

PARADISE Dive Club

August 2005

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Volume 11, Issue 8



President's Log

by Ray Janik

Friday morning, 5:45 a.m. My last day in Washington, D.C. There's nothing like eight days of hotels, heat, and humidity to remind you of how nice it is to be in Santa Barbara. A little rush-hour morning traffic, a few minutes of probing by the TSA, a few bumps in the air over the desert, and a few hours of delays in Las Vegas and I'm ready to kiss the ground when I deplane in S.B.

We pack up our dive gear and head down to the harbor. There are those who don't like to sleep on the boat the night before a dive trip, but for me it's kind of like a giant waterbed. The bunks on the *Vision* are nice and comfy and the minimal wave action inside the harbor is very relaxing. Plus, no 6 a.m. wake-up call, so we sleep till we are almost halfway across the channel, getting up just in time for a little breakfast before beginning one of those trips that really reminds me of how lucky we are to have diving like this available in our very own backyard.

We started with a visit from a blue shark, cruising at the surface and gliding right in along the side of the boat. A little farther along, we passed through a huge pod of dolphins. I think they were on their way to breakfast because only a few took a shorter-than-usual break to surf the bow wave before re-joining their group.

Then it was time to actually get wet. The day's diving took us to the north side of Santa Cruz Island: Quail Rock, Arch Rock, and Cuevo Valdez. Although the weather was a little overcast, the viz was good, the kelp heavy and healthy,

and the occasional ray of sunshine broke through to spotlight a particular section of the reef or patch of kelp.

The main purpose of our trip (other than having a great time) was to participate in the Great Annual Fish Count, so the sites were selected for the data they would provide to the ongoing collection of information on fish populations. Fish count dives always offer an opportunity to re-focus on the fish as something other than photographic subjects, potential dinner, or colorful background actors on our dives. We were lucky to see several schools of juvenile rockfishes, and other interesting fish/behaviors. At Arch Rock, most divers became part of several particularly playful harbor seals' daily underwater frolics.

After the dives, the club held a raffle for dozens of prizes provided by our generous sponsors, and broke up to discuss the particularly interesting sightings of the day, enjoy a calm crossing home, and to plan the next dive.



Dolphin riding the bow wave of the Vision—photo by Rob Budny

Join the club, get cool stuff

- ∅ 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

June 26 dive & picnic at Hendry's Beach—
photos by Stacey Janik



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 - Will Chen	560-8069
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.

Get on Board! Upcoming Boat Trips

- Sat. 8/13 on the *Spectre*, 7 a.m. departure, \$79. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.
- Sun. 8/28 on the *Peace*, 7 a.m. departure, \$100. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Mon. 9/5 (Labor Day) on the *Spectre*, 7 a.m. departure, \$79. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.
- 3-day free-diving trip to Cortez Banks/SB Island, 9/6-8 on the *Peace*, departs 9 p.m. on 9/5, \$400. Call Blue Water Hunter, 564-6677.



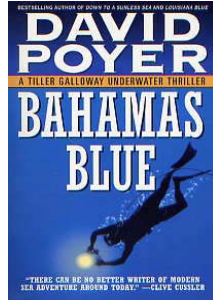
Bulletin Board

- We've done Hendry's, we've done Campus Point, now it's time to hit **Goleta Beach!** Mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 21**—we'll meet at 10 a.m. for a dive along the pier, then gather at the picnic site closest to the showers for a BBQ around noon. Meat will be provided; bring your own drinks and a side dish to share.
- Club member **Tim Graham** is selling **two tanks**, a **6.5mm DSI wetsuit**, and a **Pelican 1650 camera case**. His ads are posted at www.adzoid.com (look under sports and photography); contact Tim at gigadive@hotmail.com for the direct links or more info.
- You might notice that this month's newsletter is a little thinner than usual. We need writers! Get published, get famous—send in your trip reports, local dive reports, cool underwater photos, and ocean-related book reviews to sjanik@gmail.com. Don't forget, we have a terrific **end-of-year raffle for our newsletter contributors**; each submission gets you one raffle ticket (for non-board members only).

Book Review: David Poyer's Tiller Galloway Thrillers—by Carl Gwinn

Imagine yourself sitting in a diving bell atop an oil platform, compressed to 30 atmospheres. You face at least 10 days of decompression—and imagine that your dive buddy, also in the chamber, is a psychopathic murderer. You look out of a port to see a huge ship bearing down on the platform; and when it hits, it sends your chamber one thousand feet to the bottom, where your corrupt boss shows up in a exosuit, determined to finish you both off...

If this sounds reasonable, or at least doesn't put you to sleep, you might consider picking up one of David Poyer's Tiller Galloway novels, if you haven't already done so. Tiller is socially challenged, weighted down with a criminal record and a distinguished family tree, but he can engage in a gun battle while breathing oxygen to ward off the bends from an hours-long 100+ ft cave dive. These books involve quite a bit of bottom time, sandwiched between the drinking, fighting, and Tiller's pathetic attempts at keeping his long-suffering friends. Somehow most of the details escape me at the moment, but while I was reading them, they seemed to be plausibly related to the reality of diving. If you seek mindless entertainment, turn off the TV and order one of Tiller's adventures from Amazon.com. Most are available used for a few cents, plus shipping.



Wednesday Night Dive Reports—by Dan Lindsay


June 29 at Goleta Beach: “We had 8 divers from the club show up to take on the easy entry at Goleta Beach. Once again, it's been a little chilly out there, with temperatures in the low 60s at best, dipping into the 50s at depth—perhaps not a pronounced thermocline that you can feel at a specific depth, but certainly colder. We chose to look along the pipeline rocks for rockfish and any other fish hanging out. Given that it was a 7 p.m. dive in the summer, we had plenty of light and adequate visibility to make things a little easier. Of course, lights helped out a lot for peeking under rocks. I ran into a couple of healthy lingcod down there. One, just about at the legal size limit, was interrupted from his dinner as I came along. He eventually took a leisurely swim away, dinner still firmly held in his mouth. (Where's that photographer when you need him!)”

July 13 at Haskell's: “Five very adventurous divers from the Paradise Dive Club met at the exclusive (and small!) Bacara parking lot to brave the waters of the Pacific at Haskell's, one of the local favorites for many years—for beach-going, not diving. I thought it would be a good opportunity to try a place totally different and learn a little something about the underwater topography. After a considerable trek to the beach and then east (to the left) toward Sand Piper Golf Course, we entered the water just east of a vast number of surfers (first clue). There were a substantial number of rollers coming in but in time we worked our way out enough to encounter some oil/tar stirred up on the surface of the water. Depth below us was about 18 feet at that point. We decided to quickly head down to avoid the messy stuff and take up roughly an easterly heading to investigate this stretch of Goleta shoreline that divers ordinarily don't visit. The sandy bottom was nearly invisible, stirred up by the wave action back on the beach, and it was further obscured by what appeared to be plankton. Visibility was in the realm of inches, not feet. But on the positive side, we had warmer water than we have felt in months! It was in the low 60s—a far cry from the Monterey-type temperatures that we have mostly been diving in here. My buddy and I proceeded along toward ESE looking for clearer waters. The flashlight was definitely needed just to create some definition down there. Pilings. No wonder the Japanese bombed that area in 1942. It was once the site of significant offshore drilling activity, and evidence of that is everywhere. While maintaining a fairly straight line, I ran into countless wooden pilings that looked like telephone poles. They had significant growth on them and were generally cut off at the 12-15 ft point underwater to reduce their danger to marine traffic. After about 30 minutes of swimming blind, I came up to assess the situation. I found three of the four remaining divers on the beach, looking to the surf. I signaled and started heading in. On our way back to the parking lot, we ran into a surfer who was reportedly a part-time free diver. He claimed that he had seen, several times, a black sea bass in the waters off Haskell. He said to “beat on a piling to make noise, and that fish will swim up to see what's going on!” Next time we get a period of good visibility, let's go attract a black sea bass!

Divers interested in joining the weekly night dives can sign up for the mailing list by e-mailing Dan at edgy01@aol.com. The club will be diving at Goleta Beach on Sunday, August 21, at 10 a.m., with a BBQ following.

August 2005

Don't forget...
MONTHLY MEETINGS
July 26 and August 30
 Rusty's Pizza in Goleta

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Goleta Beach dive/BBQ	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29		31			

Upcoming Events

- Goleta Beach dive & picnic, 8/21
- Shoreline Café Happy Hour, 9/9
- Coastal Cleanup Day, 9/17

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
 Santa Barbara, CA 93101
 805-962-1127
<http://www.truthaquatics.com>

Special thanks to our sponsors for their support, including airfill donations and gear discounts!