

Torrey Hawks Newsletter

September Edition, 2010

(Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club – USHPA Chapter #270)

by Bob Kuczewski – Club Secretary



Membership Status – The Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club gained 3 new members this past month bringing us up to 220 members. Welcome aboard to Linas, Steven, and Darl.

September Annual Election and Meeting – The Torrey Hawks celebrated our third year as a USHPA Chapter on September 12th, 2010 (the club was originally founded on April 11th 2007, and we applied for USHPA Chapter status on September 11th that same year). During all that time, the club has kept its original 3 officers: Bob Kuczewski (President), David Beardslee (Vice President), and Theda Silver-Pell (Secretary). This year I decided not to run for President, and Joe Spinney stepped up to that position. Instead, I volunteered for the Club Secretary position and David Beardslee volunteered to continue on as Vice President. There were no additional candidates and no dissenters, so the election was essentially unanimous. Thanks to everyone who showed up on September 12th 2010.

I also want to offer a special thanks to Theda Silver-Pell for her 3.5 years of service as the Torrey Hawks first Club Secretary. Theda is one of the 7 original founding members of the Hawks, and her Torrey Hawks member number is 4. Theda is mostly a paragliding pilot, but she carries on her uncle Alan Chuculate's tradition of supporting all forms of free flight. I want to offer a big thanks to Theda for stepping up when the Torrey Hawks needed her. *THANKS Theda!!*



From the President ... – As the Torrey Hawks new club Secretary, I (Bob Kuczewski) will probably carry on the duty of writing the monthly newsletter, but we'll also be including special announcements from our new club President, Joe Spinney whenever he wants to address the club. Here's Joe's first such message to the Hawks ...

Hello Hawks,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be President of the Torrey Hawks. I have a good relationship with the management at Torrey so I plan to use that relationship to keep communication open and hopefully make some positive changes. We will be updating the website with the current list of projects/goals so once that happens, feel free to contact me if you feel anything needs to be added or removed.

As incentive to get more of you off the cliff on the typical barely soarable days, I'm offering to carry up your wing (once per day) so you'll have no reason to not fly.

I look forward to seeing you out there on second Sundays or any time.

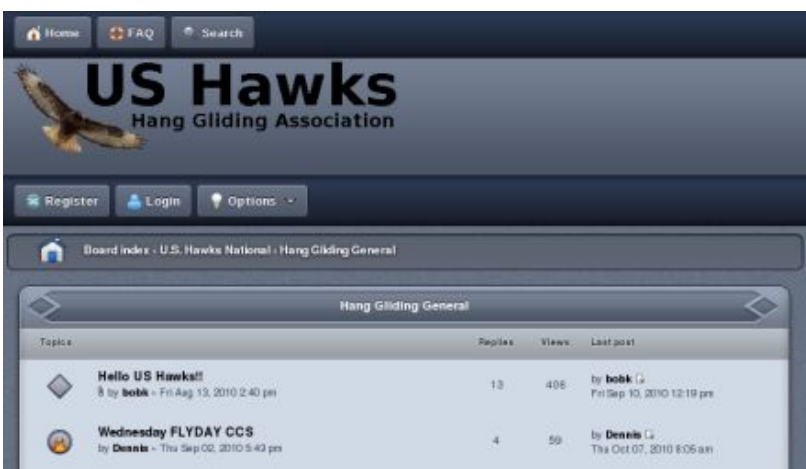
-Joe Spinney

I haven't tested Joe's “carry up” offer yet, but I encourage all Torrey Hawks to take advantage of this great offer whenever you find the need!!! Thanks Joe, and thanks for stepping up as the new President of the Hawks!! :)

New Torrey Hawks Club Forum –

For most of the Torrey Hawks' history, we've been using a forum donated by one of our members (torreyhawksforum.org). Unfortunately, that member has decided to close the forum and as a parting “gift” he has locked out all members and defaced the forum for us. I had asked on numerous occasions to transfer the postings, private messages, and domain name (even offering to pay for the registration), but the owner refused to relinquish the data or the domain name. Our new club president has also asked and was also refused.

This is a sad situation, but the Torrey Hawks club has a history of turning lemons into lemonade. So we're now carrying on with our own forum in conjunction with the new national hang gliding forum at USHawks.org. To get to the new Torrey Hawks Forum, just go to that web site (ushawks.org), and click on the Torrey Hawks Forum section. Registration is free for everyone, and there are no advertisements. In addition to the Torrey Hawks Forum, the US Hawks also features a forum for national hang gliding discussions (Hang Gliding General) and forums for all local Chapters of the US Hawks (Torrey Hawks, Tooele Hawks, Lakeview Hawks, and Southwest Texas Hang Gliders). The US Hawks is building on the local chapter model, and all local clubs are welcome as member chapters. Chapter membership in the US Hawks is free as well.



Second Sundays at Torrey – The next Second Sunday Fly In is on **10/10/10** (October 10th, 2010). Come on out to enjoy the flying at Torrey Pines, meet other Torrey Hawks members, and enjoy our standard selection of free sandwiches, snacks, and sodas. As usual, my Falcon 3 / 195 will be available for use by qualified club members (H4 with current USHPA and Torrey paperwork). Just stop by with your harness and helmet to give it a spin. Also, David Beardslee is back from his summer up north, and I hope he'll be there this Sunday to offer free tandem flights for our non-H4 pilots and family members. We try to make it fun for everyone!

Our Second Sunday fly-ins have been slowly growing over time in both members and activities. This past month (September 12th) we had a special appearance by Maralys Wills who has written numerous books including her recent release of “Higher Than Eagles”. It's a fantastic book covering the early history of hang gliding as seen from the Wills family's perspective. In addition to her [book signing at Torrey](#), Maralys also appeared at several other local clubs (including Crestline and Sylmar) for book signings to celebrate this [new release](#). These pictures are from all 3 clubs...



Torrey Pines Soaring Council Status – The Soaring Council met in September and USHPA's representative (Ken Baier) once again did not request the addition of the Hawks (or any club) pursuant to the motion passed by the entire USHPA Board in the spring of 2010. It is disappointing that the entire USHPA Board can pass a resolution to increase our membership, and yet month after month nothing is done to fulfill that resolution.

Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board Status – The Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board hasn't met since May, and it's possible they might never meet again. Again, I feel we lost a great opportunity for ongoing pilot involvement at Torrey and I am disappointed in all the flight representatives who allowed this to happen.

Ongoing Tandem Fee Problems – The \$100 outside tandem fee issue remains unresolved.

Pilot Profile: Second Sundays – To be honest, writing the pilot profiles takes a lot of work, so I've been “cheating” by reusing a few of the old ones (sorry about that). This month will be a little different (I'll be “cheating” differently). Instead of writing an actual Pilot Profile, I've included a photo collage from our Second Sundays since we began holding them in the spring of 2009. I hope you enjoy the photos, but I'm also hoping to get some more volunteers to write up pilot profiles on some of the great pilots we have in the Hawks. If anyone is interested in contributing a pilot profile on yourself or someone you know, please contact me by email or phone. Thanks!!

Until next month, thanks again for your membership, and please call me any time at 858-204-7499 with your thoughts.

Bob Kuczewski,
Secretary and Founder - Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club