

IN AFFILIATION WITH AMERICAN DIVING

FROM THE EXECUTIVE POLL...

Well, we decided on our new General Meeting venue...National Sports Grill - map below, details inside!! We considered quite a few places and our final vote was not overwhelming. See you there on 5 March 1996.

Two major decisions remain open at this time. The first relates to our divemaster core which has slimmed way down in numbers and to the relative costs both to the club and to the individual divemasters for insurance. The cost effectivity of supporting our own divemasters may drive us to use boat divemasters as we already do on *Peace*. We will vote on this before mid-year. The second item is much easier and relates to our once a year dive trip to La Paz or ??? The ??? is the question. Any ideas welcome. We are presently considering a La Paz (2-3 days) and Punta Pescadero (2-3 days) combination. We know La Paz and the diving well. Punta Pescadero is a quiet small primarily fishing village a little further south. Kick back type vacation!

Note also that only red abalone can be taken when the season opens 1 March 1996. Details inside!!



and commercial harvest. What are the time frames needed to effect a recovery of the abalone resources, and how can those resources be conserved in the future? These topics and their relationship to abalone biology will be discussed during a slide presentation by Pete Haaker, an Associate Marine Biologist with the Department of Fish and Game. Pete is the Project Leader of the Nearshore Invertebrate Evaluation Project working out of Long Beach and is currently concerned with abalone and sea urchins. Pete is also a NAUI Instructor, and a member of the Fish and Game Diving Safety Board which governs about 70 Department Divers. In addition to our speaker there will be a special auction at this months meeting. See page 5 for the details.

So come on down to our new General Meeting spot...The National Sports Grill at 3210 West Sepulveda in Torrance to hear Pete Haaker present the latest in the "Landecker Series" of monthly ertainment.



SINCE 1965 MARCH 1996 ISSUE Volume 96, Issue 03

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY

POSITION	NAME	DAY <u>PHONE</u>	EVENING <u>PHONE</u>	FAX
PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER DIVING OFFICER MEMBERSHIP CHAIR BOAT DIVE CHAIR BOAT DIVE RESERVATIONIST PROGRAM CHAIR NEWSLETTER EDITOR HOSPITALITY CHAIR GLACD REPRESENTATIVE	ALLEN PARKER KATHY DACEY MICHAEL BORDEN SHARON HALE JOHN MOWREY CAROLYN ROUTLEDGE JOHN TADLOCK KATHY KALOHI PETER LANDECKER KATHY DACEY KATHLEEN BENNETT PHIL BERGERON	813-2955 814-6131 814-4055 213-977-4045 809-4411, X2453 813-5047 N/A N/A 364-8725 814-6131 648-7036 813-0511	N/A 540-1044 984-9145 370-1416 370-1724 372-8376 714-645-1195 719-1816 374-0505 540-1044 714-645-1195 379-0972	814-5067 812-9976 814-5067 N/A 809-3568 813-8596 N/A N/A 364-5027 812-9976 N/A N/A

WRITING FOR THE SEA DIVERS NEWSLETTER

If you would like to write an article for the newsletter or you have an idea to improve it, please write to Editor Kathy Dacey, P.O. Box 2415, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, or call me at the above numbers. I am always in need of Lessons Learned articles and new graphics or cartoons. Inputs should be typed, but can be handwritten (not responsible for errors caused by illegible handwriting). Inputs may also be given to me via floopy media in any of the major word processing program formats. Permission is given to reproduce in whole or in part. Please credit the author and/or The Sea Divers Newsletter.

GENERAL MEETING

Held at 7:00 PM the first Tuesday of every month. A no-host social half-hour precedes the meeting from 6:30 to 7:00 PM and a feature presentation follows the business portion of the meeting. The meetings are held at National Sports Grill, 3210 West Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance - (310) 534-5700. Exit the San Diego Freeway (405) at Sepulveda Blvd. and turn west (left). Alternately, it may be reached by taking Hawthorne Blvd. to Sepulveda and turning east. It's just south of the Del Amo Mall on the corner of Sepulveda and Madrona (former Velvet Turtle).

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Held at 7:00 PM on Thursday the week following the General Meeting at Nelson's Landing at King Harbor (at the corner of Harbor and Beryl), across from the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	
CITY	ZIP CODE
HOME PHONE ()	WORK PHONE ()
ADDITIONAL NAME (FAMILY MEMBERSHIP)	
EMERGENCY CONTACT	PHONE ()
EMPLOYER	
CERT NUMBER	TYPE [PADI, NAUI, ETC.]
	DATE
(or equivalent	DATE OF LAST DIVE
Do you want your name on a dive buddy list? [] YES	[] NO
Type of diving preferred: beach/boat/skin	
	0 (to 6/30/96) (Annual dues 1 July - 30 June are \$24 single/\$36 family and are prorated quarterly for new members)
Please make your checks payable to THE SEA DIVERS and mail to:	

THE SEA DIVERS, P.O. BOX 2415, REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278

LOBSTER AND RED ABALONE

10 MAR 1996 (Sunday)

SAN NICOLAS

(Includes everything!)

ATLANTIS Boarding: 8:00 PM (3/9) Departure: 11:00 PM (3/9)

Non-Members \$95

Members \$85

New Members \$43

The 1995/96 lobster season is drawing to a close, the 1996 abalone season opens 1 March 1996. The mighty/flighty Joel Ingram will be at the helm of the *Atlantis*, now a knot or so faster after Joel's makeover. We'll be searching once more for the elusive and wily bugs. The weather has been quite good this year and we hope to get to the island in the early (still dark) timeframe to get in one night and three or four daylight dives. Those interested should bring fresh chem lights and at least one dive light. Red abalone, are also fairly abundant in some spots around San Nicolas and they don't move nearly so fast as those bugs do!! But you need to recognize the various species however, so you don't violate the new sport fishing regulations - only reds are legal this season.

For those of us that are not so lucky or skilled at the lobster or abalone stakes, fish provide a nice alternative with many different species to spear. Although not the prettiest underwater environment, San Nicolas can provide excellent opportunities for video or photography. The boat will depart at 11:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Diving around San Nicolas is suitable for all skill levels with ocean cooperation. Relative beginners should check with The Sea Divers' divemaster on duty before making a deep or potentially difficult dive. Call Kathy (Kalohi) at (310) 719-1816 for sign-ups and additional information. Bunks will be preassigned on a first pay/space available basis.

	DIVING ECONOMICALLY	
13 APRIL 1996 (Saturday)	CATALINA PINNACLES	CHARISMA
Members \$65*	(All inclusive!)	Boarding: 5:00 AM* (4/13)
Non-Members \$75*		Departure: 6:00 AM* (4/13)

New Members \$33*

The mighty *Charisma* will take us from 22nd Street to several of the pinnacles on the front side of Catalina. Ship Rock guards the approach to Isthmus Cove and aside from two shallow ledges astride the spine drops steeply to the sand close to 120 feet. Current can be a factor diving the pinnacle and is responsible for the typically high visibility in the area. The rock attracts a tremendous variety of sea life from the gargonia fans and the deeper octorals to yellowtail and the predator fish to large angel sharks in the sand. One of the best dives around for video, photography, or just looking.

Following the Ship Rock dive, we will move to one or two of the pinnacles toward the West End. Eagle Rock, Indian Rock, and the adjacent three pinnacles are likely candidates. For our last dive we will return to the Isthmus area to Bird Rock just to the SSE of Ship Rock. This will provide an opportunity to dive the north flat face which contains a vertical 60 foot wall and adjacent up to 90 foot deep kelp forests - another excellent dive. These are all spectacular dives and as choice of depth can be planned into your dives, they can typically be dived by all skill levels. High current, a feature last year, obviously increased the skill level requirements. Although not as abundant as on the other islands, scallops and fish are available for the persistent gamesperson.

As on most Sea Diver's charters, the trip includes air, food, snacks, and beverages. Call Kathy Kalohi at (310) 719-1816 for sign-up. Come along - check out our all inclusive price against anyone!!

*Overnights on-board available for \$5.00/person. There will be no preassigned bunks.

Oh Ye, Faint of Heart!!

Our first dive of 1996 was on *Charisma* to the backside of San Clemente. Two fronts accompanied with rain were supposed to pass through late Friday into Saturday and the second wave sometime Sunday - our dive day. There was no forecast for significant winds. Rain doesn't make waves, wind does!! Anyhow, the phone calls started early Saturday and to cut a long story short we had eight no-shows.

Sunday dawned clear and bright, with a few thin streaks of clouds. The ocean was flat. In fact the day was just beautiful - no wind, very warm sun - "Oh Ye, Faint of Heart"!!!

On to diving. Our first dive was at the four and a half fathom spot just west of Seal Cove. Nice dive with depths to 85 feet 58°F temperature and 60 to 80 feet visibility. Bugs were there with only a few legals to play with. John H. then attempted to move in closer to the backside shoreline, however once in less tan 45 feet of water or so, green set in. We finished up near the West End just off the backside. Nice dive with lots of crevices for bugs. We found the kindergarten, and grades one through seven, but no "active" teenagers or adults. Grandpa and grandma were nowhere around! Our third dive was just north and west of Northwest Harbor, a spot similar to dive two. Both spots had 59°F water, 60 feet or so visibility and depths to 50 or 60 feet. The final and fourth dive was off Koka Point again in clear relatively warm (for this time of year) water. Throughout it was calm.

For the cruise home the sun was very warm - good for early season tanning and quite a few were up on the "veranda" (a.k.a. sun-deck) doing just that. As we left the east end of Catalina a slight breeze came up but it remained essentially flat all the way. We had no strong contenders for booby prizes, except the club President and Vice President who were both diving after being sick on and off for over a month!! But it was such a nice day for diving and cruising.

February on Charisma.....

- "It's supposed to rain. It's sunny."
- "We're real wimp divers today."
- "I hate it when it's bathroom time after you suit up."
- "He's on the shit list."
- "I slept way over on my side so I wouldn't melt you."
- "I'm tired just walking on the boat."

"My nose feels like it's getting fried."

- "If we have their money, we don't care."
- "King size beds are too big. You get lost unless there's four of you."

"I'm getting too old for this."

"You guys are real quiet today - you must be sick." "Back already?"

"Hey, would you time our arrival back at the dock for high tide? The ramp's too steep."

"I'm pooped."



CORRECTION!!!

(Editor's note: The Fish and Game regulation change announcement in last month's newsletter was printed with an incorrect date. The following is the full text of the article from the GLACD newsletter.)

ABALONE CLOSURE

Green and white abalone have been closed to harvest effective March 1, 1996 for two years. The Fish and Game Commission voted at its last meeting in Sacramento to close both the sport and commercial harvest of green and white abalone. Pink abalone will also be closed for a two year period, but with the provision the Fish and Game Department should do a study and come back to the Commission within six months to determine if there should be an exception for this species. At an earlier Commission hearing commercial abalone dives maintained the pink populations were still healthy and the Department just didn't know where to look when assessing the species. A detailed survey should lay to rest once and for all the status of the health of the pink abalones.

Just remember, from here on out ONLY REDS MAY BE TAKEN. How much longer this species will remain healthy enough to be harvested is anyone's guess.

NEW GENERAL MEETING LOCATION!!

After searching high, low, and sideways to find a new spot for our General Meetings....we've finally found one! The new location is the National Sports Grill on Sepulveda Blvd. in Torrance. It has a good size smoke free room with a large screen TV, several smaller TV's, a VCR, a variety of inexpensive plentiful food, a good selection of beers and other beverages....what more could we ask for??? (Did I mention that it was smoke free?!?).

The National Sports Grill is located in the former Velvet Turtle location at 3210 West Sepulveda Blvd. in Torrance across from the Del Amo Mall (see map on front cover).

SPECIAL AUCTION:

A special auction will be held at this months General Meeting. We will be auctioning off a 1996 Season Pass for two people for the Civic Light Opera of the South Bay Cities. Based on box office costs, this certificate is worth over \$800!! This valuable prize was left over from the 4th Annual King Harbor CleanUp and we hope to raise a few dollars for the club with it before the season starts. The first show is "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" opening on Friday, March 15.

C'mon down to the next General Meeting on the 5th of March and check out our new home and make a bid on a great deal!

ATTENTION DIVERS!

Get Involved In A Worthy Cause And Have Fun Too!

California Chamber Day '96 — May 1

Wednesday, May 1, has been selected as the date for California Chamber Day '96, the eighth annual fund raiser to benefit two of the hyperbaric chamber programs operating in Southern California.

Hyperbaric chambers are the only means of treating embolism and bends, lifethreatening maladies that can affect divers. Because of the high amount of diving done in Southern California, the Catalina and Los Robles Hyperbaric Chambers are very active. And even though Los Angeles County funds one-third of the Catalina's Hyperbaric Chamber's costs, two-thirds of the chamber's budget must come from other sources. The Los Robles Chamber is privately operated, but divers needing the chamber are often uninsured for hyperbaric treatment.

Chamber Day was conceived as a way for recreational divers to have fun diving while at the same time making a financial contribution to the uninsured diver's fund for the Los Robles Chamber and support operations of the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber. The dive-charter boats operating out of Southern California donate their time and services for the day, and divers pay to dive aboard one of the participating boats. The divers get a chance to dive Catalina Island or the Northern Channel Islands for the day and Catalina visitors also get a walking tour of the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber facilities. Participants also receive a commemorative "Chamber Day '96" t-shirt. A raffle prize drawing for major pieces of dive equipment will also be conducted. All the money raised from the event goes to support the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber or into the Los Robles Chamber uninsured diver fund.

Chamber Day '96 will cost \$65, which includes a day of diving and the commemorative t-shirt. To sign up for the event, call (800) 348-3794. Requests to be on a specific boat can be made at sign up.

What Do Your Dues Pay For?

We have been asked several times about introducing another level of dues for club members who dive infrequently or not at all.

Essentially your annual dues pay for the running of the club - NOT the dive boats. Our primary outlay is about \$1.25 per copy for printing each newsletter and \$0.32 or \$0.52 apiece for mailing them each month. Other outlays are for other communications within the dive community, the IRS and related costs and some contributions to our small beach dive program.

The \$10 and \$15 difference on dive boats for non-club members is our way of making a few extra bucks from non-members, NOT a "cut" for members who are boat diving.

We, the Executive Committee, hope this clarifies were your very welcome dues are spent. If you have any further questions, please call Allen Parker at (310) 813-2955.



Dear Krabby

Dear Krabby,

I'm new to diving and have been attending the general meetings held by the various local dive clubs. The one thing I notice that all the clubs have in common (besides their interest in diving) is the respect and admiration they bestow on the club officials. Being the object of such an incredible amount of awe and veneration is the perfect position in which I may indulge my extraordinary narcissistic tendencies. I am eager to get on with the process, so how does one become a club official?

I. M. Wonderful

Dear Stuck-Up,

The two most common methods of becoming a club executive are:

- 1. Selecting a short straw or,
- 2. Being in the wrong place at the right time.

However, I bet a shrewd individual like yourself could schmooze your way into the executive branch and talk one (or probably all) of the current officials into transferrring their duties and lofty titles to you. Dear Krabby,

I've been to dive club meetings, dive stores, read dive magazines and periodicals but I can't seem to figure out where to get a dive buddy? Where do you find your dive buddies?

Nobody's Buddy

Dear Nobody,

I usually find my dive buddies on the boat....right where I left them!

Dear Krabby,

I'm getting into by 'golden years' and I was wondering how will I know when I'm too old to dive?

Old Fart

Dear Stinky,

I guess the deciding factor is if you can't meet the demands of your demand-type regulator then you are either: a) too old to dive or b) dead.

Dear Krabby,

When I was a kid my mother used to tell me that I should wait and hour to an hour and a half after eating before I go swimming. Does that advice still hold true for diving?

Life's Little Lesson Learner

Dear L⁴.

I'm not sure what the exact amount of time should be. It's been my experience that if you plan on going diving <u>immediately</u> after eating, the maitre d' gets pretty upset about all that dive gear in the dining room.

Send your questions to 'Dear Krabby', c/o The Sea Divers, P.O. Box 2415, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

1996 BEACH DIVE SCHEDULE						
DAY	DATE	WHERE	FEATURE	KEY CONTACT		
FRI-MON	23-26 FEB	AVALON HARBOR	CLEAN-UP, PARTY, ETC., ETC.	(TBD)		
SUN	23 JUNE	VETERAN'S PARK	REFRESHER, BOUILLABAISSE, POTLUCK	ALLEN PARKER		
SAT	10 AUG	SHAW'S COVE, LAGUNA	BEACH PARTY, POTLUCK	JIM MONROE		
FRI-MON	TBD AUG	LA BUFADORA, BAJA	DIVING, SUN AND FUN	KATHY KALOHI		
SUN	20 OCT	REDONDO BEACH	5TH KING HARBOR CLEAN-UP	NANCY COOK		
SUN	27 OCT	WHITE POINT	PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST	KATHLEEN BENNETT		

AMERICAN DIVING is a full service scuba diving facility. Our friendly and knowledgeable staff has been committed to excellence in customer service for more than 30 years. Our education department offers quality diving courses sponsored by NAUI (National Association of Underwater Instructors), an internationally recognized diver training organization. Our instructors offer courses at all levels from Openwater I through Assistant Instructor, plus a variety of Specialty Courses are available either at a group rate or by private instruction. We also offer local and international dive travel and can assist you in planning you adventures from day trips to the local islands to your wildest diving fantasy





1996 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE 96-1 96-2 96-3 96-4 96-5 96-4 96-5 96-6 96-5 96-7 96-7	SUN SUN SAT FRI/SAT FRI/SAT FRI/SAT FRI/SAT FRI/SAT FRI	DATE(S) 4 FEB 10 MAR 13 APR 1 MAY 10/11 MAY 1 JUNE 26/27 JULY 18 AUG 6/7 SEPT 11 OCT	DESTINATION SAN CLEMENTE (BACKSIDE) SAN NICOLAS CATALINA PINNACLES CHAMBER DAY 8 / CATALINA SAN MIGUEL/SANTA ROSA SANTA BARBARA BEGG ROCK/SAN NICOLAS PALOS VERDES RICHARDSON/WILSON ROCK SAN NICOLAS	PRICE* \$80 \$85 \$65 \$65* \$180 \$80 \$180 \$20* \$180 \$85	BOAT CHARISMA ATLANTIS CHARISMA CHARISMA PEACE ENCORE CHARISMA (Small Boats) PEACE ATLANTIS	LOCATION 22ND STREET CABRILLO MARINA 22ND STREET 22ND STREET VENTURA MARINA 22ND STREET 22ND STREET KING HARBOR VENTURA MARINA CABRILLO MARINA
	FRI SAT/SUN	11 OCT 2/3 NOV				

*Prices are all inclusive (air, food, and beverages). Non-members add \$10 for single day and \$15 for two-day dives. Dives 96-C8 and 96-SB do not include air, food, and beverages.

Atlantis - Cabrillo Marina

South on Harbor freeway, left on Gaffey, left on 22nd Street, right on Via Cabrillo Marina and follow all the way to the end, turning off the minitraffic circle onto Whaler's Walk and go to far end of parking lot. Boat is at the end of the walkway at Berth 31.

Charisma/Encore - 22nd Street Landing

South on Harbor freeway, left on Gaffey, left on 22nd Street, down the hill and park in designated areas.

Peace - Ventura Marina

North on Ventura freeway to Victoria Ave. in Ventura. Turn left onto Victoria and continue to Olivas Park Drive. Turn right and continue all the way down toward the beach and across Harbor Drive, go to the left onto Spinnaker Drive. Look for Milano's Italian Restaurant and turn right into the parking area. If you get to the end of Spinnaker, turn around and take the second left. Park adjacent to the berth (Slip #20) to unload, then park overnight in the last row adjacent to Spinnaker Drive.

DIVE BOAT POLICY

A club member may, but is not required to, have a boat deposit on file with the club. A club member may make a reservation on an upcoming dive as follows:

- Unconfirmed reservations may be made for any boat dive at any time. To confirm a reservation, payment in full must be received. A)
- For single day dives, divers holding an unconfirmed reservation will be called 3 weeks prior to the dive and advised that payment in full is required no B) later than 15 days prior to the dive to be confirmed. Dive boat deposits will be considered as payment in full.
- C) For two day dives, divers holding unconfirmed reservations will be called 5 weeks prior to the dive and advised that payment in full is required no later than 30 days prior to the dive to be confirmed. Dive boat deposits may be used as part of the payment in full.
- D) If payment in full is not received by the deadline, the diver may be replaced by a wait listed diver who has paid in full.

Any reservation may be cancelled two weeks prior to a dive with a full refund. Cancellations will not be accepted within two weeks prior to the dive unless a diver holding a reservation can sell or transfer their reservation to another qualified diver. The dive reservationist will assist in this process, but is not responsible for providing paying alternates. When confirmation is received by the dive boat reservationist that a cancelling diver is being replaced by another qualified diver, the replacement diver is then fully responsible for the cost of the dive.

If a diver has a deposit on file with the club and uses that deposit to secure a reservation on a boat dive, he may not use that deposit to secure additional dives until he has paid the club for the first dive. Two years after a diver has ceased to be a member of the club, his unclaimed dive boat deposit will be forfeited to the club. Only club members of The Sea Divers and members of other selected clubs may make boat dive reservations prior to one month before a scheduled boat dive. Partial refunds from single day boats which do not make the advertised dive location will be passed on to members who request them within two weeks

BOAT DIVE RESERVATION FORM

DIVE DATE:	DESTINATION:	
NAME OF DIVER(S):		
PHONE (DAY): []	_ (EVE) []	COST OF DIVE \$
MEMBER [] YES [] NO	DATE OF LAST DIVE*	
Please make checks payable to THE SEA DIVERS and * Please include date of last dive for each diver	nd mail to:	<i>THE SEA DIVERS</i> P.O. Box 2415 Redondo Beach, CA 90278 (310) 719-1816

CALENDAR

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

March 5 March 10 March 14 March 21

April 2 April 11 April 13 General Meeting - 7 PM - National Sports Grill Boat Dive: San Nicolas - ATLANTIS Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Nelson's Landing King Harbor CleanUp Meeting - 6 PM - SCE Conference Room

General Meeting - 7 PM - National Sports Grill Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Nelson's Landing Boat Dive: Catalina Pinnacles - *CHARISMA*

	MAY							
S	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			

May 1 May 7 May 10-11 May 16

Boat Dive: Chamber Day #8 - CHARISMA General Meeting - 7 PM - National Sports Grill Boat Dive: San Miguel/Santa Rosa - PEACE Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Nelson's Landing

THE SEA DIVERS P.O. BOX 2415 REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278

FIRST CLASS MAIL ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

