

PARADISE Dive Club

June 2005

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Volume 11, Issue 6



President's Log

by Ray Janik

Now *this* is more like it. For a while there, I was starting to think that the sun was going to keep playing hide-and-seek forever—just popping out long enough to get my hopes up before disappearing behind another spate of gray skies and drizzle. But one of the best things about being a member of PDC is that the “Paradise” part isn’t just a figure of speech.

Several members of the club had a chance to join Ed Stetson for his annual trip to Santa Catalina Island. It was my first chance to dive in the marine park at Casino Point, and it certainly didn’t disappoint. The preserve looks deceptively small from the surface, but manages to pack in plenty once you get in the water. The density and diversity is amazing, as is the size of otherwise familiar local fish. Those little greenlings and sea bass we see closer to home can, apparently, get pretty darn big when left to their own devices. In addition to healthy fish and kelp, we were also treated to some less common sights: schools of mackerel; barracuda; and—for a few lucky divers—a visit from a giant sea bass estimated to go 300 pounds. My personal favorite moment was stepping into the water, looking down, and coming face-to-face with a big ’ol harbor seal floating serenely about a foot below me. Throw in diver-friendly digs and a nice BBQ and you just couldn’t ask for a much nicer weekend.

After taking a few days to dry out the dive gear, air out the camping stuff, and put in an appearance or two at work, we were off to Santa Cruz for four days of camping, hiking, paddling, diving, and fine campsite cuisine. This is always a great trip, and this year was no exception. I was particularly impressed by the

dedication of the kayakers in the group, who were making the turnaround from an epic trip about the time I was waking up most mornings. Things have changed a lot on the island since I first visited. The availability of running water really opened the site up, and between the newly renovated “facilities” and nightly IMAX screenings, it’s definitely a less primitive experience. The good news is that it’s still pretty easy to lose yourself on the trails. We never had them all to ourselves, but we had a lot of time between meeting other hikers.

The logistics for this year’s trip were a little more complicated than in the past, and I want to say a special thank you to two of the clubs sponsors: the folks at Truth Aquatics who got us out there despite high fuel costs and having to juggle their schedule due to *Conception’s* being out of commission, and the folks at Anacapa Dive Center who graciously shared their charter with us for the ride back. Be sure to say “thanks” the next time you drop in at either business.

So, the sun’s out, the water’s warming up, and we have lots of fun events planned for the summer. Be sure to read on for information about upcoming beach dives, our scuba swap meet, and a chance to trade in some blood for a free dinner.



Santa Cruz Island—photo by Ray Janik

Join the club, enjoy the benefits

- ∅ Monthly meetings with entertainment
- ∅ Raffle prizes (who doesn’t like prizes?)
- ∅ Great dive buddy pool
- ∅ Beach & boat dives, including weekly night dives
- ∅ Club BBQs & other activities
- ∅ Free airfills & gear discounts at local dive shops
- ∅ Right to proudly wear the official PDC t-shirt (because we do have the coolest logo)

Mark your calendars...

We meet on the last Tuesday of the month

Rusty’s Pizza, Goleta

in the K-mart Center, 270 Storke Road

6:30 pm - social hour

7-8:30 pm - feeding frenzy, meeting,
raffle prizes, entertainment



Bulletin Board

- We're having another **PDC blood drive** on **Friday, June 3, 3:30-7pm**, at Shoreline Park. Club member Jerry Sorich is once again offering BBQ tri-tip or salmon for donors. Any questions, contact Jerry at jasorich@cox.net or 692-9507.
- Mark your calendars for our **club dive, BBQ, and annual scuba swap meet** at Hendry's (Arroyo Burro) on **Sunday, June 26**. Divers meet at 10am; lunch will be around noon at the grassy picnic area. Clean out your closets and bring all that unused scuba gear to swap or sell.
- Paul Weakliem pointed out a recent news item about the **great white shark** that's been released from the Monterey Bay Aquarium. The shark was tagged to allow further research; this tag was recovered on May 5 west of Point Arguello, near Santa Barbara. Don't worry, she's just a juvenile—a mere 6'4", 162 pounds.
- The **Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Foundation** is sponsoring a special **25th anniversary photo contest**. Submit one or more of your favorite topside or underwater photos taken in the last 25 years within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary or National Park by July 31; prizes will include a \$500 g.c. to Samy's Camera, trips to the Channel Islands, tickets to the Long Beach Aquarium, and a research cruise aboard the *Shearwater*. Application forms available at dive and camera stores, or online at <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/anniversary.html>.
- Are your photos not quite contest-ready? **Annie Crawley** (a PDC member when she's not off working and diving at exotic locations worldwide) is teaming up with Jody Helzer-Pesapane to offer an **underwater photography workshop** (for beginners and advanced) on **July 8-10**. Topics will include working with light underwater, composition, macro, wide angle, and more. Cost is \$275; call Anacapa Dive Center at 963-8917 to reserve a spot. For more info, contact Annie at anniecrawley@yahoo.com or 453-1947. A video workshop is planned for August. Annie is an accomplished filmmaker and photographer whose work has been featured in *Sport Diver* and many other publications, so this is a great opportunity to learn from a pro.

Paradise Dive Club Officers

President - Ray Janik	637-4486
Vice President - Dan Lindsay	964-5020
Secretary - Carl Gwinn	968-5694
Treasurer - Mark Silva	969-2014
Membership - Bruce King	452-7590
Newsletter - Stacey Janik	637-4487
Sgt at Arms - Steve Trainoff	571-1622
Entertainment - Mark Bursek	564-1923
Raffle - Ralph Goldsen	681-0400
Webmaster - Ray Janik	637-4486
Historian - Cheryl Weakliem	967-2827

Sponsors:

Anacapa Dive Center	963-8917
Aquatics	967-4456
Blue Water Hunter	564-6677
Truth Aquatics	962-1127

Visit our Web site at
<http://kelp.chem.ucsb.edu>

E-mail newsletter articles to
sjanik@gmail.com

Membership: \$30/year (May-April); \$25/year for renewing members. Includes monthly newsletter. A complimentary subscription will be provided to dive clubs that reciprocate with a subscription to their newsletter; contact the membership coordinator at kingbh@cox.net for details.

Dear Members,

Membership has been very strong this past year with over 80 divers on the club roster. The monthly club meetings have been well attended and we've had a steady flow of new members joining each month. I hope that you have found the meetings to be fun, entertaining, and of interest to you, and that the newsletters have been a good source of information on dive activities both local and abroad. Please remember to renew your membership (and keep receiving this newsletter) if you haven't already done so. Membership dues help offset the costs of printing and sending out newsletters, providing food for our BBQs & campouts, and many other club activities. You can pick up a membership form at the next meeting or download one from the website at <http://kelp.chem.ucsb.edu/membership/membership.htm>. Send the completed form along with the annual membership dues (\$25 for renewals) to Paradise Dive Club, PO Box 21311, Santa Barbara, CA 93121. See you in the water and at the meetings.

Thank you,
Bruce King
PDC Membership Coordinator

Welcome to our new members!

Richard Cirincione, Alexandre Ferrand, Michael Ring, Akiles Ceron

Santa Cruz Island Trip Log, May 12-15

Back by popular demand... memories of another great PDC camping/diving/kayaking/hiking/hangin'-around-drinkin'-beer trip to beautiful Santa Cruz Island.

“Another rough weekend with outstanding friends! Overdosed on great weather!” –Dan Lindsay

“Conditions were excellent for photos. Great to check out Dan’s photo gear.” –Carl Gwinn

“Giant schools of blacksmith in the kelp. Patty’s beer.” –Beth Gwinn



View from Smuggler's—photo by Dan Lindsay

“I made it to Potato Harbor in my kayak this year. Thanks to Doug who helped me improve my paddling technique, and the wind gods who didn't torture us.” –Patty Bryant



Scorpion Cove—photo by Dan Lindsay

“What’s with all the commotion about wind and rain? Good friends, good weather, good kayaking, snorkeling, and hiking—what else could you ask for?” –Craig Adams



Paul & Jonathan enjoy the view—photo by Carl Gwinn

“Paddled around in circles in our borrowed kayak. Enjoyed the can’t-miss hike to Smuggler’s. Ate well off the generosity of friends. Learned an important camping lesson from Dorothy—a Ziploc of margarita packs easier than beer, and what could be better after a long, dusty hike?” –Stacey Janik

“Movies and popcorn on the island? Cheesecake?! Something for everyone on this trip. A long afternoon nap for me.” –Cheryl Weakliem

[Illegible, presumably profound] –Jonathan Weakliem



Soaring hawk—photo by Stacey Janik

“Getting lost between two cliffs and realizing several miles in that they weren't going to end. Snorkeling in the most wetsuit material I've ever worn. Awesome.” –Emelia Wakamatsu

“Craig’s cave tour was great! Even 12-year-old newbies felt something like courage going into black space on a rushing wave. The water was clear and sparkly; buddies could actually see each other. Not long enough—still have food and booze left over.” –Dorothy Wakamatsu



Doug, Dave, Patty & Cheryl—photo by Carl Gwinn



Thanks to Dan Lindsay for a lively PDC happy hour at Sharkeez!

May 31 Meeting Entertainment

Bob Evans

Local diver and designer of the innovative Force Fins will talk with us about Bonaire

Conception Update

Good news: the *Conception* may make a reappearance as soon as August! Turning misfortune into opportunity, Glen and the good folks at Truth Aquatics are not only repairing but also renovating and improving our favorite dive boat. See www.truthaquatics.com/conception_repair.html for updates.

Here are a few club members' memories of favorite trips on the *Conception*:

"The *Conception* made a great place to wait out the Y2K bug! Beth and I recall the 'Millennium Trip' aboard the *Conception* over New Year's, 1999-2000. We were underwater, shooting some of our first underwater photos with a housed SLR, when all four digits in the year changed. The global village was still functioning, as much as it had been, when the *Conception* returned to Sea Landing a few days later." —Carl Gwinn

"Ray and I did our first multi-day trip to the islands on the *Conception* back in 2001, for a REEF fish-counting trip. The relaxed pace and beautiful dives really made me appreciate what a great 'vacation destination' we have in our own backyard." —Stacey Janik

"Every time that I have been on the *Conception* it has been a great trip. However, the trips that stand out in my mind are Ed Stetson's reunion trips. One year we arrived at Santa Barbara Island which was our destination, only to find huge swells all around the island. Jerry & Ed decided that since we were so close already, we might as well head down to Catalina. Diving the west end of Catalina off the *Conception* was quite a treat. That was definitely a trip that I will not forget." —Patty Bryant

"Cheryl and I went on a 4-day trip to San Clemente Island on the *Conception* for our tenth anniversary. The day of our anniversary was the final day at the island, and we enjoyed a spectacular day of diving, and that evening some Navy SEALs swam out to the boat and drank beer with us and told stories. It was a great day. At midnight, we started underway back home and as soon as we rounded the island we hit huge swells—the trip became known as the poltergeist trip, as things were flying around the cabin and galley, lights came out of the ceiling, etc. Even now, eight years later, we can reminisce with the old-timers down at Sea Landing about that trip!" —Paul & Cheryl Weakliem

"My very first trip on a boat was on the *Conception* out to camp at Santa Cruz Island when I was 4 months old—I even got a bonus ride in the *Avon*! I had a great time camping, and we also had a memorable trip back when, in high seas, we hit one wave hard enough to break a section of rail off the boat! I hope to be back to enjoy the *Conception* many more times!" —Jonathan Weakliem



Conception in dry dock—photo by Adam Waskevics

Get on Board! June Boat Trips

- Sunday, June 5, on *Truth*, 6am departure, \$100. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Sunday, June 19, on *Peace*, 7am departure, \$100. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Sunday, June 26, on *Peace*, 7am departure, \$100. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Sunday, June 26, on *Spectre*, 7am departure, \$79. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.

Catalina Trip, April 29-May 1

Ed Stetson's Catalina trip was a blast. Beautiful weather and a great group of people made for a terrific weekend. Below are some photo postcards from a couple of our club members.

Freediving Trips

Andy Taylor at Blue Water Hunter wants our club members to know about their upcoming freediving trips aboard the *Peace* out of Ventura.

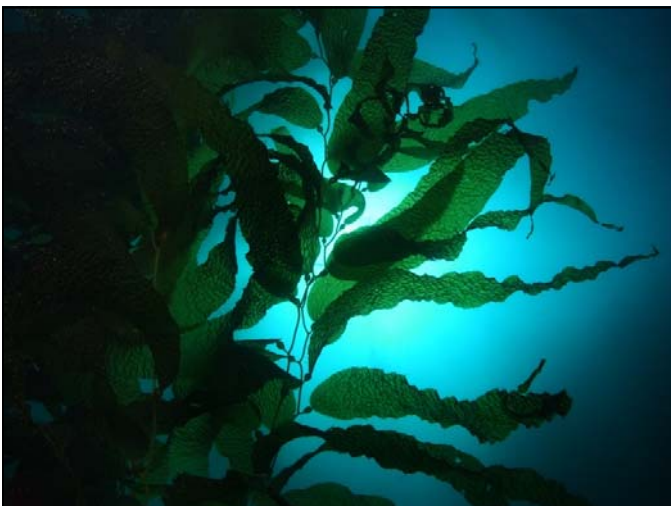
He writes, "We have all levels of experience on the boat and it's a great way to meet other freedivers and get some good experience and advice at some of the most beautiful and productive areas in our waters."

Contact Andy at blueh2o@west.net or 564-6677 to sign up or find out more. All trips are strictly freediving. Food is provided; Andy recommends you bring your sleeping bag, fishing license, cooler with ice for your fish, some kind of dive float, and all your dive gear.

- June 16-17, San Nicolas Island, \$250 (departs 9pm on the 15th)
- July 13, Santa Cruz / Santa Rosa, \$85 (departs 2am)
- September 6-8, Cortes Banks / Santa Barbara Island, \$400 (departs 9pm on the 5th)




Clockwise from top left: moray eel—photo by Will Chen. Will Chen in action—photo by Steve Trainoff. Juvenile garibaldi—photo by Will Chen. Kelp in sunlight—photo by Steve Trainoff



June 2005

Don't forget...
MONTHLY MEETINGS
May 31 and June 28
 Rusty's Pizza in Goleta

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Blood drive @ Shoreline	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Dive/ BBQ at Hendry's	27		29	30		

Upcoming Events

- Blood drive & BBQ at Shoreline Park, 6/3, 3:30-7pm.
- Hendry's Beach dive (10am) & BBQ (noon) 6/26
- Campus Point dive along the pipeline, 7/23

Wednesday night dives: To find out where the group is diving or to be added to the night dive e-mail list, contact Dan Lindsay at edgy01@aol.com or 964-5020.



P.O. Box 21311
 Santa Barbara, CA 93121



22 Anacapa Street
 Santa Barbara, CA 93101
 805-963-8917
<http://www.anacapadivecenter.com>



5822 Hollister Avenue
 Goleta, CA 93117
 805-967-4456
<http://www.sbaquatics.com>



117-D Harbor Way
 Santa Barbara, CA 93109
 805-564-6677
<http://www.blueh20.com>



301 West Cabrillo Boulevard
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 805-962-1127
<http://www.truthaquatics.com>

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