000	867.92	1000	564.26	1000
Steve Hurd 🔢 🙇	4339.23	-92.95	-172.54	1000	592.99	918.78	1000	1000
Don Lochhead 🔜 🙇	4247.02	-92.21	622.80	965,42	681,25	863.42	318.73	795.40
Dale Osborn 🌉 🙇	4204.14	-42.88	618.72	692.04	0.00	1000	913.79	979.59
Bob Hirsch 🧱 🔝	3387.16	-816.98	1000	280.42	825.00	0.00	334.66	947.08
Adina Conwell 🚟 🙇	1646.59	-1740.57	-157.89	865.05	-15.83	113.03	187.50	654.73

Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls.

<u>RENEW YOUR TPG Membership</u> for calendar year 2024, please.

Do not be locked out. Renew and/or become a Torrey Pines Gulls member. If you know someone who may be interested in RC soaring, please invite them to some of our events and encourage them sign up and become a member.

Renewing or new members must fill out the registration on our web site.

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 23, 2024

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.

TPG Membership							
Date: July 25, 2024	Since Last Report	Total					
2023 – Members		127					
2024 – New and Renewed Members	6	99					
2024 - Google Group Members	0	145					

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.torrevpinesqulls.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: <u>membership@torreypinesgulls.org</u> 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: <u>Torrey Pines Gulls Membership Guide</u>, which will provide answers to many of your questions regarding Torrey Pines Gulls activities. Also review the TPG Club Bylaws for more information at: <u>Club Bylaws</u>

Cliff Hunter

Membership Chairman membership@torreypinesgulls.org 760-703-4497 cell

Sample Membership Card



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



John McNeil

Thermal Coordinator – John McNeil

For 2024, Thermal Duration (winch launch) contests have been moved into the new Tow Hook Series (see the following pages). For F5J contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website: http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/calendar/

Also, be sure to look for, and subscribe to, the upcoming RCGroups 2024 TPG Thermal contest (F5J) schedule thread for next year's contest news: https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4447697-2024-TPG-F5J-contest-schedule

or contact John McNeil at thermal@torreypinesgulls.org

DLG/Hand Launch/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 2024 Torrey Pines Gulls DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for the latest contest news: https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4455963-2024-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series

or contact Justin Tolman at dlg@torreypinesgulls.org

Team DLG Series



John McNeil

Thermal Coordinator – John McNeil

We are very excited to announce a two-event series for a new team DLG format!

The Gulls have been playing this super-fun team game on practice days for several years, and we are excited to share it with the community!

The format is team-only; there are no individual scores. Each team requires four pilots. You have plenty of time, so start getting your teams together – and start practicing!

The schedule and individual contest updates can be found on RC Groups: https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4447751-2024-TPG-Team-DLG-Series

or contact John McNeil at thermal@torreypinesgulls.org

Team DLG format:

- Teams consist of exactly four pilots.
- In each heat, three of the pilots fly while one pilot times and provides team direction.
- Each round, the timer is rotated. After four rounds, all team members will have timed once.
- Contest rounds follow F3K formats except:
 - Flight timing
 - Flight time starts when the last of three pilots releases the model.
 - Flight time ends when the first of three pilots time would end.
 - If any pilot lands out of bounds, then the flight scores zero.
 - (In other words, all three pilots fly each flight together for a single flight time)
 - o For Poker:
 - The timing team member makes the time nomination.
 - All three pilots must make the nominated time (see flight timing above).
 - Timer can force the whole team to re-flight to maximize the score

2024 TPG Tow Hook Series - F3L/F3RES/TD/1.5m



John McNeil

Last Year we launched the TPG F3L series with 4 contests. This format turned out to provide a relaxed and social event. In 2024, we want to modify the program to allow more pilots to fly, and also to preserve AMA TD as an active TPG contest class. With this in mind, we present the 2024 Tow Hook Series.

The schedule and individual contest updates can be found on RC Groups: https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4447735-2024-TPG-Tow-Hook-Series-F3L-F3RES-TD-1-5m

For more info, contact John McNeil at thermal@torreypinesgulls.org

Who

AMA pilots who are interested in flying with friends, improving their thermal flying skills, and competing for fun.

Why

The goals of this program are:

- Provide a fun, relaxed monthly contest where low-cost aircraft can be competitive
- Various classes encourage greater participation
- Overcome the current field limitations for F3L of 12 pilots max, at Encinitas and 8 at Poway
- Maintain a home for AMA TD competition
- Develop a competitive thermal format for sailplanes under 250g

What

Format:

This format is similar to the successful BARCS FxRES format with modifications to suit our TPG community and fields.

This is a simple format with a 4-hour window, where competitors will fly a number of flights in the window to be determined by the CD based on that day's registration (see the classes section for maximum flight times). There is a landing bonus using F3L landing tapes for all classes. Launches made after the open window will receive zero landing points if within 30 seconds. All launches must occur during the open window. After the 4-hour open flying window, the CD shall tally the scores and may choose to have fly-off rounds. Points in fly-off will be added to points from open flying.

Launches:

Pilots launching RES from bungees are allowed to re-fly if they have a pop-off up to two times in the open window. Winch launch (TD) pilots may have one re-fly if they pop-off.

Landings:

Landings count if there are no shed parts. Upside-down is ok. Landings where the nose is buried and the tail is in the air are also given a zero score.

2024 TPG Tow Hook Series - F3L/F3RES/TD/1.5m (continued)

Aircraft Classes

Pilots may fly in any one or two of the three classes below. We will fly up to 3 classes depending on attendance:

- 1.5m RES bungee launch. Max flying weight is 250g. Construction materials and techniques must follow F3L rules.

 Maximum flight time is 5 minutes.
- 2m RES bungee launch. Construction materials and techniques must follow F3L rules Maximum flight time is 6 minutes.
- AMA thermal duration open class. Winch launch. Skegs are allowed Maximum flight time is 10 minutes.

Equipment

At least three landing tapes will be provided, marked for F3L. AMA TD will use the same landing bonus formula as the other classes.

F3L compliant bungees will be provided by the club and set up at the CD's direction. At the CDs discretion, all bungees may be shortened from F3L standard to accommodate field conditions.

Winches:

A single winch will be provided by the club when at least 2 pilots register at least one week in advance. The winch shall be set up in parallel with, and at the same length as the stretched bungees. The winch will not have a retriever. The winch shall be run until the chute is at the turn-around after every launch.

When

Refer to posted schedules on RCGroups and the Torrey Pines Gulls website.

Where

TPG Encinitas Flight Center, except within 5 days following rain, when the contest will relocate to the Poway Flight Center.

How

John McNeil, in the role of TPG Thermal coordinator, will recruit a CD for each contest. This format does not require the sound system or timing board, but does require bungees and sometimes a winch.

F5J Fun Fly and Contest/Clinic Series



Don Lochhead

TPG will continue our F5J style foamy fun fly contests (and clinic) in 2024 at our Poway field. This is truly a fun-fly and a great way to get into F5J style flying. Any foamy or stick-built plane up to 2m (or so) is welcome. Night Radians are very popular but we also see Yellow Jackets (stick-built) and a variety of other vintage foamy and balsa stick-built aircraft.

We fly 7-minute windows with standard F5J landing tapes. If you are just getting started and do not have an Altis yet, no problem. Your timer will give you the 30 second call to cut your motor and the CD will announce a default launch height to be used for scoring purposes.

We typically pause mid-contest for a quick clinic. Subjects generally focus on F5J topics of interest to pilots getting into the format. The events are free but we still ask all pilots to sign up on F3X Vault so we know how many to expect and can run the matrix ahead of time.

For 2024 we have one more event scheduled:

October 26

Come on out and join the fun!



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/lsfstory.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, crosscountry 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	Intermediat	Intermediate					
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/lsf-program/lsf-tasks)

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 2024 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 Walter "Wally" Adazczik at Isf secretary@silentflight.org as a pdf scan or photo that clearly shows the witness signatures. Wally 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 Wally.

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 many members who are SAP Level I and 3 members who are eSAP Level 1. 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)



How many Level increases can TPG members achieve in 2024 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. On June 8, we're planning an LSF day at Poway and Torrey to help get people signed off. We might throw in some additional LSF days if there is interest.

Use our many contests and fun flys 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

Last Name	First Name	SAP	eSAP
			esar
Blodgett	Edward	Level I Working on	
Bregman	Milan	Level I	
Brooksby	Chris	Level I	
Butler	Alan "Moose"	Level I	
Clerx	Ben	Level IV	Level I
Condon	Steve	Level IV	
Cronkhite	Doug	Level I	
Cummings	lan	Level II	
Cummins	Dan	Level II	
Fogel	Gary	Level IV	Level II
Hall	Dave	Level IV	Level I
Hanson	Craig	Level I	
Hanson	Kirk	Level II	
Houck	Greg	Level I	
Hunter	Cliff	Level I	
Hunter	Cliff		Working on Level I
Kiesling	Thomas	Level III	
Legerton	Gary	Working on Level I	
Lochhead	Donald	Level I	Working on Level I
McCurdy	Scott		Level I
McFarland	Dan	Level I	
McNeil	John	Level III	
Metzdorff	Eric	Level I	
Miller	Corky	Level II	
Norris	Charles	Level III	Level I
Pili	Ray	Level II	Level 1
Redman	Mike	Level II	
Rozek	Dieter	Level II	
Schafer	Chris	Level IV	
Smith	Mike	Level IV	
Throop	Terry	Level IV	
Ungar	Kyle	Level I	
Verzuh	Mike	Level III	
Ward	Les	Level III	
Warner	Garth	Level III	
Watson	Tom	Level IV	

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 in 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.



If you haven't yet joined RCGroups, click on the <u>Sign Up</u> 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.

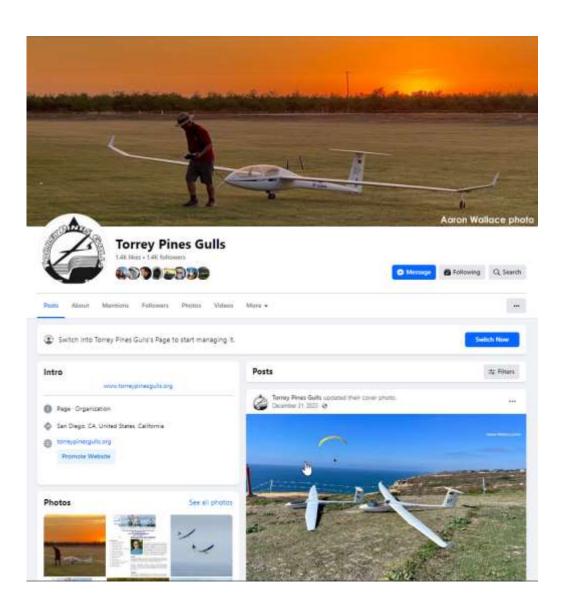
Unlike the old Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

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 Instagram

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 flys, 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	John McNeil	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	Chuck Norris	president@torreypinesgulls.org
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



John McNeil



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 <u>submit@torreypinesgulls.org</u>. 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 2023 Winner – Cliff Hunter launching his eDLG at the November DLG contest (Bob Hirsch photo)



January Winner – Thomas Moller's ASH-26 and Aaron Wallace's ASW-27 await launch at Torrey (Aaron Wallace photo)



February Winner – Steffen Peters' 7.4m Antares over Pacific whitecaps (Thomas Moller photo)



March Winner – Dave Hall launching with Gary Fogel timing at the SWSS Bungee Challenge (Cliff Hunter photo)



April Co-Winner – Ren Dileo launching Gary Fogel's 1-26 (Mark Baldacchino photo)



April Co-Winner – Ray Pili launching Merrill Brady's DG-500 at Torrey (Mark Baldacchino photo)



May Co-Winner – Steve Condon guiding his Phoenix DF in for a 50-point landing (Bob Hirsch photo)



May Co-Winner – Gary Fogel's Yellow Jacket amid the Encinitas field wildflowers (Gary Fogel photo)



June Winner – Brett Locke's foamy wing about to take out the target at the Redman Rules Contest (Beer Can Bowling division) in May (Ian Cummings photo)



July Winner – Tribute flight at this year's Katie Martin International Tribute; SuperHawk and Hobie Hawk gliders (lan Cumminas photo)



Phil Davy's Jedi F3B dynamic soaring (Phil Davy screenshot)



Aaron Wallace's ASW-27 at Torrey (Thomas Moller photo)



Aaron Wallace's ASW-27 at Torrey (Thomas Moller photo)



Aaron Wallace flying his 4.3m ASW-27 at Torrey (Thomas Moller photo)



August Winner – Ray Pili with his 8.8m DG-1000 at the Visalia aerotow (Aaron Wallace photo)



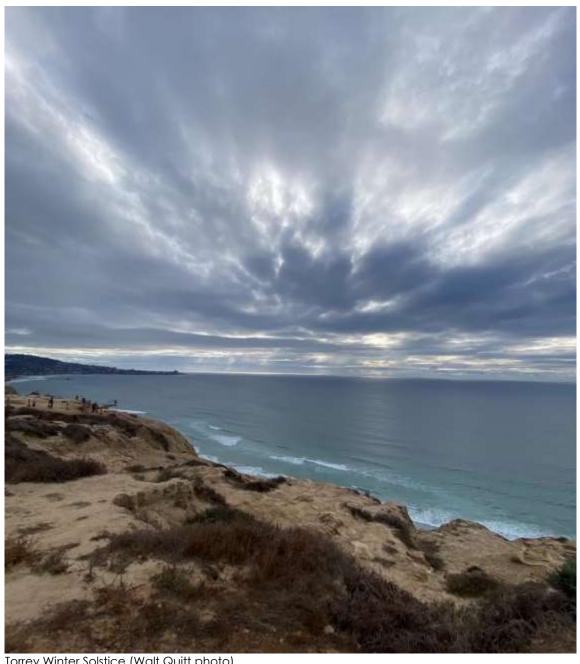
TPG Classified Ads Policy

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.



Quote of the Month:

"August is the month of the high-sailing hawks." ~ John Burroughs



Torrey Winter Solstice (Walt Quitt photo)