

PARADISE Dive Club

July 2006

Visit us at <http://kelp.chem.ucsb.edu>

Volume 12, Issue 7



President's Log

by Dan Lindsay

The water's warming up and the spring storms are history, so it's time for more shore dives and visits to the Channel Islands. Aside from the standard Thursday night dives that we schedule, I'm trying to get us some weekend day dives going. With the price of even a single-day boat trip out to the islands, the shore dives here in Santa Barbara look even more inviting. Check the calendar in the back of the newsletter for more specifics.

We're beginning a new sign-up system for events—particularly events that require payment. We'll be asking for 'earnest money' so that we don't get stuck with unsold slots on a boat trip. With the price of fuel going up, our dive boat operations have to pass that cost on to everyone. I'm asking for a 20% deposit on trips when you sign up, because we need a commitment to reduce risk to the club. As you know, we're running this club on a minimum budget and our intent is not to make money, but rather, not to lose money. Striking that fine fiduciary balance can be difficult, and that's why we don't schedule and attempt to underwrite substantial dive trips.

We will soon be winding up our meetings at Rusty's in Goleta. Several months ago I asked our membership chair where our members actually reside, and the data was quite interesting.

About 50% of our members are south of the Route 154 line—and the other 50% are north of it. Clearly, when we meet well into one side or the other of town, we could be making the monthly meeting more difficult to attend for many of our members. Beginning with the July meeting (not THIS meeting at the end of June), we will be heading more centrally to Petrini's Family Restaurant off upper State near De La Vina, at 14 W. Calle Laureles.

Speaking of hosting meetings, Steve Trainoff will be covering for me at the end of this month as we get a terrific presentation on underwater photography by a Brooks underwater photography instructor. We appear to have a lot of photographers in the club now, so this would be a great opportunity to pick up some new shooting tips. Please plan on attending, our last at Rusty's.

I hope to see you soon on a shore dive or on a Thursday night dive!

This month's photo comes from club member Carl Gwinn, currently traveling in Russia. He writes, "It was part of an exhibit of inventions of Da Vinci at the giant G.U.M. department store in Red Square."



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

June meeting: Rusty's Pizza, Goleta
in the Kmart Center, 270 Storke Road

July meeting: Petrini's, SB
14 W. Calle Laureles, off upper State near De la Vina

6:30 pm - social hour

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

Great Annual Fish Count

by Paul Weakliem



Summer is here again and it's time again for the Great Annual Fish Count! Some PDC'ers have been doing this for many years – it all started right here in the CINMS over ten years ago! Ask old-timers about the days before the fill-in-the-bubble forms, the quizzical looks about counting fish, etc. The club used to do a one day trip in July to count fish, and a big group would always be out and we'd have a great time – we did it again last year, and everybody had such a good time that we hope to repeat this year!

Anybody can count fish, you don't need to be an expert on every species or a confirmed 'non-consumptive' diver. Part of the beauty of the GAFC is that most of us usually do other things when we dive, but this gives us a chance one or two days a year to do something different, and that help make a difference! The more surveys the better; they can be used for spotting trends in common species over many years, etc.

The organization REEF (www.reef.org) has coordinated the GAFC and kept the data for a number of years now. Check out their Web site for some of the survey data for the islands – a number of the spots at San Miguel are data exclusively from PDC trips!

Truth Aquatics and the Peace are both generously offering discounts for fish-count divers in July; the Peace is \$10 off any mid-week open boat, and the Truth is offering 20% off any open boat. We encourage you to make any of their trips in July (for schedules see www.truthaquatics.com and www.peaceboat.com), but the club will try to coordinate a couple of trips in July on the Truth so you'll have some familiar faces aboard. We're looking at a weekend trip either the 8th or 30th, and perhaps a mid-week trip around the 19th. E-mail me at weakliem@chem.ucsb.edu for info, or look for an upcoming e-mail announcement to the club.

Paradise Dive Club Officers

President - Dan Lindsay	964-5020
Vice President - Steve Trainoff	571-1622
Secretary - Catherine Almo	963-2121
Treasurer - Mark Silva	453-2001
Membership - Bruce King	284-3648
Newsletter - Stacey Janik	637-4487
Sgt at Arms - Laurie Van De Werfhorst	685-9710
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>

Send newsletter items to sjanik@gmail.com

Membership: \$25/year for individuals, \$40 for families. Membership runs May-April and includes monthly newsletter, free airfills, and other benefits. For details or to join, contact Bruce King at 284-3648 or kingbh@cox.net.

- • • • •
- **June Entertainment**
-
- This month's meeting entertainment is another "don't miss." We
- will enjoy a special presentation from underwater photographer
- Ralph Clevenger, an instructor at Brooks Institute of Photography.
- Check out his portfolio at www.ralphclevenger.com for a preview
- of his amazing images from all over the world.
-
- • • • •

Get on Board! July Boat Trips

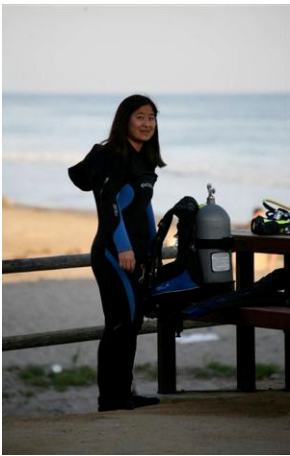
- Sunday, July 9, 7 a.m. departure on *Peace* to Anacapa & Santa Cruz, \$110. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Wednesday, July 12, 2 a.m. departure on *Peace* for dive trip to Santa Rosa & Santa Cruz, \$90. Call Blue Water Hunter, 564-6677.
- July 14-15 trip on *Peace* to San Clemente and Catalina or SB Island. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Sunday, July 30, 7 a.m. departure on *Peace* to Anacapa & Santa Cruz, \$110. Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917.
- Saturday, July 15, 7 a.m. departure on *Spectre* to Anacapa & Santa Cruz, \$85. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.
- Sunday, July 30, 7 a.m. departure on *Spectre* to Anacapa & Santa Cruz, \$85. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.

Night Diving Tips

by Steve Trainoff

Lately we've had a rash of lost equipment in the surf. I have made my share of offerings to Neptune/Poseidon in the past, but over the last few years, I've gotten a lot better about keeping my gear intact. While I am far from being an expert, I thought I would share the tips that have worked for me.

1. Clip everything to your BC. The rule of thumb is that if it isn't clipped, you *will* lose it; it is just a matter of time.
2. Breathe through your regulator while making your entry, even if it is calm. If you fall, you can just keep sucking down that sweet air while your regain your balance.
3. Turn on all of your lights before you hit the water. If you drop them, you will be able find them from the glow. This may sound obvious, but many people want to "save the battery" by keeping it off as long as possible. They end up losing the light.
4. If you are going to night dive, get a mask light and turn it on before you hit the water. This serves as a good backup light to your primary, and is hands-free. Moreover, if a rogue wave knocks your mask off, you have a fighting change of finding it.
5. The one exception I make to the *clip everything* rule is my fins. Some people also clip their fins to their BC until they are ready to put them on, but I have found that it is much easier for me if I open up the strap a little and put my left arm through the strap as far as it will go without getting too tight. I then hold my (clipped) primary light in my left hand during the surf entry. The idea here is that if I slip and still hang onto my light, the fins can't come off my arm since the light won't easily fit through the strap (and it has a string). If I do drop my light, it won't be lost since it is clipped, and having the fins tight against my arm means that the chances are I won't lose them either.



6. If possible, don't put your fins on until you are past the surf zone. The training organizations teach that you should put your fins on before starting your entry, and far be it from me to disagree with them, but I find that there are often slippery submerged rocks in the surf zone. I have much better balance and traction if I don't have my fins on.
7. Inflate your BC, or not. This is a bit of a judgment call. If it is calm, I tend to inflate my BC before making the entry. If I slip, it helps me to get up. Also it is much easier for me to put my fins on if I am bobbing on the surface with my reg in my mouth. If the surf is bigger, I typically will keep my BC empty so that I can duck under the waves.



8. If the surf is huge, stay out of the water! The ocean isn't going anywhere. There will be a better day just around the corner.

Of course when you do lose something in the surf, you can philosophize that your tribute to the dive gods keeps you safe. Remember, you can also find lost gear in the surf.

Partial list of gear I have lost:

- 3 lights
- 1 fin
- dive watch
- 3 dive knives
- flash diffuser
- bug bag (with bug inside)
- weight pouch (from a rental suit with dead Velcro)

Gear I have found in the surf:

- weight pouch with 16 lbs. of lead
- boat anchor
- fishing rod and reel

Editor's Note: In addition to the weekly Thursday night dives, mark your calendars for our upcoming weekend day dives: July 15, noon, at Butterfly Beach; August 13 and 26, also at noon, locations to be determined.



Thursday night divers at Hendry's Beach. All photos by Steve Trainoff.


July 2006

Don't forget...

MONTHLY MEETINGS

June 27: Rusty's Pizza in Goleta

July 25: Petrini's in Santa Barbara

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	22
23	24		26	27	28	29
30	31					

Upcoming Events

- July 15 beach dive at Butterfly Beach, noon
- Two weekend beach dives in August: 8/13 & 8/26

Welcome to our new members!

Jim Axtell
Jack & Peter Dawson
Joshua Seth

Thursday night dives: To find out where the group is diving or to be added to the night dive e-mail list, sign up at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PDC_midweek_dive or send e-mail to PDC_midweek_dive-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.



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!