

Members of Region 3,

My name is Bob Kuczewski, and I am an H4/P4 pilot from the San Diego area. I flew my first hang glider flights in 1978 and my first paraglider flights in 1990. But I didn't take up these sports seriously until 2004. I also have a private pilot's license (with a seaplane rating) from the late 70's, and I've flown sailplanes and RC models as well. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, and I've worked as an engineer for almost 25 years. I've published numerous papers in the field of artificial intelligence and I hold a United States patent on an interactive learning system for kids. You can read my pilot profile in the August 2007 edition of Hang Gliding & Paragliding Magazine.

In 2007 I founded the Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club, and we've grown from 7 members to almost 130 members in that short time. I have also been a supporting club member at Sylmar, Crestline, Elsinore, Soboba, Horse, Little Black, Torrey, and others. I have written letters, spoken at meetings, and made financial contributions to help preserve many of those sites. I have worked for two years to bring the multi-wingual Torrey Pines Soaring Council back together, and I am the only hang glider or paraglider pilot to attend all of the Council's meetings in those two years.

I want to be your regional director because I want all pilots in our region (both hang gliding and paragliding) to have better representation at USHPA.

Here are some things that I will do (including many that I've already done):

- I will work toward fairness for all pilots at all sites.
- I will support the rights of all pilots to fly safely at all sites.
- I will write letters and attend meetings for site preservation.
- I will ensure that all local clubs get fair representation at USHPA.
- I will maintain an open door policy for all comments from all pilots.
- I will support hang gliding and paragliding fairly and equally.
- I will represent pilots and businesses fairly and equally.

More importantly, here's what I won't do:

- I will NOT bully pilots.
- I will NOT suspend flying privileges without due process.
- I will NOT endorse USHPA SOP changes that threaten individual rights.
- I will NOT use my Regional Directorship to obtain awards for my own business.
- I will NOT support disparate site ratings (P0/H4) for monetary benefit.
- I will NOT prevent qualified tandem pilots from flying at any sites.
- I will NOT put business interests ahead of pilot's interests.

I am passionate about both flying and fairness, but there's far more to say on these topics than I can squeeze into 500 words. Here are some additional resources:

Statements and Endorsements: torreyhawks.org/R3

Write to me any time: bobk@bluebottle.com

Call me any time, for any reason (or any challenge): 858-204-7499

Most of all, please vote. USHPA is only your club if you speak with your ballot.

Thank you,
Bob Kuczewski