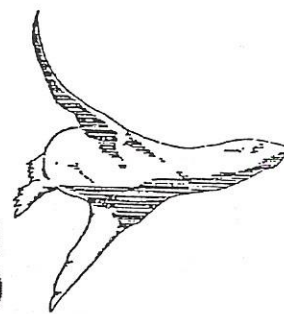




# THE SEA DIVERS



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE PERSPECTIVE . . . .

The club has (hopefully temporarily) lost two outstanding Executives - Ken and Dicie Sizemore. For personal reasons, Ken and Dicie have decided that they are unable to provide the club and the Executive Committee with the support we have enjoyed for the past years. Ken has been Diving Officer for for 6 years and Dicie, Program Chair for 6 years. Their collective support has been outstanding and above and beyond any norm out there. They will be sorely missed and we wish them both well. Many, many sincere thanks to Ken and Dicie.

John Mowrey has taken on the responsibilities of Diving Officer and has arranged a Divemaster Meeting for 17 August 1993. Art Hill will take the divemaster lead for the King Harbor Clean-Up in October (see flyer inside) and will serve as alternate to John. Art also is our GLACD representative. The Program Chair is open at this time; members of the Executive Committee will "fill in" until a volunteer can be found.

Other news -- one main item: YOUR DUES ARE DUE (ignore this plea if you've paid!)

AP

## PRESENTATION ON SECOND ANNUAL KING HARBOR CLEAN-UP

Our "entertainment" for the 3 August 1993 General Meeting will be a presentation on the activities leading up to our second clean-up for King Harbor scheduled for Sunday, 24 October 1993.

As a portion of the presentation we will run the edited video of the 1992 clean-up and have photos and articles available from that first annual event.

Speakers will include members of The Sea Divers Clean-Up Committee -- come along and begin your support of this major club event.

Note that we will also spend a few minutes discussing the diving schedules and events for 1994.

Join us at Petrellis on Tuesday, 3 August. Come out and support your club!!!!

## THE WILD ONE TO BEGG

21 AUGUST (Saturday)

BEGG ROCK

WILD WAVE

MEMBERS \$80

(INCLUDES STEAK DINNER; DRINKS, AIR)

NON-MEMBERS \$90

Boarding: 7:00 PM

Departure: 12:01 AM

Back to the fast boat, skull and crossbones and all! If you want to make a single day to Begg Rock this is THE dive and THE boat. We'll peel out of Cabrillo Marina at midnight sharp for a run at Begg Rock anticipating arrival at about 6:30 AM. Depending on ocean conditions, a Begg Rock dive is suitable for all except beginners -- if the ocean is "up," Begg Rock is only for advanced divers. Later dives around San Nicolas should be suitable for all skill levels.

Begg Rock is situated about 7 miles NNW of San Nicolas Island and is a small (in number) group of pinnacles that rise in spectacular fashion from over 100 feet, with rolling ledges and drop offs, to break the surface by 10 to 15 feet. Most of the rock is totally covered with anemones and other pinnacle sea life including the huge plate-size scallops. Most of the large scallops have been removed from the upper reaches of Begg Rock but they can still be found in quantity below 80 feet. Large fish abound and the video/photo buffs cannot find a better spot. Following our pinnacle dive we will move to San Nicolas Island.

San Nicolas, the outermost of the southern islands, is the least accessible island and thus retains a fair amount of large-size game. Active divers should have no problem reaching the limit of two abalone (pinks, greens and/or reds). Large fish of many varieties make for happy speargunners. Although not the best, photo/video-ites should find plenty to "shoot" in the environs of San Nic.

All in all, this promises to be a great single day on the Wild one -- especially with our all inclusive fare for air, food, snacks and beverages. Steak dinner will be served during the fairly long run back to Cabrillo. Sign up now -- this is a very popular charter. Bunks will be preassigned on a first PAID basis. Call Kathi (McNally) at (310) 370-1657 for sign-up. We'll have goodies too!!

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## TWO DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

10/11 SEPTEMBER (Fri/Sat)

WILSON'S ROCK/SAN MIGUEL

PEACE

MEMBERS \$175

(INCLUDES WHOLE ENCHILADA)

NON-MEMBERS \$190

Boarding: 7:00 PM

Departure: 2:00 AM

Another potentially great trip on the PEACE -- this time with a Sea Diver U/W photo competition thrown in! Details of the "Not-So-Annual U/W Photo Competition" are on page 3. For the trip we are heading for San Miguel Island which hopefully will include at least one run at Wilson Rock.

After leaving Ventura Marina we will head out on the lee side of Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands to make our first dive in or around the Santa Cruz Channel. Then working our way long Santa Rosa Island and into the San Miguel Passage crossing to San Miguel in the late morning timeframe.

Depending on weather and ocean conditions, we will dive the north and/or south side of the island, hopefully to include Wychoff Ledge, Crook Point, Cardwell Point, Bay Point and Harris Point -- either on the first day or following a Wilson Rock dive on the second day.

Needless to say San Miguel/Wilson Rock is dived and/or fished less than the other islands and their game, including large scallops, abalone (mostly reds) and a variety of fish, is significantly more plentiful. Photo competitors will have many opportunities for that winning shot. Looky-loos will not be disappointed. Although some of the dives, including Wilson Rock, typically require intermediate to advanced skills, many dives can be made by all skill levels -- ocean permitting!!

PEACE two-day dives are always fun filled which supplements the diving experiences -- don't miss this great September outing. Call Kathi (McNally) at (310) 370-1657 for early sign-up and bunk assignments. If you wish to enter the photo contest, call Steve (Kavanaugh) at (310) 429-8078 for sign-up and information. A GREAT TRIP WITH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!!!



## *The Sea Diver's Not-So-Annual U/W Photo Competition*

*When:* September 10-11, 1993  
*Where:* Wilson Rock/San Miguel Island on the Peace  
*Why:* Because you have to do something to justify having all that expensive u/w camera gear

*Come join the Sea Divers on our 2-day trip to Wilson Rock and San Miguel Island on September 10-11 for our not-so-annual u/w photo competition. It's been a while since we had an intra-club photo competition, which is a shame, cause we have plenty of talented "photophiles" in the club. It's always been allot of fun, so what the hell, let's do it again!*

*This time, however, we're going to do it a little different. Instead of having an open competition where a great local shot taken last month can be blown away by a super-visibility tropical shot taken in Fiji last year, we want everyone to have a chance at the top prize(s). To do so, we're going to have the competition limited to shots taken on one day of the September two-day trip. To make it even fairer, the entries must come from shots taken from one roll of slide film, issued by the club to each u/w photographer at the beginning of the event. The club will collect the exposed roll from each diver and will have them processed at AB Sea Photo. The processed slides will be returned to each participant who will have until the next club meeting (October 5th) to select a to-be-determined number of "gems" as entries for the competition. Entries and winning photos will be will be presented at a special slide show during the November meeting (November 2nd).*

*We haven't put together all the details yet, but we plan to award prizes for the top shots in a number of categories, such as wide angle, macro, etc. Allen Broder at AB Sea Photo has agreed to pseudo-sponsor the event and is donating 16 X 20, 11 X 14, and 8 X 10 Cibachrome prints as prizes (over \$100.00 value). You can also rent u/w photo gear from Allen (including the new Nikonos RS) to use for the event if you don't have your own. The club will also chip in with a free one-day boat trip as well as other prizes and awards.*

*The cost for this event will include film and processing at AB Sea Photo. We haven't settled on an exact cost yet but it will be low. Of course, to participate you must be on the September trip, so sign up early and get a good bunk space....you'll need it to store all those Pelican cases. This is going to be fun, so grease those O-rings and get ready to compete with your fellow u/w photographers. Details about the event will be published in the next newsletter. For more information, contact Steve Kavanaugh at (310) 429-8078.*



## A SOUTH PACIFIC ADVENTURE by Dave Nesheim

One of my dreams recently came true when I caught the Thursday evening flight to Nadi, Fiji, on the first leg of a trip taking me eventually to the Solomon Islands. After crossing the international date line, we arrived in Nadi early Saturday morning. We were met by a very accommodating representative from Sea Fiji who gave us our travel vouchers and directed us to our cab for a 2-1/2 hour drive around the island to the Ocean Pacific Club of Fiji. This resort is on the peninsula just past Pacific Harbor. We immediately boarded the 52' ADI KUILA which was waiting for us to proceed out to Butaloo Yolu for our first dive of the day. So the adventure began! We spent several days on this liveaboard dive boat diving the reefs near Yanuca in Beqa Lagoon. There were many topside and UW photo opportunities. We also collected some dead Trivia, Cowries, Murex and Bubble shells from the beach at Yanuca after diving. While diving we were looking for live shells to photograph without much luck. All the dives were drift dives so we did not have to worry about navigating; the boat picked you up wherever you surfaced. We spent most of our time at various coral heads and lush canyons north of Kavuti at a place called Side Streets because we liked the spot so well. Beautiful multi-colored soft corals and vivid red and yellow gorgonias. The boat was very comfortable and had large fresh water tanks for soaking our UW cameras. There were no restrictions for experienced divers. The crew and the divemaster (Leon Peter) were very friendly and helpful. Leon has hopes of launching his own liveaboard dive boat, the 140' DONNA, in the South Pacific within a year or so. He is interested in the area near Bikini atoll. Talk about a hot dive spot!!! Our time ended too quickly and before you know it we were back at the Nadi airport to catch the Solomon Airline flight to Honiara, Guadalcanal.

We spent the next 10 days diving aboard the BILIKIKI. This is a first class operation, a 127' vessel with 10 air-conditioned staterooms below, ample outside and inside lounging and dining areas, galley and rear dive deck. Fantastic meals: homemade bread, rolls, fresh fish, lots of fruit and vegetables. The crew was great. Jim and Kay were personable hosts and responsive divemasters. We were waited on hand and foot. Fourteen crew (11 of them Solomon Islanders including the Captain) and only 10 divers this trip (the boat could take 20). We never had to lift a camera or tank in loading or unloading the "Tinnie" (the small boat used to take us to most of the dive sites). As in Fiji, almost all of the dives except the night dives were drift dives and the "Tinnie" drivers were excellent at spotting and picking up divers after surfacing.

In the evening the local villagers came out to the boat in their dugout canoes to sell their fruits, vegetables, shells, carvings and baskets. One of the villagers wanted to trade for my reading glasses after trying them on. I told him I couldn't get along without them, but that I'd send him a pair. I hope he gets them. His postal agent is on another island about 30 km away. He insisted that I accept a carving of a spider conch he had made as a gift and was confident he would get the glasses. He has a long way to paddle to see if he has some mail!

Purchasing the fruits and vegetables was one way the BILIKIKI reimbursed the Solomon Islanders for the privilege of diving on their reefs. Also the BILIKIKI does everything they can to protect the reefs. For example, there is no collecting of anything allowed (including dead shells) off the boat. The local Solomon Islanders do collect shells for sale that come up to the beach and in shallow water. Once the word got out that there was an interest in shells on the BILIKIKI this trip, there was plenty of opportunity for everyone to purchase shells. One of the Solomon Islander crew even sent a message to his mother about the shells and she showed up one night by herself in her dugout canoe with a lot of shells for sale. I am more interested in photographing live specimens anyway, so the restrictions on collecting did not bother me.

The dugout canoes used were something to see. They ranged from rather long (maybe 12 meters), very well constructed ones, some with flat sterns for mounting outboard motors on, to small ones (only 3 meters or so). All of them were just wide enough to sit in and without outriggers for stability. Some of the dugouts had a lot of water in them which they probably took on while paddling, particularly with a heavy load. One was paddling and bailing at the same time with a scoop attached to his foot -- no modern conveniences here!

The diving was done in three different locations: the Russell Islands, Mary Island and in the New Georgia Islands. The dives I enjoyed the most were at Mary Island, an uninhabited island between the Russell Islands and the New Georgia group. We spent a lot of bottom time here hanging out with giant schools of barracuda and jacks. There were many things to photograph: lion fish, clown fish, tridachna clams, nudibranchs, top shells, spider conchs, cones and cowries. Almost every day there were opportunities to do five dives a day so you could get all the bottom time you wanted. The walls were covered with marine life, hard and soft corals, sponges, sea fans, sea whips and anemones. The bigger fish tended to hang out in the strong current usually at deeper depths. The "Cut" at Leru Island was also interesting. This was like swimming down a crack in the earth with the jungle visible at the surface. The weather didn't have any impact on our diving though it usually rained every day for awhile and the sun even cooperated at times. We had a few beautiful rainbows! The last dive of the trip was on a WW II ammunition dump, lots of live munitions on the bottom even after all this time. When we returned to Honiara we had time to go shopping and went to the Saturday morning market. What an experience! There were shells for sale here, too. I was also pleased with what I found at the local shell shop. Before I know it it was time to catch a plane home.



## A SHARK ENCOUNTER OF THE THIRD KIND

It was Saturday, 24 July 1993. The Sea Divers were returning home from the two-day dive trip to San Nicolas and Santa Barbara Islands. The day was beautiful, warm and the sun was reflecting wonderfully on the gleaming sea. A few of us were relaxing on the sun deck and enjoying our ride back to port. Suddenly a small Cessna aircraft "buzzed" us making a sharp 180 degree turn at low altitude just above us. I thought, "Hey, that's pretty neat" and watched the pilot head back in a northerly direction. The skipper ran back and got a large fishing rig. By this time we started wondering what was going on. I was luck enough to go up forward to the bridge where the skipper changed course and headed the CHARISMA towards the now circling Cessna. We didn't know what the pilot was trying to show us, but we certainly would like to thank him now! The skipper thought that perhaps there was a school of tuna out there and was prepared to catch one. As we approached this very blue portion of the ocean almost four miles off Santa Barbara Island, we could see the ocean was a crimson color. There were sea gulls all over the place both floating in the water and flying above. The skipper switched to the controls on the outside of the bridge where he skillfully maneuvered CHARISMA ever so close to the scene. He said he thought the color was krill (schools of small crustaceans) that the tuna were feeding on. By this time everyone on board was at the rail of the boat. We saw something floating in the water, then, the skipper said it was a large sea lion.

The sea lion had a great bite taken out of it and the crimson color was, of course, blood flowing out his belly. I saw the great shape below the clear sea and said, "It's a Great White," with chills running down my spine. Everyone was making comments and we all tried not to yell as to scare it away. I had the feeling that it was a female. The skipper kept the scene within sight getting as close as we dared and being careful not to cut her with our screws. She was circling and circling and sometimes doing figure eight patterns beneath its prey floating on the surface. What a sight! She was a darkish grey on top and sometimes as she turned we could see the white color of her belly. Her body was tremendously wide. Everyone was inspired with awe. She looked like an F-16 fighter in the way she gracefully glided through the sea. We estimated her length to be 16 to 20 feet in length. Sometimes she would "check us out" and glide beneath the boat from stern to bow. One Sea Diver said our stern was 25 (correct - Editor!) feet wide and as she passed she was not too shy of length in being almost equal to the width of the boat.

The sea lion was a big bull with its bulbous head hanging down in the water. I figured he was at least 1,000 pounds and possibly more. In his belly was a large gap in the distinctive shape of a pointed crescent of the great white's bite. I know all of us wished we could just get our masks in the water to see the now circling prehistoric monster (right!! - Editor). We were watching a once-in-a-lifetime scene, a living Jurassic Park. We watched her for an hour. We would get back to the harbor a little late but no one cared about time, it was worth it! She would circle beneath at about 20 feet depth, and then 10 feet, then at 5 feet she opened her mouth. We could even see her teeth! Closer and closer she got to the floating sea lion. At the right moment, she would align herself for the next bite of the belly and the dorsal fin and head would pop out of the water as she took the bite. Everyone was thrilled! We were watching nature as it happened. She had the sea lion in her mouth as she took it down thrashing the sea with her tail. What was left of the mammal again floated to the surface. We could see the chest cavity. As the Great White would digest the bite she would again visit the CHARISMA so we could all get another terrific view of this graceful creature. She returned for us to view one last bite as she crunched through the ribs as if they were toothpicks, again carrying the sea lion down and thrashing the surface with her mighty tail. Every time she took a bite, we could see her protective eyelids closing. This was the last bite we enthusiastically saw with the skipper saying, "Well folks, we'd better get back to port." And with that we applauded and thanked him for bringing us over to see this amazing sight.

The Sea Divers again had a good boat, good crew, good dives, and a fantastic sight of the Pacific sea life.

### AUGUST 1993

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 3  
August 12  
August 21  
August 28

General Meeting - 7 PM - Petrelli's  
Executive Meeting - 7:00 PM - Shibaraku Restaurant  
Boat Dive, Begg Rock - WILD WAVE  
Beach Dive, Shaw's Cove, Laguna

### SEPTEMBER 1993

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

September 7  
September 10-11  
September 16  
September 25

General Meeting - 7 PM - Petrelli's  
Boat Dive, Wilson Rock/San Miguel - PEACE  
Executive Meeting - 7:00 PM - Shibaraku Restaurant  
Small Boat Dive, Palos Verdes (King Harbor)

### OCTOBER 1993

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	1	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

October 5  
October 8  
October 14  
October 24  
October 29/30  
October 31

General Meeting - 7 PM - Petrelli's  
Boat Dive, Santa Barbara - WILD WAVE  
Executive Meeting - 7:00 PM - Shibaraku Restaurant  
King Harbor Clean-Up  
Boat Dive, Cortes Banks - WILD WAVE  
Beach Dive, Pumpkin Carving - White Point

### THE SEA DIVERS

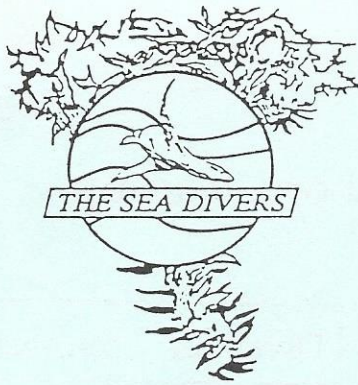
P.O. BOX 2415  
REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED







## Second Annual King Harbor Clean-up

**Activity:** Redondo Beach, King Harbor Underwater Clean-Up

**Date:** October 24, 1993

**Time:** 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Diving 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon)

**Location:** Six Areas Encompassing All Main Basins of the King Harbor Complex

**Registration:** Pre-registered Divers and Surface Support Personnel must Register by October 14, 1993 by sending \$20 to:

The Sea Divers  
P.O. Box 2415  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

**What you get:** A great opportunity to continue the clean-up of a major local harbor; Clean-up T-shirt; Bag of Goodies; Lunch at Edison Whaling Wall; etc., etc.

**Plus:** Diver Awards - Largest; Heaviest; Smallest; Oldest; Most Unusual; Most Amusing; Classic/Antique Bottle; Most Valuable; Special A; Special B.  
Surface Awards - Energetic; Team Spirit; Leadership; Surface Items.  
Door Prizes - Includes a trip for two; etc., etc.

**Proceeds to:** Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber

**Information:** (310) 545-6393 (evening) - (310) 813-1903 (day)

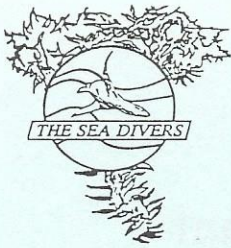
This major event is organized by The Sea Divers (Est. 1965) and is sponsored, among others by:



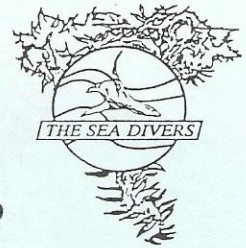
*Harbor & Pier Association  
Redondo Beach  
California*







## Registration



### Second Annual King Harbor Clean-up

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Diver ☐ Surface Support ☐

Phone: (      ) \_\_\_\_\_ (day) (      ) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening)

Certification Agency (Divers): \_\_\_\_\_

Certification Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation (If any): \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

We will be diving in six areas. If you wish to dive with or support a group and/or a specific buddy please indicate group and/or buddy below.

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Buddy: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you participate in this event in 1992 ?      Yes ☐      No ☐

Would you like information on The Sea Divers?      Yes ☐      No ☐

(over)